

Quarterly Report | ONE

2019
Annual Report

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



As Chair of the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) Board of Directors, I am honoured to serve the residents of the Niagara Peninsula watershed. Niagara has one of the most complex watersheds in Ontario and respecting that incredible responsibility has been fundamental to everything we do.

As you will see in the 2017 NPCA Annual Report, this past year was the culmination of the completion of the Strategic Plan 2014-2017, the hiring of a new CAO, Mark Brickell, a new planning protocol and MOU with the Region of Niagara and saw the assent of Bill 139: Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017.

In 2017 I had the opportunity to engage with over 165 groups, partners, and communities throughout the Niagara region, the City of Hamilton, and Haldimand County. Listening to their feedback on how the NPCA can play a positive role in their respective sector has been critical. Throughout those conversations, one message has been clear, unequivocal and universal; We must continue to balance the needs of our partners, and we will do so exclusively within the language of the Conservation Authorities Act. While difficult at times, the opportunities far outweigh the challenges, and together we can ensure a healthy, resilient watershed. The Conservation Authorities Act is an incredible piece of legislation vital to building prosperous, healthy communities and it will continue to guide the decisions of the NPCA Board of Directors.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CAO



Thanks to a solid 2014-2017 Strategic Plan and our Board's commitment to implementing that plan, the NPCA that exists today is more professional, better managed, more customer and stakeholder focused, more transparent and more accountable than ever before. In addition, the NPCA has made significant investments in its parks and campgrounds, with more to come. Importantly, NPCA staff now have the tools and resources necessary to do their work. Costs have been controlled and revenues are up substantially. And the NPCA continues along the path of continuous improvement.

That said, the best is still to come.

As we now work to develop our 2018-2021 Strategic Plan, I would like to acknowledge the great work of the amazing women and men who work at the NPCA. Their dedication, commitment and passion to the Niagara Peninsula watershed and its people is second to none.

We look forward to working even more closely with our numerous stakeholders as we move towards an even greater future.

Sincerely,
Mark Brickell
CAO/Secretary Treasurer

CONTENTS

Welcome.....	3	8 Initiatives	6
About us	4	Community	7
By the Numbers.....	5	Our Waters	8

Welcome to the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) Quarterly Report. This report offers an update to the people in the Niagara peninsula watershed, our funders, and our stakeholders as to what has been happening at NPCA. As laid out in our Strategic Plan, we are making a concerted effort to be more transparent and hope that these reports are helpful in your understanding of our work.

BY THE NUMBERS

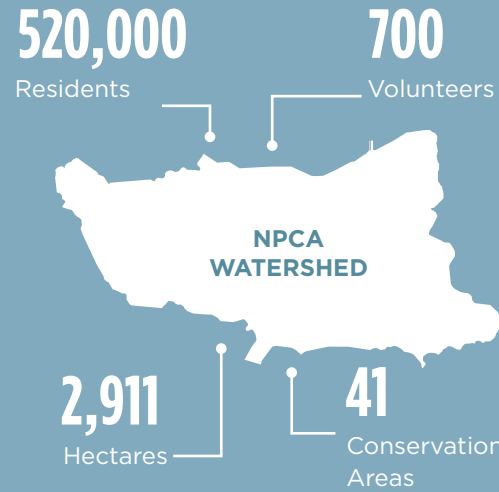
2		2 Watershed Condition Statements Issued	B+		Governance & Accountability
210		210 Permits Issued	A		Budget/Financial Controls/Asset Management
30,000		30,000 visitors to the Ball's Falls Thanksgiving Festival	B+		Permitting and Development Approvals
7		7 set locations are monitored bi-monthly November-February to measure snowpack throughout the watershed	B		Policy Development Framework
83		Twitter: 83 more followers	C+ TO B-		Public/Stakeholder Relations
37,335		Facebook: posts reached 37,335 people	10		10 Well Water Decommissioning Program projects
3,568		3,568 trees planted in a single session with the new WEARTH/The Carbon Farmer, Delta by Marriott partnership	114%		Corporate bookings increased by 114% this past year
			379		379 Hunting Permits issued

KEY EVENTS



- Envirothon**
March
- Roots on the Twenty**
May
- St. Johns Pond Opening**
April
- Hawkwatch**
March
- New Splashpad opens at Binbrook**
July
- Niagara Falls Nature Club**
Smithness Planting
June
- Extreme Mudder Race Competition**
October
- Perseids Meteor Shower**
August
- Ball's Falls Thanksgiving Festival**
Over 30,000 attended
October
- Pollinator Gardens Legacy Project**
June

NPCA BY THE NUMBERS



SPOTLIGHT

Appointed New CAO/Mark Brickell

Bill 139 Receives Royal Assent

The Living Landscape Policy Review

8 Bold New Initiatives

B-

Health of NPCA after completing first ever 2014-2017 Strategic Plan.

