



# THE CITY OF WINDSOR

COUNCIL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

VALERIE CRITCHLEY  
CITY CLERK

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER  
TO OUR FILE NO. \_\_\_\_\_



April 16, 2012

**TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE WINDSOR-ESSEX COUNTY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

\* The minutes of the Committee meeting held March 29, 2012 are *attached*.

The next meeting of the Windsor-Essex County Environment Committee is scheduled as follows:

**Thursday, May 3, 2012  
5:30 o'clock p.m.  
Lou Romano Reclamation Plant  
4155 Ojibway Parkway**

Please notify the undersigned at 519-255-6222, ext. 6430, if you are unable to attend.

Yours very truly,

Karen Kadour  
Committee Coordinator (A)

KK/  
Windsor, Ontario March 29, 2012

A meeting of the **Windsor-Essex County Environment Committee** is held this day commencing at 5:30 o'clock p.m. in the Board Room, Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant, 4155 Ojibway Parkway, there being present the following members:

Councillor Alan Halberstadt, Co-Chair  
Charlie Wright, Co-Chair (arrives at 5:58 p.m.)  
Councillor Hilary Payne  
Shahbaz Ahmed  
Matthew Child  
Derek Coronado  
Rick Coronado  
Roger Dzugan (alternate for Mark Bartlett)  
Karen Fallon  
Paul Henshaw  
Phil Roberts  
Tamara Stomp (arrives at 5:45 p.m.)

**Regrets received from:**

Juliet Mohammed

**Also present are the following resource personnel:**

James Bryant, County Engineering Department  
Averil Parent, Environment & Sustainability Coordinator  
Beau Wansbrough, Planner II  
Karen Kadour, (A) Committee Coordinator

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Councillor Halberstadt, Co-Chair calls the meeting to order at 5:34 o'clock p.m. and the Committee considers the Agenda being Schedule "A" **attached** hereto, matters which are dealt with as follows:

**2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

None.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT**

None declared.

4. **ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

Moved by M. Child, seconded by K. Fallon,  
That the minutes of the meeting of the Windsor-Essex County Environment  
Committee held March 1, 2012 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.  
Carried.

5. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

5.1 **Renewable Energy Media Campaign**

A. Parent advises she met with several solar energy companies as well as the Windsor Essex Economic Development Corporation and is pleased to report that significant campaign support has been received. She indicates the objectives of the Public Education Campaign Goal are as follows:

- Increase understanding of the innumerable benefits of solar energy and technologies
- Encourage access to solar energy technologies
- Demonstrate the value of solar energy and technologies and applications within our region
- Create a series of factoids to reduce the complexity of explanations, and dispel the myths surrounding solar concepts and technologies
- Raise awareness of solar energy technologies as a science, technology and engineering discipline

5.2 **New WECEC Appointments**

The application/resume from Keri Bagley, St. Clair College is distributed and ***attached*** as Appendix "A".

Moved by Councillor Payne, seconded by P. Henshaw,  
That the applications from student representatives Evan Freeman-Gibb (University of Windsor) and Keri Bagley (St. Clair College) to sit on the Windsor-Essex County Environment Committee **BE FORWARDED** to the Striking Committee of Council for approval.  
Carried.

5.3 **Updated WECEC Strategic Plan**

Discussion ensues relating to the elimination of Strategic Action Plan 2012 Direction #2 which states:

**"Goal:** *Develop policy statements that reflect current state of environmental issues."*

The salient points of discussion relating to the development of policy statements are as follows:

- Determine if there is an area of policy for the municipality to pursue. Contact the sponsoring municipalities for their input.
- Suggestion to develop a one page succinct policy.
- WECEC has approved a number of motions that are essentially policies, i.e. clean water, increasing wetlands, Solid Waste Master plan. If the development of policies is removed from the Strategic Action Plan, WECEC is denuded.
- Recommendation that the Environment and Sustainability Coordinator attend a policy writing course.

It is generally agreed that the Strategic Action Plan 2012 Direction #2 relating to the development of policy statements remain in the Strategic Action Plan.

