



South Nation  
**Conservation**  
de la Nation Sud

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## **Board of Directors**

# **Meeting Agenda**

**Date:** April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Time:** Immediately following the South Nation Source Protection Authority Meeting

**Location:** Watershed Room, SNC

**Address:** 38 Victoria Street, Finch, ON K0C 1K0

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## Board of Directors

# Meeting Agenda

April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026, immediately following the South Nation Source Protection Authority Meeting

1. Traditional Land Acknowledgement: John
  2. Chair's Remarks
  3. Approval of SNC Board of Directors Agenda (Supplemental Agenda)
  4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest
  5. Delegation: Mr. Doyle Harrigan
  6. SNC Project Update – PowerPoint Presentation: Staff
  7. Approval of:
    - a. Board of Directors Annual General meeting minutes of March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026 4-12
    - b. SNC Committees Meeting Highlights and Minutes of: 13-14
      - i. Grants Sub-Committee meeting minutes of March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026: Ronda 15-18
      - ii. Watershed Advisory Committee meeting minutes of March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026: Ronda 19-24
  8. New Business:
    - a. Update: Bill 97 Proposed Amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act*: Eric 25-27
    - b. Request for Approval: 2026 SNC Insurance: Johanna 28
    - c. Request for Approval: WISKi MOU with Quinte Conservation: Kat 29-35
    - d. Update: 2025 Land Acquisitions: Pat 36-37
    - e. Request for Approval: Monies Received and Disbursement Register for March 2026: Deborah 38-42
    - f. Monthly Updates
      - i. Planning Activity: James 43-45
      - ii. Engineering Technical Reviews: Shahin 46-47
      - iii. Section 28.1 Permits Issued: Jennifer 48
      - iv. Enforcement of Parts VI and VII of the Act: Greg 49
      - v. On-site Sewage Permits Received: Monique 50-51
  9. Supplemental Agenda
    - a. Update: Estimated Statement of Operations for March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026: Johanna
  10. Correspondence
    - a. Minister's letter RE: Consolidation of Conservation Authorities 52-53
    - b. Minister's Direction RE: Fee Freeze Effective March 10, 2026 to February 28, 2027 54-57
  11. Dates of Upcoming Meetings, third Thursday, at 9:00 a.m.
    - May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026
    - June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026
    - July – no scheduled meeting
    - August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026
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12. Future Motions of the Board and/or Discussion of SNC Issues
13. Closed Session (if any)
14. Adjournment

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. Bickerdike', is written above a horizontal line.

Carl Bickerdike,  
Chief Administrative Officer.

/rb

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Meeting No. 03/26

Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.

Watershed Room, SNC



Directors Present:

Steve Densham, Stormont Dundas Glengarry, Chair  
Catherine Kitts, City of Ottawa, Second Vice-Chair  
Mathew Luloff, City of Ottawa (*electronic participation*)  
Linda Payant, City of Ottawa  
Bill Smirle, Stormont Dundas Glengarry  
Tom Smyth, Stormont Dundas Glengarry  
François St. Amour, Prescott Russell  
Mike Tarnowski, Prescott Russell  
Deb Wilson, Leeds Grenville  
Adrian Wynands, Leeds Grenville, Vice Chair

Regrets:

Genevieve Lajoie, Prescott Russell

Staff Present:

Carl Bickerdike, Chief Administrative Officer  
Johanna Barkley, Director of Finance  
Ronda Boutz, Secretary-Treasurer  
Jennifer Boyer, Managing Director, Approvals  
Michelle Cavanagh, Team Lead, Special Projects  
Caroline Goulet, Forester  
James Holland, Senior Planner  
Kyle MacRae, Conservation Lands Assistant  
Sandra Mancini, Managing Director, Natural Hazards and Infrastructure  
John Mesman, Managing Director, Property, Conservation Lands and Community Outreach  
Eric McGill, Corporate Counsel  
Gregory Payne, Permitting Officer  
Pat Piitz, Team Lead, Property  
Monique Sauvé, Chief Building Official Part 8 – Septic Systems  
Katherine Watson, Coordinator - Early Warning Systems and Watershed Plans  
Shahin Zand, Water Resources Engineer

Guests:

Chad Brownlee, CAO, Township of North Stormont  
Ben Mann, Baker Tilly  
Owen Murdock for MPP Darouze (tentative)  
Sean Nicholson, CAO, Township of Edwardsburgh/Cardinal



Jackie Pemberton, Vice-Chair, Watershed Advisory Committee  
Cindy Saucier, Watershed Advisory Committee  
Lisa Van De Ligt, Raisin Region Conservation Authority  
Tom Van Dusen  
Gary Waterfield, Chair, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority

**TRADITIONAL LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

John Mesman, Managing Director, Property, Conservation Lands and Community Outreach, read an Indigenous land acknowledgement.

**CHAIRS REMARKS**

Steve Densham, Chair, called the SNC Board of Directors Annual General meeting of March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026 to order at 9:00 a.m. Chair Densham welcomed guests to the meeting.

Carl Bickerdike, CAO, provided a brief verbal update on the consolidation of conservation authorities.

**Catherine Kitts joined the meeting at 9:11 a.m.**

**APPROVAL OF SNC BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA**

RESOLUTION NO. BD-038/26

Moved by: Adrian Wynands  
Seconded by: Bill Smirle

RESOLVED THAT:

The Members approve the March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Board of Directors Annual General Meeting agenda with the following amendment:  
i. Agenda item #6 be deferred to a future meeting

CARRIED

**DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

None

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2026**

RESOLUTION NO. BD-039/26

Moved by: Mike Tarnowski  
Seconded by: Catherine Kitts

RESOLVED THAT:

The Members approve the Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026 as submitted.

CARRIED



**NEW BUSINESS**

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: 2025 YEAR END, AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND  
AUDIT LETTERS**

RESOLUTION NO. BD-040/26

Moved by: Deb Wilson  
Seconded by: François St. Amour

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors approve and file the 2025 Draft Financial Statements, Audit Reporting Letter, Letter of Representation and signatures by Management and Chair: and

FURTHER THAT:

The Board of Directors approve the 2025 reserve transfer to the Operating Reserve of \$55,320.

CARRIED

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: 2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS**

RESOLUTION NO. BD-041/26

Moved by: Bill Smirle  
Seconded by: Deb Wilson

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors appoint Eric McGill, Corporate Counsel as Acting Chair; and

FURHTER THAT

Elections for the office of Chair, Vice-Chair, and Second Vice-Chair be held in accordance with South Nation Conservation’s Administrative By-laws and relevant provisions of the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

CARRIED

Eric McGill, Acting Chair, declared all offices vacant, according to SNC’s Administrative By-laws.

**First call for nominations for Chair:**

Moved by: Deb Wilson

Adrian Wynands be nominated for the office of Chair, South Nation Conservation.

Adrian Wynands accepted the nomination for office of Chair, South Nation Conservation.

**Second call for nominations:** None

**Third call for nominations:** None



RESOLUTION NO. BD-042/26

Moved by: Bill Smirle  
Seconded by: François St. Amour

RESOLVED THAT:

Nominations be closed for the office of Chair.

CARRIED

**First Call for nominations for Vice Chair:**

Moved by: Isabelle Skalski

Catherine Kitts be nominated for office of Vice-Chair, South Nation Conservation.

Catherine Kitts accepted the nomination for office of Vice-Chair, South Nation Conservation.

**Second Call for Nominations:** None

**Third Call for Nominations:** None

RESOLUTION NO. BD-043/26

Moved by: Isabelle Skalski  
Seconded by: Mike Tarnowski

RESOLVED THAT:

Nominations be closed for the office of Vice-Chair.

CARRIED

Outgoing Chair, Steve Densham, confirmed he is willing and able to accept the office of Second Vice-Chair.

RESOLUTION NO. BD-044/26

Moved by: Bill Smirle  
Seconded by: Linda Payant

RESOLVED THAT:

For the year 2026, and until the Annual General Meeting of 2027:

- i. Adrian Wynands be elected as Chair of SNC,
- ii. Catherine Kitts be elected as Vice-Chair of SNC,
- iii. Steve Densham be appointed as Second Vice-Chair of SNC, and

FURTHER THAT:

The Chair, Vice-Chair, and Second Vice-Chair be appointed the Executive Committee of SNC.

CARRIED

The Chair, Vice-Chair, and Second Vice-Chair assumed their offices.



**The Board of Directors recessed for a break at 9:57 a.m.  
The Board of Directors reconvened from break at 10:16 a.m.**

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: CONSERVATION ONTARIO VOTING DELEGATES**

RESOLUTION NO. BD-045/26

Moved by: Mike Tarnowski  
Seconded by: François St. Amour

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors appoint the Chair as the Conservation Ontario Council voting delegate; and

FURTHER THAT:

The Board of Directors appoint the Vice-Chair as first alternate and Chief Administrative Officer as second alternate.

CARRIED

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: 2025 SNC ANNUAL REPORT**

RESOLUTION NO. BD-046/26

Moved by: Deb Wilson  
Seconded by: Tom Smyth

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors approve the 2025 Annual Report; and

FURTHER THAT:

The Board of Directors direct staff to circulate copies to member municipalities, local MPs and MPPs, Conservation Authorities, and various stakeholders.

CARRIED

**UPDATE: 2025 CONSERVATION AREAS VISITOR REPORT**

RESOLUTION NO. BD-047/26

Moved by: Steve Densham  
Seconded by: Linda Payant

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors receive and file the 2025 Conservation Areas Monitoring Report; and

FURTHER THAT:

The Board of Directors recommend that staff continue to monitor Conservation Areas to inform the management of these public spaces.

