

The Board of Directors Meeting of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority was held on the above date, at the Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area, Petrolia, at the hour of 1:00 p.m.

Present: Steve Arnold, Chair; Andy Bruziewicz, Vice Chair; Alan Broad, Tony Bruinink, Joe Faas, Norm Giffen, Larry Gordon, Kevin Marriott, Don McCallum, Dan McMillan, Steve Miller, Frank Nemcek, Cindy Scholten, Jeff Wesley, Muriel Wright

Absent: Todd Case, Mike Kelch, Betty Ann MacKinnon, John McCharles, Gerry Rupke

Staff Present: Brian McDougall, General Manager; Kevan Baker, Director of Lands; Girish Sankar, Manager of Water Resources; Erin Carroll, Manager of Biology; Dallas Cundick, Environmental Planner/Regulations Officer; Donna Strang, AOC Co-ordinator; Steve Shaw, Manager of Conservation Services; Tracy Prince, Director of Finance; Rick Battson, Director of Communications; Marlene Dorrestyn, Administrative Assistant

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and requested that each Director declare a conflict of interest at the appropriate time, on any item within this agenda in that a Director may have pecuniary interest.

**BD-16-062**

**Scholten - Bruinink**

**“That the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held April 21, 2016, be approved as distributed.”**

**CARRIED**

The General Manager’s Report was presented:

- Lake Erie – Phosphorous
  - through the Nutrients Annex of the 2012 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, Canada and the United States have committed to:
    - *“... contribute to the achievement of the General and Specific Objectives of this Agreement by coordinating binational actions to manage phosphorus concentrations and loadings, and other nutrients if warranted, in the Waters of the Great Lakes.”*
  - Ontario has established two targets for the reduction of Phosphorous entering Lake Erie
    - 20% reduction by 2020
    - 40% total reduction by 2025 (a further 20% reduction from 2020)
  - several groups have developed and tasked themselves with various objectives to assist in reaching these targets
  - staff have been actively participating with several of these groups to provide local data and expertise to the discussions as well as to ensure that any proposed grantable projects or programs may be implemented in our watershed
  - in the scientific community groups in each of Canada and the US are working to understand where the phosphorous load is coming from and what form the phosphorous is in – while another group is looking to combine this overall work

- and determine overall contributions that are provided by the Detroit River to western Lake Erie – Authority staff have been participating in 2 of these groups and continue to participate with the group working in Canada – Conservation Authorities are represented in the binational group by Essex Region CA
- Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food & Rural Affairs has been tasked with developing a Domestic Action Plan to achieve the phosphorous reduction targets
    - the Agriculture Sector Working Group is being assembled to provide ongoing input to the development, engagement and implementation of agriculture actions for the Domestic Action Plan
    - these industry-government meetings will provide a forum to exchange information, provide advice on potential actions by the agriculture community and government to reduce phosphorus entering Lake Erie
    - staff have been participating on an advisory panel comprised of over 20 partners in assisting the Ministry in building a background to a proposed Domestic Action Plan
    - this plan is expected to target aspects of current legislation for additional enforcement, broaden other legislation to eliminate assumed phosphorous discharge practices and seek best management practices to be implemented to assist in achieving the above noted targets
  - the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (GLSLCI) and the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) have spearheaded an initiative to create a pilot program for the Thames River watershed to achieve reductions in phosphorous by specifically targeting the area between the field and the municipal drain or watercourse
    - Chair Arnold, representing GLSLCI and I, representing the Drainage Investment Group, have been participating on the advisory committee to this project along with partners from other environmental organizations, provincial and federal agriculture representatives, drainage superintendents and engineers and representatives of most commodity groups
    - both GLSLCI and OFA have meetings next week to review and possibly approve the proposed project, which subject to approvals will proceed to seek funding of \$1.5 million each year over the next 5 years to fund this pilot project
  - our active partnership in the Healthy Lake Huron program has led to SCRCA being asked to represent Conservation Ontario (CO) as one of two representatives on the Lake Huron Partnership Management Committee including the development of the Lake Huron Lakewide Management Plan – Phil Beard, Maitland Valley Conservation Authority is the other CO representative

**BD-16-063**

**Gordon – Bruziewicz**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager’s report, dated June 10, 2016.”**

**CARRIED**

A report regarding Conservation Ontario was presented.

- Conservation Authorities Act Review
  - in November 2014, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry was given the mandate to initiate a review of the Conservation Authorities Act
  - on July 20, 2015, a discussion paper was posted on the Environmental Bill of Rights Registry seeking feedback on governance, funding mechanisms and roles and responsibilities (EBR Registry Number: 012-4509)
  - 21 engagement sessions involving over 200 participants were hosted by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) to collect input on the discussion paper resulting in the production of a summary document <http://apps.mnr.gov.on.ca/public/files/er/ogilvie-engagement-session-summary-report.pdf>
  - another document was created to summarize the comments received through the EBR posting <http://apps.mnr.gov.on.ca/public/files/er/ca-act-review-er-feedback-summary-report.pdf>
  - from their review and analysis of the submissions, on May 12, 2016, a policy proposal notice was posted on the EBR entitled Conserving Our Future: Proposed Priorities for Renewal <http://apps.mnr.gov.on.ca/public/files/er/conserving-our-future-proposed-priorities-for-renewal.pdf>
    - the purpose of this posting is to support the next phase of the Ministry's review of the Conservation Authorities Act
    - five priorities for updating the Conservation Authorities Act have been identified from the results of the first phase of the review
      - strengthening oversight and accountability in decision-making
      - increasing clarity and consistency in roles and responsibilities, processes and requirements
      - improving collaboration and engagement among all parties involved in resource management
      - modernizing funding mechanisms to support conservation authority operations
      - enhancing flexibility for the province to update the Conservation Authorities Act framework in the future
  - once again MNRF is seeking input via consultation as well as comments through the EBR posting
  - 5 consultation session will be held around the Province through mid June
  - Chair Arnold and I were among the approximately 70 who attended the consultation session in London on June 9th – sessions in Thunder Bay and Ottawa held prior had 7 and 20 attendees respectively
  - around our discussion table
    - the greatest consensus was regarding modernizing funding – additional funding from the Province is necessary – potentially from a group of Ministries rather than just MNRF as the tasks that Authorities complete fall under the objectives of multiple Ministries
    - there was a general consensus that improved clarity and consistency in roles, responsibilities, processes and requirements is desirable – focus on