#### **5.4 Green Speaker Series**

A. Parent states that Gord Miller, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario has agreed to speak in Windsor on May 12, 2012 as part of the "Green Speaker Series". She advises Mr. Miller is not requesting travel expenses or hotel costs. It is suggested the event be held at the Dr. David Suzuki Public School.

Moved by M. Child, seconded by C. Wright,

That **APPROVAL BE GIVEN** to an expenditure in the upset amount of \$1,000 for costs associated with the Green Speaker Series, Gord Miller, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, guest speaker to be held on May 12, 2012 at 10:00 o'clock a.m. at the Dr. David Suzuki Public School, 6320 Raymond, Windsor, Ontario.

Carried.

A. Parent will contact the office of Gord Miller to inquire as to the subject matter of his speech.

#### **6. COORDINATOR'S REPORT**

A. Parent states she attended a local food forum entitled "Growing Food Partnerships" on March 3, 2012. She notes that presentations were provided by "Go for Health Windsor Essex", the Ontario Student Nutrition Program, and the Waterloo Region Food System Roundtable. It is suggested the former Local Food Subcommittee be revived in order to bring issues forward to City and County Councils.

A. Parent reports Earth Day 2012 will be held on April 22, 2012 at Malden Park with displays and the planting of a native plant garden. The theme this year is local food - "I like my food naked, near and natural". She requests volunteers to man the booth

from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The following volunteer to assist on Earth Day – C. Wright, Councillor Halberstadt and P. Henshaw.

A. Parent distributes an invoice from eliquidMEDIA International Inc. in the amount of \$734.50 for WECEC's website maintenance and expansion, attached as Appendix "B".

Moved by T. Stomp, seconded by P. Roberts,

That **APPROVAL BE GIVEN** to an expenditure in the upset amount of \$734.50 (including HST) payable to eliquidMEDIA International Inc. for the WECEC Website Maintenance and Expansion.

Carried.

## 7. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

### 7.1 Air

As it relates to the Ontario Feed-In Tariff Review (FIT), D. Coronado provides the following updates:

- No inclusion of Waste-to-Energy technology
- Wind and solar tariffs reduced
- New emphasis of community power – points system and 10% of capacity set aside
- Additional community consultation to be developed with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario
- FIT price review moves to annual review
- Possible new renewable targets
- Connection barriers remain and no inclusion of new renewable technologies

The report of the Air Subcommittee is attached as Appendix "C".

### 7.2 Transportation

No report.

### 7.3 Provincially Significant Wetlands

P. Roberts advises that the Subcommittee will attend the Environment and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on April 25, 2012 when the response to the report regarding the Ojibway Shores will be addressed.

P. Roberts states the Subcommittee will review the publicly owned Natural Heritage candidate sites (on certain criteria yet to be determined) and will develop a list of prioritized lands to be evaluated by the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Moved by P. Roberts, seconded by T. Stomp,

That the City of Windsor and the County of Essex **BE REQUESTED** to send a letter of support for the continuation of project funding for the Lake Erie Coastal Trail being developed by the Carolinian Canada Coalition.

Carried.

Moved by K. Fallon, seconded by R. Dzugan,

**WHEREAS** the Lake Erie Coastal Trail will help to bring residents, tourists, government, industry, nature and culture together to enable a naturally, culturally and economically sustainable coastline; and

**WHEREAS** the Trail will contribute to commitments made in the City of Windsor Environmental Master Plan as well as the County Wide Active Transportation Study;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Windsor and the County of Essex show support for the Lake Erie Coastal Trail being developed by the Carolinian Canada Coalition by sending a letter of support for the continuation of project funding.

Carried.

#### **7.4 Water Quality**

M. Child indicates that a Subcommittee meeting was recently held to discuss the Nutrient Management Act. A representative from OMAFRA was present to provide information relating to the large role soil erosion is playing in the increase of nutrients to the Great Lakes.

