



**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY  
FULL AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday March 11, 2015; 6:30 pm  
3292 Sixth Avenue; Jordan, ON Ball's Falls Centre for Conservation - Elgin Room

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** S. Annunziata  
B. Baty  
S. Beattie  
F. Champion  
P. Darte  
D. DiFruscio  
J. Diodati  
B. Hodgson  
D. Joyner  
J. Kaspersetz  
J. Maloney  
R. Shirton  
B. Timms

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** A. Jeffs (*Regrets*)  
T. Quirk (*Regrets*)

**STAFF PRESENT:** C. D'Angelo, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer  
J. Long, Sr. Manager, Corporate Services  
P. Graham, Director Watershed Management  
D. Barrick, Sr. Manager, Operations  
J. Hagar, HR Specialist  
M. Brickell, Project Manager  
J. Baker, Supervisor, Restoration  
G. Furtney, Conservation Areas Supervisor  
K. Vallier, Business Development Manager  
G. Verkade, Supervisor, GIS  
M. Reles, Communications Specialist  
M. MacIntyre, Acting Superintendent, Long Beach  
N. Devos, Superintendent, Ball's Falls  
L. Conte, Administrative Assistant, Office of CAO & Board

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Tom Bowers, Cody Pytlak (Greenbelt), Robin Garrett (Greenbelt),  
Burkhard Mausberg (CEO, Greenbelt), Glen Robins, Lisa  
Campbell (LCA Environmental Consultants)

Chairman Timms called the meeting to order, welcomed all in attendance.

**Resolution No. FA-48-15**

**Moved by: S. Annunziata**

**Seconded by: J. Maloney**

**THAT the meeting move to closed session to discuss the Tree and Forestry Bylaw.**

**CARRIED**

**DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

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None.

**BUSINESS – Closed Session:**

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**1. Tree and Forestry Bylaw – Report No.CR-18-15**

**Resolution No. FA- 49 -15**

**Moved by: D. Joyner**

**Seconded by: R. Shirton**

**THAT the meeting move to open session**

**CARRIED**

**PUBLIC SESSION:**

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Chairman Timms welcomed those in the gallery with regrets from 2 board members and declared the items discussed in closed session with the following resolutions:

**Resolution No. FA- 50 -15**

**Moved by: P. Darte**

**Seconded by: S. Beattie**

**THAT Report No. CR-18-15 regarding the status of the Tree and Forest Conservation Bylaw be received for information; and THAT future Tree and Forestry reports be presented in open session excluding private landowner information.**

**CARRIED**

- CAO D'Angelo discussed some items of concern from members of the CLAC committee regarding wood lots and revenue of harvest. Permits are issued for removal of trees using good forestry practice. Part of the maintenance and good forestry practice is to remove ash before it becomes diseased. NPCA issues permits for any changes to "wood lots".
- Conservation Areas are made available to the public, however NPCA has 3 criteria; Recreational lands, Passive Lands and Restricted access lands. This in response to member's inquiry about which of NPCA's CA's are available for public access.

## DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

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None.

## ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

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- To include 10 minute presentation by the Friends of the Green Belt as first item of Business and walk-on Report No. 28-15 Lakefront Enhancement Strategy Funding Application following Report No. 27-15.

### **Resolution No. FA-51-15**

**Moved by:** R. Shirton

**Seconded by:** P. Darte

**THAT the Revised agenda be adopted to include Friends of the Greenbelt presentation as first item of business and Report 28-15.**

**CARRIED**

## BUSINESS ITEMS IN OPEN SESSION:

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1. **Friends of the Greenbelt – Presentation by Robin Garrett and CEO Burkhard Mausberg**

Friends of the Greenbelt highlighted the Greenbelt Act and how it connects with Niagara Region. Presentation (attached)

### **Resolution No. FA-52-15**

**Moved by:** D. Joyner

**Seconded by:** J. Diodati

**THAT the presentation by Friends of the Greenbelt be received for information.**

**CARRIED**

2. **Approval of the Minutes - Full Authority Board Meeting February 19, 2015**

### **Resolution No. FA-53-15**

**Moved by:** M. DiFruscio

**Seconded by:** J. Maloney

**THAT the minutes of the Full Authority Meeting held February 19, 2015 be approved as presented.**

**CARRIED**

3. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

- In response to Member DiFruscio's concerns about hunting at St. Johns Pond Conservation Area and St. Johns Centre, staff confirmed that no hunting has been permitted by NPCA to take place on these two sites.

