

FULL AUTHORITY MEETING

Wednesday November 20, 2013; 7:00 PM

250 Thorold Road West; 3rd Floor; Welland, ON (Board Room)

AGENDA

- **ROLL CALL**
- **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**
- **BUSINESS:**
 - (1) Draft Meeting Minutes – Full Authority Meeting – October 16, 2013
 - (2) Business Arising From Minutes
 - (3) Chairman’s Remarks
 - (4) CAO’s Remarks
 - (5) 2014 Budget Update ----- **Report No. 103-13**
 - (6) Budget Status Report----- **Report No. 104-13**
 - *Budget Status as at October 31, 2013 (attached)*
 - (7) Lake Erie Storm Surge Event ----- **Report No. 105-13**
 - (8) Strategic Plan Update-tabled (no report)
 - (9) Ball’s Falls Museum Strategic Plan ----- **Report No. 106-13**
 - Draft Strategic Plan (attached)
 - (10) E.C. Brown Trail Link ----- **Report No. 107-13**
 - *Map/plan (attached)*

(11) Ball's Falls Thanksgiving Festival Post Event ----- **Report No. 108-13**

- *Annual attendance (attached)*

(12) PFOS Binbrook - Update ----- **Report No. 109-13**

(13) Douglas E. Elliott Memorial----- **Report No. 110-13**

- *Correspondence (attached)*

(14) Project Status Report----- **Report No. 111-13**

- *Water Management*
- *Watershed Stewardship*
- *Land Management Development*
- *Community Relations*
- *Events Listing*

(15) Correspondence

(16) Other Business

(17) **In-Camera**

(a) Tree By-law Status Report ----- **Report No. CR-112-13**

- *Communications Summary*

(b) Regulations Status Report----- **Report No. CR-113-13**

- *Violations Summary*

(c) Personnel Matter

▪ **ADJOURNMENT**



TO: Chairman and Members Budget Review Committee

DATE: November 12, 2013

SUBJECT: Preliminary 2014 Operating and Capital/Project Budget Update Report No. 103-13

Attached is the staff report regarding the 2014 Operating and Capital/Project Budget with recommendations that were approved by the Board at the September, 2013 meeting.

The recommendation is presented as approved by the NPCA Budget Review Committee and reflected a 2.68% increase in the City of Hamilton Levy. The value of this increase is \$13,746. The guidance from the City of Hamilton is for a 0% increase over 2013. It was understood at the September Board meeting that the Board may wish to reconsider the Hamilton Budget prior to the City of Hamilton's preliminary budget submission deadline of November 22, 2013.

I have contacted the other Conservation Authorities within the City of Hamilton for their respective increases with the following results to date.

Hamilton CA	0%
Halton CA	1.5%
Grand River CA	response pending

Should the Board desire to reduce the City of Hamilton Levy to reflect a 0% increase over 2013, I recommend adjustments of \$5,455 and \$8,290 to net levy for Conservation Area operations for Hamilton CA's and to the Binbrook capital improvement project, respectively. This would result in a reduction of the anticipated operating surplus at Binbrook CA from \$14,171 to \$8,719 and a reduction in Binbrook Capital Expenditures from \$116,000 to \$107,710.

The recommendation below is set out to reaffirm the budget as approved without the above reductions.

RECOMMENDATION

That the NPCA Board reaffirms the Proposed Preliminary 2014 Operating and Capital Budget as approved at the September 18, 2013 meeting.

Respectfully Submitted By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony D'Amario", is written over a horizontal line.

Tony D'Amario, P. Eng., CAO/Secretary-Treasurer

**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
 CURRENT BUDGET SUMMARY
 10 PERIODS ENDED 2013-10-31**

	Current Month	Current YTD	Approved Budget	% of Budget
REVENUES				
=====				
MNR TRANSFER PAYMENTS	0.00	174,496.00	174,500.00	100.00
PROVINCIAL GRANTS-MOE	0.00	37,003.87	58,300.00	63.47
PROVINCIAL GRANTS-OTHER	0.00	0.00	20,000.00	0.00
FEDERAL GRANTS	11,913.77	30,539.86	41,000.00	74.49
MUNICIPAL LEVY-GENERAL	0.00	7,640,457.00	2,508,645.00	304.57
LEVY-SPECIAL-NIAGARA	0.00	0.00	3,086,444.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-HAMILTON	0.00	0.00	120,047.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-HALDIMAND	0.00	0.00	10,710.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-OTHER	0.00	0.00	8,300.00	0.00
USER FEES	143,372.61	1,200,721.99	1,499,395.00	80.08
CONSERVATION FOUNDATION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ADMINISTRATION FEES	39,215.00	274,733.00	220,000.00	124.88
RESERVE FUNDS	0.00	0.00	90,000.00	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS	20,619.33	157,902.65	361,571.00	43.67
	215,120.71	9,515,854.37	8,198,912.00	116.06

EXPENDITURES				
=====				
CORPORATE SERVICES	141,116.00	1,040,545.58	1,292,425.00	80.51
RESOURCE INV. & ENV. MONITORING	94,469.38	404,765.48	496,877.00	81.46
FLOOD PROTECTION SERVICES	53,412.89	420,123.48	485,340.00	86.56
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY SERVICES	37,277.10	415,801.97	499,189.00	83.30
CONSERVATION LAND MANAGEMENT	37,599.71	1,884,014.21	2,779,943.00	67.77
CONSERVATION LAND PROGRAMMING	199,986.07	1,957,605.11	2,438,941.00	80.26
VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT	4,618.24	138,558.24	191,940.00	72.19
	568,479.39	6,261,414.07	8,184,655.00	76.50

**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
 CORPORATE SERVICES - CURRENT
 10 PERIODS ENDED 2013-10-31**

	Current Month	Current YTD	Approved Budget	% of Budget
REVENUES =====				
MNR TRANSFER PAYMENTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROVINCIAL GRANTS-OTHER	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MUNICIPAL LEVY-GENERAL	0.00	7,640,457.00	1,188,324.00	642.96
LEVY-SPECIAL-NIAGARA	0.00	0.00	24,101.00	0.00
INTEREST INCOME	4,360.95	37,422.26	50,000.00	74.84
MISCELLANEOUS	46.00	9,450.45	30,000.00	31.50
RESERVE FUNDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CONSERVATION FOUNDATION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	4,406.95	7,687,329.71	1,292,425.00	594.80
EXPENDITURES =====				
CORPORATE MANAGEMENT	29,624.40	264,046.94	312,700.00	84.44
OFFICE SERVICES	14,007.66	260,418.45	373,100.00	69.80
FINANCIAL SERVICES	13,538.85	156,753.33	202,300.00	77.49
HUMAN RESOURCES	2,905.06	70,514.27	33,500.00	210.49
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	0.00	55,396.77	133,601.00	41.46
CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS	81,040.03	233,415.82	237,224.00	98.39
CORPORATE FUNDRAISING	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	141,116.00	1,040,545.58	1,292,425.00	80.51

**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
RESOURCE INVENTORY & ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING - CURRENT
10 PERIODS ENDED 2013-10-31**

	Current Month	Current YTD	Approved Budget	% of Budget
REVENUES				
=====				
MNR TRANSFER PAYMENTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROVINCIAL GRANTS-MOE	0.00	37,003.87	58,300.00	63.47
PROVINCIAL GRANTS-OTHER	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FEDERAL GRANTS	11,913.77	30,539.86	41,000.00	74.49
MUNICIPAL LEVY-GENERAL	0.00	0.00	315,377.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-NIAGARA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-HAMILTON	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-HALDIMAND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-OTHER	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CONSERVATION FOUNDATION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
RESERVE FUNDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS	14,015.00	90,102.62	82,200.00	109.61
	25,928.77	157,646.35	496,877.00	31.73
EXPENDITURES				
=====				
NIAGARA R. REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN	8,556.13	78,915.34	99,300.00	79.47
GLANBROOK LANDFILL MONITORING	667.04	7,646.53	10,000.00	76.47
JOHN C. MUNROE AIRPORT MONITORING	106.30	1,454.29	2,200.00	66.10
DRAIN CLASSIFICATION	50.50	563.90	0.00	0.00
W/S WATER QUALITY MONITORING	15,992.42	154,830.51	205,377.00	75.39
NIAGARA CHILDREN'S WATER FESTIVAL	67,520.32	159,778.24	140,000.00	114.13
WATERSHED REPORT CARD	1,576.67	1,576.67	40,000.00	3.94
	94,469.38	404,765.48	496,877.00	81.46

**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
FLOOD PROTECTION SERVICES - CURRENT
10 PERIODS ENDED 2013-10-31**

	Current Month	Current YTD	Approved Budget	% of Budget
REVENUES =====				
MNR TRANSFER PAYMENTS	0.00	115,700.00	115,700.00	100.00
PROVINCIAL GRANTS-OTHER	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FEDERAL GRANTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MUNICIPAL LEVY-GENERAL	0.00	0.00	261,340.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-NIAGARA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-HAMILTON	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-HALDIMAND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-OTHER	0.00	0.00	8,300.00	0.00
CONSERVATION FOUNDATION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ADMINISTRATION FEES	19,160.00	132,843.00	100,000.00	132.84
RESERVE FUNDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	19,160.00	248,543.00	485,340.00	51.21

EXPENDITURES
=====

FLOOD FORECASTING AND WARNING	33,919.42	176,208.02	155,770.00	113.12
FLOOD CONTROL STRUCTURES	3,906.96	55,630.93	85,932.00	64.74
FLOODPLAIN REGULATIONS	15,586.51	188,284.53	243,638.00	77.28
	53,412.89	420,123.48	485,340.00	86.56

**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
 ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY SERVICES - CURRENT
 10 PERIODS ENDED 2013-10-31**

	Current Month	Current YTD	Approved Budget	% of Budget
REVENUES =====				
MNR TRANSFER PAYMENTS	0.00	58,796.00	58,800.00	99.99
MUNICIPAL LEVY-GENERAL	0.00	0.00	320,389.00	0.00
CONSERVATION FOUNDATION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ADMINISTRATION FEES	20,055.00	141,890.00	120,000.00	118.24
RESERVE FUNDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	20,055.00	200,686.00	499,189.00	40.20

EXPENDITURES =====				
MUNICIPAL PLAN INPUT & REVIEW	26,364.19	300,189.03	359,628.00	83.47
DEVELOPMENT PLAN INPUT & REVIEW	10,912.91	115,612.94	139,561.00	82.84
	37,277.10	415,801.97	499,189.00	83.30

**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
 CONSERVATION LAND MANAGEMENT - CURRENT
 10 PERIODS ENDED 2013-10-31**

	Current Month	Current YTD	Approved Budget	% of Budget
REVENUES				
=====				
PROVINCIAL GRANTS-OTHER	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MUNICIPAL LEVY-GENERAL	0.00	0.00	322,275.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-NIAGARA	0.00	0.00	2,429,743.00	0.00
CONSERVATION FOUNDATION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BUILDING/LAND RENTAL	725.00	7,250.00	8,425.00	86.05
RESERVE FUNDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS	2,197.38	14,953.87	19,500.00	76.69
	2,922.38	22,203.87	2,779,943.00	0.80
EXPENDITURES				
=====				
OPERATIONS	29,949.29	1,800,298.83	2,579,943.00	69.78
LAND STEWARDSHIP-AUTHORITY LANDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FOREST MANAGEMENT-AUTHORITY LANDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TREE CONSERVATION BY-LAW - NIAGARA	7,650.42	83,715.38	200,000.00	41.86
	37,599.71	1,884,014.21	2,779,943.00	67.77