CARRIED



**UPDATE: WATERSHED ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

RESOLUTION NO. BD-048/26

Moved by: Linda Payant  
Seconded by: Mike Tarnowski

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors receive and file the Watershed Advisory Committee update; and

FURTHER THAT:

The Board of Directors approve extending the term of the current Committee Chair (Mr. Bill Smirle) and Committee Vice-Chair (Ms. Jaqueline Kelly-Pemberton) to December 31, 2206.

CARRIED

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: 2026 GROWING CANADA’S COMMUNITY CANOPIES EXPENDITURES**

RESOLUTION NO. BD-049/26

Moved by: Mike Tarnowski  
Seconded by: François St. Amour

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors approve the disbursement of funds for the Growing Canada’s Community Canopies project to an upset limit of \$574,100 for 2026; and

FURTHER THAT:

The Board of Directors delegate authority to the Chief Administrative Officer to approve eligible expenditures above \$25,000.

CARRIED

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: 2026 RESILIENT AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPE PROGRAM – MARGINAL LANDS INITIATIVE EXPENDITURES**

RESOLUTION NO. BD-050/26

Moved by: Deb Wilson  
Seconded by: Tom Smyth

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors approve the disbursement of funds for the Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program – Marginal Lands Initiative to an upset limit of \$750,000 for 2026; and

FURTHER THAT:

The Board of Directors delegate authority to the Chief Administrative Officer to approve eligible expenditures above \$25,000.

CARRIED



**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: DISBURSEMENTS FOR 2026 PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS**

RESOLUTION NO. BD-051/26

Moved by: Isabelle Skalski  
Seconded by: Bill Smirle

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors approves undertaking and disbursement of funds for the following Partnership Programs in 2026:

Program	2025 Encumbered Funds <sup>1</sup>	2026 Funds
1. UCPR Woodlot Advisory Service	\$0	\$20,000
2. SDG Woodlot Advisory Service	\$0	\$15,000
3. City of Ottawa Special Levy Programs		
a) Ottawa Rural Clean Water Program	\$259,572	To be confirmed <sup>2</sup>
b) Ottawa Tree Replacement Program	\$66,217	To be confirmed <sup>2</sup>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$325,789</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> Funding approved in 2025 and carried forward to 2026 budget for disbursement on project completion.

<sup>2</sup> 2026 special levies approval pending, report will be brought back to the Board following City Council approval.

CARRIED

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: TD TREE DAYS FUNDING SUBMISSION**

RESOLUTION NO. BD-052/26

Moved by: Mike Tarnowski  
Seconded by: Deb Wilson

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors approve the submission of a funding application to the TD Tree Days program requesting \$9,000 to plant trees and shrubs at the Leitrim Wetland.

CARRIED

**UPDATE: WATERSHED CONDITIONS**

Katerine Watson, Coordinator - Early Warning Systems and Watershed Plans, presented the members with an update on the Flood Forecasting and Warning and the 2026 Spring Freshet Conditions.



**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: MONIES RECEIVED AND DISBURSEMENT REGISTER FOR FEBRUARY 2026**

RESOLUTION NO. BD-053/26

Moved by: Mike Tarnowski  
Seconded by: Matt Luloff

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors receive and file the money received report for February 2026; and

FURTHER THAT:

The Board approve the Disbursement Register of \$677,805.54 for February 2026.

CARRIED

**MONTHLY UPDATES:**

- i. **PLANNING ACTIVITY**
- ii. **ENGINEERING TECHNICAL REVIEWS**
- iii. **SECTION 28.1 PERMITS ISSUED**
- iv. **ENFORCEMENT OF PARTS VI AND VII OF THE ACT**
- v. **ON-SITE SEWAGE PERMITS RECEIVED**

RESOLUTION NO. BD-054/26

Moved by: Mike Tarnowski  
Seconded by: Linda Payant

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors receive and file the Planning Activity for the following updates for February 2026:

- i. Planning Activity;
- ii. Engineering Technical Reviews;
- iii. Permits issued under Section 28.1 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*;
- iv. Reported *Conservation Authorities Act* regulation concerns received; and
- v. On-site sewage permits received.

CARRIED

**SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA**

None

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None



**DATES OF UCOMING MEETINGS, SECOND THURSDAY, AT 9:00 A.M. UNLESS INDICATED OTHERWISE:**

- April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026
- May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026
- June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026
- July – no scheduled meeting

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

None.

**CLOSED SESSION**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

RESOLUTION NO. BD-055/26

Moved by: Linda Payant  
Seconded by: Catherine Kitts

RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Directors Annual General Meeting of March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026 be adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

CARRIED

\_\_\_\_\_  
Adrian Wynands,  
Chair.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carl Bickerdike,  
Chief Administrative Officer.

/rb



**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Ronda Boutz, Secretary-Treasurer  
**Subject:** Request for Approval: SNC Committee Meeting Highlights and Minutes

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors approve the actions and recommendations of the following:

- i. Grants Sub-Committee meeting minutes of March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026; and
  - ii. Watershed Advisory Committee meeting minutes of March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026
- 

**DISCUSSION:**

**Grants Sub-Committee Meeting: March 9th, 2026**

- The Grants Sub-Committee reviewed two grant appeals for cover crop projects denied at the November 2025 meeting.
    - Sub-Committee upheld their decision to deny funding as project applications were considered retro-active and therefore ineligible.
  - The Grants Sub-Committee approved:
    - Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program 2026 Application Form, Guidelines, and Rating Criteria
      - No changes, status quo
    - Clean Water Program 2026 Grant Structure, Guidelines, and Rating Criteria with the following changes:
      - Cover crops
        - Changed guidelines to allow for harvested and/or grazed cover crops
        - Added new grant for harvested/grazed cover crops: \$10/ac up to a max. of 100 ac
      - Manure Storages
        - Increased maximum grant to \$15,000 from \$8,000
      - Well Decommissioning
        - Changed grant rate to 80% up to \$2,000 from 100% up to \$1,000
      - Septic Systems
        - Increased maximum grant to \$3,000 from \$2,000
      - Innovated Projects
        - Re-introduced an innovation grant at 50% funding to a maximum of \$5,000
  - The Grants Sub-Committee received updates on:
    - Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program Financial Statement – as of
-



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December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025

- Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program - Marginal Lands Initiative
- Clean Water Program 2026 Budget

**Watershed Advisory Committee Meeting: March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

- The Watershed Advisory Committee received updates on the following:
  - Consolidation of Conservation Authorities
  - Water Budget – Work Plan
  - Forest Cover – Work Plan
  - Watershed Advisory Committee Membership
  - Grants Sub-Committee meeting of March 9<sup>th</sup>
  - Great Lakes Stewardship and Education Agreement
  - 2025 SNC Annual Report
  - Community Engagements

Ronda Boutz,  
Secretary-Treasurer

Attachments



**GRANT SUB-COMMITTEE**

Meeting No. 01/26  
 Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026 - 9:00 a.m.

SNC Office, Watershed Room



- 
- Present:** Brendan Jacobs, Ottawa Rural Clean Water Program  
 Alain Jaquemet, Member at Large  
 Glenn Mackey, ALUS - Ontario East  
 Pamela O'Donnell, Member at Large  
 Bill Smirle, SNC Board of Directors, Watershed Advisory Committee Chair  
 Tara Redpath, City of Ottawa  
 Adrian Wynands, SNC Vice-Chair, ex-officio
- Regrets:** Steve Densham, SNC Chair, ex-officio  
 Jordan Graham, Member at Large  
 Catherine Kitts, SNC Second Vice Chair, ex-officio  
 Jackie Kelly-Pemberton, Member at Large, Sub-Committee Chair
- Staff Present:** Ronda Boutz, Secretary-Treasurer  
 Michelle Cavanagh, Team Lead, Special Projects  
 Lorie Henderson, Administrative Assistant  
 Andre Pommainville, Program Representative





**NEW BUSINESS**

**EASERN ONTARIO WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM**

**UPDATE: EASTERN ONTARIO WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM 2025 FINANCIAL STATEMENT – AS OF DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2025**

RESOLUTION NO. GSC-004/26

Moved by: Pam O'Donnell  
Seconded by: Alain Jaquemet

RESOLVED THAT:

The Grants Sub-Committee receives and files the 2025 Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program Financial Statement as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

CARRIED

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: 2026 EASTERN ONTARIO WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM**

RESOLUTION NO. GSC-005/26

Moved by: Adrian Wynands  
Seconded by: Brenden Jacobs

RESOLVED THAT:

The Grants Sub-Committee approves the draft 2026 Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program (EOWRP) Application Form, Guidelines, and Rating System as presented; and

FURTHER THAT:

the Grants Sub-Committee approves issuing a 2026 call for EOWRP grant proposals to be submitted for consideration at the June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Grants Sub-Committee meeting.

CARRIED

**UPDATE: RESILIENT AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPE PROGRAM - MARGINAL LANDS INITIATIVE**

RESOLUTION NO. GSC-006/26

Moved by: Tara Redpath  
Seconded by: Brendan Jacobs

RESOLVED THAT:

The Grants Sub-committee receive and file the Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program (RALP) – Marginal Lands Initiative update.

CARRIED





**WATERSHED ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Meeting No. 01/26  
Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 12:00 p.m.