Beginning the process of the 2018-2021 Strategic Plan.

4 MOUs Initiated

- Niagara Region Planning Protocol**
- Department of National Defense Land Use Agreement**
- District School Board of Niagara Outdoor Learning**
- NPC Foundation New Partnership**

New Policies Crafted

- Code of Conducts**
- Record Retention**
- Communications**

\$1.4M Returned to Niagara Taxpayers (Hamilton Apportionment Decision)

5.2% Reduction in 2018 Budget

NPCA REVISED ADVISORY COMMITTEE MODEL

Province adopts this model in Bill 139

ACCESSIBILITY

- Long Beach Stairs
- Parking at Ball's Falls Thanksgiving Festival
- New accessible walkway at Binbrook

PARKS ARE REVENUE POSITIVE

2 COMPREHENSIVELY PREPARED MASTER PLANS

- Cave Springs Master Plan**
- Lakefront Master Plan**

Bench Brewing Company

NCDSB

Niagara Rowing School

BoarderPass Canada

Landcare Niagara Agreement

Canada 150 School Board Project

Métis Nation of Ontario

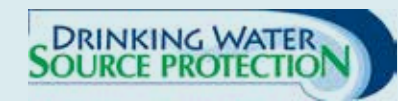
Burlington Beach Rentals

Brock University

Niagara College

Niagara Region Native Centre

Treetop Trekking



Updated Source Protection Plan

1 New Source Protection Committee Chair
2 New Committee Members | 3 Meetings

125+ Highly Vulnerable Aquifer reviews

1 new bedrock monitoring well in North Pelham

OUR LANDS

The Living Landscape's primary objective is to review and complete a fundamental rewrite of NPCA's primary development guidance document entitled 'Procedures and Guidelines for the Administration of Ontario Regulation 155/06 and Land Use Planning Policy Document'.

Ball's Falls Conservation Area
Staff winterized the property, and have begun promoting March Break camps. There is a new Thanksgiving Festival website being built and new branding around wedding promotions, and event support materials.

Binbrook Conservation Area

The 2018 Ice Fishing Derby was planned and promoted.

Chippawa Creek Conservation Area

80 seasonal campers were confirmed for 2018 with a projection of 93 total

Long Beach Conservation Area

91 seasonal campers were confirmed for 2018 with a projection of 115 total

8 INITIATIVES

At the #ILoveNPCA launch party, NPCA announced the biggest, most robust initiatives in its history.

- » New Partnership & Dialogue with the People of the Watershed
- » 1 Million Trees & 3 Million Native Species Plants
- » 100-Year Water Quality Improvement Plan
- » 100-Year Land Plan
- » Lead Role in Climate Change Mitigation
- » Leading & Learning Organization
- » Innovative Technology & Data Integration
- » Establish Annual Watershed Champions Awards Program

COMMUNITY

The NPCA planted a pollinator garden, as part of the Mickey DiFruscio and Family Legacy Pollinator Project, at Morgan's Point Conservation Area in partnership with the Niagara Restoration Council. Volunteers from NRC and NPCA assisted in planting and mulching the garden.

The 2017 Ball's Falls Thanksgiving Festival engaged a total of 125 volunteers who contributed a total of 1600 hours over the course of the weekend

WEARTH/The Carbon Farmer, Delta by Marriott, and staff volunteers from The Printing House Head Office planted over 3,568 trees (4.1 acres or 10 NHL hockey rinks) in two days at the NPCA's Smith Ness Forest Conservation Area.

We also engaged with:

- » Conservation Ontario Biennial Tour
- » Ball's Falls Thanksgiving Festival
- » Site visit at St. Johns Conservation Area - Centennial Secondary School
- » Niagara Economic Summit-GNCC
- » Lt. Gov. Volunteer Recognition Event-Trans Canada Trail
- » Ceremonial Tree Planting at Niagara Region Headquarters for Canada 150th School board Project
- » Pen Centre
- » Morningstar Mill

#DISCOVERNPCA

