



THE CITY OF WINDSOR
COUNCIL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

VALERIE CRITCHLEY
CITY CLERK

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER
TO OUR FILE NO. _____



February 12, 2016

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

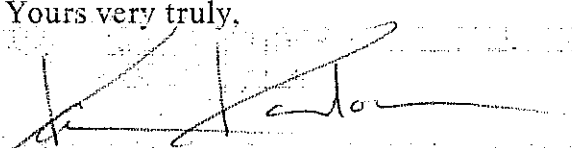
* The minutes of the Committee meeting held January 28, 2016 are attached.

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

**Thursday, March 31, 2016
5:30 o'clock p.m
Ojibway Nature Centre
5200 Matchette Road**

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

Yours very truly,


Karen Kadour
Committee Coordinator

Windsor, Ontario January 28, 2016

A meeting of the **Windsor Essex County Environment Committee** is held this day commencing at 5:30 o'clock p.m. at the Ojibway Nature Centre, there being present the following members:

Joe Bachetti, Vice Chair, Deputy Mayor, Town of Tecumseh
Councillor Fred Francis
Derek Coronado
Jesse Gardner Costa
Debby Grant
Mike Nelson
Joe Passa
Dr. Edwin Tam

Absent:

Councillor Bill Marra
Mayor Gary McNamara, Town of Tecumseh
Radwan Tamr

Guests in Attendance:

Tanya Basok
Rick Coronado
David Hanna
Michael Schneider

Also present are the following resource personnel:

James Bryant, Environmental Assessment Coordinator, County of Essex
Dustin Carey, Environment & Sustainability Coordinator (A)
Phil Roberts, Executive Director, Parks
Karen Kadour, Committee Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Vice Chair calls the meeting to order at 5:40 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

Moved by Councillor Francis, seconded by Dr. Tam,
That Rule 3.3 (c) of the Procedure By-law, 98-2011 **BE WAIVED** to add the following Agenda items:

- 8.3 ERCA Annual Report
- 8.4 Provincial Environmental Advisory Committees of Ontario (EAC) Symposia
- 8.5 Earth Day
- 8.6 Establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee

Carried.

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT

None disclosed.

4. MINUTES

Moved by M. Nelson, seconded by J. Gardner Costa,
That the minutes of the meeting of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee held November 26, 2015 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.
Carried.

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

5.1 Green Speakers Selection for 2016

D. Carey provides an overview of possible speakers for the 2016 Green Speaker Series which includes the following:

- David Noble – Witness to Environmental Leadership, Founder of 2degreesC, Author
- Gianni Kovacevic – Realistic Environmentalist
- Peter Corbyn – Special Advisor for Climate Project Canada, Environmentalist
- Jason Thistlethwaite, Assistant Professor, University of Waterloo, Director, Climate Change Adaptation Project
- Chris Early – Interpretive Biologist & Education Coordinator, University of Guelph
- Rob Shirkey, Executive Director, Our Horizon
- Diane Saxe – Environmental Commissioner of Ontario
- Peter Garforth, - Principal, Garforth International llc
- Sarah Burch, Assistant Professor, University of Waterloo, Senior Fellow, CIGI
- John Howard, Chairman of the Board, Canadian Association for Physicians for the Environment

- Christopher Ragan, Professor of Economics, Chair of Canada's Ecofiscal Commission
- Glen Murray – Ontario Minister of the Environment and Climate Change

Moved by Councillor Francis, seconded by J. Passa,
That Peter Garforth, Principal, Garforth International llc and Jason Thistlethwaite, Associate Professor, University of Waterloo, Director, Climate Change Adaptation Project **BE SELECTED** as speakers for the 2016 Green Speakers Series.
Carried.

5.2 Confirm and Ratify the following motions approved by e-mail polls

Moved by Councillor Francis, seconded by M. Nelson,
That the following motions **BE CONFIRMED AND RATIFIED**:

1. That **APPROVAL BE GIVEN** to an expenditure in the upset amount of \$28.25 payable to eliquidMEDIA for the Domain renewal annual fee.
2. That **APPROVAL BE GIVEN** to utilize \$1,250 received from sponsors (Windsor Essex County Health Unit - \$500, United Way - \$500 and Pathway to Potential - \$250) for costs associated with travel and accommodations for Sarah Elton, Green Speaker, and for the lease of the Capitol Theatre for the event to be held on October 20, 2015.

Carried.

6. COORDINATOR'S REPORT

6.1 WECEC Coordinator Monthly Report

D. Carey indicates there are two outstanding biographies to be submitted by D. Coronado and D. Grant for the WECEC website.

D. Carey states the Overload informational commercial (to raise awareness of blooms of toxic blue-green algae in Lake Erie) is currently being aired at Leamington's Southpoint Cinemas.

D. Carey provides an overview of WECEC's 2016 operating budget and notes there is \$2,030 of uncommitted funds.

Moved by Councillor Francis, seconded by J. Gardner-Costa
That the WECEC Coordinator Monthly Report – January 2016 **BE RECEIVED** for information.
Carried.

7. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 Air Subcommittee

D. Coronado reports the public comment period regarding the Marathon Oil Refinery expansion has been extended to January 29, 2016. He notes the proposed upgrades will cause an increase in air pollution and adds this facility has been cited as a significant transboundary source of air pollution under Article V of the Canada-U.S. Air Quality Agreement. He recommends the City/County Councils contact Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change regarding the proposed upgrades to the Marathon Petroleum facility.

Moved by D. Grant, seconded by J. Passa,

WHEREAS, the letter from Andrew J. Drury, Senior Environmental Engineer, Air Quality Division, Department of Environmental Quality, Lansing, Michigan dated November 28, 2015 **BE RECEIVED**; and

WHEREAS, Marathon Petroleum Company LP has applied for Permits to Install (PTI) applications respectively, Application No. 118-15 for the proposed Tier 3 Fuels Project and Application No. 122-15 for the proposed LPG Storage and Transfer Project at 1300 South Fort Street, Detroit, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, this facility is identified as a major source of air pollution and due to the proximity to the Canadian border is a source of transboundary air pollution; and

WHEREAS, the upgrades to this facility may result in a further increase in air emissions

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that City/County Councils **BE REQUESTED** to send a letter to Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change regarding the proposed upgrades to the Marathon Petroleum facility.

Carried.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Update on City of Windsor Environmental Initiatives

D. Carey provides the following City of Windsor environmental initiatives:

- The City of Windsor is proceeding with its Community Energy Plan, and is partnering with Enwin for community engagement programs
- Tourism Windsor Essex Pelee Island is launching a "bicycle passport program" at this year's Earth Day festivities
- The Anti-Idling By-law is currently under revision and will be reviewed by the Environment Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee in March 2016.
- The City of Windsor will be submitting an application to the Ontario Ministry of Transportation for an Electric Vehicles Chargers Grant (EVCO) for EV charging stations. EV Charging stations are currently located in Lot 10, Pelissier & Goyeau Street garages and throughout the Business Improvement Areas.