Watershed Room, SNC



- 
- Members Present:** Bill Smirle, SNC Board of Directors, Committee Chair  
 Matt Alkerton, Member at Large  
 Sarah Burger, Member at Large  
 Steve Densham, SNC Second Vice-Chair, ex-officio  
 Emilie DeRochie, St. Lawrence River Institute  
 Greg Faaren, St. Lawrence Parks Commission  
 Dorothy Hamilton, Ontario Woodlot Association – SDG Chapter (*electronic participation*)  
 Larissa Holman, Ottawa River Keeper  
 Murray Inch, Volunteer of Oak Valley Pioneer Park  
 Jackie Kelly-Pemberton, Member at Large, Committee Vice Chair  
 Genevieve Lajoie, SNC Board of Directors  
 Glenn Mackey, ALUS - Ontario East  
 Pamela O'Donnell, Member at Large  
 Louis Prevost, United Counties of Prescott & Russell  
 Tara Redpath, City of Ottawa  
 Jean Saint-Pierre, Boisé Est  
 Cindy Saucier, Member at Large  
 Fred Schueler, Fragile Inheritance Natural History  
 François St. Amour, SNC Board of Directors  
 Adrian Wynands, SNC Chair, ex-officio  
 Peter Young, United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry
- Regrets:** Tim Fisher, Leeds & Grenville Municipalities  
 Jordan Graham, Member at Large  
 Alain Jaquemet, Member at Large  
 Catherine Kitts, SNC Seconds Vice Chair, ex-officio  
 Erica Louttit, Miitig Healing Lodge  
 Erika Sheridan, Member at Large  
 Kayla Sunday, Mohawks of Akwesasne
- Staff Present:** Carl Bickerdike, Chief Administrative Officer  
 Ronda Boutz, Secretary-Treasurer  
 Michelle Cavanagh, Team Lead, Special Projects  
 Claire Lemay, Senior Planner  
 Sandra Mancini, Managing Director, Natural Hazards and Infrastructure



Kelsey Smith, Stewardship and Outreach Assistant  
Megan Théorêt, Planning Technician  
Erin Thorne, Communications Specialist  
Katherine Watson, Coordinator - Early Warning Systems and Watershed Plans

Guests: Linda Payant, SNC Board of Directors

**TRADITIONAL LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Ronda Boutz, Secretary-Treasurer, read an Indigenous land acknowledgement.

**CHAIRS REMARKS**

Bill Smirle, Committee Chair, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Chair Smirle updated the Committee on the new 2026 Board of Directors Executive, following the SNC Annual General Meeting on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

**APPROVAL OF WATERSHED ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA AND SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA**

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-001/26

Moved by: Pam O'Donnell  
Seconded by: François St. Amour

RESOLVED THAT:

The Members approve the March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Watershed Advisory Committee meeting main agenda and supplemental agenda with the following amendment:

- i. Supplemental Agenda items #1a and #1b be moved to follow main agenda item #7a.

CARRIED

**DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Conflict of Interest.

**APPROVAL OF WATERSHED ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2025**

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-002/26

Moved by: Pam O'Donnell  
Seconded by: Steve Densham



RESOLVED THAT:

The Watershed Advisory Committee meeting minutes of November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

**STAFF UPDATE**

Staff presented project and program updates, including an update on Watershed Conditions provided by Katherine Watson, Coordinator - Early Warning Systems and Watershed Plans.

**The Watershed Advisory Committee recessed for a break at 12:36 p.m.**

**The Watershed Advisory Committee reconvened from break at 12:46 p.m.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**UPDATE: CONSOLIDATION OF CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES (VERBAL)**

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-003/26

Moved by: Adrian Wynands

Seconded by: Greg Faaren

RESOLVED THAT:

The Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file the verbal update on the consolidation of conservation authorities.

CARRIED

**SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA**

**UPDATE: WATER BUDGET – WORK PLAN**

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-004/26

Moved by: Glenn Mackey

Seconded by: Greg Faaren

RESOLVED THAT:

The Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file the update on the Water Budget – Work Plan update.

CARRIED



**UPDATE: WORK PLAN – FOREST COVER**

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-005/26

Moved by: Jean Saint-Pierre  
Seconded by: Cindy Saucier

RESOLVED THAT:

The Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file the update on the Work Plan- Forest Cover update.

CARRIED

**NEW BUSINESS**

**UPDATE: WATERSHED ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-006/26

Moved by: Sarah Burger  
Seconded by: Larissa Holman

RESOLVED THAT:

The Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file the Watershed Advisory Committee Membership update.

CARRIED

**UPDATE: GRANTS SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING OF MARCH 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2026**

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-007/26

Moved by: Fred Schueler  
Seconded by: Murray Inch

RESOLVED THAT:

The Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file the Grants Sub-Committee Meeting of March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026 update.

CARRIED

**François St. Amour left the meeting at 2:18 p.m.**

**UPDATE: GREAT LAKES STEWARDSHIP AND EDUCATION AGREEMENT**

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-008/26

Moved by: Glenn Mackey  
Seconded by: Louis Prevost



RESOLVED THAT:

The Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file the update on the Great Lakes Stewardship and Education Agreement.

CARRIED

**UPDATE: 2025 SNC ANNUAL REPORT**

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-009/26

Moved by: Adrian Wynands  
 Seconded by: Jackie Kelly-Pemberton

RESOLVED THAT:

The Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file the 2025 Annual Report update.

CARRIED

**UPDATE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS**

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-010/26

Moved by: Emilie DeRochie  
 Seconded by: Larissa Holman

RESOLVED THAT:

The Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file the Community Engagement update.

CARRIED

**DATES OF UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Watershed Advisory Committee:

- June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026 at 12:00 p.m., at SNC Office
- September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026 at 12:00 p.m., at SNC Office
- November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 12:00 p.m., at SNC Office

Grants Sub-Committee:

- June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 9:00 a.m., SNC Office
- September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 9:00 a.m., SNC Office
- November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 9:00 a.m., at SNC Office



**ADJOURNMENT**

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-011/25

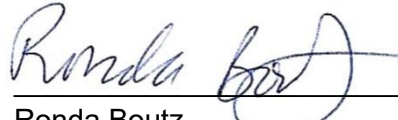
Moved by: Dorothy Hamilton

RESOLVED THAT:

The Watershed Advisory Committee meeting of  
March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026 be adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

CARRIED

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Smirle,  
Committee Chair.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronda Boutz,  
Secretary-Treasurer.

/rb



**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Eric McGill, Corporate Counsel  
**Date:** April 2, 2026  
**Subject:** Update: Bill 97 Proposed Amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act*

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors receive and file the update on Bill 97, Plan to Protect Ontario Act (Budget Measures), 2026 and proposed amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

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## **DISCUSSION:**

On March 26, 2026, the Government of Ontario introduced Bill 97, Plan to Protect Ontario Act (Budget Measures), 2026. Schedule 3 of the Bill proposes various amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act* (the "CA Act"). The proposed amendments include:

### **1. Amalgamation**

A new part of the Act will provide for the amalgamation of 35 conservation authorities into 8 new regional conservation authorities and continue the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority under the name Northwestern Ontario Regional Conservation Authority.

The transition date for the regional amalgamations is February 1, 2027.

On the transition date, the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority, Raisin Region Conservation, Authority Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, and South Nation River Conservation Authority will be amalgamated and form the St. Lawrence River Regional Conservation Authority.

On and after the transition date:

- All rights, obligations, assets and liabilities of the predecessor authorities that existed immediately before the transition date become the rights, obligations, assets and liabilities of their new regional authority.
  - Persons who are employees of the predecessor authorities immediately before the transition date become employees of the predecessor authorities' new regional authority.
  - An agreement to which one of the predecessor authorities was a party immediately before the transition date continues with the new regional authority substituted for the predecessor authority as the party.
  - Any advisory board of a predecessor authority is continued as an advisory board of the new regional authority.
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- The area over which a new regional authority has jurisdiction is the area consisting of the areas over which all of its predecessor authorities had jurisdiction immediately before the transition date.

## **2. Transition Committees**

The Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (the “Agency”) will establish transition committees to prepare for the amalgamations. Each new regional authority will have a transition committee. The Agency will appoint a project executive to serve as chair of the committee.

Within 90 days of Bill 97 receiving Royal Assent, each predecessor authority must appoint one member that is a member of municipal council and the chief administrative officer to the transition committee of the new regional authority.

The transition committees must develop and deliver a transition plan on a date to be specified by the Agency. The new regional conservation authorities must implement the transition plan.

Starting on the transition date, the project executive is the chief administrative officer of the new regional authority for a term of two years.

## **3. Minister Directions**

During the transition period, the Minister may issue directions to an authority,

- (a) prohibiting the authority from making a decision in relation to its exercise of any of its powers under this CA Act or any other CA Act in the circumstances specified in the direction and subject to any specified conditions;
- (b) requiring the authority to give notice, in accordance with the direction, of a decision that it has made;
- (c) requiring the authority to send notices related to recovery of capital costs, apportionment of capital costs, and recovery of operating expenses; and
- (d) governing budgetary and apportionment matters.

In the event of a conflict between a Minister’s direction and a provision of the CA Act or the regulations, the Minister’s direction prevails.

## **4. Members**

The participating municipalities of a regional authority will be the single-tier municipalities and the upper-tier municipalities that are located in whole or in part within the regional authority’s area of jurisdiction.



The number of members to be appointed to the regional authorities are to be determined in accordance with the method prescribed in a yet to be released regulation. Each participating municipality is guaranteed at least one member.

The Minister may appoint an additional member to the regional authority as a representative of the agricultural sector.

A Chair or vice-chair of a regional authority shall hold office for a term not exceeding two years and shall serve as chair or vice-chair for no more than eight years in total, whether the years are served consecutively or otherwise.

## **5. Watershed Councils**

The regional authority must establish one or more watershed councils for the purposes of assisting the authority in identifying local priorities with respect to its programs and services and to ensure that local interests are considered as part of the regional authority's decision-making process. Requirements may be prescribed by regulation with respect to the composition, functions, powers, duties, activities and procedures of a watershed council.