- ‘core’ programs which have no basis in legislation could negatively impact the Authorities flexibility to meet locals needs and objectives – additional or refined responsibilities were reviewed with concern over ‘at whose cost’ decision making oversight and accountability was reviewed with much more divergent views being brought forward – some comments outlining that the status quo is working well – other comments that there should be significant changes
- some diverse positions regarding improved collaboration and engagement and enhancing flexibility for the Province were noted – however, most outlined that collaboration is ongoing and effective – engagement levels vary but seem to meet local needs – the Minister has significant powers to make changes currently and additional powers may not be seen as a positive step forward
- a draft of the Authority’s proposed submission to the EBR posting will be circulated at the June 23 meeting
- feedback can be submitted via the EBR posting prior to September 9<sup>th</sup> and will be used to inform the development of specific actions for improving the 5 priority areas
- reports summarizing feedback to be distributed to participants
- any proposed specific legislative, regulatory or policy changes will be subject to further public consultation (e.g. subsequent Environmental Registry postings)
- notices of any next steps will be provided to anyone who has participated in the review to date

Director’s Comments:

- leave open through July, update report at next meeting.

**BD-16-064**

**Nemcek - Marriott**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 10, 2016 regarding the Conservation Authorities Act review and further approves that the draft submission, including received Board comments, be forwarded to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry as the Authority’s formal comments.”**

**CARRIED**

A report regarding the draft Succession Plan Process was explained.

- Succession Plan *Process*
  - as previously outlined, the Authority has entered a period of time which will see as many as 10 staff retire over a 6 year time frame
  - in drafting our Succession Plan, we gradually came to an understanding that we were not going to be able to take a plan through its final stage
  - a formal succession plan will often specifically identify individuals to fill future management positions – this was not our intention in creating a plan
  - however, that doesn’t diminish the importance of a plan or at least the process to a plan
  - the intent in developing a plan was to:

- ensure organization stability by creating back-up capacity in key positions
- retain and attract passionate, high caliber employees by encouraging and supporting their individual career development
- develop and maintain critical knowledge banks through mentoring, capturing organizational, job and historical knowledge from departing employees and imparting it to potential future replacements
- the draft Succession Plan Process has been written to achieve this intended goal and further seeks to ensure that the Board of Directors and management staff support the use of the outlined tools to continue to assemble a strong staff ensemble

**BD-16-065**

**Miller – Bruziewicz**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 10, 2016 regarding the draft Succession Plan Process and further approves the document and directs staff to implement the process immediately.”**

**CARRIED**

A staff report regarding the Conservation Strategy Discussion Paper was presented.

- the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority is developing a strategic plan to guide our activities over the next 5 years. In order to achieve this, a discussion paper was developed that will provide much more information than the final strategy. It was felt that the initial phases of development required this detail in order to place the strategic actions into context.
- staff have met several times as a group and as individual departments to flesh out this document. It is now at a stage in which we request feedback from our Board of Directors. Following the discussion paper is a series of questions designed to help us move forward. We will also be looking for a discussion at the September board meeting.
- the plan, depending on the feedback from the Board, is to develop a draft strategic plan that will be distributed to municipalities, stakeholders and the public through our website following the September meeting with a report to the Board in November and possible approval in December.

**BD-16-066**

**McMillan - Bruinink**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Strategy Discussion Paper dated June 10, 2016 and further directs staff to incorporate feedback from the Board of Directors and solicit comments from the public, municipalities and project partners and subsequently report back to the Board of Directors at the September meeting.”**

**CARRIED**

Minutes of the April 11, 2016 Conservation Ontario meeting were reviewed.

**BD-16-067**

**Marriott – Scholten**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Ontario’s minutes of April 11, 2016.”**

**CARRIED**

A report on the business arising from the last meeting was discussed.

- send out information summaries regarding the court cases Conservation Ontario is involved with – *emailed May 19<sup>th</sup>*
- concerns regarding the lack of sugar shack at A.W. Campbell – report to Board in September
- regarding Mr. Molzan’s request for assistance, send a letter of support to the Minister of Environment – drafted for Chair’s signature
  - refer a copy to Source Protection – completed April 22<sup>nd</sup>

**BD-16-068**

**Wright - Gordon**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the updates on business arising from the April 21, 2016 Board of Director’s meeting.”**

**CARRIED**

A Conservation Lands Update was reviewed:

- Conservation Areas:
  - the Conservation Authority owns 15 conservation areas in the watershed
  - of those 15 conservation areas, 6 are managed by the local municipality and 9 are operated by the Conservation Authority
  - of these 9, 3 conservation areas are regional campgrounds which attract campers from primarily Southwestern Ontario
  - our three regional campgrounds have over 500 campsites and 413 seasonal campers
  - the three campgrounds are self-sufficient receiving no tax dollars towards the maintenance and operation; profits obtained from our campgrounds are used to offset capital improvements
  - the camping season in 2016 runs from Friday, April 29 to Thanksgiving Day
- Warwick Conservation Area (Warwick Township)
  - the pool has been renovated with new 2 x 2 porcelain tile and colored quartz surfacing
  - roads have been upgraded with gravel
  - WIFI system has been upgraded with additional transmission units which will enhance reception and coverage
  - a utility pole was replaced on the main campground feeder line
  - a new rental canoe has been purchased (Foundation)
  - 5 sections of boardwalk have been installed along the trail system
  - a 5-acre parcel of agricultural land has been retired with trees as part of a climate change growth plot study. This study is in partnership with the Forest Gene

