



SOUTH NATION
CONSERVATION
DE LA NATION SUD



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Communications Committee

Meeting Agenda

Date: Wednesday, November 30th, 2022

Time: 9:00 am

Location: South Nation Conservation Office
38 Victoria Street, Finch



Communications Committee

Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, November 30th, 2022 at 9:00 am

1. Chair's Remarks
2. Approval of Communications Committee Agenda (Supplemental Agenda)
3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest
4. SNC Project Update – PowerPoint Presentation: Staff
5. Approval of Communications Committee Meeting Minutes: 3-7
 - a. September 28th, 2022
6. New Business:
 - a. Update: Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 – John 8-19
 - b. Approval: Programs and Services Workplan for Municipal Engagement – John 20-22
 - c. Update: Social Media and Website – Arielle 23-25
 - d. Approval: SNC Website Redevelopment Project - Erin 26-27
 - e. Update: Findlay Creek Boardwalk Extension – Project Consultations – Erin 28-29
 - f. Update: SNC Approved Grants Summary (2018-2022) – John 30-36
 - g. Approval: Community Environmental Grants – Kelsey 37-39
 - h. Update: 2022 Year End Report – Kelsey 40-42
 - i. Approval: Communications Committee Meeting Schedule 2023 – Kelsey 43
7. Supplemental Agenda (If any)
8. Roundtable Discussion
 - a. Community Engagement Activities
 - b. Recommendations for 'Friends of SNC'
9. Correspondence
10. Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 22nd, 2023 at 9:00am
11. Adjournment

John Mesman,
Managing Director, Property, Conservation Lands, and Community Outreach



COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, September 28, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.
Meeting 04/22

Present: Charles Armstrong, Public Citizen, Committee Chair
Murray Inch, Public Citizen
Tim Jackson, Public Citizen
Cindy Saucier, Councillor, Russell
Bill Smirle, SNC Board Member
Karen Switzer-Howse, Public Citizen
Byron Vienneau, Public Citizen

Regrets: Gerry Boyce, Public Citizen
George Darouze, Board of Directors, Past Chair, ex-officio
Steve Densham, Board of Directors, Vice Chair, ex-officio
Pierre Leroux, Board of Directors, Chair, ex-officio
Tom Van Dusen, Public Citizen

Absent: Doug Thompson, Public Citizen

Staff: John Mesman, SNC Managing Director of Conservation Lands and
Community Outreach
Kelsey Smith, Stewardship & Outreach Assistant
Arielle Noonan, Stewardship & Outreach Assistant



APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MAIN AND SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDAS

RESOLUTION NO. CMN-027/22

Moved by:

Bill Smirle

Seconded by:

Byron Vienneau

RESOLVED THAT:

The Members approve the Communications Committee agenda and supplemental agenda of September 28th, 2022, as submitted.

CARRIED

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Cindy Saucier and Charles Armstrong declared conflicts of interest on Agenda Item 6f.
“Approval: Community Environmental Grants”

COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT UPDATE: POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Staff presented project and program updates.

APPROVAL OF:

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 8th, 2022

RESOLUTION NO. CMN-028/22

Moved by:

Karen Switzer-Howse

Seconded by:

Cindy Saucier

RESOLVED THAT:

The Members approve the Communications

Committee meeting minutes of June 8th, 2022.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

UPDATE: CONSERVATION AUTHORITY ACT UPDATES AND PROGRESS REPORT # 2

John Mesman, SNC Managing Director of Conservation Lands and Community Outreach, presented a PowerPoint update on the *Conservation Authority Act* and progress to date on implementing the requirements of the new regulations.

Bill Smirle left the committee meeting at 10:30 a.m.





REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTS

Charles Armstrong, Committee Chair, and Cindy Saucier declared a conflict of interest and did not participate in the discussion or approval of the Community Environmental Grants.

Charles Armstrong vacated his position as Committee chair.

RESOLUTION NO. CMN-032/22

Moved by: Murray Inch
Seconded by: Tim Jackson

RESOLVED THAT:

John Mesman, SNC Managing Director of Conservation Lands and Community Outreach, be appointed interim Committee Chair.

RESOLUTION NO. CMN-033/22

Moved by: Byron Vienneau
Seconded by: Karen Switzer-Howse

RESOLVED THAT:

The Communications Committee recommends the Board of Directors approval of Community Environmental Grant in the amount of \$300 to Eco East.

CARRIED

Charles Armstrong resumed his position as Committee chair.

SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA

APPROVAL: 2022 FRIENDS OF SNC GOLF TOURNAMENT

RESOLUTION NO. CMN-034/22

Moved by: Cindy Saucier
Seconded by: Byron Vienneau

RESOLVED THAT:

That the Communications Committee receive and file the final report for the 2022 Friends of SNC Golf Tournament; and

FURTHER THAT:

The Communications Committee approves directing funds towards SNC's Forest Conservation initiative to support the Annual Free Tree Pickups within member municipalities.

CARRIED



ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

A. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Byron Vienneau is looking forward to engaging with new council members in his municipality following the upcoming election and attending future council meetings.

Cindy Saucier mentioned that Alison McDonald spoke at the Eco East Annual General Meeting about the Natural Heritage Study and that the Heritage Day at the Russell Museum was a great success, with over 300 attendees.

Tim Jackson inquired about how the first year of the kayak rentals at High Falls Conservation Area went.

Murray Inch mentioned that a last-minute wedding took place at Oak Valley Pioneer Park that went very well, the photographer has returned with other clients for photos. The Fall Field Day for Oak Valley will be on October 15.

Bill Smirle talked about the important role that committee members play within their municipalities and talking to their local councils.

B. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 'FRIENDS OF SNC'

The Committee had no recommendations for 'Friends of SNC' at this time.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, November 9th, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

RESOLUTION NO. CMN-035/22

Moved by: Tim Jackson

Seconded by: Byron Vienneau

RESOLVED THAT:

The Communications Committee meeting of September 28th, 2022 be adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

CARRIED

Charles Armstrong,
Committee Chair.

John Mesman,
Managing Director of Conservation Lands and
Community Outreach.

/ks



To: Standing Committees
From: Carl Bickerdike, Chief Administrative Officer
Date: November 21, 2022
Subject: Update: Bill 23, *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022*

RECOMMENDATION:

The SNC Standing Committees receive and file the update on Bill 23, *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* and proposed amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

DISCUSSION:

On October 25, 2022, the provincial government introduced Bill 23, *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022*; omnibus legislation that amends ten acts including the *Conservation Authorities Act*. The Bill is currently in second reading and is before the Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure and Cultural Policy for consideration.

The Bill proposes significant changes to the land use planning process in Ontario including considerable, and potentially irreversible, operational changes to municipal partners and conservation authorities.

Various amendments in the Bill:

- prohibit municipalities from entering into agreements with conservation authorities (CAs) for the review of planning applications and technical studies;
- exempt certain development projects with *Planning Act* approval from CA natural hazard development permits;
- remove the consideration of 'conservation of lands' and 'pollution' from CA natural hazard development permit decisions;
- reduce municipal development charges and freeze conservation authority fees;
- change the evaluation criteria and weaken protection for Provincially Significant Wetlands; and
- require CAs identify conservation lands that may be suitable for development.

In response to Bill 23, Conservation Ontario presented a submission to Standing Committee on November 9th, 2022. Eastern Ontario CAs have also been meeting with their partner municipalities and local MPPs to discuss impacts to municipal planning and development processes, and to coordinate responses to the proposed significant environmental policy changes.