Moved by M. Child, seconded by P. Henshaw,

**WHEREAS** the Great Lakes are the world's largest surface freshwater resource, support one of the world's largest economies and are a fundamental part of the cultural and social fabric of millions of Canadians and Americans; and

**WHEREAS** the lower Great Lakes, and Lake Erie in particular, have experienced worsening water quality in recent years, especially harmful algal blooms which impair water quality, fish and wildlife populations and aesthetic values; and,

**WHEREAS** a key driver of these impairments is nutrient loadings from non-point sources throughout the watersheds draining to the lower Great Lakes, and nutrient cycling within the lakes which is influenced by a variety of factors including aquatic invasive species and climate variability; and,

**WHEREAS** improving water quality in the lower Great Lakes will require extensive and coordinated action of governments, commerce, communities and residents; and,

**WHEREAS** the binational *Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement* renegotiation is currently nearing completion, and the renewed Agreement is expected to compel the governments of Canada and the United States to effectively address non-point sources of nutrients to the lower Great Lakes; and,

**WHEREAS** the *Canada-Ontario Agreement Respecting the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem* is a principal mechanism for cooperative environmental progress on the Great Lakes in Canada, and the current Agreement will expire in June, 2012;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee urges the governments of Canada and Ontario to renew and increase their investment in the *Canada-Ontario Agreement Respecting the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem* prior to June, 2012 and ensure the Agreement has an effective and substantial emphasis on mitigation of nutrient loadings to Lake Erie and factors influencing nutrient cycling within the Lake.

**AND FURTHER THAT** this resolution be forwarded to the Councils of the City of Windsor and the County of Essex for their endorsement.

Carried.

P. Roberts requests that the Subcommittee provide a motion for the May 3, 2012 WECEC meeting regarding the "E-09 Buffer Strips Policy Amendment, Municipality of Leamington" which would be forwarded to City and County Councils.

P. Roberts congratulates ERCA on the increase of Naturalized Tree Cover from 7.5% to 8.5% of the region, for a gain of approximately 4,100 acres . and requested that ERCA provide WECEC with their method of measurement for this parameter. The Essex Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors Report dated March 27, 2012 entitled "Recalculation of Natural Areas Cover" is attached as Appendix "D".

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

### **8.1 Waste to Energy FIT Program**

Discussed in Item 7.1.

## **9. COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

## **10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 3, 2012 at the Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant at 5:30 o'clock p.m.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 7:20 o'clock p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
CO-CHAIR

\_\_\_\_\_  
(A) COMMITTEE COORDINATOR





**Application for Appointment to City of Windsor  
Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Committees**

<b>Please complete ALL Fields in This Application</b>
Application for Appointment to: <b>The Windsor Essex County Environment Committee</b>
Name: <u>Keri Bagley</u>
Address: <u>2909 Manchester Rd. Windsor, Ontario, N9C 1X5</u>
Telephone number: (day) <u>519-903-3613</u>
Telephone number: (residence) <u>519-256-3613</u>
E-mail: <u>srcpresident@stclaircollege.ca</u>
Occupation: <u>President of SRC</u>
Work Experience: (attach resume)  <u>Resume is attached.</u>
Education Background: (if applicable professional credentials) <u>Law &amp; Security Diploma - St. Clair College</u> <u>Police Foundations Diploma - St. Clair College.</u>
What skills, abilities, specialized knowledge do you have to assist this body? <u>Communication, Advocacy, Organizational, Teamwork and Planning skills.</u>
Why are you interested in serving the City of Windsor on this body? <u>Because I want to help the community and I want to help the students and youth have their voices heard.</u>
What contribution do you believe you can make to this body? <u>I believe that I am punctual, committed, outgoing, honest, reliable and a team player which will prove to be beneficial for this body.</u>
What past contributions have you made on a similar body or organization? <u>I have been a director on the Student Representative Council and I acted as the official voice for the students. I advocated, planned and represented students.</u>
What experience do you have in exchanging your views with others and in Appreciating and respecting the skills, abilities and knowledge of others? <u>Student Representative Council St. Clair College</u> <u>Volunteer Experiences</u>
Have you read the Mandate/Terms of Reference for this body and understand them?  <u>Yes</u> <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><u>No</u></span>

Continued on page 2



www.citywindsor.ca

**Application for Appointment to City of Windsor  
Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Committees**

NOTE: If the number of applicants is greater than the number of positions available, Council may direct the Clerk's Department to arrange for confidential interviews with applicants. Interviews will be conducted by a Selection Committee of not less than 3 members of Council. Final approval of all appointments will be made by Council.