4. **Correspondence**

None

5. **Chairman's Remarks**

- Chair attended the Grand River AGM and noted that with 21 municipalities they are experiencing the same challenge as NPCA with the levy apportionment and have requested the Minister have a new formula for 2016.

6. **CAO Remarks**

- City of Hamilton is considering a motion regarding our levy apportionment and with the intent to correct any misinformation, the board resolved the following;

**Resolution No. FA-54-15**

**Moved by: J. Diodati**

**Seconded by: D. Joyner**

**THAT the Chair forward a letter to the Minister of Natural Resources regarding the motion by Hamilton City Council on the levy apportionment and forward a copy to the three funding municipalities. CARRIED**

- CAO noted the 90 day timeframe NPCA has to comment on the Greenbelt Act, Places to Grow, Niagara Escarpment Planning Act and as such have retained external help through a graduate student to assist in co-ordinating this effort. Staff is liaising with CLAC and Regional Planners.

## Reports for Information:

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7. **Project Status Reports:**

7.1 **Watershed Status Report No. 19-15**

7.2 **Operations Status Report No. 20-15**

7.3 **Corporate Services Status Report No. 21-15**

8. **2015 Hunting Fees – Report No. 22-15**

9. **Conservation Area Reservation System Update – Report No. 23-15**

Staff confirmed the agreement is a 3 year term

10. **Audit Report – Year Ended December 31, 2014 - Report No. 24-15**

Staff confirmed that NPCA will receive an Audit Plan which will go to our Audit Committee and be distributed to the funding municipalities

**Resolution No. FA-55-15**

**Moved by: J. Diodati**

**Seconded by: S. Annunziata**

**THAT Reports 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24, be received for information purposes.**

Reports for Consideration:

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**11. RFQ Wood / Brush Chipper – Report No. 25-15**

Supervisor, G. Furtney reported a revision to the staff recommendation in Report 25-15. Further information was received in the interim, regarding repair costs, availability of parts, brand, reliability, warranty, etc. As a result, staff requested the board consider the Nortrax’s Bandit 1390xp, 142hp as a preferred option instead.

**Resolution No. FA-56-15**

**Moved by: S. Beattie**  
**Seconded by: J. Kaspersetz**

**That the NPCA Board Report No. 25-15 be revised to include the Bandit 1390XP, 142 hp woodchipper from Nortrax Canada Inc. as the ‘preferred vendor’ option.**

**CARRIED**

**Resolution No. FA-57-15**

**Moved by: R. Shirton**  
**Seconded by: P. Dart**

**That the NPCA Board, RECEIVE Report No. 25-15 for information; and, AUTHORIZE staff to proceed with the purchase of one (1) Bandit 1390XP 142HP from Nortrax Canada Inc. for the sum of \$60,695.62 which includes applicable taxes.**

**CARRIED**

It was noted by Gregg Furtney, that all safety mechanisms are in place and that all staff operating this equipment will receive proper training.

**12. Development Tracking Project – Report No. 26-15**

**Resolution No. FA-58-15**

**Moved by: S. Beattie**  
**Seconded by: J. Kaspersetz**

**THAT the Development Tracking System Selection Report No. 26-15 be received; and, THAT the Board approve Option #1 of the Report for the purchase and implementation of the CityView software solution as the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority’s development tracking system at a cost of \$190,416.00**

*OPTION 1-Full Scope:CityView Property Information, Planning and Cashiering, and Portal  
 This option includes the minimum base system components required to address the Authority’s internal information management needs with respect to tracking development applications.*

*This option also includes the implementation of an integrated public web portal that will enhance customer service and increase transparency with the Authority’s processing of development applications.*

|                          |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Software and Licenses    | \$ 64,250 |
| Implementation Services* | \$110,513 |
| Annual Fees              | \$ 15,653 |
| -----                    |           |
| Total                    | \$190,416 |

**CARRIED**

13. **Niagara River RAP Agreement - Report No. 27-15**

Restoration Supervisor, J. Baker commented that the environmental health of the Niagara River will continue to improve through the efforts of the Niagara Remedial Action Plan and participating Agencies. It is anticipated that Niagara River will be delisted as an area of concern by 2020.