**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
CONSERVATION LAND PROGRAMMING - CURRENT
10 PERIODS ENDED 2013-10-31**

	Current Month	Current YTD	Approved Budget	% of Budget
REVENUES				
=====				
PROVINCIAL GRANTS-OTHER	0.00	0.00	20,000.00	0.00
MUNICIPAL LEVY-GENERAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-NIAGARA	0.00	0.00	632,600.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-HAMILTON	0.00	0.00	120,047.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-HALDIMAND	0.00	0.00	10,710.00	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS	0.00	0.00	178,871.00	0.00
RESERVE FUNDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
USER FEES	142,647.61	1,193,471.99	1,490,970.00	80.05
	142,647.61	1,193,471.99	2,453,198.00	48.65
EXPENDITURES				
=====				
BALL'S FALLS	99,588.86	811,946.67	959,095.00	84.66
BINBROOK	17,056.50	294,328.74	343,100.00	85.79
CHIPPAWA CREEK	24,787.80	287,399.91	306,150.00	93.88
LONG BEACH	36,547.90	291,095.67	336,840.00	86.42
BAIRD ESTATE	0.00	2,924.48	2,415.00	121.10
BEAMER MEMORIAL	797.64	13,538.45	21,450.00	63.12
BINBROOK TRACT	0.00	355.05	14,115.00	2.52
CAVE SPRINGS	508.80	4,279.04	12,525.00	34.16
COMFORT MAPLE	0.00	2,690.07	7,310.00	36.80
ELM STREET PROJECT	1,252.48	16,208.05	17,246.00	93.98
E.C.BROWN	429.15	6,042.26	13,215.00	45.72
GAINSBOROUGH	2,308.65	40,791.99	51,915.00	78.57
HEDLEY FOREST	0.00	803.87	3,010.00	26.71
HUMBERSTONE MARSH	0.00	466.60	3,210.00	14.54
JORDAN HARBOUR	578.88	3,501.57	5,625.00	62.25
LOUTH	0.00	1,411.19	1,560.00	90.46
MORGAN'S POINT	848.75	14,731.98	21,125.00	69.74
MOUNTAINVIEW	0.00	2,116.98	8,915.00	23.75
MUD LAKE	180.71	5,926.14	14,315.00	41.40
OSWEGO CREEK	0.00	51.43	3,350.00	1.54
PORT DAVIDSON	0.00	178.32	1,710.00	10.43
ROCKWAY	229.52	4,745.83	5,710.00	83.11
RUIGROK TRACT	0.00	1,368.87	4,350.00	31.47
STATION ROAD PROJECT	325.75	7,807.74	7,014.00	111.32
STEVENSVILLE	1,791.44	12,721.94	14,745.00	86.28
ST.JOHN'S	4,524.39	24,900.43	22,930.00	108.59
TWO MILE CREEK	316.69	3,146.45	5,160.00	60.98
VIRGIL	645.35	10,609.53	16,210.00	65.45
WAINFLEET BOG	0.00	2,887.37	10,510.00	27.47
THE GORD HARRY CONSERVATION TRAIL	437.97	14,506.14	11,460.00	126.58
WAINFLEET WETLANDS	40.73	8,553.82	13,410.00	63.79
WAINFLEET ACCESS POINT PROJECT	1,252.41	13,950.32	11,811.00	118.11
WILLOUGHBY MARSH	0.00	949.72	1,310.00	72.50
WOOLVERTON	0.00	688.73	1,210.00	56.92
GLENRIDGE QUARRY PROJECT	4,612.42	32,954.70	142,800.00	23.08
WOODEND	923.28	17,025.06	22,115.00	76.98
	199,986.07	1,957,605.11	2,438,941.00	80.26

**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
 VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT - CURRENT
 10 PERIODS ENDED 2013-10-31**

	Current Month	Current YTD	Approved Budget	% of Budget
REVENUES =====				
MUNICIPAL LEVY-GENERAL	0.00	0.00	100,940.00	0.00
VEHICLE/EQUIPMENT SALES	0.00	5,973.45	1,000.00	597.35
RESERVE FUNDS	0.00	0.00	90,000.00	0.00
	0.00	5,973.45	191,940.00	3.11
EXPENDITURES =====				
WAGES	497.37	8,184.87	27,000.00	30.31
INSURANCE & LICENSES	0.00	5,943.51	11,340.00	52.41
GAS/OIL	983.53	30,898.80	41,200.00	75.00
PURCHASES	750.80	67,477.70	90,000.00	74.98
MAINTENANCE	2,293.02	24,843.42	19,800.00	125.47
TOOLS & SUPPLIES	93.52	1,209.94	2,600.00	46.54
	4,618.24	138,558.24	191,940.00	72.19

**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
CAPITAL BUDGET SUMMARY
10 PERIODS ENDED 2013-10-31**

	Current Month	Current YTD	Approved Budget	% of Budget
REVENUES =====				
MNR TRANSFER PAYMENTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROVINCIAL GRANTS-MOE	0.00	1,394.00	0.00	0.00
PROVINCIAL GRANTS-OTHER	0.00	522,301.32	295,487.00	176.76
FEDERAL GRANTS	118,500.00	199,904.34	181,000.00	110.44
MUNICIPAL LEVY-GENERAL	0.00	0.00	645,205.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-NIAGARA	0.00	0.00	1,002,195.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-HAMILTON	0.00	0.00	267,210.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-HALDIMAND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-OTHER	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CAPITAL RESERVE-NIAGARA	0.00	0.00	600,000.00	0.00
CONSERVATION FOUNDATION	0.00	0.00	51,000.00	0.00
RESERVE FUNDS	0.00	0.00	459,300.00	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS	42,120.00	155,934.98	281,311.00	55.43
	160,620.00	879,534.64	3,782,708.00	23.25
EXPENDITURES =====				
WATERSHED STUDIES	26,881.84	268,518.66	265,487.00	101.14
RESOURCE INV. & ENV. MONITORING	119,889.81	1,219,646.63	1,657,335.00	73.59
FLOOD PROTECTION SERVICES	57,633.79	215,777.76	358,386.00	60.21
CONSERVATION LAND DEVELOPMENT	46,715.96	424,133.38	1,501,500.00	28.25
	251,121.40	2,128,076.43	3,782,708.00	56.26

**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
WATERSHED STUDIES - CAPITAL
10 PERIODS ENDED 2013-10-31**

	Current Month	Current YTD	Approved Budget	% of Budget
REVENUES				
=====				
MNR TRANSFER PAYMENTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROVINCIAL GRANTS-MOE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROVINCIAL GRANTS-OTHER	0.00	498,594.72	265,487.00	187.80
FEDERAL GRANTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MUNICIPAL LEVY-GENERAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-NIAGARA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-HAMILTON	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-HALDIMAND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-OTHER	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CAPITAL RESERVE-NIAGARA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CONSERVATION FOUNDATION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
RESERVE FUNDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	0.00	498,594.72	265,487.00	187.80

EXPENDITURES				
=====				
SOURCE PROTECTION PLANS	26,745.95	267,426.55	265,487.00	100.73
SOURCE PROTECTION-TECHNICAL STUDIES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
STORMWATER MGMT. POLICY STUDY	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
UPPER WELAND RIVER W/S PLAN	0.00	385.57	0.00	0.00
CENTRAL WELAND RIVER W/S PLAN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LOWER WELAND RIVER W/S PLAN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LAKE ERIE NORTHSHORE W/S PLAN	0.00	11.91	0.00	0.00
BEAVERDAMS/SHRINER'S CREEK W/S PLAN	135.89	694.63	0.00	0.00
	26,881.84	268,518.66	265,487.00	101.14

**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
RESOURCE INVENTORY & ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING - CAPITAL
10 PERIODS ENDED 2013-10-31**

	Current Month	Current YTD	Approved Budget	% of Budget
REVENUES				
=====				
MNR TRANSFER PAYMENTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROVINCIAL GRANTS-MOE	0.00	1,394.00	0.00	0.00
PROVINCIAL GRANTS-OTHER	0.00	2,785.35	0.00	0.00
FEDERAL GRANTS	118,500.00	199,904.34	181,000.00	110.44
MUNICIPAL LEVY-GENERAL	0.00	0.00	416,819.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-NIAGARA	0.00	0.00	428,995.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-HAMILTON	0.00	0.00	57,210.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-HALDIMAND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-OTHER	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CAPITAL RESERVE-NIAGARA	0.00	0.00	292,000.00	0.00
CONSERVATION FOUNDATION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
RESERVE FUNDS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS	1,500.00	103,734.98	281,311.00	36.88
	120,000.00	307,818.67	1,657,335.00	18.57
EXPENDITURES				
=====				
WELLAND R. WATERSHED RESTORATION				
STEWARDSHIP	7,302.30	57,170.15	65,161.00	87.74
WATERSHED GIS	2,379.47	63,592.46	86,798.00	73.26
AOC WATER QUALITY MONITORING	5,081.33	32,260.74	0.00	0.00
AGRICULTURAL STEWARDSHIP	13,716.61	170,127.09	224,560.00	75.76
E.C.BROWN WETLAND PROJECT	0.00	7,076.29	0.00	0.00
OPG PROJECTS	8,607.56	116,520.61	244,311.00	47.69
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS	832.38	11,951.82	21,800.00	54.82
sub-total	37,919.65	458,699.16	642,630.00	71.38
12 MILE CK WATERSHED RESTORATION				
STEWARDSHIP	2,503.25	53,676.18	63,000.00	85.20
PROJECTS	11,477.27	82,368.87	129,000.00	63.85
PCB BIODIVERSITY	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
sub-total	13,980.52	136,045.05	192,000.00	70.86
WATERSHED GENERAL RESTORATION	(76,164.89)	196,725.13	236,500.00	83.18
WATERSHED WELL DE-COMMISSIONING	4,761.59	12,269.59	25,000.00	49.08
20 MILE CREEK RESTORATION	7,336.80	87,120.51	158,920.00	54.82
FORT ERIE CREEKS RESTORATION	12,559.67	48,282.03	97,743.00	49.40
N-O-T-L CREEKS RESTORATION	69,917.81	127,517.22	176,342.00	72.31
15,16,18 MILE CREEKS RESTORATION	49,578.66	142,557.54	128,200.00	111.20
LYON'S CREEK SEDIMENT REMEDIATION	0.00	10,430.40	0.00	0.00
NATURAL HERITAGE AREAS INVENTORY	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
DRINKING WATER STEWARDSHIP	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	119,889.81	1,219,646.63	1,657,335.00	73.59

**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
 FLOOD PROTECTION SERVICES - CAPITAL
 10 PERIODS ENDED 2013-10-31**

	Current Month	Current YTD	Approved Budget	% of Budget
REVENUES =====				
MNR TRANSFER PAYMENTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROVINCIAL GRANTS-MOE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROVINCIAL GRANTS-OTHER	0.00	20,921.25	30,000.00	69.74
FEDERAL GRANTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MUNICIPAL LEVY-GENERAL	0.00	0.00	228,386.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-NIAGARA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-HAMILTON	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-HALDIMAND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-OTHER	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CAPITAL RESERVE-NIAGARA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CONSERVATION FOUNDATION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
RESERVE FUNDS	0.00	0.00	100,000.00	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	0.00	20,921.25	358,386.00	5.84
EXPENDITURES =====				
FLOOD CONTROL STRUCTURES				
BINBROOK DAM	44,881.85	63,175.43	48,386.00	130.57
SHRINER'S CREEK	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
sub-total	44,881.85	63,175.43	48,386.00	130.57
WATERSHED FLOODPLAIN MAPPING UPDATE	12,751.94	152,602.33	310,000.00	49.23
FLOOD FORECASTING MODELING	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
STREAM GAUGE & MONITORING NETWORK	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	57,633.79	215,777.76	358,386.00	60.21

