

## **Board of Directors**

# **Meeting Agenda**

Date:

January 21st, 2021

Time:

9:00 am

## **Teams Meeting Coordinates:**

Meeting connection information will be provided 48 hours in advance.



## **Board of Directors**

# **Meeting Agenda**

January 21st, 2021 at 9:00 am

200				
1.	Chair's Remarks			
2.	Αp	proval of SNC Board of Directors Agenda (Supplemental Agenda)		
3.	De	eclaration of Conflict of Interest		
4.	SN	NC Project Update – Powerpoint Presentation: Staff		
5.	Re	equest for Approval:		
	a.	Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of December 17th, 2020	4-13	
6.	Ne	ew Business:		
	a.	Request for Approval: Annual Authority Approvals: Linda	14-15	
	b.	Update: Drainage Act Consultation: Sandra	16	
	C.	Update: Fisheries Act Amendments and Consultation: Michelle	17-18	
	d.	Request for Approval: 2021 Student and Recent Graduate Hiring		
		Program: Carl	19	
	e.	Update: Ducks Unlimited Canada Partnership: Michelle	20-21	
	f.	Request for Approval: Ottawa and St. Lawrence River Virtual		
		Field Trip: John	22	
	g.	Request for Approval: Funding Application: Ronda	23-24	
	h.	Request for Approval: Flood and Erosion Hazards Mapping: Sandra	25-26	
	i.	Update: City of Ottawa Official Plan: Alison	27-29	
	j.	Update: On-site Sewage Permits Issued: Alison	30-31	
	k.	Update: Planning Activity: Alison	32-33	
	I.	Request for Approval: Permits Issued: Alison	34-35	
7.		nancial Reports		
		Request for Approval: Conservation Ontario Levy: Carl	36-37	
	b.	Request for Approval: Purchase of Additional Tree Seedlings: Ronda	38-39	



	C.	c. Request for Approval: Eastern Ontario LiDAR Acquisition:			
		Ronda/Sandra/Carl	40-45		
	d.	Request for Approval: Monies Received and Disbursement Register			
		for December 2020: Carl	46-49		
8.	Su	pplemental Agenda (if any)			
9.	Со	prrespondence			
	a.	Letter: Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs:			
		Drainage Act Amendments	50-51		
10.	Da	ites of Upcoming Meetings, third Thursday, at 9:00 a.m. unless indicated oth	erwise:		
	•	February 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2021 (2021 OGRA Virtual Conference February 21-24)			
	•	March 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2021 ( <i>Annual General Meeting</i> )			
	•	April 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2021			
	•	May 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2021			
11.	1. Future Motions of the Board and/or Discussion of SNC Issues				
12.	2. Closed Session				
	a.	Request for Approval: Land Acquisition: Pat	52		
13.	3. Adjournment				

Angela Coleman,
General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer.

/dm



#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Ottawa



























Meeting No. 10/20 Thursday December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – 9:00 a.m.

By Electronic Participation

Directors Present:

George Darouze, City of Ottawa, Chair

Bill Smirle, Stormont Dundas Glengarry, Past Chair

Michael Brown, City of Ottawa

Steve Densham, Stormont Dundas Glengarry

Dana Farcasiu, Leeds Grenville Gerrie Kautz, City of Ottawa Catherine Kitts, City of Ottawa

Archie Mellan, Stormont Dundas Glengarry François St. Amour, Prescott Russell

Peggy Taylor, Leeds Grenville

Regrets:

Pierre Leroux, Prescott Russell, Vice Chair

Daniel Lafleur, Prescott Russell

Staff Present:

Angela Coleman, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

Carl Bickerdike, Team Lead, Corporate Services Michelle Cavanagh, Team Lead, Stewardship

Linda Hutchinson, Director, Organization Effectiveness

Dianne MacMillan, Administrative Assistant Alison McDonald, Team Lead, Approvals

John Mesman, Team Lead, Communications and Outreach

Pat Piitz, Team Lead, Property



## **CHAIRS REMARKS**

George Darouze, Chair, called the SNC Board of Directors meeting of November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 to order at 9:00 a.m. Chair Darouze congratulated and thanked the Board Members, General Manager, and staff for the dedication and hard work of the past year. The Chair welcomed City of Ottawa representative, Catherine Kitts to the SNC Board of Directors.

## APPROVAL OF SNC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MAIN AND SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. BD-172/20

Moved by:

Bill Smirle

Seconded by:

Gerrie Kautz

RESOLVED THAT:

The Members approve the December 17th,

2020 Board of Directors main and supplemental agendas as submitted.

**CARRIED** 

## **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Conflict of Interest.

## SNC PROJECT UPDATE - POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Staff presented project and program updates.

Peggy Taylor, Leeds Grenville, joined the meeting at 9:11 a.m.

## **REQUEST FOR APPROVAL:**

## A. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2020

RESOLUTION NO. BD-173/20

Moved by:

Bill Smirle

Seconded by:

Dana Farcasiu

**RESOLVED THAT:** 

The Members approve the Board of Directors

meeting minutes of November 19th, 2020 as

submitted.

CARRIED

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## B. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: SNC COMMITTEE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS AND MINUTES

i. Forestry Committee meeting minutes of November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020

RESOLUTION NO. BD-174/20

Moved by:

Peggy Taylor

Seconded by:

Archie Mellan

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors approve the actions

and recommendations of the Forestry

Committee meeting minutes of

November 24th, 2020.

**CARRIED** 

ii. Fish and Wildlife Committee meeting minutes of November 24th, 2020

RESOLUTION NO. BD-175/20

Moved by:

Steve Densham

Seconded by:

Dana Farcasiu

**RESOLVED THAT:** 

The Board of Directors approve the actions and recommendations of the Fish and Wildlife Committee meeting minutes of November

24th, 2020.

**CARRIED** 

iii. Joint Occupational Health and Safety meeting minutes of November 25th, 2020

RESOLUTION NO. BD-176/20

Moved by:

Bill Smirle

Seconded by:

Archie Mellan

**RESOLVED THAT:** 

The Board of Directors approve the actions

and recommendations of the Joint

Occupational Health and Safety meeting

minutes of November 25th, 2020.

**CARRIED** 

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iv. Clean Water Committee meeting minutes of November 30th, 2020

RESOLUTION NO. BD-177/20

Moved by:

Gerrie Kautz

Seconded by:

Bill Smirle

**RESOLVED THAT:** 

The Board of Directors approve the actions

and recommendations of the Clean Water

Committee meeting minutes of

November 30th, 2020.

**CARRIED** 

François St. Amour, Prescott Russell, joined the meeting at 9:58 a.m.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

## <u>UPDATE: BILL 229, PROTECT, SUPPORT AND RECOVER FROM COVID-19 ACT</u> (BUDGET MEASURES), 2020

RESOLUTION NO. BD-178/20

Moved by:

Bill Smirle

Seconded by:

Steve Densham

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors receive and file the update on Bill 229, *Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget* 

Measures), 2020.

**CARRIED** 

### **UPDATE: 2020 AUDIT PLANNING**

RESOLUTION NO. BD-179/20

Moved by:

François St. Amour

Seconded by:

Bill Smirle

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors receive and file the

Draft 2020 Audit Planning letter attached from

Baker Tilly; and

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**FURTHER THAT:** 

The Chair sign the 2020 Audit Planning letter.

**CARRIED** 

## REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: 2021 BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

RESOLUTION NO. BD-180/20

Moved by:

François St. Amour

Seconded by:

Archie Mellan

**RESOLVED THAT:** 

The Board of Directors approve the 2021

Board of Directors and Standing Committee

meeting dates as submitted; and

**FURTHER THAT:** 

The Board of Directors contact staff if they

wish to join a Standing Committee.

**CARRIED** 

## REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: SNOWMOBILE TRAIL USE AGREEMENT

RESOLUTION NO. BD-181/20

Moved by:

Bill Smirle

Seconded by:

Steve Densham

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors direct staff to

negotiate and enter into agreements with

local snowmobile clubs for the 2021

snowmobile season.

CARRIED

## REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: CANOE AND KAYAK RENTAL PILOT PROJECT

RESOLUTION NO. BD-182/20

Moved by:

Gerrie Kautz

Seconded by:

Bill Smirle

**RESOLVED THAT:** 

The Board of Directors approve staff

negotiating a one-year pilot agreement to

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offer recreational, non-motorized watercraft rentals on the South Nation River at High

Falls Conservation Area; and

**FURTHER THAT:** 

The on-year pilot project is conditional on the private business acquiring appropriate insurance coverage and entering into an acceptable cost sharing agreement for upgrades and maintenance of amenities at

High Falls Conservation Area.

CARRIED

**UPDATE: ON-SITE SEWAGE PERMITS ISSUED** 

RESOLUTION NO. BD-183/20

Moved by:

Gerrie Kautz

Seconded by:

Bill Smirle

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors receive and file the On-

site Sewage Permits Issued update.