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8.2 Update on Essex County Environmental Initiatives

The Vice Chair states there are 3-4 municipalities providing EV charging stations. He notes two municipalities have applied for the Electric Vehicles Chargers Grant.

8.3 ERCA 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

M. Nelson distributes the Essex Region Conservation Authority Annual Report 2015, attached as Appendix "A". He provides an overview of the 2015 Annual Report as follows:

- ERCA is currently working on storm water management guidelines which will be completed by the year's end.
- A 10 year strategic plan is being developed which will reviewed by the ERCA Board in February 2016.
- A tree planting working shop will be held on February 25, 2016 at the Civic Centre in Essex.
- Working with the Field Naturalists Club regarding Ojibway Shores
- The Holiday Beach Master Plan is currently being circulated for public comment

The Vice Chair requests ERCA provide passes for WECEC members to visit County parks.

8.4 Environmental Advisory Committees (EAC) of Ontario Provincial EAC Symposia

D. Carey distributes background information relating to the Provincial EAC Symposia, attached as Appendix "B". The Symposia will be held on May 14, 2016 in Ajax, Ontario.

Moved by Dr. Tam, seconded by M. Nelson,

That **APPROVAL BE GIVEN** to an expenditure in the upset amount of \$1,000 for D. Grant and D. Carey to attend the Ontario Provincial Environmental Advisory Committees Symposia to be held on May 14, 2016 at the Greenwood Discovery Pavilion, Ajax, Ontario.

Carried.

8.5 Earth Day

It is generally agreed WECEC will participate in the Earth Day event to be held on April 24, 2016 at Malden Park.

Moved by Councillor Francis, seconded by J. Gardner Costa,

That **APPROVAL BE GIVEN** to an expenditure in the amount of \$35 for procurement of a booth at the Earth Day event to be held on April 24, 2016 at Malden Park.

Carried.

8.6 Establishment of an Ad Hoc Subcommittee

J. Gardner Costa requests the establishment of an "Environmental Sensitive Lands and Issues Ad Hoc Subcommittee" pertaining to issues such as the Ojibway Shores. He indicates he will Chair the subcommittee and requests members contact him if there is interest in sitting on the subcommittee.

Moved by J. Gardner Costa, seconded by D. Coronado,

That an Environmental Sensitive Lands and Issues Ad Hoc Subcommittee **BE ESTABLISHED** with J. Gardner Costa presiding as Chair.

Carried.

9. COMMUNICATIONS

The document entitled "News Release Ontario Releases New Climate Change Strategy – Province Charts Course to a Prosperous, Low-Carbon Future" is distributed and **attached** as Appendix "C". This document will replace Item 9.3.

Moved by Councillor F. Francis, seconded by M. Nelson,

That the following Communications 9.1 to 9.7 **BE APPROVED**:

- 9.1 Bill 66: Proposed Great Lakes Protection Act
- 9.2 Notice of Proposed Change – Belle River Wind Project
- 9.3 Ontario Climate Change Strategy
- 9.4 Cap and Trade Program Design Options
- 9.6 US Steel Corp. Consent Order No. 33-2015
- 9.7 Marathon Oil Refinery expansion

Carried.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on March 31, 2016 at 5:30 o'clock p.m. at the Ojibway Nature Centre.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 6:40 o'clock p.m.

DEPUTY MAYOR JOE BACHETTI, VICE CHAIR

COMMITTEE COORDINATOR



AGENDA
WINDSOR-ESSEX COUNTY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
held on January 28th, 2016
Meeting at 5:30p.m at the Ojibway Nature Centre

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

3. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT**

4. **MINUTES**

Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held November 26th, 2015 – **emailed separately.**

5. **BUSINESS**

5.1 Green Speakers selection for 2016

5.2 Confirm and Ratify the following motions:

- That APPROVAL BE GIVEN to an expenditure in the upset amount of \$28.25 payable to eliquidMEDIA for the Domain renewal annual fee.
- That APPROVAL BE GIVEN to utilize \$1,250 received from sponsors (Windsor Essex County Health Unit - \$500, United Way - \$500 and Pathway to Potential -\$250) for costs associated with travel and accommodations for Sarah Elton, Green Speaker, and for the lease of the Capitol Theatre for the event to be held on October 20, 2015.

6. **COORDINATORS REPORT**

6.1 WECEC Coordinator Monthly Report – **attached.**

7. **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

7.1 Air

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

8.1 Update on City of Windsor environmental initiatives

8.2 Update on Essex County environmental initiatives

9. **COMMUNICATIONS**

9.1 Bill 66: Proposed Great Lakes Protection Act (EBR Registry Number: 012-3523) – **attached.**

9.2 Notice of Proposed Change – Belle River Wind Project – **attached.**

9.3 Ontario Climate Change Strategy – **attached.**

9.4 Cap and Trade Program Design Options (EBR Registry Number: 012-5666) – **attached.**

9.5 Draft Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario: Building the Circular Economy (EBR Registry Number: 012-5834) – **attached.**

9.6 US Steel Corp. Consent Order No. 33-2015 – **attached.**

9.7 Marathon Oil Refinery expansion – **attached.**

10. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is March 31st 2016 at the Ojibway Nature Centre.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**



Essex Region
Conservation
Authority

Annual Report 2015



APPENDIX "A"

Connecting with Nature

125,450
Trees
Planted

79.6km
Trails

owned & managed

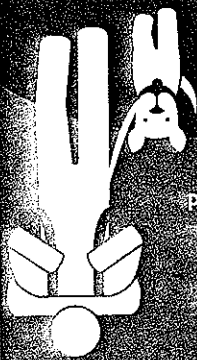
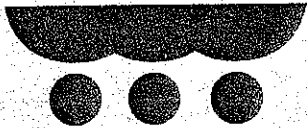
1,669.6HA
Total Land
Holdings

142.5 Acres
Habitat Restored

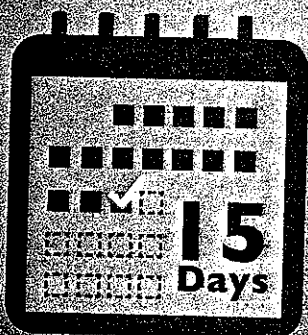
Engaging Our Community

Events
hosted

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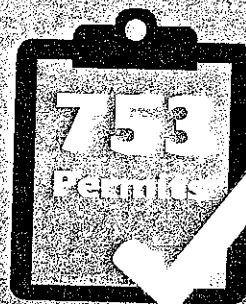
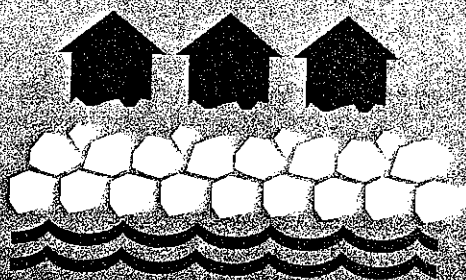
Collaborating to Protect Homes and People