South Nation Conservation is actively working with its municipal and CA partners to analyze and mitigate the potential impacts of Bill 23. A summary of SNC action on Bill 23 is below:

- Meeting with MPP Sarrazin and MPP Quinn attended by Executive Committee,



SNC Staff and County Staff (United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry and United Counties of Prescott and Russell);

- Regular email updates to SNC Board of Directors, Executive, and municipal leadership;
- Press release (attached);
- Meetings with municipal CAOs and elected officials;
- Participation in Conservation Ontario working groups to coordinate response;
- Media interviews with CBC, Le Droit, and Chesterville Record; and
- Leading a coordinated Eastern Ontario submission to standing committee (draft attached).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

Staff will continue to work with member municipalities and Conservation Ontario to raise awareness and seek positive changes to Bill 23. Further updates on Bill 23 will be shared with the Board as they arise.

Carl Bickerdike,
Chief Administrative Officer.

Attachments:

Eastern Ontario CAs Respond to Bill 23 – Standing Committee Submission [Draft]

“Loss of Local Decision-Making” – Conservation Authorities Respond to Province’s Housing Bill 23 “More Homes Built Faster Act” - SNC Press Release

Eastern Ontario Conservation Authorities

November 15, 2022



The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON, M7A 1A1
premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Steve Clark
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
College Park 17th Floor, 777 Bay St,
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
minister.mah@ontario.ca



The Honourable Graydon Smith
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry
Whitney Block, 99 Wellesley St W,
Toronto, ON M7A 1W3
minister.mnrf@ontario.ca

The Honourable David Piccini
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
College Park 5th Floor, 777 Bay St,
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
minister.mecp@ontario.ca



Re: Loss of Local Decision-Making: Bill 23 Does Not Work for Eastern Ontario

Dear Premier Ford, Minister Clark, Minister Smith, and Minister Piccini,

With housing affordability affecting much of Ontario, we understand your government's target to build 1.5 million new homes over the next 10 years.

Conservation Authorities (CAs) have always supported long-term sustainable growth. In fact, our role is to ensure land-use decisions made today do not impede future growth tomorrow. We accomplish this by ensuring development has minimal impacts on flooding, erosion, slope stability and water quality by guiding development away from natural hazards and protecting the function of natural features. This can only be accomplished when evaluating growth and its cumulative impacts across a watershed, which is the value and service CAs provide to municipalities. Water flows across municipal boundaries and so do the impacts of development.

In Eastern Ontario, CAs have been working closely with municipalities to reduce barriers to development and streamline processes to provide the best service possible to municipalities, communities, homeowners, and developers. For many, this includes modernizing policies and procedures, streamlining approvals, reducing timelines, meeting and reporting on service standards, and promoting pre-consultation with applicants. CAs are not a barrier to growth, but an assurance that growth is safe and sustainable, and we have been a source of cost-effective expertise for municipalities and developers for decades.

We are committed to doing our part to help increase Ontario's housing supply, but it needs to be accomplished through smart, sustainable growth that will not have detrimental impacts down the road.

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Eastern Ontario Conservation Authorities

We are concerned that some changes proposed in the *More Homes Built Faster Act* will:

- Weaken the ability of conservation authorities to continue protecting people and property from natural hazards such as floods;
- Diminish our ability to protect critical natural infrastructure like wetlands which reduce flooding, droughts and improve water quality in lakes and rivers; and,
- Place new downloaded responsibilities on municipalities related to natural hazards and natural resources that they are unprepared and under resourced to tackle.

We are calling on your government to press pause on the proposed changes highlighted below and to reconvene the multi-stakeholder *Conservation Authorities Working Group* that your government created. This group can help identify alternative solutions that will increase Ontario's housing supply without jeopardizing public safety or downloading additional responsibilities to municipalities. At a time when climate change is causing more frequent and intense storm events, the role and watershed mandate of CAs has never been more critical.

Proposed Changes of Concern and Their Potential Impact:

1. If conservation authorities are no longer allowed to provide planning comments to municipalities beyond natural hazards:
 - Municipalities have indicated that they will need to contract this work out to the private sector, where there is already a limited labour market, as most do not have the expertise or capacity to take on this expanded role.
 - Municipalities anticipate higher costs, and possible delays, that will be passed on to applicants and developers. The current model enables municipalities to use existing expertise within the CAs (such as biologists, water resource engineers, ecologists, hydrogeologists) to fulfill responsibilities under the Provincial Policy Statement pertaining to natural heritage and water, while saving time and money for applicants.
 - Municipalities have shared conflict of interest concerns due to the limited availability of consultants in Eastern Ontario and shared concerns about the lack of local knowledge should they need to secure consultants from other regions.
 - Municipalities are also concerned with the loss of the watershed perspective in making planning decisions, which will result in a narrow review of the impacts to natural hazards and natural heritage. Municipalities formed CAs to address this very issue.

Eastern Ontario Conservation Authorities

2. If development that is subject to a planning approval is exempt from requiring a permit from the conservation authority:
 - Municipalities will assume greater responsibility and liability for the impact of development on flooding, erosion, slope stability and water quality within municipal boundaries and in upstream and downstream communities.
 - Municipalities and CAs will require more detailed studies and designs at the planning stage which are normally not required until the permitting stage. This would make planning applications more onerous and costly for developers and slow down approvals.
 - Municipalities will also have limited mechanisms to ensure compliance outside of the permitting process if development is not constructed properly.

3. If certain types of development are deemed “low risk” and exempted from requiring a conservation authority permit:
 - Public safety and property damage risks may not be adequately addressed as a single list of exempted activities across the province will not capture local conditions and constraints. Some activities which may be low risk in one watershed, such as fencing or auxiliary buildings, may be a significant risk in others that have retrogressive landslide areas or ravines.
 - It should also be acknowledged that CAs already have the ability to exempt or streamline review processes for activities that are low risk in their watershed and this practice is already in use by most CAs.

4. If the scope of conservation authority permits is narrowed to only address natural hazard issues (removal of “pollution” and “conservation of land” considerations, restrictions on conditions that can be required as part of a permit):
 - CAs may not be able to require development setbacks from water, protect naturalized shorelines or require sediment control during construction.
 - CAs would no longer be able to address water quality concerns, which are required under federally and provincially approved “Remedial Action Plans” for designated “Areas of Concern”.
 - CAs use pollution and conservation of land considerations and conditions to limit sediment and nutrient runoff into lakes and rivers that contribute to poor water quality, excessive weed growth and algae blooms. Municipalities would become responsible to address these types of concerns.