## **6. Prohibitions During Transition Period**

During the transition period, actions to establish a conservation authority, enlarge the area of jurisdiction of an authority, amalgamate an authority, or dissolve an authority are prohibited.

Bill 97 is at Second Reading at the time of this report. It is expected to receive Royal Assent in the coming weeks.

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Eric McGill,  
Corporate Counsel.



**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Johanna Barkley, Director of Finance  
**Date:** March 31, 2026  
**Subject:** Request for Approval: 2026 SNC Insurance

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors approve the renewal of the Authority's insurance with Marsh Canada at approximately \$145,831.28 including taxes.

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**DISCUSSION:**

South Nation Conservation (SNC) is part of Conservation Ontario's group insurance program with most other conservation authorities. The insurance provider is Marsh Canada Limited.

SNC's 2025-2026 insurance premium of \$135,622, plus PST, represents a 3.2% increase from the previous year. In 2021 and 2022, SNC experienced heavy increases in premiums – 25% and 36% respectively. Modest increase of 5.3% and 5.1% were experienced in 2023 and 2024, followed by a decrease of 18.6% in 2025. The renewal rate for 2026-2027 is less than the premiums paid in 2022.

As SNC's insurance broker, Marsh went to market to ensure the rates paid by the conservation authorities are competitive. SNC also performed its own due diligence on the premiums in 2019. At this time, staff are confident that SNC's continued participation in the Conservation Ontario group insurance program offers the best value to the Authority.

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

Compliance with Budget: The total 2026 Budget for insurance is \$178,300 including:

- \$156,500 under Corporate Services (Page 36 and 37)
- \$14,300 under Sewage System Review (Page 32 and 33)
- \$7,500 under Vehicles and Equipment (Page 24 and 25)

Budget includes approximately \$5,000 for Drone insurance and \$11,000 for additional pollution liability insurance which renews in July and September.

SNC Policy Adherence: SNC Purchasing Policy is adhered to. Under Section E – Non-Competitive Purchasing includes the purchasing insurance.

Programs and Services Category: Other than the Sewage Systems – General Operations and Sewage Systems Review – Category 2.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Johanna Barkley,

Director of Finance.

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**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Kat Watson, Coordinator, Early Warning Systems and Watershed Plans  
**Date:** April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026  
**Subject:** Request for Approval: WISKi MOU with Quinte Conservation

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors approve signing a five-year Memorandum of Understanding with Quinte Conservation for the Eastern Ontario Water Information System by Kisters (WISKi) hub collaborative.

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**DISCUSSION:**

South Nation Conservation (SNC) maintains and utilizes large amounts of data in several water resources programs, including Flood Forecasting and Warning Program, Low Water Response Program, Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network, and Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network, among others. The collection, storage, and automation of data analysis using the Water Information System by Kisters (WISKi), a data management platform, is critical to support informed decision-making and resource management related to these programs.

SNC has participated in the Eastern Ontario WISKi Hub (EOWH) for over a decade. This Hub is made up of 11 conservation authority (CA) partners across Eastern Ontario to cost-share the WISKi Platform, with Quinte Conservation managing the Platform since inception as Host CA. The attached Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) identifies the roles and responsibilities of the Host CA, Member CA, as well as the EOWH. It also identifies the annual fees owed to the Host CA for administration of the WISKi Platform, which are shared equally between all Hub partners. Staff are seeking approval to sign the MOU with Quinte Conservation.

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

Compliance with Budget: Included in 2026 budget, Resource Management, Water Response Programs, pages 12-13.

SNC Policy Adherence: Expenditures adhere to SNC's Purchasing Policy.

Programs and Services Category: Category 1 – Mandatory: Natural Hazards Management.

Katherine Watson

Coordinator, Early Warning Systems and Watershed Plans

Attachment: Memorandum of Understanding – Eastern Ontario Conservation Authority  
WISKI Hub

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# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

## Eastern Ontario Conservation Authority WISKI Hub

**This Memorandum of Understanding** (the “Agreement”) is effective as of the 1 day of January in the year 2026 (“Effective Date”).

### BETWEEN:

#### QUINTE CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

“Host CA”

- and -

#### SOUTH NATION RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

“Member CA”

WHEREAS the Host CA and the Member CA agree that the collection and automation of WISKI Data is critical to support informed decision-making on water-related issues which affect the security of life, property and the environment, support economic activity and provide for sustainable utilization of the resource in Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the Host CA and the Member CA recognize the value of collaboration amongst Eastern Ontario conservation authorities (“CAs”) to establish and maintain an effective and efficient WISKI water integration system;

AND WHEREAS the Host CA and the Member CA are committed to cooperating to operate the Eastern Ontario Conservation Authority WISKI Hub (the “Hub”),

NOW THEREFORE the Host CA and the Member CA agree as follows:

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of the Hub is to:

- a) share developments and purchasing power through the collaboration of multiple CAs on database management of CA data;
- b) provide a forum for cooperation and participation in the development of the WISKI-SODA program;
- c) exchange relevant policies, procedures, technologies, training, tools, techniques, strategies and experiences that will foster a process of continual improvement to the

- administration, operation, maintenance and delivery components of the various CA programs utilizing data stored within WISKI;
- d) establish budget and purchasing procedures for future expansion of the WISKI software program;
- e) design and establish a similar and standard protocol for accessing and deciphering gauging data so that it may be possible for neighboring agencies to provide back up (after hour) services; and
- f) share data between CA's should the need arise.

## 2. Host CA Responsibilities

Host CA responsibilities include:

- a) User administration
  - i. WISKI database users
  - ii. Active Directory Users and Computers
  - iii. Password resets/lockouts/decommissioning
  - iv. Provide members with a secure VPN to access Hub resources
  - v. Ensure that the VPN access point is online and functioning as expected
  - vi. Provide guidance and direction to Hub members, through documentation, for VPN client installation and connection steps
- b) Database security
  - i. Object permission groups for Site level data/objects
  - ii. User maintenance
  - iii. SQL Server database backup monitoring and scheduling
  - iv. Server level VM backups and restore capabilities
  - v. System uptime / backup power
  - vi. SODA/KiDAT task backups
  - vii. Data backups for custom tasks
- c) Hardware and Software Maintenance
  - i. Maintenance coordination/scheduling with Hub members
  - ii. KISTERS software updates
  - iii. Network/Windows Server maintenance
  - iv. WISKI Hub network hardware  
planning/budgeting/maintenance/purchasing/installation
  - v. SODA/MOXA consultations and implementation
- d) Automation/Custom scripts
  - i. Hosting and scheduling custom automation developments
  - ii. Testing and troubleshooting with clients
  - iii. KiDSM routines, import hot folder management/network shares
- e) Telemetry
  - i. SODA tenant, communication lines, parameters, troubleshooting
  - ii. KiDAT Server side/GOES implementations and troubleshooting
- f) General
  - i. General WISKI/SODA/KiDAT/KiWIS troubleshooting help calls (ex. locked time series, agent configurations, why didn't my data get from SODA/KiDAT to WISKI, can't login, frozen system, reset password, etc.)
  - ii. Elevated support requests with KISTERS
  - iii. Provide server/TSM access for KISTERS support upon request
  - iv. Liaison between KISTERS support and Hub members for elevated requests

- g) Network
  - i. General QC network maintenance/monitoring online state (applies to WISKI Hub given that the DMZ participates in our network)
  - ii. Provide domain and/or subdomain addresses/hosting for WISKI related web services as required
- h) Financial
  - i. Maintaining the financial accounting on behalf of the Member CA and other members of the Hub
  - ii. Preparing annual accounting for the Hub
  - iii. Preparing annual budget for the Hub using a conservative CAD:USD exchange rate
  - iv. Striving to maintain the Hub reserve account at 50% +/- 10% of the annual budget
  - v. Maintaining a contingency of at least 10% if the reserve account declines below 40%

### **3. Member CA Responsibilities**

Member CA responsibilities include:

- a) User administration
  - i. Communicating permission levels and updates on WISKI users to the Host CA
  - ii. Updating passwords on a regular basis
- b) Database Security
  - i. Maintaining security protocols as per the direction of the Host CA
  - ii. Troubleshoot VPN client connection issues
- c) Telemetry
  - i. Troubleshooting SODA communication lines and parameter
- d) Database Management
  - i. Following defined Hub protocols for the use of WISKI and related add-on modules
  - ii. Setting up and configuration of the Member's site, stations, parameters, timeseries, measuring programs etc.
- e) Participation
  - i. Sharing WISKI developments with other Members
  - ii. Contributing to the WISKI Forum
  - iii. Continuing to maintain and build WISKI products
- f) Financial
  - i. Paying annual baseline hosting fees to the Host CA

### **4. Hub Administration Committee**

The Hub Administration Committee shall consist of at least one representative appointed by the Host CA and at least one representative from each of the member CAs.

The Member CA shall designate one voting staff member to sit on the Hub Administration Committee.

The purpose of the Hub Administration Committee is to:

- a) Provide a forum for cooperation and participation in the development of the WISKI-SODA program;

- b) Exchange relevant policies, procedures, technologies, training, tools, techniques, strategies and experiences that will foster a process of continual improvement to the administration, operation, maintenance and delivery components of the various conservation authority programs utilizing data stored within WISKI;
- c) Establish budget and purchasing procedures for future expansion of the WISKI software program;
- d) Design and establish a similar and standard protocol for accessing and deciphering gauging data;
- e) Share data between CA's should the need arise (overall province low water response maps, rainfall hyetographs, snow survey data, water quality data etc.); and
- f) Identify and address issues with the Hub.

## **5. Standardization**

The Host CA and Member CA undertake to adequately train staff to ensure the use of WISKI adheres to standard formats.

