



Board of Directors Meeting

AGENDA

June 18, 2026

2:00 p.m.

LTVCA Administration Office

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1. First Nations Acknowledgement

We will begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of First Nations people who have longstanding relationships to the land, water and region of southwestern Ontario. We also acknowledge the local lower Thames River watershed communities of this area which include Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames, Munsee Delaware Nation, Delaware Nation, Caldwell Nation and Walpole Island First Nation. We acknowledge the first nations people within the villages, towns and cities of our communities. We value the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations and all of the Original peoples of Turtle Island (North America). We are thankful for the opportunity to live, learn and share with mutual respect and appreciation.

2. Call to Order

3. Adoption of Agenda

4. Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

5.1) Board of Directors Meeting Minutes April 16, 2026



Board of Directors Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

The meeting of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's Board of Directors was held in person and remotely via the LTVCA's Administration Office at 100 Thames Street in Chatham, ON at 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, April 16, 2026. The following directors were in attendance: P. Tiessen, H. Aerts, K. Loveland, M. Vink, L. Vogler, P. Van Meerenberg and R. Leatham. J. Wright, A. Finn, S. Hipple, S. Emons and M. Bondy sent their regrets.

1. First Nations Acknowledgement
Mark Peacock read the First Nations Acknowledgement.
2. Call to Order
3. Adoption of Agenda

BD-2026-27 L. Vogler – K. Loveland

Moved that the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

4. Disclosures of Conflicts of Interest
None Declared.

5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

BD-2026-28 R. Leatham – H. Aerts

Moved that the Board of Directors minutes of the February 19, 2026 meeting be approved.

CARRIED

6. In Camera Session

BD-2026-29 K. Loveland – R. Leatham

Moved that the Board of Directors move into an in-camera session.

CARRIED

For a subject matter being considered related to:

- a) The security of the property of the Authority;

- b) Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including employees of the Authority;
- c) A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the Authority;
- d) Labour relations or employee negotiations;
- e) Litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals (e.g. Ontario Land Tribunal), affecting the Authority;
- f) Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege;
- g) A matter in respect of which the General Membership, Executive Committee, Advisory Board or committee or other body may hold a closed meeting under another act;
- h) Information explicitly supplied in confidence to the Authority by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them;
- i) A trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the Authority, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization;
- j) A trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial or financial information that belongs to the Authority and has monetary value or potential monetary value; or
- k) A position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the Authority.

BD-2026-30 L. Vogler – H. Aerts

Moved that the Board of Directors move out of the in-camera session.

CARRIED

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

None Declared.

8. Presentations

- 8.1) LTVCA 2025 Financials – Auditors Report
- 8.2) LTVCA Climate Change Strategy
- 8.3) LTVCA Asset Management Plan Update
- 8.4) Request for proposals (RFP) Talbot Creek Flood Plain Mapping Study
- 8.5) Campbell Conservation Area Acquisition

BD-2026-31 M. Vink – K. Loveland

Moved that the Board of Directors move to an in-camera session.

CARRIED

For a subject matter being considered related to:

- a) The security of the property of the Authority;
- b) Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including employees of the Authority;
- c) A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the Authority;
- d) Labour relations or employee negotiations;
- e) Litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals (e.g. Ontario Land Tribunal), affecting the Authority;

- f) Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege;
- g) A matter in respect of which the General Membership, Executive Committee, Advisory Board or committee or other body may hold a closed meeting under another act;
- h) Information explicitly supplied in confidence to the Authority by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them;
- i) A trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the Authority, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization;
- j) A trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial or financial information that belongs to the Authority and has monetary value or potential monetary value; or
- k) A position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the Authority.

BD-2026-32 L. Vogler – H. Aerts

Moved that the Board of Directors move out of the in-camera session.

CARRIED

8.6) Bill 97 Changes to the Conservation Authorities Act

BD-2026-33 L. Vogler – M. Vink

Moved that Presentations 8.1 through 8.6 be received for information.

CARRIED

9. New Business

None noted.

10. Business for Approval

10.1) 2025 Audited Financial Statements – Auditors Report

BD-2026-34 P. Van – K. Loveland

Moved that the LTVCA's 2025 Audited Financial Statements be approved as presented.

CARRIED

10.2) LTVCA Climate Change Strategy

BD-2026-35 R. Leatham – L. Vogler

Moved that the LTVCA's Climate Change Strategy be approved as presented.

CARRIED

10.3) LTVCA Asset Management Plan Update Report

BD-2026-36 K. Loveland – H. Aerts

Moved that the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority Asset Management Plan 2024, Updated April 2026, be approved.

CARRIED

10.4) Award Talbot Creek Flood Plain Study

BD-2026-37 R. Leatham – M. Vink

Moved that the Board of Directors approves the award of the Talbot Creek Flood Plain Study to Greck Associates for a total Cost with taxes of \$88,433.80;

And That

The Chair and CAO/Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to sign a standard engineering contract for these services.

CARRIED

10.5) Campbell Conservation Area Agreement

BD-2026-38 L. Vogler – R. Leatham

Moved that the board approve the LTVCA Staff to proceed with entering into the Land Securement Agreement with Mr. John Stacey for the Campbell Conservation Area to satisfy the Final Will of Keith Campbell for the acquisition of Conservation Lands;

and further that

the Chair and CAO be approved to sign the agreement.

CARRIED

10.6) Income and Expenditure vs Budget to February 28, 2026

BD-2026-39 P. Van – K. Loveland

Moved that the Board of Directors receives the Budget vs Revenue and Expenditures report for the period ended February 28, 2026.

CARRIED

11. Business for Information

11.1) CA Act Changes 0 Bill 97 Report

BD-2026-40 M. Vink – R. Leatham

Moved that the CA Act Changes – Bill 97 Report be received for information.

CARRIED

11.2) CAO / Secretary Treasurer Report

BD-2026-41 K. Loveland – H. Aerts

Moved that the CAO Secretary-Treasurer Report be received for information.

CARRIED

- 11.3) Water Management
- 11.4) Planning and Regulations
- 11.5) Conservation Lands
- 11.6) Conservation Services
- 11.7) Communications, Education and Outreach
- 11.8) Ska-Nah-Doht Village Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes March 19, 2026
- 11.9) Wheatley Two Creeks Association February 5, 2026 Minutes
- 11.10) Wheatley Two Creeks Association December Minutes

BD-2026-42 P. Van – H. Aerts

Moved that the Board of Directors receive the above reports, 11.3 through to 11.10, for information.

CARRIED

12. Correspondence

- 12.1) Minister's direction for conservation authorities regarding fee changes

BD-2026-43 K. Loveland – L. Vogler

Moved that the Board of Directors receive 12.1 for information.

CARRIED

13. Other Business

None noted.

14. Adjournment

BD-2026-44 M. Vink – H. Aerts

Moved that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Paul Tiessen
Chair

Mark Peacock, P.Eng.
CAO/Secretary-Treasurer

5.2) Board of Directors Meeting Minutes May 29, 2026



Special Board of Directors Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

Special Meeting at the Call of the Chair Virtual Meeting

May 29, 2026
2:00 p.m.

A Special Meeting of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's Board of Directors was held via Zoom at 2:00 P.M. on Friday, May 29, 2026 at the call of the Chair. A roll call was held with the following members in attendance: P. Tiessen, L. Vogler, M. Vink, H. Aerts, J. Wright, K. Loveland, S. Emons and R. Leatham. Regrets were sent in by A. Finn, S. Hipple, P. Van Meerbergen and M. Bondy.

1. First Nations Acknowledgement

Mark Peacock read the First Nations Acknowledgement.

2. Call to Order

Chair, Paul Tiessen called the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 2:00 PM.

3. Adoption of Agenda

BD-2026-45 R. Leatham – M. Vink

Moved that the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

None declared.

5. Presentation

Jason Wintermute provided the Board of Directors with a presentation on the progress of the South Chatham Floodplain Study Consulting Contract.

6. Business for Approval

6.1) Award – South Chatham Floodplain Study Consulting Contract

In Camera Session:

- a) The security of the property of the Authority;
- b) Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including employees of the Authority;
- c) A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the Authority;
- d) Labour relations or employee negotiations;
- e) Litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals (e.g. Ontario Land Tribunal), affecting the Authority;
- f) Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege;
- g) A matter in respect of which the General Membership, Executive Committee, Advisory Board or committee or other body may hold a closed meeting under another act;
- h) Information explicitly supplied in confidence to the Authority by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them;
- i) A trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the Authority, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organization;
- j) A trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial or financial information that belongs to the Authority and has monetary value or potential monetary value; or
- k) A position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the Authority.

BD-2026-46 S. Emons – K. Loveland

Moved that the Board of Directors meet 'in camera'.

CARRIED

BD-2026-47 R. Leatham – M. Vink

Moved that the Board of Directors move out of the 'in camera' session.

CARRIED

BD-2026-48 S. Emons – H. Aerts

Moved that the Board of Directors approves the award of the South Chatham Floodplain Study to Kerr Wood Leidal Associates Ltd. for a total cost with taxes of \$84,717.00.

And That the Chair and CAO/Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to sign a standard engineering contract for these services.

CARRIED

7. Other Business

None noted.

8. Adjournment

BD-2026-49 R. Leatham – K. Loveland

Moved that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Paul Tiessen
Chair



Mark Peacock, P. Eng.
CAO/Secretary-Treasurer

5.3) Board of Directors Meeting Minutes June 9, 2026



Special Board of Directors Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

Special Meeting at the Call of the Chair Virtual Meeting

**June 9, 2026
9:00 a.m.**

A Special Meeting of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority's Board of Directors was held via Zoom at 9:00 A.M. on Friday, June 9, 2026 at the call of the Chair. A roll call was held with the following members in attendance: P. Tiessen, P. Van Meerbergen, L. Vogler, M. Vink, K. Loveland, H. Aerts and S. Hipple. Regrets were sent in by J. Wright, A. Finn, S. Emons, R. Leatham and M. Bondy.

1. First Nations Acknowledgement

Mark Peacock read the First Nations Acknowledgement.

2. Call to Order

Chair, Paul Tiessen called the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 9:00 A.M.

3. Adoption of Agenda

BD-2026-50 M. Vink – P. Van Meerbergen

Moved that the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

None declared.

5. Presentation

Mark Peacock provided the Board of Directors with a presentation on the progress of the Thames River from Bloomfield Road down to the mouth of the Thames at Lighthouse Cove Consulting Contract.

6. Business for Approval

6.1) Award – Thames River from Bloomfield Road down to the mouth of the Thames at Lighthouse Cove

BD-2026-51 P. Van Meerbergen – L. Vogler

**Moved that the Board of Directors approves the award of the "Flood Line Mapping For Thames River Phase 1, Outlet to Chatham, Within the Municipality of Chatham-Kent" to Greenland International Limited for a total cost with taxes of \$99,507.35;
And that the Chair and CAO/Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to sign a standard engineering contract for these services.**

CARRIED

7. Other Business

None noted.

8. Adjournment

BD-2026-52 M. Vink – P. Van Meerbergen

Moved that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Paul Tiessen
Chair


Mark Peacock, P. Eng.
CAO/Secretary-Treasurer

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

7. Presentations

7.1) LTVCA Key Performance Indicators Plan

Valerie Towsley will provide a presentation on the LTVCA's KPI's.

7.2) Update on LTVCA Transition to WLERCA

Mark Peacock will provide an update on the progress of the transition to the WLERCA.

7.3) Section 28 Hearing Guidelines

Jason Homewood will provide a presentation on the LTVCA's Section 28 Hearing Guidelines.

7.4) 2027 Budget Assumptions

Todd Casier will provide a presentation of the LTVCA's 2027 Budget Assumptions.

8. New Business

9. Business for Approval

9.1) LTVCA Key Performance Indicators Plan

Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority Key Performance Indicators Report

Date: June 18, 2026

Memo to: LTVCA Board of Directors

Subject: Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority Key Performance Indicators Report

From: Valerie Towsley, Watershed Planner

Mark Peacock, P. Eng., C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

I. Background

In the last few years, a number of strategic planning documents were prepared and approved by the LTVCA Board of Directors. These documents provide directions for actions to be undertaken by LTVCA staff. Many of these strategic plan actions have been summarized in the LTVCA Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy.

Following the development of the plans, LTVCA staff began implementation of recommended actions and reporting of those actions to the Board and community through the LTVCA Annual Reports. This practice will continue. The following strategic plans are addressed by the Key Performance Indicators in this report.

1. LTVCA Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy ([LTVCA Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy, Dec 2024](#))
2. LTVCA Lands Strategy ([LTVCA Lands Strategy, Dec 2024](#))
3. The Thames River Shared Waters Approach ([Thames River/Deshkan Ziibi Shared Waters Approach to Water Quality and Quantity, Dec 2019](#))
4. LTVCA Asset Management Plan
5. LTVCA Flood Control Structures Operational Plan
6. LTVCA Climate Change Strategy
7. LTVCA Risk Management Plan
8. LTVCA Client Services Improvement Plan
9. Thames-Sydenham Source Water Protection Plan ([Source Water Protection Plan, Dec 2015](#))

It is noted that KPI include the development of additional strategic planning documents. Recommended actions brought forward by these documents will provide additional KPI.

The following table provides key performance indicators that allow meaningful measurement of the actions taken to address strategic recommendations.

II. Current Program that Addresses Input into the Strategy

1. Healthy and Climate Resilient Watersheds

Current Programs	Timing	Strategic Objective #	KPI (Target per year)
LTVCA Stewardship Programs • Rural • Urban	Annually	1,2,7,11,12	Number of wetlands (20) Number of trees planted (70,000) Area of tallgrass prairie plantings (120 ac) Number of Urban Stewardship Programs (30) Number of volunteers engaged in stewardship (500)
Chatham-Kent Lambton Children's Water Festival	Annually	1,8,9,11	Number of participants engaged (2,000 students/300 volunteers)
Support to partner groups delivering stewardship programming	Annually	1,7,11,12	Number of partners supported (20)
LTVCA Species at Risk Program	Annually	1,2,7	Number of projects completed with SAR components (10)
PGMN and PWQMN monitoring networks	Ongoing	2,7	Number of samples taken (200 samples)
Project based monitoring when funding available	Annually	2	Number of samples taken per project (project based)
Reduction of Phosphorus in the water	Ongoing	1,2,7,11,12	Number of participants undertaking BMP's (250)
Conservation Areas – non active use	Annually	1,7,9,10	Natural areas maintained (17)

2. Supporting Sustainable Growth

Current Programs	Timing	Strategic Objective #	KPI (Target per year)
Customer Service Programs	Report delivery time at each Board of Directors Meeting	3,4,5,6	Meet LTVCA Client Services Improvement Plan standards (percentage met) Meet Provincial customer service standards (percentage met)
LTVCA Flood Contingency Plan	Annually	3,5,6	Annually update Flood Contingency Plan (yes/no)
LTVCA Low Water Response Program	Annually	2,3,5,6	Annual summary of notices produced (yes/no)
LTVCA River and Creek Safety Program	Annually	5,6,8	Number of students in program (100 students)
LTVCA Flood Forecasting and Warning Program	Annual Reporting	3,5,6	Annual summary of flood messages issued (yes/no) Annual summary of operations (yes/no)
Management planning and implementation of Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair	When requested, based on available funding	3,5,6	Number of programs undertaken (3)

Don't create new or aggravate existing hazards	Annually	3,5,6	Number of hazards created (0)
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3. Connecting People to Nature

Current Programs	Timing	Strategic Objective #	KPI (Target per year)
LTVCA Stewardship Programs • Rural • Urban	Annually	1,2,7,11,12	Number of wetlands (20) Number of trees planted (70,000) Area of tallgrass prairie plantings (120 ac) Number of Urban Stewardship Programs (30) Number of volunteers engaged in stewardship (500)
Municipal Natural Heritage studies	As requested	1,2,3,7,11	Number of Natural Heritage Studies supported (2/year)
LTVCA Outreach and Education Programs	Annually	7,8,11	Number of participants educated (10,000)
Conservation Areas – active use	Annually	7,9,10,12	Number of areas users (20,000 uses)

4. Partner of Choice

Current Programs	Timing	Strategic Objective #	KPI (Target per year)
Customer Service Programs	Report delivery time at each Board of Directors Meeting	4,14	Meet LTVCA Client Services Improvement Plan standards (percentage met) Meet Provincial customer service standards (percentage met)
Stewardship Awards	Annual Awards at AGM FEB. of each year	7,11,12	Number of annual stewardship partners recognized: (Linda McKinlay Award – 1 (new 2026); Volunteer Hero's Award – 1; CK Greening Award – 2; • Most Dedicated Landowner • Most Dedicated Organization)
Continuous Financial Reporting	Ongoing	14,17	Financial reporting completed – 6 times annually (yes/no)