- Conservation Association, Forests Ontario, and SWATT (Southwestern Ontario Afforestation Technical Team (Forestry Department))
- L.C. Henderson Conservation Area (Enniskillen Township)
  - the campground pool fence has been replaced with new chain link fence
  - roads have been upgraded with gravel
  - 2 shower areas have been renovated with new shower surrounds and ceramic tile installed on the floors and walls
  - a three-piece dock system has been constructed and installed; this will provide additional access to the pond for wetland studies and better fishing access for our visitors (Foundation)
  - new roadside and directional signage has been installed
- A.W. Campbell Conservation Area (Municipality of Brooke Alvinston)
  - the 12 x 34 ft addition to the existing workshop has been completed; the addition will facilitate a superintendent's office, staff lunch room and storage.
  - roads have been upgraded with gravel
  - pool washrooms have been upgraded with new lighting and washroom fixtures
  - bike cross trail has been upgraded with new trail surfacing
  - 3 sections of boardwalk have been installed along the Lakeside Trail
  - a new rental canoe has been purchased (Foundation)
- Other Lands Activities:
  - a new property identification sign has been installed at the Esli Dodge Conservation Area (Municipality of Lambton Shores)
  - 3 board walk sections have been replaced along the trail at the Clark Wright Conservation Area (Strathroy-Caradoc)
  - a memorial bench has been installed at the Marsh Walk Wetlands (Strathroy-Caradoc)
  - board walk sections have been repaired at the Strathroy and Coldstream Conservation Area's
  - main access roadway at Highland Glen has been upgraded with 2 loads of gravel
- Marketing/Camping Statistics:
  - Our conservation areas have been marketed in the following publications or events in 2016:
    - Sarnia Lambton and Chatham-Kent Tourism Guide
    - Camping ads have been placed on MyFm, Strathroy & District Chamber of Commerce, and Sarnia Lambton Chamber of Commerce websites
    - Conservation Ontario – “Your Guide to Conservation Areas”
    - Blue Water Tourism Guide (in partnership with other Conservation Authorities)
    - Central Lambton Travel Guide
    - Middlesex Home & Leisure Show (Strathroy Gemini Complex – April 30<sup>th</sup>)
    - Sarnia Art Walk (Downtown Sarnia, June 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>)
    - 413 seasonal campers have registered in our 3 campgrounds, down from 418 in 2015. 188 seasonal campers are registered at Warwick (190 in

2015), 117 at LC Henderson (120 in 2015) and 108 at A.W. Campbell (108 in 2015).

- Foundation Lands:
  - the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation owns 16 land holdings and 456 hectares of land; these lands are maintained and operated by the Conservation Authority
  - staff have remarked the property boundaries and have seeded the access laneway at the Huff Woodlot (Chatham-Kent)
  - new property identification signs have been installed at the Gawne Habitat Management Area (Dawn-Euphemia) and Evoy Woods (Enniskillen)
  - the agriculture lands at the Gawne and Sinclair properties have been leased for the next 5 years.
  - the drainage pump and motor in the pump house along Kent Bridge Road has been repaired with a new electric motor and new bearings installed in the drive shaft (Keith McLean Conservation Lands, Chatham-Kent)
  - prescribe burns were carried out on 3 of the tall grass prairie plantations (McLean)
  - at the Evoy Woods (Enniskillen) the property boundary survey stakes have been located and marked; a new property identification sign has been installed and forestry staff are preparing a forest management plan which will enable the property to be eligible for the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Plan (MFTIP)
  - the Foundation will provide financial assistance to the Conservation Authority to support the development and maintenance of trails on our properties
- County of Lambton Lands:
  - a new trail loop has been completed at the Perch Creek Habitat Management Area
  - fencing has been upgraded on the sand hill in Port Franks; the fence restricts access and allows for dune grasses to become established (Lambton County Heritage Forest)
  - trail head signage has been installed at the Lambton County Heritage Forest
  - a new property identification sign has been installed at the Bowens Creek Management Area
- McKeough Upstream Lands:
  - wetlands on properties 38 and 79 have been upgraded to improve water retention and reduce soil erosion to the berms
  - a climate change tree growth plot has been planted at property 105; this plot consists of 600 red and swamp white oak seedlings and the study will compare the growth and survival rates of locally supplied and southern U.S. trees (Forestry Department)
  - two agricultural parcels to have randomized tile installed to assist with the drainage on the property



**BD-16-069**

**Giffen - Nemcek**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Lands Update, dated June 6, 2016 on Conservation Areas, McKeough Upstream lands and Lambton County properties.”**

**CARRIED**

Directors Comments:

- prepare a report on use at Highland Glen
- perhaps charge so upgrades can be made
- perhaps organize a volunteer group to come up with ideas and fundraise/collect fees

**BD-16-070**

**Wright – Scholten**

**“That the Board of Directors directs staff to report back with options to upgrade the Highland Glen boat dock and make the area self-sufficient.”**

**CARRIED**

A staff report regarding ATV activity at the Coldstream Conservation Area was discussed.

- this report has been generated in response to correspondence received from a trail user at the Coldstream Conservation Woodlot property
- the Authority and Conservation Foundation own in excess of 3,000 acres of land comprised of Conservation Areas, Foundation Lands and McKeough Upstream properties
- these lands are generally rural in nature consisting of woodlots, wetlands, campgrounds, flood plains and beach front property
- the use of these properties can vary greatly from agricultural, to managed woodlots, to intense recreational to unmanaged natural areas
- each property has the potential to have unauthorized ATV activity on them; in most cases the activity on our properties is minimal but there have been isolated cases that have occurred and have proven to be very difficult for staff to stop or control
- in the more active cases signage and blockage/fencing entrance points has been used but has been ineffective; signage is generally removed quickly and fencing is cut to gain access
- Coldstream Conservation Area Woodlot Property:
  - this area comprises approximately 25 acres of rehabilitated gravel pit, woodlot and natural area
  - trails were developed to facilitate the extraction of wood during woodlot improvement and commercial thinning operations
  - the trails were maintained by Authority staff on an annual basis by removing fallen trees on the trail system and patrolling the area during the fall deer hunting season
  - over the past 5 or 6 years, staff have noticed increased ATV activity on this property and have posted signs to advise users that this activity is prohibited; most signage was removed within a short time

- ATV activity is not confined to our property only - there are 3 other properties where this activity is occurring; the ATV user must cross our property to access the largest trail section on the adjoining property
- all 3 property owners have been contacted but none are interested in stopping the activity on their property.
- Staff Action to Date:
  - the individual who confronted the group was contacted and he was instructed not to use the trails for ATV use; and to pass this message on to others
  - staff are working with Enviro-Friends of Coldstream to see if we could work with the community to stop ATV use on the property
  - Police and staff are patrolling the property with more frequency
  - new signage has been installed

Directors Comments:

- noticing aquatics are being impacted by ATV use
- hoping news through community will impact issue
- need local support

**BD-16-071**

**Faas - McMillan**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the correspondence dated May 7, 2016 regarding ATV activity at the Coldstream Conservation Area and further acknowledges the status report dated June 6, 2016 regarding ATV activities and staff actions at Coldstream.”**

**CARRIED**

A staff report on water levels, current and flood conditions was presented.

