

**PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
A G E N D A**

**NPCA Main Office
Carolinian Hall
3350 Merrittville Hwy., Thorold ON
Tuesday, February 11, 2025
5:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

The Niagara Peninsula watershed is situated within the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee, Attiwonderonk (Neutral), and the Anishinaabeg, including the Mississaugas of the Credit—many of whom continue to live and work here today. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties (No. 3, 4, and 381) and is within the land protected by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum agreement. Today, the watershed is home to many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit.

1. OPENING WELCOME

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**4.1 Minutes of the Public Advisory Committee meeting dated
November 26, 2024**

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5. CORRESPONDENCE

6. PRESENTATIONS

6.1 Natural Assets Initiative

Presented by Coordinator, Watershed Strategies & Climate Research, Tara Gaade.

6.2 Wayfinding Signage Update

Presented by Director, Conservation Areas, Adam Christie, and Manager, Conservation Area Programs & Services, Alicia Powell.

7. DELEGATIONS

8. CONSENT ITEMS

8.1 Committee Member Recruitment – Verbal Update

Presented by Manager, Office of the CAO & Board, Melanie Davis.

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Members' Updates (Verbal) – Information/Issues/Items of Interest

12. ADJOURNMENT

**PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, November 26, 2024
5:00 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Cribbs, Vice Chair
Julia Baird
Philip Beale
Lennie Aarts
George McKibbon
Naheed Qureshi
William Rapley

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tracy Boese
Lageera Chatheechan
Cindilee Ecker-Flagg
John Metcalfe, ex-officio
David Wylie

STAFF PRESENT: Melanie Davis, Manager, Office of the CAO & Board
Natalie Green, Manager, Climate Change & Special Programs
Sofia Zavarella, Manager, Communications & Public Relations

The meeting was called to order at 5:12 p.m.

1. OPENING WELCOME

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Recommendation No. PAC-20-24

Moved by: Philip Beale

Seconded by: Lennie Aarts

THAT agenda for the Public Advisory Committee meeting held on November 26, 2024 **BE APPROVED.**

CARRIED

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

4. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

Manager, Office of the CAO & Board, Melanie Davis, assumed the role of Chair to conduct the election of Officers.

4.1. Appointment of Chair

The Committee was informed of the process outlined in the Terms of Reference to appoint the Vice Chair as the Chair, should the Chair become vacant. The Committee was informed of the opportunity to nominate other members, if interested.

Recommendation No. PAC-21-2024

Moved by: Julia Baird

Seconded by: Philip Beale

THAT David Cribbs **BE APPOINTED** as Chair of the Public Advisory Committee for the remainder of the 2023-2026 term.

CARRIED

4.2. Appointment of Vice Chair

Recommendation No. PAC-22-24

Moved by: George McKibbon

Seconded by: Lennie Aarts

THAT Philip Beale **BE APPOINTED** as Vice Chair of the Public Advisory Committee for the remainder of the 2023-2026 term.

CARRIED

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.1. Public Advisory Committee meeting dated May 25, 2024.

Recommendation No. PAC-23-24

Moved by: Philip Beale

Seconded by: Julia Baird

THAT the Minutes of the Public Advisory Committee meeting dated September 17, 2024 **BE APPROVED**.

CARRIED

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1. Correspondence from NPCA RE: Board of Directors 2025 Meeting Schedule

Recommendation No. PAC-24-24

Moved by: George McKibbon

Seconded by: William Rapley

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THAT the Correspondence from NPCA RE: Board of Directors 2025 Meeting Schedule **BE RECEIVED.**

CARRIED

7. PRESENTATIONS

7.1. Lyons Creek East – Project Update

Manager, Climate Change & Special Programs, Natalie Green, provided a presentation regarding the initiative noted above. Discussion regarding recommended clean-up in identified zones and NPCA's role in the next phases ensued.

Recommendation No. PAC-25-24

Moved by: Philip Beale

Seconded by: William Rapley

THAT the Presentation regarding Lyons Creek East – Project Update **BE RECEIVED.**

CARRIED

8. DELEGATIONS

None.

9. CONSENT ITEMS

9.1. Committee Member Recruitment – Verbal Update

Manager, Office of the CAO & Board, Melanie Davis, provided a verbal update regarding three representative vacancies on the Public Advisory Committee. Staff informed the Committee that a forthcoming report will outline timelines for Full Authority Board approval.

Discussion ensued regarding considering relaxing the requirements while prioritizing candidates aligned with sectors that are not currently represented ensued.

Recommendation No. PAC-26-24

Moved by: George McKibbon

Seconded by: Lennie Aarts

THAT the verbal update regarding Committee Member Recruitment **BE RECEIVED;**

AND THAT pending recruitment initiatives indicate that priority will be given to candidates who can advise based on expertise in the respective areas and identify with equity-deserving groups;

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AND FURTHER THAT the Public Advisory Committee request that the NPCA Board of Directors consider relaxing the sector requirements for the recruitment of the following vacant positions:

- One (1) agricultural representative;
- One (1) business/industry representative; and
- One (1) development/building representative.

CARRIED

10. DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

12. NEW BUSINESS

12.1. Members' Updates

- Chair Cribbs thanked NPCA staff for stepping in and providing leadership on the 12 Mile Creek restoration project.
- Member Baird shared that recruitment for graduate students is underway, encouraged Committee Members to share the Sustainability programs at Brock University with their networks.
- Vice Chair Beale expressed gratitude to staff for their efforts in celebrating volunteers at the annual appreciation dinner.

12.2. Roundtable for Additional Strategy Feedback

- Discussion ensued regarding modelling extreme weather events to demonstrate the impact of flooding and erosion in the watershed. Potential to explore as a research project for graduate students.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Recommendation No. PAC-27-24

Moved by: Philip Beale

Seconded by: George McKibbon

THAT the Public Advisory Committee meeting **ADJOURN** at 7:00 p.m.

CARRIED

The NPCA will be hosting an **Invasive Species Workshop** on February 24, 2025.

About the Project

The Niagara peninsula watershed is a hotspot for invasive species with new and emerging threats increasing each year. There are significant economic, social, and environmental impacts related to these non-local beings, and it is well-documented that invasive species are one of the top threats to biodiversity in Canada.

The NPCA has recently collaborated with the [Invasive Species Centre](#) to become the [Phragmites Management Area](#) lead for the Niagara peninsula watershed to coordinate an integrated, landscape-scale implementation plan to successfully manage Phragmites in this area.

Further, we are starting to develop an Invasive Species Strategy to guide the prevention, detection, monitoring, and management of priority invasive species in a collaborative, multi-partner approach.

Invasive Species Workshop

A workshop is being held to inform the community and other interested parties on phragmites management and the development of an Invasive Species Strategy.

The Focus on Phragmites Management Session will be facilitated by **Dr. Marilyne Carrey, Associate Professor, Environmental Sustainability Research Centre – Brock University**.

Lunch will be provided for those attending both morning & afternoon sessions. The Workshop will be in-person only, held at the following date and location:

Date: Monday, February 24, 2025
Time: 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Location: NPCA Office, Carolinian Hall
Unit 16, 3350 Merrittville Hwy., Thorold ON

To attend the meeting, please [REGISTER HERE](#). You may also complete the form if you are unable to attend the workshop, but would like to be kept informed on invasive species initiatives.

Contact

For more information about the Invasive Species Workshop, please contact:

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