5. Organizational Excellence

Current Programs	Timing	Strategic Objective #	KPI (Target per year)
HR staff committee	Ongoing	14,16,17	Number of HR meetings held (4)

JHSC administration and staff committee	Ongoing	5,10,15	Number of JHSC meetings: - Committee meetings - 4 - CA Inspections - 5
LTVCA Social Committee	Ongoing	16,17	Number of Social Committee meetings held (12)
Monthly staff meetings	Ongoing	13,14,16,17	Number of staff meetings held per year (8)
Foster a strong team environment based on trust and mutual respect, transparent in its processes and inclusive of new ideas	Ongoing	13,14,16,17	Number of staff meetings held per year (8) Number of weekly admin/staff meetings held for Longwoods Road staff (40) Number of weekly admin/staff meetings held for CMW staff (20)
Strengthen staff stability (financial stability, attraction and retention)	December 2025	16	Salary review conducted 2025 (completed)
Improve internal communications, operations and processes	Ongoing	14,16,17	Number of staff meetings held (8) Number of weekly admin/staff meetings held for Longwoods Road staff (40) Number of weekly admin/staff meetings held for CMW staff (20) Department meetings (held at request of staff/manager)
Build reliable physical and digital assets	December 2024	15	Asset management plan prepared 2025 and updated (annually)
LTVCA Risk Management Plan	2019	10,13,14,15	LTVCA Risk Management Plan updated 2026 (yes/no) LTVCA Safety Manual – updated 2027

III. New or Expanded Initiative to Address Input

1. Healthy and Climate Resilient Watersheds-Strengths/Weaknesses

New Initiative	Timing	Strategic Objective #	KPI (Target per year)
Climate Change Action Plan	December 2025	1,3,5,6,7	Climate Change Action Plan completed 2026 (annual reporting of progress on action items)
Integrated Watershed Monitoring Program	December 2027	2,3,6	Integrated Watershed Monitoring Strategy completed 2026 (Dec 2026) (yes/no)
Municipal Invasive Species Program	Annually	1,3,7,8	Number of projects (2)
New Phosphorus Management Program	August 2024	1,2,3,7,8,11	Precision Phosphorus Reduction Program (meeting funder deliverables)

2. Supporting Sustainable Growth

New Initiative	Timing	Strategic Objective #	KPI (Target per year)
Flood Plain Mapping and Risk Assessment Strategy	December 2025	3,5,6,7	Studies undertaken (1)
Integrated Watershed Monitoring Program	December 2026	2,3,6	Integrated Watershed Monitoring Strategy completed 2026 (Dec 2026) (yes/no)
LTVCA Ice Management Plan	December 2024	3,5,6,7	Ice not managed; existing development-based plans sufficient (<i>Flood Contingency Plan updated yearly</i>)
New LTVCA Development Policies	June 2025	3,4,5,6	LTVCA Development Policies Update 2025 (<i>annual updates as required</i>)
Shared Watershed LTVCA Implementation Plan	February 2025	1,2,3,7,11	Shared Waters Implementation Plan created (2026) (<i>annual reporting of implementation progress</i>)
Flood Control Structures Operational Plan	December 2024	3,5,6	Flood Control Structures Operational Plan 2024 (<i>annual updates as required</i>)
LTVCA Climate Action Plan	December 2025	1,3,5,6,7	Climate Change Action Plan completed 2026 (<i>annual reporting of progress on action items</i>)

3. Connecting People to Nature

New Initiative	Timing	Strategic Objective #	KPI (Target per year)
LTVCA Lands Strategy	December 2024 – Annual Reporting on Progress	1,3,8,9,10	LTVCA Lands Strategy Completed 2024 (<i>annual reporting of progress on action items</i>)
Ska-Nah-Doht Village Strategic Plan 2022-2026	June 2025	3,8,9,10	Ska-Nah-Doht Village Strategic Plan Updated 2026 (yes/no)
C.M. Wilson Learning Centre Strategic Plan	December 2025	3,8,9,10	C.M. Wilson Learning Centre Strategic Plan approved (2026) (yes/no)
LTVCA Natural Heritage Strategy	???	1,3,7,11	LTVCA Natural Heritage Strategy completed 2026 (yes/no)

4. Partner of Choice

New Initiative	Timing	Strategic Objective #	KPI (Target per year)
LTVCA Indigenous Training Program	December 2025	13,17	Training program for LTVCA on Indigenous understandings updated 2026 (yes/no) (last trained in 2019)
New/Update LTVCA Communications/Outreach Strategy	December 2025	4,6,7,11,12	New/Update LTVCA Communications/Outreach Strategy Prepared 2026 (yes/no)

5. Organizational Excellence

New Initiative	Timing	Strategic Objective #	KPI (Target per year)
Salary Review	December 2025	14,16	Salary Review Undertaken (completed)
LTVCA Asset Management Plan	December 2024	14,15	LTVCA Asset Management Plan 2024 (completed) (annual update)
Update Hiring Procedures	June 2025	14,16,17	Hiring procedures update 2025 (completed)

Recommended Resolution:

The following recommendation is provided:

Recommendation: That the Board of Directors approves the Key Performance Indicators as outlined in this report .

And Further That these indicators be reported to the Board of Directors and community within the Annual Report of the LTVCA.

Recommendation: That the LTVCA's Key Performance Indicators Plan be approved as presented.

Alignment with the LTVCA's Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy

This report aligns with these Strategic Objectives in the LTVCA's Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy:

1. Improving Watershed Health
2. Monitoring the Health of the Watershed
3. Supporting Sustainable Growth
4. Improving Transparency and Customer Service in Planning and Regulations
5. Protecting the Community from Natural Hazards
6. Educating the Community about Natural Hazards
7. Supporting Community Understanding of the Watershed
8. Providing Educational and outreach opportunities
9. Providing Opportunities for Outdoor Experiences
10. Improving Management and Operations of Conservation Areas
11. Strengthening and Increasing Collaboration with Community Stakeholders
12. Increase Awareness of the Value of Good Watershed Stewardship
13. Improve Training Opportunities for Staff
14. Improving Transparency and Understanding of LTVCA Operations
15. Improving Capital Asset Management
16. Strengthening Staff Stability (financial stability, attraction & retention)
17. Improving Staff Communications and Team Building

Respectfully Submitted

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.
CAO/Secretary-Treasurer

9.2) Section 28 Hearing Guidelines

To: **LTVCA Board of Directors**
From: **Jason Homewood, P. Geo., Water Resources Technician & Regulations Officer**
Date: **18 June 2026**
Subject: **LTVCA Hearing Board Practices and Procedures**

Recommendation

That the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority (“LTVCA”) Board of Directors approve the attached Hearing Board Practices and Procedures document and that the document be posted on the LTVCA’s website.

Background

Section 12 of Ontario Regulation 41/24 requires conservation authorities to develop policy and procedure documents. One of such documents is related to the practices and procedures of the LTVCA’s Hearing Board.

The purpose of the attached Hearing Board Practices and Procedures document is to guide the LTVCA in conducting hearings under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act. This document is intended to provide a step-by-step process for conducting hearings required under ss. 28.1 (5), ss. 28.1.2 (7), ss. 28.3 (2), (3) and (4), ss. 30.4 (6) of the Conservation Authorities Act and ss.11(4), (5) and (6) of Ontario Regulation 41/24. Hearings provide due process and ensure the rights of the Party are upheld.

The Board of Directors’ decision powers are governed by the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 41/24. The Hearing Board is empowered by law to make decisions and is also governed by the Statutory Powers Procedures Act (SPPA). The procedures ensure that hearings meet the legal requirements of the Statutory Powers Procedures Act without being unduly legalistic or intimidating to the participants.

Section 25.1 of the SPPA provides that “a tribunal may make rules governing the practice and procedure before it”. The Hearing Rules are adopted under the authority of s. 25.1 of the SPPA. The SPPA applies to the exercise of a statutory power of decision where there is a requirement to hold or to afford the parties to the proceeding an opportunity for a hearing before making a decision. The SPPA sets out minimum procedural requirements governing such hearings and provides rule-making authority for establishing rules to govern such proceedings.

Historically, the LTVCA has utilized the guidance from Conservation Ontario. It is unknown if the LTVCA had ever formally adopted its own version of such a document – known versions were drafted in 2014, 2022, and 2023, but never finalized or brought to the Board of Directors for approval.

The attached Hearing Board Practices and Procedures document is consistent with Conservation Ontario’s Model Hearing Guidelines document, last approved by Conservation Ontario Council in November 2024.

The report aligns with the following objectives of the LTVCA’s Strategic Plan:

Customer/Stakeholder Objectives

- 1) Strengthen and Increase Collaboration with Community Stakeholders Internal Processes Objectives
 - 9) Improve Internal Understanding of Roles & Responsibilities Capacity Building Objectives
 - 12) Strengthen Program Review Policy(s)
-

Prepared by:

Jason Homewood, P. Geo.
Water Resources Technician & Regulations Officer

Reviewed By:

Jason Wintermute
Manager, Watershed and Information Services

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.
C.A.O. / Secretary-Treasurer

Attachments:

Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority, Hearing Board Practices and Procedures, 21 May 2026

9.3) WLERCA Guiding Principles

Conservation Authorities Transition Guiding Principles Report

Date: June 18, 2026

Memo to: LTVCA Board of Directors

Subject: Conservation Authorities Transition Guiding Principles Report

From: Mark Peacock, P. Eng., C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

Western Lake Erie Regional Conservation Authority

Guiding Principles for Transition

Over the past 80 years, Conservation Authorities have balanced fiscal responsibility with high-quality, locally responsive services. That success is rooted in a deep local knowledge and upheld by local connections with landowners, community groups and member municipalities. The consolidated authority should continue to be guided by science, local knowledge, and strong partnerships to protect people, property, and the natural environment.

Throughout this process, protecting staff and supporting a transition that respects municipal contributions and maintains public trust for all communities served, should be a top priority. Successful consolidation will need to respect the past, while building upon shared achievements to create a unified region capable of delivering enhanced programs and services, advancing integrated watershed management and strengthening community partnerships across the region.

The following principles have been developed with leadership from the Kettle Creek Conservation Authority. CAO/GMs from the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority, Upper Thames River Conservation Authority, St. Clair Region Conservation Authority and the Essex Region Conservation Authority have reviewed/revised these principles and recommend their use as we work to transition into the new regional conservation authority. We feel that it is important that the boards have input into these guiding statements and consider them as we move forward with amalgamation. The CAs should be able to use these statements to determine the success that is found in the amalgamation process.

The principles are not listed in order of priority. Each principle is important and collectively provide a framework for the future.

Accountable to Communities and Transparent Governance

Establish an effective, accountable, and transparent governance model that includes all participating municipalities and communities and complies with provincial legislation.

Fiscal Responsibility

Develop a fiscally responsible transition plan that protects short-term stability and long-term sustainability.

Commitment to Workforce Stability and Talent Retention

Prioritize the well-being, retention, and fair treatment of all staff while maintaining local service delivery throughout the consolidation process.

Service Excellence

Ensure that communities continue to receive high-quality, locally responsive programs and services.

Risk Management and Business Continuity

Ensure uninterrupted delivery of critical services while carefully managing risks associated with organizational change.

Watershed-Based Science Informed Management

Ensure consolidation does not dilute the watershed-based approach that defines Conservation Authorities.

Transparency, Trust and Clear Communication

Transparent communication is critical for maintaining confidence among staff, municipalities and the public.

Request

The board is requested to review these statements and if changes are required, bring those suggestions to the June board meeting for review.

Recommended Resolution:

The following recommendation is provided:

Recommendation: That the Board of Directors approves the guiding principles as presented in this report

And Further That the representatives on the transition committee use these principles in their deliberations with the province.

This report aligns with these Strategic Objectives in the LTVCA's Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy:

11. Strengthening and Increasing Collaboration with Community Stakeholders

Respectfully Submitted

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.
C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

9.4) Appointment of LTVCA Member to the Transition Committee

Transition Committee Appointment Report

Date: June 18, 2026

Memo to: LTVCA Board of Directors

Subject: Transition Committee Appointment Report

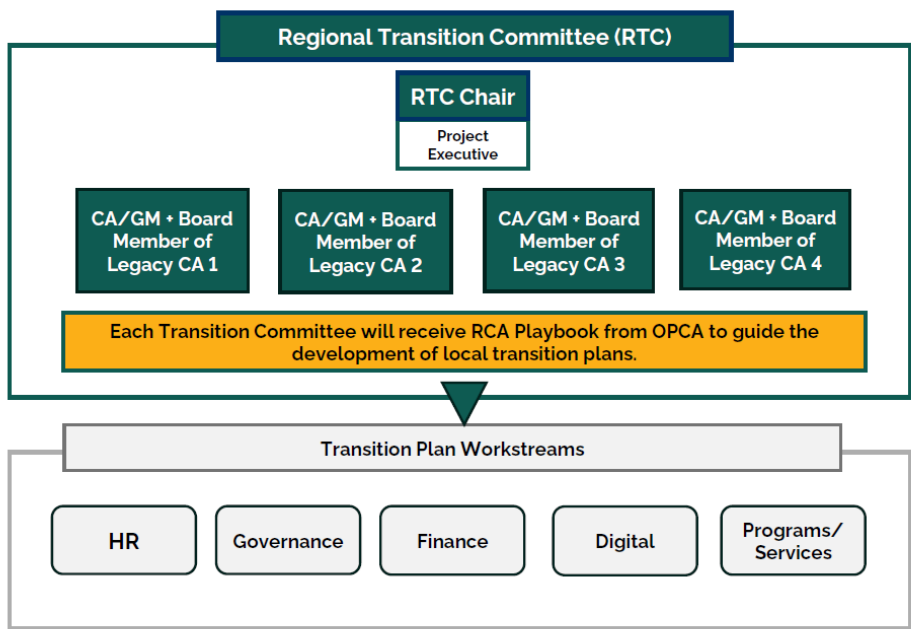
From: Mark Peacock, P. Eng., C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

Western Lake Erie Regional Conservation Authority Transition Committee

CA Boards and Transition Committees

The amalgamation of the 4 existing conservation authorities (LTVCA, UTRCA, SCRCA, ERCA) that will make up the Western Lake Erie Regional Conservation Authority (WLERCA) requires a transition plan. This Transition Plan will form the guideline on how the transition will occur once the new board for the WLERCA is formed on February 01, 2027. The committees will be led by a Project Executive that will become the new CAO of the WLERCA on Feb. 01, 2027. The committee will have members being the GM/CAOs of each CA and a board member appointed by each board. CAs of the 3 other boards in the WLERCA have appointed their chairs as the Board member. The LTVCA Chair will not be able to complete this work so has recommended that the first vice chair of the LTVCA represent the board on the transition committee.

Regional Transition Committees (RTC) *



The following is important:

General

- The role of Transition Committees is focused solely on preparing for amalgamation and does not include formal decision-making authority.
- Transition Committees are expected to collaborate closely with CA Boards through shared members, as well as with Project Executives, to ensure that the operational and business needs of each Conservation Authority are effectively captured and considered throughout the transition.

Status Quo Maintained for Governance

- The transition process does not introduce any interim changes to how CA Boards are structured or how they operate. Boards will continue to fulfill their existing governance, oversight, and decision-making responsibilities.
- The transition timeline accounts for the municipal election cycle. Elections on October 26, 2026, will result in new Councils taking office on or around November 15, 2026, which will inform future Board appointments.
- To ensure stability and continuity of operations, current CA Boards will remain active until the anticipated establishment of Regional Conservation Authorities on February 1, 2027.
- There will be no disruption or turnover in Board membership during the transition period. Members currently appointed will continue serving until successor members are officially appointed under the new structure. Any changes in membership resulting from the election will be managed in the same way as they would in any election year.

The Board appointments for transition committee members are to be completed by the end of June 2026. Transition Committee members will remain on the committee until Feb 01, 2027.

Recommended Resolution:

The following recommendation is provided:

Recommendation: That the Board of Directors appoints First Vice Chair Sarah Bod as the LTVCA Board representative on the West Lake Erie Regional Conservation Authority.

This report aligns with these Strategic Objectives in the LTVCA's Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy:

11. Strengthening and Increasing Collaboration with Community Stakeholders

Respectfully Submitted

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.
C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

9.5) Income and Expenditure vs Budget to April 30, 2026

Date: June 18, 2026
Memo to: LTVCA Board of Directors
Subject: **Income and Expenditure vs Budget to April 30, 2026**
From: Todd Casier, CPA, CA, Manager, Corporate Services

Background:

Review the 2026 Budget to the Revenue and Expenditures for the 4 months ended April 30, 2026.

