



*Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority
(NPCA)*

Quarterly Progress Report 2

*As required for Conservation Authorities Act Amendments: Transition Plan
and Agreements Regulation (O.Reg. 687/21)*

Submitted To:

*Ministry of Environment, Conservation and
Parks (MECP)*

*Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
(MNR)*

October 3, 2022

NPCA Transition Plan Deliverables for the Period Ending September 30, 2022

Background:

The NPCA Transition Plan and Inventory of Programs and Services was submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), the City of Hamilton, Haldimand County, and Niagara Region as per MECP timelines. The NPCA met with participating and partner local municipalities between March and September of 2022 to provide an update on the Conservation Authorities Act requirements and the Inventory of Programs and Services.

Comments or Feedback from Municipalities Regarding the inventory:

As of September 30, 2022, the NPCA had formal meetings with its participating municipalities (Niagara Region - 2 meetings, City of Hamilton - 1 meeting, Haldimand County - 1 meeting) to review the Inventory and initiate Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) discussions. The NPCA also met with local partner municipalities to discuss existing MOUs and the need for new services aligned with the current timelines. The NPCA's local partner municipalities consulted so far include: the Town of Lincoln, Township of West Lincoln, City of St. Catharines, Town of Fort Erie and Town of Niagara-on-the Lake.

Summary of Changes Made to the Inventory to Address Municipal Comments:

Comments and suggestions have been received in September, 2022 from Niagara Region. Staff are currently working on updating the inventory as needed and providing a response to Niagara Region. A follow-up meeting is being scheduled for the City of Hamilton. A copy of Niagara Region's comments along with NPCA response will be shared with MECP and MNRF through future updated reports.

Memorandum of Understanding:

A draft MOU template has been developed and will be shared with municipalities for review in Quarter 4 of 2022. The NPCA is proactively working on all transition requirements at this time and does not anticipate any delays. However, staff will continue to monitor for any extensions and the Ministry will be proactively informed. To ensure budget and work plan alignment, the NPCA is also taking the opportunity to update and execute other MOU's and agreements with lower tier municipalities as needed.

Levy Regulation and Budget Transition:

NPCA staff have been planning updates to the NPCA budget and based on municipal discussions, we would like to execute the changes sooner than required by the Ministry deadline. Transition to the new budget/levy model is being planned for the 2023 budget cycle instead of 2024.