Eastern Ontario Conservation Authorities

- Water quality in lakes and rivers is an important economic driver in Eastern Ontario as it impacts property values, tourism, recreation, and commercial fisheries, and it is the source of drinking water for many permanent and seasonal residences.
 - CAs and municipalities would welcome a consistent definition of “conservation of land” in the new regulations, pertaining to the protection, management, and restoration of lands to maintain or enhance hydrological and ecological functions.
5. If the protection of wetlands is diminished (changes to wetland evaluation criteria, elimination of wetland complexing, reduction in the area around wetlands that is regulated, introduction of offsetting measures to compensate for wetland loss and the withdrawal of MNRF as the body responsible for wetland mapping and evaluations):
- Municipalities are concerned that the withdrawal of MNRF from administering the Ontario Wetland Evaluation System and maintaining wetland mapping will be downloaded to municipalities to manage reevaluation reports from consultants and maintain up-to-date wetland mapping that is needed for development review.
 - Municipalities and CAs are concerned that there will be a loss of wetlands that will have immediate and long-term impacts. Removing wetlands is like removing dams and reservoirs. Wetlands act as infrastructure that absorb and retain a significant volume of snow melt and rain which reduces flood levels during spring runoff and storm events. They also release this water slowly throughout the rest of the year, helping augment water levels in lakes and rivers during low flow periods which reduces drought conditions. Wetlands also filter nutrients and sediment from runoff which improves water quality.
 - These benefits are particularly important where lakes and rivers are supporting agriculture, recreation, tourism, and fisheries and acting as a source of drinking water. Municipalities and CAs could never afford to build the infrastructure it would take to replace wetland functions which is estimated to be billions.
6. If the Minister freezes conservation authority fees:
- Taxpayers, not developers, would absorb increasing costs for development review. In this scenario, growth would not be paying for growth.
 - Legislative amendments made earlier this year directed conservation authorities to demonstrate that self-generated revenue such as fees for service are considered where possible to reduce pressure on the municipal levy. This includes plan review and permitting fees that are collected to offset program costs, but not exceed them.

Recommendations:

1. Municipalities should retain the choice to enter into agreements with conservation authorities for natural heritage and water-related plan review services.
 - Recent legislative amendments by this government now require agreements to include defined terms, timelines, and performance measures, and CAs have demonstrated that they can provide these comments to municipalities in a cost-effective and timely manner. CAs are also already prevented by these earlier amendments from commenting beyond natural hazards if they do not have an agreement with a municipality.
2. Development that is subject to plan approval should not be exempt from requiring a conservation authority permit.
 - The planning process is not sufficient to ensure natural hazard concerns are addressed through appropriate design and construction. This change would also place additional responsibility and liability on municipalities.
3. Conservation authorities should determine which types of developments are deemed “low risk” through their regulations policies.
 - CAs are already able to create exemptions and streamline review processes that are appropriate locally, given watersheds have unique conditions.
4. Maintain “pollution” and “conservation of land” as considerations when conservation authorities are reviewing permit applications but provide a clear definition of each to ensure a consistent approach on how it is applied.
 - Streamlining these definitions will allow CAs to provide consistency to municipalities and developers and meet obligations under other pieces of legislation that require water quality-related comments from CAs.
5. Continue to protect wetlands to reduce flooding, provide flow augmentation.
 - Wetlands are critical pieces of natural infrastructure and municipalities cannot afford to build the infrastructure it would take to replicate wetland function to protect upstream and downstream communities from flooding and drought.
6. Do not freeze fees to ensure growth pays for growth.
 - Recent legislative amendments by this government now require CAs to demonstrate through their budget process that development review fees are offsetting, but not exceeding, program costs.

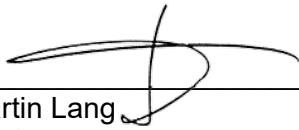
Eastern Ontario Conservation Authorities

Thank you for the opportunity to share our concerns and recommendations with you.

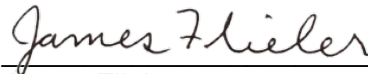
Our goal is to support you in creating more housing in Ontario while ensuring changes to Ontario's land use planning and permitting system do not have unintended and irreversible consequences on the protection of people, property, and natural resources.

We sincerely hope that you will remove the amendments we have highlighted from Bill 23 before it is passed, and that you will reconvene your government's *Conservation Authorities Working Group* to work with your Ministry to propose alternative improvements and refinements to conservation authority development review processes.

Sincerely,



Martin Lang
Chair
Raisin Region Conservation Authority



James Flieler
Chair
Quinte Conservation Authority



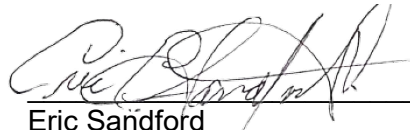
Pierre Leroux
Chair
South Nation River Conservation Authority



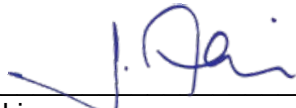
Jan O'Neill
Chair
Crowe Valley Conservation Authority



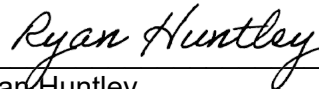
Pieter Leenhouts
Chair
Rideau Valley Conservation Authority



Eric Sandford
Chair
Lower Trent Conservation Authority



Jeff Atkinson
Chair
Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority



Ryan Huntley
Chair
Otonabee Region Conservation Authority

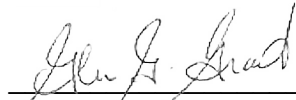


Paul McAuley
Chair
Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority



Mark Lovshin
Chair
Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority

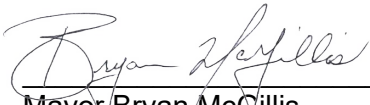
This letter has also been endorsed by the following municipal partners:



Mayor Glen Grant
City of Cornwall



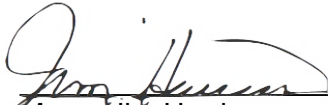
Warden & Deputy Mayor Carma Williams
Township of North Glengarry



Mayor Bryan McGillis
Township of South Stormont



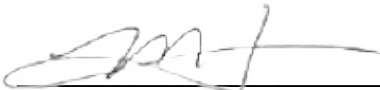
Mayor Genevieve Lajoie
Municipality of Casselman



Mayor Jim Harrison
City of Quinte West



Mayor Brian Ostrander
Municipality of Brighton



Mayor Marg Isbester
Town of Greater Napanee



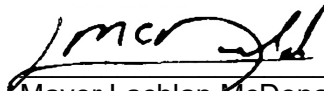
Mayor Mario Zanth
City of Clarence-Rockland



Councillor George Darouze,
City of Ottawa



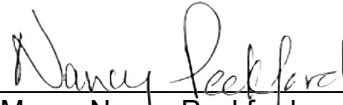
Mayor Francois Landry
Township of North Stormont



Mayor Lachlan McDonald
Township of South Glengarry



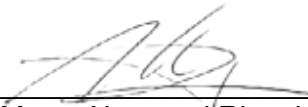
Mayor Tony Fraser
Township of North Dundas



Mayor Nancy Peckford
Municipality of North Grenville



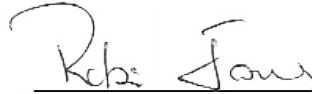
Mayor Tory Deschamps
Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal



Mayor Normand Riopel
Township of Champlain



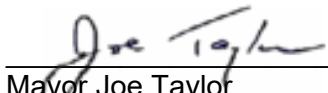
Mayor Pierre Leroux
Township of Russell




Mayor Robin Jones
Village of Westport



Mayor Francis Briere
Nation Municipality




Mayor Joe Taylor
Township of Otonabee-South Managhan



Mayor Bob Mullin
Township of Stirling-Rawdon



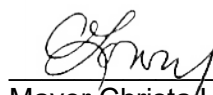
Mayor Michael Cameron
Village of Merrickville-Wolford



Reeve Rob Rainer
Tay Valley Township



Mayor Ron Vandewal
Township of South Frontenac



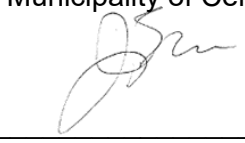
Mayor Christa Lowry
Municipality of Mississippi Mills