REVENUE	2026 BUDGET	2026 BUDGET APR PROJECTED		2026 ACTUAL TO APR 30	\$ VARIANCE TO PROJECTED
GRANTS	5,593,237	1,864,412	*	2,626,279	761,867
GENERAL LEVY	1,982,567	1,982,567	^	1,982,567	0
DIRECT SPECIAL BENEFIT	217,464	217,464	^	217,464	0
GENERAL REVENUES	879,790	293,263	*	3,291,246	2,997,983
FOUNDATION GRANTS & REVENUES	0	0	*	4,329	4,329
RESERVES	0	0	*	0	0
CASH FUNDING	8,673,058	4,357,706		8,121,885	3,764,179
OTHER	0	0		0	0
TOTAL FUNDING	8,673,058	4,357,706		8,121,885	3,764,179

*-based on a 4 of 12 month proration of the budget

^-based on balance invoiced

Grant income is more than budgeted due to timing of grants invoiced. A large portion of the difference is due to the Clean Water Program-Precision Phosphorous Reduction Program paying LTVCA for payments to participants for December 31, 2025 balances.

Note: Grant income is based on funds received/invoiced and not matched to expenses, meaning there may be expenses outstanding and not recognized in the attached expense statement. At year-end, each grant is reviewed individually, spent funds for grant programs not invoiced are set-up as receivables and added to grant income, unspent funds are reduced from grant income and deferred for future expenditures.

Apportionment revenue was invoiced as of Feb 19th, 2026.

General Revenue is above budget due to a three million dollar cash donation to purchase conservation lands. When this donation is removed General Revenue is comparable to budget.

Foundation Grants and Revenues are above budget due to the payment of memorial trees for 2026 versus the uncertainty of funds available when budgeting.

Reserves are zero as this account is used to balance the accounts at year-end if expenses are greater than revenues.

EXPENSES	2026 BUDGET	2026 BUDGET APR PROJECTED		2026 ACTUAL TO APR 30	\$ VARIANCE TO PROJECTED
WATER MANAGEMENT					
FLOOD CONTROL STRUCTURES	239,991	79,997		65,731	(14,266)

EROSION CONTROL STRUCTURES	10	3	5	2
FLOOD FORECASTING AND WARNING	123,991	41,330	34,679	(6,651)
TECHNICAL STUDIES	523,153	174,384	74,683	(99,701)
PLANNING & REGULATIONS	504,012	168,004	133,072	(34,932)
WATERSHED MONITORING (PGMN)	194,572	64,857	78,340	13,483
SOURCE PROTECTION	44,745	14,915	13,879	(1,036)
THAMES MOUTH DEBRIS REMOVAL	0	0	0	0
Water Management Subtotal	1,630,474	543,490	400,389	(143,101)
CONSERVATION & RECREATION PROPERTIES				
CONSERVATION AREAS	962,082	320,694	248,769	(71,925)
COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND EDUCATION				
COMMUNITY RELATIONS	158,142	52,714	77,112	24,398
CONSERVATION EDUCATION	159,961	53,320	29,092	(24,228)
SKA-NAH-DOHT VILLAGE	133,115	44,372	29,363	(15,009)
Community Relations & Education Subtotal	451,218	150,406	135,567	(14,839)
CONSERVATION SERVICES/STEWARDSHIP				
CONSERVATION SERVICES (FORESTRY)	233,860	77,953	50,960	(26,993)
CHATHAM-KENT GREENING PROJECT	655,064	218,355	157,700	(60,655)
PHOSPHORUS REDUCTION	4,702,978	1,567,659	1,910,360	342,701
SPECIES AT RISK	37,382	12,461	35,134	22,673
Conservation Services/Stewardship Subtotal	5,629,284	1,876,428	2,154,154	277,726
CAPITAL/MISCELLANEOUS				
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING	0	0	0	0
REPAIRS/UPGRADES	0	0	0	0
UNION GAS CENTENNIAL PROJECT	0	0	0	0
EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS (FED/PROV)	0	0	0	0
Capital/Miscellaneous Subtotal	0	0	0	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	8,673,058	2,891,018	2,938,879	47,861

Water Management

Flood Control Structures expenses are slightly below budget due to larger annual expenses incurred later in the year.

Erosion Control Structures and Flood Forecasting and Warning expenses are comparable to budget.

Technical Studies are below budget due to the expenses for the FHIMP and GLFEI projects not having started as of April 30th, 2026.

Planning and Regulations expenses are below budget due to staff time being spent in other areas like Technical Studies above and larger expenses incurred later in the year.

Watershed Monitoring is above budget due to March 31 year-end spending for the PWQMN GAP analysis grant.

Source Protection expenses are comparable to budget.

Conservation Areas

Conservation area expenses are below budget as most large projects, operation of the campgrounds and other large operational costs being incurred during the summer months.

Community Relations and Education

Community Relations is above budget due to time and costs of the AGM. Conservation Education and SKA-NAH-DOHT Museum and Village are below budget due to the seasonal nature of large activities in these programs and one vacant part time position

Conservation Services/Stewardship

Conservation Services (Forestry) and Chatham-Kent Greening expenses are below budget as most activities and related expenses are completed during the spring and summer months.

Phosphorous Reduction is above budget as December 31, 2025 payments were issued March 31, 2026 once funding was received.

Species at Risk is above budget due to March 31 year-end budget expenditures.

Capital/Miscellaneous

No Capital/Miscellaneous expenses to date.

Summary:

	2026 BUDGET	2026 BUDGET APR PROJECTED	2026 ACTUAL TO APR 30	\$ VARIANCE TO PROJECTED
TOTAL CASH FUNDING	8,673,058	4,357,706	8,121,885	3,764,179
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	8,673,058	2,891,018	2,938,879	47,861
OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	0	1,466,688	5,183,006	3,716,318

At April 30, 2026, LTVCA's operating surplus is favourable mostly due to the large donation of cash to purchase conservation land and less expenditures compared to budget due to the seasonal nature of a large amount of the Conservation Authorities' expenses.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors receives the Budget vs Revenue and Expenditures report for the period ended April 30, 2026.

The report aligns with the following objectives of the LTVCA's Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy:

- 14. Improving Transparency and Understanding of LTVCA Operations
- 15. Improving Capital Asset Management

Respectfully Submitted

Todd Casier, CPA, CA
Manager, Corporate Services

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.
C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

9.6) 2027 Budget Guidelines

Report to Board

Date: June 18, 2026
Memo to: LTVCA Board of Directors
Subject: **2027 Preliminary Budget Preparation Report**
From: Todd Casier, CPA, CA, Manager, Corporate Services

Background:

The Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority operates under objectives developed through strategic planning initiatives. The financial objectives followed are:

- 14. Improve Transparency and Understanding of Financial Statements
- 15. Improve Capital Asset Review
- 16. Strengthen Staff Stability (financial stability, attraction & retention)

In order to achieve these objectives, a number of initiatives were defined. All of the initiatives have been achieved including: preparation of financial statements for each board meeting that improves the boards understanding of the financial position of the LTVCA; involving Managers in their budget process; and allowing Managers to manage their budgets with collaboration with the Manager, Corporate Services.

In order to address amalgamation timing requirements, this preliminary budget assumptions report is being presented at the June Board meeting instead of the August Board meeting. The purpose of this report is to set the budget assumptions so that staff can bring a preliminary budget to the Board at the August Board meeting.

2027 Budget Preparation Process:

- 1) June/July – spreadsheets prepared showing each account with current to date results, the past two years of actuals and initial proposed budget assuming:
 - a) Salaries carried forward with increase based on merit and 2.05% COLA increases
 - b) Payroll allocated based on past experience and current expectations
 - c) Projects being carried forward will be based on known expectations
 - d) General Expenses based on past trends modified by current expectations
- 2) June/July – Managers review staff work plans with staff to determine changes and new projects/priorities/requirements for 2027 budget
- 3) June/July – Todd provide spreadsheets to managers for their areas of budget
- 4) June – Budget Preparation Report to Board providing general assumptions and process to develop 2027 preliminary budget
- 5) August – October meeting with municipalities, upon request, regarding 2027 budget assumptions at their convenience
- 6) July/August – Mark and Todd meet with individual Managers to review and prepare preliminary budget (more than one meeting per manager may be required)
- 7) July/August – Mark and Todd meet to review overall budget and challenges and compile complete preliminary budget
- 8) July/August – meeting with managers to review preliminary budget prior to finalization

- 9) August Board Meeting – Preliminary Budget and apportionment presented to the Board of Directors for review and approval
- 10) August – budget and apportionment circulation and notification (min 30 days as per Act)
- 11) October – final review of budget with management team and Board of Directors
- 12) October or December – final review and approval by Board at meeting

Budget Preparation Assumptions:

The budget will be prepared based on:

1. 4% total general apportionment increase, 3% operations and 1% asset management (part of 10-year approved asset funding plan),
2. Merit increases for staff to be considered in draft budget,
3. Cost of living increases of 2.05% will be provided to staff in 2027.

Details for driving factors to be presented at June Board Meeting.

Recommendations:

That the Board approve the budget assumption of a 4% general apportionment increase, and

That staff bring the preliminary 2027 budget to the regular August Board meeting for review and approval.

Recommended by:

Todd Casier, CPA, CA,
Manager, Corporate Services

Reviewed by:

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.
CAO / Secretary-Treasurer

9.7) Royal Bank Account – Mount Brydges Branch, Signing Authority

The RBC bank account requires two signatures which have formerly been the CAO/Secretary-Treasurer and the Administrative Assistant at Longwoods.

Recommendation: That the LTVCA Board designate Todd Casier, Manager, Corporate Services and Mark Peacock, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer as signing officers for the RBC Mount Brydges bank account in connection with Longwoods Road Conservation Area operations.

10. Business for Information

10.1) CAO / Secretary Treasurer Report

CAO Secretary-Treasurer Report

Date: June 18, 2026

Memo to: LTVCA Board of Directors

Subject: CAO /Secretary-Treasurer Report

From: Mark Peacock, P. Eng., C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

Flood Line Mapping Projects

Three major flood line mapping projects are being completed in 2026/2027. These projects are being funded through the Flood Hazard Identification and Mapping – federal program. Fifty percent of the funding is coming from local municipalities, fifty percent from the federal government, and significant in-kind support to modelling and field work is being contributed by the LTVCA.

Two additional board meetings have been held to approve the South Chatham and the Thames River, Phase 1 Flood Plain mapping project awards. Consultants are beginning field work on all three projects. Landowners are being contacted and permissions to enter are being received by landowners. Municipal support has been crucial in getting landowner approvals. No private lands are being entered without specific landowner permission.

C.M. Wilson Water System Upgrades

It was determined that there was some infiltration of rainwater into the risers of the newly installed water system. The contractor responsible for the installation was called back and rectified the issue by resealing the risers. Since the last board meeting the MOECP has completed its inspection of the newly installed water system and no issues were found.

Changes to the Conservation Authorities Act

Staff continue to undertake significant work to meet the requirements of the province with regard to the amalgamation of Conservation Authorities. Work has included:

1. Meetings with the Ontario Provincial Conservation Executive
2. Meetings with the auditors brought in to build a playbook for moving the process forward – (Ernst Young)
3. Development of an inventory of all LTVCA policies and procedures (based on provincial templates)
4. Development of first version of 2027 LTVCA budget to meet new budget timelines from province
5. Meeting with GM/CAOs of the Western Lake Erie Region Conservation Authority area to align actions as we move forward.

A further report and presentation will be provided to the board on what is being required, timelines and issues to be addressed.

Recommended Resolution:

That the CAO Secretary-Treasurer Report be received for information.

The report aligns with the following objectives of the LTVCA's Strategic Plan:

1. Strengthen and Increase Collaboration with Community Stakeholders

Respectfully Submitted

Mark Peacock, P. Eng.
C.A.O. / Secretary Treasurer

10.2) Water Management

10.2.1) Flood Forecasting and Operations

Flood Messaging and Flood Events

There have been three flood messages issued since the last written report to the Board of Directors in April. All three messages were Watershed Condition Statement – Flood Outlook messages. They were issued because Environment and Climate Change Canada had Special Weather Statements in effect due to heavy rains in the forecasts. The three messages were issued April 14th, April 17th, and May 22nd.

Of the three events, only the April 14th event had a significant impact on the watershed. Most of the watershed saw between 35 and 50 mm of rainfall. One area south of Ridgetown reported between 60 and 75 mm. McGregor Creek rose high enough that the Diversion Channel needed to be operated to protect the south end of the city of Chatham. Water levels on the creek were nearly 1 m over the operating threshold. Water levels on the Thames River rose as well in response to the rain. Flows at Thamesville reached 315 m³/s, which is just slightly less than bank full conditions where messages would be issued about flooding of the river flats.

There were no issues reported on the shoreline of Lake Erie or Lake St. Clair.

Report on Lake Conditions

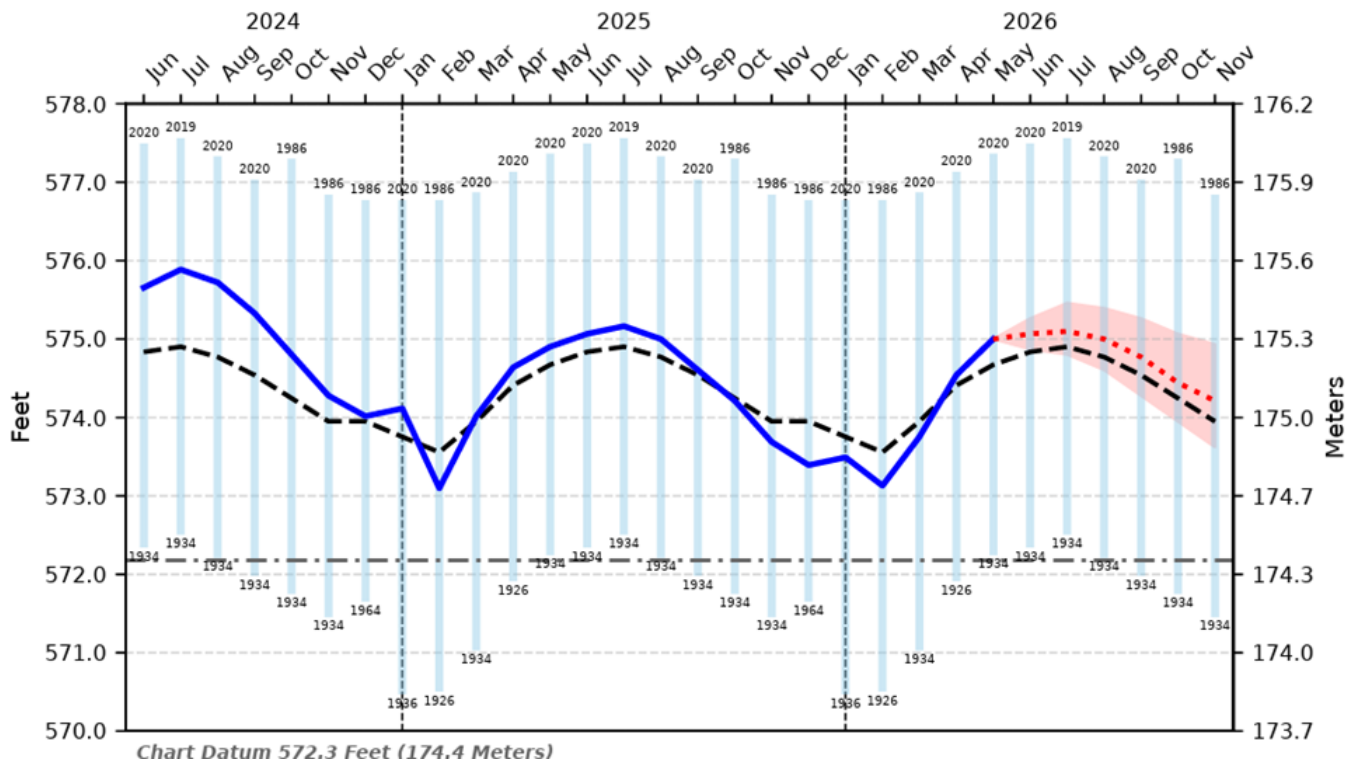
Average daily water levels on Lake Erie at the beginning of June were around 174.45 m (I.G.L.D.). The all-time record high monthly average for June was 175.14 m, set in 2019. Water levels at the beginning of June were 1 cm above what would be considered normal for the month of June. Forecasts suggest that water levels should reach their seasonal peak soon. Water levels are forecast to be near their current levels by the beginning of July.