The Member CA will endeavor to use a standard format for short name nomenclature to enable easy sharing of any scripting created for use in WISKI.

The Host CA and the Member CA will work collaboratively to create and maintain publicly accessible products with common attributes.

The Member CA is encouraged to actively participate in users' groups and forums.

## **6. Fees**

The Member CA shall pay a baseline fee to the Host CA annually in a timely manner.

The baseline fee shall be calculated from the cost of the Hub spread equally amongst participating member CAs.

The cost of the Hub shall be calculated from the costs incurred by the Host CA for the following:

- Hardware (including servers);
- IT Support/Maintenance;
- Internet and Telecommunication Services;
- SODA Support/Maintenance;
- KiWIS Support/Maintenance;
- KiEco Support/Maintenance;
- Other WISKI Modules or Support; and
- Contingency Fund.

The Member CA is responsible for paying KISTERS for their annual WISKI license.

## **7. Term of Agreement**

The Agreement shall continue in force commencing on the Effective Date for a term of five (5) years.

The Agreement shall automatically continue following the expiry of the term set out above until it is:

- a) superseded or replaced by a subsequent agreement; or
- b) terminated in its entirety by either party by giving ninety (90) days written notice.

## **8. Termination of Agreement**

The Agreement may be terminated at any time on the written agreement of both parties.

The Member CA may terminate this Agreement by providing written notice to the Host CA at least thirty (30) days prior to the Host CA's annual budget meeting.

If the Member CA unilaterally terminates this Agreement, the Member CA shall forfeit the current fiscal year's baseline fee and may pay a penalty equal to the baseline fee for the following fiscal year.

## **9. Notice**

Notice shall be in writing and shall be delivered by email, postage-prepaid mail, personal delivery, or fax, and shall be addressed to the following:

To the Member CA:                      South Nation Conservation  
38 Victoria Street  
Finch, ON, K0C 1K0  
Attention: Carl Bickerdike (CAO)

To the Host CA:                              Quinte Conservation Authority  
R.R. # 2, 2061 Old Highway 2  
Belleville, ON K8N 4Z2  
Attention: CAO

Notice shall be deemed to have been given:

- a) in the case of postage-prepaid mail, five (5) business days after the notice is mailed; or
- b) in the case of email, personal delivery, or fax, one (1) business day after the notice is delivered.

## **10. Indemnification**

The parties to this Agreement shall indemnify and save harmless each other from and against all claims, demands, losses, costs, damage, actions, suits, or proceedings by whosoever made, brought or prosecuted in any manner based upon, arising out of, related to, occasioned by or attributed to the activities described in this Agreement.

## **11. Severability of provisions**

The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of the Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision of the Agreement. Any invalid or unenforceable provision shall be deemed to be severed.

**12. Counterparts**

The Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

**13. Amending the Agreement**

The Agreement may only be amended by a written agreement duly executed by the parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this Agreement as of the Effective Date.

**QUINTE CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name:  
Position:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*I have authority to bind the Quinte Conservation Authority.*

**SOUTH NATION RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carl Bickerdike  
Chief Administrative Officer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*I have authority to bind the South Nation River Conservation Authority.*



**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Pat Piitz, Team Lead Property  
**Date:** March 30, 2026  
**Subject:** Update: 2025 Land Acquisitions

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors receive and file the 2025 Land Acquisitions update.

**DISCUSSION:**

This report provides an update and summary of land acquisitions previously approved by the Board of Directors and acquired in 2025.

No.	Board Resolution	Municipality	Purpose	Area (acres)	Status
1	BD-058/22	Ottawa	Wetland (PSW)	119.9	Closed 2026-02-03
2	BD-163/22	Ottawa	Wetland (PSW)	110.9	Closing 2026-04-27
3	BD-065/24	Edwardsburgh	Wetland (PSW)	9.1	Closed 2025-02-21
4	BD-105/24	North Grenville	Wetland (PSW)	35.0	Offer Declined
5	BD-143/24	North Dundas	Infrastructure	0.8	Pending
6	BD-187/24	North Grenville	Wetland (PSW)	46.1	Closed 2025-01-08
7	BD-202/24	Nation	Protection Forest	24.4	Closed 2025-06-19
8	BD-229/24	Augusta	Wetland (PSW)	145.0	Closed 2025-01-24
9	BD-102/25	North Stormont	Administration	2.0	Closed 2025-08-27
10	BD-045/25	North Dundas	River Access	1.5	Closed 2025-04-30
11	BD-075/25	Ottawa	Wetland	55.0	Funding Declined
12	BD-103/25	Nation	Protection Forest	9.3	Sold. Tax Sale.
13	BD-145/25	Russell	Forest	38.0	In Progress (July)
14	BD-145/25	Ottawa	Forest/Grassland	81.1	Pending Funding
15	BD-145/25	Augusta	Forest/Wetland (PSW)	83.4	Sold
16	BD-175/25	South Stormont	Forest/Wetland	50.0	Offer Declined
17	BD-233/25	Ottawa	Grassland/Forest	81.9	In Progress (June)
18	BD-233/25	Edwardsburgh	Forest/Wetland	30.0	Closing 2026-07-31
19	BD-021/26	North Grenville	Forest/Wetland (PSW)	50.0	Closing 2026-05-29



**Highlights:**

**2025**

- Total area acquired: 228.1 acres
- Total area of donated lands: 35.0 acres
- Value of donations: \$237,333.32
- External Funding Received: \$833,841.25

**2026 (confirmed only)**

- Total area for acquisition: 430.7 acres
- Total area of donated lands: 348.8 acres
- Value of Donations (estimated): \$1,477,000.00
- External Funding: TBD

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

Compliance with Budget: All land acquisitions completed within the 2025 SNC Budget as presented.

SNC Policy Adherence: Land transactions require approval of the Board of Directors as per SNC's Administrative By-laws and clause 21(1)(c) of the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

Clause 21(1)(n) of the *Conservation Authorities Act* enables SNC to collaborate and enter into agreements with organizations for the purpose of accomplishing its objects.

Programs and Services Category: Category 3 – Watershed (Other) Programs:  
Conservation Lands Securement

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Pat Piftz,  
Team Lead Property.



**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Deborah Edwards, Accounting Assistant  
**Date:** April 2nd, 2026  
**Subject:** Request for Approval: Monies Received and Disbursement Register for March 2026

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors receive and file the monies received report for March 2026; and  
 FURTHER THAT: The Board approve the Disbursement Register of \$951,126.34 for March 2026.

**DISCUSSION:**

The list of major money receipts by customers and customer groups are shown below:

<b>Received From:</b>	<b>March 2026</b>
Natural Resources Canada	315,342.28
City of Ottawa	301,192.84
Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks	85,000.00
City Of Clarence-Rockland	77,404.00
Planning Revenue	67,813.53
Septic Revenue	46,215.92
The Nation Municipality	42,392.00
Township Of North Dundas	40,215.00
Municipality Of South Dundas	34,071.00
Township Of Alfred And Plantagenet	26,447.00
Municipality Of Casselman	23,077.00
Township Of Edwardsburgh/Cardinal	22,760.00
Municipality of North Grenville	22,480.00
Tree Revenue	18,601.28
Township Of North Stormont	18,013.00
Invasive Species Centre	17,704.00
Township Of Augusta	15,548.00
Royal Bank of Canada	10,832.52
Ministry Of Natural Resources	8,209.00
Township of North Glengarry	6,117.00
Township Of South Stormont	3,460.00
United Counties Of Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry	1,021.52
Other Revenue	619.87
The Corporation Of The Township Of Elizabethtown - Kitley	265.00
Land Revenue	100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,204,901.76</b>

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

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

<b>March 2026</b>	
Accounts Payable Cheques	10,199.30
Internet Banking	511,910.81
Electronic Funds Transfer Payments	429,016.23
<b>Total</b>	<b>951,126.34</b>



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Deborah Edwards  
Accounting Assistant

Attachment: Disbursement Register – March 2026

### Disbursements Register - March 2026

Number	Name	Amount	
<b>Accounts Payable Cheques</b>			
21357	Purolator Courier Ltd.	178.60	
21358	Ministry of Finance	5.43	
21359	2026-UCPRWAS-004	500.00	MFTIP-UCPR Grant
21360	2026-UCPRWAS-005	500.00	MFTIP-UCPR Grant
21361	2026-UCPRWAS-006	500.00	MFTIP-UCPR Grant
21362	Parisien Excavation Inc.	1,040.00	
21363	North Grenville Taxes	358.02	
21364	2026-SDGWAS-005	500.00	MFTIP-SDG Grant
21365	2026-SDGWAS-003	500.00	MFTIP-SDG Grant
21366	05 26 2633 DDA	708.00	Ottawa Rural Clean Water Grant
21367	2026-SDGWAS-004	500.00	MFTIP-SDG Grant
21368	Boyer Excavation Inc	621.50	
21369	Purolator Courier Ltd.	46.59	
21370	The Flag Shop	1,262.21	
21371	HGC Management Inc	30.51	
21372	2026-UCPRWAS-007	500.00	MFTIP-UCPR Grant
21373	2025-NAT-CW05	2,448.44	Clean Water Grant
		<b>10,199.30</b>	
<b>Internet Banking</b>			
GP20414	Bell Canada	1,017.00	
GP20415	Bell Canada	59.47	
GP20415 A	City of Ottawa Tax Office	214.95	
GP20416	Bell Canada	201.22	
GP20416 A	City of Ottawa Tax Office	312.17	
GP20417	Hydro One	619.42	
GP20417 A	City of Ottawa Tax Office	223.90	
GP20418	Village de/of Casselman Taxes	549.79	
GP20418 A	City of Ottawa Tax Office	506.64	
GP20419	Village de/of Casselman Taxes	1,060.29	
GP20419 A	City of Ottawa Tax Office	6.74	
GP20420	Village de/of Casselman Taxes	536.16	
GP20421	Township of South Stormont - Taxes	2.31	
GP20421 A	City of Ottawa Tax Office	860.39	
GP20422	Township of South Stormont - Taxes	97.70	
GP20422 A	City of Ottawa Tax Office	835.56	
GP20423	Township of South Stormont - Taxes	97.70	
GP20424	The Bank of Montreal - RRSP	3,639.12	Pension
GP20425	Telus	1,257.69	
GP20426	Payworks	153,365.28	Pay 5
GP20427	Hydro Ottawa	21.66	
GP20428	Assante Capital Management	741.60	
GP20429	Russell Township Taxes	364.64	
GP20430	Enbridge	470.65	
GP20431	Russell Township Taxes	389.79	
GP20432	Enbridge	2,060.67	
GP20433	Russell Township Taxes	1,999.23	
GP20434	Hydro One	2,102.83	
GP20435	Payworks	155,501.29	Pay 6
GP20436	Finch Feed & Seed Ltd. Purina	477.02	
GP20437	City of Ottawa Tax Office	625.82	

