



**NIAGARA PENINSULA CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

May 22, 2026

Carolinian Hall

3350 Merrittville Highway, Thorold ON

**ADDENDUM**

**9. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**9.1. Report No. FA-15-26 RE: 2025 Annual Report**

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Report No. FA-15-26 – Appendix 1: [Draft 2025 Annual Report](#)

**10. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**10.1. Minutes of the Public Advisory Committee, dated May 12, 2026**

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**Report To: Board of Directors**

**Subject: 2025 Annual Report**

**Report No: FA-15-26**

**Date: May 22, 2026**

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**Recommendation:**

**THAT** Report No. FA-15-26 RE: 2025 Annual Report **BE RECEIVED**;

**AND THAT** the Draft 2025 Annual Report **BE APPROVED**;

**AND FURTHER THAT** the final report **BE PUBLISHED** online and **DISTRIBUTED** to participating municipalities, government agencies, conservation authority partners, community stakeholders, the Public Advisory Committee, Drinking Source Water Protection Committee, and the public in various media formats.

**Purpose:**

This report aims to present the NPCA Board of Directors with the draft 2025 Annual Report, which highlights the organization's key *Strategic Plan 2021-2031* accomplishments in 2025. The report shares our vision, mission, and guiding principles, and showcases the progress that has been made to date in terms of our strategic priorities, goals, and actions in the following areas:

- Healthy and Climate Resilient Watershed;
- Supporting Sustainable Growth;
- Connecting to People;
- Partner of Choice;
- Organizational Excellence; and
- Financial sustainability.

**Background**

At the October 15, 2021, Full Authority Board Meeting, the Board finalized and approved the *2021-31 Strategic Plan*. The NPCA continues to make a concerted effort to improve the

understanding of our work, programs, and services as outlined in our *2021-31 Strategic Plan*.

The Annual Report is a critical public-facing document that aims to strengthen relationships in the communities that we serve while providing a snapshot of progress on key performance indicators (KPI) identified in the *2021-31 Strategic Plan*. It provides an overview of the value of the Authority's work and its impact on the Niagara Peninsula watershed.

The purpose of the Annual Report is to highlight significant accomplishments and achievements, demonstrate the critical role NPCA plays in enhancing and protecting the Niagara Peninsula watershed, and communicate the collective impact of our work.

### **Discussion:**

The information contained in the report connects NPCA's progress to the strategic priorities outlined in our *2021-31 Strategic Plan*, as well as our organization's guiding principles as they relate to healthy watersheds, green infrastructure, collaboration and innovation, and nature for all.

The theme of NPCA's 2025 Annual Report is *Building a conservation legacy together*, reflecting the strong foundation of partnerships that are behind many successes throughout the year that will have a lasting impact on the watershed for generations to come.

Some key highlights from 2025 include:

- Five new land acquisitions totalling 125.8 hectares, exceeding the base target identified in the 2022 Land Securement Strategy.
- Welcomed approximately 632,041 visitors at NPCA's Conservation Areas, with 255,548 paid admissions.
- Advanced local interests through collaborative partnerships, including the Lake Ontario Coastal Resilience Pilot Project spanning three conservation authority watersheds from Niagara-on-the-Lake to Oakville.
- Recognized 25 years of Source Water Protection, reflecting on the Walkerton tragedy and how it shaped the development of the Source Water Protection Program.
- \$4.2 million secured in grant funding and generated \$6.1 million in self-generated revenue.

NPCA continues to foster a shared commitment to conservation within the Niagara Peninsula watershed. The achievements throughout 2025 reflect the strength of our collective efforts—driven by dedicated staff, passionate volunteers, and engaged community supporters—who have advanced our mission and strategic initiatives. Their impact is demonstrated through a multitude of successes, such as:

- Over 500 trees assessed for hemlock wooly adelgid and 288 trees protected and treated for the invasive species.
- 275 kilometres of floodplain mapping completed.
- 382 permits were issued and 933 planning applications reviewed.
- 17 days on average to issue a permit.
- 33 hydrometric stations monitored and four water quality sensors deployed.
- 45,438 trees and 4,736 shrubs were planted across 44 sites in the watershed.
- 2,186 active volunteers supported NPCA initiatives and there were 317 new volunteers welcomed, with a total of 4,840 volunteer hours logged throughout 2025.
- 15,450 students engaged in outdoor education, a 26% increase from 2024.

The final report will be published online and distributed in several formats to municipalities, government agencies, conservation authority partners, community stakeholders, NPCA's Public Advisory Committee, Drinking Water Source Protection Committee, and the public.

**Financial Implications:**

None.