Average daily water levels on Lake St. Clair at the beginning of June were around 175.30 m (I.G.L.D.). The all-time record high monthly average for June was 176.02, set in 2020. Water levels at the beginning of June were 2 cm above what would be considered normal for the month of June. Forecasts suggest that water levels should reach their seasonal peak soon. Water levels are predicted to rise around 2 or 3 cm by the beginning of July.

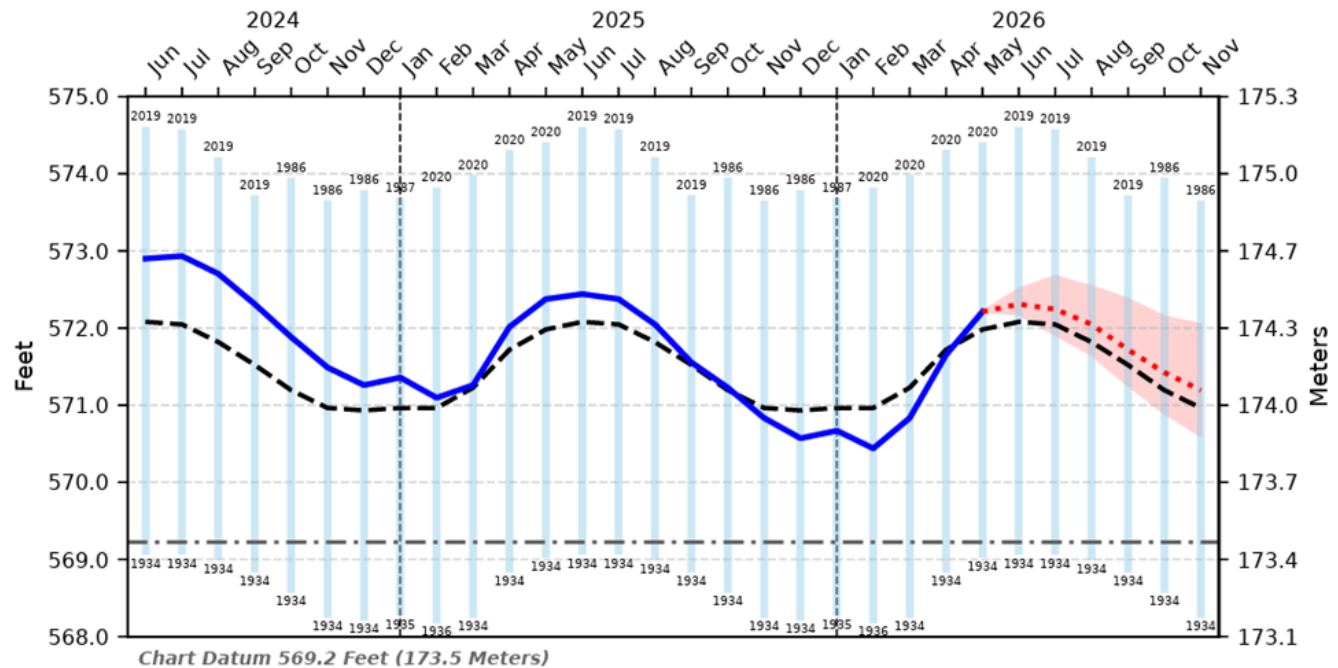
Water levels on Lake St. Clair and Lake Erie had been slightly below their long-term averages for the first few months of 2026. However, April saw very rapid rises in water levels on all the Great Lakes. Water levels on both lakes are now back to slightly above their long-term average. The long-range forecasts of lake levels suggested that Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair will see near normal, or slightly above normal, water levels over the next 6 months.

The figures below are published by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers and graph the monthly average water levels and water level forecast over the next 6 months. These versions were published at the beginning of June.

Lake St. Clair



Lake Erie



Legend Lake Levels

Recorded



Projected



Average**



Maximum**

1985 1973 1986 2019

Minimum**

1936 1934 1926 1934

Chart Datum



** Average, Maximum, and Minimum for period 1918-2024

10.2.2) Flood Control Structures

The McGregor Creek Diversion Channel was operated once in April. The Diversion Dam was closed the evening of April 15th and reopened the afternoon of April 17th. There was an issue completely closing one of the gates of the Diversion Dam during this event. While two of the gates would fully close, the last gate would only close about 90% of the way. This last 10% is not expected to have an impact on the flood control capabilities of the structure. The cause of this is yet to be determined. It is suspected that the issue was debris stuck under the gate.

There continues to be issues with debris management at the 6th Street Dam. LTVCA staff had to once again clear a significant amount of debris from the gates of the dam and additional debris that had backed up behind the dam. This work was undertaken on May 20th ahead of Retrofest which was being held in Tecumseh Park that weekend. The debris removal took the team most of the day working both from boats and from land.

The annual mowing program for the Diversion Channel is set to begin this month.

Regular maintenance also continues for Sharon Dam.



Debris at 6th Street Dam.

10.2.3) Low Water Response Program

The Low Water Response Program looks at both precipitation and flow in local watercourses in determining whether there is a low water condition. For precipitation, both 18-month and 3-month rainfall totals are examined, and the program thresholds are: Level 1, 80% of average; Level 2, 60% of average; and Level 3, 40% of average. For flows, the average flow over the last month is examined and the spring thresholds are: Level 1, 100% lowest average summer flow (LASF); Level 2, 70% LASF; and Level 3, 50% LASF. During the growing season, LTVCA staff create a brief report summarizing conditions around the watershed, which is available by request. Outside of the growing season, the LTVCA relies on provincial level summary reports provided by the MNRF to keep up-to-date.

Flows on the Thames River and its tributary McGregor Creek were relatively low during the month of May. For the first half of the month, flows remained largely below their mean and median values; although they

remained above the lower quartile. Later in the month, some moderate rainfall events boosted flows bringing them back up above the mean for a couple brief periods. Throughout the month, flows on the Thames River remained above their LASF. On McGregor Creek flows started to drift below the LASF around mid-month until water levels were boosted later in the month. Although flows around the watershed were lower than typical, the average monthly flow indicators would suggest that there isn't a Low Water Condition in the watershed.

The 3-month rainfall totals indicate near normal spring rainfall conditions throughout the watershed. For the 11 rain gauges examined, they showed between 98 and 120% of normal. The 18-month rainfall indicator continues to show slightly drier conditions over the longer time period. Of the 7 stations examined, 5 of these stations showed rainfall totals in the Level 1 Low Water Condition range. However, these stations were only slightly below the indication threshold of 80%, with all 5 gauges showing between 75 and 80% of normal rainfall. Given the potential for variability in long-term rainfall patterns across the region, and that there doesn't appear to be any impacts of this slightly longer term rainfall deficit around the watershed, it does not seem that declaring a Low Water Condition based on this indicator is necessary.

The LTVCA is not currently in any kind of Low Water Condition.

Further information on the Provincial Low Water Response Program can be found at <https://www.lioapplications.lrc.gov.on.ca/webapps/swmc/low-water-response/>

10.2.4) Watershed Monitoring

Watershed-wide surface water quality monitoring continues at 22 sites throughout the watershed. In addition to regularly scheduled sampling, now that the region is starting to see some more rainfall, there have been several sampling runs to capture event-based runoff. This type of sampling is important as studies have shown increased nutrient runoff during winter and spring melt events, with larger runoff events leading to larger algae blooms later in the year. As crops get in the ground and flows begin to subside staff will shift to maintenance. Changing intake lines, desiccant packs, and clearing out visitors keeps our equipment in top shape and ready for the next popup thunderstorm.



Groundwater monitoring for the Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network (PGMN) program also continues. LTVCA staff maintain the sites and download water level and temperature information from data loggers. Sites are typically visited once every 3 months. During recent visits in early May, there were issues noted with several of the barometric pressure data loggers. Watershed monitoring staff are working with MECP to resolve the issues.

The MECP COA grant is coming up for renewal this year. LTVCA staff have been in contact with MECP and are currently working on drafting the next 2-year agreement. The LTVCA looks forward to working with MECP on the renewal of this agreement. While less MECP lab capacity has been allocated to this project, resulting in higher private lab costs, there has been increased funding to help urban and rural stewardship projects.

Health Canada extended its contract with the LTVCA to collect pesticides at 6 locations in the western portion of the watershed. Samples are being collected on Jeannette's Creek, Big Creek, and McGregor Creek as well as at the Rivard, Deary and Dauphin municipal pump stations. Sampling frequency varies by site.

Benthic sampling at twelve locations throughout the watershed was conducted in May this year. Benthic organisms are small animals that live on the bed or in the surficial sediments of the bed of our waterbodies. The abundance and type of organisms found in a sample can be used as an indicator of ecosystem health. The data is used for Watershed Report Cards and by partner agencies. The partnership with the Health Headwaters Lab at the University of Windsor will continue this year. Students participate in the sampling and then identify and enumerate the benthic organisms found in the samples.

10.2.5) Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB)

Lake Erie Blooms

The U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issues Western Lake Erie Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Early Season Projections in May and June leading up to their Seasonal Lake Erie HAB Forecast in early July. The Early Season Projections give coastal managers and drinking water facility operators a general sense of how "bad" the upcoming bloom season has the potential to be. The forecast is an ensemble of models based largely upon phosphorus discharge from the Maumee River. The Early Season Projection from June 3rd is included in this agenda.

With observations through May 30, NOAA continues to predict a potential bloom severity range of 3.0-5.5 (likely Moderate bloom conditions), similar to the 2022 or 2024 blooms. A comprehensive seasonal forecast is expected to be released on June 25th.

Western Lake Erie HAB Early Season Projection

Bulletin 5 2026-06-03

Summary: The Western Lake Erie HAB Early Season Projection provides an estimate of potential *Microcystis* harmful algal bloom (HAB) severity. The projected severity depends on input of total bioavailable phosphorus (TBP) from the Maumee River during the loading season (March 1–July 31), and uses a combination of measurements and forecasts of Maumee River discharge from the U.S. Geological Society (USGS) and the National Weather Service – Ohio River Forecast Center (through July) combined with TBP concentrations measured by the Heidelberg University National Center for Water Quality Research.

With observations through May 30, we continue to predict a potential bloom severity range of 3–5.5 (likely moderate bloom conditions), similar to the 2022 or 2024 blooms. Through the spring, there was a particularly high load event in early April followed by near normal conditions through May. In late May, heavy rainfall observed in Kentucky and Ohio mostly missed the Maumee basin.

The range in forecasted severity reflects the uncertainty in forecasting precipitation from now through July. If another high precipitation and associated loading event occurs during the next two months, there is a small chance of a bloom up to 5.5, similar to 2010; if precipitation is substantially less than normal through the rest of the early summer, the bloom could be more similar to 2022.

We will issue a comprehensive seasonal forecast on June 25. Any bloom that does develop will move throughout the summer due to wind and currents. We will provide information on the presence and location of the bloom via satellite remote sensing monitoring and forecasts that are posted daily on the web, and emailed to subscribers weekly, in collaboration with NOAA's Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory (GLERL).

Predicted Bloom Severity

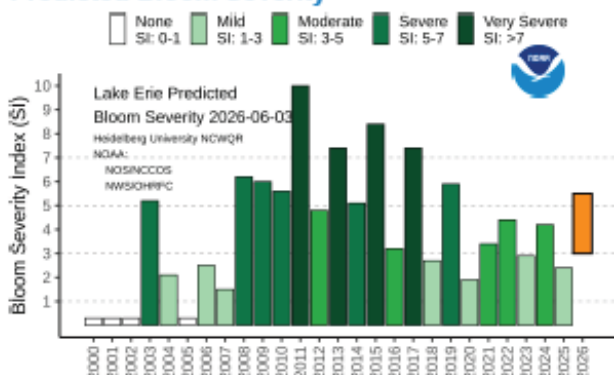


Fig. 1. Predicted bloom severity as compared to previous years. The wide orange bar is the likely range of severity based on current forecast uncertainty (3–5.5; Moderate bloom). The uncertainty in the bloom severity forecast is due to uncertainty in both the bloom severity models and the forecast river flow and TBP loads through the end of July.

Total Bioavailable Phosphorus

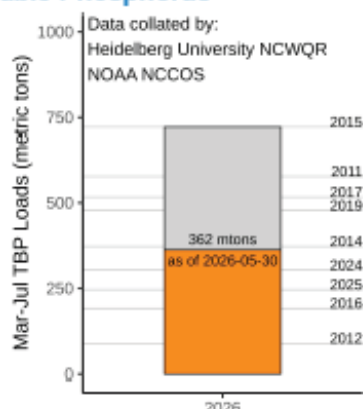


Fig. 3. Total bioavailable phosphorus (TBP) load accumulated from the Maumee River near Waterville, OH to date. The right axis denotes the TBP load from selected previous years.

For more information visit: coastalscience.noaa.gov/science-areas/habs/hab-forecasts/lake-erie or ncwqr.org

Cumulative Total Bioavailable Phosphorus

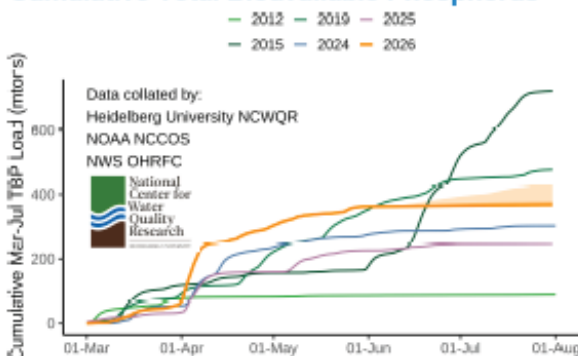


Fig. 2. Cumulative TBP loads for the Maumee River (Waterville, OH). Each line denotes cumulative load for different years. 2026 is in orange: the solid line is the measured load to May 30 and predicted load for the rest of the loading season (thru July); the darker and lighter orange shading show, respectively, the likely and possible load ranges for the remainder of the season.

Satellite Image - True Color



Fig. 4. True color image for 02 June 2026 derived from the Copernicus Sentinel-3a/b satellite. The western basin has substantial suspended sediment (brown color) along the Ohio coast.

Questions? Contact: hab@noaa.gov

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10.2.6) Geographic Information Systems

Work continues on updating the LTVCA's Regulated Area Screening layer for O. Reg. 41/24: Prohibited Activities, Exemptions and Permits, which can be accessed by the public on an ArcGIS Online web portal linked to the LTVCA's website. In addition to regular updates, the MNR has recently released new aerial photography taken in 2025. They have also released new fall 2025 LiDAR data for a large portion of the watershed. With this new data, additional revisions will need to be undertaken to update the Regulated Areas Screening map.

The watershed-wide natural heritage systems (NHS) review has now been completed, in tandem with the Upper Thames Region Conservation Authority's (UTRCA) dataset. The final report is being reviewed by managers prior to sharing at the fall Shared Waters Approach meeting. The collaboration continues with the Municipality of Chatham-Kent for potentially incorporating portions of the work into the municipality's Official Plan.

GIS has now been integrated into our Joint Health and Safety Committee workflow. Using Survey123 GIS/GPS technology from ESRI, staff are now able to collect GPS location data and combine it with photographic and text description data in the field. This makes the process of identifying hazards on our properties by our JHSC much more efficient.

Alignment with the LTVCA's Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy

This report aligns with these Strategic Objectives in the LTVCA's Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy:

2. Monitoring the Health of the Watershed
5. Protecting the Community from Natural Hazards
6. Educating the Community about Natural Hazards
7. Supporting Community Understanding of the Watershed

10.3) Planning and Regulations

10.3.1) Planning

From the end of March 2026 through to the end of May 2026, there were 52 planning submissions reviewed by staff for this reporting season with respect to the Provincial Planning Statement, Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 41/24. On average it takes roughly 5 days to respond to submissions, ranging from same day response to 15 days for more involved planning submissions. There have also been 51 phone calls and over 206 email responses to inquiries that staff have responded to.

Planning Numbers	2025 Totals	Jan 2026 Totals	Feb 2026 Totals	Mar 2026 Totals	April 2026 Totals	May 2026 Totals
Chatham-Kent	178	13	7	31	11	18
Elgin	42	6	3	1	3	3
Essex	15	0	1	1	0	5
Middlesex	39	5	10	3	2	10
Total Numbers	274	24	21	36	16	36

Planning Fees

There were two planning submission fees received from member municipalities for the time period between April 1, 2026, through to May 31, 2026. There have been 15 legal inquiries received in April and May 2026 totaling \$1,875.