- Watershed Precipitation and Streamflow Conditions
  - Highlights:
    - low precipitation in April and May
    - average flow conditions across watershed
  - the months of April and May were significantly dry months when compared with the average precipitation and this resulted in gradually diminishing flows in watercourses over the period.
  - following several storm events and in conjunction with the spring thaw period, flows in the first part of April remained high but returned to seasonal normal by the end of May
  - precipitation for the past three months resulted in close to 100% of the expected values due mostly to the month of March with 150% to 200% of the normal. With April and May being significantly lower the last three months had at the time the potential to become a dry period but ended the period with average values. As we move into June there have been several heavy rainstorms and we anticipate numbers to improve into the summer
- Flood Threat:
  - with reduced rainfall in May, flows have returned to seasonal averages with capacity to accommodate most rain events moving into June.

- as always we will continue monitor flows and any significant storm events. Advisories will be provided as conditions dictate.
- Weather Outlook:
  - Short Term Outlook: average temperature and precipitation across the region over the next 14 days
  - Long Term Outlook: Environment Canada anticipates a 40% chance that temperatures will be above average and precipitation will be normal for the summer months
- Great Lakes Levels: the monthly comparison for May 2016 (current available data) indicate that Lake Huron levels have increased by 23cm over May 2015 and continue to remain above the 10 year average for Lake St. Clair and Lake Huron at 45cm and 66cm respectively and also remain above the average for the entire period of record.

**BD-16-072**

**Miller - Broad**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 10, 2016 on the current watershed conditions and Great Lakes water levels.”**

**CARRIED**

A staff report on Low Water Response conditions was discussed.

- overview: water levels across the province have remained consistently higher than average since the spring freshet period. Snowpack was reduced gradually into the spring season in most areas however significantly higher precipitation in late February and March contributed to ongoing higher flows alleviating any specific concerns relating to low water conditions at that time. Regional numbers indicates only slightly higher than average precipitation over the past three (102%) and below average for the six months (97%) and closer to 100% overall for the past 12 months. It should be noted that in both April and May precipitation amounts were significantly less than average. This was offset by extensive precipitation in March across the region resulting in near normal precipitation for the last 3 months
- Provincial Low Water Conditions Report – April 2016 (MNRF Data): provincial conditions indicate several watersheds in the eastern areas of the province reporting low water conditions as defined by the standard precipitation criterion of three month and eighteen month historical analysis. With April and May precipitation amounts being significantly lower, flows have been negatively impacted in some regions as of the end of May resulting in confirmed low water conditions in the eastern part of the province and Niagara region. Additional provincial information is available at the MNRF website: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/low-water-response-program>
- in addition, conditions did not improve into May further impacting longer term averages potentially creating low water conditions into the summer months for 2016 however, several major storm systems in the first part of June may alleviate these conditions in some areas of the province.
- SCRCA Regional Data
  - Precipitation: Figures for our region are consistent with conditions across the province for May with precipitation being only 60% of the average for the month in the north areas of the watershed and between 60% to 80% in the southern half

of our region. Three month numbers however show precipitation near or above normal for the period. Based on this trend there is a notable short-term deficiency in precipitation which could potentially impact watershed flows should this pattern continue into the summer.

- streamflow: flow figures for May are compared to lowest summer monthly average flows as defined by the MNR criteria for Low Water analysis and forecasting. This parameter provides some guidance when forecasting flow numbers into the summer months. By comparison based on North and East branches of the Sydenham watershed, all flows for May are substantially above summer low flow periods. When combined with current precipitation figures however, there is the possibility of lower flows into the summer considering that April and May were slightly below average. June figures are showing slightly improved rainfall and it is possible that precipitation will be normal for the remainder of the spring season. While it is unlikely there will be low water conditions into the summer, as with any weather conditions, this remains somewhat unpredictable and will continue to be monitored into June.
- summary: based on current data for May there is a slight potential for Level I conditions especially if below average precipitation is received in the remainder of June. However, based on longer term 3 and 6 month analysis, the current conditions are less significant and are not as likely to result in the need for Low Water Response. Should conditions change we will update the committee accordingly as we move into the summer.

**BD-16-072**

**Bruinink - Wesley**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 10, 2016 on the Low Water Response conditions.”**

**CARRIED**

A staff report on Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure Projects submitted for funding in 2016-2017.

- review of WECl applications have been completed by a committee of provincial and Conservation Authority staff representatives.
- applications submitted included several Flood control projects from GRCA, UTRCA and TRCA
- flood control projects in urban areas get significantly higher points as per WECl scoring
- following 2 projects were approved for 2016- 2017.

Structure	Project Name	Description of Work	Total Project Cost (\$)	Grant Requested (\$)
McKeough Floodway	McKeough Floodway Berm Repair	Perform repair work along the floodway	\$100,000	\$50,000
McKeough Floodway	Dam Safety Review	Study to review safety of McKeough Dam	\$40,000	\$20,000

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- we continue to wrap up projects on a monthly basis. Status of 2015 – 2016 projects is outlined below:

Structure	Project Name	Status
Wallaceburg Retaining wall	McKD-Hazard Tree Removal	Completed
McKeough Dam	McKeough Dam Drop structure repair	Ongoing
McKeough Dam	Culvert Replacement	Completed
ARDA dykes	Hazard Tree Removal	Completed

- Stop Logs: we are in the process of replacing wooden stop logs from Petrolia and Head Street Dam.

Directors Comments:

- report back next meeting to include all projects submitted for approval, project scores, ranking, etc.

#### **BD-16-073**

##### **Marriott - Bruziewicz**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 8, 2016 on the ongoing Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure projects across the watershed and further acknowledges the project updates on the previously funding projects and projects submitted for 2016-2017 funding.”**

**CARRIED**

A staff report regarding the McKeough Dam Safety Review was presented.