**Resolution No. FA-59-15**

Moved by: S. Annunziata

Seconded by: B. Baty

**THAT the Board approve the NPCA continue to provide the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) with project management and coordination services for the implementation of the Niagara River Remedial Action Plan (RAP) through the approval of the 2015/16 RAP Agreement.**

**CARRIED**

14. **Lakefront Enhancement Strategy Funding Application – Report No. 28-15**

**Resolution No. FA-60-15**

Moved by: S. Beattie

Seconded by: J. Kaspersetz

**THAT Report No. 28-15 be received for information; and THAT the Board approve staff apply for the Lakefront Enhancement Strategy Funding towards the Long Beach Capital Projects and the Lake Erie properties.**

**CARRIED**

15. **Other Business**

Revised Board Meeting Schedule (attached)

**Note: April meeting to be held on Thursday the 16<sup>th</sup> at Ball's Falls.**

**Resolution No. FA-61-15**

Moved by: P. Darte

Seconded by: D. Joyner

**THAT the REVISED Full Authority Board Meeting Schedule 2015 be approved.**

**CARRIED**

## ADJOURNMENT

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There being no further business, the following resolution was presented:

**Resolution No. FA-62-15**

**Moved by: J. Kaspersetz**

**Seconded by: S. Beattie**

**THAT the Full Authority meeting be adjourned. Received at 9:04 pm**

**CARRIED**



Lisa Conte; AA, Office of CAO and Board  
Recording Secretary



D. Bruce Timms, Chair, NPCA



Possibility grows here.

# **The Impact of the Greenbelt Plan: Ten years of Success**

Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority

March 11, 2015

Burkhard Mausberg, CEO & Robin Garrett, Regional Director

Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation





# Urban growth and protected areas in southern Ontario since 1945



Possibility grows here.





Possibility grows here.

# The Impacts of Sprawl

## Health

- Increased air pollution
- Increased traffic and traffic-related fatalities
- Increased obesity
- Urban heat island
- Water pollution & water borne disease
- Delays in emergency response times
- Decreased social capital
- Decreased neighbourhood quality

## Economy

- Loss of farm land
- Increased infrastructure costs
- Increased personal transportation costs
- Higher cost of living
- Congestion & reduced productivity
- Fiscal insolvency
- Health care and educational funding restrictions
- Increased flood risk

## Environment

- Increased CO2 emissions
- Damage or loss of natural heritage features
- Permanent habitat loss
- Species loss
- Water pollution
- Air pollution



Possibility grows here.

# A Provincial Consensus

The Greenbelt Plan is the culmination of decades of land use planning protection policies – Niagara Escarpment, Rouge Park, Oak Ridges Moraine, Greenbelt...

...and a strong political consensus.

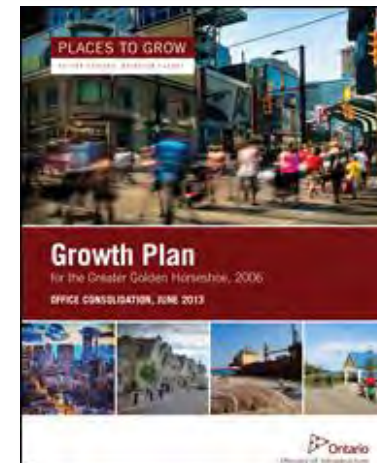
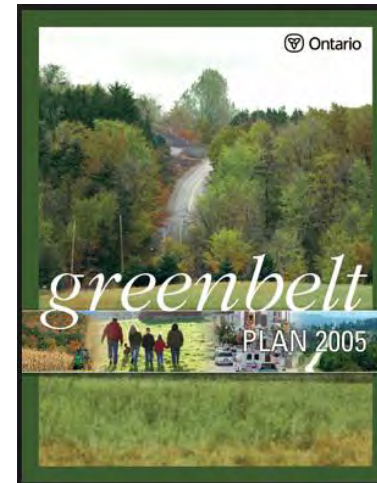




Possibility grows here.

# Regional Planning: The Three Plans

- Economic Prosperity: Make Ontario an attractive place to live and work
- Environmental Protection: Farm land, Natural Heritage Systems, reduce GHG emissions
- Enhancing Quality of Life: Keeping people connected, complete communities, accessibility, green spaces, safe and healthy
- Moving people and goods more efficiently





Possibility grows here.

# The Greenbelt Plan

- Internationally recognized as a leading example of a strong policy and legal framework
- World leader for adopting a ‘systems’ based approach to agricultural land and natural heritage features protection. Ensures protection for key features and the systems they support while preventing land fragmentation
- Designations give strong protection to the land in perpetuity. Providing this level of certainty gives municipalities and farmers confidence to plan and invest for the long term



# What has the Greenbelt achieved?

Possibility grows here.





Possibility grows here.