**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
CONSERVATION LAND DEVELOPMENT - CAPITAL
10 PERIODS ENDED 2013-10-31**

	Current Month	Current YTD	Approved Budget	% of Budget
REVENUES				
=====				
PROVINCIAL GRANTS-OTHER	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FEDERAL GRANTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MUNICIPAL LEVY-GENERAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-NIAGARA	0.00	0.00	573,200.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-HAMILTON	0.00	0.00	210,000.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-HALDIMAND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEVY-SPECIAL-OTHER	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CAPITAL RESERVE-NIAGARA	0.00	0.00	308,000.00	0.00
CONSERVATION FOUNDATION	0.00	0.00	51,000.00	0.00
RESERVE FUNDS	0.00	0.00	359,300.00	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS	40,620.00	52,200.00	0.00	0.00
	40,620.00	52,200.00	1,501,500.00	3.48
EXPENDITURES				
=====				
LAND ACQUISITION	0.00	0.00	600,000.00	0.00
BALL'S FALLS	2,456.97	7,478.97	25,000.00	29.92
BINBROOK	3,097.14	33,189.39	110,000.00	30.17
CHIPPAWA CREEK	19,301.52	164,656.80	260,600.00	63.18
LONG BEACH	2,259.06	24,255.19	70,000.00	34.65
BEAMER MEMORIAL	0.00	209.01	0.00	0.00
BINBROOK TRACT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
E.C.BROWN	0.00	0.00	6,000.00	0.00
HEDLEY FOREST	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
HUMBERSTONE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MORGAN'S POINT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
RUIGROK TRACT	0.00	0.00	9,900.00	0.00
WAINFLEET BOG	488.44	488.44	0.00	0.00
MEMORIAL FORESTS	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00
ROCKWAY	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TWENTY VALLEY TRAIL	281.93	10,115.83	100,000.00	10.12
GAINSBOROUGH	735.92	1,543.25	79,000.00	1.95
MOUNTAINVIEW	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ST.JOHN'S	0.00	3,616.13	0.00	0.00
VIRGIL	125.18	1,145.61	30,000.00	3.82
GORD HARRY CONSERVATION TRAIL	0.00	563.83	115,000.00	0.49
WILLOUGHBY MARSH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SMITH-NESS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TWO MILE CREEK	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
STEVENSVILLE	359.72	373.24	0.00	0.00
WAINFLEET WETLANDS	0.00	10,293.76	25,000.00	41.18
WOODEND	2,136.96	4,273.92	3,200.00	133.56
CAVE SPRINGS	0.00	0.00	11,800.00	0.00
MUD LAKE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
JORDAN HARBOUR	1,091.95	9,222.17	50,000.00	18.44
COMFORT MAPLE	0.00	18.01	5,000.00	0.36
ST. JOHNS CENTRE	14,381.17	152,689.83	0.00	0.00
	46,715.96	424,133.38	1,501,500.00	28.25



TO: The Chairman and Members of the Authority
DATE: November 12, 2013
SUBJECT: Budget Status Report - Report No. 104-13

Attached is the budget status report for the period ending October 31, 2013.

Noteworthy variances include:

- Communications Budget above approved due to personnel adjustments.
- HR expenditures above budget due to training requirements and personnel issues.
- Flood Forecasting and Warning expenditures increased costs in stream gauge operations.
- Binbrook Dam Project as previously approved undertaken with MNR grant.
- Capital Works for Land Management currently underway with future expenditure reports reflecting actual costs to date.

There are no other significant variances beyond my previous year-end report at this time.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Budget Status Report No. 104-13 for the period ending Oct 31, 2013 be received.

Respectfully Submitted By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony D'Amario".

Tony D'Amario, P. Eng. CAO/ Secretary-Treasurer



TO: Chairman and Members Budget Review Committee

DATE: November 12, 2013

SUBJECT: Oct. 31 – Nov. 1, 2013 Lake Erie Storm Surge Summary Report No. 105-13

On Thursday, October 31, 2013, both Environment Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (through the Surface Water Monitoring Centre) issued a High Lake Level Watch for the eastern end of Lake Erie due to the possibility of driving southwesterly winds arriving later that evening.

The NPCA Flood Forecasting and Warning staff received these advisories through our typical daily watershed monitoring protocols. Environment Canada predicted that Lake Erie water levels would rise approximately 1.9m overnight and experience wave heights in excess of 2.5m. Field surveys and topographic map analysis by NPCA Flood Forecasting staff indicated that a 1.5m rise in the water levels of Lake Erie could cause low lying areas to experience localized flooding as a result of this storm surge.

As a result, NPCA staff issued a 'Watershed Conditions Statement' that afternoon advising the public and local municipalities of potentially hazardous conditions developing along Lake Erie within the Niagara Peninsula and eastern Haldimand County. The bulletin also urged residents living along Lake Erie to closely monitor the conditions along the shoreline and to refer to the NPCA's website as updates would be posted as conditions warranted.

On the morning of November 1, NPCA Flood Forecasting staff inspected the Lake Erie shoreline from western Wainfleet to eastern Fort Erie in order to determine if additional Flood Bulletins should be issued. The NPCA inspected areas that are susceptible to back-shore flooding and known damage centers. These areas included:

- 1) The Casey Drain outlet, Wainfleet (just west of the old Easter Seals Camp): The NPCA noted that the storm surge was confined to the near shore area. No back-shore flooding was observed.
- 2) Eagle Marsh Drain, Port Colborne (west of the Welland Canal): The NPCA noted that the City had closed the flood gates preventing Lake Erie from impacting lands upstream of the structure.
- 3) Wignell Drain, Port Colborne (at Lakeshore Road, east of the Vale nickel plant): No back-shore flooding was observed even though the flood gates were not closed.
- 4) Point Abino Road, Fort Erie (south of Erie Road): NPCA noted that some localized flooding had occurred mainly on recreational lands between Point Abino Road and the Lake. No structural flooding or negative impacts were observed at this known damage centre.

- 5) Crystal Beach, Fort Erie (west of Crystal Beach Waterfront Park at Ridgeway Road): Lake Erie did not exceed critical flood levels for this location. No damage noted even though wave action was severe.
- 6) Based on the field inspections, NPCA staff was satisfied that the storm surge was not severe enough to exceed critical flood levels. A review of the Port Colborne Lake Level gauge by NPCA staff later that afternoon indicated that the storm surge had crested and was receding (refer to Figure 2). Consultation with Environment Canada indicated that the winds were forecast to die down in the early evening. As the threat to the lakeshore communities was determined to have passed, the NPCA terminated the 'Watershed Conditions Statement'.

RECOMMENDATION

That Report No. 105-13 regarding the Oct. 31 – Nov. 1, 2013 Lake Erie Storm Surge be received.

Respectfully Submitted By:



Tony D'Amario, P. Eng., CAO/Secretary-Treasurer



To: Chairman and Members of the Authority

Date: November 08, 2013

Subject: Ball's Falls Museum Strategic Plan – Report No. 106-13

In 2012, the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport announced that all museums participating in the Community Museums Program would be required to develop a strategic plan for their operations. If a plan was not developed, museums would no longer be eligible for participation in the Community Museum Operating Grant (CMOG) program.

NPCA Staff contacted the CMOG program and informed them of the Conservation Authority's current strategic plan exercise and requested a deferral until the NPCA Strategy was completed. This request was denied, and the Ball's Falls Heritage Advisory Committee (BFHAC) began the process of developing a strategic plan for the Museum.

The BFHAC met in January to review existing museum policies and discuss the strategic planning process. The CMOG program requires the plan be developed by the museum board and assisted by staff. Members divided responsibilities while staff offered support and coordination. A survey was developed to engage community groups and visitors. The survey was distributed at public events, through social media and through affiliations with local organizations.

In July the Advisory Committee met to review the results of the survey and conduct a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT) analysis on Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport standards for community museum functional areas including, Collections, Education/Interpretation, Exhibits, Volunteers, Research and Accessibility.

The BFHAC approved the attached Draft Strategic Plan at their October 28th Meeting and asked staff to present it to the Full Authority for consideration.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Draft Ball's Falls Strategic Plan 2013-2018 be received and approved; and,

That staff submit the Strategic Plan to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport in support of the Ball's Falls Community Museums Operating Grant Application.

Prepared by: Darcy Baker – Director, Land Management

Respectfully Submitted By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony D'Amario". The signature is written over a horizontal line.

Tony D'Amario, P. Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer/Secretary-Treasurer



Ball's Falls Conservation Area

Draft Strategic Plan, 2013-2018

Statement of Purpose:

The purpose of Ball's Falls Conservation Area is to collect, preserve, research, house, exhibit, interpret and provide educational programming regarding the historical founding, settlement and development of this early 19th century industrial hamlet, its natural history and archaeological resources.

Mandate:

Ball's Falls Conservation Area is owned and managed by the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA). The Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority holds in public trust the land resource base, buildings and artifact collection at Ball's Falls Conservation Area. Ball's Falls is classified as a community museum as defined by the Community Museums Policy (June 1981).

Values:

Ball's Falls upholds shared values with the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority.

- A sustainable balance between environmental conservation, economic growth and agricultural prosperity
- Clear and respectful communication
- Decisions that reflect integrity, fairness and sensitivity to all impacted by our actions
- An organization that delivers services to our clients with creativity and innovation
- Quality services with transparency and accountability
- Pragmatic solution oriented approaches to decision making
- A respectful work environment and professional development

Strategic Plan Methodology and Objective:

The Strategic Plan summarizes and recognizes the planning process of 2013 with the participation of the Ball's Falls Museum Advisory Board and the Strategic Planning Committee. The Committee proceeded with the mandate of developing a five year plan to maintain and improve its public profile, services and programs while strengthening its relationship with the community at large. Ball's Falls would reinforce its commitment to be an important public resource and community partner providing a high level of excellence in its services and a high ethical and professional standard.

The process began with a policy review. The next phase included public consultation conducted through questionnaires/surveys/interviews with focus group/community groups, and

the public at large via social media. Subject matter examined the interviewee's point of origin, public support and awareness, programming, services, perceptions, expectations, wants and needs. The objective of the consultation was to understand and appreciate who the audience of Ball's Falls is; how the public perceives Ball's Falls, and what can be done through a strategic plan to better meet expectations through the development of key functional areas.

The Strategic Plan Committee undertook this review through a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT) analysis with reference to Ontario Ministry of Culture standards for community museums and assessed functional areas including Collections, Education/Interpretation, Exhibits, Volunteers, Research, and Accessibility.

Operational Assessments and Objectives:

Ball's Falls will commit to a five year plan carrying out the following goals and objectives in key functional areas between 2013 and 2018 reflecting priorities identified during public consultation and initiatives identified by the Strategic Planning Committee and Staff. The improvement of museum techniques and technologies and an expansion of public profile and increased visitation are key to these initiatives.

Collections:

Ball's Falls Conservation Area preserves and maintains a collection of archival and material artifacts related to the Ball Family and the surrounding geographical area. It houses a substantial archaeological and geological collection related to the Niagara Escarpment. Several historical buildings and their contents are a key component of the collection.

Objective: Maintain Provincial Museum Standards as set out by the Ontario Ministry of Culture by completing the computer data entry process of all collections within the next five years. This objective is driven by the current efforts to modernize the collections management of the site.

- Complete and update data entry of all collections into computerized data base within three years
- Identify objects for deaccessioning within three years

Objective: Provide a strong statement of ethical guidelines within policies within the next two years. This objective is driven by the commitment by staff to maintain a high level of professionalism.