MUNICIPALITY	APR 1, 2026 TO MAY 31, 2026	2026 TOTAL	2025 TOTAL
Chatham-Kent			\$450.00
Elgin County			
Southwold		\$13,645.00	\$23,645.00
Dutton Dunwich	\$545.00	\$545.00	
West Elgin	*\$4,060.00	*\$4,060.00	
Essex County			
Lakeshore			
Middlesex County			
Middlesex Centre			
YTD Total		\$18,250.00	\$24,095.00

* West Elgin planning fee submission from November 2024 through to January 2026.

10.3.2) Section 28 Regulations / Permitting

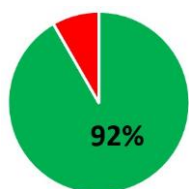
With respect to Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act and its associated regulation, Ontario Regulation 41/24, the LTVCA received a total of 55 new permit applications in the months of April and May. The total number of permit applications received thus far in 2026 is 160.

Of the new applications and, combined with previously submitted “incomplete” applications, a total of 58 applications were deemed to be “complete” in April and May and could be reviewed for permitting. Those 58 applications were in addition to the previous queue of seven “complete” applications leading into this reporting period. 61 of the 65 “complete” applications were processed and all were approved by staff with or without conditions. As of the end of May, four “complete” applications were in the queue for processing. One of which requires a Hearing (yet to be arranged).

\$30,725 in permit application & hearing fees had been, or were to be, collected as of the end of May.

10.3.3) Application Timelines:

Review for Completeness:



Ontario Regulation 41/24 requires that conservation authorities are to make a determination on whether an application is considered to be “complete” or “incomplete” and provide a response of such to the applicant within 21 calendar days. For the months of April and May, the average response time with respect to this was seven days (ranging between 0 and 81 days). 92% of all applications met the provincially required timeline for a “completeness” response. The applications, which didn’t meet the provincially required timeline, were all related to municipal infrastructure projects.

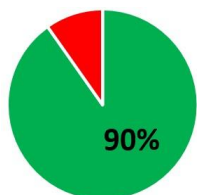
Permit Processing:

For applications issued in April and May, the table and charts below indicate that 100% of “routine” applications and 90% of “minor” applications met their applicable LTVCA customer service standard for turnaround time.



Routine Applications:

For the months of April and May, the average turnaround time for a routine permit application was one day (ranged between 0 and 2 days). The LTVCA’s customer service standard for routine permits is a turnaround within 14 days. The processing time for routine permit applications met the LTVCA’s customer service target.



Minor Applications:

For the months of April and May, the average turnaround time was 11 days (ranged between 0 and 81 days) for minor permit applications. The LTVCA’s customer service standard for minor complexity permits is a turnaround within 21 days. The processing time for minor permit applications is generally meeting the LTVCA’s customer service target. The applications which didn’t meet the LTVCA’s customer service target were all related to municipal infrastructure projects.

10.3.4) Property Inquiries:

Up to the end of May, 836 property inquiries (including permit pre-consultation inquiries) were received and responded to by the Regulations Officer, which is 438 more since the last board report. The April and May inquiries were responded to with 637 e-mails, 40 phone calls, and 22 in-person meetings.

At the time of writing of this staff report, the current response time to property and pre-consultation inquiries is up to 3 business days for e-mails and 5 business days for phone calls. The length of time to respond to e-mails is similar to the last board report. The response time for phone calls has improved since the last board report.

10.3.5) Policies & Procedures Update:

Given the current workload, there has been no work completed on the Policy & Procedures Manual and, therefore, no additional municipal or public consultations on the Manual have been undertaken. The Manual hasn't been updated since the original draft from the March 2024 board meeting. The Manual still requires multiple new sections and revisions to meet the requirements of Section 12 of Ontario Regulation 41/24.

Additionally, with respect to the Additional Residential Unit ("ARU") discussion from the June 2025 Board of Directors' meeting, staff had drafted and circulated proposed ARU policies to planning staff at our member municipalities and the local counties, as well as to building department staff at our member municipalities. Comments have been received but no further work has progressed.

One of the current permit applications within the queue requires a Hearing (yet to be scheduled) as the proposal is outside of what the LTVCA's board-approved policies allow for. Staff have utilized a template from Conservation Ontario to customize a "Practices and Procedures" document which will provide guidance to the Boards, staff, and the public as to what Hearings are, how they are conducted, and what can be expected. This document is intended to be included within this agenda package to be approved by the Board.

10.3.6) Section 28 Enforcement:

In the first five months of 2026, 11 complaints / tips were received from the public about possible enforcement issues. This is five more than the previous board report.

These reports align with these Strategic Objectives in the LTVCA's Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy:

3. Supporting Sustainable Growth
4. Improving Transparency and Customer Service in Planning and Regulations
5. Protecting the Community from Natural Hazards

10.3.7) Permit Decisions in February and March 2026

Permit Decisions in April and May 2026

B.D. 06/18/2026

App No.	Location	Community / Township	Municipality	Decision	Processing Time (days)
018-2026	Indian Creek Road West at Gregory Drain	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: April 07, 2026	1
060-2026	21200 Lakeshore Road 303	Tilbury West	Lakeshore	Granted: April 24, 2026	9
088-2026	County Road 34 over South Dales Drain	Mersea	Leamington	Granted: April 01, 2026	20
095-2026	Mersea Road 11 over West Ogle Drain	Mersea	Leamington	Granted: April 10, 2026	21
100-2026	6640 Rivard Line	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Granted: April 08, 2026	8
101-2026	McGregor Place	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: April 10, 2026	9
102-2026	19227 Mull Road	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Granted: April 02, 2026	2
103-2026	25354 Townline Road	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Granted: April 17, 2026	10
104-2026	Bowlby-Futcher Drain 2025	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: April 16, 2026	21
105-2026	20040 Admiral Drive	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Granted: April 17, 2026	8
106-2026	110 Indian Creek Road East	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: April 24, 2026	11
107-2026	22222 Creek Road	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Granted: April 27, 2026	18
108-2026	11007 River Line	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Granted: April 10, 2026	0
109-2026	82 Rosewood Crescent	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: April 17, 2026	3
110-2026	38 Rosewood Crescent	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: April 17, 2026	7
111-2026	31079 Fingal Line	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: April 29, 2026	19
112-2026	12060 Rose Beach Line	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: April 21, 2026	4
113-2026	12062 Rose Beach Line	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: April 21, 2026	0
114-2026	12064 Rose Beach Line	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: April 21, 2026	0
115-2026	204 Prince Street	Shrewsbury	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 04, 2026	14
116-2026	315 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 04, 2026	13
117-2026	311 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 04, 2026	13
118-2026	11588 River Line	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Granted: April 20, 2026	0
119-2026	Arnold Creek Drain	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: April 27, 2026	10
120-2026	Gowrie Drain and Pumps Works	Dover	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 08, 2026	18
121-2026	12070 Rose Beach Line	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: April 21, 2026	0
122-2026	810 Rivait Drive	Lighthouse Cove	Lakeshore	Granted: May 05, 2026	7
123-2026	West Street over the Brady Drain	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 13, 2026	22
124-2026	12016 Rose Beach Line	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: April 22, 2026	0
125-2026	200 Ross Lane	Erieau	Chatham-Kent	Granted: April 22, 2026	0
126-2026	126 Stanley Avenue	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 05, 2026	12
127-2026	2679 Longwoods Road	Mosa	Southwest Middlesex	Granted: May 07, 2026	5
128-2026	Moffatt Extension Drain Todd Culvert	Tilbury East	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 11, 2026	21
129-2026	899 Mariners Road	Erieau	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 05, 2026	8
130-2026	Bradley Line	Bradley	Chatham-Kent	Granted: April 27, 2026	0
131-2026	12 Goldpark Road	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: April 28, 2026	0

Permit Decisions in April and May 2026

B.D. 06/18/2026

App No.	Location	Community / Township	Municipality	Decision	Processing Time (days)
132-2026	3766 Talbot Trail	Romney	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 05, 2026	0
133-2026	6925 Riverview Line	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 05, 2026	5
134-2026	147 Rosewood Crescent	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 19, 2026	11
135-2026	Scafe Drain	Howard	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 29, 2026	81
136-2026	Cyrus Huffman Drain	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 25, 2026	26
137-2026	10621 Lakeview Drive	Lake Morningstar	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 04, 2026	0
138-2026	Morrison Drain	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 25, 2026	26
139-2026	Kneebone Drain	Harwich	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 25, 2026	26
140-2026	C. McCallum Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: May 25, 2026	21
141-2026	McCann-McWilliam Drain	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: May 25, 2026	21
142-2026	9331 Union Road	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: May 06, 2026	0
143-2026	18236 Erie Shore Drive	Erie Shore Drive	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 20, 2026	9
144-2026	18240 Erie Shore Drive	Erie Shore Drive	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 20, 2026	9
145-2026	307 Ironwood Trail	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 14, 2026	3
146-2026	7665 Riverview Line	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 20, 2026	9
147-2026	27 Cornerstone Place	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 25, 2026	3
148-2026	31 Cornerstone Place	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 25, 2026	3
149-2026	16120 & 16140 Couture Beach Road	Tilbury West	Lakeshore	Granted: May 20, 2026	5
150-2026	71 Fenceline Drive	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 20, 2026	1
151-2026	36357 Talbot Line	Southwold	Southwold	Granted: May 19, 2026	0
153-2026	22575 Howard Road	Raleigh	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 25, 2026	2
154-2026	4 Lantern Lane	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 26, 2026	0
155-2026	59 Rosewood Crescent	Chatham	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 27, 2026	1
156-2026	14561 Largie Road	Dunwich	Dutton Dunwich	Granted: May 29, 2026	2
159-2026	2840 Talbot Trail	Romney	Chatham-Kent	Granted: May 29, 2026	1

10.4) Conservation Lands

10.4.1) Conservation Areas

Longwoods Road CA

The suspension bridge at Longwoods Road CA has been re-constructed and is now open to the public.



On May 29th the Carey Carolinian Arboretum and Trail cleanup was undertaken by 15+ volunteers, including Foundation Directors Ken, Heather and Don. The trail and around the kiosk were raked, debris and fallen branches removed and the native garden near the museum was cleaned up. All of the arboretum trail signs were washed as well as the three signs at each of the cabins. The shrubs around the cabins were also trimmed back and vegetation removed as per Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum Curator Alison Klages's suggestions in preparation for cabin repair. A big thank you to all the volunteers who came out and gave their time and energy to this much appreciated work.



CM Wilson

The CM Wilson Campground season opening went smoothly. A new pump was installed in the campground septic system, and a new roof has been installed on the campground bathroom. In the day-use area, interior renovations of the washrooms, similar to what was undertaken earlier in the year for the campground bathrooms, has also been completed. A new rail fence was also installed in front of the Stenton Barn.



10.5) Conservation Services

10.5.1) General Update

Western District

Greg Van Every: A total of 57,800 seedlings were sold in the LTVCA watershed for spring 2026 Rural Stewardship Programing. Just over 58 acres of reforestation projects were added to the Thames Valley landscape by the Rural Stewardship Program. Due to weather the planting went into the first week of June but enough rain has sent the newly planted seedlings off to a good start. 1,548 Large Stock trees were also added to the community through our Urban Stewardship Programing. Forest Canada, Tree Canada, Eco Action, and MECP continue to be key sponsors for these efforts.

This spring a grant through Conservation Ontario was approved for \$1.2M to support staff and projects related to agriculture and erosion. Grass waterways, buffers, and shelterbelts are the deliverables. In addition, LTVCA was also successful at acquiring \$100k for invasive phragmites control. Drone trials and bio control are some of the endeavors we'll be working on in the coming months within Chatham-Kent.

A mitigation project opportunity has arisen from an OPP facility construction in St. Thomas. WSP is a consulting firm linking LTVCA with Infrastructure Ontario to sign an agreement to restore wetland and reforestation features on the newly acquired 5 Maples CA.

The Sustainable Agriculture Program at University of Guelph, Ridgetown Campus will be part of a field trip hosted by LTVCA to various demonstration sites showing off past projects implemented by Conservation Services. Students will have the opportunity to hear testimonials from landowners on why and how they participate in our programs.

Erica Ion was brought on as the Stewardship Biologist to work on these recent grants and assist with staff workloads. After finishing a contract with ALUS Middlesex, it was a good fit to transfer her to Rural Stewardship as a continuing opportunity.

Eastern District

Tyler Thornton: The month of May is the busiest time of the year for our Conservation Services Team, and it is where all the prior months of planning and preparation for spring restoration projects come to fruition. During our planting season field work has been extensive. LTVCA along with ALUS partners combined efforts to plant a total of 39,800 trees on 40 sites within the Lower Thames watershed. Simultaneously, collaboration with contractors and landowners to establish grassland & erosion control/wetland projects throughout the eastern district of the watershed was also happening. Approximately 11.4 acres of native grassland habitat was established across 3 project sites. Three wetland & soil erosion control projects were constructed in the month of May, two which were both approximately 0.35 acres in size, and one approximately 0.75 acres in size, all with their associated WASCObS constructed. This year there were two pickup days for over-the-counter tree sales, one at Longwoods Road CA and one at CM Wilson, which were both conducted in early May.

Strathroy District Collegiate Institute was commissioned to build 22 Red-headed woodpecker boxes, which have already been constructed and picked up. The bird box builds are to be given out to landowners who have conducted stewardship projects with LTVCA in 2026, and they will serve as valuable homes for future habitat.

Current tasks include reporting, invoicing, and other pertinent documentation that is required by affiliated funders with stewardship projects and completing deliverables within a timely manner. The LTVCA has a contract with Trees Canada to assist in tree survival assessments for the partnered projects completed during the 2025 season. Seasonal staff will assist in completing these assessments and plans to complete these within the summer months, along with the necessary documentation required for submission. Seasonal staff will also be tasked and monitored with providing some herbicide treatment for selective sites within our watershed.

Site visits for future 2026 & 2027 stewardship projects continue and have been increasingly common.

Over the next few weeks there will be a shift toward a focus on constructing erosion control and wetlands during the suitable drier months of the year. Please see below for pictures encapsulating some of the work conducted in the eastern district this spring.



3200 trees across 5.3 acres & 2.4 acres of native TGP established for Project- LTVCA-01755H-C0735



1070 trees across 1.8 acres & 1 acre of native TGP established for Project- LTVCA-01722L-C0705



8 acres of native TGP & Wildflowers for Pearce Williams Summer Camp



0.75-acre wetland for Project-LTVCA-00317B-C0743



Looking at one of WASCOBs constructed for Project
– LTVCA-00625M-C0335

ALUS Elgin

Russel Vey: The 2026 field season is now well underway, with project establishment, participant outreach, and stewardship activities ramping up across Elgin County.

ALUS Elgin is pleased to welcome Nikolas Rohde, who recently began his role as the new Stewardship Technician and Assistant to the ALUS Elgin Program for his co-op term. Since joining the team, Nikolas has been diligently following up with participants throughout Elgin to better understand project conditions, identify any outstanding needs, and verify acres to ensure financial records remain accurate and balanced. This verification and participant engagement initiative will continue throughout the summer, and we look forward to seeing the positive impact of this work on overall program delivery and database integrity. In addition to this, Nikolas has been working alongside myself in the field, going for site visits and planning projects for this year, and planting trees with LTVCA.

May marked the beginning of the annual tree planting season with LTVCA. The ALUS Elgin team has been actively assisting with both machine and hand planting efforts across LTVCA working with their team and ALUS CK. ALUS Elgin is set to establish approximately 10 acres of trees across the county this year.



Results of tree planting at Matt Howard's farm.



New wetland establishment underway at Geraldine Hind's farm.

In addition, several tallgrass prairie projects were successfully completed in May, with additional cool-season prairie projects planned for establishment later this fall as conditions become more suitable for seeding. Wetland establishment has also begun for the season, with four projects already underway.

ALUS Middlesex

Elise Gabrielli-Schroder: Spring is a busy time of year as we coordinate grassland and tree planting projects across the region. It is exciting to see projects that have been in the planning stages throughout the fall and winter months take root now that the ground is ready to be worked.

This past May, we collaborated with three conservation authority partners, including the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority (LTVCA), Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA), and St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA), to plant 15,000 trees across seven landowner projects. This work was completed in addition to the approximately 20 new acres of warm-season grasses planted to date and two early-season wetland projects.