**CARRIED** 

**UPDATE: PLANNING ACTIVITY** 

RESOLUTION NO. BD-184/20

Moved by:

Steve Densham

Seconded by:

François St. Amour

**RESOLVED THAT:** 

The Board of Directors receive and file the

Planning Activity update.

**CARRIED** 

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: PERMITS ISSUED

RESOLUTION NO. BD-185/20

Moved by:

Bill Smirle

Seconded by:

Gerrie Kautz

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**RESOLVED THAT:** 

The SNC Board of Directors approve permits

165-186 issued under Ontario Regulation 170/06 Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and

Watercourses.

**CARRIED** 

**UPDATE: 2020 YEAR END REPORTS** 

i. PROPERTY AND APPROVALS

ii. SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

iii. ORGANIZATION EFFECTIVENESS

i. Property and Approvals

RESOLUTION NO. BD-186/20

Moved by:

Gerrie Kautz

Seconded by:

Peggy Taylor

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors receive and file the 2020

Property and Approvals Year End Report.

CARRIED

ii. Science and Research

RESOLUTION NO. BD-187/20

Moved by:

Bill Smirle

Seconded by:

Archie Mellan

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors receive and file the

2020 Science and Research Year End Report.

CARRIED

iii. Organization Effectiveness

RESOLUTION NO. BD-188/20

Moved by:

Bill Smirle

Seconded by:

Gerrie Kautz

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RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors receive and file the 2020 Organization Effectiveness Year End Report.

**CARRIED** 

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

## REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: MONIES RECEIVED AND DISBURSEMENT REGISTER FOR NOVEMBER 2020

RESOLUTION NO. BD-189/20

Moved by:

Bill Smirle

Seconded by:

Gerrie Kautz

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors receive and file the

money received report for November 2020;

and

**FURTHER THAT:** 

The Board approve the Disbursement

Register of \$ 534,447.96 for November 2020.

**CARRIED** 

## SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA

## REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: MOHAWK COUNCIL OF AKWESASNE: FLOOD MANAGEMENT AND MITIGATION PROPOSAL

RESOLUTION NO. BD-190/20

Moved by:

Archie Mellan

Seconded by:

Dana Farcasiu

**RESOLVED THAT:** 

The Board of Directors approve the

submission of a proposal to Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Department of Environment to

provide Flood Management/Mitigation Strategy Development Services for the Akwesasne Flood Management and

Mitigation Project; and



**FURTHER THAT:** 

If successful, staff be authorized to enter into the contract to complete the work on a cost recovery basis.

**CARRIED** 

## <u>UPDATE: NATIONAL DISASTER MITIGATION PROGRAM – INTAKE 6 SUBMISSIONS</u>

RESOLUTION NO. BD-191/20

Moved by:

Bill Smirle

Seconded by:

Gerrie Kautz

**RESOLVED THAT:** 

The Board of Directors receive and file the National Disaster Mitigation Program – Intake

6 Submissions update.

CARRIED

## CORRESPONDENCE

- a. AMO: Submission to Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs: Bill 229
- b. AMO: Letter to Premier Ford on Finance and Economic Affairs: Bill 229
- c. Ontario Federation of Agriculture: Submission to Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs: Bill 229

# <u>DATES OF UPCOMING MEETINGS, THIRD THURSDAY, AT 9:00 A.M., UNLESS INDICATED OTHERWISE</u>

- January 21st, 2021 (2021 ROMA Virtual Conference January 25-26)
- February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 (2021 OGRA Virtual Conference February 22-25)
- · March 18th, 2021 (Annual General Meeting)
- April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021

## FUTURE MOTIONS OF THE BOARD AND/OR DISCUSSION OF SNC ISSUES

Angela Coleman, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer updated the Board Members on the following past and upcoming discussions:

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- Ducks Unlimited: Partnership opportunities

- Insurance Bureau of Canada: Floodplain discussions

- Leeds Grenville: Educational opportunities

- First Nation's: Healing lodges

AD.	JOL	JRN	IM	ENT

RESOLUTION NO. BD-192/20	Moved by:	Bill Smirle	

RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Directors meeting of December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 be adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

**CARRIED** 

George Darouze, Chair.	Angela Coleman, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer.
/dm	
SNC Review by:	



To:

**Board of Directors** 

From:

Linda Hutchinson, Director, Organization Effectiveness

Date:

January 13th, 2021

Subject:

Request for Approval: Annual Authority Approvals

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

For banking purposes, the Authority signing officers be one of: Chairman; Vice-Chairman; or Past Chairman; and one of: General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer; Director, Organization Effectiveness; or Team Lead, Corporate Services. For all other purposes, that fall within their signing limit and/or there is a Board Resolution, any of the above; and

#### **FURTHER THAT:**

- 1. The signing officers are authorized to borrow up to \$1,000,000 for the operation of the South Nation River Conservation Authority, if required.
- 2. Staff be authorized to continue the use of alternative signatures, such as the signature stamp for signing cheques up to \$10,000, or other limits requested by the Board of Directors, or any other electronic signatures introduced in conjunction with our accounting software. These tools are in the custody of the Director, Organization Effectiveness. The Director may delegate the use of these tools to his/her delegate.
- 3. Staff continue to utilize various banking features to make payments more cost efficient for SNC, for example: the use of internet banking, electronic fund transfer (EFT) and/or by other electronic means. All payments are presented regularly to the Board of Directors for approval in the "Monies Received and Disbursement Register for the period".
- 4. The law firm of Ault & Ault, Winchester be appointed as solicitor for general Authority business, and that Emond Harnden, Ottawa be appointed the Authority's Human Resource legal counsel, at a total approximate cost of \$40,000 plus HST. Where in the best interest of the Authority, staff may engage other specialized legal services.
- 5. The Chartered Accountants Firm of Baker Tilly REO LLP, Winchester be appointed Auditors at an approximate cost of \$24,500 plus HST and Management sign engagement letter.



6. The Royal Bank, Winchester Branch, be the Authority Bank and signing officers sign the banking services contract.

## **DISCUSSION:**

The South Nation River Conservation Authority Administrative By-law requires annual resolutions for the appointment of the Authority's auditor and financial institution and the borrowing resolution.

Also included are resolutions for the Authority's signing officers, confirming the use of alternate signing tools and the appointment of Authority solicitors including approximate cost.

The Authority's general counsel, Ault & Ault, will be consulted and advice sought when selecting specialized legal services.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

<u>Compliance with Budget</u>: The dollar amounts noted have been included in the 2021 budget under Corporate Services, pages 80 to 81.

SNC Policy Adherence: The above resolutions are in accordance with SNC's Administration By-law, Sections 22, 24, 25, and 26. Sections 22 and 24 must be in place by, or before, the SNC Annual General Meeting. Section 26 must be in place by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

According to the Purchasing Policy, section E) Non-Competitive Purchasing, 'The Board of Directors must approve any Non-Competitive purchasing over \$10,000, when professional or special services are required, such as: auditors or accounting fees, legal fees, appraiser fees, banking fees, or any other special service'.

Linda Hutchinson,

Director, Organization Effectiveness.



**To:** Board of Directors

From: Sandra Mancini, Team Lead, Engineering

**Date:** January 12, 2021

**Subject:** Update: *Drainage Act* Consultation

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors receive and file the update on the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs proposed regulations implementing the 2020 amendments to the *Drainage Act*.

## **DISCUSSION:**

The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) is proposing a new Minister's Regulation to implement the amendments made to the *Drainage Act* under the *COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act*, *2020* that received Royal Assent on July 21, 2020.

The new Minister's Regulation intends to implement the following changes:

- Provide a simplified process for minor improvements to municipal drains;
- Simplify the process for approving updates to engineer's reports for changes to the design made during construction; and
- Adoption of the *Drainage Act* and *Conservation Authorities Act* Protocol (DART Protocol) by reference.

Staff attended the OMAFRA webinar as a stakeholder and submitted comments to the Environmental Registry via Conservation Ontario. The changes will likely facilitate quicker approval of those projects that meet the criteria for "minor improvement". However, staff expressed their concern that older Engineer Drainage Reports may not contain the data necessary to allow projects to qualify under the criteria. Further, OMAFRA's examples of minor improvements were limited to farmland and it is unclear whether drainage projects associated with urban development can meet the criteria.

Staff will continue to follow the Regulation as implemented and provide further updates as necessary.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

Compliance with Budget:

Not applicable.

SNC Policy Adherence:

Comments to OMAFRA are provided as a stakeholder within the context of the Environmental Registry of Ontario.



Sandra Mancini, Team Lead, Engineering.



**To:** Board of Directors

From: Michelle Cavanagh, Team Lead, Stewardship

**Date:** January 11, 2021

**Subject:** Update: Fisheries Act Amendments and Consultation

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors receive and file the update report on *Fisheries Act* Amendments and Consultation.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

In 2012, the federal government made changes to the *Fisheries Act* and reduced protection for fish and fish habitat. On February 6, 2018, the federal government proposed changes to return the *Fisheries Act* to its former state. The new *Fisheries Act* received royal assent and became law on June 21, 2019 and officially came into force on August 28, 2019.