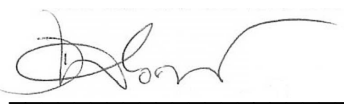
Reeve Peter McLaren
Township of Lanark Highlands



Mayor Tom Deline
Municipality of Centre Hastings




Mayor Judy Brown
Town of Perth




CAO Darlene Noonan
Township of Athens




Mayor Jeff Leal
City of Peterborough



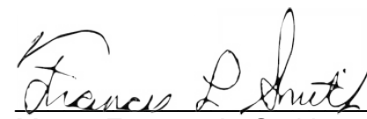
Mayor Mandy Martin
Township of Cramahe



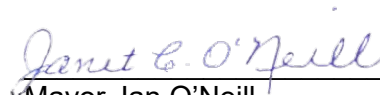
Reeve Steve Fournier
Township of Drummond/North Elmsley




Mayor Arie Hoogenboom
Township of Rideau Lakes



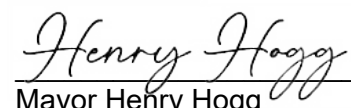
Mayor Frances L. Smith
Township of Central Frontenac



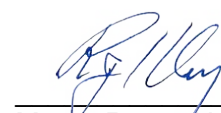
Mayor Jan O'Neill
Municipality of Marmora and Lake



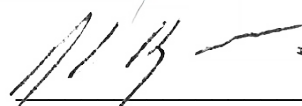
Mayor Shawn Pankow
Town of Smiths Falls



Mayor Henry Hogg
Township of Addington Highlands



Mayor Roger Haley
Township of Front of Yonge



Mayor James Hegadorn
Loyalist Township



“Loss of Local Decision-Making” – Conservation Authorities Respond to Province’s Housing Bill 23 “More Homes Built Faster Act”

November 2, 2022

In a bid to address the housing supply, the Ontario government released a series of proposed legislative changes, many of which impact Ontario’s 36 Conservation Authorities.

Among them, the Province proposes to prevent municipalities from entering into agreements with Conservation Authorities (CAs) to review planning applications on their behalf, proposes exemptions from natural hazard permits for select municipalities, removes ‘conservation of lands’ and ‘pollution’ as considerations in permit decisions, freezes development fees, changes the evaluation and protection criteria for Provincially Significant Wetlands and requires CAs to identify conservation lands suitable for development.

Earlier this year, the Province published a “Housing Affordability Task Force Report” that introduced 55 recommendations to increase house supply in Ontario. CAs were not named within the report, demonstrating they are already proactively working with the development industry and all levels of government to ensure safe and sustainable development can occur while balancing the needs of people and the environment, the economy and ecology.

“Conservation Authorities are not a barrier to growth and CAs in high-growth areas of the province are already participating in a Timely Review Task Force with service level commitments of 14, 21, and 28 day reviews, compared to the Province’s 30 and 90 day timelines,” explains George Darouze, Deputy Mayor and Councillor, Osgoode Ward, City of Ottawa.

Bill 23 is a departure from recent amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act* that directed CAs to focus their work on natural hazard related programs but allows municipalities to choose whether CAs provide technical advice based on their local needs and deliver programs in their municipalities through funding agreements.

“Our Conservation Authority works as our municipality’s environmental partner,” explains Mario Zanth, Mayor of the City of Clarence-Rockland, “CA staff have rolled out the red carpet to help provide timely development approvals to projects in environmentally significant areas. After the Ottawa River floods of 2017 and 2019, people understand the value and impact of the services they provide.”

While CAs are created through provincial legislation, they are largely funded and work for municipalities within their watersheds. South Nation Conservation (SNC) is one of the oldest environmental agencies in Ontario and has continued to expand its jurisdiction at the request of municipalities, first along the St. Lawrence River, and more recently, along the Ottawa River.

In Clarence-Rockland, an obvious step after the historic Ottawa River floods was to partner with the CA to complete updated natural hazard maps and to contract SNC to review





development proposals on their behalf. The result has been a clear win-win for both organizations and the development community to help design sustainable communities, away from natural hazards, while protecting key natural heritage areas.

In Eastern Ontario, SNC has agreements with neighbouring agencies to streamline development review processes and deliver planning services to help municipalities short on resources meet their provincial requirements. Recently, SNC also expanded its septic system program into Leeds-Grenville to help municipalities meet their requirements under the Ontario Building Code after the local Health Unit stopped delivering this service.

These arrangements provide a watershed-based approach to land use planning decisions and coordinate resources to save taxpayer costs. SNC provides shared expertise instead of each of its 16 municipalities having their own hydrogeologist, biologist, and engineers.

“We have a long-standing and positive working relationship with SNC and we appreciate their feedback and expertise in helping us make good planning decisions,” added Pierre Leroux, Mayor of Russell Township, “the CA is a valued partner in providing valuable services to our community.”

Bill 23 also proposes changes to the classification and protection of Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSWs), areas where development activities require permission from CAs. SNC, unlike other CAs, only regulates development within PSWs and Locally Significant Wetlands (LSWs) that are studied and zoned locally by municipalities for protection. Wetlands minimize the risk of drought, reduce flooding by absorbing and storing excess water and help control erosion. The proposed changes will reduce the area of protected wetlands on the local landscape which means more potential for impacts to communities from flood and drought.

“SNC’s approach of supporting the municipality’s decisions regarding the required environmental protections and studies allows for local decision-making,” explains Steve Densham, Deputy Mayor Elect of the Township of North Stormont, “additionally, given the economies of scale with our CA, we benefit from lower cost and expertise that can efficiently and effectively meet our needs.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Carl Bickerdike, Chief Administrative Officer, South Nation Conservation,
cbickerdike@nation.on.ca | 1877-984-2948.



To: Standing Committees
From: Ronda Boutz, Secretary-Treasurer
John Mesman, Managing Director, Property, Conservation Lands, and
Community Outreach
Date: November 16, 2022
Subject: **Request for Approval: Programs and Services Work Plan
for Municipal Engagement**

RECOMMENDATION:

The Standing Committees approve the Programs and Services Work Plan for Municipal Engagement as presented.

DISCUSSION:

The Province implemented the first phase of *Conservation Authorities Act* ("Act") regulations in October 2021. The regulations require each conservation authority have a transition plan in place by December 31st, 2021 and create an inventory of programs and services by February 28th, 2022.

South Nation Conservation's ("SNC") inventory lists programs and services SNC delivers as of February 2022 and programs and services SNC intends to deliver in the future. As per the Act, Programs and Services are divided into categories as follows:

- **Category 1: Mandatory programs and services** required by regulation. These programs are funded through municipal levy and include:
 - Programs and services related to the risk of natural hazards;
 - Programs and services related to the conservation and management of lands owned or controlled by the authority;
 - Programs and services related to the authority's duties, functions and responsibilities as a source protection authority under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*; and
 - Programs and services related to the authority's duties, functions and responsibilities under an Act prescribed by the regulations.
 - **Category 2: Municipal programs and services** provided at the request of a municipality. These programs can be funded through government and other agency grants and/or municipal funding under a memorandum of understanding or agreement with the municipality.
 - **Category 3: Other programs and services** the conservation authority determines are advisable. These programs can be funded through self-generated revenue, user fees, government and other agency grants, donations, etc. Any use of municipal levy requires an agreement and would be subject to cost apportionment.
-



SNC has a few program and service areas that fall within Category 3, namely the Tree Planting Program, Clean Water Program, Forest Land Acquisition, and any educational and/or outreach initiatives that are not related to Category 1 programs and services (e.g., Community Environmental Grants, Fish Camps, Youth Hunt, and Municipal Free Tree Days). The Tree Planting Program has external funding to offset costs but currently requires funding from municipal levy to support program delivery and reporting.