Spring has equally signaled some changes at ALUS Middlesex. The team welcomed back Program Director Elise Gabrielli-Schroder from maternity leave. Elise is excited to rejoin the team and looks forward to the upcoming field season. At the same time, the team bid a warm farewell to Erica Ion, Interim Director. ALUS Middlesex extends its sincere thanks for the tremendous effort and expertise Erica contributed over the past year and a half and recognizes the many accomplishments she achieved during her time with us. We wish Erica all the best as she continues in her new role as Stewardship Biologist with LTVCA.

We would also like to welcome our summer co-op student, Tyra Cadogan, who joins ALUS Middlesex for her placement through the end of August. Read more about Tyra below.

“My name is Tyra and I am the Monitoring and Research Co-op student at ALUS Middlesex. My role of conducting ALUS participant site visits supports me in my journey of obtaining a Master of Environment and Sustainability through the University of Western Ontario. In my current studies as a Master student and inspired by my undergraduate experience in Social Justice and Peace Studies, I am passionate about environmental equity and human-to-nature relationship building. I believe that environmental stewardship begins with having a relationship to the natural world. At ALUS Middlesex, I am afforded the opportunity to strengthen my connection with nature during site visits as well as learn from participants who hold longstanding relationships to the land.”



Tyra Cadogan, Monitoring & Research Co-op Student

On June 4th, ALUS welcomed members of the community to our second *Strong Roots* Community planting event held in partnership through a generous grant awarded by Nature London. The event was centred on wildflower planting around a newly restored wetland at the Crump Family Farm, as part of an ongoing collaboration with the Outdoor Education Class at Strathroy District Collegiate Institute. Students had the opportunity to apply hands-on learning to real-world environmental challenges by selecting low-growing shrubs and forbs that could tolerate



Elise speaks to community members at our 2nd Strong Roots Community Planting Event

both wet and dry conditions while further enhancing the wetland site. Students joined members of Nature London, the Middlesex Pollinator Team, and representatives from both LTVCA and SCRCA to connect, collaborate, and help restore vital habitat.



*Left: Susan Hall of the Eco-Grants Committee with Nature London
Right: Rebecca Pearce-Cameron, Eastern Hub Manager, ALUS*



We would like to extend special thanks to Mayor Aina Deviet of Middlesex Centre, Deputy Mayor David Manders of Lucan-Biddulph and Warden Sue Clarke of Middlesex County for their participation and support of our event. It was wonderful to see so many people come together around a shared commitment of environmental stewardship and community engagement!

ALUS Chatham-Kent

Rashel Tremblay: The ALUS CK PAC held a meeting on April 14th and approved three projects – a 1.5-acre Tallgrass Prairie buffer, 170 Trees for a windbreak around a Wetland, and 1 acre of Trees in the McGregor Creek floodplain. ALUS Canada gave the ALUS CK PAC a Fund Development 101 presentation and we looked at our allocation and targets for 2026. The PAC has already approved enough projects to hit our targets.

ALUS CK Allocation and Targets for 2026.

ALUS Canada-Sourced Funders	Funding Amount	Funder Targets
NRCAN (2 Billion Trees)	\$36,750	10,000 Trees (up to 20 acres)
Environment and Climate Change Canada – Precision Conservation	\$100,000	25 new acres of Riparian Habitat
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks – Wetlands Conservation Partner Program	\$125,000	4 participants 10-acres of Wetlands and/or Riparian Habitat
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks – Species Conservation Program	\$33,150	Renewals and/or 15 new acres of SAR Habitat
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness – Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program	\$60,000	25 new acres of Tree and Grassland Projects
Community-Sourced Funders		
Canadian Wildlife Federation	\$28,000	No target. Tallgrass Prairie Seed for 21 acres of Grassland Projects.
Totals:	\$382,900	Overarching target is 50 acres

ALUS CK Appreciation Breakfast

On April 24th, we held an appreciation breakfast for ALUS CK participants and invited interested farmers and funders to attend. Sixty people enjoyed a hearty farmer's breakfast at the University of Guelph's Ridgetown Campus, heard stories from ALUS participants, and engaged in discussions about how to get the word out to local farmers about the ALUS CK program. Door prizes were from local ALUS CK farmers! Moving forward, this will be an annual event that we'll host in the Winter months.



“Authentic, lived experience’: Pain Court high schoolers plant 400 native trees.”

An ALUS CK farmer, who teaches at L'École Secondaire de Pain Court, brought high schoolers on a field trip to their farm to plant 400 Trees. The Chatham Daily News was there and took photos for an article posted on May 7, 2026.



Rashel Morin-Tremblay, ALUS Chatham-Kent program lead, and teacher Roger Daniel organize trees for École secondaire catholique de Pain Court ninth-graders to plant at a Pain Court Line farm on Wednesday, May 6, 2026. (Trevor Terfloth/Chatham Daily News)

Rashel Morin-Tremblay, ALUS Chatham-Kent program lead, said the organization is always open to educational partnerships.

“It’s very important,” she said. “This is just a little way to get them doing something. It’s a start.”

For more on opportunities offered through ALUS and the LTVCA, visit alus.ca and lowerthames-conservation.on.ca.

tterfloth@postmedia.com

“We always hear that there’s a shortage of native trees and tree coverage in Chatham-Kent,” Bélanger said. “So, we try to do our best. This project is an ongoing project that we like to add on to when we can.”



Ninth-graders Isabella Robson, Callie Root, Abigail Peltier, Ann Elyse Deline and Ava Zondervan Shown were among 50 École secondaire catholique de Pain Court geography students planting trees at a Pain Court Line farm on Wednesday, May 6, 2026. (Trevor Terfloth/Chatham Daily News)

Project partners include the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority (LTVCA) and Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS), with the latter providing funding for the trees.

The school was involved in similar plantings in 2010 and '13.

Urban Stewardship

Alyssa Broeders: The Urban Stewardship Program has had an exceptionally busy spring tree planting season, with more than 1,600 trees planted across the watershed through a variety of community partnerships and restoration initiatives. Two community tree giveaways were successfully held, one in the eastern portion of the watershed and one in the western portion, resulting in 250 native trees being distributed to local residents. The western giveaway was made possible through funding and volunteer support from the Chatham Sunrise Rotary Club, whose contribution helped expand the program's reach and impact.

The annual Tomorrow’s Greener Schools Today program was also completed this spring and marked the largest program to date. More than 250 trees were planted by students and staff at 11 schools across Chatham-Kent, surpassing previous years in both participation and trees planted. The continued growth of the program demonstrates the strong interest schools have in environmental stewardship and provides hundreds of students with hands-on opportunities to improve their school grounds while learning about the benefits of trees and local biodiversity.

Several community planting events were held throughout the season, including the planting of 100 trees at Sons of Scotland Park in Dutton with the support of local volunteers. Additional projects included a tree planting along the Chatham-Kent Hospice Hike for Hospice route and a community park planting in partnership with the Blenheim Rotary Club. Stewardship efforts also extended beyond tree planting, with a drain cleanup conducted alongside members of the Chatham Horticultural Society to help improve local environmental conditions and community awareness.

With the spring tree season now drawing to a close, attention is shifting toward the herbaceous planting season. Pollinator habitat projects, native plant installations, and other restoration activities are now underway, ensuring another active and productive field season across the watershed.

10.5.2) Agricultural Initiatives

From April through June, the Agricultural Program team focused on completing all year-end reporting requirements for the 2025–2026 program year while simultaneously launching the third year of program delivery. All reporting requirements were completed and successfully approved by the Canada Water Agency.

Some key highlights from the program's 2025–2026 fiscal year report include:

BMP Implementation Highlights:

- Funding delivered to participants across the Lower Thames River Watershed for implementing Best Management Practices: \$2.7 Million Dollars
- Number of Participants: 291
- Total acres of Best Management Practices Implemented: 97,691 acres

Cover Crop Planting and Establishment	22,629 Acres
4R Nutrient Management Planning	21,707 Acres
Alternative Phosphorus Application Practices	23,001 Acres
Reduced Tillage Practices	29,295 Acres
Field Windbreaks	7 Projects
Buffers	9 Projects
Erosion Control / Wetlands	43 Projects / Structures

Best Management Practice implementation focused on a targeted strategy developed for four priority subwatersheds: Big Creek, Jeannettes Creek, Newbiggen Creek, and McGregor Creek. This strategy was informed by the recalculation of total phosphorus loads using a comprehensive review of historical monitoring records and updated data. During the reporting period, 36% of the projects implemented were located in the 4 priority subwatersheds identified for contributing high phosphorus loads.

Outreach and Education Highlights:

Staff continued to advance the program's outreach and education initiatives aimed at promoting best management practices and encouraging long-term stewardship. LTVCA staff participated in several key outreach events alongside agricultural partners and community organizations. These events provided opportunities to share program information and strengthen collaborative relationships across the watershed. In addition, youth education programming was delivered to students and 4-H groups to foster awareness and understanding of environmental stewardship.

- Number of Events (Hosted or Presented at): 35
- Number of Event Participants: 1,421
- Number of Materials Shared: 1,335
- Number of People Engaged: 16,309

Water Quality Monitoring Highlights:

Water quality monitoring activities continued throughout the program year to assess program effectiveness and support the quantification of phosphorus load reductions across the watershed. The coordinated monitoring and data collection efforts provide information to evaluate track progress toward water quality objectives and support ongoing research related to phosphorus reduction efforts.

- Number of Monitoring Stations: 28
- Water Samples Collected: 599

During this period, staff also managed a significant workload associated with the launch of the 2026–2027 program. The response from the agricultural community has been overwhelming. Staff are reviewing and processing applications while using a strategic evaluation process to ensure funding is prioritized effectively.

Applications are assessed based on factors such as location and potential environmental impact, with priority given to projects in high-risk areas, including those located near watercourses. This strategy helps ensure that available funding and technical support are directed to projects that will maximize phosphorus reduction outcomes.

In the first two months, the program has received 185 applications, representing \$1,587,489.50 in potential funding requests. These achievements reflect the continued success of the program in supporting agricultural producers in adopting practices that contribute to improved water quality outcomes.

Water Resource Analyst - Elizabeth Arango Ruda

During the reporting period, Elizabeth continued to support water quality monitoring and research initiatives through data analysis, reporting, and collaboration activities. Key accomplishments included supporting data analysis for Edge of Field research sites, recalculating phosphorus loads for Big Creek, and compiling and validating flow and phosphorus monitoring data for Jeannette Creek to improve data consistency within the

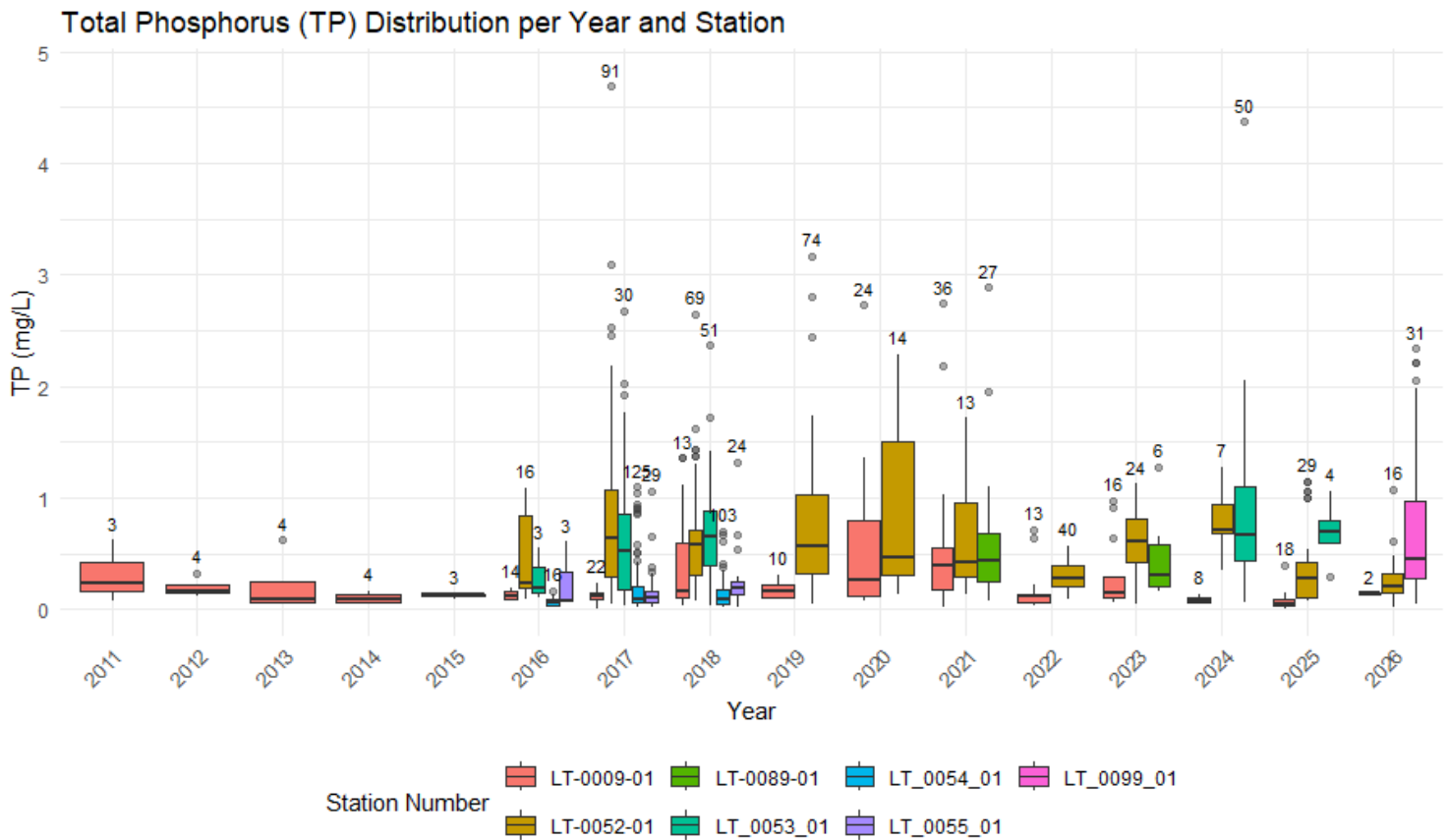


Figure 1. Phosphorus observations for seven sites at **Jeannettes Creek** from 2011 to 2026. Only one site (LT-0009-01) has continuous observations from 2011 to date, which is a PWQMN site. The rest of the sites, except for some pump stations, do not have continuous data through the years or are inactive.

Elizabeth also identified and began addressing data gaps, working collaboratively to incorporate weather and flow information into the monitoring system.

Reporting activities focused on finalizing Best Management Practice (BMP) mapping and geospatial datasets for the 2025 reporting period. A geodatabase containing feature layers (polygon type) for each BMP category, as well as separate individual shapefiles with the field where BMPs were established per category for the 2025 reporting period was created. As part of this package, Elizabeth created a short report summarizing projects established in the priority subwatersheds, along with a map showing all projects (Figure 2).

Analyses were completed to quantify the number and area of BMPs established on agricultural lands throughout the watershed. Agricultural land was defined as per the Annual Crop Inventory dataset (Figure 3).

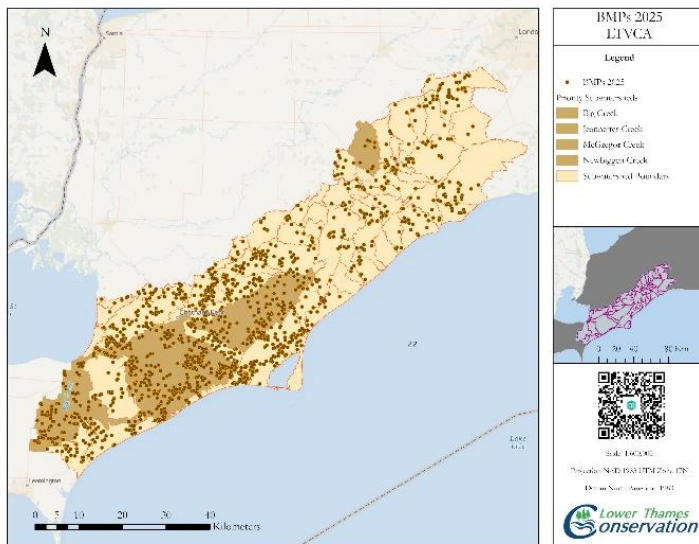


Figure 2. Map of BMPs established in 2025 as part of the PPRP.