- McKeough Dam Safety Review components:
  - revise the hydrologic model for updated design storms
  - re-evaluate the discharge capacity and freeboard requirements
  - perform dam break simulations and undertake inundation mapping to assist in determination of the Incremental Hazard Potential
  - confirm HPC considering dam break simulations and inundation mapping
  - determine IDF based on confirmed HPC
  - Structural Stability Analysis
  - assess geotechnical bearing capacity, settlement, and liquefaction potential of the overburden foundation material
  - update Operation, Maintenance, Surveillance and Safety (OMSS) Manual
  - update Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP)
  - contingency item: Probable Maximum Flood (PMF) confirmation should the initial determination of the HPC be HIGH or VERY HIGH
  - contingency item: Geotechnical investigation if the assumed 33-degree friction angle is found to be inadequate when the stability analysis is confirmed
  - assessment of floodway
  - structural investigation of outlet Control structure

- gatehouse crack review
- we are in the process of developing the request for quotes (RFQ) for the above noted review. The completed RFQ will be posted on our website and sent out to consulting engineers who we have identified with the skills to undertake this type of work. We expect these quotes to be received in August 2016 with the intention to award the project and undertake the works in late summer and fall 2016. The budget for the work is \$40,000 (\$20,000 approved under WECL funding). As the quotation process will occur over the summer months we seek approval from the Board to permit the Chair and General Manager to accept the lowest bid, subject to the project budget.

**BD-16-074**

**Nemcek - Wright**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 10, 2016, regarding the McKeough Dam Safety Review and further approves the Chair and General Manager to accept the lowest quotation, subject to the project budget.”**

**CARRIED**

A staff report regarding the Healthy Watersheds Program in Lambton Shores was reviewed.

- in the past few months Healthy Watersheds staff have been attending learning events as well as landowner outreach and stewardship events.
  - April 22 - Saugeen Conservation Stewardship Day – River Restoration  
Staff heard case studies about stream restoration projects conducted by municipalities and Trout Unlimited. It was a great day to excite us about the potential for creating better trout and Northern pike habitat in our watershed.
  - April 23 – Forest Home and Garden Show - staff had a booth at the Show to highlight stewardship grants available for landowners in Lambton Shores. Several people were interested in the Great Lakes Agricultural Stewardship Initiative (GLASI) as well as creating reptile and amphibian habitat on their property. As usual, our stuffed snapping turtle and Eastern Foxsnake were big hits among young and old alike.
  - in both the Lambton Shores and Upper Sydenham River watersheds, we’ve had a number of landowners interested in wetland projects. We are currently seeking funding to provide cost share for these projects. It is wonderful to have more projects than funding – that means we have a lot of landowner buy-in! This picture is of a property where the landowner is interested in converting a low spot of an agricultural field into a wetland to slow runoff and create habitat for wildlife.
  - April 26 - St Vincent de Paul tree planting - Staff participated in a local school greening program with ReForest London. Students from St Vincent de Paul Separate school helped create an outdoor classroom with funding support from the SCRCA Foundation and RBC. The Foundation supplied 5 large stock trees and 10 shrubs for the classroom. RBC volunteers were on hand to help with the digging. The students loved being a part of creating their own classroom.
  - April 27 - Is the Coast Clear? Workshop by Lake Huron Coastal Centre for Conservation - staff attended this biennial workshop in Port Elgin. It was quite an informative event and highlighted topics like plastics in the Great Lakes and Beach and Dune Conservation. One speaker was quite compelling and we are

trying to secure him for a Beach and Dune Conservation Workshop in the Lambton Shores area.

- staff are currently planning two events: Beach and Dune Conservation Evening (July) and an Agricultural Stewardship Bus tour (August 24) that will be funded through the GLASI program. The Bus tour will take place close to the centre of our watershed and focus on projects that farmers have done to reduce erosion and nutrient loss on their farms. We are currently seeking speakers.
- stewardship projects – *\*Grants available\** SCRCA secures funding to support landowner implemented stewardship projects including riparian buffers, block tree planting, windbreaks, wetlands, and erosion control measures. Staff meet with landowners and offer advice and project design and where applicable, support projects with grants. Call today for more information for stewardship projects in Lambton Shores and the Sydenham River Watershed.

#### **BD-16-075**

**McMillan - Gordon**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 10, 2016 on the Healthy Watersheds Program in Lambton Shores, and endorses staff efforts to engage private landowners in Best Management Practices to improve the surface water quality.”**

**CARRIED**

A staff report regarding an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant was presented.

- the Friends of the St. Clair River, in partnership with SCRCA, were awarded Ontario Trillium Foundation funding for 2016-2018. The partnership will receive \$160,300 over 36 months. The project focus is in the St. Clair River AOC (areas 1a and 1b). Funding will be used for St. Clair River AOC aquatic inventories, aquatic habitat restoration/creation, and aquatic outreach and education.
- aquatic inventories will include fish surveys, mussel surveys, reptile surveys, water quality sampling, benthic invertebrate sampling, and stream temperature monitoring. Data collected will provide a better understanding of the St. Clair River tributaries and aid in selecting candidate sites for restoration efforts.
- fish survey work has already been completed in 2016, with 10 sites being sampled. 42 species of fish were captured at the 10 sites. The first site of the season was at Branton Cundick park (a wetland creation with direct connection to the St. Clair River to provide spawning habitat for Northern Pike). In the first pass with the seine net 9380 Emerald Shiners were captured, doubling the number of fish caught in 2015! Northern Pike were found in the wetland confirming use by the species.
- aquatic habitat restoration projects will include wetland restoration/creation, barrier removals, and in-stream habitat creation. Projects will include additional partners such as Ducks Unlimited Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and private landowners. Funding has also been provided for project maintenance. The 2016 project maintenance funding has been used to complete repairs to wetlands on SCRCA properties.
- Property 79 wetland after repairs to the outlet - outreach and education activities will involve the development of a new River Day to complement existing programs in the St. Clair River AOC (River Critters and River Rap).

**BD-16-076**

**Marriott - Giffen**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 10, 2016 regarding an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant obtained by the Friends of the St. Clair River for the Authority to undertake aquatic monitoring in the St. Clair River tributaries.”**

**CARRIED**

A staff report regarding spring 2016 tree planting was presented.