The new, modernized *Fisheries Act* and subsequent information changed the way SNC assists municipalities and watershed residents with reviewing projects under the *Fisheries Act*. A report was brought to the Board in September 2019 detailing these changes.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) will be releasing numerous updates to policy and processes throughout 2021. DFO is currently in an engagement period to support future frameworks, policies, and guidance.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

SNC has been working alongside DFO staff since the new *Fisheries Act* changes came into force in 2019.

Since August 2019, SNC has assisted 22 watershed residents, agricultural producers, municipalities, and businesses to complete applications and successfully gain permission from DFO. SNC has maintained an effective relationship with DFO staff and continues to be the only known Conservation Authority to offer this service. This service allows fish and fish habitat experts at SNC to broker conversations between DFO and project proponents who are often uncertain of the requirements and process for approvals.

Examples of projects SNC has assisted with:

- Marina dredging for the St. Lawrence Parks Commission
- Installation of new watercourse crossings to allow farmer access to new fields



- Repair of docks and boat launches at Lefaivre Marina
- Erosion control along the South Nation River in Casselman

SNC is currently reviewing DFO's Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program's Engagement Platform. The platform was released to allow the public, Indigenous Peoples, governments, and conservation groups an opportunity to provide input on the modernization and development of new policies, frameworks, and other instruments to further fish and fish habitat protection under the *Fisheries Act*.

A new website was released by DFO specific to the consultation process: https://talkfishhabitat.ca/.

Engagement activities including webinars and commenting periods will occur throughout 2021 and a new Engagement Framework will be released in Fall 2021. SNC will continue to participate and provide an Eastern Ontario perspective to fish and fish habitat protection and management during DFO engagement activities.

Staff will continue to assist our municipal partners and watershed residents with acquiring project approvals from DFO, and advocate for local delivery of this program.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

Compliance with Budget:

Not applicable.

**SNC Policy Adherence**:

Not applicable.

Michelle Cavanagh,

Team Lead, Stewardship.



**To:** Board of Directors

From: Carl Bickerdike, Team Lead, Corporate Services

Date: January 7, 2021

**Subject:** Request for Approval: 2021 Student and Recent Graduate Hiring Program

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Board of Directors approve the student and recent graduate hiring program, at an approximate cost of \$99,200 (pending successful fundraising efforts); and

FURTHER THAT: The Board of Directors approve applying for additional grants received in the past, including but not limited to:

- Canada Parks and Recreation Green Job Initiative Program: \$5,500
- ECO Canada Internship Program: \$15,000
- ECO Canada Student Work-Integrated Learning Program: \$10,000
- National Trust Canada-Young Canada Works program: \$8,000
- Service Canada-Canada Summer Jobs: \$1,500

## **DISCUSSION:**

SNC provides technical level positions to local talent allowing them to gain valuable experience. Employing students and recent graduates is a valuable source of productivity as new ideas and future staff arise from these opportunities.

Funding for students and recent graduates is included in the 2021 Budget and depends on successful funding applications. SNC is planning to hire recent graduates throughout the calendar year and multiple students for a 16-week period in the summer. The total cost of the hiring program is approximately \$99,200.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

<u>Compliance with Budget</u>: Student and recent graduate salaries and benefits are included in the 2021 budget, under Corporate Services: Administration, pages 80-81, at \$99,200. 2021 revenue from student grants is budgeted at \$44,500.

SNC Policy Adherence: All grant requests are made according to SNC policy.

Carl Bickerdike,

Team Lead, Corporate Services.



**To:** Board of Directors

From: Michelle Cavanagh, Team Lead, Stewardship

**Date:** January 13, 2021

**Subject:** Update: Ducks Unlimited Canada Partnership

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors receive and file the update on a new partnership with Ducks Unlimited Canada to provide fisheries support and expertise for their Wetlands Conservation Partner Program.

## **DISCUSSION:**

On December 7, 2020, the Ontario government announced \$30 million will be provided to help conservation organizations create and restore wetlands in priority areas across the province. The new Wetlands Conservation Partner Program will focus on restoration projects in the Great Lakes watersheds.

For the first year of the five-year program, the province has partnered with Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) and provided \$6 million for the completion of over 60 projects. The projects must be completed in 2021.

DUC reached out to SNC and the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) for assistance obtaining approvals for the projects. DUC is familiar with our collective experience and success in working on project approvals and require staff with expertise and knowledge on fish habitat and the Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) review process.

## Our role includes:

- Assisting in developing a partnership approach with DFO regulatory staff and DUC
- Interacting with DFO, specifically between DFO and DUC as part of the wetland restoration approval process
- Providing wetland/freshwater fisheries expertise
- Remote assessment of specific DUC wetland projects to predict fish community structure
- Screening of specific DUC projects for aquatic species at risk
- Input into design and implementation of conservation projects, and mitigation measures to protect fish and fish habitat



SNC and RVCA have existing, knowledgeable and experienced staff who could complete the work. Discussions are underway between DUC, RVCA and SNC regarding an agreement for the Conservation Authorities to provide the required services. A report will be brought to the Board of Directors requesting approval to enter into a service agreement with DUC.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

## Compliance with Budget:

This project is not included in the 2021 SNC Budget. If a service agreement is pursued, all services provided to Ducks Unlimited Canada will be 100% cost recovery.

## **SNC Policy Adherence**:

Not applicable.

Michelle Cavanagh,

Team Lead, Stewardship



**To:** Board of Directors

**From:** John Mesman, Team Lead, Communications and Outreach

**Date:** January 13, 2021

**Subject:** Request for Approval: Ottawa and St. Lawrence River Virtual Field Trip

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors approve entering into an agreement with the Province of Ontario to accept approximately \$15,000 to support creating a virtual Ottawa and St. Lawrence River field trip for Grade 7-9 students.

#### DISCUSSION:

South Nation Conservation (SNC) partnered with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), to support the development of virtual Great Lakes field trips for students to experience their local environment during the COVID-19 Pandemic and use the local watershed to inform key science and geography curriculum objectives.

Based on a pilot project lead by the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority in 2020, the MECP Great Lakes office has partnered with select agencies to create and deliver Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River virtual watershed tours. SNC has been selected to lead the Ottawa and St. Lawrence River virtual tour.

Project work will take place between January and March 2021. Existing partnerships with school boards will be leveraged to support implementation.

Field trip products will support SNC's suite of environmental outreach programming and will also include indigenous knowledge sharing.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

<u>Compliance with Budget:</u> This project was not included in the 2021 SNC Budget. Costs will be 100% recoverable from the Province of Ontario.

<u>SNC Policy Adherence</u>: All expenditures will adhere to SNC's Purchasing Policy. All work undertaken to complete the project will adhere to SNC's Health and Safety Policies and Procedures.

John Mesman,

Team Lead, Communications and Outreach.



**To:** Board of Directors

From: Ronda Boutz, Team Lead, Special Projects

**Date:** January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Subject:** Request for Approval: Funding Application

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors approve the submission of the following funding application:

1. **Ontario Power Generation (OPG) Regional Biodiversity Program:** requesting up to \$225,000, over 3 years, for biodiversity enhancement projects.

#### DISCUSSION:

External funding programs have been identified by staff as potential sources of revenue for South Nation Conservation (SNC) projects. The following grant application has been, or will be submitted; SNC is seeking approval from the Board:

- 1. Ontario Power Generation (OPG) Regional Biodiversity Program:
  - Project: SNC OPG Biodiversity Project
  - Request: up to \$225,000
  - **Program will fund:** Up to \$225,000 (maximum of \$75,000/year for 3 years), no matching funds required
  - Purpose: To enhance biodiversity, conserve/restore habitats, and protect species at risk within the SNC jurisdiction. This year, OPG is focused on biodiversity conservation work in partnership with Indigenous communities, SNC is working with our First Nation partners to develop eligible projects.
  - **Deadline:** February 4, 2021

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

## Compliance with Budget:

SNC's current 3-year contract under the OPG Biodiversity Program is included in the 2021 Budget under Resource Management: Projects: Habitat Restoration, pages 24-25; however, this does not include any new projects submitted under this new call for proposals. Any matching contributions from SNC would come from resources already included in the 2021 Budget.



## **SNC Policy Adherence**:

All expenditures will adhere to SNC's Purchasing Policy, including seeking three quotes and required authorizations according to purchasing limits. All work undertaken to complete the projects will adhere to SNC's Health and Safety Policies and Procedures.

Ronda Boutz,

Ronda box

Team Lead, Special Projects.



**To:** Board of Directors

From: Sandra Mancini, Team Lead, Engineering

**Date:** January 21, 2021

**Subject:** Request for Approval: Flood and Erosion Hazards Mapping

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors receive and file Clarence Creek Flood Hazard and Erosion Hazard Mapping reports and associated maps as the best information available to establish flood hazard and regulation limits along the watercourse; and

FURTHER THAT: The reports and maps be used by South Nation Conservation's planning and regulations programs and other watershed management activities effective immediately.

#### DISCUSSION:

In October 2020, the Board of Directors approved SNC's updated public consultation plan for hosting virtual natural hazard mapping open houses due to the COVID-19 pandemic (Resolution No. BD-123/20).