As of January 1st, 2024, Category 3 programs and services will need municipal agreements outlining cost apportionment for any municipal levy required for program delivery. As part of the work plan for implementation of Category 3 – Other Programs and Services, SNC is committed to engaging with its Standing Committees for stakeholder input and confirmation of public support (BD-069/22).

Standing Committee member connections to various stakeholder groups is key in building support for ongoing delivery of Category 3 programs and services. This is important with the recent Municipal election, as new Councillors may not be familiar with SNC and its landowner stewardship initiatives.

Staff have prepared the attached Programs and Services Work Plan for Municipal Engagement for the Committee's consideration.

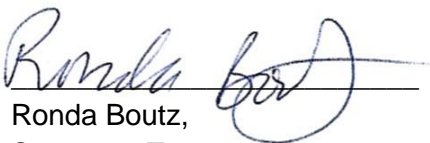
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

Compliance with Budget:

No impact on the 2022 Budget.

SNC Policy Adherence:

Subsection 21.1.2(2) of the *Conservation Authorities Act* enables SNC to provide other programs and services, under an agreement with municipalities within its area of jurisdiction, where the municipality has agreed to provide cost apportionment to support the identified programs and/or services.


Ronda Boutz,
Secretary-Treasurer.


John Mesman,
Managing Director, Property, Conservation
Lands, and Community Outreach.

Attachment: SNC Programs and Services Work Plan for Municipal Engagement



SNC Programs and Services Work Plan for Municipal Engagement

Engagement Activity	SNC Lead	Committee Engagement	Timeline
CATEGORY 1			
Prescribed under the Act, no engagement required for mandated programs and services.	Management Team	None required, direct any inquiries to the SNC Management Team	Ongoing
CATEGORY 2			
SNC's Management Team routinely meets with municipalities to discuss opportunities to support municipal programs and services. Agreements/Memorandums of Understanding are approved as program/service delivery is negotiated.	Management Team	None required, direct any inquiries to the SNC Management Team	Ongoing
CATEGORY 3			
Development of business cases for each type of program and service proposed as of January 2024.	Ronda Boutz and John Mesman	Provide testimonials and/or any local data. Committee review and approval of business cases.	February 2023
Meetings with key municipal staff to discuss business case and municipal apportionment required.	Management Team	Committee updates and discussion.	March – April 2023
Category 3 program and services package to Board of Directors for approval prior to engaging with municipal councils.	Ronda Boutz and John Mesman	Committee support at Board of Directors meeting.	March 2023
Presentations to Councils to request approval to enter into a Category 3 agreements.	Ronda Boutz and John Mesman	Attendance and co-presentation of programs and services package.	April – July 2023
Category 3 agreements prepared and signed.	Ronda Boutz, Eric McGill, and John Mesman	Updates provided to Committee, Terms of Reference Updates following approval.	August – November 2023



To: Communications Committee
From: Arielle Noonan, Stewardship and Outreach Assistant
Date: November 23, 2022
Subject: **Update: Social Media and Website**

RECOMMENDATION:

The Communications Committee receive and file the Social Media and Website Update.

DISCUSSION:

SNC has actively worked to increase its online presence across social media platforms since the inception of its first social media account 13 years ago, with some accounts established 6 years ago.

Staff continue to report increased use of SNC website and social media accounts in recent years, with the SNC website recording twice as many users and visits over the last two years, compared to the previous 5-year average. Some social media and website metrics are included in this report.

This report also provides an overview of social media campaigns used since the February 2022 Communications Committee meeting along with campaigns planned in 2022/2023.

Since the last update in February 2022, the following campaigns have been delivered:

- Flood Forecasting and Warning and Low Water Response
- Free Tree Campaign – Forest Conservation Initiative
- SNC Tree Planting Program – Forest Conservation Initiative
- Dam and River Safety Campaign
- Throwback Thursday (75th Anniversary)
- SNC's International Women's Week Campaign
- 75th Anniversary Event Promotion
 - 75 KM Challenge
 - Maple Weekends
 - Anniversary Radler launch
 - Friends of SNC Golf Tournament
- Trail Tuesday
- Wildlife Wednesday
- Invasive Species Awareness
- Winter Salt Campaign
- Drinking Water Source Protection Awareness
- Woodlot Advisory Service and Tree Planting Programs
- Agricultural Clean Water Programs
- Fall Into Nature



Below are SNC's social media statistics to date, since the last report in February 2022:

Account	Total Followers	Increase	% Increase/Decrease
Facebook	6,057	267	+ 4%
Instagram	1,236	42	+ 3%
Twitter	1,367	13	+ 1%

SNC monitors Facebook and Instagram activity using Facebook and Instagram Insights to help understand the performance of SNC's page traffic over the last 28 days – October 25th to November 21st.

Action Type	Total for 28 days	% Increase/Decrease
Facebook Likes	17	-66.7%
Instagram Followers	9	-57.1%
Facebook Reach	18,829	-51.7%
Instagram Reach	2880	+26.7%
Facebook Visits	893	+4.0%
Instagram Visits	130	+20.4%

SNC monitors website activity using Google Analytics to provide insight on web traffic.

Period	Sessions	New & Returning Users	Page Views	Bounce Rate	Pages per Session	Average Session Duration
February 2022	5,857	6,426	16,360	66.75%	2.16	1:48 min
March 2022	8,981	7,554	19,581	64.65%	2.18	1:49 min
April 2022	10,163	8,790	21,723	62.13%	2.14	1:36 min
May 2022	11,289	9,766	22,114	66.60%	1.96	1:21 min
June 2022	8,681	7,375	17,239	70.95%	1.99	1:24 min
July 2022	8,027	7,004	15,421	71.57%	1.92	1:20 min
August 2022	8,265	7,190	15,222	72.12%	1.84	1:09 min
September 2022	7,016	5,989	14,193	68.30%	2.02	1:33 min



October 2022	8,320	7,370	15,756	71.56%	1.89	1:23 min
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Bounce Rate: Page visits where the user left the landing page without interacting with the website.

The most visited pages from February 19th, 2022 to November 21st, 2022 were:

- Homepage: 22,615 – page views
- Development/Find Form: 3,991 – page views
- Contact/Staff Listing: 3,962 – page views
- About/Job Opportunities and Tenders: 3,074 – page views
- Resources/Maps: 3,040 – page views
- Recreation/About Recreation: 2,519 – page views
- Contact: 2,483 – page views
- Fr/Leau/Rapports/Liste-des-especes-de-possons: 2,328 – page views
- Recreation/Boat-launching/Jessups-Falls-conservation-area-Plantagenet-Ontario: 2,011 – page views
- Land/Forestry Services/Tree Planting Services: 1,857 – page views

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

Compliance with Budget: Expenses associated with SNC's website and social media are included in the 2022 SNC Budget under Communications and Outreach: Media and Communications Products, on page 90 and 91.

SNC Policy Adherence: All expenditures will adhere to SNC's Purchasing Policy. For purchases of \$200 up to \$5,000 competitive quotes will be obtained where practical.