**Related Reports and Appendices:**

Appendix 1: [Draft Annual Report 2025](#)

**Authored by:**

*Original Signed by:*

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Sofia Zavarella  
 Manager, Communications & Public Relations

**Reviewed by:**

*Original Signed by:*

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Melanie Davis, M.A.  
 Manager, Office of the CAO & Board

**Submitted by:**

*Original Signed by:*

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Leilani Lee-Yates, BES, MSPL.RPD, MCIP, RPP  
 Chief Administrative Officer/Secretary-Treasurer

**PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, March 12, 2026  
5:00 PM**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** David Cribbs, Chair  
Julia Baird  
Philip Beale  
Steven Rivers  
Lennie Aarts  
Stephanie Flagg  
George McKibbon

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Andrew Panko  
Lageera Chatheechan  
Naheed Qureshi  
William Rapley  
Mary Jane Combe  
David Wylie  
Cindilee Ecker-Flagg

**STAFF PRESENT:** Melanie Davis, Manager, Office of the CAO & Board  
Natalie Green, Director, Watershed Strategies & Climate  
Change  
Adam Christie, Director, Conservation Areas  
Eric Baldin, Manager, Land Planning  
Brendan Buggeln, Manager, Natural Hazard Management &  
Resiliency

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**The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m.**

**1. OPENING WELCOME**

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Recommendation No. PAC-06-26

Moved by: Philip Beale

Seconded by: Julia Baird

**THAT the agenda for the Public Advisory Committee meeting held on May 12, 2026 BE APPROVED.**

**CARRIED**

### 3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

### 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### 4.1. Public Advisory Committee meeting dated March 10, 2026.

Discussion ensued regarding a friendly amendment to the minutes pertaining to duplicate names listed.

Recommendation No. PAC-07-26

Moved by: George McKibbon

Seconded by: Lennie Aarts

**THAT** the Minutes of the Public Advisory Committee meeting dated March 10, 2026 **BE APPROVED** with removal of duplicate Members listed.

**CARRIED**

### 5. CORRESPONDENCE

#### 5.1. Correspondence dated May 8, 2026 from NPCA Staff RE: Beamer Memorial Conservation Area Management Plan Update

Recommendation No. PAC-08-26

Moved by: George McKibbon

Seconded by: Philip Beale

**THAT** the Correspondence dated May 8, 2026 from NPCA Staff RE: Beamer Memorial Conservation Area Management Plan Update **BE RECEIVED**.

**CARRIED**

### 6. PRESENTATIONS

#### 6.1. Lake Ontario Coastal Resilience Pilot Project

Manager, Natural Hazard Management & Resiliency, Brendan Buggeln, provided a presentation regarding the initiative noted above. Discussion ensued regarding exclusion of Hamilton Harbour due to project scope being determined on a littoral cell basis.

Further discussion regarding connectivity with municipal official plans and engagement with the development sector ensued.

Recommendation No. PAC-09-26

Moved by: Steven Rivers

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Seconded by: Lennie Aarts

**THAT** the presentation regarding the Lake Ontario Coastal Resilience Pilot Project **BE RECEIVED**.

**CARRIED**

### **6.2. Regional Consolidation of Conservation Authorities Update**

Director, Watershed Strategies & Climate Change, Natalie Green, and Manager, Office of the CAO & Board, Melanie Davis, provided an update presentation regarding the transition to regional conservation authorities.

Recommendation No. PAC-10-26

Moved by: George McKibbon

Seconded by: Philip Beale

**THAT** the presentation regarding the Regional Consolidation of Conservation Authorities Update **BE RECEIVED**.

**CARRIED**

## **7. DELEGATIONS**

None.

## **8. CONSENT ITEMS**

None.

## **9. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

None.

## **10. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

## **11. NEW BUSINESS**

### **11.1. Members' Updates**

- Vice Chair Beale noted that the Pioneer Village is opening over the long weekend.
- Member McKibbon is presenting at the 2026 Upwind Downwind Conference, hosted by Clean Air Hamilton at the David Braley Health Sciences Centre on May 26, 2026.
- Member Baird noted that ESRC is partnering with Bench Brewery to host its first Science on Tap event on June 15 at 6:30pm.

- Member Aarts noted that the agriculture community is experiencing a late start to the season due to cold and wet weather.
- Chair Cribbs indicated that he has been selected as a representative for the Town of Pelham on the Twelve Mile Creek Watershed Committee.
- Director Green informed Committee members that an open house to launch the Woodend Conservation Area Management Plan is scheduled for Wednesday, May 26.

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

Recommendation No. PAC-11-26

Moved by: Lennie Aarts

Seconded by: Steven Rivers

**THAT** the Public Advisory Committee meeting **ADJOURN** at 6:38 p.m.

**CARRIED**