On November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020, South Nation Conservation (SNC) hosted an online public information session on new natural hazard maps developed for areas along Clarence Creek in the City of Clarence-Rockland.

Invitations and draft maps were sent to 67 affected property owners, developers, and various stakeholders (e.g., SNC member municipalities, utility companies, school boards, First Nations, elected officials, provincial and federal ministries, etc.).

Public notice was published in *Le Vision* newspaper in Clarence-Rockland 20 business days before the meeting and was also promoted on SNC's website, social media, and in a press release.

The livestream of the online information session was viewed 61 times on SNC's YouTube channel (<a href="www.youtube.com/SouthNationCA">www.youtube.com/SouthNationCA</a>). Staff presented the draft maps and provided further information on natural hazard mapping, floodplain and erosion hazard areas, development approvals, and SNC's programs and services.



SNC staff also met individually with three private property owners and a consultant to further discuss the natural hazard maps and their implications. Meetings were held safely online or by phone.

None of the public feedback received implicates the SNC regulation limit. The 1:100-year flood and erosion lines delineated for these reaches are suitable for use in the SNC regulation limits mapping (referred to in Section 2 of Ontario Regulation 170/06) and in municipal land use planning and development approval processes under the *Planning Act*.

Upon Board approval, the mapping will be sent to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), and the United Counties of Prescott and Russell.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

## Compliance with Budget:

This project was completed in the 2020, no impact on the 2021 SNC Budget.

## SNC Policy Adherence:

MNRF's Natural Hazards Technical Guide (MNRF, 2002, Conservation Ontario Guidelines (2005), and SNC policies regarding Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alteration to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation – Ontario Regulation 170/06 Pursuant to Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* of Ontario.

Sandra Mancini,

Team Lead, Engineering.

Sandra Mancini



**To:** Board of Directors

From: Alison McDonald, Team Lead, Approvals

**Date:** January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Subject: Update: City of Ottawa Official Plan

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors receive and file the City of Ottawa Official Plan update.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

## General

The City of Ottawa is working through a formal process under the *Planning Act* to adopt a new Official Plan (OP). The OP will direct land use, growth, infrastructure planning, and natural heritage protection for the City over the next ten years.

The current OP was adopted in 2003; the new OP looks forward with the goal of making the City the most livable mid-sized city in North America over the next century.

The Urban Expansion is the biggest practical change proposed in the new OP. Staff have participated in planning exercises related to natural hazards in potential expansion lands; we expect to see urban expansion within the South Nation River watershed.

These expansion lands will generate a large amount of additional Conservation Authority, (CA) planning and engineering work including important contribution to Local Plans, Master Serving Plans, Environmental Management Plans, and Sub-watershed Plans. The location of these expansion lands has not been released for public consultation; staff expect to see them within the first quarter of 2021.

### **CA Review and Comments**

SNC received an official circulation for public consultation on November 20, 2020. This presents the first opportunity for formal comments to be provided to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (the approval authority).

Staff are coordinating consistent policy feedback between the City's three partner CA's. Each CA has taken responsibility for coordinating comments for respective sections.

South Nation will lead preparation of comments on Natural Heritage (including woodlands, wetlands, and conservation areas), Greenspace, Ecosystem Services, and Source Water



#### Protection.

Council initiated the background work for the OP update in 2016. The CA Partners have been actively working with City staff to review the OP policies over the past three years. A history of this pre-consultation engagement is provided below.

## **High-Level Agency Engagement**

CA representatives were invited to the June 25, 2019 sounding board session to provide preliminary comments to inform the City's 'Five Big Moves'. Comments focused on the relationship between waterfront and natural hazards, agricultural lands in natural heritage systems, and protection of natural features like wetlands and forests.

#### **Natural Hazards**

The CA Partners were engaged to work with City staff directly to edit proposed natural hazard policies. This review highlighted the Planning and Engineering expertise of the CA's and recognized the CA's delegated one-window review authority for Natural Hazards from the Province.

Staff worked throughout 2020 to edit and review natural hazard policies. Comments included clarifying erosion hazards, interaction between CA Regulations and the *Planning Act*, one and two zone floodplain policies, discussion of a Climate Change Vulnerable Area, and potential retrogressive landslide policies. Policies were also updated to make them easier to understand and consistent with definitions in the Provincial Policy Statement.

## **Stormwater Master Planning**

The CA Partners were included in preliminary discussions with City staff on stormwater management and infrastructure policy. In January 2020 staff attended a workshop session where priority areas were identified. Planning and Engineering staff worked collaboratively to provide a holistic review. The final report was issued in late February 2020.

SNC's identified issues related to stormwater management, headwater drainage, surface water setbacks, groundwater impact assessment, environmental impact studies, flood vulnerable areas, sub-watershed planning, and general development approval processes. Staff provided comments on the Stormwater Master Plan in February 2020.



## Surface Water Protection (Setbacks) and Significant Woodlands

In November 2017, the CA Partners were invited to work on revising surface water protection policies. There was constructive collaboration between CA's and City staff to identify definitions and exceptions that worked for all parties. SNC provided several submissions through 2018 to help finalize City staff recommendations to Council.

The proposed watercourse setback policy text was shared with SNC in January 2020 for review. Comments were provided directly to City staff as part of pre-consultation.

Staff began working with the City on reworking guidelines and criteria for significant woodlands in December 2018. CA Partners provided comments to City staff supporting many aspects of the proposed policies.

## **Natural Heritage Systems**

In January 2020 staff attended a multi-stakeholder workshop at the City to discuss the proposed natural heritage policies. This meeting was an excellent, frank discussion around the difficulties with natural heritage protection. Specifically, the challenge of finding balance between all OP policies when considering development applications.

The practicality of protecting all features equally was discussed. A new framework was presented that gives different weight to features that are within the broad Natural Heritage System. This change is reflected in the proposed OP.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

### Compliance with Budget:

Not applicable.

## **SNC Policy Adherence**:

Comments on the Official Plan are provided within the context of the *Planning Act*, Provincial Policy Statement, SNC's Regulations, policies, and other sub-watershed level plans.

Alison McDonald,

Team Lead, Approvals.



**To:** Board of Directors

From: Alison McDonald, Team Lead, Approvals

Date: January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Subject:** Update: On-Site Sewage Permits Issued

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors receive and file the On-Site Sewage Permits Issued update.

## **DISCUSSION:**

SNC staff issue permits under Part 8 of the Ontario Building Code. The list below includes permits issued in the month of December 2020. Septic system searches and renovation reviews are not included.

#	Permit Number	Landowner Name	Former Municipality
347	ND-20-47	Jonathan Giorgetti	Mountain
348	ND-20-48	Andrew Burger	Morewood
349	NA-20-38	Francis Legault	Casselman
350	NA-20-39	Georges El-Haddad	St. Bernardin
351	AP-20-32	Blair Presley	Plantagenet
352	SD-20-33	Todd Cirka	Brinston
353	RU-20-74	John Chojnacki	Embrun
354	ND-20-49	Kevin Scott	Mountain
355	NS-20-19	John Lebrun	Moose Creek
356	AP-20-33	Maxime Dicaire	Plantagenet
357	RU-20-75	9159452 Canada Inc.	Russell
358	AP-20-34	Douglas Bayford	Plantagenet
359	AP-20-35	Denis Simard	Plantagenet
360	CR-20-98	Chantal Charron	Saint Pascal de Babylon
361	NA-20-40	Mathieu Thompson	Limoges
362	RU-20-76	Marc Pomerleau	Embrun
363	RU-20-77	Alain Perras	Embrun
364	ND-20-50	Jason Kane	Winchester
365	CR-20-99	Marc Beauregard	Clarence Creek
366	NS-20-20	Judith Ross	Avonmore
367	ND-20-51	Jamie Bray	Winchester



#	Permit Number	Landowner Name	Former Municipality
368	NA-20-41	Henrie Leduc	Nation
369	RU-20-78	Paul MacPherson	Embrun
370	RU-20-79	Patricia Johnson	Embrun
371	RU-20-80	Danielle L'Ecuyer	Embrun
372	CR-20-100	CR Land/Beauregard	Clarence Creek
373	SD-20-34	Christopher Summers	Morrisburg
374	SD-20-35	Heather Pearson	Morrisburg
375	AP-20-36	Nicholas Coughler	Curran
376	ND-20-52	David Buckle	Winchester
377	CR-20-101	CR Land/Beauregard	Clarence-Creek
378	AP-20-37	Jean-Guy Houle	Plantagenet
379	SS-20-46	Pierre Lalonde	St. Andrews West
380	CR-20-102	Isabelle Bouchard/Bruno Cheff	Bourget

Staff will continue to track permit applications and associated timelines to ensure timely service delivery.

Alison McDonald,

Team Lead, Approvals.



**To:** Board of Directors

From: Alison McDonald, Team Lead, Approvals

Date: January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Subject:** Update: Planning Activity

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors receive and file the Planning Activity update.