# Economic Impact

- \$9.1 billion GDP
- 161,000 jobs
  - the Greenbelt provides more jobs than the fish, forestry, mining, quarrying and oil & gas extraction sectors in Ontario – combined
- Thriving Agriculture and Tourism
- Sustainable Rural Communities



Possibility grows here.

# Greenbelt Agriculture

- The Greenbelt is a catalyst for the local food movement: farmers' markets have doubled in a decade and there is a surge in public procurement – schools, hospitals, universities
- \$6.3 billion agriculture sector (GGH) is one of the biggest farming clusters in North America
- Natural and locational advantages: farms are 39% smaller but produce 23% more Gross Domestic Revenue than the average Ontario farm (farms in Niagara are significantly smaller – 78% are  $\leq 25$  acres)
- World renowned viticulture – expanded from 6 to 59 vineyards since 2001 and 50% increase in VQA sales





Possibility grows here.

# The Value of Greenbelt Natural Heritage Systems

- Natural capital is valued at \$2.6 billion annually: regulation of air and water quality, the moderation of storm water, pollination, and supporting healthy soil formation.
- Value to the tax payer of \$3,500/ha
- In addition, Greenbelt land is equivalent to offsetting 27 million cars
- Home to 78 species dangerously close to extinction and contains many rare habitats
- Niagara is home to some of Canada's most diverse natural landscapes – wetlands, waterfalls, wildlife habitats
- Critical migratory routes for birds and mammals



Possibility grows here.

# Supporting Growth

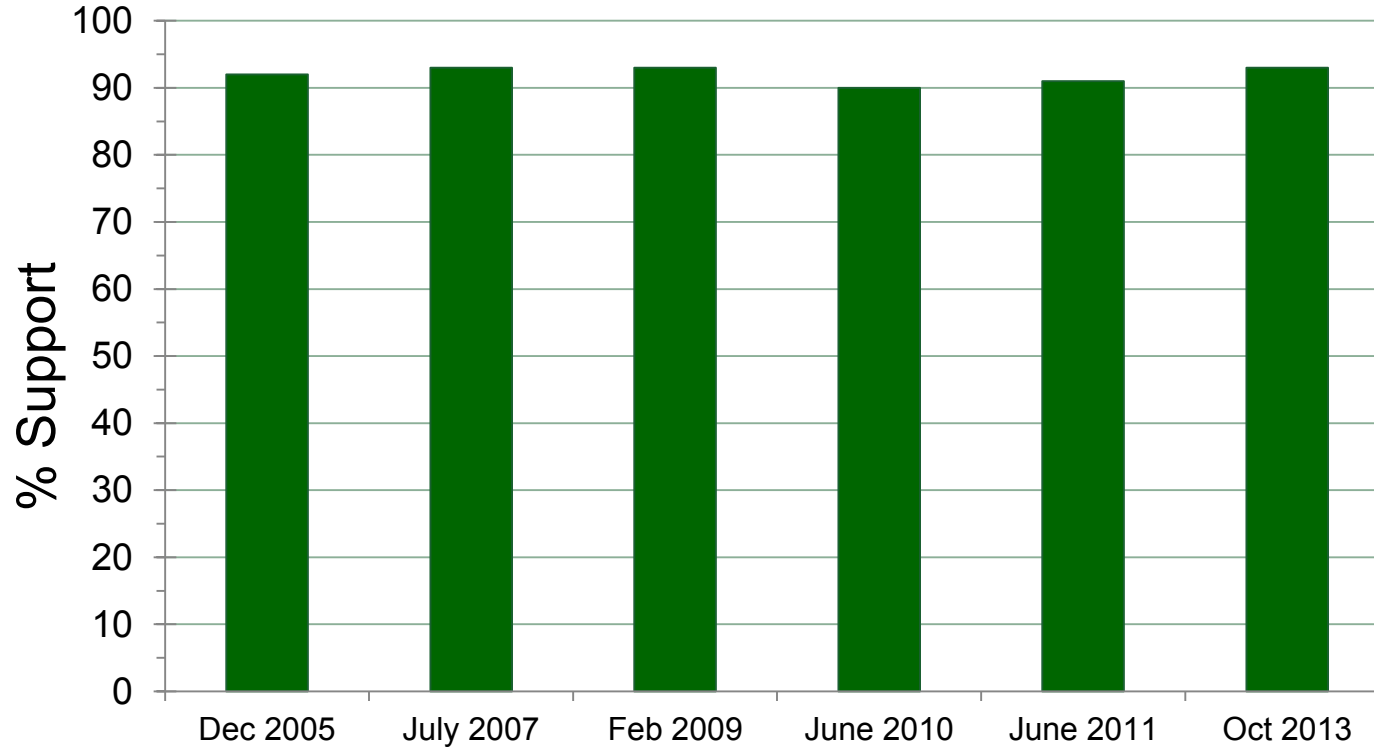
- The Greenbelt Plan is on course to help save 87,000 ha of land from development by 2031 – mostly Class 1 farmland
- Based on municipal population and job projections, 81% of the land available for development will still be unused in 2031
- Increase densities and the land will last even longer
- RBC and Pembina study on housing costs found that low interest rates and demographic shifts are responsible for increasing house prices