- Seedling/Reforestation program
  - tree seedlings arrived on April 22nd as normal for spring delivery time.
  - SCRCA crews planted 102,000 trees for 29 separate projects on private and industrial lands.
  - three tractor-mounted mechanical tree planters were used to plant approximately 72,000 trees in a 23-day period.
  - approximately 30,000 trees were planted by hand in locations where tractors could not operate.
  - another 8,100 trees were ordered for 38 landowners to plant on their own.
  - two large projects were planted for both Union Gas and Enbridge Gas Storage on a combined total of 40 acres of retired farmland.
  - more than \$165,000 in federal, provincial and local grant dollars was provided to property owners this year to subsidize the cost of trees, planting service and long term vegetation management.
  - all sites were sprayed with a pre-emergent herbicide soon after planting.
  - another 200,000 trees were resprayed this spring on sites that were planted in 2013, 2014 and 2015.
  - planting operations were delayed or slowed down this year due to the cold wet start to May. Tree planting was completed on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Large Stock/ Municipal tree program
  - approximately 760 large stock potted and bare root trees were purchased by landowners this spring for windbreak and roadside tree planting
  - Brooke-Alvinston purchased 323 trees for municipal residents to pick up and plant and provided a small financial incentive for landowners interested in purchasing and planting their own trees.
  - 19 other individual landowners purchased 437 trees
  - price quotes were obtained from 5 wholesale tree nurseries and trees were purchased from 3 nurseries that provided the best price and delivery costs as well as the ability to supply the required native species.

Directors Comments:

- prepare a report on who qualifies for the program
- available dates of large stock and seedlings
- options for expansion of large stock municipal program



**BD-16-077****Scholten - Miller****“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 10, 2016 regarding spring 2016 tree planting on private, corporate and public lands.”****CARRIED**

A staff report regarding the larvicide program in Lambton County was explained.

- the County of Lambton, SCRCA and Lambton Public Health has agreed to extend the contract for catch basin larvicide treatments in Sarnia-Lambton this year. The three-year contract ended in 2015 but had an option to be extended an extra 2 years if agreed to by all parties involved.
- six summer staff from the watershed services department will be treating approximately 16,000 catch basins with a mosquito growth regulator called methoprene.
- four staff will be working out of the Strathroy office and 2 staff will be working out of the Darcy McKeough Dam.
- pre-treatment larva sampling is scheduled for June 16<sup>th</sup> to determine mosquito activity.
- results are then sent to Lambton Public Health. Mosquito activity will be used to determine when to start catch basin treatment. Approval from the Medical Officer of Health is required before treatments commence.
- applications for permits have been submitted to the London M.O.E.C.C. office and we are currently awaiting approval for 4 permits:
  - Sarnia - Lambton - methoprene
  - Sarnia - Lambton - Bti
  - Aamjiwnaang - methoprene
  - Dupont Corunna - methoprene.
- Kettle Point and Oneida First Nation inquired about the program and we are still waiting to hear from them.
- Methoprene pellets will be applied to approximately 13,000 catch basins with 3 separate treatments spread out at 21 day intervals throughout the summer. Another 3,000 catch basins in predetermined areas will receive a single methoprene briquette for season long control. A different colour paint mark for each separate application of larvicide is applied to every catch basin.
- costs to the County will remain the same as last year.
- treatments of methoprene pellets usually start around the week of June 25<sup>th</sup> and end mid-August.
- efficacy testing is planned again this year to monitor how well pellets and briquettes are controlling mosquito populations. SCRCA staff will be conducting the sampling work.

**BD-16-078****Faas - McMillan****“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 10, 2016 regarding the Authority’s agreement with Lambton County to undertake the application of Larvicide to catch basins as part of Lambton County Community Health Services West Nile Virus Program.”****CARRIED**

Regulations Summary Reports for April and May 2016 were reviewed.

Directors Comments:

- what are the timelines for receiving request and issuing permits

**BD-16-079**

**Wright - Nemcek**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges and concurs with the Regulations Committee Reports on “Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses” Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06), dated April 30, 2016 and May 31, 2016.”**

**CARRIED**

Planning Activity Summary Report for April and May 2016 was reviewed.

**BE-16-080**

**Faas - Miller**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority’s monthly Planning Activity Summary Reports for April and May 2016.”**

**CARRIED**

A staff report on DART was presented.

- Municipal drain April – May 2016 activity report associated with the provincially approved guidance “*Drainage Act and Conservation Authorities Act Protocol (DART)*” approved by the Board April 18, 2013.\*

<b>SCRCA DART Files</b>				2015 April	
<b>FHR #</b>	<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Geographic Township</b>	<b>Drain Name</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>SCRs Issued</b>
2659	Southwest Middlesex	Mosa	Peter Mitchell Drain	Brushing bank slope and top, bottom cleanout	3
2663	Sarnia	Sarnia	Cole Drain	Emergency culvert replacement	1
2664	St. Clair	Sombra	Grape Run Drain	Brushing bank slope, bottom cleanout	2
2665	St. Claire	Moore	Morrison Drain	Brushing bank slope, bottom cleanout	2
2666	Enniskillen	Enniskillen	Whiting Drain	Bottom cleanout, brushing bank slope and top of bank	3

<b>SCRCA DART Files</b>				2015 May	
<b>FHR #</b>	<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Geographic Township</b>	<b>Drain Name</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>SCRs Issued</b>
2667	Brooke-Alvinston	Brooke	Tait Cut-off Drain	Bottom only clean out, brushing bank top and slope	3
2668	Brooke-Alvinston	Brooke	Bryan Johnston Drain	Bottom only clean out, brush bank slope, seeding	2
2669	Adelaide-Metcalf	Adelaide	Currie Drain	Bottom only cleanout, brushing bank slope, seeding	2

\*Note - the SCRs and the above report are prepared by Biology Section staff with ratification by Planning and Regulations Section/ Regulations Officer. Ontario Regulation 171/06 “Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses” applies, however the DART protocol is followed for streamlining purposes.

**BD-16-081**

**Bruinink - Marriott**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report, dated June 8, 2016 on Drainage Act and Conservation Authority Act Protocol (DART) Municipal drain activities and drain Letters of Review for April and to date June 2016.”**

**CARRIED**

A staff report regarding changes to the Administration of the “Development Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation” was explained.