## **DISCUSSION:**

SNC staff provide comments on planning applications and technical reviews to support planning applications. Applications are sent to SNC by local Municipalities; costs are recovered according to the Board approved fee schedule.

The list below includes planning applications received in the month December. Preconsultations are not included in this list.

#	SNC Number	Landowner Name	Former Municipality	Application
432	SNC-1547-2020	Jeff and Danielle Gillard	Osnabruck	Severance
433	SNC-1548-2020	Lyn and Linda Winters	Osnabruck	Severance
434	SNC-1549-2020	Bruce Garlough	Williamsburg	Severance
435	SNC-1550-2020	Murrayholm Farm Inc	Cornwall	Severance
436	SNC-1553-2020	Douglas and Willy Gordon	Oxford on Rideau	Severance
437	SNC-1554-2020	Donald Doucette	Finch	Severance
438	SNC-1555-2020	Bagco Real Estate Holdings Inc.	Winchester	Severance
439	SNC-1556-2020	André and Hazanda Perron	Clarence	Minor Variance
440	SNC-1557-2020	André and Hazanda Perron	Clarence	Severance
441	SNC-1558-2020	André and Hazanda Perron	Clarence	Severance
442	SNC-1559-2020	Lyn and Linda Winters	Osnabruck	Severance
443	SNC-1560-2020	Not provided	Kenyon	Zoning By-Law Amendment
444	SNC-1561-2020	Bassima El-Zahabi	Kenyon	Severance



#	SNC Number	Landowner Name	Former Municipality	Application
445	SNC-1562-2020	Not provided	Cambridge	Zoning By-Law Amendment
446	SNC-1563-2020	Denise Brownell	Cornwall	Severance
447	SNC-1564-2020	Nicole Gabrielle Vinette	South Plantagenet	Severance
448	SNC-1565-2020	Estate of Dwight Proudfoot	Caledonia	Severance
449	SNC-1569-2020	Not provided	Clarence	Zoning By-Law Amendment
440	SNC-1570-2020	2218611 Ontario Inc.	Osgoode	Subdivision
451	SNC-1571-2020	Patricia Theriault	Matilda	Zoning By-Law Amendment
452	SNC-1576-2020	Neil and Joan Morrison	Augusta	Severance
453	SNC-1577-2020	Not provided	Mountain	Zoning By-Law Amendment

## **Technical Reviews**

SNC offers professional and technical review services in engineering, hydrogeology, biology, and private servicing. The following table includes the technical reviews completed in the month of December.

SNC Number	Development Size	Review Type
SNC-1545-2020	Small Scale Development	Environmental Impact Statement
SNC-1528-2020	Area > 2ha	Stormwater Management
SNC-1519-2020	Area ≤ 2ha	Stormwater Management
SNC-1557-2020	Small Scale Development	Hydrogeological Analysis
SNC-1557-2020	Small Scale Development	Environmental Impact Statement
SNC-1500-2020	Area > 2ha	Environmental Impact Statement
SNC-6358-2019	Area > 2ha	Environmental Impact Statement
SNC-1307-2020	Small Scale Development	Hydrogeological Analysis

Staff continue to track applications and associated timelines to ensure timely reviews.

Alison McDonald,

Team Lead, Approvals.



**To:** Board of Directors

From: Geoff Owens, Regulations Office

Date: January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Subject: Request for Approval: Permits Issued

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

The SNC Board of Directors approve permits 1-8 issued under Ontario Regulation 170/06 Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses.

## **DISCUSSION:**

SNC staff issue permits in accordance with SNC policies and then presents them to the Board for approval at each Board meeting. The list below indicates the permits that have been issued since December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

#	Permit No.	Landowner	Former Municipality	Project
1	2020-NAT-R079	Patrick Groulx	Cambridge	Erosion Control
2	2020-OSG-R201	City of Ottawa	Osgoode	Rehabilitate Bridge
3	2020-CUM-R208	Tim McNeely	Cumberland	Fill Placement
4	2020-NDU-R224	Keith Saari	Mountain	Garage Construction
5	2020-SDU-R225	William Needham	Matilda	New Septic System
6	2020-RUS-R221	Robert Bourdeau	Russell	Erosion Control and Cut Fill Operation
7	2020-SDU-R125	John and Susan Taylor	Matilda	Erosion Control
8	2021-NAT-R001	Cassel Homelands Development Inc.	Cambridge	Storm Sewer and Outlet Protection



Complaints/Issues: Sites visited in 2021 through the regulatory program: 1

Location	Issue	Outcome
		Landowner agreed to allow land to
South	Interference with associated	re-naturalize and undertake
Dundas	PSW	restoration as appropriate based
		on conditions next Spring/Summer

Staff will continue to track complaint site visits and will provide a memo email to the Clerk of the municipalities where future visits take place.

Geoff Owens,

Regulations officer.

Heall Ewens.



**To:** Board of Directors

From: Carl Bickerdike, Team Lead, Corporate Services

Date: January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Subject:** Request for Approval: Conservation Ontario Levy

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors approve the payment of the 2021 Conservation Ontario Levy of \$35,182, payable in two installments of \$17,591.

#### DISCUSSION:

Each year SNC must pay a levy to Conservation Ontario (CO). CO helps to further the work of Conservation Authorities (CA) at the provincial level.

CO levy is determined by placing all CAs on a mathematical regression curve, using a three-year average of gross revenues to determine placement. The larger a CA's revenue, the larger their levy payment, but at a lower marginal rate.

SNC's 2021 levy apportionment of \$35,182 represents a 0.92% decrease over 2020, whereas CO's overall budget decreased by 1.11% from 2020 to 2021.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

## Compliance with Budget:

Total levy of \$35,182 is included in the 2021 Budget, pages 79-80.

## SNC Policy Adherence:

SNC Purchasing Policy will be followed with a Purchase Order signed by a signing officer.

Carl Bickerdike,

Team Lead, Corporate Services.

Attachment: Levy Apportionment Schedule from Conservation Ontario



Conservation 3 Year							
Authority Average		2019	2018	2017	2020 Levy	2021 Levy	
Ausable Bayfield	\$	3,521,377	\$ 3,287,746	3,490,348	3,786,036	27,354	25,504
Cataraqui Region	\$	4,016,897	\$ 4,137,255	4,008,310	3,905,127	27,403	26,884
Catfish Creek	\$	1,325,659	\$ 1,277,832	1,347,848	1,351,297	19,797	19,400
Central Lake Ontario	\$	6,268,079	\$ 6,396,732	6,346,901	6,060,603	33,797	33,606
Credit Valley	\$	31,511,179	\$ 31,581,751	32,514,439	30,437,348	89,130	89,178
Crowe Valley	\$	949,277	\$ 981,442	1,029,487	836,901	18,538	18,273
Essex Region	\$	8,288,767	\$ 6,644,929	10,005,846	8,215,526	40,707	39,101
Ganaraska Region	\$	3,337,380	\$ 3,505,800	3,304,383	3,201,958	25,658	25,314
Grand River	\$	30,602,840	\$ 30,631,814	31,297,181	29,879,526	89,581	87,671
Grey Sauble	\$	2,669,959	\$ 2,611,681	2,673,198	2,724,999	24,419	23,372
Halton (Cons. Halton)	\$	30,829,293	\$ 33,813,033	31,018,481	27,656,366	85,351	88,050
Hamilton	\$	15,538,073	\$ 15,250,123	15,118,074	16,246,021	59,214	57,315
Kawartha	\$	3,146,647	\$ 3,308,017	3,173,240	2,958,683	25,053	24,761
Kettle Creek	\$	2,533,922	\$ 2,393,750	2,651,631	2,556,385	23,561	22,973
Lake Simcoe Region	\$	14,607,483	\$ 16,104,385	14,251,280	13,466,783	54,657	55,108
Lakehead Region	\$	2,168,697	\$ 2,589,233	2,168,284	1,748,574	21,601	21,900
Long Point Region	\$	5,509,009	\$ 5,920,631	5,837,541	4,768,855	30,937	31,495
Lower Thames Valley	\$	3,642,082	\$ 3,420,487	3,199,490	4,306,269	26,769	26,194
Lower Trent	\$	2,092,931	\$ 2,176,980	2,076,480	2,025,334	21,885	21,677
Maitland Valley	\$	3,006,008	\$ 2,849,520	3,106,241	3,062,264	25,296	24,352
Mattagami Region	\$	776,882	\$ 903,452	722,799	704,396	18,022	17,755
Mississippi Valley	\$	3,711,383	\$ 3,793,509	3,793,509	3,547,130	26,821	26,393
Niagara Peninsula	\$	11,751,794	\$ 10,753,035	12,117,216	12,385,130	50,433	48,094
Nickel (Cons. Sudbury)	\$	1,727,853	\$ 1,646,105	1,779,378	1,758,075	20,818	20,596
North Bay-Mattawa	\$	2,161,888	\$ 2,258,838	2,095,740	2,131,087	22,310	21,880
Nottawasaga Valley	\$	4,968,309	\$ 4,900,556	5,040,588	4,963,784	31,138	29,976
Otonabee	\$	3,810,598	\$ 3,393,487	5,044,922	2,993,386	26,282	26,679
Quinte	\$	3,376,672	\$ 2,566,339	3,860,978	3,702,699	27,070	25,427
Raisin Region	\$	2,160,421	\$ 2,214,151	2,191,462	2,075,649	22,026	21,876
Rideau Valley	\$	10,465,085	\$ 11,657,518	10,286,819	9,450,919	44,680	44,815
Saugeen	\$	4,482,609	\$ 4,106,878	4,199,116	5,141,834	28,813	28,600
Sault Ste Marie	\$	722,313	\$ 720,988	750,482	695,469	17,987	17,591
South Nation	\$	6,840,810	\$ 7,231,566	6,257,866	7,032,997	35,509	35,182
St. Clair Region	\$	4,950,040	\$ 4,856,898	5,867,773	4,125,449	30,190	29,924
Toronto and Region	\$	52,283,370	\$ 136,423,000	128,696,000	119,706,000	117,001	113,598
Upper Thames River	\$	16,470,831	\$ 21,424,476	13,666,446	14,321,572	58,192	59,488