Average permit
response times for
minor development

\$401,500

Water and Erosion Control
Infrastructure Projects



requested and
reviewed to ensure
landowner protection

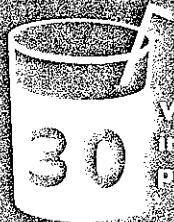
Discovering through Research and Science



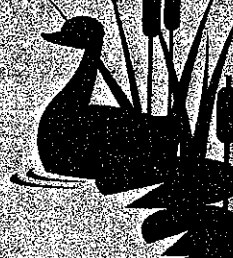
Water quality
monitoring stations
(surface, ground,
benthos)



Research projects
with ERCA
involvement



Water quality
improvement
projects



Connect

ERCA strives to connect people to our landscape, waterfronts and our Great Lakes and rivers with attractive natural areas, trails and Conservation Areas as part of a vibrant and sustainable community.

- Built an additional kilometre of **Greenway** in partnership with the County of Essex and the TransCanada Trail Foundation to bring us closer to connecting the Essex Region Greenway and the Leamington Greenway. Once completed, these combined trails will create over 70 kms of multi-use recreational trail for our region.

- Replaced approximately 200 feet of the boardwalk at **Kopegaron Woods Conservation Area** to ensure it is safe and accessible for our visitors.

- Refreshed the **classroom** at the Holiday Beach Conservation Area with help from Union Gas Ltd.

- Created **interpretive signage** in partnership with the Ontario Field Ornithologists, the Essex Region Conservation Foundation and Pelee Wings Nature Store to highlight the 37 species of shorebirds that have been identified in the Hillman Marsh Shorebird Habitat, which is unique in North America. With beautiful colour photographs, the interpretive sign also offers unique details to help birders distinguish these birds from one another. More than 40,000 visitors travel from around the world to the Pelee-Hillman area each spring, generating more than \$14 million in seasonal revenues.

- Planted over 125,450 trees and restored 142.5 acres of habitat across the region.

- Created four **wetland projects** which totaled 5 acres, including Oxley Swamp, in partnership with Nature Conservancy of Canada, and Ducks Unlimited. Re-creating these important wetland habitats helps to increase biodiversity and provides habitat for a variety of wildlife, including species at risk such as Blanding's Turtle, Snapping Turtle and American Bullfrog.

In 2015, the Essex Region Conservation Foundation was successful in reaching its TrailON! fundraising goal of \$1 million, which will allow construction of the Cypher Systems Group Greenway, (previously known as the Essex-Amherstburg Greenway) to begin. This goal was achieved with the support of many individual and corporate partners!

- Celebrated the grand opening of the **Holiday Beach eco-washroom** in partnership with the Holiday Beach Migration Observatory and with funding support from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. It features solar panels for power, low flow toilets, waterless urinals and a green roof. In rebuilding

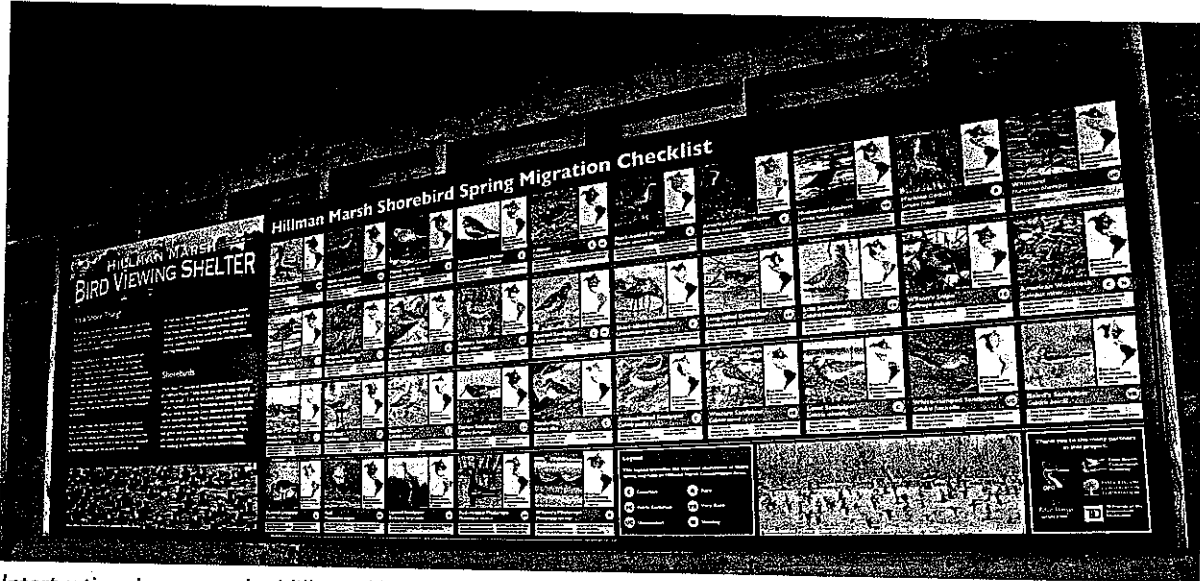
this washroom, most of the existing structural materials were reused. A spacious, separate, accessible family washroom has been created, and there are new change rooms and exterior showers which are heated by solar power.

- Partnered with Windsor's Gateway Heirloom Chapter of Questers to **re-appoint the master bedchamber** at the John R. Park Homestead. Last decorated in 1977, the project included two years of research and fund raising. Innovative technology was used to create wallpaper with a design similar to the antique paper fragments that were found inside a Homestead cupboard. Like the original, the new wallpaper features a



floral medallion, an ox-blood backing pattern on a cream background, and a lemon and citrine

colour-way. The Friends of the Homestead raised an additional \$1,000 for painting the room.



Interpretive signage at the Hillman Marsh Shorebird Habitat



Wetlands provide habitat and improve water quality

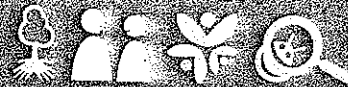
Engage



More than 9500 students participated in environmental education



Thousands of volunteers helped restore habitat



Engaging our community to increase awareness of conserving and enhancing our environment continues to be a focus.

- Introduced the **Teen Ranger Program** for more than 34 young people aged 12 – 15 to provide environmental leadership skills in our Conservation Areas. Program graduates have an increased appreciation for the world and people around them; better team-building skills; and greater awareness of themselves and their abilities.