- Review Collections Policy in one year
- Prepare Statement of Collection Ethics in keeping with OMA, CMA guidelines within two years

Objective: Create a Program Collection dedicated to the themes supporting the Niagara Escarpment World Biosphere within two years. This objective is driven by the original intent of the Centre for Conservation being built as the gateway to the Niagara Escarpment and the World Biosphere Park Program. Public Consultation indicated that a renewed effort in this direction is required.

- Create an species at risk replica/specimen and natural history collection for school programming within one year
- Create interactive programs to integrate within the main gallery of the Centre for Conservation utilizing the species at risk and natural history program collection in one year

Objective: To restore and open the Furry Log Cabin for public viewing and programming within four years.

- Initiate cabin stabilization immediately
- Plan and initiate capital and fundraising strategy to finance restoration
- Prepare an assessment and plan for restoration within two years
- Initiate restoration within three years
- Prepare collections requirement plan for public viewing within four years

Objective: To restore the Ball Family Lime Kiln for public viewing.

- Initiate Lime Kiln stabilization immediately
- Plan and initiate capital and fundraising strategy to finance restoration
- Prepare an assessment and plan for restoration within two years
- Initiate restoration within three years

Education/Interpretation:

Ball's Falls Conservation Area engages Schools, Scholars, and members of the General Public in formal and informal programs and research opportunities.

Objective: To redevelop an up to date catalogue of both historical and environmental curriculum driven school programs within five years. This objective is driven by the recognition that Ball's Falls Conservation Area is now considered an environmental education resource as much as an historical resource by the public and community.

- Review current education programs within one year
- Develop or update current historical programs within one year
- Develop new Environmental programs within one year
- Identify marketing channels and develop branding and marketing materials to promote new programs within one year
- Initiate outreach immediately
- Develop Volunteer Education Training and Program Integration Plan within three years

Objective: To Develop a hands-on education program in the Main Galley of the Centre for Conservation within five years. This objective is driven by the underutilization of the main gallery by visitors.

- Develop a flexible environmental visitor program that can be integrated into the Main Gallery's interpretive plan within two years
- Integrate a species at risk replica/specimen and natural history collection for school programming within two years

Objective: To convert the current static exhibits located in the Exhibition Barn into a thematic activity centre based on the Children's Museum Model. This objective is driven

by the strong desire by the public to have entertaining and educational programs for younger children on site.

- Prepare Interpretive/Design Plan within three years
- Plan and initiate capital and fundraising strategy within two years
- Prepare Interpretive Plan within three years

Objective: To provide staff and volunteers engaged in School and Public Programming opportunities for professional development in the areas of Environmental Education annually. This objective is driven by the public's perception that Ball's Falls is an environmental education resource as much as it is an historical education resource. Staff will have to broaden their knowledge base in order to meet expectations.

- Identify educational opportunities for staff/volunteer training in the area of Natural history and the Environment immediately
- Expand and develop new partnerships where experts in the field can host workshops for volunteers and staff immediately

Objective: To improve awareness and accessibility of the educational programs at Ball's Falls to local and surrounding school boards, and youth groups through social media, outreach and aggressive marketing in order to capture greater market share over the next five years. This objective is driven by the need to develop traditional and new revenue streams that have not been fully exploited.

- Increase outreach initiatives to schools and youth clubs immediately
- Develop a marketing plan and specific budget to reach target markets efficiently within two years
- Maintain high level of program quality to enhance word of mouth support.
- Develop new curriculum links in current and up and coming programs

Objective: To improve the integration of reproduction historical costuming into historical interpretation within five years. This objective is driven by the original intent of the museum's current Master Plan in the area of the interpretation of buildings.

- Establish an interpretive plan within four years that identifies and outlines the optimum time period of interpretation, themes, and the level of costumed interpretation that is possible with current, staff, volunteers and costume resources
- Establish a budget item at the end of five years that will allocate sustainable funding for the purchase and maintenance of historical reproduction costuming used in building interpretation

Exhibits:

Ball's Falls engages in two primary forms of exhibitions including the display of historical buildings related to the Ball Family and the industrial hamlet of Glen Elgin, and the geography, geology, archaeology, biology and history of the Niagara Escarpment.

Objective: to refurbish the Main Gallery at the Centre for Conservation in five years

- Undergo an evaluation of the state of the art and effectiveness of the Main Gallery at the Centre for Conservation within one year

- Develop a Gallery refurbishment plan within two years
- Implement Gallery refurbishment within three years

Objective: to develop the current static exhibition barn into a dynamic activity based learning centre.

- Undergo an evaluation of the current school curriculums in relation to Ball's Falls themes within one year
- Develop a low tech, low maintenance activity centre design and interpretive plan in three years
- Implement the exhibit plan within five years
- Develop a marketing plan to complement the use of the new facility concurrently and implement the plan in four years.

Volunteers:

Ball's Falls employs the services of volunteers in promotion, exhibit design and construction, and in the interpretation and delivery of public and school programs. It is recognized that a strong Volunteer Program is the key to growth in services at the museum.

Objective: To maintain the recently created staff position of Volunteer Co-ordinator in aid of expanding services to the general public in all areas of operation including collections management, exhibition, programming, fund-raising and corporate development.

- Review the job description of the Volunteer Co-ordinator annually and evaluate performance and establish operation priorities.
- Review and rewrite an updated volunteer policy and procedures within one year that compliments current Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority Policy and Procedures
- Develop a Volunteer Recruitment Plan within one year.
- Review and enhance the current Volunteer Recognition Program

Accessibility:

Ball's Falls Conservation Area is dedicated to the accessibility and enjoyment of the park, buildings and services for all visitors.

Objective: To strengthen and expand the site's existing accessibility services for the physically and mentally challenged visitor.

- Continue conducting annual Accessibility Audit
- Review the current AOAD legislation, identify training opportunities and update staff in the next year
- Identify new technologies, techniques and opportunities including QR codes for the hearing impaired, brail signs for the blind, textured program materials, large text formats for maps and flyers, and the like that can be implemented in current programs in the next year

Objective: To increase the awareness of the Centre for Conservation's accessibility services and market them effectively over the next five years.

- Identify partners that would aid in the development and promotion of the Centre for Conservation's services in the first year
- Review and package accessibility services in two years

October 28, 2013

DRAFT



To: Chairman and Members of the Authority

Date: November 08, 2013

Subject: E. C. Brown Trail Easement – Report No. 107-13

The E. C. Brown trail project will connect the original E.C. Brown Conservation Area with the new E. C. Brown wetland habitat project to the east. The trail passes over a corridor of property owned by the Niagara Central Airport, used to move float-planes into and out of the Welland River. A plan showing the proposed trail and property lines is attached to this report for information.

Conservation Authority staff has been working with the Airport Commission and their staff to negotiate a trail use agreement that would allow the NPCA to build and operate the trail. Lawyers from both sides are close to finalizing the easement, unfortunately the document was not available at the time of writing this report.

Staff is requesting approval from the Full Authority Board to sign an agreement with the Airport Commission for the construction and maintenance of a trail across their property. Since this project is a 2013 initiative, there are resources being held to complete the trail before the end of the year.

The agreement is fairly simple. Staff expects to have the draft agreement in hand in time to present to the Board at the November 20th meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Report No. 107-13 regarding a trail easement for the E. C. Brown Conservation Area be received; and,

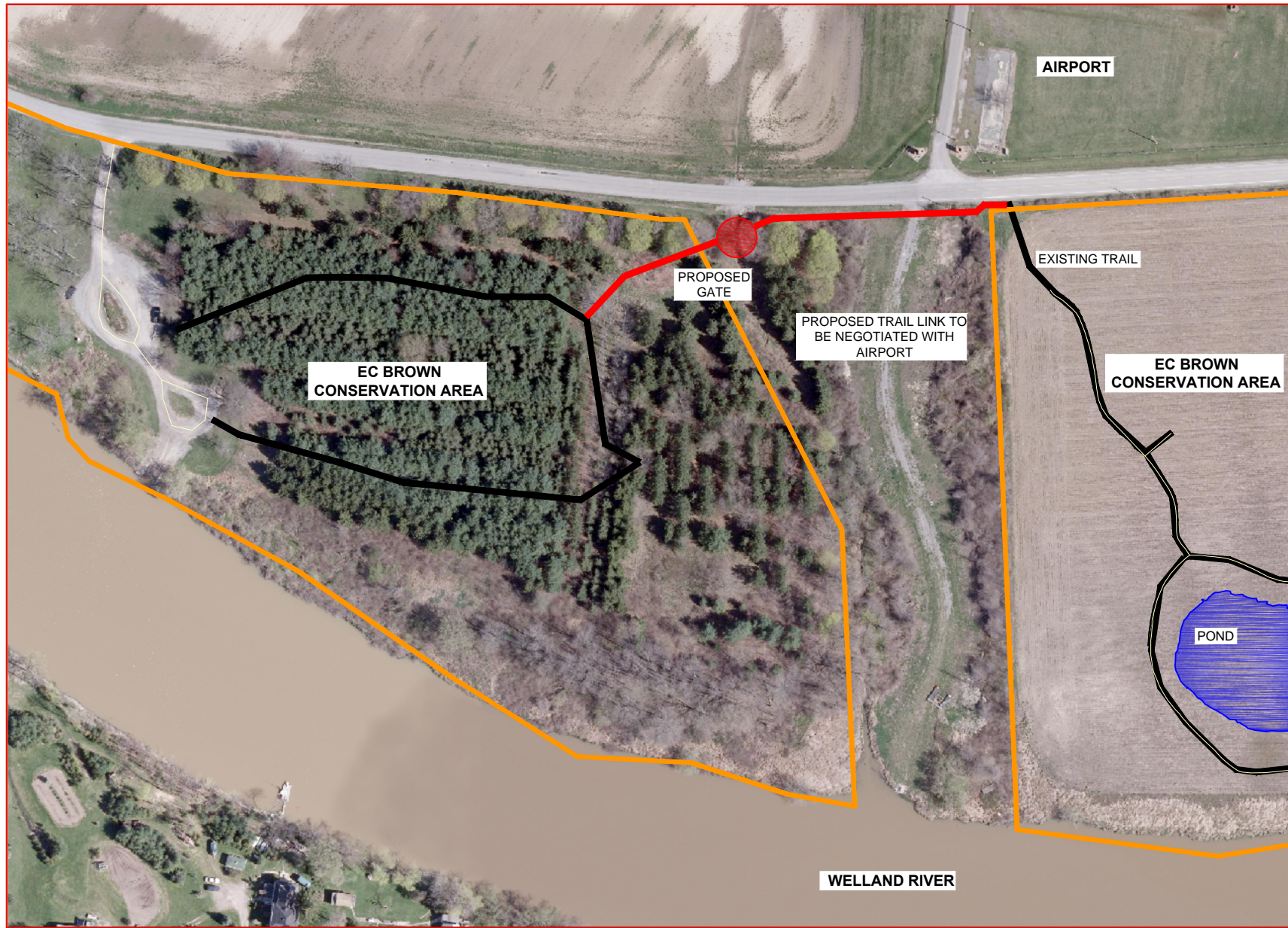
That staff be authorized to sign an easement agreement with the Niagara Central Airport Commission for the construction and maintenance of a trail across Airport Property at the E. C. Brown Conservation Area.

Prepared by: Darcy Baker – Director, Land Management




Respectfully Submitted By:



Tony D'Amario, P. Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer/Secretary-Treasurer



LEGEND:

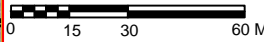
-  EXISTING TRAIL
-  PROPOSED TRAIL
-  DITCH CROSSING

NOTES:

* THE FOLLOWING NOTES SHALL BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE NOTES ON ALL OTHER DRAWINGS DETAILS AND WRITTEN SPECIFICATIONS.