Arielle Noonan
Stewardship and Outreach Assistant.



To: Communications Committee
From: Erin Thorne, Communications Specialist
Date: November 22, 2022
Subject: **Approval: SNC Website Redevelopment Project**

RECOMMENDATION:

The Communications Committee recommend that the Board of Directors approve the SNC Website Redevelopment Project and associated budget considerations in the Draft 2023 SNC Budget.

DISCUSSION:

South Nation Conservation (SNC) has been a leader in the digital trend of going paperless. This digital transformation over the past 3 years has helped create an efficient and organized workplace, in both in-office and remote work, which has enabled continued business operations through the Pandemic. To reflect our seamlessly digitized workplace, staff are proposing a new website that embodies SNC's brand with clear imaging and ease of navigation.

The current SNC website platform Drupal 7 is scheduled to end in November 2023. One option is to transition to Drupal 9 by the end of November 2023, keeping the current platform and web host.

With careful consideration, staff propose that due to the unfriendly design of the Drupal system and the lack of IT support, a transition from the current website to a more user-friendly service provider is the best option.

Website redevelopment planning has begun and SNC will issue Requests for Proposals in Spring 2023 for website development and host services (BD-040/21).

The creation of a new website will help address increased traffic, server issues, accessibility, ease of access, and allow access to additional website tools, including for our water resource management systems, including stream gauges and flood forecasting.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

Compliance with Budget: Work on this project was included in the 2022 SNC Budget under: Communications and Outreach: Media and Communications Products, pages 90 and 91.

Contracted services required to support the website redevelopment is included in the Draft 2023 Budget for consideration.



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CONSERVATION
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SNC Policy Adherence: Website redevelopment will adhere to SNC's Brand Design Guide.

All expenditures will adhere to SNC's Purchasing Policy. Request for Proposals for the website redevelopment and hosting will be issued in accordance with SNC's Purchasing Policy, (C) Purchasing Limits and Authorizations Required, (iii) Purchases \$10,000 up to \$25,000.

Erin Thorne
Communications Specialist



To: Communications Committee
From: Erin Thorne, Communications Specialist
Date: November 22, 2022
Subject: **Update: Findlay Creek Boardwalk Extension – Project Consultations**

RECOMMENDATION:

The Communications Committee receive and file the update on the Open House and public consultation for the Findlay Creek Boardwalk Extension Project.

DISCUSSION:

South Nation Conservation (SNC) will be completing public consultations for the Findlay Creek boardwalk extension, located in the Leitrim Wetland in the City of Ottawa.

Funding was received from the Federal Government to support this project and work is being completed between 2022 and 2023 (BD-070/22, BD-137/22).

The Leitrim Wetland is a Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW) and an Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI), surrounded by urban development. SNC owns several portions of the Leitrim Wetland and is finalizing the transfer of the remaining lands to SNC and the City of Ottawa from the developers Tartan and Tamarack Homes.

The 200-metre extension will allow more accessibility to the recreational area and give residents of Findlay Creek the opportunity to explore the wetland in the future, while still preserving its natural features and important history.

The required environmental studies and the design of the boardwalk infrastructure is now complete and SNC would like to engage the public and stakeholders on the project, ahead of planned winter construction.

SNC's Project Consultation in December 2022 will include:

- Public Open House and information session
- New project signage and design concept displays
- Letters to stakeholders and residents
- Media event to highlight funding and project announcement

An official Grand Opening of the boardwalk and a Findlay Creek Community Day will be planned for Summer 2023 with the Findlay Creek Community Association.



FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

Compliance with Budget: The Findlay Creek Boardwalk Extension project was not included in the 2022 SNC Budget. The federal funding covers 75% of the project costs.

The matching 25% funds from SNC come from staffing included in the 2022 SNC Budget: Resource Management: Water Response Programs, pages 14-15, and Property: Conservation Lands: Conservation Areas, pages 32-33. Additional matching funds will come from the Findlay Creek Stewardship Fund reserve, which is currently at \$272,818.

SNC Policy Adherence: Project expenditures will adhere to SNC's Purchasing Policy. Design strategies will adhere to SNC's Brand Guide and SNC's Sign Strategy.

Public consultation will follow procedures included in SNC's Communications Plan for Updated Natural Hazard Mapping.

Erin Thorne
Communications Specialist



To: Communications Committee
From: John Mesman, Managing Director, Property, Conservation Lands,
and Community Outreach
Date: November 22, 2022
Subject: **Update: SNC Approved Grants Summary (2018-2022)**

RECOMMENDATION:

The Communications Committee receive and file the SNC Approved Grants Summary (2018-2022) update.

DISCUSSION:

South Nation Conservation (SNC) staff are very successful in obtaining funding from external sources (e.g., government, industry, and non-governmental organizations) to support the Authority's programs and projects.

When submitting funding requests, staff target applications to projects already in the Authority's work plan to maximize opportunities to offset program or project costs. When cost-share is required by a funder, SNC uses staffing and other resources included in the Budget as matching contributions. Cost-share ratios vary depending on the agency.

For the Committee's information, a summary of approved grants from 2018-2022 is attached.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

Compliance with Budget: This report has no impact on budget, provided for information purposes. Unbudgeted revenue offsets SNC levy requirements and typically accounts for the majority of year-end surplus.

SNC Policy Adherence: Not applicable.

John Mesman,
Managing Director, Property, Conservation Lands, and Community Outreach.

Attachment: SNC Approved Grants Summary (2018-2022)



SNC Approved Grants Summary (2018-2022)

Funder	Program/Project	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Federal						
2 Billion Tree Program	SNC Forests – tree planting on SNC 7				\$16,890	
Agriculture and Agri Food Canada	Agri Risk Grant – hydrogeosphere model	\$139,223				
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	Flood Forecasting			\$10,000		
Canada Community Revitalization Fund	Findlay Creek Boardwalk Extension					\$100,000
Canada Nature Fund	Land Acquisition				\$537,500	
Canada-Ontario Job Grant	Canada-Ontario Job Grant		\$2,470			
Canadian Experiences Fund	Augusta Conservation Area			\$31,500		
Canadian Wildlife Federation	Pollinator Habitat Creation				\$14,000	
Eco Action	Riparian Buffers	\$3,848	\$84,283			
Employment and Social Development Canada	Accessible Washrooms in SNC Conservation Areas				\$100,000	
Environment and Climate Change Canada	Vernal Pools		\$24,860			
Fisheries and Oceans Canada	Municipal Drain Sampling		\$8,340	\$8,800	\$8,800	\$8,800
Habitat Stewardship Program	Forest Bird Monitoring				\$6,000	
National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP)	Ottawa/Nation/St. Lawrence	\$173,923				
National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP)	Bear Brook and Tributaries Hazard Mapping				\$145,852	\$119,895
National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP)	Ottawa River Flood Hazard Mapping				\$72,503	\$97,553
National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP)	Flood Risk Assessment Partnership				\$52,173	\$116,708