Possibility grows here.

# Supported by the Public

The Greenbelt has captured the imagination of Ontarians and enjoys consistently high approval ratings





Possibility grows here.

# Provincial Coordinated Review

Review process announced February 27, 2015





Possibility grows here.

# Review Panel Members

- Review to be led by David Crombie, with [Review Panel](#) members including:
  - Keith Currie, OFA Vice President
  - Rae Horst, past CAO of the Credit Valley Conservation Authority
  - John Mackenzie, Commissioner of Planning for the City of Vaughan
  - Leith Moore, Fieldgate Homes
  - Debbie Zimmerman, CEO of the Grape Growers of Ontario

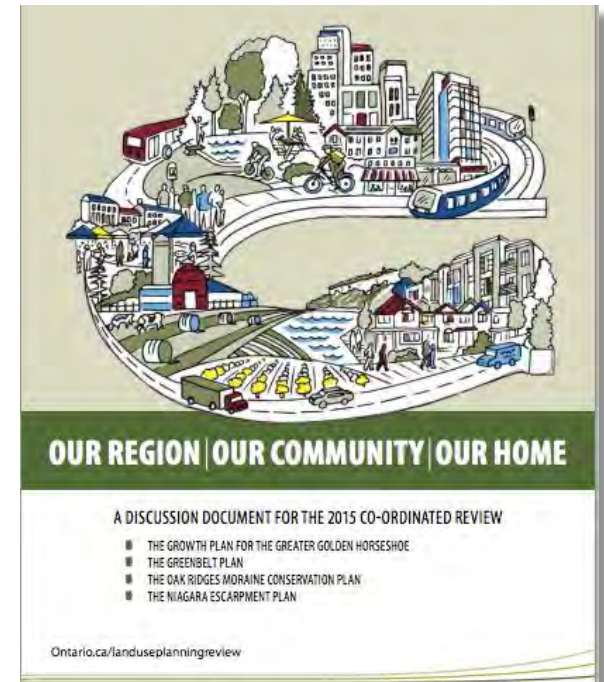




Possibility grows here.

# Review Process

- 14 “Town Hall” public meetings across the GGH based on a [Discussion Document](#) with questions relating to the four Plans
- One invitation-only stakeholder workshop
- [Online platform](#) for the public to answer Discussion Document questions
- Submissions accepted to MAH and through the EBR





Possibility grows here.

# Review Discussion Document

Six topic areas with general questions covering:

1. Protecting agricultural land, water, and natural areas
2. Keeping people and goods moving, and building cost-effective infrastructure
3. Fostering healthy, livable, and inclusive communities
4. Building communities that attract workers and create jobs
5. Addressing climate change and building resilient communities
6. Improving implementation and better aligning the plans



Possibility grows here.

# Provincial Coordinated Review Timeline

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| February 27, 2015         | Province's Review process announced  |
| March 25 – May 2015       | Provincial consultation takes place  |
| June – August 2015        | Results analyzed   |
| September – December 2015 | Proposed changes are released and second phase of consultation on proposed Plan amendments |
| January – March 2016      | Plan amendments made   |
| August 2016               | Metrolinx's Big Move plan review must be completed   |





Possibility grows here.

# Provincial Review Town Halls

| <b>Location</b> | <b>Date</b>        |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Kitchener       | Wednesday March 25 |
| Caledon         | Thursday March 26  |
| Toronto         | Monday March 30    |
| Barrie          | Wednesday April 1  |
| Peterborough    | Tuesday April 7    |
| Cobourg         | Wednesday April 8  |
| Aurora          | Monday April 13    |
| St. Catharines  | Wednesday April 15 |
| Hamilton        | Thursday April 16  |
| Owen Sound      | Saturday April 18  |
| Ajax            | Monday April 20    |
| Milton          | Wednesday April 22 |
| Vaughan         | Tuesday May 5      |

- All Town Halls include an open house from 6 to 7pm and round table discussions from 7 to 9pm
- Two additional Town Hall meetings are yet to be scheduled



Possibility grows here.