- Developed a new **Benthic Macroinvertebrate Water Quality Monitoring Program**. Eight high school classes received an introductory lesson on stream ecology, benthic invertebrates and the relationship of these to the health of the Detroit River watershed. This was followed by a field trip where students collected stream and habitat data and benthic invertebrates, as well as a follow up lesson to identify the collected invertebrates in their classroom.

- Created the **Earth Day Travelling Road Show**, whereby 2,700 elementary students were engaged in environmental education.

- Celebrated David Ainslie, a Comber area farmer and longtime partner, who was chosen as the recipient of the **2015 Canadian Farmer-Rancher Pollinator Conservation Award**. The award, presented by the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign, the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, and the Canadian Grassland and Forage Association, recognizes individuals who have contributed significantly

to pollinator protection, conservation, and outreach resulting in increased awareness of the importance of pollinators. Michael Dick, Agricultural Technician with the Essex Region Conservation Authority and Secretary-Treasurer of the Essex Soil and Crop Improvement Association, nominated Mr. Ainslie for this award.

- Launched a **native plant garden** in partnership with **Devonshire Mall** and the Detroit River Canadian Cleanup to promote the use of native species in landscaping and highlighting Devonshire Mall's location as part of the Detroit River Watershed. This project emphasized that these types of 'on the ground' actions help to improve the health of the

entire watershed. More than 7.2 million visitors attended Devonshire Mall in 2015, so the impact of this outreach is significant.

- Hosted **Dr. David Suzuki** at Hillman Marsh Conservation Area to speak with students and the public about the protection of our Great Lakes.
- Consulted with over 300 community members and stakeholders to gather important feedback on regional environmental priorities as we draft our **10-year Strategic Plan**, which will be launched in spring, 2016.
- Engaged 2,580 volunteers in **restoration and stewardship** activities including tree planting, wetland creation, watershed connection events, invasive species removal and other activities.

Collaborate

Reaching out to engage existing and new stakeholders to create a partnership for a sustainable environment is another of ERCA's top priorities.

- Completed, and began implementing the approved **Source Protection Plan** for the Essex Region Source Protection Area, which came into effect on October 1, 2015. This plan sets out policies to protect the water sources that supply our municipal drinking water systems. The plan was developed by the Essex Region Source Protection Committee with input from municipal, community, industry partners and landowners over several years and is based on technical studies, collaborative policy development, and extensive public consultation.

- Assumed **Risk Management Services** on behalf of our nine municipal partners in support of the Source Protection Plan. The municipalities have entered into a joint agreement with ERCA transferring their authority to implement certain policies in the Source Protection Plan. These include policies that require Risk Management Plans or prohibit certain activities as well as screening of new activities that may be considered a significant drinking water threat. These policies will help to keep contaminants out of our rivers and lakes, which are sources of municipal drinking water.

- Continued drainage improvements along the **Grand Marais Drain** to improve water flow

and reduce water levels and the risk of flooding. Overgrown trees and brush were removed following a biological assessment to confirm that no significant species were found in this area. A planting strategy to re-grow grasses and trees that will not impact flow within the channel or obstruct future City drain maintenance is included in the plan. This project is funded 50% by the City of Windsor and 50% through funds

acquired by ERCA from the Ministry of Natural Resources' Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure fund.

- Called on Province of Ontario to implement a **Province-wide Phragmites control strategy**, and submitted an application to the Great Lakes Guardian Fund to pilot a control project in 2016.

- Closely **monitored elevating lake levels** and urged shoreline property owners to be mindful of the

potential impacts to their private properties. ERCA also worked with all municipal partners and Emergency Response services to ensure that they are prepared in case of flooding, and to ensure cross-municipal cooperation and resource-sharing in case lake flooding occurred.

- Completed the update to the **IDF (Intensity-Duration-Frequency) curve study** and hosted

In 2015, lake levels reached the highs of 1998 as a result of the previous two winter seasons. Locally, lake levels were most impacted by the snowfall and resulting snowmelt from the upper Great Lakes received over the past two winters. Strong winds, especially those from the north-east, were particularly concerning as they can push the lake waters against the shoreline and the resulting wave energy can be immediately and significantly destructive to these properties.

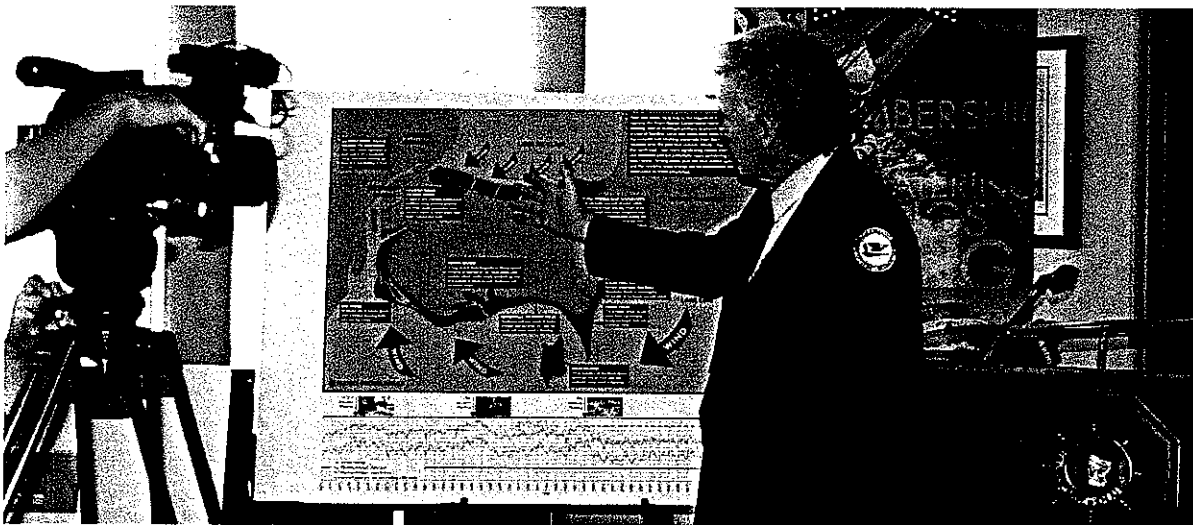


a workshop for municipal partners on the Study's results. This scientific information will be used to help ensure infrastructure is more resilient to the impacts of changing weather patterns, and inform the development of regional Stormwater Management Guidelines.

- Reviewed and approved **753 permits applications** and development proposals to ensure homes and people are safe from the dangers of flooding and erosion. This marked a record number of submissions.
- Advocated to the Province of Ontario to re-instate the **Shoreline Properties Assistance Act**, a loan program for shoreline landowners to help protect against flooding and erosion.
- Partnered with the Essex Soil and Crop Improvement Association to create a **new website** for members including information for farmers such as weather data, field plot results, and agricultural activities. This also provides an

online forum to connect farmers to exchange information and ideas.