Funder	Program/Project	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP)	Ottawa Floodplain mapping		\$174,046			
National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP)	United Counties of Prescott and Russell Floodplain Mapping		\$207,980			
National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP)	Ottawa: Additional Emergency Tools		\$157,820			
National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP)	Edwardsburgh Cardinal Water Treatment Plant Flood Protection		\$85,100			
National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP)	Chesterville Dam		\$400,203			
National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP)	Casselman Weir and Russell Weir		\$37,954			
Nature Smart Fund	Land Acquisition				\$796,618	
Sub-Total		\$316,994	\$1,183,056	\$50,300	\$1,750,336	\$442,956
Provincial						
Great Lakes Guardian Fund	Robert Graham Conservation Area Habitat Restoration	\$25,000				
Great Lakes Guardian Fund	Low Impact Development Demonstration Site	\$25,000				
Great Lakes Guardian Fund	Environmental Education Enhancement/Stream of Dreams	\$25,000				
Land Stewardship and Habitat Restoration Program	Leitrim Wetland Restoration		\$10,000			
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry	Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure Funding	\$2,756				
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry	Flood Forecasting and Warning	\$50,000				
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry	Low Water Response	\$8,000				
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry	Chesterville Dam			\$33,250	\$6,750	
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry	Crysler Dyke Assessment			\$9,250	\$10,000	



Funder	Program/Project	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry	Chesterville Dam – Ice Management					\$80,000
Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport	Heritage Organization Development Grant		\$1,545			
Ontario Heritage Development Grant	Ontario Heritage Public Awareness			\$1,545		
Sub-Total		\$135,756	\$11,545	\$44,045	\$16,750	\$80,000
Municipal						
City of Ottawa	Baseline Water Quality Monitoring	\$39,953				
Ottawa Rural Clean Water Program	Wetland Restoration Project					\$5,000
UCPR Waterfront Tourism Development Fund	St. Albert Park and Dock Improvement				\$4,000	
Sub-Total		\$39,953	\$0	\$0	\$4,000	\$5,000
Non-Governmental Organization						
ALUS - Ontario East	Wetland Restoration Project					\$5,000
ALUS - Ontario East	Grassland Restoration Project					\$10,000
Ducks Unlimited Canada	Wetlands Restoration				\$125,000	\$125,000
Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program	Water Budget				\$9,500	
Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program	St. Lawrence River Hazard Mapping	\$11,730				
Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program	North Castor Catchment Study	\$4,981	\$19,427			
Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program	Low Impact Development Pilot Project		\$21,000			
Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program	Vars-esker weather station and data collection platform		\$8,801			
Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program	Development of groundwater/ surface water interaction constraint mapping		\$3,985	\$3,124		



Funder	Program/Project	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program	South Bear Brook Catchment Study			\$14,575	\$20,448	
Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program	Climate Stations		\$9,500	\$9,500	\$12,000	\$12,000
Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program	Phase 1: South Nation River Watershed Water Budget Update Plan				\$9,500	
Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program	South Nation Conservation Assessing Future Flood Vulnerability in the South Nation River Watershed				\$2,800	\$9,000
Forests Ontario	Regional Sponsorship - Reconciliation and Climate Change Planting			\$7,500	\$7,500	\$10,000
Grasslands Ontario: Grassland Stewardship Initiative	Grassland Habitat Enhancement and Hay Field Rejuvenation				\$8,316	\$20,666
Jane Goodall Foundation	Healing Place – 3 Sisters Garden					\$700
Ontario Land Trust Alliance	Land Acquisition – costs related to acquisition	\$3,886				
Plenty Canada	Regional Sponsorship - Reconciliation and Climate Change Planting			\$1,292		
Unsmoke Canada Cleanups	Findlay Creek and Tree giveaway				\$2,800	
Sub-Total		\$20,597	\$53,213	\$35,991	\$197,864	\$192,366
Industry Partner						
Enbridge Gas	Chesterville Dam generator		\$5,000			
Enbridge Gas	Donation - J Henry Tweed CA projects			\$5,000		
Enbridge Gas	Stream of Dreams				\$5,000	



Funder	Program/Project	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Ontario Power Generation	Wetland & Lakes/Rivers Restoration	\$60,000	\$50,000			
Ontario Power Generation	Healing Place – official opening			\$1,500		
Ontario Power Generation	Healing Place – Remembering the Children				\$1,500	
Ontario Power Generation	Biodiversity Conservation in Partnership with Indigenous Communities				\$5,000	\$5,000
Ontario Power Generation	Lakes/Rivers Restoration			\$75,000	\$50,000	\$75,000
Ontario Power Generation	Healing Place- 3 Sisters Garden					\$1,500
Ontario Power Generation	Healing Place - Thanksgiving Harvest					\$1,500
TD Friends of Environment	WE Burton Signs				\$3,000	
TD Tree Days	Camp Sheldrick: Tree Planting		\$2,550			
Trans Canada Energy	Field Tablet					\$5,000
Sub-Total		\$60,000	\$57,550	\$83,000	\$64,500	\$163,000
Human Resources Support – Federal and Provincial						
Canada Ontario Job grant	Management Training	\$13,476				
Canada Ontario Job grant	Management Training		\$4,991			
Canada Park and Recreation	Summer Work experience	\$5,712				
Canada Parks and Recreation	Summer Experience Program		\$5,712			
Canada Parks and Recreation	Summer Experience Program		\$5,712			
Career Launch	Digital Tech Internship Program		\$15,000			
Career Launch	Digital Tech Internship Program		\$15,000			
Clean Technology	Digital Tech Internship Program			\$3,750		
Colleges and Institutes Canada	Training			\$7,500		



Funder	Program/Project	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Eco Canada	Coop program	\$5,000				
Eco Canada	Stem Internship Program	\$10,857				
Eco Canada	Co-op Program		\$5,000			
Eco Canada	Green Jobs Initiative Internship Program	\$4,000	\$11,000			
Eco Canada	Green Jobs Initiative Internship Program		\$12,500			
Eco Canada	Co-op Program		\$5,000			
Eco Canada	Green Jobs Initiative Internship Program		\$12,500			
Eco Canada	Internship Program			\$10,000		
Eco Canada	Student Work - Integrated Learning Co-op Program			\$24,402		
ECO Canada – Internship Program	Student and Recent Graduate Employment				\$20,000	
Human Resources and Stats Development Canada	Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters student	\$3,500				
Job Creation	Summer Students					\$24,280
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry	Summer Experience Program	\$7,609				
National Trust Canada	Young Canada Works	\$4,989				
National Trust Canada	Young Canada Works			\$2,110		
Service Canada	Canada Summer Jobs	\$1,680				
Service Canada	Canada Summer Jobs			\$3,920		
Service Canada-Ontario	Canada Ontario Job Grant		\$2,495			
Service Ontario	Canada Summer Jobs		\$1,960			
Service Ontario	Canada Summer Jobs		\$1,960			
Sub-Total		\$56,823	\$98,830	\$51,682	\$52,960	\$24,280
TOTAL		\$638,962	\$1,395,854	\$265,718	\$2,086,410	\$907,602



To: Communications Committee
From: Kelsey Smith, Stewardship and Outreach Assistant
Date: November 22, 2022
Subject: Request for Approval: Community Environmental Grants

RECOMMENDATION:

The Communications Committee recommends the Board of Directors approval of the Community Environmental Grant in the amount of \$300 to:

- L'école St. Viateur
-

DISCUSSION:

In March 2020, the Communications Committee approved amendments to SNC's Community Environmental Grants Program to allow applications for tree and shrub planting and community garden development in response COVID-19 related event cancellations (CMN-036/20).

The following applications for the amended Community Environmental Grants Program have been received:

L'école St. Viateur

L'école St. Viateur in Limoges is an eco-school who is looking to plant trees along the fence line of the school, where trees were recently taken down for the new sports facility.

Funding from this grant will go towards purchasing the trees to plant at the school.