I understand that this personal information is being collected to facilitate appointments to Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Advisory Committees pursuant to part II *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and Section 239 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*.

Ken Bagley  
Signature of Applicant

Date: 03/27/12

**COMPLETED FORMS CAN BE RETURNED AS FOLLOWS:**

- (by regular mail) Council Services Office, Room 203, City Hall, Windsor, Ontario, N9A 6S1
- (in person) at your local Customer Care Centre (Call 311 for locations)
- (e-mail) [clerks@city.windsor.on.ca](mailto:clerks@city.windsor.on.ca)
- (fax) 519-255-6868

## Keri A. Bagley

2909 Manchester Rd, Windsor Ontario, N9C 1X5

☉ K\_bagley13@hotmail.com

(519) 256-3613 or (519) 903-3613

### EDUCATION

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September 2011 - Present	<b>ST. CLAIR COLLEGE</b> <i>General Arts &amp; Science</i>	Windsor, ON
September 2010 - June 2011	<b>ST. CLAIR COLLEGE</b> <i>Police Foundations</i>	Windsor, ON
September 2009 - June 2010	<b>ST. CLAIR COLLEGE</b> <i>General Arts &amp; Science</i>	Windsor, ON
September 2007 - June 2009	<b>ST. CLAIR COLLEGE</b> <i>Law and Security</i>	Windsor, ON
September 2003 - June 2007	<b>ASSUMPTION HIGH SCHOOL</b> <i>Ontario Secondary School Diploma</i>	Windsor, ON

### EXPERIENCE

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May 2011 - Present	<b>SPORTCHEK</b> <i>Cashier/ Customer Service</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interacting with the public, assist customers</li> <li>• Balance money, cleaning, customer service work</li> <li>• Work independently and in a team setting</li> </ul>	Windsor, ON
April 2010 - Present	<b>ST. CLAIR COLLEGE MARKETING</b> <i>Student Tour Assistant</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting St. Clair College</li> <li>• Emphasizing importance of post-secondary education</li> </ul>	Windsor, ON
April 2010 - Present	<b>ST. CLAIR COLLEGE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL</b> <i>Director</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting, planning and operating student events</li> <li>• Assisting with student complaints</li> </ul>	Windsor, ON
June 2009 - Present	<b>CAMPUS FOR KIDS</b> <i>Camp facilitator</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organize, plan and follow daily schedules</li> <li>• Create a fun and interactive environment</li> </ul>	Windsor, ON
February 2008 - 2010	<b>METRO GROCERY (A&amp;P)</b> <i>Cashier/ Customer Service</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interact with the public, assist with customer complaints</li> <li>• Balance money, cleaning, organizing customer service work</li> <li>• Work independently</li> </ul>	Windsor, ON
December 2002 - Present	<b>BABYSITTING</b> <i>Babysitter/Caregiver</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organize, plan and follow schedule for children</li> <li>• Cooking and cleaning</li> </ul>	Windsor, ON

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- September 2007- Present      **St. Clair College Varsity Fastball Team**
- September 2010- 2011      **St. Clair College Varsity Volleyball Team**
- May 1997 - Present      **Travel Fastball**
- Windsor Lady Expos, Windsor Wildcats, Chatham Golden Eagles, St. Clair Selects, Windsor Wild
- September 2003- June 2007      **Assumption High School**
- Fastball, Volleyball, Soccer and Basketball Team