TRAIL LOOP LOCATION ON NPCA LANDS CONFIRMED IN FIELD BY NPCA STAFF JUNE 2, 2011.

WORK ON AIRPORT LANDS IS PROPOSED ONLY - SUBJECT TO LANDOWNER APPROVAL.




3.	FOR AIRPORT REVIEW	ICS JULY 17/12
2.	FOR AIRPORT REVIEW	ICS MAY 16/12
1.	LAYOUT SET ON SITE	ICS JUNE 2/11
No.	Revision	By Date
Scale: 1:1,250		Date: MAY 30, 2011
Design: NPCA		Drawn: KAS
Survey: _____		Approval: D.B.BAKER
File Path: 111112013 3-10-12		

Project/EC Brown/CA/2012/EC Brown CA Suggested Trail Connection on July 17, 2011



**OPTION
'B'**



250 Thornhill Road West, 3rd Floor, Welland, Ontario L3C 3W2
 Telephone: 905-788-3333 Fax: 905-788-1121 www.npcan.ca

Title:
2012 TRAIL WORKS

Project:
EC BROWN CA



To: Chairman and Members of the Authority

Date: November 08, 2013

Subject: Ball's Falls Thanksgiving Festival – Report No. 108-13

The 2013 Ball's Falls Thanksgiving Festival was the third-highest attendance in the past 5-years. Our gates greeted 19,001 paid visitors during the 4-day event. This does not include the thousands of children under the age of 12, complimentary passes and membership pass reward vouchers. A listing of past attendance figures is attached to this report for reference.

As usual, weather played a big role in the event. Friday attendance was bolstered by good weather and a conveniently placed P.A. Day in the local School Board calendar. Numbers were some of the highest in 10-years. On the other side, poor weather on Sunday curtailed numbers, but those were made-up on Monday.

Staff received many compliments on the show from visitors and vendors. Heritage exhibits and demonstrations expanded to include soup samples, provided by Ball's Falls Volunteers. More food vendors were added this year, along with a wider choice in menus. Relocating the main performance stage to the west side of the creek opened-up more space for artisan spots, increasing revenue for the show. Another innovative move this year was the creation of mini-stages throughout the show grounds. This provided smaller performance areas occupied by local musicians looking for exposure to a public event.

A new feature introduced this year was the "Kidz Zone" on the west side of the Twenty Mile Creek, across the pedestrian bridge. This feature significantly increased traffic over the bridge and gathered large crowds around the performance stage. Organizers are continuing to find it difficult to draw large crowds up to the Centre for Conservation.

Two weeks before the event, staff were contacted by the Town of Lincoln and advised of problems with stability of a culvert along the south side of Glen Road. This problem was in addition to an existing culvert problem on the north-side of Glen Road, which forced a road closure in July. The Town proposed closing both sections of Glen Road for the remainder of the year, however they understood that the Festival required access to Twenty-First Street, on the east side of the park. NPCA staff worked with the Town of Lincoln Public Works to develop a combination of signage, staffing and stoplights that helped keep the traffic moving.

The system worked very well, however there was a complication with parking on Monday that resulted in a delay for vehicles entering the parking lot. The cause of this problem was vehicles that were improperly parked in the large lot. This prevented exiting traffic from moving out to make room for incoming traffic. Quick thinking staff closed sections of the park and helped clear the backlog of vehicles. The problem lasted for close to 45 minutes and provided many lessons for next-year's set-up.

Staff are still receiving comment sheets from vendors. We are also consulting with staff who worked the event. A de-briefing meeting will be held in the next few weeks to review feedback and begin planning for next year.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Report No. 108-13 regarding the Ball's Falls Thanksgiving Festival be received for information purposes.

Prepared by: Darcy Baker – Director, Land Management

Respectfully Submitted By:



Tony D'Amario, P. Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer/Secretary-Treasurer



NPCA - Thanksgiving Festival - Admissions

	Friday Seniors	Friday Regular	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	TOTAL
2013	1,096	2,054	6,518	3,114	6,219	19,001
2012	822	1,484	4,858	3,682	5,970	16,816
2011	811	1,575	5,995	5,104	6,972	20,457
2010	915	1,860	6,102	5,335	4,978	19,190
2009	294	740	5,562	4,917	4,241	15,754
2008	1,103	2,316	6,169	5,517	6,082	21,187
2007	856	1,578	3,535	3,661	5,684	15,314
2006	646	1,673	6,564	6,247	7,283	22,413
2005	208	517	4,916	5,095	3,981	14,717
2004	897	1,832	5,258	5,293	6,342	19,622
2003	1,172	2,142	6,857	4,120	6,753	21,044
2002	707	1,875	6,280	3,728	6,865	19,455
2001	233	786	4,401	4,039	6,706	16,165
2000	354	1,378	5,868	4,942	6,353	18,895
1999	972	2,161	6,678	5,633	7,442	22,886
1998	794	2,168	7,618	7,066	8,178	25,824



To: Chairman and Members of the Authority
Date: November 08, 2013
Subject: PFOS Compounds at the Binbrook Reservoir (update) – Report No. 109-13

There are no developments to report at this time.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Report No. 109-13 regarding PFOS Compounds at the Binbrook Reservoir be received.

Prepared by: Darcy Baker – Director, Land Management

Respectfully Submitted By:



Tony D'Amario, P. Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer/Secretary-Treasurer



To: Chairman and Members of the Authority

Date: November 13, 2013

Subject: Douglas E. Elliott Memorial – Report No. 110-13

Following the June Full Authority Meeting, staff was directed to contact the family of former Chairman Doug Elliott and discuss plans for a memorial to recognize his long service to this organization. The family requested that donations be directed towards the St. Johns Centre Conservation Area, recognizing their father's support for education. Members will recall that this property is currently the subject of a master planning exercise that will determine future direction and projects on the site.

A number of additional proposals were put forward by Board Members and NPCA staff. Doug Elliott was a very strong supporter of conservation projects that engaged children and their families, promoting a better appreciation for outdoor recreation. One of the more popular suggestions from staff was to re-name the Chippawa Creek Bass Fishing Derby to "the Douglas E. Elliott Memorial Fishing Derby". The attached letter was sent to Mr. Elliot's family, requesting permission to use his name. We received an email response, agreeing to the proposal.

Based on the above, the NPCA will be holding funds in trust until the St. Johns Centre Master Plan is completed and a suitable project identified. Staff also recommends that the Board endorse the proposal to re-name the Chippawa Creek Bass Fishing Derby to "the Douglas E. Elliott Memorial Fishing Derby".

RECOMMENDATION:

That Report No. 110-13 regarding a Douglas E. Elliott Memorial be received; and,

That the Chippawa Creek Bass Fishing Derby be re-named "the Douglas E. Elliott Memorial Fishing Derby"

Prepared by: Darcy Baker – Director, Land Management

Respectfully Submitted By: 

Tony D'Amario, P. Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer/Secretary-Treasurer



250 Thorold Road West, 3rd Floor, Welland, Ontario L3C 3W2
Telephone 905.788.3135 | Facsimile 905.788.1121 | www.npca.ca

November 6, 2013

Linda Vurma and Susan Baltjes
87 Thunderbird Cres
London, Ontario
N6J 4N7

Dear Linda and Susan:

Thank you for your generous donation to the St. Johns Centre Conservation Area. This is our newest property, located along the only cold-water stream in the Niagara Peninsula. It is rich in natural and cultural heritage with a strong potential for environmental education. It is a fitting tribute to the hard work and dedication that your father demonstrated during his time with the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority. We are currently working on a Master Plan for the St. John's Centre and until this process is completed, we do not have a specific project we can contribute your donation to. In the meantime the funds will be held in trust until such time that an appropriate project has been determined and discussed with you. I have attached an official receipt for the donation.

Doug had a great influence on everyone here at the NPCA, especially our staff in the Conservation Areas where he enjoyed stopping in for visits or helping out at special events. With this in mind, staff have approached me with a suggestion to re-name the annual Bass Fishing Derby at Chippawa Creek in honour of your father. I would like to bring this recommendation to our Board with your concurrence. We would propose to re-name the event "the Douglas E. Elliot Memorial Fishing Derby". This will allow the Conservation Authority to focus the event on children and families rather than strictly Bass fishing. The Authority will also be discussing other more substantive options in remembrance of your father's involvement as a founding member of the NPCA.

Please discuss this request with your family and let me know your thoughts as soon as possible (email tdamario@npca.ca). As always, we are open to any other suggestions you may have to recognize your father in the Conservation Community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony D'Amario", written in a cursive style.

Tony D'Amario, P.Eng.
CAO/Secretary-Treasurer



TO: Chairman and Members of the Authority

DATE: November 13, 2013

RE: PROJECT/PROGRAM STATUS REPORT – REPORT NO. 111-13

WATER MANAGEMENT

A. Watershed Development Services Division

1) Municipal and Development Plan Input and Review

- To the end of October, staff reviewed and processed 281 planning applications (of various types/complexity) and 109 building permits. Staff continues to participate in weekly scheduled pre-consultation meetings with municipal partners. In addition, staff responds to many general enquires both from local municipalities and the public.
- Staff took part in a workshop on October 10th at Balls Falls on the Niagara Planning MOU. Staff were part of the organizing team along with Regional and Local Municipal staff.
- It was a successful day gathering input from stakeholders on how service delivery of the planning process in Niagara has been functioning and identifying potential improvements to the planning system. The updated Niagara Planning MOU and the workshop results will be reported at an upcoming NPCA Board meeting.

2) NPCA 'Regulation of Development, Interference with Wetlands, and Alteration to Shorelines and Watercourses'

- **Permits**
The NPCA has issued 132 work permits to date in 2013.
- **Violations**
A separate violations spreadsheet is provided under separate cover.
- **NPCA-DFO Partnership Agreement**
As part of the NPCA-DFO Partnership Agreement, NPCA staff work as a liaison between DFO Assessors and proponents to recommend appropriate fish habitat compensation projects however, we are still awaiting clarification on implications from recent changes to the federal fisheries legislation. In accordance with NPCA's level II agreement with DFO, 75 Letters of Advice have been provided to date this year.

B. Watershed Technical Services Division

1) Source Water Protection Plan

The revised Source Water Protection Plan and Assessment Report were submitted to the Ministry of the Environment October 29, 2013. The submission also included a revised Explanatory Document (companion document to the Source Protection Plan), a list of comments received and summary of the public consultation and revision process.

Other source water staff activities:

- (i) Emergency spill exercise training with Niagara Region, City of Port Colborne and St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation; and
- (ii) Discussions with Niagara Region on a Source Protection Plan Municipal Implementation Working Group.

2) Water Quality Monitoring Program

- Staff continues to sample 80 stations in the NPCA watershed for the 2013 sampling season. Water quality sampling will be concluding in November for the 2013 year. All samples are analysed for general chemistry, metals, nutrients, and bacteria.
- Staff continues to collect fall BioMAP samples at 24 water quality stations.
- Staff is updating water quality databases.
- Staff is continuing to monitor water levels at all Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network (PGMN) wells. The Fall PGMN sampling has been completed for 2013.
- Staff continues to assist the MOE with the Ball's Falls Climate Change station.
- Ten water well decommissioning applications have been received in 2013 and eight projects have been completed.

3) Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

a) Source Water Protection

GIS activities for SWP this month have been minimal since the plan was approved for submission to MOE last month. Several data related housekeeping activities are forecast through the implementation phase.

b) Watershed Development Services Support Activities

- The Authority Regulation Hazard Inventory and Screening products (mapping and associated GIS data) were updated based on MNR recently publishing new

valuated wetlands in Grimsby and Lincoln. The update also reflected several minor refinements to other hazards based on several internal technical activities that have accumulated over the last couple months. Notification was sent to the municipalities that the updated inventories and screening layers were posted to the NPCA GIS FTP site for download.

- GIS staff continues with improvements to the Property Info Tool. The first parcel update since it was rolled out was used to test the recompilation process which provided insight into additional maintenance needs and activities for the system. Additional business information that it can assess and report on is being added.
- Staff has provided information access confirmation and guidance on use to the Region for inclusion into the Township of Wainfleet's iDARTs implementation.
- Staff is assisting Development Services with review of the Region's Memorandum of Agreement for any potential issues or specific amendments it may need to consider as the basis for an NPCA iDARTs implementation.

c) Corporate GIS and Information Management Support Activities

- QAQC activities on the Contemporary Mapping of Watercourses project for the NOTL pilot area and is progressing well. Surface water network compilation and classification activities for the Town of Grimsby have been completed and will be forwarded to the Town for comment before its QAQC phase. The planning analyst funded by the Region has moved into interpreting in the City of Niagara Falls. Municipal engagement/consultation with City staff on the project by the NPCA and the Region will take place this month.
- An initial review of the offsite server's existing needs and future requirements were conducted in preparation for its upgrade next fiscal.
- GIS staff attended the Toronto ESRI User conference which was highlighted by the Calgary Emergency Management GIS lead's assessment of the recent floods.
- GIS staff attended an ARMA workshop about balancing GIS data collection with privacy legislation, and Open Data opportunities to leverage GIS and associated IM for community benefit.
- Staff assisted Stewardship with mapping potential fish habitat restoration sites along the upper Welland River as part of a joint project with MNR.
- Staff has spent some time providing support to the Niagara College students to get them up and running on the three NPCA projects.
- The surface water quality sampling location points dataset was updated based on new stations being added to the NPCA monitoring network.

4) Flood Control

a) Monitoring & Major Maintenance

- Staff continues to monitor the water levels of the Binbrook reservoir on a daily basis. The reservoir's water level is currently sitting just above the normal holding stage. Staff will continue to monitor and make adjustments as the situation warrants.
- Staff continues to routinely monitor the water levels at our 14 stream gauge stations, climatic data at our 15 climate stations, and undertake routine maintenance, calibration, and inspections at all 29 installations, as part of the NPCA's routine flood forecasting and warning duties. The public may access this real-time water level and rainfall information through the NPCA's website.
- As recommended in the NPCA's 'Binbrook Dam Safety Review' report, the NPCA has retained Genivar to complete a dam 'Pressure Relief and Monitoring Wells Study'. The purpose of this study is to undertake a detailed stability assessment of the dam and to determine critical water levels within the dam's 26 existing monitoring and pressure relief wells. It is noted that the NPCA was successful in obtaining a \$20,000 grant from the Province (via the Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure program) which will be used to help offset the cost of this project. The field investigation and drilling component of the study have recently been completed. The study is scheduled to be finalized by the end of January 2014.

5) Other

- a) Technical Services staff continues to provide on-going engineering and hydrogeological technical support to the Development Services, Restoration, and Lands Divisions as requested.
- b) Staff continues to assist with preparations for the Ontario Geological Survey (OGS) study that will be undertaken over the next four years in Niagara. Niagara Region and Brock University are also assisting OGS with the study preparations.
- c) NPCA is working with Water Smart Niagara on a Private Water Supply Study of Niagara Region. Project partners include Niagara Region Public Health, the Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Agriculture and Food, and Brock University. The project is expected to extend through to the end of 2014.

WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP

The Watershed Stewardship Division is responsible for improving water quality, and biodiversity through the implementation of projects, with the goal of protecting public interest (i.e. clean air and water). All implemented projects whether undertaken on public or private lands, offer off-site benefits to the broader watershed community. For every NPCA stewardship dollar spent, an additional 9 dollars (approximately) of matching contribution is provided through partnerships, including costs incurred by private landowners, and provides economic spin off to the Niagara community.

1) Project Implementation – Watershed Plans

The Stewardship Program advances water quality and biodiversity improvement through the implementation of comprehensive watershed plans. Approximately, 75 projects including construction projects, BMP's, water quality and biodiversity projects are nearing completion across all watershed planning areas.

2) Project Implementation – Haldimand County Water Quality Program

- Haldimand County announced a new financial incentive program for agricultural landowners in Haldimand County in 2012. The **Haldimand Rural Water Quality Program** is an initiative of Haldimand County and its partners – the Grand River Conservation Authority, Long Point Region Conservation Authority, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority and the Haldimand County Agricultural Advisory Committee. The program is funded through Haldimand County and administrated through each of the partnering CA's, with the GRCA in charge of disturbing the funds.
- The overall purpose of the Rural Water Quality Program is to improve the surface water and groundwater quality in Haldimand County. This voluntary program provides financial incentives to farmers who take action to improve and protect surface water and groundwater on land that is used in agricultural production. The benefits of improved water quality include a safe secure water supply, a healthy aquatic ecosystem, increased recreational opportunities, sustainable agricultural operations and a vibrant economy. Everyone benefits when water quality is improved and protected.
- To date, the NPCA has had two successful projects implanted with funding through this program. NPCA staff will be taking a new wetland and tree planting project proposals to the advisory committee On Wednesday November 20th for funding consideration.

3) Partnerships

Niagara-on-the-Lake – One Mile Creek Watershed Plans

- The One Mile Creek Watershed Study was completed in October 2005. Since that time, all of the implementation recommendations have been addressed with all of the actions being either in progress or in maintenance. The water quality in One Mile Creek has improved from poor to marginal (based on the NPCA's water quality monitoring program which uses the Canadian Water Quality Index). This system saw decreases in both total phosphorous and E.coli. In comparison to the rest of the Niagara Peninsula, One Mile Creek is ranked 10th out of 72 creeks for its low levels of total phosphorous. The stakeholders on the implementation committee which includes the Friends of One Mile Creek and the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, should be commended for their support and investment. The success of this initiative would not be realized without the individual landowners who have implemented stewardship projects on their properties.
- As part of the One Mile Creek watershed plan, Landsdowne Pond was identified as requiring a separate study to determine options for improvement. Working with the Niagara Restoration Council, the NPCA has completed all identified remedial actions for the pond habitat restoration project. Interpretive signage was installed in October 17th along Niagara

Boulevard, William Street Park and upstream of the Nassau Street culvert replacement. The signs highlight the improvements made in these locations and within the entire watershed.

- On Friday November 8th Deputy Lord Mayor Maria Bau-Coote attended a media event at William Street Park to profile the work of Friends on One Mile Creek, the Niagara Restoration Council and the NPCA and will be in Niagara This Week / Town Crier.

Niagara Region

- Staff is represented on the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) conference, 2014, project tour committee. Responsibilities include providing relevant study tour ideas, concept design and partnership opportunities.
- Staff is represented on the WaterSmart Action Coordination Team, Water Advisory Group (WAG) as well as a small committee looking at the overall structure of WaterSmart. Staff will be presenting an update on the One Mile Creek Watershed Plan.
- Staff is assisting NPCA Technical Services Division with a private water use survey, spear-heading a small focus group of landowners to assist in the development of the survey.

Niagara River Corridor Ramsar Site Designation

- Staff is represented on the Niagara River Corridor Ramsar Site Working Group. The Group is currently researching the feasibility of designating the Niagara River Corridor as the first transboundary Ramsar Site in North America. The Ramsar Convention, also known as the Convention on Wetlands, is an international treaty that both the United States and Canada are part of. The Convention is independent from other international organizations. It promotes the conservation and “wise use” of wet lands, and it defines wetlands broadly to include freshwater lakes and rivers, among other wetland types. Staff met with members of the working group at Brock University on November 13th to formalize a process moving forward.

Invasive Species Inventory - Niagara Parks Commission (NPC)

- Staff coordinated an MNR, NPC and US Fish & Wildlife Service cross border effort to identify possible colonization of a highly invasive aquatic plant – Hydrilla. Hydrilla is considered to be among the most invasive aquatic plants in North America, and has resulted in significant ecological, recreational and economic impacts. Its biological traits enable it to out-compete native species and dominate aquatic ecosystems due to its ability to grow in a variety of environmental settings and to propagate and spread from fragments, overwintering buds and tubers. The Niagara Parks Commission provided an appropriate boat and operators to safely navigate the Niagara River waters above and below the falls (downstream of Queenston). The NPCA and Niagara Restoration Council provided expertise for the possible identification of Hydrilla.
- No evidence of colonization was found. The partners will continue to work collaboratively to keep a watch for possible colonization into Canada. This species could seriously hinder OPG operations, and other industries along the river, including water and sewage works. Dufferin Islands would be highly susceptible to infestation, negatively affecting tourism.

Ministry of Natural Resources Fish Population Study – Upper Niagara River

- Staff is working with MNR and the Niagara River Remedial Action Plan partners on a fish population study in the upper Niagara River. The study is part of bi-national efforts to achieve a better understanding of the fish that inhabit the upper river and their dependence on our in-land tributaries and associated habitat requirements. This information will also support the province's sport fish consumption data.

General Motors Wildlife Habitat Certification Partnership

- Staff is working with the environmental team from General Motors – Glendale Plant, providing technical expertise and advice on achieving Wildlife Habitat Council Certification.

Start Me Up Niagara – Harvest Festival

- The Harvest Festival event for Start Me Up Niagara was held on Saturday October 5th at Centennial Park in St. Catharines. Start Me Up Niagara was incorporated as a charitable organization in September 2000. They offer a variety of opportunities to improve health, increase the level of community integration, support housing and employment.
- Staff supplied 12 native trees to their community gardening program to be planted along Dick's Creek to expand the habitat and biodiversity. Staff also supplied a watershed map of Twelve Mile Creek and its tributaries.

Ontario Power Generation Welland River Partnership

- One large-scale floodplain wetland restoration project in the Pelham area was completed this summer. This project is similar in scope to the E.C. Brown Wetland project, minus the trail infrastructure as it is on private land.
- A flood-plain project completed last year has been naturalized with native species of grasses, trees and shrubs. Habitat features including turtle basking logs and bird nesting boxes will be installed this summer.
- Staff is working with MNR on a fish migration study in order to assess the ability of migratory fish species (white sucker) to navigate past both Welland Canal Siphon Structures.

Landowner Stewardship Guide

- Building on the success of the One Mile Creek Landowner Stewardship Guide, staff have modified the guide to an NPCA watershed wide "How to" guide for landowners looking to make environmental improvements on their property. Main topic sections focus on improving water quality and biodiversity. The guide has been developed to allow for the customization of the introduction to allow for it to be adapted to any sub-watershed in our area of jurisdiction (i.e. Walker's Creek). Staff attended a meeting with the group and many of the landowners who received the guide to discuss possible future projects. Staff will be assisting with a Niagara Community Foundation proposal to help undertake additional work in the watershed.
- Staff is working with the local chapter of Trout Unlimited to develop a Twelve Mile Creek Landowner Stewardship Guide. Friends of Fort Erie's Creeks have also expressed an interest. Funding for the production of the guide has been provided in part by the Niagara Community Foundation and the Ministry of the Environment, Environmental Fines Program.