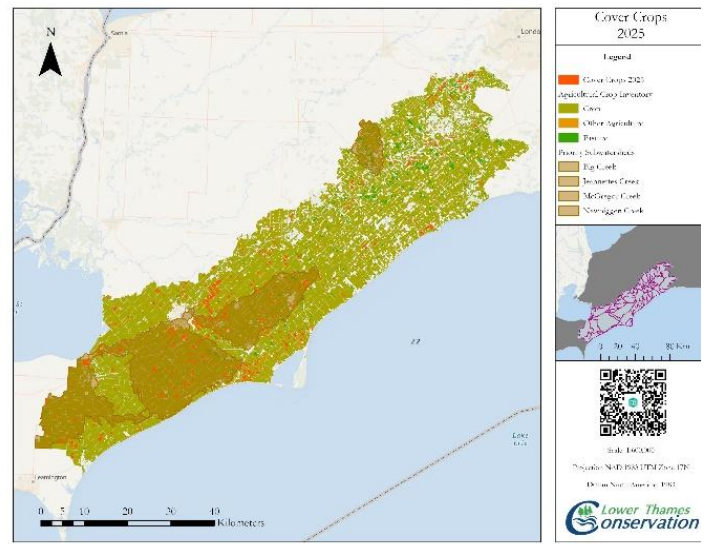


Figure 3. Cover Crops established in 2025 in agricultural areas as per the Annual Crop Inventory of 2024.

Elizabeth continued to collaborate with academic partners from the University of Toronto on research and data analysis initiatives. In collaboration with Amanda Doucette, a poster to be presented at the IAGLR conference was created. The poster was presented by Alexey Neumann from University of Toronto. (Figure 4).

Professional development and knowledge transfer activities also included attendance at the Ontario Benthos Biomonitoring Network (OBBN) Certificate Course and participation in the Canadian Geophysical Union conference, where watershed research findings were presented.

Spatial and Temporal Dynamics of Phosphorus in Subwatersheds Draining to Lake Erie

Elizabeth Arango Ruda¹, Alex Neumann², Odai Al Balasmeh², Amanda Doucette¹, Randy Kirby¹, Donna Small¹, George Archontitis²

1 - Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority (LTVCA), Chatham, Ontario, Canada.
2 - Ecological Modeling Lab, Department of Physical & Environmental Sciences, University of Toronto Scarborough.

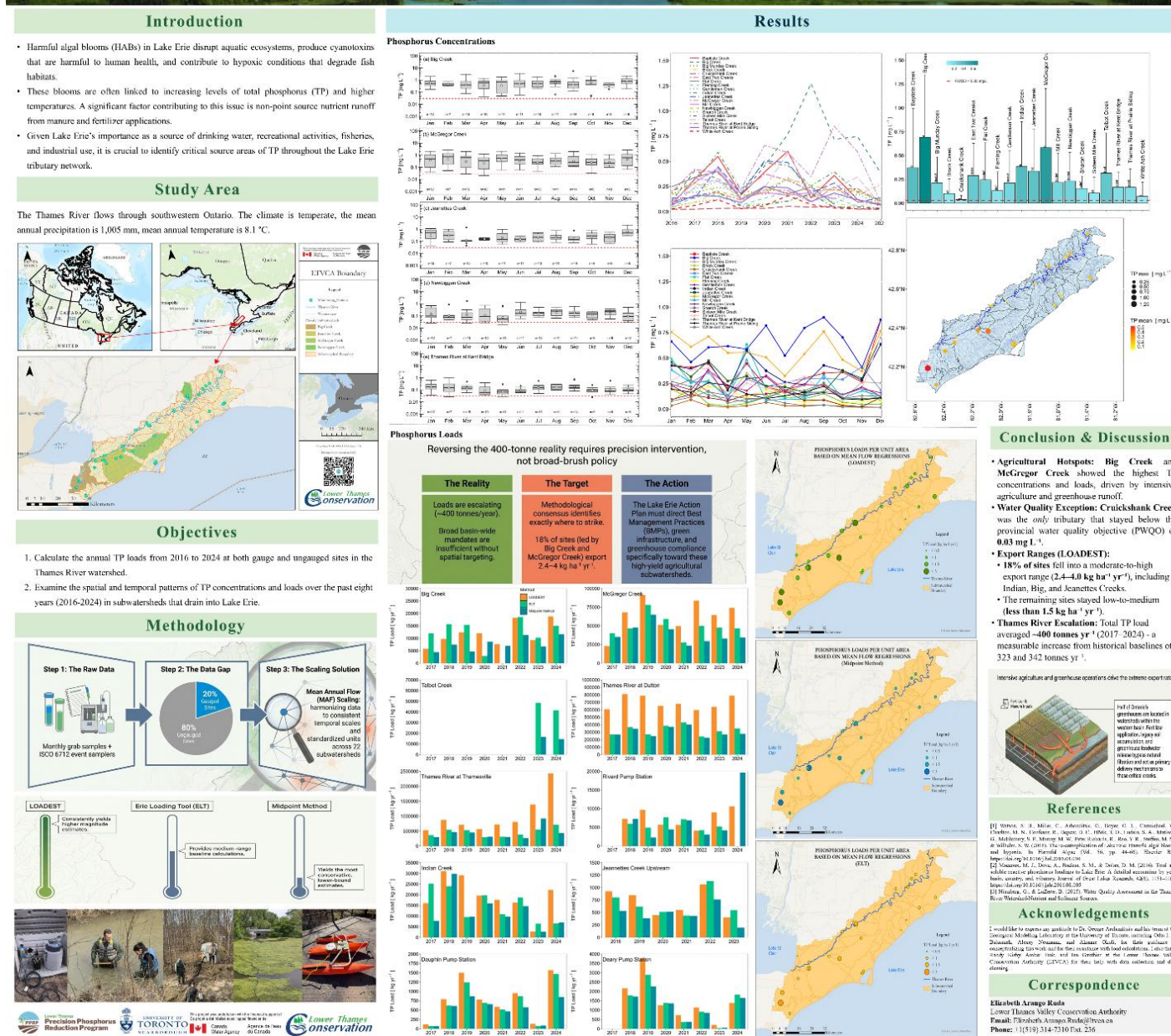


Figure 4. Poster prepared and presented for the IAGLR conference.

12.5.3) Aquatic Species at Risk (SAR)

Final reports for the Habitat Stewardship Program (HSP) and the Canada Nature Fund for Aquatic Species at Risk (CNAFSAR) were submitted to Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO). Vicki McKay provided Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) staff a tour around the Rondeau Bay watershed to better acquaint them with the area in preparation for climate change modelling work that they plan to undertake. Temperature and dissolved oxygen data loggers are being prepared for installation at 16 locations throughout the watershed. The digital data form is also being updated. Aquatic Biology Technician interviews are complete for an 8-week (July and August) Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) funded position. Reference checks are currently being completed prior to a job offer being extended.

These reports align with the following objectives of the LTVCA's Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy.

1. Improving Watershed Health
11. Strengthening and Increasing Collaboration with Community Stakeholders
12. Increase Awareness of the Value of Good Watershed Stewardship

10.6) Communications, Education and Outreach

10.6.1) Presentations

Communications Specialist, Amanda Blain, presented to group of enthusiastic gardeners at the Chatham Horticultural Societies' June meeting. She discussed native pollinators; what they are, why they are important and how gardeners can help.

10.6.2) Big 'O' Birding Event

The Big "O" Birding event was a huge success. For the third year in a row Wild Ontario came out and brought four birds of prey: a barred owl, a saw-whet owl, a sharp shinned hawk and a red-tailed hawk. Attendees got to learn about these incredible birds and see them up close and personal. There also were many other activities such as a kid's bird feeder craft, scavenger hunt and a self-guided hike. Approximately 80 people came out to enjoy this wonderful event.



10.6.3) Battle of Longwoods Event

The Battle of Longwoods was held at Longwoods Road Conservation Area on May 2-3, 2026. This annual event is co-hosted with the Upper Thames Military Re-enactment Society. The weekend included timed activities like camp tours, games, a mini-militia drill, and military demonstrations. Each day was capped off with the battle at 2:00 p.m. Approximately 1114 people joined us throughout the weekend including re-enactors.

Education Day was held the day before, on May 1, 2026. This special education event was attended by 384 students from schools across the watershed. The education team presented an activity as part of rotation schedule. Our activity content focused on the importance of the Carolinian life zone to those who have called this space home since Time Immemorial.

Staff will be planning a wrap up meeting with the Upper Thames Military Re-enactment Society to discuss the event and plans going forward.



10.6.4) Education

We will be receiving some helpers through the Canada Summer Jobs program for 8 weeks over July and August. Three youth total will be joining the team- two at Longwoods Road and one at C.M. Wilson Conservation Area.

Programming has picked up with the arrival of spring. Our team has done River and Creek safety at a number of watershed schools, Education Day at the Battle of Longwoods, Soil & Water Quality programming at C.M. Wilson, alongside the daily programming at our Longwoods location. Guided hikes, supported by the Municipality of Middlesex Centre, will take place at Sharon Creek Conservation Area once a month June through September.

Longwoods Road Conservation Area



A new Indigenous Community Educator has been hired for Longwoods Road Conservation Area. Welcome to Meghan King, OCT, who joined us at the end of May! She has begun leading programming and is starting work on various document updates.

Education programs will be wrapping up for the school year on June 24, 2026. It has been a busy spring education season. The weather has cooperated- as has bug season. Hopefully both continue to be in our favour for the remainder of our school dates.

On May 29, 2026, the Indigenous Community Educator led Pottery Making programs at the London Children's Museum.

A number of on-the-road and on-site programs are scheduled throughout July and August, but the Education team will be focusing primarily on offering public programming opportunities to Conservation Area visitors throughout the summer months.

C.M. Wilson Learning Centre

The City Nature Challenge was a success! Alongside CK Municipality, Nature CK, and St. Clair Region Conservation Authority, we hosted 4 events to encourage the community to get outside with us and document as much local wildlife as we can using iNaturalist. Two PA Day events were held, one at C.M. Wilson Conservation Area and one at Peers Wetland. We led the event at Wilson and saw around 70 people come out

and explore the ponds with our dip nets, learn about local wildlife at our fur, bone, & feather touch table, and walk the trails snapping photos of what they saw along the way. We saw another 100 people at our gathering in Tecumseh Park to encourage photographers to capture inner city wildlife as well. The week concluded with an ID party at Turns and Tales, where participants could help each other upload and identify their sightings. The stats from iNaturalist show that 874 observations were uploaded, 414 species were identified, and 176 people uploaded and identified the species.

The Indigenous Community Educator at C.M. Wilson, has continued work on the learning centre's strategic plan. They have divided the Roots & Renewal safety village revitalization plan into 4 parts; Phase 1: The Three Sisters Garden, Phase 2: Building Removals, Phase 3: Sensory Garden & Beautification, Phase 4: Fun & Games. They have finished a draft budget for phase 1 and 2 and have begun applying for grants for the first phase. The Chatham-Kent Public Health School Garden grant has provided \$1,500 in support for seeds as well as tools. The Indigenous Community Educator will be starting some seeds with the Montessori school that is based out of C.M. Wilson soon.

Water Festival

Requests for volunteer and staff support for the Water Festival has been extended over the past few weeks with lots of positive response. Our colleagues at the school boards have also initiated Water Festival registration and anticipate the event booking up quickly, as usual.

Western Lake Erie Student Summit



We wrapped up the WLESS project with a student summing in Sarnia, Ontario. Classes from the 4 schools that participated in the programming came together and did water quality tests with RAEON (Real-Time Aquatic Ecosystem Observation Network), visited the Monument of Souls and learned about what it represents, painted fish for the fence of the Sarnia Water Treatment Plant with Stream of Dreams, toured the Bluewater Anglers hatchery, and ate Sarnia's famous fries under the bridge.

10.6.5) Ska-Nah-Doht Village and Museum

As of June 8, 2026, the Ska-Nah-Doht Village's Facebook page has 4,290 Followers. The Instagram page for the Village has 789 Followers.

Summer Repairs

We await funding announcements from the London Community Foundation regarding our request to their needs based registry for support of work at the Heritage Log Cabins.

In the meantime, the Curator is also working on an application to the Ontario Job Creations Partnership program, which would help to fund staff to help with the repairs. Based on these timelines, it is likely the work would take place late summer and into the fall.

Some small repairs at the Village will be undertaken by the Education Team, summer staff, and Curator. These will include leantos, the fishing trap, and hide stretching racks.

On June 8, 2026 we held a mandatory site meeting for roofing companies that would like to bid on replacing the Heritage Log Cabin rooves. The intention will be to replace all three this summer or early fall.

Events

Artifact Day will take place on Sunday, July 5, 2026 from noon to 4 p.m. This event is hosted with the help of the London Chapter of the Ontario Archaeological Society.

An event commemorating the renovations at the Museum will be planned for early fall.

Floodplain display

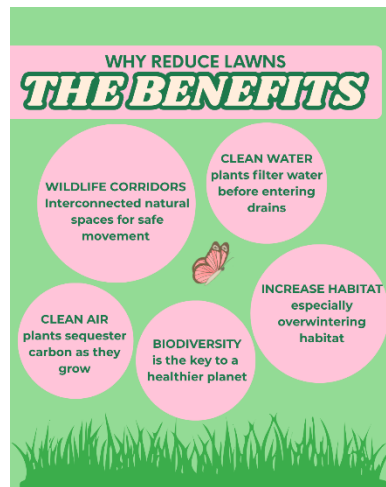
An old floodplain display from a high school project in the 1990s was given new life. The display needed a bit of electrical work, a new map and some new information. The floodplain display shows how the flood control structures in Chatham function. This will be a great tool for future presentations on flooding and flood control structures given by staff.



Social Media

This seasons long form post featured the environmental trend “No-Mow May” where people do as the title suggest and do not mow their lawn for the month of May. The post included the good, the bad and the next steps.





These reports align with the following objectives of the LTVCA's Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy.

7. Supporting Community Understanding of the Watershed
8. Providing Educational and outreach opportunities
9. Providing Opportunities for Outdoor Experiences
11. Strengthening and Increasing Collaboration with Community Stakeholders

10.7) Wheatley Two Creeks Association April 2, 2026, Minutes

WHEATLEY TWO CREEKS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the regular meeting held on April 2 2026 at the Wheatley Friendship Club

Attendance: Pauline Sample, Joe Dama, Genevieve Campagne, Lorna Bell, Gerry & Muggs Soulliere, Roger Dundas, Vickie Haley, Bruce & Marj Jackson, Lee & Linda Pearce.

Agenda: Moved by Lorna, sec. by Lee agenda be accepted as outlined (Carried).

Minutes: Moved by Phil, sec. by Lorna minutes be accepted as read (Carried).

Mem. Groves: The post spikes we have in the shed will be put in the ground soon.

Prop. & Equip. : We cannot keep the tractor battery charged, are looking for solutions. The company we bought the U.T.V. from will pick it up and do its regular servicing at their shop and return it to us. The portajohns will be delivered soon. 6 picnic tables have been sponsored so far. We will start clearing the trails of the fallen trees blocking the trails. Laval International has donated 2 - 3 foot by 36 foot beams to support the new Willow bridge.

Concerts: We have received a \$5000.00 grant from the Chatham- Kent Funding towards concerts. 1 indoor concert remains to be held April 26. The flyers and buttons have been made.

Financial Report: Submitted by Roger. Account balance as of Feb. 28 was \$45,575.90. Account balance as of March 31 was \$46,653.23. Moved by Roger sec. by Joe report be accepted as given.

Correspondence:None.

Old Business: None.

New Business: There will be a birding event at the Big O Conservation area near Comber on May 2 at 10:00 am. There will be an Easter egg hunt at Two Creeks on April 4.

Adjournment:Roger moved for adjournment at 7:40pm.

Phil Humphries, secretary.

11. Correspondence

11.1) Minister's Direction Issued Pursuant to Section 1.14 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*



Minister's Direction to Conservation Authorities

Read the minister's temporary directions to conservation authorities to ensure an organized and stable transition to a regional framework while routine operations continue.

Minister's Direction Issued Pursuant to Section 1.14 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*

Section 1.14 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* (CAA) provides the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks with the authority to issue a direction to a conservation authority in relation to various matters for the purpose of facilitating the transition to a regional watershed-based framework for conservation authorities. The types of directions that can be issued by the Minister are set out in clauses 1.14 (1) (a) to (d):

- a. prohibiting the authority from making a decision in relation to its exercise of any of its powers under this Act or any other 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 under subsection 25 (2), 27 (3) or 27.2 (3) by the date specified in the direction;
- d. governing budgetary and apportionment matters relating to the authority that are otherwise addressed in a regulation made under clause 40 (1) (c), (e) or (f) or clause 40 (3) (k).