## VOLUNTEER

- September 2003- Present      **Assumption High School**
- Muskoka Woods Leadership
  - Alumni Reunion
  - OFSAA Track and Field/ Cross Country Meets
  - Annual Food Drive
  - Christmas Basket Distribution
  - Mission Collections, Alter service
- December 2003- Present      **Coaching**
- LaSalle Athletics Travel Fastball
  - Windsor Wildcats Travel Fastball
  - Windsor Lady Expos Travel Fastball
  - Windsor Central, Windsor West & Turtle Club Little League Teams
  - Assumption High School Slo-pitch Team
- January 2007 - Present      **St. Clair College**
- Goodfellows (Handed out Papers for Donations)
  - November (For Prostate Cancer)
  - Raise-A-Reader
  - Fastball clinics
  - Winter Blues (To fight depression)
  - Trick or Eat Food Donation Collection
  - Christmas Toy Drives
  - Barbeques at Sobey's (Raising money for less fortunate)
  - A Life Worth Living
  - United Way Pasta Lunch (Served Food)
  - Law and Security Society Penny Drive
  - Student Representative Council Food Bank
  - Children's Winter Party
  - Children's Christmas Party
- October 2008 - 2009      **CAW Unemployment Help Centre**
- Organized canned food
  - Distributed food boxes to families in need
  - Separated coats for kids and families in need

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- September 2003 - June 2006      **ASSUMPTION ATHLETICS & ACADEMICS**
- Junior & Senior Athlete of the year

September 2007 – Present

- Fastball MVP (4 years) & City All-star (4 years)
- Volleyball MVP (3 years) & City All-star (4 years)
- Basketball City All-star (4 years)
- REPKO Cup Recipient (City female athlete of the year)
- University of Windsor Book Award
- John Atkinson Memorial Award
- Siro Martinello Memorial Award
- Ontario Scholar
- Queen Elizabeth Aiming for the Top Bursary
- Tuition Bursary Recipient for Honourable Grades

**ST. CLAIR COLLEGE ATHLETICS & ACADEMICS**

- St. Clair College Student Leadership Medal
- Police Foundations Program Leadership Award
- Fastball Rookie of the Year
- Fastball MVP (3 years)
- Bob Weepers Sportsmanship Award
- Coaches Sportsmanship and Dedication Award
- St. Clair Athletics Scholar
- Booster Club Recipient (4 years)
- Coca-cola Scholarship Recipient
- Sgt. Ed Mirroco Award

September 2007 – Present

**ONTARIO COLLEGE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**

- Fastball Gold Medalist (2 years)
- Silver Medalist
- Bronze Medalist (2 years)
- Rookie of the Year
- Fastball League All-star (4 years)

**CERTIFICATES**

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2008	First Aid Training
2008	CPR Training
2008	WHMIS Training
2009	Firearms Training

**REFERENCES**

Available upon request

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# eliquidMEDIA

www.eliquid.com

**eliquidMEDIA International Inc.**

939 Goyeau St.  
Windsor, Ontario  
N9A1H7, Canada  
Phone: 519-973-1930  
Fax: 519-253-0337

## INVOICE

# 12076  
GST #: 896239019

**Issued:** 2012-03-20

**Windsor Essex County Environment Committee**

350 City Hall Square  
Council Services, Room 203  
Windsor, Ontario  
N7M 6S1, Canada  
Phone: 519-523-7111  
Fax: 519-253-0464

Item	Quantity	Unit Price	Item Total
<i>Website Maintenance &amp; Expansion:</i> 10 hour block maintenance plan (Hours roll over within 365 days of purchase) Extend front/backend of site, adding two new sections as well as well as updating some existing copy within blocked timeframe. As per signed authorization dated March 15/2012.	1	\$ 650.00	\$ 650.00

Subtotal: \$ 650.00

HST13: \$ 84.50

**INVOICE TOTAL: \$ 734.50**

Payments and/or Adjustments: \$ 0.00

**BALANCE DUE: \$ 734.50**

*\*After 30 days from the invoice issued date, eliquidMEDIA will apply 2% interest compounded monthly until full balance of past due invoices has been paid.\**



## WECEC Air Quality Subcommittee- March 29, 2012

### Ontario Feed-In-Tariff Review (FIT):

Highlights: No inclusion of Waste-to-Energy technology; wind and solar tariffs reduced; new emphasis of community power – points system and 10% of capacity set aside; additional community consultation to be developed with Association of Municipalities of Ontario; FIT price review moves to annual review; possible new renewable targets; connection barriers remain and no inclusion of new renewable technologies.