Number	Name	Amount	
GP20438	Hydro One	814.81	
GP20439	The Bank of Montreal - RRSP	3,639.12	Pension
GP20440	MacEwen Petroleum Inc.	986.46	
GP20441	Visa - Carl Bickerdike	2,024.80	
GP20442	Hydro One	76.24	
GP20443	Hydro One	33.61	
GP20444	Assante Capital Management	741.60	
GP20445	Visa - Jen Boyer	996.21	
GP20446	Visa - Jacques Levert	414.30	
GP20447	Visa - Monique Sauve	128.00	
GP20448	Visa - Deborah Edwards	2,677.74	
GP20449	Visa - Lorie Henderson	163.00	
GP20450	Visa - Michelle Cavanagh	2,348.75	
GP20451	Visa - Ronda Boutz	603.62	
GP20452	Visa - Sandra Mancini	5,333.54	
GP20453	Visa - John Mesman	2,468.46	
GP20443	Royal Bank of Canada	914.54	
GP20443	Payworks	157,327.31	Pay 7
		<b>511,910.81</b>	
	<b>EFT Banking</b>		
REM001289	Staples Commercial/Trevipay	246.44	
REM001290	Lannin's Garage	193.25	
REM001291	Etcetera Publications (Chesterville) Inc	1,545.21	
REM001292	Levac Propane Inc	1,650.86	
REM001293	Lloyd McMillan Equipment Ltd.	146.90	
REM001294	Pineneedle Farms	1,881.59	
REM001295	Winchester Springs Mobile Wash	395.50	
REM001296	Brent Harbers	834.88	
REM001297	Eastern Engines Inc	74.28	
REM001298	Canadian Linen & Uniform Service Corp	56.50	
REM001299	Arielle Noonan	731.19	
REM001300	Capstone Development & Training	192.10	
REM001301	A.R.L. Land Improvements	6,921.25	Contracted Services
REM001302	Harbers Greenhouses And Forestry	1,527.54	
REM001303	Willard Creations	1,683.70	
REM001304	Ferguson Forest Centre	10,913.88	RALP & Trees
REM001305	The Nation Municipality - Taxes	11,270.72	Property Taxes
REM001306	Baker Tilly REO LLP	22,600.00	Professional Services
REM001307	Arete IR Advisors Canada ULC	22,056.92	Contracted Services
REM001308	OMERS	48,655.09	Pension
REM001309	Staples Commercial/Trevipay	128.15	
REM001310	Lannin's Garage	115.50	
REM001311	Conservation Ontario	5,085.00	Courses/Workshops
REM001312	Levac Propane Inc	1,111.89	
REM001313	Township of Edwardsburgh/Cardinal	1,250.78	
REM001314	Township of Alfred & Plantagenet Taxes	3,940.28	
REM001315	Municipality of South Dundas - Taxes	2,828.04	
REM001316	Laplante Chevrolet Buick GMC	1,238.95	
REM001317	Storm Internet Services	169.50	
REM001318	Nova Networks	3,384.35	
REM001319	Cansel	163.85	
REM001320	Lloyd McMillan Equipment Ltd.	1,479.16	

Number	Name	Amount	
REM001321	Augusta Township Taxes	384.85	
REM001322	Eric McGill	2,521.85	
REM001323	Begg-Seguin - Crysler Hardware Limited	874.88	
REM001324	Simply Baked Catering Inc	274.03	
REM001325	Eastern Engines	147.41	
REM001326	Canadian Linen & Uniform Service Corp	113.00	
REM001327	Postlink Corporation	5,806.61	Postage & Delivery
REM001328	Endeavour Solutions Inc	364.43	
REM001329	Mike Tarnowski	1,485.75	
REM001330	Canadian Aerial Support	847.50	
REM001331	Wex Canada Ltd	256.74	
REM001332	Harbers Greenhouses And Forestry	6,384.50	Trees
REM001333	North Stormont Taxes	9,746.95	Property Taxes
REM001334	Aquanty Inc	19,775.00	Contracted Services
REM001335	AECOM Canada ULC	24,946.94	Contracted Services
REM001336	Ted Moran & Sons Ltd.	4,957.88	
REM001337	Traductions Catmac Translations	442.93	
REM001338	David Scholz	1,348.09	
REM001339	Lannin's Garage	180.05	
REM001340	Ferguson Forest Centre	3,627.30	
REM001341	The Review	220.35	
REM001342	Canadian Linen & Uniform Service Corp	56.50	
REM001343	Occupational Safety Group Inc	743.20	
REM001344	Staples Commercial/Trevipay	144.09	
REM001345	Tenaquip Industrial Equipment	51.78	
REM001346	1000224147 Ont Inc (Latremouille Tool Sales Rental)	500.59	
REM001347	Todd Baker	56.48	
REM001348	Lloyd McMillan Equipment Ltd.	6,056.80	Contracted Services & Materials
REM001349	Staples Commercial/Trevipay	144.15	
REM001350	1595246 Ontario - Safe and Dependable	1,200.00	
REM001351	Levac Propane Inc	656.06	
REM001352	Pierre Richer Plumbing Inc.	1,565.84	
REM001353	Francois St Amour	831.76	
REM001354	Brazeau Sanitation Inc.	203.40	
REM001355	Master Floor Care Janitorial Ottawa	2,475.02	
REM001356	Tenaquip Industrial Equipment	548.07	
REM001357	Nova Networks	262.16	
REM001358	Ferme Martin Leduc Inc	2,486.00	
REM001359	Lannin's Garage	177.60	
REM001360	Baker Tilly REO LLP	18,645.00	Professional Services
REM001361	J. Carty's Tree Service Ltd.	31,857.53	Contracted Services
REM001362	AECOM Canada ULC	29,684.33	Contracted Services
REM001363	Aquanty Inc	67,093.75	Contracted Services
REM001364	Chubb Life Insurance Company of Canada	9.82	
REM001365	AIG Insurance Company of Canada	160.56	
REM001366	Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada	24,225.45	Group Benefits
		<b>429,016.23</b>	



**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** James Holland, Senior Planner  
**Date:** April 1, 2026  
**Subject:** Update: Planning Activity

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors receive and file the Planning Activity update for the month of March 2026.

**DISCUSSION:**

South Nation Conservation (“SNC”) staff provide comments on planning applications to support new development. Municipalities circulate applications to SNC; costs are recovered from applicants according to the Board approved fee schedule.

The table below summarizes planning applications received in March 2026.

#	Application Type	Property	Municipality
53	Consent	730 Boundary Rd	Alfred and Plantagenet
54	Consent	730 Boundary Rd	Alfred and Plantagenet
55	Consent	730 Boundary Rd	Alfred and Plantagenet
56	Section 59 Clearance	7227 County Rd 17	Alfred and Plantagenet
57	Subdivision	7227 County Rd 17	Alfred and Plantagenet
58	Minor Variance	1425 County Rd 2	Augusta
59	Zoning By-Law Amendment	744 Laval St	Casselman
60	Consent	2500 Highway 34	Champlain
61	Consent	1765 Cassburn Rd	Champlain
62	Consent	5666 Highway 34	Champlain
63	Consent	Bay Road	Champlain
64	Consent	4092 Champlain St	Clarence-Rockland
65	Site Plan Control	280 Landry Rd	Clarence-Rockland
66	Consent	7798 County Road 21	Edwardsburgh-Cardinal
67	Consent	1924 Totem Ranch Road	Edwardsburgh-Cardinal
68	Consent	4035 County Rd 3	Nation
69	Consent	35 Route 600 E	Nation
70	Site Plan Control	2089 Calypso St, Limoges	Nation
71	Consent	13243 Thompson Rd	North Dundas
72	Consent	12030 Baker Rd	North Dundas
73	Section 59 Clearance	St Lawrence St	North Dundas
74	Section 59 Clearance	13243 Thompson Rd	North Dundas
75	Subdivision	St Lawrence St	North Dundas
76	Zoning By-Law Amendment	French Settlement Road	North Dundas
77	Consent	17147 County Rd 15	North Stormont



#	Application Type	Property	Municipality
78	Consent	15563 Finch Osnabruck Rd	North Stormont
79	Official Plan	26 Pitt Street	North Stormont
80	Consent	191 Rappel	Ottawa
81	Consent	191 Rappel	Ottawa
82	Consent	191 Rappel	Ottawa
83	Consent	191 Rappel	Ottawa
84	Consent	191 Rappel	Ottawa
85	Consent	191 Rappel	Ottawa
86	Consent	191 Rappel	Ottawa
87	Consent	191 Rappel	Ottawa
88	Consent	191 Rappel	Ottawa
89	Consent	191 Rappel	Ottawa
90	Consent	191 Rappel	Ottawa
91	Consent	191 Rappel	Ottawa
92	Consent	191 Rappel	Ottawa
93	Consent	1929 Queensdale Ave	Ottawa
94	Consent	1991 Kingsdale Ave	Ottawa
95	Consent	1991 Kingsdale Ave	Ottawa
96	Consent	1991 Kingsdale Ave	Ottawa
97	Consent	6652 Cedar Acres Dr	Ottawa
98	Consent	2349 Maglady Rd	Ottawa
99	Consent	5648 Rockdale Rd	Ottawa
100	Consent	St Jacques Rd	Russell
101	Zoning By-Law Amendment	St Augustin Rd	Russell
102	Consent	10251 County Rd 2	South Dundas
103	Consent	15382 Raymond Road	South Stormont

There were no residential subdivision or site plan clearances in March 2026.