- Participated in the **Conservation Authorities Act Review** at the local and provincial levels, as invited by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. The goals of this process are to improve the legislative, regulatory and policy framework that may be required in the face of a changing environment. The discussion paper highlights and solicits feedback around governance, funding mechanisms, and roles and responsibilities of Conservation Authorities. ERCA's participation focussed on ensuring the tools we use through the Conservation Authorities Act respond to new and emerging issues, and allow us to continue to find creative solutions.
- Continued to provide **regional ecological expertise to the Parkway Infrastructure Constructors** as the Rt. Honorable Herb Gray Parkway was completed and opened.



ERCA closely monitored elevating lake levels to ensure people and properties were safe from flood and erosion

ERCA also works at developing greater scientific knowledge of our region in order to adapt to climate change and respond to its impact on the safety, health and economic wellbeing of residents.

- Congratulated the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change on the **passage of Great Lakes Protection Act**, encouraging every Ontarian to be a part of an integrated watershed approach to the protection and restoration Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin. The Act enables the province to address significant environmental challenges to the Great Lakes, including climate change, harmful pollutants and algal blooms, which are of significant concern here in the Western basin of Lake Erie. It also allows the Ministry to set environmental targets and enable communities to address local problems. Reduction targets will be critical to protecting Lake Erie from harmful algal blooms and other problems caused by excessive loadings of phosphorus.

The 2015 Harmful Algal Bloom in the western basin of Lake Erie has been identified by the National Centers of Coastal Ocean Science and Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory as the most severe this century. Fortunately, the bloom moved into the centre of the central basin, resulting in less impact to shoreline communities and drinking water.

soil health and reduce phosphorus runoff. A demonstration was hosted to share this tool with our agricultural partners. The model will be applied to other regional watersheds in 2016 and beyond.

- Continued our **research and monitoring** on several projects including: an innovative Best Management Practices (BMP) project in

partnership with a local farmer and the University of Waterloo to test the efficacy of controlled drainage in reducing phosphorus runoff and improving crop yields; the Kingsville Leamington Nutrient project in partnership with MOECC which monitors phosphorus concentrations in greenhouse and non-greenhouse influenced streams; and

a project in partnership with MOECC, the Windsor Essex Health Unit and the Township of Pelee to monitor our recreational beaches for the toxins produced by harmful algal blooms and to test new methods for detection.

- Selected as one of only four Conservation Authorities across Ontario to successfully partner with the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association to offer the new **Great Lakes Agricultural Stewardship Initiative Priority Subwatershed Project**. This pilot project will target a section of Wagle Creek in Kingsville to implement as many BMPs as possible in the

- Supported the **phosphorus loadings reduction targets** to Lake Erie set through a landmark collaborative agreement between the Province of Ontario and the states of Ohio and Michigan that commits to reducing phosphorus pollution in Lake Erie by 40% by 2025.

- Created a **Digital Elevation Model (DEM)** for the Canard River, Cedar Creek, and Ruscom River watersheds to aid in targeting water quality issues. A DEM is a 3D representation of the earth's surface that will be used to find areas prone to erosion within an agricultural field, which will ultimately help to improve



identified section of the watershed with water quality and soil health monitoring to measure their effectiveness. This project will help determine the most appropriate BMPs to use in our region in order to reduce phosphorus loadings to Lake Erie. As a representative

watershed, knowledge gained by this in-depth study can be used to guide and direct appropriate BMPs in other local watersheds.



ERCA conducts water quality monitoring at 94 surface, ground and benthos monitoring sites across the region

Connect



	2013	2014	2015
Total Landholdings (Hectares)	1,648	1,628	1,669.6
Hectares of Recreational Land Owned and Managed *	-	-	1,036.8
Total # of Hectares under Forest Management Plans *	-	-	44.39
Total Taxes for CA Landholdings	\$50,481	\$53,256	\$ 49,166
Land Acquisition in Reporting Year (in acres)	26.5	0	51
Value of Acquisitions by ERCA (fair market value)	203,657	0	508,000
Total Acres of Habitat Restored	115	152	142.5
Number/Acres of Trees	137,760	134,000	125450/115 ac
Number/Acres of Wetlands	4 wetlands/2.5ac	1 wetland/1.25ac	4 wetlands/5ac
Number/Acres of Prairie/Meadow	5 sites/44ac	4 sites/17.5ac	8 sites/22.5ac
Number of Landowners Involved in Restoration *	-	-	209
Kilometres of Trails	79	79	79.6
Number of Seasonal Campsites Purchased	54	65	63
Number of Visitors to John R. Park Homestead	12,100	12,993	10,895
Number of Day Use Visitors to Holiday Beach	5,667	5,426	5,985

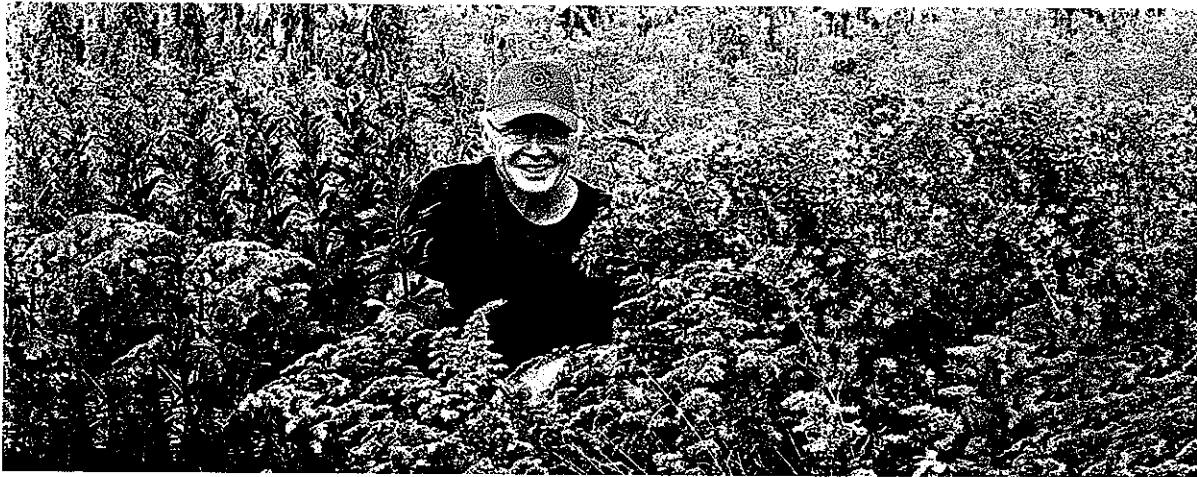
* Note: Some metrics were not calculated prior to 2015.