1,348,000 1,330,000



38 rue Victoria Street, Finch, ON KOC 1K0 Tel: 613-984-2948 Fax: 613-984-2872 Toll Free: 1-877-984-2948 www.nation.on.ca

**To:** Board of Directors

From: Ronda Boutz, Team Lead, Special Projects

Date: January 8, 2021

**Subject:** Request for Approval: Purchase of Additional Tree Seedlings

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors approve the purchase of additional tree seedlings, for *Over the Counter* and *50 Million Tree Program* refill sites, at approximately \$50,000, plus HST; and

FURTHER THAT: The Board of Directors approve the sole source purchase of additional 2021 tree seedlings from Ferguson Tree Nursery, or from other Forest Ontario approved nurseries if stock is not available locally at Ferguson Tree Nursery.

#### DISCUSSION:

The Board of Directors approved purchasing trees for the 2021 Tree Planting Program at the June 2020 Board meeting (Res. No. BD-078/20) to an upset limit of \$135,000, plus HST. The original budget was based on the purchase of approximately 170,000 seedlings, as per past program numbers.

With the pandemic, South Nation Conservation (SNC) staff reached a new record of 218,757 trees ordered to date. Total cost for tree seedlings is estimated at \$185,000, plus HST; staff request Board approval for an additional \$50,000, plus HST, to purchase required seedlings for 2021 tree orders. The extra costs will be paid by property owners and Forests Ontario.

The June 2020 Board Resolution also included approval to sole source the purchase of seedlings from Ferguson Tree Nursery, in North Grenville, or from other Forest Ontario approved nurseries if stock is not available locally at Ferguson Tree Nursery. Staff recommend the same purchasing provisions for the additional seedlings to ensure supplied seedlings correspond to this seed zone (seed zone 36).

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

## Compliance with Budget:

The Tree Planting Program is included in the 2021 under Resource Management: Partner Program: Forests on pages 16-17. Additional expense for the purchase of trees is off-set by the Forests Ontario subsidy (\$1.36/tree) and Over the Counter tree sales (as per the Board approved 2021 Tree Planting Fee Schedule).



# **SNC Policy Adherence**:

As per the SNC Purchasing Policy, section (E) Non-Competitive Purchase, the Board of Directors must approve any non-competitive purchasing over \$25,000. The non-competitive purchase of tree seedlings is sought due to a limited number of seedling nurseries, approved by Forests Ontario, that can guarantee seed zone-sourced stock, within reasonable shipping distance.

Ronda Boutz,

Ronda box

Team Lead, Special Projects.



**To:** Board of Directors

From: Ronda Boutz, Team Lead, Special Projects

Sandra Mancini, Team Lead, Engineering

Carl Bickerdike, Team Lead, Corporate Services

**Date:** January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Subject:** Request for Approval: Eastern Ontario LiDAR Acquisition

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors receive and file the Eastern Ontario LiDAR report; and

FURTHER THAT: The Board of Directors approve issuing a Request for Information to LiDAR venders, prior to issuing a public tender for the multi-year Eastern Ontario LiDAR acquisition; and

FURTHER THAT: Results of the public tender be brought back to the Board of Directors for review and awarding of the tender.

### **DISCUSSION:**

Following the successful partnership to acquire LiDAR (light detection and ranging) along the St. Lawrence River, municipalities and neighbouring Conservation Authorities (CAs) have expressed interest in acquiring LiDAR to complete coverage for the remainder of the region. Acquiring LiDAR data will:

- Streamline local development by providing accurate topographic information at the preconsultation stage of the planning and approval process, saving taxpayers the additional cost of surveying the lot.
- Support future municipal/Conservation Authority infrastructure projects and development that require topographical information (e.g. surveying).
- Support hazard modeling that identifies and helps to mitigate the impact of natural hazards on infrastructure and urban development.
- Enable modernization of floodplain studies completed 30-40 years ago and prioritizing needs for new floodplain mapping.
- Enhance emergency management such as the Flood Forecasting and Warning program, which provides advance-notice of flood risk to municipalities.



There is approximately 12,846 km<sup>2</sup> in Eastern Ontario without LiDAR coverage, a summary by municipality is attached. Due to the requirement to acquire data during leaf-off conditions, a multi-year approach is proposed.

Staff are meeting with CAs and municipalities to discuss a potential partnership and costshare options. An Eastern Ontario partnership would reduce costs significantly, as the larger the area the cheaper the cost per square kilometer.

Staff have recently applied to the National Disaster Mitigation Program – Intake 6 (NDMP) for a joint project which includes the acquisition of LiDAR. The application was submitted by SNC on behalf of a 3-CA Partnership (South Nation, Rideau Valley, and Mississippi Valley Conservation Authorities), along with member municipalities. If approved, the NDMP funding will provide 50% funding support to the joint project.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

## Compliance with Budget:

\$250,000 has been included in the 2021 Budget under Imagery Acquisition (LiDAR). Project will be scoped in 2021 to confirmed budget amount from SNC and partners as many additional partners have joined the Project since its initial scoping. SNC's project contribution will not increase from the budgeted amount. The more partners involved the lower the cost for each partner.

### SNC Policy Adherence:

Based on discussions with Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and Natural Resources Canada, the total cost of the acquisition is expected to be between \$800,000 - \$900,000; a public tender will be issued to secure a vendor as per SNC's Purchasing Policy, (C) Purchasing Limits and Authorizations Required, (v) Purchases over \$100,000, including:

- Goods and services exceeding \$100,000 will be obtained by a formal bid process
  (ex. Public Tender, Request for Proposal, Prequalification, or other means
  acceptable to the Board of Directors) unless the Board of Directors direct otherwise.
- Approval of the Board of Directors is required for awarding the contract to the successful bidder. After the project is approved by the Board of Directors, the Board of Directors may Delegate their approval authority to award the contract.



Given the complexity of the tender specifications, staff are recommend issuing a Request for Information to venders; this will allow staff to refine the specifications prior to issuing the tender.

Sandra Mancini,

Team Lead, Engineering.

Sandra Mancini

Ronda Boutz,

Team Lead, Special Projects

Carl Bickerdike,

Team Lead, Corporate Services.

Attachment: Proposed LiDAR Acquisition Areas



# **Proposed LiDAR Acquisition Areas**

MUNICIPALITY	CRCA	Outside CAs	RRCA	RVCA	SNC	MVCA	Total Area by Municipality
LEEDS AND GRENVILLE							
Municipality of North Grenville				262	97		359
Township of Athens	140			3			143
Township of Augusta				78	122		200
Township of Edwardsburgh/Cardinal				2	184		186
Township of Elizabethtown-Kitley	196			361	9		566
Township of Front of Yonge	131						131
Township of Leeds And the Thousand Islands	429						429
Township of Rideau Lakes	180			434			614
Village of Merrickville-Wolford				226			226
Village of Westport				2			2
Brockville	20						20
Total area by CAs by County	1096	0	0	1369	411	0	2876
PRESCOTT AND RUSSELL							
City of Clarence-Rockland				4	74		78
Municipality of The Nation					576		576
Town of Hawkesbury							0
Township of Alfred And Plantagenet					70		70
Township of Champlain		146			2		148
Township of East Hawkesbury		180					180
Township of Russell					200		200
Village of Casselman					5		5
Total area by CAs by County	0	326	0	4	927	0	1257



MUNICIPALITY	CRCA	Outside CAs	RRCA	RVCA	SNC	MVCA	Total Area by Municipality
STORMONT, DUNDAS AND GLENGARRY							
Municipality of South Dundas					204		204
Township of North Dundas				6	498		504
Township of North Glengarry			527		121		648
Township of North Stormont			85		434		518
Township of South Glengarry			550				550
Township of South Stormont			196		29		225
City of Cornwall			62				62
Total area by CAs by County	0	0	1419	6	1286	0	2711
FRONTENAC							
Township of Central Frontenac				215		334	549
Township of North Frontenac						934	934
Township of South Frontenac	473			177			650
Frontenac Islands		177					177
Total area by CAs by County	0	0	0	394	0	1268	2310
LANARK							
Town of Carleton Place						11	11
Town of Mississippi Mills						271	271
Town of Perth				11			11
Township of Beckwith				163		23	186
Township of Drummond/North Elmsley				244		112	356
Township of Lanark Highlands						982	982
Township of Montague				286			286
Township of Tay Valley				391			597
Town of Smith Falls				10			10
Total area by CAs by county	0	0	0	1095	0	1705	