# Niagara Office Priorities

1. **Gather intelligence** on local issues especially related to agriculture
2. Encourage **government support** for a richer, greener and more robust Greenbelt
3. Nurture **partnerships with stakeholders** to build strong allies
4. Gain **support of Niagarans** for the benefits of the Greenbelt as an agricultural, economic and environmental model by increasing the number of Friends and signatories to the Pledge



Possibility grows here.

## We heard ...

- Niagara Regional government's consultation report in 2013 identified benefits, obstacles & challenges, and opportunities for change
- The Greenbelt improves management of growth and development; increases public support for farmers markets and local food; increases tourism and economic development in Greenbelt communities
- The agricultural community has concerns about agriculture viability within the Greenbelt; lack of flexibility in policy and application; the mapping of key natural heritage and hydrological features





Possibility grows here.

# Greenbelt Investments in Niagara

- Grape Growers of Ontario
  - Annual support for the GGO's premier wine industry event, the Annual Celebrity Luncheon, since 2006
- Wine Council of Ontario
  - Sustainable Winemaking program
- Beamsville Bench Winery Trail
  - 7 Niagara wineries involved
- Niagara Greenbelt Discovery Tours
  - 700+ POIs with more than 5 million page views since 2012



Possibility grows here.

# Greenbelt Investments in Niagara

- Cycling Infrastructure and Tourism
  - Award-winning Toronto-Niagara Bike Train
  - Seeded the Welcome Cyclists Network in Niagara
  - Greenbelt Route launches in summer 2015 – 480km from Niagara to Northumberland  
[www.greenbeltcycles.com](http://www.greenbeltcycles.com)



August 16 – 21 Cycle Tour  
**August 21 – Finale event in  
Queenston**



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- In addition to submitting recommendations about how to improve the Greenbelt ...
- Publicly support the Greenbelt – ***be the Greenbelt's biggest champion*** in Niagara
- Encourage partners to be champions
- Encourage the public to Sign the Greenbelt Pledge  
[www.greenbelt.ca/pledge](http://www.greenbelt.ca/pledge)

## What you can do ...



Pledge to:

- Purchase locally grown produce
- Drink local wines & fruit juices
- Get out and enjoy the Greenbelt's hiking trails and green spaces
- Share this treasure with family & community



Possibility grows here.

# Contact Information



Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation  
Niagara Office  
4890 Victoria Street North, Box 9000  
Vineland, ON L0R 2E0



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R E V I S E D

# 2015 FULL AUTHORITY BOARD MEETINGS

## Annual General Meeting:

January 21, 2015 (6:30 pm)

## Full Authority Board Meeting:

Wed. January 21, 2015 (7:00 pm)

Thur. February 19, 2015 (9:30 am)

Wed. March 11, 2015 (6:30 pm)

Thurs. April 16, 2015 (6:30 pm)

Wed. May 20, 2015 (9:30 am)

Wed. June 17, 2015 (9:30 am)

Wed. July 15, 2015 (6:30 pm)

Wed. August 12, 2015 (9:30 am)

Wed. September 16, 2015 (6:30 pm)

Wed. October 21, 2015 (9:30 am)

Wed. November 18, 2015 (9:30 am)

Wed. December 16, 2015 (9:30 am)

## Board of Directors

### Niagara Region

|                   |                             |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Sandy Annunziata  | Town of Fort Erie           |
| Brian Baty        | Town of Pelham              |
| Frank Campion     | City of Welland             |
| Pat Darte         | Town of Niagara-On-The-Lake |
| Dominic DiFruscio | City of Thorold             |
| Jim Diodati       | City of Niagara Falls       |
| Bill Hodgson      | Town of Lincoln             |
| April Jeffs       | Township of Wainfleet       |
| Douglas Joyner    | Township of West Lincoln    |
| John Maloney      | City of Port Colborne       |
| Tony Quirk        | Town of Grimsby             |
| D. Bruce Timms    | City of St. Catharines      |

### Haldimand County

|             |                     |
|-------------|---------------------|
| Rob Shirton | County of Haldimand |
|-------------|---------------------|

### City of Hamilton

|                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| J. Stewart Beattie | City of Hamilton |
| James Kaspersetz   | City of Hamilton |