ERCA owns and manages over 1,036 hectares of land to ensure its protection while providing recreational opportunities



	2013	2014	2015
Area of Jurisdiction	-	-	1681.3 sq km
Watershed Population	332,734	332,380	332,350
Staff - Permanent and Long-Term Contract	28	30	34
Staff - Seasonal and Short-Term FTEs Contract	12	12	9
Staff - Average Full-Time Length of Service	14	10	9
Number of Local Committees, Boards and Advisory Panels with ERCA representation	17	21	25
Number of Provincial Committees, Boards and Advisory Panels with ERCA representation	12	18	26
Number of Trees Planted by Volunteers *	-	-	2,912
Number of Native Plants Planted by Volunteers *	-	-	1,669
Number of Volunteers	2,237	2,612	2,580
Number of Outreach Events	40	38	33
Number of Schoolyard Naturalization Projects Completed	6	11	7
Number of ERCA Hosted Special Events	22	20	26
Number of Schools Participating in Education Programs *	-	-	78
Number of Education Programs *	-	-	285
Number of Students	7,358	6,492	9,538
Number of Public Meetings / Workshops	15	16	16
Number of Visits to Website *	-	-	91,000
Increase in Social Media Followers (Twitter & Facebook) *	-	-	1,688



David Ainslie was recognized for his significant contributions in creating pollinator habitat

Collaborate



	2013	2014	2015
Planning Services - Transactions per Year	568	488	597
Permits Requested	594	615	753
Permits Issued	547	588	560
Clearances Issued	131	113	100
Request for Information Letters Issed	137	159	242
Permits to Take Water Applications	0	6	3
Appeals	15	11	13
Appeals in CA Favour	14	11	13
Violations Issued	15	16	14
Average Response Time for Permits			
Minor Development	7.57 days	8.24	15 days
Major Development	29.58 days	29.35	30 days
Alterations to Waterways	9.18 days	11.32	15 days
Number of Structures Located in the Floodplain *	-	-	10,000
Number of kms of Watercourses with Floodplain Mapping Completed *	-	-	609
Number of Hectares Digitally Mapped Delineating CA Regulation Limit *	-	-	38,304
Number of Hectares Digitally Mapped Delineating Flooding Hazard Limit *	-	-	38,304
Number of Metres of shoreline Protected from Flooding and Erosion	450	140	250
\$ Value of Water and Infrastructure Control Contributions to Municipalities	\$435,000	\$425,000	\$401,500
Flood Messages			
Watershed Conditions	0	7	6
Flood Watches	4	7	10
Flood Warnings	1	0	3
Wind Warnings	0	1	0



The Rt. Hon. Herb Gray Parkway's green space supports a native Carolinian landscape that features Tallgrass Prairie and Oak Savannah; restoring a higher quality habitat for several species at risk



	2013	2014	2015
Water Quality Improvement Projects Implemented			
Number of Projects Total:	33	20	26
Agriculture / Other	13	8	6
Detroit River Watersheds	4	4	10
Lake St. Clair Watersheds	16	8	10
Lake Erie Watersheds	6	3	4
Number of Wells Decommissioned	-	-	30
Number of Landowners *	24	19	71
Number of Surface Water Quality Monitoring Stations	8	9	8
Number of Ground Water Quality Monitoring Stations	0	8	15
Number of Benthos Monitoring Stations	-	-	8
Number of Research Studies with ERCA Involvement *			



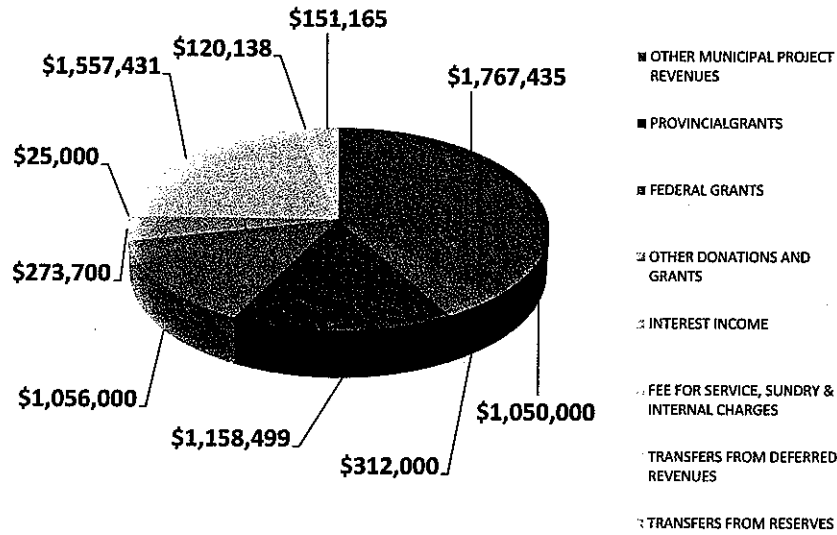
Digital Elevation Model (DEM) is a 3-D application now available for use by farmers, to identify areas in their fields that could be prone to erosion

2015 Financial Review

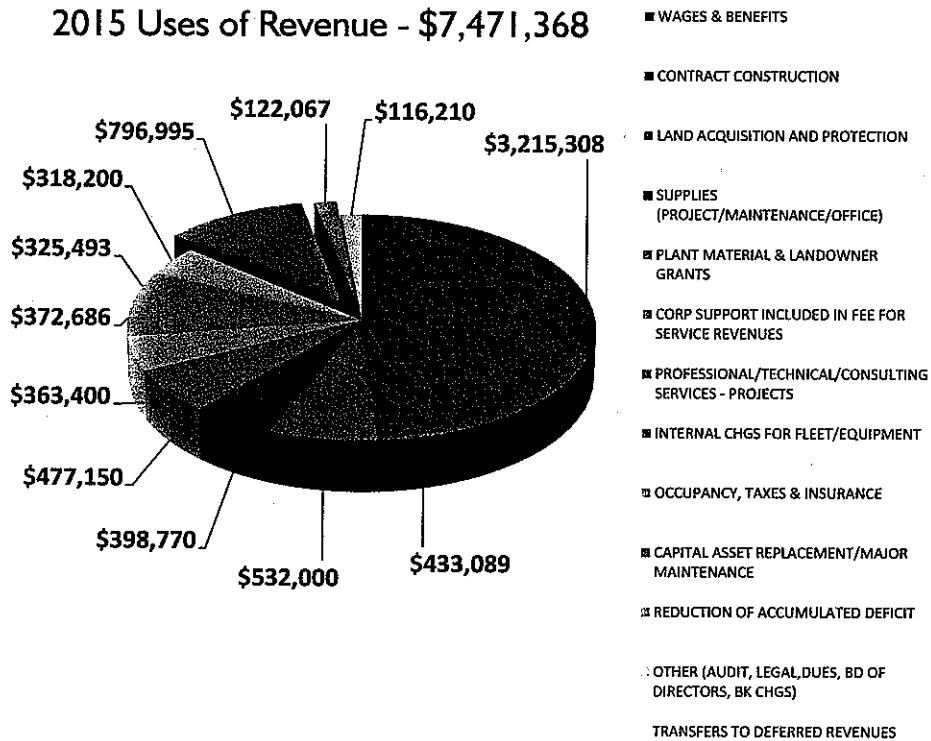
In accordance with the Public Sector Accounting Board PS 3150, ERCA incorporates tangible capital assets into the Financial Statements. Identifying assets and their limited useful lives increases our understanding of using capital assets in the delivery of services.