MUNICIPALITY	CRCA	Outside CAs	RRCA	RVCA	SNC	MVCA	Total Area by Municipality
							2711
LENNOX AND ADDINGTON							
Township of Addington Highlands						339	339
Greater Napanee	223						223
Loyalist Township	345						345
Total area by CAs by county	568	0	0	0	0	339	907
RENFREW COUNTY							
Township of Greater Madawaska						37	37
Total area by CAs by county						37	
TOTAL AREA by CAs	2174	503	1419	2875	2624	3250	12846

38 rue Victoria Street, Finch, ON K0C 1K0 Tel: 613-984-2948 Fax: 613-984-2872 Toll Free: 1-877-984-2948 www.nation.on.ca

**To:** Board of Directors

From: Carl Bickerdike, Team Lead, Corporate Services

Date: January 6, 2021

Subject: Request for Approval: Monies Received and Disbursement Register

for December 2020

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors receive and file the money received report for December 2020; and

FURTHER THAT: The Board approve the Disbursement Register of \$ 723,788.06 for December 2020.

**BACKGROUND:** The list of major money receipts by customers are shown below:

Received From:		December 2020
City of Ottawa		232,155.83
United Counties of Prescott & Russell		120,910.00
United Counties of Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry		44,722.77
Planning Revenue		33,170.80
Septic Revenue		27,774.55
Sale of Wood		22,568.92
Raisin Region Conservation Authority		13,818.65
Township of Russell		10,260.00
Eco Canada		10,190.00
Royal Bank of Canada		1,870.74
Other		4,370.71
	TOTAL \$	521,812.97

December 2020		<u>Total</u>
Accounts Payable Cheques		214,291.30
Internet Banking		298,874.47
Electronic Funds Transfer Payment		210,622.29
	TOTAL \$	723,788.06

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

SNC has approved Policies for cheques, internet banking and electronic funds transfer.

Carl Bickerdike,

Team Lead, Corporate Services

Attachment

Number	Code	Name	Amount
19594	ATRE0217	MARIE-FRANCE RACICOT	650.00 Ash Tree Grant
19595	ATRE0218	VOID	0.00
19596	BEEH0507	N. BEEHLER ELECTIC LTD.	89.27
19597	JACA3838	JAMIESON CAMPBELL 1989 LTD	1,022.54
19598	JP2G4560	JP2G CONSULTANTS INC	6,243.25 LID - Larose Forest
19599	LASE5800	LALONDE SERVICE	2,389.95
19600	OSHI6590	OSGOODE TWP HIGH SCHOOL	200.00
19601	PURO7040	PUROLATOR COURIER LTD.	34.38
19602	QUCO7240	QUINTE CONSERVATION	2,714.29 EOWH
19603	SDGF8969	2020-SDGWAS-010	500.00 MFTIP - SDG Grant
19604	UCIN7995	UCC INDUSTRIES INTERNATIONAL INC	3,084.90
19605	BUSI0578	DESJARDINS CARD SERVICES (STAPLES)	342.31
19606	CATR1280	J. CARTY'S TREE SERVICE LTD.	2,260.00 Removal of Hazardous trees
19607	FIRE2650	FIRST REFERENCE INC.	1,011.92
19608	GUIL3350	GUILLEVIN INTERNATIONAL CO.	153.02
19609	MOTI5525	MOREWOOD TIRE SERVICES	101.70
19610	PAMA6945	P. PARENT MARINE SERVICES INC	168.62
19611	POON7040	POSTAGE ON CALL	1,130.00
19612	PURO7040	PUROLATOR COURIER LTD.	8.83
19613	RONS7545	782324 ONTARIO INC.	3,339.66 Repair to ATV track
19614	SDGF8968	2020-SDGWAS-034	500.00 MFTIP - SDG Grant
19615	SNCW0431	2020-EDW-CW25B	8,000.00 Manure Storage grant
19616	SNCW0432	2020-APL-CW16	5,000.00 Streambank Erosion grant
19617	SNCW0433	2020-NAT-CW19	5,000.00 Streambank Erosion grant
19618	WASU9120	WAYNE SUMMERS	1,870.15
19619	ATRE0218	STEELE DEFAZIO	2,760.00 Ash Tree Grant
19620	AULT0138	AULT & AULT LLP IN TRUST	69,597.28 Velema North Stormont
19621	BICO0527	BII CONSULTING	7,593.60 Benthic Sample Id - OBBN
19622	FEPR4570	FESTIVAL PROMOTIONS	1,620.12
19623	AQIN0890	AQUANTY INC	14,125.00 Professional Services
19624	BEEH0507	N. BEEHLER ELECTIC LTD.	314.14
19625	CPSE9968	HEATHER PEARSON	326.30
19626	FEPR4570	FESTIVAL PROMOTIONS	3,435.16
19627	JP2G4560	JP2G CONSULTANTS INC	5,271.45 LID - Larose Forest
19628	LEFA5050	LEVAC FABRICATIONS	11,865.00 New Dock at St. Albert
19629	SDGF8966	JAMES LYN SAUNDERS	350.00 MFTIP - SDG Grant
19630	SDGF8967	JEANNINE USALCAS	350.00 MFTIP - SDG Grant
19631	SEEM8999	SEAWAY EMBROIDERY	630.54
19632	VSLA7790	VS LANDSCAPE GROUP	39,301.40 W.E. Burton - tree removal
19633	AULT0138	AULT & AULT	10,018.74 Professional Services
19634	CEDA2045	CEDARVIEW BUILDERS SUPPLY LTD.	276.19
19635	COCO3250		41.59
19636	GT204050	NORTH GRENVILLE	300.00
19637	KEAG4575	KENYON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY	100.00
19638	MOTO5530	MOUNTAIN TOWNSHIP AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY	100.00
19639	ROCL7560	ROTARY CLUB OF CHESTERVILLE	100.00
			214,291.30
		Internet Banking	
10008107	TELU8550	TELUS MOBILITY	1,507.55
10008111	HYDR3560	HYDRO ONE	27.82
10008113	MACE5505	MACEWEN PETROLEUM INC.	795.83
10008118	BELL0510	BELL CANADA	54.14
10008193	BELL0510	BELL CANADA	1,062.79
10008195	BELL0510	BELL CANADA	253.99
10008717	TELU8550	TELUS MOBILITY	1,720.24
10009817	HYDR3560	HYDRO ONE	1,343.22
10009822	HYDR3560	HYDRO ONE	30.12
10009827	UNIO9003	UNION GAS LIMITED	980.38
10009832	FIFE2505	FINCH FEED & SEED LTD. PURINA	792.01
20201203	BAMO0650	THE BANK OF MONTREAL	7,203.79 Pension
20201209	VISA7601	VISA - LORIE HENDERSON	4,324.95
20201217	BAMO0650	THE BANK OF MONTREAL	7,729.02 Pension