- for your information, please see the enclosed factsheet created by Conservation Ontario which provides guidance to CA’s in regard to changes to the administration of the “Development Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation” while awaiting Court of Appeal decision on the Gilmore Case. This file has created many questions and concerns amongst CA’s and their implementation of the Regulation.
- on September 9, 2015, the Divisional Court issued its decision in Gilmore v. Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) which overturned the decision of the Deputy Mining and Lands Commissioner. The Commissioner’s decision upheld the NVCA Hearing Board’s decision and concluded that the development did not meet the tests under the *Conservation Authorities Act* and Regulation 173/06. The Divisional Court decision reversed the Commissioner’s decision and held that the Commissioner committed a number of errors of the law which are outlined in the factsheet enclosed.
- in the interim and until additional guidance is obtained from the Court of Appeal, Conservation Ontario is advising that all Conservation Authority decisions must follow this Divisional Court decision, effective from the date of the Divisional Court decision, September 9, 2015. If your Authority’s decision is appealed and is deemed to be

- inconsistent with the Divisional Court's decision, then your Authority's decision may be reversed and very substantial legal costs could be awarded against the Authority.
- the SCRCA does not currently have any applications under review that involve decisions inconsistent with this Division Court Decision (ie. safety/access). SCRCA Regulations staff will follow CO guidance, effective from the date of the Divisional Court decision, September 9, 2015, until directed otherwise from a lawyer who is versed in this matter.

**BD-16-082**

**Wesley - Giffen**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report, June 10, 2016 regarding changes to the Administration of the “Development Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation” while Awaiting Court of Appeal Decision on the Gilmor Case and further directs staff to follow the recommendations from Conservation Ontario outlined in the attached CO factsheet.”**

**CARRIED**

A staff report regarding the St. Clair River Area of Concern was discussed.

- restrictions on Drinking Water Consumption or Taste and Odour Problems Beneficial Use Impairment (BUI):
  - the “Restrictions on Drinking Water Consumption or Taste and Odour Problems” BUI was identified as “Impaired” in the St. Clair River Area of Concern (AOC) due to frequent water intake closures resulting from upstream industrial and municipal spills. These closures disrupted the water supply to the downstream communities of Walpole Island and Wallaceburg and also contributed to taste and odour problems.
  - spill frequency has decreased significantly since the 1980's, however concerns remain regarding the impact of spill events on drinking water quality and supply. In response to these concerns, the Canadian Remedial Action Plan (RAP) Implementation Committee (CRIC) has released a discussion paper intended to initiate a discussion on the status of the “Restrictions on Drinking Water Consumption or Taste and Odour Problems” BUI. The discussion paper provides information and data related to:
    - spill frequency,
    - legislation and regulations surrounding drinking water and spill prevention, and
    - improvements to municipal and industrial infrastructure that reduces their connection to the St. Clair River.
- open houses have been scheduled to solicit feedback on the document. Questions, comments and concerns will be collected by the CRIC to help assess next steps to restore and ultimately re-designate this BUI to “Not Impaired”. The draft discussion paper can be accessed online at the Friends of the St. Clair River website ([www.friendsofstclair.ca](http://www.friendsofstclair.ca)).
- open Houses (5-7 pm):
  - Aamjiwnaang First Nation Community Centre, 1972 Virgil Avenue – June 8, 2016
  - Sarnia Public Library, 124 Christina Street South, Sarnia – June 15, 2016

- Canadian Belgian Dutch Club, 1342 Dufferin Avenue, Wallaceburg – June 22, 2016
- Walpole Island First Nation – To Be Determined

**BD-16-083**

**Wright - Gordon**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report, dated June 10, 2016 on the St. Clair River Area of Concern.”**

**CARRIED**

A staff report on the West Ipperwash dynamic beach limit assessment and terms of reference was discussed.

- this is an update regarding the proposed above noted assessment. This assessment is part of the Lake Huron Shoreline Plan which was approved with a budget of \$60,000.
- the Terms of Reference have been forwarded to three coastal consultants. The deadline for proposals is June 17, 2016 and provided Kettle Stony Point First Nation have no major issues, we propose to award the contract by the end of the month.
- SCRCA will follow up the correspondence with email and phone calls to Lorraine George at KSPFN.
- it is proposed to initiate the project promptly so that a landowners meeting can be held in the summer when the highest attendance can be achieved. To achieve this, it is recommended that the General Manager award the contract upon review of the 3 proposals and subject to the preferred proposal falling within the approved budget.
- updates will be provided at the next Board meeting.

**BD-16-084**

**Bruinink - Faas**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated June 10, 2016 on the West Ipperwash dynamic beach limit assessment, concurs with the Terms of Reference, and further delegates the General Manager to award the contract to the successful consultant.”**

**CARRIED**

Authority revenue and expenditures to April 30, 2016, were reviewed.

**BD-16-085**

**Nemcek - Bruziewicz**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the revenue and expenditure report to April 30, 2016, as it relates to the budget.”**

**CARRIED**

April and May 2016 disbursements totaling \$1,036,811.89 were considered.

**BD-16-086**

**Giffin - Faas**

**“That the Board of Directors approves the April and May 2016 disbursements as presented in the amount of \$1,036,811.89.”**

**CARRIED**

A status report on general levy received to date was discussed.

**BD-16-087**

**Scholten - Faas**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report on the 2016 general levy receipts to May 31, 2016.”**

**CARRIED**

Directors reviewed the Investment Statements through to April 2016.

**BD-16-088**

**Scholten - Miller**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report on the financial investments through April 2016.”**

**CARRIED**

Tracy Prince, Director of Finance, made a presentation regarding the 2017 budget.

**BD-16-089**

**Scholten - Wright**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report on the 2017 Authority budget including timeline, comparators, department funding percentages, initiatives to reduce the impact on levy and revenue generation options.”**

**CARRIED**

Minutes of the Joint Health and Safety Committee meeting were reviewed.

**BD-16-090**

**Wright - Faas**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the March 8, 2016 meeting minutes of Health and Safety Committee.”**

**CARRIED**

A staff report regarding the Memorial Forest Program was presented.