Niagara Envirothon

- The Steering Committee is gearing up for the 7th annual Niagara Envirothon, an outdoor environmental skill testing competition for high school students to be held in spring 2014. We like to rotate the location of the event every year to different areas in Niagara and this year the event will be held at the Stevensville Conservation Area. The 2014 Niagara Envirothon dates have now been confirmed for April 9th (workshop/review day) and April 23rd (competition day). The Steering Committee is assembling a team of professionals from across the Niagara Region to host the various Ecostations at the workshop. General invitations to participate in the Niagara Envirothon have been sent out to schools that participated last year through the Ontario Forestry Association and another invitation will be sent out with the confirmed dates to all high schools in the Niagara Region portion of the NPCA watershed.

4) Remedial Action Plan (RAP)

1) RAP Stage 3

- The RAP Coordinating Committee met in mid-October and welcomed the new lead for Environment Canada, Rimi Kalinauskas. Rimi has been involved in senior management of RAPs for many years and is in transition to take over the Niagara River RAP portfolio from Sandra Kok. The status of each of the BUI assessments was discussed and plans for next steps. A presentation by the MOE representative on the management of toxic chemicals in the Area of Concern (AOC) with regards to the Restrictions on Fish Consumption BUI led to discussion on the BUI assessment methodology. The approved methodology is expected to be presented at the next meeting (January 2014).
- The RAP Steering Committee reviewed, discussed and evaluated the proposals received in response to the RAP Outreach and Engagement Plan RFP, and the successful proposal was selected. The committee will teleconference later in November.
- Queen's Royal Beach was the topic of discussion at a meeting of the AOC work plan partners for the Beach Closings BUI (i.e. MOE, Environment Canada, Niagara Region & Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake) looking into the source of high E.Coli pollution in the beach water. There was consensus to continue the water quality and infrastructure monitoring and microbial source tracking for more data to try to delineate the problem.
- The RAP Coordinator attended the U.S. RAC meeting in early November, in Buffalo.

2) Update: Canada-Ontario Agreement Respecting the Great Lakes Ecosystem (COA).

The new COA is now expected to be signed in spring 2014.

3) Great Lakes Water Quality Protocol 2012.

Annex 1 of the Great Lakes Water Quality Protocol of 2012 is being implemented accordingly through the Niagara River RAP.

LAND MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT

BALL'S FALLS CONSERVATION AREA

- Staff attended the Conservation Ontario – Conservation Lands workshop on October 25th. Sessions attended included: Risk Management, Large External Events and Nature Programs.
- The Ball's Falls Strategic Plan Committee met on October 28th to review final submission of plan to CMOG. The committee recommended the report be forwarded to the Board for endorsement.
- The Community Museums Operating Grant (CMOG) Application was completed and successfully sent in. Although approved in Sept., two new documents were required. The Museums and Technology Grant required an unusual receipt to be sent in. CXMOG's Oct. submission required a Village Buildings Manual and A Risk Assessment Manual to be created. CMOG also required a Collections policy review to be submitted. The current policy has not been reviewed for 35 years.
- A special note of thanks goes to the Ball's Falls staff and volunteers who worked extremely hard and did an excellent job during the 39th Ball's Falls Thanksgiving Festival. Excellent publicity this year and new ideas worked well. Built some excellent marketing opportunities that will be expanded for next year. Attendance was higher than last year in spite of the rain on the Sunday. Revenues increased with additional food serves and more vendor booths but so did expenses, i.e. Shuttle buses, entertainment. An added effort to broad the marketing reach into Hamilton took place. Participant and staff comments are being collected and a wrap up meeting will soon be held.
- On Oct. 5th, staff was involved in an outreach program at Jordan's Pioneer Days. The Site hosted a presentation for Korean delegates, and led a tour of the site for Japanese and German Museum delegates. The Site Administrator was featured in a CHCH TV spot, filmed at Ball's Falls, dealing with the colour of leaves. There was an excellent response to the exposure, attracting several visitors over the weekend.
- A large scale car show/convention is being planned in Niagara in 2015 and staff met with planners to have Ball's Falls considered as a site for the site/convention. They are booking the dates and it will represent a large special event for the site.
- Staff developed the program schedule and next year's exhibit schedule. The new school programs have been organized, posted and sent out to schools as a booklet. They will also be meeting with community groups such as the Hamilton Photography Club to involve them in upcoming exhibits.
- Ongoing maintenance of the buildings and park continues to take place. Much of the CFC main galley technology is failing and the refurbishment of the gallery must be considered. A new orientation video is in the works through the efforts of management and a Brock University intern.
- Maintenance staff spent much of their time cleaning up the remains of the water festival and preparing for the Thanksgiving Festival. Road closures made the event a little more exciting than usual but the staff of the NPCA, the staff for the festival, and volunteers are to

be commended for a job well done. Staff spent the balance of November returning the site back to normal and beginning the winterizing process.

Fall Education Programs/Tours

Welcome to Our Table: Pioneer Harvest: The very first school group for this brand new program, visited on October 24th. The set up and clean-up for this program is quite intensive, so there is a need for volunteer assistance. During Welcome to Our Table, students explore early settler winter preparations. Children help prepare apples for preservation, they visit the Three Sister's Garden, where they hear the Iroquois oral story of the sisters and then the students prepare a soup. They visit the blacksmith, hard at work, and make a classroom keepsake. In the afternoon, the students visit the church, where they hear early music and explore early instruments and then they make a simple harmonica. In the mill, they make a cornhusk doll to take home. The finale to this learning experience is a barn dance! The students then sample seasonal goodies: soup, cornbread, apple sauce and apple cider.

Interns

- A co-op student from Beamsville District high school will be assisting Henry and maintenance staff until Christmas. Two Brock University students have started internships at the site, one dedicated to producing a new orientation film for the gallery and the other to develop the corporate rental promotion and programming package for the CFC. They will be at Ball's Falls until Christmas.
- Two interns from Brock's Recreation program have commenced their internships at Ball's Falls. Jill Stephans and Connor Frey will each be assisting with a special event, and then completing a survey about their respective events.

Exhibits

- **Embroidery and Nature**, an exhibit produced in co-operation with the Niagara Peninsula Needle Arts Guild has gotten a positive response and has now been dismantled. It has been replaced by a Christmas tree exhibit for one month.
- **Bird Exhibit** – Research for the bird exhibit is ongoing and being done by a new Brock Intern. The exhibit will be installed in January 2014.
- **Christmas Exhibit** – Research and draft text are almost complete.
- **Green Roof Exhibit** - The Program Assistant developed and installed an exhibit about Green roofs in the Atrium. The green roof was developed on the cistern in the CFC, where the pollinator garden was located during the It's better with Bees exhibit. The exhibit explains what a green roof is, the benefits of

Heritage Buildings

- The buildings cleaned for current and Christmas programs. There have been a few issues in the Barn with bats but this problem is being looked after. Tours of the historical for the season have come to a close for the year and will not open again until May, 2014.
- **Furry Cabin** – This historical structure requires a new roof. The Master Plan recommends that it be moved away from the edge of the valley. However, this seems to be a long-term plan, not yet in effect. A new roof is required immediately.
- **Lime Kiln** – This original Ball Family structure requires restoration. The Superintendent obtained a quote in the spring. It is important that Ball's Falls maintain the heritage structures that are on the property.

BINBROOK CONSERVATION AREA

- Park facilities have been winterized. Staff will be using the next few weeks to catch-up on some capital projects and trail maintenance.
- The Waterfowl Hunting Program continues with hunting blinds being booked solidly for Saturdays. Monday Hunt Days are not very well used. The Waterfowl Harvest hasn't been great this year. Hunters are looking forward to the Northern Birds heading south.
- The new playground is due to arrive on Wednesday November 13, 2013. The site prep work is already done. Once the installation is complete, then staff will need to add some filter cloth and push the playground sand in and around it. It'll be an item that the park can use in its 2014 marketing.
- Planning is underway for the upcoming Ice Fishing Season and Derby
- The consulting team retained for the master plan study spent a day with staff touring the park and gathering information on park operations and existing features. A public meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 4th, to get feedback on some draft options for the park.

Campground Operations

Long Beach has been closed and the systems winterized for 2013. Our team has now focused efforts to close / winterize Chippawa Creek. The staggered shut-down timing has allowed for fall use demand at Chippawa Creek that continued right through the end of October. A number of scout and cadet organizations are making use of the property for events.

CHIPPAWA CREEK CONSERVATION AREA



- The new comfort station at Chippawa Creek has seen sidewalks installed, the building fully closed in and, now, is locked secured with steel doors and deadbolts. With securement done against any potential vandalism, staff is now moving inside to install the ceiling, electrical, plumbing, and other mechanical systems. Purchasing of goods and services has been ongoing, including the selection of an electrical sub-contractor, purchase of hot water tanks, shower controls, thermostatic mixing valves, light fixtures, and other necessary components.
- A noteworthy item for this facility is the use of 100% LED lighting in the building. Use of these lights will reduce power consumption at this facility remarkably. The new facility will require about 400 watts of power for lighting - inside and out. By comparison, fluorescents would have required about 2900 watts of power. The payback time by using LED fixtures is just one year. The reduction of wattage in lighting also had positive impact on the construction process: savings in copper wiring diameter, reduction in the size of the new electrical panel by a reduction of circuits, and the labor associated with installation.
- For exterior lighting, NPCA staff built an exterior bollard light that utilizes a common / standard \$100 LED fixture and a \$50 8x8 post. The appearance of the bollard blends in well to the campground setting by matching the rustic look of picnic pavilions and other park facilities. The use of bollard lighting moves the fixture away from the building to eliminate light pollution, and reduces maintenance where spiders / webs are attracted to the buildings at night. The beam will light the sidewalks directly, the building indirectly, and will not shine directly into the eyes of park visitors; and, by comparison, pre-made bollard light fixtures cost upwards of \$1k each.
- In comparison to fluorescent lighting, LEDs are mercury-free and are not hazardous waste after they are used up - about 40,000 hours in the future

- As weather permits, staff will also complete rough landscaping around the building to allow the exterior site to settle over winter and establish a solid base for finish landscaping / opening in spring.

LONG BEACH CONSERVATION AREA

- At our campgrounds, much like a small town, underground lines run everywhere. A significant difference from a municipality is that the lines in campgrounds must be drained each season, requiring access to valves and drains throughout the park. To do this, valve boxes are in place at various key locations. At Long Beach, capital replacement of many outdoor plumbing valve boxes has just been completed. Old, rotten wooden valve boxes have been replaced by heavy plastic boxes that will not rot, are less prone to frost heaving, and are more easily secured for safety and liability purposes.

ST. JOHNS CONSERVATION AREA

- School programs are in full swing. The District School Board of Niagara has closed their Woodend Outdoor Education Centre for renovations and construction. As a result, most of the outdoor education programs are being operated out of the DSBN St. Johns Outdoor Education Centre.
- A steering committee meeting was held with the consultants retained for the master plan study. Staff is providing background information to the consultants at this stage of the process.

JORDAN STAIRS

- A detailed site survey was completed to confirm footing and structural details for the new metal stairs being built for the site. The contractor is on schedule for the stair installation to be completed by year end.

GORD HARRY CONSERVATION TRAIL

- Trail construction began this past month to extend the Gord Harry Trail into Haldimand County. NPCA staff is administering the contract for Haldimand County and Trans Canada Trail. The Contractor completed vegetation clearing and trail work to add 2.4km of new hard packed granular trail to the western end of the existing trail.
- Trail gates are the final item to be installed by the Contractor. Over the winter months NPCA staff will conduct hazard tree removals before the official opening of the trail to the public.

- An early spring ceremony and trail opening event is being planned with our partners.