The government has formally accepted the report, available at <http://www.energy.gov.on.ca/docs/en/FIT-Review-Report.pdf>

- Ontario's FIT remains the most comprehensive in North America, i.e. covering the most renewable sources of electricity generation.
- Solar pv tariffs cut between 10-30% depending upon the system.
- Wind tariffs cut nearly 15%
- Program price review moves to one-year cycle. New prices to be implemented in January.
- Solar ground mounts no longer allowed in or bordering residential areas, protection for prime agricultural lands to be strengthened, and community consultation within the Renewable Energy Approvals process to be revised in consultation with AMO.
- System for prioritizing connections for community, aboriginal and public institutions, including set aside 10% grid connection capacity for community and aboriginal projects with a minimum of 50% equity ownership.
- New project ranking system introduced, rather than first-come-first-served. A points system or grading system in which community-owned and aboriginal-owned projects receive the highest number of points, followed by public institutions such as schools.
- Provincial renewable target remains weak relative to other jurisdictions. Long term energy plan calls for 10,700MW of renewables by 2018 or approximately 13% consumption in the province. Concerns that province will quickly reach the target, FIT review recommends moving the target up to 2015, and review the target in 2013 to determine whether it should be raised.
- Biggest obstacle to completing renewable projects not addressed. Hydro One limits only 7% of any distribution transformer use for renewable energy of any type.
- FIT review did not expand the program to include new renewable technologies, such as solar-domestic-hot-water, ground-source heat pumps, storage technologies or small wind turbines.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS - REPORT

BD 15/12

**FROM:** Matthew Child, MCIP, Director of Watershed Restoration  
Tom Dufour, Geomatics Technician  
Dan Lebedyk, Conservation Biologist  
Richard Wyma, CSLA, General Manager

**SUBJECT:** Recalculation of Natural Areas Cover

**DATE:** March 27, 2012

**ACTION:** Increase Natural Areas Coverage

### PURPOSE

To provide the Board of Directors with an update on the calculation of local natural areas cover.

### REPORT SUMMARY

- Natural areas in the Essex region consist of forest, wetland, prairie, meadow, thicket and alvar vegetation communities
- Natural areas cover in the region has been previously calculated in 1958, 1975, 1981 and 1992 (forest cover only), 2002 and most recently in 2012 (all natural areas).
- Between 2002 and 2012 natural areas cover calculations revealed an increase from 7.5% to 8.5% of the region, for a gain of approximately 4,100 acres (1,700 hectares).
- Recalculation of the 2012 natural areas cover included GIS analysis of higher resolution aerial photography, delineation of additional vegetation communities not analyzed in previous natural areas calculations, and mapped restoration efforts since 2002.
- By working cooperatively and voluntarily with landowners, the habitat protection and restoration programs of ERCA and its partners have contributed to a significant increase in natural areas cover, and make our region a more attractive place to live, work and invest.

### BACKGROUND

ERCA has a lengthy history of studying, evaluating, protecting and restoring our region's natural areas. Since the Conservation Authority was established, we have acquired over 4,000 acres (1,600 hectares), and have assisted in the securement of other lands by our conservation partners. We have restored an additional 9,000 acres (3,600 hectares) by planting over 5.85 million trees and completing wetland enhancement and other projects. All these accomplishments have addressed two of the Conservation Authority's highest priorities – to protect the most biologically significant parts of our region, and to increase natural areas cover to 12% of the landscape through habitat restoration.

## APPENDIX “D”





Natural areas cover includes the total of all habitat types found in our region, including forest, wetland (includes open water coastal features, marshes and wooded swamps), meadow and prairie (grasslands that will become colonized by trees and shrubs if left unmanaged), thicket (areas of woody succession dominated by shrubs and small trees) and alvar (very thin, poorly drain soils overlying limestone bedrock that support a specialized vegetation community).