This information gives municipal councils and the public a better understanding of the true financial position.

2015 Sources of Revenue - \$7,471,368

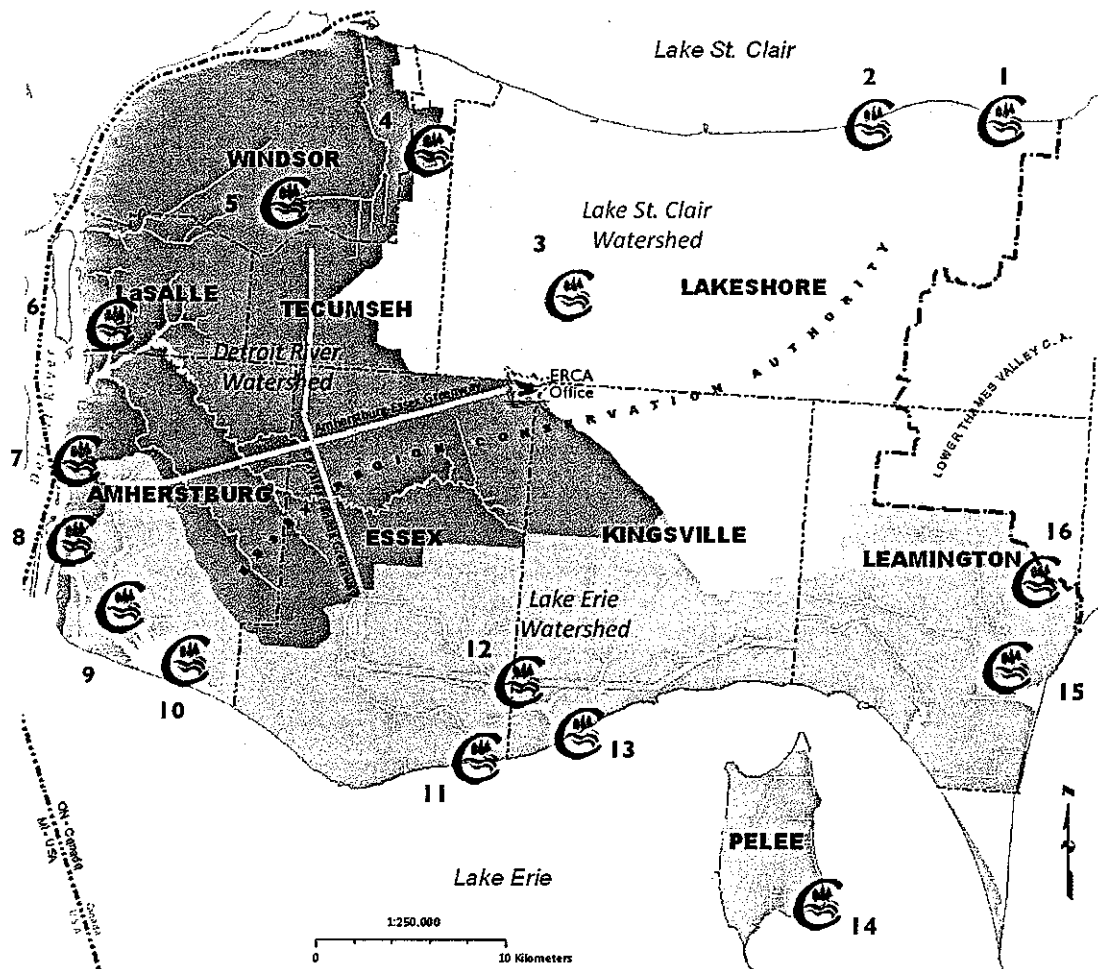


2015 Uses of Revenue - \$7,471,368



Note: The 2015 sources and uses of funds graphs are based on information available as of January 15, 2016 and as such the numbers are subject to change. The graphs depict the types of expenses incurred by the Authority in 2015 and how those expenses were funded. The graphs are not intended to replace audited Financial Statements and readers interested in the financial condition of the Authority should consult Financial Statements, prepared in accordance with GAAP. Audited Financial Statements are available annually after June 30th and include all statements and schedules required for public sector entities.

Make healthy and active lifestyles a priority for your family. Visit any of the region's conservation areas to hike, bike and enjoy nature and each other.



- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Tremblay Beach | 6. Petite Côte | 11. John R. Park Homestead |
| 2. Ruscom Shores | 7. Crystal Bay | 12. Cedar Creek |
| 3. Maidstone | 8. White Sands | 13. Cedar Beach |
| 4. McAuliffe Woods | 9. Big Creek | 14. Stone Road Alvar |
| 5. Devonwood | 10. Holiday Beach | 15. Hillman Marsh |
| | | 16. Kopegaron Woods |



Quick links

WELCOME

EAC History

Advantages

Reality Check

Who is on an EAC?

What are EACs?

What EACs can do

Provincial EAC Symposia

Provincial EAC Symposia provide an opportunity for the volunteer members of Ontario's Environmental Advisory Committees to:

Network with other EAC members

Learn about global issues that impact all municipalities

Share and be inspired by the work being done by EAC and individuals to help preserve and protect the environment.

Share success stories, experiences and insights on common problems and challenges with other members of the environmental community

Quick Search

2016 Symposium - Local Food & Stewardship

Submit

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, May 14, 2016 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Greenwood Discovery Pavilion, 2290 Greenwood Rd, Ajax, ON

Registration fee: \$20

Agenda

- * Local partners will share their successes on local food, pollinators and stewardship projects
- * Annual EAC Roundtable & share success stories from EACs across the province
- * Take part in a mini workshop to brainstorm innovative ideas

Registration details to follow

2015 Symposium - Partnerships

The 2015 Provincial Environmental Advisory Committee Symposium was hosted by the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee in collaboration with Markham's Sustainability Office, on Saturday, May 2, and brought together advisory committee volunteers, municipal staff and sustainability experts.

The theme for the 2015 Symposium was "Partnerships."