Number	Code	Name	Amount	
20201217	PAYW0139	Payworks	120,299.35	Pay 26
20201217	VISA7601	VISA - JACQUES LEVERT	59.02	
20201217	VISA7612	VISA - ANGELA COLEMAN	449.74	
20201217	VISA7609	VISA - DEBORAH EDWARDS	856.17	
20201217	VISA7607	VISA - MONIQUE SAUVE	402.29	
20201217	VISA7605	VISA - RONDA BOUTZ	197.66	
20201217	VISA7606	VISA - SANDRA MANCINI	25.00	
20201218	VISA7601	VISA - LORIE HENDERSON	4,485.41	
20201231	ROBA7530	ROYAL BANK OF CANADA	941.39	
20201217	PAYW0139	Payworks		Board Pay 4
20201231	KINO4560	KRISTERS NORTH AMERICA	1,433.38	
20201231	BAMO0650	THE BANK OF MONTREAL	7,810.82	
20201231	PAYW0139	Payworks	128,567.28	•
			298,874.47	
		EFT Banking		
9578	BUFF0576	BUFFETT TAYLOR & ASSOCIATES INSURANCE AGENCIES INC.	15,072.26	Group benefits
9579	OTMA6560	1311339 ONTARIO LIMITED O/A OT MANAGED SERVICES	,	Software renewal OnBase
9580	ATAI0123	ATEL AIR	1,136.78	
9581	BESE0590	BEGG-SEGUIN HARDWARE LIMITED	535.28	
9582	CORN1089	CORNWALL CITY PRESS	166.05	
9583	EM405490	ERIC MCGILL	115.50	
9584	ENMA2030	ENNS MACEACHERN PACE MALONEY & ASS.	395.50	
9585	GO406555	GEOFF ATCHISON-OWENS	70.06	
9586	JH403536	JAMES HOLLAND	601.51	
9587	JM405530	JOHN MESMAN	2,248.13	
9588 9589	JRAD4004 KP406750	J&R ADAMS LTD. KAREN PAQUETTE	58.87	Stop logs
9599	KW409005	KATHERINE WATSON	715.67	
9591	LANN5020	LANNIN'S GARAGE	1,071.12	
9592	LAPL5015	LAPLANTE CHEVROLET BUICK GMC	348.79	
9593	LATR5065	LATREMOUILLE	1,114.18	
9594	MATR5650	MANOTICK TREE MOVERS INC	7,837.68	
9595	MS408050	MARTIN STREIT	243.61	
9596	NL404015	NAOMI LANGLOIS-ANDERSON	90.00	
9597	NOVA6200	NOVA NETWORKS	3,384.35	
9598	PP407015	PATRICK PIITZ	620.00	
9599	QUPR7250	QUINTAN PRODUCTS INC.	94.50	
9600	SSMA8250	SSC MAINTENANCE SERVICES INC	2,618.55	
9601	STIN8000	STORM INTERNET SERVICES	169.50	
9602	TENA8506	TENAQUIP INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT	701.83	
9603	WISP8055	WINCHESTER SPRINGS MOBILE WASH	395.50	
9604	CHRE1051	ETCETERA PUBLICATIONS (CHESTERVILLE) INC	406.07	
9605	COAU1115	COOTER'S AUTOMOTIVE	399.78	
9606		UNIVERSAL FIELD SUPPLIES	97.03	
9607	CYSO1420	CYAN SOLUTIONS LTD		Illustrate & plan designs,graphics, maps for SNC
9608	DF402060	DAVID FITCH	588.63	
9609	ELIN1760	ELECTROTEK INC	983.10	
9610	FERG3000	FERGUSON FOREST CENTRE	94.47	
9611	FOTE2050	FOREST TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS LTD	,	Materials for Climate station
9612	JS408060	JASON SYMINGTON	104.52	
9613	KIMS4530	KIM'S MOBILE LOCKSMITH SERVICE	111.07 403.60	
9614 0615	KP406750	KAREN PAQUETTE		
9615 9616	KS408030 KW409005	KELSEY SMITH KATHERINE WATSON	93.94 39.55	
9617	LAHO5250	LANNIN HOME BUILDING CENTRE	299.00	
9618	LANN5020	LANNIN'S GARAGE	928.30	
9619	LATR5065	LATREMOUILLE	598.90	
9620	LEVA5032	LEVAC PROPANE INC	424.70	
9621	LLMC5040	LLOYD MCMILLAN EQUIPMENT LTD.	169.50	
9622	LOAU1000	LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICE LTD	380.14	
9623	MI303650	MURRAY INCH	2,037.42	
9624		MOOSE CREEK CEMENT PRODUCTS	611.33	

Number	Code	Name	Amount
9625	OMER6450	OMERS	47,813.70 Pension Plan
9626	TRCA8650	TRADUCTIONS CATMAC TRANSLATIONS	1,449.01
9627	WISP8055	WINCHESTER SPRINGS MOBILE WASH	395.50
9628	ATAI0123	ATEL AIR	677.32
9629	BRSA0590	BRAZEAU SANITATION INC.	1,073.50
9630	CHFA1030	CHRISTINE FALARDEAU	360.00
9631	DF402060	DAVID FITCH	3,541.49
9632	FOTE2050	FOREST TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS LTD	10,709.01 Materials for Chesterville dam stream Gauge
9633	LANN5020	LANNIN'S GARAGE	178.00
9634	LH403640	LINDA HUTCHINSON	2,179.43
9635	LLMC5040	LLOYD MCMILLAN EQUIPMENT LTD.	33.90
9636	MS408003	MICHELLE CAVANAGH	150.00
9637	PATO6940	PAUL'S TOOLS RENTAL	791.00
9638	PP407015	PATRICK PIITZ	711.07
9639	RL305012	RENE LALONDE	76.11
9640	ROMA7450	RURAL ONTARIO MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE	904.00
9641	SHSI8023	SHANE SIGNS	514.15
9642	SPBR8250	SPRING BREEZE YARD CARE LTD.	282.50
9643	SSMA8250	SSC MAINTENANCE SERVICES INC	2,618.55
9644	TB400500	TODD BAKER	429.38
9645	TC400750	TAYLOR CAMPBELL	44.06
9646	TENA8506	TENAQUIP INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT	416.27
9647	THRE7560	THE REVIEW	320.36
9648	AC401010	ANGELA COLEMAN	269.75
9649	AP511501	ANDRE POMMAINVILLE, P.AG.	54.52
9650	BRAS0525	BRINKMAN REFORESTATION LTD.	9,127.01 Site Prep & Tending tree planting
9651	BS508100	BILL SMIRLE	448.52
9652	FERG3000	FERGUSON FOREST CENTRE	31,222.96 25% deposit for Tree planting 2021
9653	JM405530	JOHN MESMAN	1,293.94
9654	KP406750	KAREN PAQUETTE	16.39
9655	LANN5020	LANNIN'S GARAGE	140.00
9656	LLMC5040	LLOYD MCMILLAN EQUIPMENT LTD.	305.10
9657	MS408003	MICHELLE CAVANAGH	105.47
9658	NOVA6200	NOVA NETWORKS	777.20
9659	PIFA7025	PINENEEDLE FARMS	6,122.62 25% deposit for Tree planting 2021
9660	RIDE7565	RIDEAU VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY	508.50
9661	STIN8000	STORM INTERNET SERVICES	169.50
9662	TENA8506	TENAQUIP INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT	202.27
9663	AM405500	ALISON McDONALD	47.20
9664	JECA4000	JEAN CLAUDE CAYER ENTERPRISES LTD.	2,467.87
9665	LANN5020	LANNIN'S GARAGE	217.50
9666	MS408050	MARTIN STREIT	235.94
9667	NS206050	TOWNSHIP OF NORTH STORMONT	377.42
9668	OTFA6540	OTTAWA FASTENER SUPPLY LTD	2,046.03
9669	WISP8055	WINCHESTER SPRINGS MOBILE WASH	395.50
			210,622.29

# Board of Directors January 21, 2021 - Correspondence

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

Ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Alimentation et des Affaires rurales

Office of the Minister

Bureau du ministre

77 Grenville Street, 11th Floor Toronto, Ontario M7A 1B3 Tel: 416-326-3074 www.ontario.ca/OMAFRA 77, rue Grenville, 11° étage Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1B3 Tél.: 416 326-3074 www.ontario.ca/MAAARO



December 21, 2021

Angela Coleman South Nation Conservation Authority info@nation.on.ca

## Dear Angela Coleman:

In order to help farm businesses and municipalities save time and money, the Ontario government is posting a discussion paper on a new regulatory proposal to implement recent amendments to the Drainage Act, which received Royal Assent on July 21, 2020, as part of Bill 197, the COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act.

The proposed regulation supports the government's commitment to reduce burden and promote economic development while maintaining effective environmental standards. A discussion paper will be posted on Ontario's Regulatory and Environmental Registry for a 60-day public comment period from December 9 2020 to February 7, 2021 and can be accessed on the Environmental Registry at this website address: www.ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-2814.

Drainage is critical for supporting agricultural productivity and the production of food. It enables sector growth by delivering economic benefits such as improved crop productivity and flood control, while supporting environmental benefits such as nutrient loss reduction, reduced soil erosion and habitat protection. That is why I encourage you to submit your comments on the proposed regulation and let your perspective on this important matter be known as we finalize this regulation.

My ministry will be hosting webinars for key stakeholders who play an important role or who have an interest in the Drainage Act and the recent changes. The webinars are scheduled for:

- January 7, 10:00-11:30 am: Municipalities/Drainage Industry
- January 8, 10:00-11:30 am: Environmental Groups, Indigenous Communities, Conservation Authorities and the public
- January 12, 2:00-3:30 pm: Municipalities/Drainage Industry
- January 14, 2:00-3:30 pm: Municipalities/Drainage Industry
- January 15, 2:00-3:30 pm: General Farm Organizations



To register, please complete the registration form at this website, <a href="https://survey.clicktools.com/app/survey/go.jsp?iv=1yoz6wboh3a0f">https://survey.clicktools.com/app/survey/go.jsp?iv=1yoz6wboh3a0f</a>, or contact the Agricultural Information Contact Centre (AICC) by email to <a href="mailto:ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca">ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca</a> or you can call 1-877-424-1300.

Although the webinars are targeted to specific audiences, you are welcome to enroll at a time or date that better suits your schedule. Printed copies of the French Discussion Paper are also available from the AICC on request.

I look forward to learning the results of the consultation and your contribution to it.

Sincerely,

Ernie Hardeman

Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

#### **COVID-19 Reminders**

- Practise physical distancing stay 2 metres away from others in public
- Wash your hands with soap and water thoroughly and often
- Get the facts www.ontario.ca/page/covid-19-stop-spread