In order to measure progress towards our goal of 12% of natural areas cover, natural areas cover has been measured periodically. Previous results are as follows:

1958	3.9% forest cover (calculated for Essex County)
1975	3.4% forest cover (calculated for the ERCA watershed)
1981	2.6% forest cover (calculated for Essex County)
1992	3.7% forest cover (calculated for the ERCA watershed)
2002	7.5% natural areas cover (calculated for the ERCA watershed and includes 5.0% forest, 2.5% wetland, 0.05% prairie and 0.01% alvar)

ERCA recently recalculated natural areas cover using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software and high resolution air photos taken in the spring of 2008. Large tree planting projects completed between 2009 and 2011 were manually added. Only those areas that are unmanaged were included in the calculation i.e., parks and other forested properties which have a ground cover of maintained grass were not included in the calculation. Wetland was calculated using data provided by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.

Recent air photography permitted a much more accurate resolution of landscape features, and therefore features as small as 0.1 acres could be delineated. For the 2002 natural areas calculation, only those natural areas larger than 1.2 acres were included, primarily due to the GIS software and resolution of the aerial photography available at that time. Therefore, the 2012 calculation includes features that were present in the landscape but not included in the 2002 calculation. Though they provide additional refinement of the datasets, natural areas between 0.1 acres and 1.1 acres in size only represent 0.2% of all natural areas in Essex region.

Between 2002 and 2012 the calculation of total natural area cover has increased by 4,100 acres (1,700 hectares) or a full percentage point to 8.5% of the region. Current natural areas cover includes:

5.4%	Forest
2.6%	Wetland
0.5%	Prairie, Alvar, Meadow, Thicket
8.5%	Total Natural Areas

The attached figure shows the location of existing natural areas, as well as the location of ERCA's tree planting projects from 2006 through 2011. The figure illustrates how natural areas cover is variable across the region, with more cover in the south and west parts of the region. The attached table includes natural areas cover by municipality; note that municipal statistics are based on municipal boundaries and not the ERCA watershed, which does not include the easternmost parts of Lakeshore and Leamington.



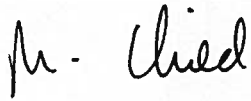
ERCA's programming, in addition to the programming of other conservation organizations in our region, continues to contribute to increases in natural areas cover and is moving us closer to our goal of 12%. Unlike many parts of the Province where natural areas cover remains unchanged or is decreasing, the cooperative and voluntary partnerships we have with landowners not only lead to improved environmental outcomes, but also contribute to the overall quality of place and therefore make our region a more attractive place to live, work and invest.

## RECOMMENDATION

That Report BD 15/12 be received for information, and

That ERCA uses the revised natural areas calculation of 8.5% in its business correspondence and publications, and

That ERCA continue to vigorously pursue its natural areas protection and restoration priorities through partnerships and by working voluntarily with landowners throughout the region.



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Matthew Child, MCIP  
Director of Watershed Restoration

*Electronic signature on behalf of ...*

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Tom Dufour  
Geomatics Technician



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Dan Lebedyk  
Conservation Biologist

*Electronic signature on behalf of ...*

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Paul Giroux,  
Forester



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Richard Wyma, CSLA  
General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer



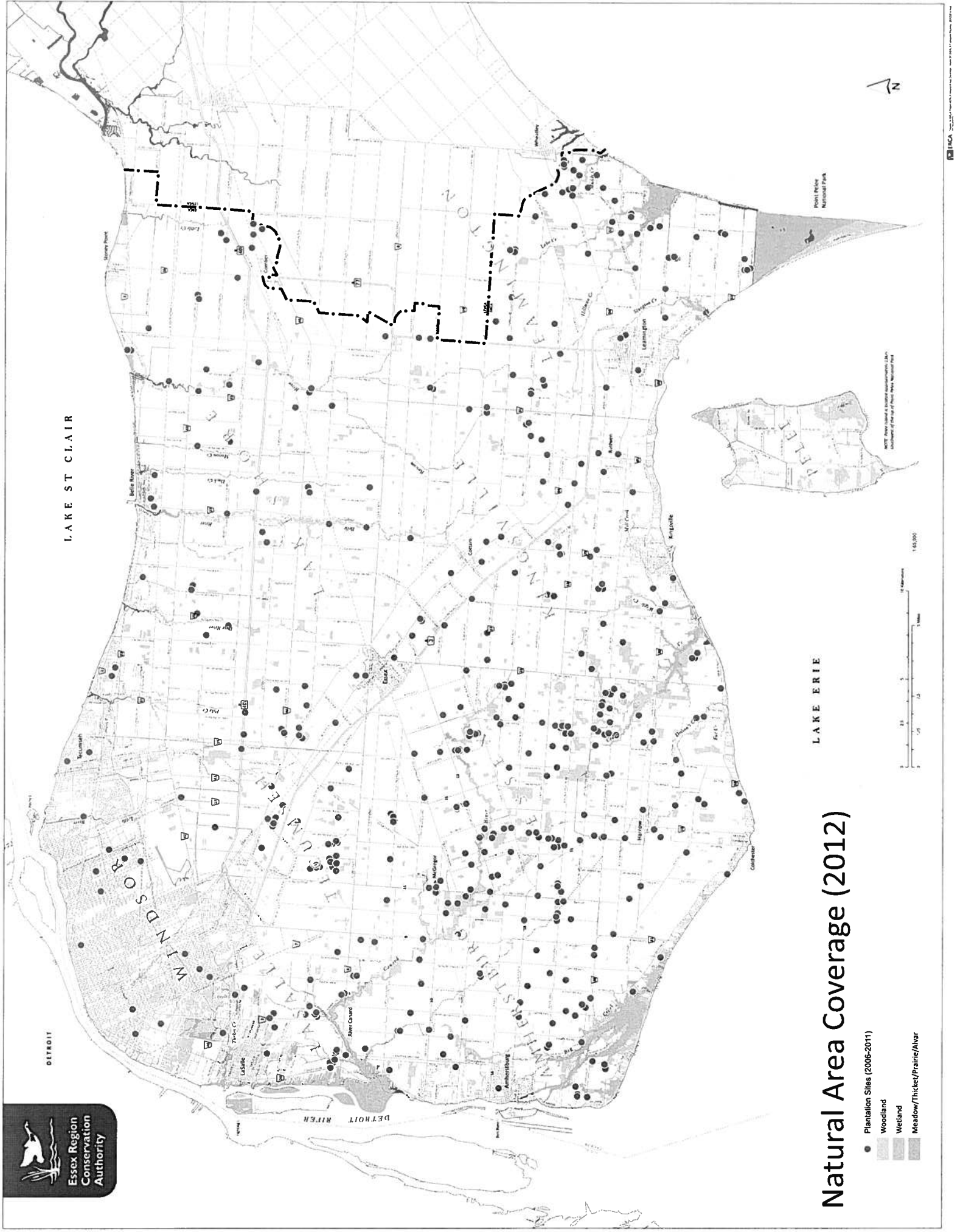
## Natural Areas Cover by Municipality - 2012

Municipality	Natural Area Classification			Total Coverage
	Wetland	Woodland	Other <sup>1</sup>	
Amherstburg	8.91%	6.06%	0.98%	16.0%
Essex	0.85%	7.49%	0.72%	9.1%
Kingsville	0.68%	4.87%	0.38%	5.9%
Lakeshore	0.30%	2.52%	0.22%	3.0%
LaSalle	7.16%	8.15%	1.04%	16.3%
Leamington	1.73%	3.18%	0.09%	5.0%
Pelee Island	2.31%	19.86%	0.42%	22.6%
Tecumseh	0.00%	4.49%	0.32%	4.8%
Windsor	0.19%	5.00%	0.65%	5.8%
<b>Total Coverage<sup>2</sup></b>				
Windsor and Essex County	2.39%	5.03%	0.45%	7.9%
ERCA Watershed	2.40%	5.60%	0.50%	8.50%

**Notes:**

<sup>1</sup> 'Other' includes prairie, alvar, meadow and thicket

<sup>2</sup> Total natural areas cover for Windsor and Essex County is different than the ERCA watershed because boundaries are not contiguous



# Natural Area Coverage (2012)

- Plantation Sites (2006-2011)
- Woodland
- Wetland
- Meadow/Thicket/Prairie/Alvar



NOTE: River Island is a privately administered LRA. Inclusion of the map of River Island National Park.

River Island National Park