- Memorial Forest Program
  - the Denning Memorial Forest Dedication service was held at Centennial Park in Strathroy on May 29. Approximately 200 people attended the dedication. Two more dedications are scheduled for September 18 (McKenzie and Blundy Memorial Forest, Wawanosh Wetlands Conservation Area) and September 25 (St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation Dedication, L.C. Henderson

Conservation Area).

- the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation launched the memorial forest program in 1987 with the purpose of raising funds to reforest lands within our region. To date, 13,405 trees have been dedicated covering 45 different sites. Through the program, the Foundation arranges for the dedication of trees which have been planted from donations received directly from members of the community. In addition to these trees, the Foundation receives donations from the McKenzie and Blundy Funeral Home, Sarnia; Eric F. Nicholls Funeral Home, Wallaceburg; and the Denning Brothers Funeral Home, Strathroy and have established separate memorial forests to recognize this contribution to the environment.
- the McKenzie and Blundy Funeral Home have informed us that they plan to end their program as of September of this year (they will be holding their last dedication on September 18). This was due to the fact that both the Wawanosh and Perch Creek Memorial Forests are now full. Efforts were made to provide for an alternative program, however, these were not successful.
- at recent Foundation meetings, a change to the memorial forest was approved. In terms of the funeral home programs, instead of promoting the program as “a tree will be dedicated in memory of your loved one” it will be re-branded as “a donation was received that will be used to further tree planting and conservation education in the region.” The donation level has been set at \$25 per donation and a letter will be sent to the family (we currently send a certificate).
- specifically, funds may be donated to support: municipal tree planting along roadsides and in parks (this is the same as we do now for the denning program); to support school yard greening (we could supplement funds for this program provided by TD FEF); plant trees on Authority owned agricultural lands as buffers and windbreaks; plant trees on lands donated to the Foundation; and to support conservation education. The Foundation Board would decide on the allotment of available funds.
- the Denning Funeral Home dedicated 172 trees in 2015. The Denning Funeral Home business has expanded significantly in the last few years purchasing funeral homes throughout Lambton County and Chatham-Kent. The Denning’s have approached us with a desire to greatly expand their Memorial Forest Program to about 450 trees per year. They are very enthusiastic with the new program and are planning on holding two dedications: one in Strathroy and one at the McLean Property.
- the Foundation decided to continue with our program and dedication service at the L.C. Henderson CA including the concept of a tree being dedicated in memory of the individual. We have reviewed the locations where trees can be planted since some of these have no more additional space for trees. Due to the cost of large stock trees, the price for these have been raised to \$50 per tree.

**BD-16-091****Bruzewicz - Nemcek****“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Memorial Forest Program report dated June 10, 2016.”****CARRIED**

A staff report on Conservation Education was discussed.

- Canoe Race - The weather couldn't have been nicer for a mid-April paddle down the Sydenham River in support of Conservation Education. 78 boats entered the Sydenham River Canoe Race on Sunday April 17<sup>th</sup>, raising a total of \$2,385.00 through registration fees, pledges, and T. shirt sales. Thanks to all of the many, many people who helped out at this year's race!
- Spring Education Programs - Conservation Education continues to be a popular field trip focus for area schools. Programs are booked daily from early April through to June 28<sup>th</sup>. Teachers appreciate the hands on opportunities to connect classroom learning to the natural world.
- Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) - Grade 11 & 12 students visiting L.C. Henderson Conservation Area in April came away with new skills as they progressed through certification tasks in GPS, GIS and Tree Planting Programs. Due to the success of this year's programming, the Lambton Kent District School Board is excited to continue working with Conservation Education Staff in the development of future programming opportunities.
- Special Events - Kid's Fun Fest Sarnia, June 11, 2016: Upon request, SCRCA will again participate in this day-long annual event. At our booth children will be invited to explore water colour painting on a variety of natural canvases. Using bark, leaves and cones as their canvas, children will explore their inner artist to create a take-home masterpiece! Parents will have a chance to peruse our information table where literature on camping and other CA projects will be displayed.
- Community Partnership
  - LWI Young Naturalist Groups: Staff continue to run outdoor meetings for both the Young Naturalist Group (ages 7-11) and the Jr. Conservationist Group (ages 12 +). Our Young Naturalist group just finished our season with an overnight camping trip to Henderson CA. Activities included 'hookless' fishing, frog catching, owl prowling, fort building and paddling! The 2016-2017 season will begin in September.
  - Sarnia-Lambton Arbour Week Committee: Representatives from local groups organize and participate in an annual Tree Planting project. This year's tree planting project, located at the Aamjiwnaang Recreation Centre, was funded by Union Gas/Spectrum Energy. The Annual Arbour Week School contest continues to be very popular. 22 classes entered this year's poetry contest. Each student in the 3 winning classrooms received a Sugar Maple Seedling to take home and plant.



**BD-16-092**

**Faas - Miller**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the education staff report dated June 9, 2016, including the canoe race, spring education programs, special events, and community outreach.”**

**CARRIED**

A staff report regarding the Scholarship Program was presented.

- the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority offers scholarships for graduating high school students living in or attending a high school within the region under jurisdiction of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority. Students must be pursuing an education in a conservation/environmental related course of study (eg. forestry, biology, geography, agriculture, ecology etc.) in a recognized Canadian University or College.
- the Conservation Scholarship program rewards these students based on their academic achievement and their demonstrated interest and involvement with the environment. The Scholarship is funded through trust funds with the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation and was created through donations from individuals and organizations.
- this year, we received 5 applications. The applications were reviewed by a committee established by the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation which included Steve Arnold, Archie Kerr, Rick Battson and Brian McDougall. The following scholarships were approved by the committee The scholarships will be presented in June or early July:
  - A.W. Campbell Memorial Scholarship: two \$1,000 awards
  - Mary Jo Arnold Conservation Scholarship
  - Tony Stranak Conservation Scholarship: one \$1,000 award

**BD-16-093**

**McMillan - Marriott**

**“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Scholarship Program report dated June 10, 2016.”**

**CARRIED**

**BD-16-094**

**Bruinink - Wright**

**“That the meeting be adjourned.”**



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Steve Arnold  
Chair

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Brian McDougall  
General Manager