The table below summarizes application pre-consultation reviews requested by municipalities and property inquiry letters issued in March 2026.

#	Municipality	Application
1	Pre-Consultation	Alfred and Plantagenet
2	Property Inquiry	Augusta
3	Property Inquiry	Clarence-Rockland
4	Pre-Consultation	Clarence-Rockland
5	Pre-Consultation	Edwardsburgh/Cardinal
6	Property Inquiry	Ottawa



#	Municipality	Application
7	Property Inquiry	Ottawa
8	Property Inquiry	Ottawa
9	Property Inquiry	Ottawa
10	Pre-Consultation	Ottawa
11	Pre-Consultation	Ottawa
12	Pre-Consultation	Russell

Staff will continue to track applications within our internal OnBase and tasking system to meet milestones and legislative timelines on each application and the reviews. This includes ensuring legislative timelines mandated under the *Planning Act* are met and to provide exemplary customer service to our municipal partners.

Programs & Services Category: Category 1 – Mandatory: Review of applications and other matters under the *Planning Act* for the purposes of helping to ensure that the decisions under that Act are consistent with the natural hazards policies in the policy statements issued under section 3 of the Act.

James Holland, M.Sc. MCIP RPP  
Senior Planner.



**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Shahin Zand, Water Resources Engineer  
**Date:** April 2, 2026  
**Subject:** Update: Engineering Technical Reviews

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors receive and file the Engineering Technical Reviews update for the month of March 2026.

**DISCUSSION:**

South Nation Conservation (“SNC”) Engineering Team reviews technical reports to support development applications under the *Planning Act* and permit applications under the *Conservation Authorities Act*. Costs are recovered from applicants according to the Board of Directors approved fee schedule.

The table below lists the number of *Planning Act* application technical reviews undertaken in the month of February 2026.

<b>Planning Act Application Technical Reviews</b>	
<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Number of Reviews</b>
Alfred-Plantagenet	1
Casselman	1
North Dundas	2
North Stormont	1
Ottawa	3
South Dundas	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>

The table below lists the number of *Conservation Authorities Act* permit application technical reviews undertaken in the month of February 2026.

<b>CA Act Permit Application Technical Reviews</b>	
<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Number of Reviews</b>
Alfred and Plantagenet	2
Augusta	1
Casselman	1
Clarence-Rockland	2
Edwardsburgh-Cardinal	1
North Dundas	2
Ottawa	4
Russell	3
South Dundas	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19</b>

SNC’s Engineering Team will continue to track applications and associated timelines to ensure timely reviews.



SOUTH NATION  
**CONSERVATION**  
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Programs & Services Category: Category 1 – Mandatory: (1) Administration of Part VI of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and Ontario Regulation 41/24; and (2) Review of applications and other matters under the *Planning Act* for the purposes of helping to ensure that the decisions under that Act are consistent with the natural hazards policies in the policy statements issued under section 3 of the Act.

Shahin Zand, P.Eng.  
Water Resources Engineer.



**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Jennifer Boyer, Managing Director, Approvals  
**Date:** April 1, 2026  
**Subject:** Update: Section 28.1 Permits Issued

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors receive and file the update on permits issued under Section 28.1 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* for the month of March 2026.

**DISCUSSION:**

South Nation Conservation (“SNC”) staff exercise delegated power to issue permits under Section 28.1 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* for development activities in areas over which the Authority has jurisdiction (BD-061/24 and BD-121/24). Permits are issued in accordance with the Board of Directors approved Regulation Polices.

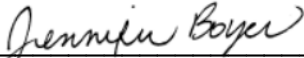
The table below lists the permits issued in March 2026:

#	Project No.	Permit Holder	Municipality	Project
25	2026-ALP-R003	Gisele Malette Pelletier	Alfred and Plantagenet	Septic Installation and Residential Construction
26	2026-AUG-R008	Dave Chartrand	Augusta	Septic System Installation
27	2026-EDW-R029	Pierre Lemay	Edwardsburgh-Cardinal	Garage Construction
28	2026-NAT-R048	Black & McDonald Limited	Nation	Hydro One
29	2026-NDU-R026	United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry	North Dundas	Bridge Rehabilitation
30	2025-OSG-R069	City Of Ottawa	Ottawa	Culvert Replacement
31	2025-OSG-R191	City Of Ottawa	Ottawa	Modifications to Municipal Drain
32	2026-SDU-R025	United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry	South Dundas	Bridge Rehabilitation

This table provides a summary of permit related site visits undertaken to date in 2026.

Permit Site Visits and Inspections 2026		
Action	February 2026	Total for 2026
Permit Compliance Inspections	9	22
Pre-consultations	0	0

Programs & Services Category: Category 1 – Mandatory: Administration of Part VI of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and Ontario Regulation 41/24.

  
Jennifer Boyer, M.Sc. MCIP RPP  
Managing Director, Approvals



**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Gregory Payne, Regulations Officer  
**Date:** April 1, 2026  
**Subject:** Update: Enforcement of Parts VI and VII of the Act

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors receive and file the update on reported *Conservation Authorities Act* regulation concerns received for the month of March 2026.

**DISCUSSION:**

South Nation Conservation (“SNC”) staff administer and enforce Parts VI and VII of the *Conservation Authorities Act* (the “Act”) in the areas over which the Authority has jurisdiction. SNC relies on members of the public and municipal partners to assist in identifying and reporting contraventions of the Act.


Staff evaluate reported concerns for priority response based on potential adverse impacts to people and property; the risk of exacerbating natural hazards; the public interest; and the Authority’s resources. The table below lists the reported concerns received in March 2026.

Received in 2026	File No.	Location	Description
5	ENF2026-AUG-01	Augusta	Matter not subject to regulation under the Act
6	ENF2026-RUS-01	Russell	Reported development activity in a regulated area

This table provides a summary of staff enforcement and compliance actions undertaken to date in 2026.

Enforcement and Compliance Actions 2026		
Action	March 2026	Total for 2026
Site Visits	1	8
Files Resolved	0	4
Referred to Correct Agency	1	6
Stop Orders Issued	1	3
Files where charges have been laid under the <i>Provincial Offences Act</i>	0	0

Programs & Services Category: Category 1 – Mandatory: Administration and Enforcement of Parts VI and VII of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and Ontario Regulation 41/24.

  
 Gregory Payne,  
 Regulations Officer



**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Monique Sauv , Chief Building Official Part 8 - Septic Systems  
**Date:** April 1, 2026  
**Subject:** Update: On-Site Sewage Permits Received

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board of Directors receive and file the on-site sewage permits received for the month of March 2026.

**DISCUSSION:**

South Nation Conservation (“SNC”) staff issue permits under Part 8 of the Ontario Building Code on behalf of sixteen municipalities. The list below includes permits received for the month of March 2026. Septic system searches and renovation reviews are not included.

#	Permit Number	Landowner(s)	Municipality	Description
40	AP-26-07	Medhi Ali Recep	Alfred Plantagenet	New Construction
41	AP-26-08	Pierre Franche	Alfred Plantagenet	New Construction
42	AP-26-09	Simon & Oceane Proulx-Lanthier	Alfred Plantagenet	New Construction
43	AP-26-10	Christine Cool	Alfred Plantagenet	Septic System Replacement
44	AU-26-03	Paul Johnson	Augusta	New Construction
45	AU-26-04	Leslie Amy	Augusta	New Construction
46	CR-26-07	8886440 Canada Inc. a/s Fossil Homes	Clarence Rockland	New Construction
47	CR-26-08	Jean-Pierre Lefebvre	Clarence Rockland	Tank
48	CR-26-09	Riverlands of Rockland	Clarence Rockland	Tank
49	CR-26-10	1001051911 Ontario Inc. c/o Trevor Lamarche	Clarence Rockland	New Construction
50	CR-26-11 A	8886440 Canada Inc.	Clarence Rockland	New Construction
51	CR-26-11 B	8886440 Canada Inc	Clarence Rockland	New Construction
52	CR-26-12	Caleb Piche	Clarence Rockland	New Construction
53	EH-26-06	Steve Delarosbil & Natacha Roy	East Hawkesbury	New Construction
54	NA-26-04	Chantal Morin	Nation	Tank
55	NA-26-05	11731726 Canada Inc.	Nation	New Construction
56	NA-26-06	Yannick Lacroix	Nation	New Construction
57	NA-26-07	La Ferme Ben-Rey-Mo Ltd.	Nation	New Construction
58	NA-26-08	Rene Seguin & Francine Giguere	Nation	Septic System Replacement
59	ND-26-04	Colin & Bernadette Newman	North Dundas	New Construction
60	ND-26-05	John & Carolyn Rowe	North Dundas	Tank
61	ND-26-06	Daniel Lillico	North Dundas	New Construction



#	Permit Number	Landowner(s)	Municipality	Description
62	NS-26-05	Dala Investment Inc.	North Stormont	New Construction
63	NS-26-06	Matthew Caron	North Stormont	Septic System Replacement
64	RU-26-02	André Léonard	Russell	New Construction
65	RU-26-03	Megha Holdings Inc.	Russell	New Construction
66	SD-26-02	Jonathan Carpenter	South Dundas	New Construction
67	SS-26-05	Jeffrey Hayes	South Stormont	New Construction

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

Programs & Services Category: Category 2 – Municipal Service Agreements: Building Code Part 8 Program Delivery

Monique Sauvé,  
Chief Building Official Part 8 - Septic Systems

**Ministry of the Environment,  
Conservation and Parks**

**Ministère de l'Environnement,  
de la Protection de la nature et des  
Parcs**



Office of the Minister

Bureau du ministre

777 Bay Street, 5th Floor  
Toronto ON M7A 2J3  
Tel.: 416 314-6790

777, rue Bay, 5<sup>e</sup> étage  
Toronto ON M7A 2J3  
Tél. : 416 314-6790

357-2026-754

March 10, 2026

Dear Chairs:

I am writing to provide an update as we move into the next phase of improving Ontario's conservation authority system. This spring, the government intends to introduce legislative amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act* (CAA) that, if passed, would implement this next phase.