JORDAN HARBOUR CONSERVATION AREA

- All the docks were removed from the shoreline of the Jordan Harbour at the end of October.
- The rowing school is now closed for the year. They report having a very successful season this past summer and are looking forward to next year.
- The new open air pavilion is now installed in the picnic area.
- Finishing touches and site cleanup are being completed by the contractor and NPCA staff.



ROCKWAY CONSERVATION AREA

The Bruce Trail club received approval from NPCA and the Niagara Escarpment Commission for a proposed trail re-route and new pedestrian bridge to be installed at Rockway Conservation Area. The work will be monitored by staff, with materials and labour provided by the Bruce Trail volunteers. Installation is anticipated for next summer.

Hunting Program Update

Staff issued an additional 68 hunting permits for a total of 372 hunting permits issued for the NPCA Conservation Areas for 2013. Of this total, hunting permits are issued to 53 individuals residing outside of our administrative area.

NPCA staff recognizes the role of hunting as both a resource management tool and as a public use of our lands. We also recognize the value of building relationships within the hunting and non-hunting community as we try to balance various uses within our Areas. Staff has found that a strong relationship with the public, good information / education, and a reasonable approach engenders buy-in from the public, who then become active supporters and messengers of our programs within the community.

During the 2013 archery hunt, staff has had excellent contact / liaison with deer and small game hunters. This has continued through the week of Nov 4 for the first week of the controlled (gun) deer hunt. Staff have had contact with 11 persons hunting without permission, have responded to four complaints, are hoping to make contact with two individuals for tree cutting, and are looking to chat with a party of "group" hunters who have pushed through at least two Areas, disturbing other hunters and hunting in a potentially unsafe fashion. Of course, any non-NPCA matters, if found, are reported to MNR or Police.

Staff has had far greater numbers of contacts with permitted hunters who, by overwhelming majority, tell us they are pleased with the program. It is common to be told "it's good to see you (staff) out here!" Staff also has contact with the non-hunting community, including hikers, dog walkers, and simply passers-by on the road who decide to stop and talk. In each and every case, these contacts have been positive. Even those who do not favor hunting have told us directly they are glad to see us checking on hunting activities in our Areas.

TWO MILE CREEK CONSERVATION AREA

The NPCA partnered with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Department (USFWD), and indirectly the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS), in a project to collect critical bat data for the Great Lakes area. A bat/bird monitoring station was installed at the Two Mile Creek Conservation Area as part of a larger network of stations throughout the Lake Erie and Lake Ontario area. Data was collected from the Two Mile Creek for one season, from May 15 through November 6.

The data from this station will assist in determining/understanding the location and species of migrating birds, timing and heights, environmental conditions; as well as important stop-over areas (rest and feeding fuel). This information will also assist in preventing/mitigating any possible man-made impacts on migration, such as wind turbines, communication towers, lakeshore or other development. The USFWD provided the equipment and data analysis. NPCA staff assisted with station installation / decommission; provided the location, data collection and equipment maintenance.

'Grow Me Instead' Program

To help encourage healthy environments, the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority is working with the Ontario Invasive Plant Council (OIPC), on the 'Grow Me Instead' Initiative. This program helps prevent the escape of aggressive garden plants beyond their boundaries, and displacing other native plants and animals.

As part of the program, organizers are contacting local plant nurseries to assist in promoting native, non-invasive plants as alternatives to prospective buyers. The program will also provide nurseries with displays and printed material (supplied by OIPC). We are working to have these contacts and information in place by spring 2014 growing season.

Turtle Watch Niagara

Volunteers assisted in monitoring and collecting data on some of Niagara's Road Crossing. Sites identified as possible critical road crossing areas were taken on by volunteers, monitoring the same station daily from March through July. Some sites continued through to October.

Turtle activity and mortalities were noted. This information is obtained annually and contributes to identifying key areas where alternate turtle crossing may need to be provided. The program also tracks information on the range and distribution of different turtle species in the area. The NPCA provides a summary of these findings to the local Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources for their consideration when locating road crossing signage. The information is also provided to the Ontario Road Ecology Group for review of public work road projects and/or road ecology rehabilitation. This year 6 volunteers covered 15 stations.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Conservation Achievement Awards

The 2013 Awards Presentation and Reception will be held on Wednesday, November 27th, at the Four Points by Sheraton, Brock Room, 3530 Schmon Parkway, Thorold, ON commencing at 7:00 p.m. Invitations have been sent to all nominees. Board members are encouraged to advise staff as soon as possible if they are planning to attend and willing to assist in handing out awards.

Strategic Plan Public Open House

Watershed residents have been invited to attend a public session to review and comment on the DRAFT Strategic Plan. Meetings were scheduled for Tuesday, November 12th at Four Points by Sheraton in Thorold, and Casablanca Winery Inn in Grimsby from 6:30 to 9:00 PM. The sessions are led by Todd MacDonald of Performance Concepts. Invitations were widely distributed through email, mail, social media and posted in the three Niagara daily papers as well as the Grimsby Lincoln News. The DRAFT plan is available on the NPCA website and comments will be received until December 6th, after which time a presentation will be prepared for the board for the December meeting.

Ball's Falls Christmas Program

A number of activities have been planned to take place at Ball's Falls to celebrate the Christmas season. Marketing and Community Relations staff will be assisting the staff at Ball's Falls with these events and members are encouraged to come join in the celebrations. Rack cards will be distributed as part of the various promotional efforts. Staff is working on coordinating a media day to help give a mini preview of events.

Event Details are as follows:

Ball's Falls welcomes you for an Old-Fashioned Family Christmas!

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 7

FIRST SEATING 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

SECOND SEATING 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon

\$12 Adult, \$8 youth (5 to 11)

\$4 children (1 to 4)

FREE under 1 year of age

* Discounts available for pre-booking and pre-paying. Discount is \$2 off Adult ticket

Christmas with Santa*

Sunday, December 8 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

\$10 per person, children 5 and under FREE

*** Pre-purchase tickets for a time with Santa**

The Centre for Conservation will be decorated and children will have an opportunity to get their photo taken with Santa. ...the fun continues. Visitors who have pre-booked a time slot will have a chance to enjoy a special visit with Santa in the Ball home. Many other activities are planned to make a memorable day at Ball's Falls Conservation Area.

Ball's Falls Thanksgiving Festival Raffle

Thanks to all who took time to help with selling raffle tickets at the 39th annual Thanksgiving Festival. Ticket sales revenue amounted to \$2,866.00. Expenses: (Ticket Printing \$274.93 and Raffle License \$96.34). Net proceeds \$2,494.74 for the Jordan Harbour re-development project. All prizes were generously donated by the festival artisans. Winners were notified by phone and all were happy.

Delegation from China

A request was received to host a delegation from Shanghai National Engineering Research Centre of Urban Water Resources Co., Ltd., China. The delegates are interested in learning about Canadian experience in water quality and resource management. They are working on their visas and we expect that they will visit sometime in the New Year.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Report No. 111-13 outlining the status of Authority projects / programs be received for information.

Respectfully Submitted By:



Tony D'Amario, P. Eng. CAO/ Secretary-Treasurer



NPCA Events Listing

- ✿ **November 1st – December 18th** – Ball's Falls Conservation Area – **First Annual Community Christmas Tree Show Exhibit** – on display in the gallery at the Centre for Conservation – Daily 9:00 am – 4:00 pm Local environmental groups each decorates its' own tree.

- ✿ **November 15** - Ball's Falls Conservation Area – **Nature's Wonders Camp** - Daily 9:00am – 3:00 pm

- ✿ **Strategic Plan Public Consultation:**
Tuesday November 12 – Four Point Sheraton – Schmon Pkwy. 6:30 pm
Wednesday November 13 – Casablanca Inn Winery – Grimsby, 6:30 pm

- ✿ **Wednesday November 27** - **Conservation Achievement Awards** @ Four Points Sheraton - Thorold

- ✿ **December 7** - **Breakfast with Santa** @ Ball's Falls
First Seating: 9:00 am – 10:30 am
Second Seating: 10:30 am - 12:00 noon

- ✿ **December 8** - **Christmas with Santa** @ Ball's Falls Centre for Conservation in the historical Ball family home 9:00 am – 4:00 pm Pre-registration is required.

- ✿ **January 17, 2014** - Ball's Falls **Winter Wonderland Camp** - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Correspondence

November 20, 2013



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF HAMILTON

September 12, 2013

The Right Honourable Stephen Harper
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq
Minister of the Environment
House of Commons
458 Confederation Building
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

**Re: Ontario Power Generation's Plans to Build a Nuclear Waste Repository
beside the Great Lakes**

Hamilton City Council, at its meeting held on September 11, 2013 endorsed the following resolution:

5.5 Correspondence from Beverly Fernandez, Spokesperson for Stop the Great Lakes Nuclear Dump, respecting Ontario Power Generation's Plans to Build a Nuclear Waste Repository beside the Great Lakes

Recommendation: That the Resolution Opposing the Construction of the Nuclear Waste Repository in the Great Lakes Basin be supported and copies be forwarded to the Hamilton Conservation Authority, Conservation Halton, the Grand River Conservation Authority, and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Bratina". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish above the letter 'i'.

R. Bratina
Mayor

Attachment
File C13-016
(5.5)

c.c. Hamilton Conservation Authority
Conservation Halton
Grand River Conservation Authority
Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority

Resolution Opposing the Construction of the Nuclear Waste Repository in the Great Lakes Basin

WHEREAS Ontario Power Generation is proposing to construct an underground long-term burial facility for all of Ontario's low and intermediate level radioactive nuclear waste at the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station, some of which is highly radioactive and will remain toxic for over 100,000 years. This site is approximately one kilometre inland from the shore of Lake Huron and about 400 metres below the lake level;

WHEREAS water is Canada's most important resource and should be protected and managed prudently;

WHEREAS the Great Lakes are an irreplaceable natural resource, containing 21% of the world's, and 95% of North America's, fresh water vital to human and environmental health;

WHEREAS the Great Lakes are vital to the economic and agricultural well-being to both Canada and the United States of America;

WHEREAS Lake Huron and the connecting waters, including Lake St. Clair, are a source of drinking water for millions of people downstream in Canada, the United States of America and First Nations;

WHEREAS concern has been expressed by individuals, citizen and environmental groups and municipalities and counties in both Canada and the United States;

WHEREAS under the *2012 Protocol Amending the Agreement Between Canada and the United States of America on Great Lakes Water Quality*, the governments of Canada and the United States acknowledge the importance of anticipating, preventing and responding to threats to the waters of the Great Lakes;

WHEREAS the Governments of Canada and of the United States share a responsibility and an obligation to protect the Great Lakes from contamination from various sources of pollution, including the leakage of nuclear waste from an underground nuclear waste repository;

WHEREAS placing a permanent nuclear waste burial facility so close to the Great Lakes is ill-advised. The potential damage to the Great Lakes from any leak or breach of radioactivity far outweighs any suggested economic benefit that might be derived from burying radioactive nuclear waste at this site. The ecology of the Great Lakes, valuable beyond measure to the health and economic well-being of the entire region, should not be placed at risk by storing radioactive nuclear waste underground so close to the shoreline;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

- (a) That the City of Hamilton, in order to protect the Great Lakes and its tributaries, urges that neither this proposed nuclear waste repository at the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station nor any other underground nuclear waste repository be

constructed in the Great Lakes Basin, in Canada, the United States, or any First Nation property.

- (b) That the City of Hamilton urges the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario to reject (and seek alternatives to) Ontario Power Generation's proposal to bury radioactive nuclear waste in the Great Lakes Basin.
- (c) That copies of this resolution be provided to Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne, Canada's Prime Minister Stephen Harper, and Canada's Federal Minister of the Environment Leona Aglukkaq.