Agenda and Presentations

Opening Remarks by the Mayor

Introductions & Icebreaker

Markham EAC Presentation - Karl Lyew & Philip Ling, MEAC

Partnerships for Our Sustainable Tomorrow - Susan Hall, OEAC Vice-Chair and Suzanne Elston, City of Oshawa

Break and Networking

Presentations and Panel Discussion - Facilitated by Graham Seaman, City of Markham

The Power of Partnerships - Neetika Sathe, PowerStream Inc.

Making the Most Out of Partnerships in an Environmental World - Dave Douglas, VisionQuest

Lessons Learned - Brent Kopperson, Windfall Ecology Centre

Partnerships - Harry French, Ontario Sustainability Services

Lunch and Networking

Markham Sustainability Office - Jennifer Wong, City of Markham

Markham Waste Diversion: Clear Bag Program - Markham's Deputy Mayor Jack Heath

Breakout Session: Best Practices & Lessons Learned

Break and Networking

Transforming Neighbourhoods and TRCA Bayview Glen SNAP - Adriana Gomez, TRCA

Trees for Tomorrow - Nory Takata, City of Markham

2014 Symposium - Community Engagement

The 2014 EAC Symposium was hosted by the Brampton Environmental Planning Advisory Committee (BEPAC) on Saturday, May 3 and brought together representatives from over 20 municipalities.

The theme of the 2014 event was "Community Engagement - harnessing the energy of communities to create self-sustaining environmental programs."

Powered by:



**NORTHLAND
POWER**

Invitation, Agenda and Attendees

Invitation

Agenda

Attendees

Presentations and PowerPoints

Welcome and Agenda Overview (Jayne Pilot, Co-Chair, Brampton EPAC)

Overview of Brampton Grow Green (Susan Jorgenson, City of Brampton)

Making a Clean Sweep (Diane Butterworth, Brampton Clean City)

Eco-Challenge (Nicolas Gilbert, Oshawa EAC)

Sustainable Neighbourhood Retrofit Action Plan (SNAP) (Clifton Cippolino, TRAC and homeowners Paul Gay and Marisa Mancuso)

Food for Thought Workshops (Victoria Fast, Oshawa EAC)

KEYNOTE: Cambridge City Green (Fred Oliff, Cambridge EAC)

Environmental Education and Action through Brampton Public Libraries (Katrina Doktor, Brampton Library)

Sustainable Visioning Workshop

Visioning Exercise

Visioning Exercise Summary

Community Youth and the Environment (Peel Environmental Youth Alliance)

Active Transportation in Brampton (David Laing, Brampton Bicycle Advisory Committee)

Provincial EAC Website (Suzanne Elston, City of Oshawa)

Other documents and materials

Hosting the 2014 EAC Symposium - Lessons Learned

Algal Blooms (Essex Region CA)

WEAC Blue Green Algae

Clarington Perspectives on Community Engagement

Clarington Visioning Exercise Summary

Sponsorship for the 2014 EAC Symposium was provided by the Rice Development Corporation

2012 Symposium - Environmental Advisory Committee Symposium

Hosted in Leamington by the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee on November 17th, the 2012.

[Click here for Conference Proceedings](#)

2011 Symposium - International Year of Forests

Hosted by the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee on November 19th, the 2011 Symposium was themed after the International Year of Forests, declared by the United Nations.

[Click here for Conference Proceedings](#)

2008 Symposium - Great Lakes, Great Water

"The wars of the 21st Century will be fought over water" -Ismail Serageldin, Vice President, World Bank

Hosting the 2008 EAC Symposium on the shore of one of the Great Lakes provided inspiration for the Symposium theme, "Great Lakes, Great Water."

2008 Symposium Agenda

Hosted by the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC)



ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES OF ONTARIO

EAC MEMBERS ONLY

HOME

TO TOP

News Release

Ontario Releases New Climate Change Strategy Province Charts Course to a Prosperous, Low-Carbon Future

November 24, 2015 1:30 P.M.

Office of the Premier

Ontario took the next step in the fight against climate change today by releasing the province's Climate Change Strategy. The strategy lays out the government's vision for securing a healthy, clean and prosperous low-carbon future by transforming the way we live, move, work and adapt to our environment.

The strategy also supports Ontario's proposed cap and trade program, which will help Ontario meet its emissions reduction targets, reward innovative companies and ensure that households and businesses thrive as the province transitions to a low-carbon economy.

Ontario's Climate Change Strategy outlines the steps the government will take, including:

- Introducing climate legislation that, if passed, would establish a long-term framework for action and make the cap and trade program law in Ontario.
- Integrating climate change mitigation and adaptation considerations into government decision-making and infrastructure planning.
- Introducing changes to government operations, procurement, employee training, building retrofits and in other areas to help government move towards carbon neutrality.
- Developing a coordinated approach to reduce emissions from new and existing buildings.
- Reducing emissions from transportation by promoting the uptake of zero emission and plug-in hybrid vehicles.

The government will also release a detailed five-year action plan in 2016, which will include specific commitments to meet near-term 2020 emissions reduction targets, and establish the framework necessary to meet targets for 2030 and 2050. The government will report on, and renew, its action plan every five years.

The Ontario Climate Change Strategy builds on Ontario's leadership in the fight against climate change, including setting a 2030 mid-term target for greenhouse gas pollution reduction, hosting the successful Climate Summit of the Americas in July 2015, working with industry and other partners on the design of a cap and trade program, ending coal-fired electricity generation, and electrifying and improving Ontario's commuter rail network.

Premier Kathleen Wynne will promote Ontario's leadership and success in climate change action when she joins the Prime Minister and Canada's Premiers at COP21 in Paris next week.

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions while supporting growth, efficiency and productivity is part of the government's plan to build Ontario up. The four-part plan includes investing in people's talents and skills, making the largest investment in public infrastructure in Ontario's history, creating a dynamic, innovative environment where business thrives, and building a secure retirement savings plan.

Quick Facts

- Combatting climate change creates new economic opportunities in renewable energy and clean technologies. Ontario's environmental and clean technology sector has 3,000 firms, employs 100,000 people, and is worth an estimated \$8 billion in annual revenues and \$1 billion in export earnings.
- According to the Conference Board of Canada, every \$100 million invested in Ontario in clean technologies is estimated to increase GDP by \$107 million and create 1,400 new jobs.
- Ontario has the fastest-growing cleantech sector in Canada.
- In just 10 years, the province has become a North American leader in the development, use and manufacturing of clean energy.
- A Canada 2020 poll shows that 84 per cent of Canadians believe that prosperous countries such as Canada have an obligation to show international leadership in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- In May 2015, Ontario became the first province in Canada to set a mid-term greenhouse gas pollution reduction target of 37 per cent below 1990 levels by 2030.