Thank you for taking the time to participate in the consultation process. We listened closely, and the feedback we received directly shaped and strengthened our plan. Based on the feedback, we adjusted the planned regional boundaries—from the originally proposed boundaries that would have created seven regional conservation authorities—and optimized to boundaries that create nine new regional conservation authorities. These planned boundaries would accommodate areas with distinct geographies and development contexts, better balance differing priorities across rural, urban and northern areas and improve alignment with watersheds and with source protection regions.

We are also building in clear mechanisms to ensure local knowledge continues to guide decision-making. The plan is for the newly created regional CAs to create one or more Watershed Councils to ensure watershed planning is guided by local insights. Regional CAs will continue to operate as independent public bodies with municipally appointed boards that maintain strong local representation and oversight.

The planned consolidation to regional conservation authorities is targeted to occur in early 2027 and is designed to strengthen the system—not weaken it—by increasing consistency, modernizing standards, and providing better tools and resources to support the frontline work your teams deliver every day. Under this plan, regional conservation authorities will continue to rely on the deep local expertise, knowledge, and relationships that your staff bring to their communities. Those who know the watershed best will remain central to delivering local programs and on-the-ground support, helping to ensure decisions reflect the unique environmental priorities of each area.

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This plan to transition to regional conservation authorities marks the beginning of a renewed relationship—one that builds on local strengths while establishing greater consistency and shared capacity across the province. As part of this plan, the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA) will lead a gradual, carefully managed transition to ensure stability and continuity. Services, programs, and permitting will continue uninterrupted as planning for transition progresses toward early 2027. There will be no cuts to front line jobs. Protecting local service delivery is a guiding principle of this planned transition, and communities will continue to work with the same local teams at conservation authorities they rely on today.

To ensure a smooth and organized transition, the province is providing \$3 million in annual funding, to be administered by OPCA. These resources are planned to be used by OPCA to support conservation authorities throughout the transition period and, in the longer term, will enable regional conservation authorities to achieve program improvements.

Your leadership is vital as we begin this new chapter. I encourage you to share this message with your staff to provide reassurance that their work, expertise, and community relationships remain at the heart of Ontario's conservation system. In the coming weeks, you will be invited to technical briefings to provide further information on the next steps in the planned transition process.

For questions regarding the planned consolidation and the transition process, please contact [CCEO@ontario.ca](mailto:CCEO@ontario.ca). If you have questions about the planned legislative amendments or day-to-day CA business, please reach out to MECP staff at [ca.office@ontario.ca](mailto:ca.office@ontario.ca).

Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment. We look forward to working with you over the next year to make important improvements to Ontario's conservation authority system.

Sincerely,



Todd McCarthy  
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

c: Hassaan Basit, Chief Conservation Executive, MECP  
Chloe Stuart, Assistant Deputy Minister, Land and Water Division, MECP

Ministry of the Environment,  
Conservation and Parks

Ministère de l'Environnement, de la  
Protection de la nature et des Parcs

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357-2026-736

March 10, 2026

**TO:** Conservation authorities as listed in Appendix A to the Attachment A  
"Minister's Direction Issued Pursuant to Section 21.3 of the *Conservation  
Authorities Act*"

**SUBJECT:** Minister's direction for conservation authorities regarding fee changes  
associated with planning, development, and permitting fees

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I am writing with regards to conservation authority planning, development and permitting fees. Pursuant to my authority under subsection 21.3 (1) of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, I am issuing a new Direction, attached to this letter as Attachment A. This Direction is consistent with the Directions that were previously in place for the 2023, 2024 and 2025 calendar years.

The purpose of this Direction, which is effective from March 10, 2026, to February 28, 2027, is to require a conservation authority not to change the amount of the fee it charges or the manner in which it determines the fee for any program or service related to reviewing and commenting on planning and development related proposals or land use planning policies, or for permits issued by conservation authorities. This Direction is intended to support less costly approvals in order to help increase housing supply and affordability in Ontario.

This Direction applies to the conservation authorities listed in Appendix A, who are encouraged to make the Direction publicly available on the Governance section of their websites.

If you have any questions regarding this Direction, please contact the ministry at [ca.office@ontario.ca](mailto:ca.office@ontario.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Todd McCarthy", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Todd McCarthy  
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

c: The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

00054

**Minister's Direction Issued Pursuant to Section 21.3 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*  
(this "Direction")**

**WHEREAS** section 21.2 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* permits a conservation authority to charge a fee for a program or service if the program or service is included in the Minister's list of classes of programs and services in respect of which a conservation authority may charge a fee;

**AND WHEREAS** subsections 21.2 (6) and 21.2 (7) of the *Conservation Authorities Act* provide that a conservation authority shall adopt a written fee policy that includes a fee schedule listing the programs and services that it provides in respect of which it charges a fee, and the amount of the fee charged for each program or service or the manner in which the fee is determined (a "**Fee Schedule**");

**AND WHEREAS** subsection 21.2 (10) of the *Conservation Authorities Act* provides that a conservation authority may make a change to the list of fees set out in the fee schedule or to the amount of any fee or the manner in which a fee is determined, provided the authority shall give notice of the proposed change to the public in a manner it considers appropriate;

**AND WHEREAS** section 21.3 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* provides the Minister with the authority to give a written direction to an authority directing it not to change the amount of any fee it charges under subsection 21.2 (10), in respect of a program or service set out in the list referred to in subsection 21.2 (2), for the period specified in the direction;

**NOW THEREFORE** pursuant to the authority of the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks under section 21.3, the conservation authorities set out under Appendix "A" of this Direction (the "**conservation authorities**" or each, a "**conservation authority**") are hereby directed as follows:

**Fee Changes Prohibition**

1. Commencing on the Effective Date and for the duration of the Term of this Direction, a conservation authority is prohibited from making a change under subsection 21.2 (10) of the *Conservation Authorities Act* to the amount of any fee or the manner in which a fee is determined in its fee schedule if such a change would have the effect of changing the fee amount for the programs and services described in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Direction.

**Program and Service Fees Impacted**

2. This Direction applies to any fee set out in the Fee Schedule of a conservation authority, including without limitation fees for any mandatory program or service (Category 1), municipal program or service (Category 2), or conservation authority recommended program or service (Category 3) related to reviewing and commenting on planning and

## Attachment A

development related proposals, applications, or land use planning policies, or for conservation authority permitting.

3. For greater certainty, this Direction applies to any fees in respect of the following programs or services provided under the Mandatory Programs and Services regulation ([O. Reg. 686/21](#)):
  - a. Section 6: programs and services related to reviewing applications and proposals under the *Aggregate Resources Act*, *Drainage Act*, *Environmental Assessment Act*, and the *Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act*, for the purpose of commenting on the risks related to natural hazards arising from the proposal,
  - b. Section 7: programs and services related to ensuring that decisions under the *Planning Act* are consistent with the natural hazards policies in the policy statements issued under section 3 of the *Planning Act* and are in conformance with any natural hazard policies included in a provincial plan as defined in section 1 of that Act,
  - c. Section 8: programs and services related to conservation authority duties, functions, and responsibilities to administer and enforce section 28 and its regulations, section 28.0.1, and section 30.1 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*,
  - d. Paragraph 4 of subsection 13 (3): programs and services related to reviewing and commenting on any proposal made under another Act for the purpose of determining whether the proposal relates to a significant drinking water threat or may impact any drinking water sources protected by a source protection plan, and
  - e. Subparagraph 4 iv of section 15: programs and services related to reviewing and commenting on proposals made under other Acts for the purpose of determining the proposal's impact on the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan and the Lake Simcoe watershed.

### **Application**

4. This Direction, applies to all conservation authorities in Ontario, listed in Appendix "A" to this Direction.
5. For greater certainty, this Direction also applies to the conservation authorities listed in Appendix "A" to this Direction when such conservation authorities are meeting as a source protection authority under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*.

### **Effective Date and Term**

6. This Direction is effective from March 10, 2026 (the "**Effective Date**").
7. The term of this Direction is the period from the Effective Date to February 28, 2027 (the "**Term**").

Attachment A

**Amendments**

8. This Direction may be amended in writing from time to time at the sole discretion of the Minister.

**HIS MAJESTY THE KING IN RIGHT OF ONTARIO  
as represented by the  
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Todd McCarthy", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left and then curves back under the name.

Todd McCarthy  
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
March 10, 2026