Below is a summary of Community Environmental Grant Funding for 2022:

Community Environmental Grant Money Dispersed (2022)	Community Environmental Grant Money Under Review	Remaining Funds
\$4,900	\$300	\$5,100



FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

Compliance with Budget: Funding for Community Environmental Grants is included in the 2022 SNC Budget under Communications and Outreach: Partnership Development on pages 88-89.

SNC Policy Adherence: Disbursement of Community Environmental Grants is compliant with the Purchasing Policy – Purchasing Limits/Authorized Buyers – Team Lead's approved limit of up to \$3,000.

Kelsey Smith

Kelsey Smith,
Stewardship and Outreach Assistant.

Attachments: Community Environmental Grant - Application Letter

Le 14 octobre 2022

À qui de droit,

Le club écolo de l'école St-Viateur de Limoges désire exprimer son intérêt pour recevoir une subvention pour continuer de planter des arbres le long de la clôture de sa cour d'école.

Nous aimerions recevoir 300 \$ pour la plantation de deux arbres.

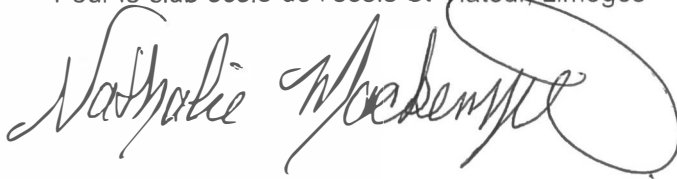
Depuis le commencement de la déforestation du terrain adjacent à notre école pour la construction du complexe sportif et communautaire, les élèves ont perdu le peu d'ombre qu'ils avaient le long de la clôture. Nous voulons planter des arbres pour redonner à notre cour sa beauté naturelle et pour retrouver un peu de l'ombre perdue. Avec votre aide, nous avons planté deux arbres l'an passé et nous aimerions répéter l'expérience pour éventuellement former une ligne d'arbre le long de la clôture entre le centre sportif et notre école.

Nous voulons surtout, par ce projet, faire en sorte que nos élèves s'intéressent à la nature et apprennent à prendre soin des arbres plantés.

Nous vous remercions à l'avance de l'appui que vous saurez apporter à notre club écolo pour mener à bien ce projet.

Nous serions bien heureux d'accueillir de nouveau le personnel de la Conservation de la Nation sud à notre école et de participer à la plantation d'un ou plusieurs arbres. L'an dernier, l'expérience fut très enrichissante.

Nathalie Mackenzie,
Pour le club écolo de l'école St-Viateur Limoges

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nathalie Mackenzie', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.



To: Communications Committee
From: John Mesman, Managing Director, Property, Conservation Lands,
and Community Outreach
Date: November 22, 2022
Subject: **Update: 2022 Year End Report**

RECOMMENDATION:

The Communications Committee receive and file the 2022 Communications and Outreach Year End Report.

DISCUSSION:

The Communications and Outreach Team is responsible for corporate communications and provides support to SNC Programs and Services.

Accomplishments in 2022 include:

1. Corporate Communications:

- Presentations and Outreach:
 - 290 memos distributed to Municipal Councils
 - Delivered approximately 8 municipal and 12 community presentations
 - Hosted 5 Communication Committee meetings
- Report Reviews:
 - Reviewed approximately 6 technical reports
- Grant Applications:
 - Over \$5,000 awarded to SNC in 2022 from grant applications for Communications and Outreach activities
 - 23 Board of Directors Grants and Community Environmental Grants distributed, allocating approximately \$7,500.



Education and Events:

- Partnered to host 3 online Winter Wellness Series Workshops
- Hosted a 75th Anniversary Maple Weekend at the Oschmann Forest
- Approximately 2,600 gallons of sap collected and sold to a local producer
- Hosted a 75th Anniversary Snowshoe Hike to kick off the year
- Promoted the 75 KM Challenge at SNC Conservation Areas
- Stream of Dreams Programming was rescheduled to 2023
- Supported community tree planting events and hosted a Three Sisters Garden Planting and Thanksgiving Harvest event at the Healing Place, and Community Days at J. Henry Tweed Conservation Area
- Supported StoryWalks on weekends at SNC Conservation Areas
- The Community Free Tree initiative supported online reservations and contactless pick-ups of 10,000 free seedlings
- Nurses Week Seedling Giveaway at 3 local community hospitals
- 6 Youth Fish Camps were delivered
- 1 Youth Hunt Program was delivered
- Supported 38 community events

2. Partnership Development:

- Hosted a virtual Flood Forecasting and Warning Information Day for member municipalities and provincial flood forecasting contacts in March
- Hosted a virtual Municipal Information Day in April
- Hosted the Annual Forestry Contractors Meeting in April
- Hosted the Annual Septic Contractor Meeting in June
- Co-hosted the Eastern Ontario First Nations Working Group meetings
- Partnered with each member municipality to host Community Free Tree giveaways
- Worked with donors to provide charitable financial support for conservation lands, education, and tree planting programs
- Partnered with Humble Beginnings Brewery to create a 75th Anniversary Radler
- Hosted the “Friends of SNC” Golf Tournament raising nearly \$4,000 for Community Free Tree initiative in 2023



3. Media and Communication Products:

- Communications Products:
 - Annual Report
 - SNC Sign Strategy
 - Subwatershed Report Card
 - Provincial Consultation Guide
 - 75th Anniversary and 75 KM Challenge Guides
 - Raisin-South Nation Source Protection Committee Annual Report
 - Forestry program support through online and direct mail campaigns
- Media Communications:
 - Increased followers on Facebook to 6,000, Instagram 1,236, Twitter 1,367
 - Increased engagement and insights on social media accounts:
Facebook reach increase of 3.5% and 0.5% for Instagram
 - Issued 34 press releases and 11 watershed safety and flood statements
 - 10 “South Nation Current” newsletters issued including special features for Free Tree Pick Up, Golf Tournament, Tweed Restoration Project, etc
 - Media requests and interviews on local radio, television, and newspapers

John Mesman,
Managing Director, Property, Conservation Lands, and Community Outreach.



To: Communications Committee
From: John Mesman, Managing Director, Property, Conservation Lands,
and Community Outreach
Date: November 22, 2022
Subject: **Approval: Communications Committee Meeting Schedule 2023**

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Communications Committee approve the 2023 Communications Committee meeting schedule as presented.

DISCUSSION:

As per the Standing Committee Terms of Reference, all Standing Committees will meet at least four times per year, with one of these meetings being a Joint Meeting of all Standing Committees.

Staff recommend the following meeting schedule for 2023:

- Wednesday, February 22nd, 2023
- Thursday, March 23rd, 2023 (Joint Meeting)
- Wednesday, June 7th, 2023
- Wednesday, September 6th, 2023

Meetings will take place at 9:00 am at the South Nation Conservation Office in Finch unless otherwise stated in the Agenda package.

The Standing Committee Terms of Reference allows for additional meetings to be called if there is 75% concurrence of the Committee at which there is quorum.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

Compliance with Budget: Committee expenses for the Communications Committee are included in the Draft 2023 SNC Budget to an upset limit of \$7,500/Committee.

SNC Policy Adherence: The Communications Committee membership and meeting schedule adheres to the SNC Administration Policy and SNC Standing Committee Terms of Reference.

John Mesman,
Managing Director, Property, Conservation Lands, and Community Outreach.