Section 1.14 further provides that an authority that receives such a direction shall comply with the direction within the time specified in the direction.

If an authority makes decision in contravention of a direction issued under clause 1.14 (1) (a), the authority's decision has no effect and any agreement that the authority enters into that is in contravention of the direction is void.

Pursuant to the authority of the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks under clauses 1.14 (1) (a) and (b), the conservation authorities set out under Appendix "A" to this Direction (the "**authorities**" or each, an "**authority**") are hereby directed as follows:

Decisions prohibited unless authorization obtained (direction issued under clause 1.14 (1) (a))

1. Commencing on the Effective Date and until the transition date, an authority is prohibited from making a decision to do any of the following unless the authority obtains written authorization from the chief executive officer of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency ("OPCA CEO") in accordance with the conditions set out in paragraph 4:
 - i. Amending an authority's by-laws made under section 19.1 of the CAA, unless the amendment is administrative in nature and does not affect the substance or legal effect of the by-law (for example updating references, dates, and terminology; name or title changes; and making obvious corrections where the intended meaning is clear).
 - ii. Any of the following related to employment:
 - a. Terminating the employment of a permanent or temporary employee who serves in a senior leadership position, including the authority's chief administrative officer or general manager, its secretary treasurer, and any departmental directors if applicable.
 - b. Filling a vacancy for (i.e. temporarily or permanently) or making any changes to the terms and conditions of employment for any senior leadership position as referred to in sub-subparagraph a.
 - c. Terminating the employment of any employee who serves in a leadership position related to or who are essential to the provision of the following mandatory programs and services described in the following provisions of O. Reg. 686/21 made under the CAA: flood forecasting and warning (section 2), ice management (section 4), infrastructure (section 5), plan reviews (sections 6 and 7) and the administration and enforcement of Parts VI and VII of the CAA (section 8).
 - d. Increasing the total number of employees of the authority unless the increase was already included in the authority's approved final budget for the 2026 calendar year.
 - iii. Changing the organizational structure of the employees of the authority, including creating, merging, or eliminating departments.
 - iv. Acquiring, by purchase, lease or otherwise, any land or to sell, lease or otherwise dispose of any land owned by the authority.
 - v. Acquiring services from a person or body where:
 - a. the duration of the provision of the service exceeds 2 years in length, or
 - b. the total cost of the service exceeds the lesser of \$500,000 and 5% of the authority's operating expenses, as reported in the authority's most recent audited financial statement.

This does not include a decision to renew or extend an agreement for a service that a person or body was providing to the authority prior to the Effective Date.

- vi. Providing a service to a person or body where:
 - a. the duration of the provision of the service exceeds 2 years in length, or
 - b. the total amount to be charged for the service exceeds the lesser of \$500,000 and 5% of the authority's revenues, as reported in the authority's most recent audited financial statement.

This does not include a decision to renew or extend an agreement for a service that the authority was providing to the person or body prior to the Effective Date.

- vii. Incurring a capital cost in connection with a project or purchasing, leasing or otherwise acquiring personal property, including materials, equipment and vehicles, where:
 - a. in the case of a lease, the duration of the term of the lease exceeds 2 years in length, or
 - b. the total amount of the capital cost or purchase, lease or other acquisition would exceed the lesser of \$500,000 and 5% of the authority's tangible capital assets, as reported in the authority's most recent audited financial statement.

This direction does not apply if the capital cost or acquisition is contemplated for a particular program or service identified in the authority's approved final budget for the 2026 calendar year and the total capital cost or acquisition amount is within the budgeted amount for the program or service.

- viii. Selling, leasing, or otherwise disposing of or dealing with personal property, including materials, equipment and vehicles, where:
 - a. in the case of the lease, the duration of the term of the lease exceeds 2 years in length, or
 - b. the total amount of the lease or other disposition or dealing would exceed the lesser of \$500,000 and 5% of the authority's tangible capital assets, as reported in the authority's most recent audited financial statement.

- 2. Despite paragraph 1, sub-paragraphs 1. v to viii do not apply to a decision of an authority that is made for the purpose of alleviating an immediate danger to human life, the health of any persons, or to property.
- 3. For greater certainty, paragraph 1 does not apply to a decision of an authority to execute an agreement that has the effect of implementing a decision made by the authority before the Effective Date.
- 4. The following conditions must be satisfied before an authority is authorized to make a decision that is subject to paragraph 1:
 - i. The authority must request authorization from the OPCA CEO to make the decision, in accordance with paragraph 5 of this Direction.

- ii. The authority must receive written authorization from the OPCA CEO to make the decision. If authorization for the request is granted only in part, the authority must ensure that its decision does not exceed the scope of the authorization.
- 5. For the purposes of paragraph 4, the authority must request authorization to make a decision that is subject to paragraph 1 by submitting the following information to the OPCA CEO:
 - i. A description of the decision that the authority is seeking authorization to make, including details of the proposed decision and why the proposed decision is a decision that is subject to paragraph 1.
 - ii. A resolution of the authority supporting the proposed decision.
 - iii. An explanation for why authorization should be granted, including any risks associated with deferring the proposed decision until after the transition date.
 - iv. Any information about relevant dates for the proposed decision, including any considerations around urgency or the time-sensitive nature of the proposed decision.
- 6. The authority must provide any additional information about the request to the OPCA CEO at the OPCA CEO's request.

Notice of a decision that an authority has made to address an emergency (direction issued under clause 1.14 (1) (b))

- 7. Commencing on the Effective Date and until the transition date, where the authority makes a decision that is not subject to paragraph 1 by reason that the decision is made for the purpose of alleviating an immediate danger to human life, health, or property, the authority must give notice to OPCA CEO within 3 business days after making the decision.
- 8. The notice mentioned in paragraph 7 must describe the decision that was made and explain how the decision that was made for the purpose of alleviating an immediate danger to human life, the health of any persons, or to property.

General

- 9. In this Direction, a reference to the OPCA CEO means the Chief Conservation Executive of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, if a chief executive officer of OPCA has not yet been appointed.
- 10. In this Direction, a reference to an authority's approved final budget for the 2026 calendar year means the authority's final budget for the 2026 calendar year that was approved prior to the Effective Date. For greater certainty, if an authority has not yet approved its final budget for the 2026 calendar year prior to the Effective Date, the authority does not have an approved final budget for the 2026 calendar year for the purposes of this Direction.
- 11. The authority must ensure that any employee of the authority who is responsible for or involved in making a decision that is subject to this Direction is made aware of this

Direction, and the authority must require these employees to take all steps necessary to ensure the authority complies with this Direction.

12. This Direction applies to the conservation authorities listed in Appendix “A” to this Direction.
13. 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*.
14. This Direction is effective from May 1, 2026 (the “Effective Date”) to the transition date, within the meaning of the *Conservation Authorities Act* (i.e., February 1, 2027 or such later date as may be prescribed by the regulations).
15. This Direction may be amended in writing from time to time at the sole discretion of the Minister.

Original Signed by

Todd McCarthy
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Appendix A: List of Conservation Authorities to which the direction applies

- Ausable Bayfield CA
- Cataraqui Region CA
- Catfish Creek CA
- Central Lake Ontario CA
- Credit Valley CA
- Crowe Valley CA
- Essex Region CA
- Ganaraska Region CA
- Grand River CA
- Grey Sauble CA
- Halton Region CA
- Hamilton Region CA
- Kawartha Region CA
- Kettle Creek CA
- Lake Simcoe Region CA
- Lakehead Region CA
- Long Point Region CA
- Lower Thames Valley CA
- Lower Trent Region CA
- Maitland Valley CA
- Mattagami Region CA
- Mississippi Valley CA
- Niagara Peninsula CA

- Nickel District CA
- North Bay-Mattawa CA
- Nottawasaga Valley CA
- Otonabee Region CA
- Quinte Region CA
- Raisin Region CA
- Rideau Valley CA
- Saugeen Valley CA
- Sault Ste. Marie Region CA
- South Nation River CA
- St. Clair Region CA
- Toronto and Region CA
- Upper Thames River CA

Appendix B: Guidance document for the minister's direction issued under section 1.14 of the CAA

The following sets out additional information and guidance for authorities in relation to the Minister's Direction issued [the date of the issuance of this Direction] under s. 1.14 of the CAA.

The ministry strongly encourages conservation authorities to contact the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA) at CCEO@ontario.ca if an authority is uncertain about the scope, application or requirements of this direction. OPCA can help clarify whether a proposed decision is subject to this Direction and how the authority can ensure it complies with this Direction.

As paragraph 11 of the Direction provides, if any decisions covered by the Direction are made by employees of the authority, the authority has the obligation to ensure that their employees are aware of this Direction and that the authority seeks prior authorization in accordance with the Direction before the decision is made.

The CAA provides that, if an authority makes a decision in contravention of a direction issued under clause 1.14 (1) (a), the authority's decision has no effect and any agreement that the authority enters into that is in contravention of the direction is void.

Request and OPCA CEO decision process

Making a request

After a conservation authority determines that a proposed decision requires authorization from the OPCA CEO, the authority may make a request for authorization via email to CCEO@ontario.ca containing the following required information:

- A description of the decision that the authority is seeking authorization to make, including details of the proposed decision and why the proposed decision is a decision that is subject to paragraph 1 of the Direction.
- A resolution of the authority supporting the proposed decision.
- An explanation for why authorization should be granted, including any risks associated with deferring the proposed decision until after the transition date.
- Any information about relevant dates for the proposed decision, including any considerations around urgency or the time-sensitive nature of the proposed decision.

Any notices of decisions required to be given to OPCA CEO under paragraph 7 of the Direction should also be sent via email to CCEO@ontario.ca.

Confirmation of receipt

Once the OPCA (or Office of the Chief Conservation Executive (OCCE) if the OPCA CEO has not yet been appointed), receives a request from the authority that includes the required information, the authority will be notified by OPCA that the request has been received and the timeline for a decision. The OPCA will also inform the Ministry's Conservation Authorities Section (CAS) (via ca.office@ontario.ca) that a request for written authorization has been received. In addition, if the authority provides notice under paragraph 7 of the Direction of a decision made for the purpose of alleviating an immediate danger to human life, health, or property, the OPCA will inform the CAS.

If, upon review by the OPCA CEO, it is determined that a decision is not subject to the requirement for prior written authorization, the authority will be notified as soon as possible that the decision is not subject to this Direction.

Consideration of request

The OPCA CEO will endeavour to make a decision on the request in a timely manner and not more than 30 calendar days from the day of receiving the request that is accompanied with the required information. Where the complexity of the request or the need for additional information necessitates, written notice will be provided to the authority by the OPCA of any additional time needed to issue a decision.

The OPCA CEO may consult on an authority's request with the relevant transition committee and project executive that has been appointed by OPCA for that authority. The OPCA CEO may also require the authority to provide additional information if needed to support their consideration of the request.

Decision

The OPCA CEO may make the following types of decisions on a request for written authorization:

- Grant authorization to the authority to proceed with making the decision that was the subject of the request, in whole or in part (i.e., authorize the authority to proceed in a more limited manner than what was requested).
- Deny authorization, including in circumstances where, in the opinion of the OPCA CEO, the decision would not be in the best interest of the future regional conservation authority, or it would be more appropriate to defer the decision to the future regional conservation authority.

The decision of the OPCA CEO on the request will be given in writing to the authority and will include a rationale for the decision if the decision is to deny authorization or only grant authorization in part. The Ministry's CAS will also be notified of the OPCA CEO's decision.

Where an authority's proposed decision is authorized by the OPCA CEO, or where the proposed decision has been authorized but only in part, this in no way compels the authority to proceed with the decision. In all cases, the authority retains the sole power to determine whether to proceed with any decision that has been authorized by the OPCA CEO.

Reconsideration

There is no process for reconsideration of an OPCA CEO decision on a request for authorization under the Direction.

An authority whose request for authorization is denied or granted only in part may request authorization again in accordance with the Direction at a later date if the circumstances have changed and the authority believes that these changes in circumstances would support the granting of authorization.

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11.2) Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency



Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency

Learn how we're improving Ontario's conservation authority system to better protect communities and speed up vital development projects.

Overview

The Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA) is a newly established, provincial board-governed agency, overseen by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, leading improvements to the province's conservation authority system.

OPCA will achieve this by:

- providing centralized leadership, tools and resources to ensure a smooth and organized regional consolidation of conservation authorities
- enhancing digital and technical resources and providing centralized services to strengthen front-line programs and realize more predictable services, including permitting
- supporting housing, infrastructure, economic growth and watershed management

These actions will strengthen the role conservation authorities already play in managing watersheds and protecting communities, while also cutting red tape to build our economy and speed up vital development projects.

Role of conservation authorities in the province

Conservation authorities are local public sector organizations governed by the [Conservation Authorities Act](#), which is administered by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Conservation authorities carry out programs and services that support provincial and municipal interests, including:

- flood and erosion control
- drought/low water planning
- natural hazard management and planning decisions
- Permitting to regulate impacts of development and activities in hazardous land (such as floodplains, shorelines or wetlands)
- management of conservation authority owned land
- drinking water source protection (under the [Clean Water Act](#))
- surface water and groundwater monitoring

Municipalities can also work with local conservation authorities to develop and deliver additional local natural resource programs and services, including providing outdoor and recreational opportunities.

OPCA's oversight role will support strengthened capacity and front-line resources to help safeguard people and property from flooding, while also operating with more transparency and accountability for communities.

Key challenges facing conservation agencies

Ontario currently has a fragmented system of 36 conservation authorities, with more than half of municipalities falling under the jurisdiction of two or more, each with different policies, standards, fees, staffing levels and technical capabilities.

This has led to several key challenges, including:

- unpredictable and inconsistent turnaround times for approvals
- uncertainty and delays for builders, property owners and municipalities seeking permits
- risk of undermining the ability to protect communities from floods and natural hazards
- unnecessary administrative duplication that diverts resources from front-line conservation work
- disparities in size of resources and access to the latest tools and technology

Benefits of regional consolidation of conservation authorities

Regional consolidation of individual conservation authorities will have the following benefits across the province:

- more resources for front-line services
- improved flood management and erosion prevention
- strong environmental protections maintained
- faster and more consistent permit applications
- modern service delivery
- consistent standards and use of modern technology

Nine new regional conservation authorities are being established based on the following criteria:

- maintaining watershed-based jurisdictions for effective flood and water management including improving alignment with source protection regions under the [Clean Water Act](#)
- reducing administrative overlap and duplication for municipalities and conservation authorities to strengthen local partnerships
- balancing expertise and capacity across conservation authorities to enhance technical skills and improve service and program delivery
- ensuring uninterrupted delivery of local conservation authority programs

- reflecting local needs, preserving local knowledge and relationships
- balancing differing priorities across rural, urban, and northern areas
- accommodating areas with distinct geographies and development contexts

New regional conservation authorities

Consolidation of Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into the following 9 watershed-based conservation authorities:

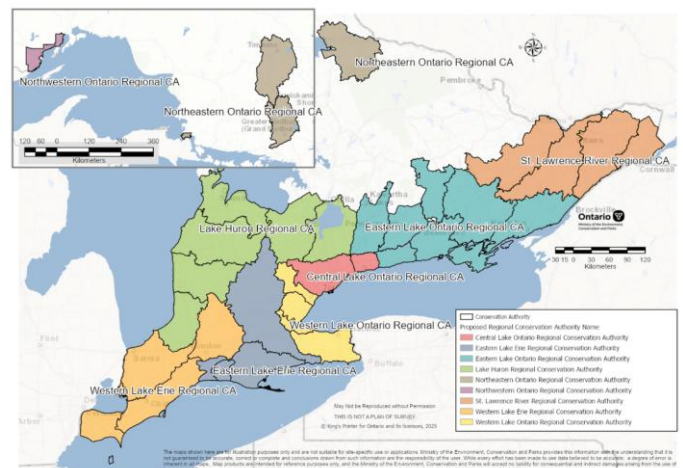
- Northwestern Ontario Regional Conservation Authority
- Northeastern Ontario Regional Conservation Authority
- Western Lake Erie Regional Conservation Authority
- Eastern Lake Erie Regional Conservation Authority
- St. Lawrence River Regional Conservation Authority
- Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority
- Central Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority
- Western Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority
- Lake Huron Regional Conservation Authority

These new regional conservation authorities will continue to provide watershed management and conservation programs and services across the same areas that the 36 conservation authorities serve.

Nine Regional Conservation Authorities

This map shows the boundaries for the regional consolidation of Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into 9 watershed-based regional conservation authorities.

The map shown here is for illustration purposes only and is not suitable for site-specific use or applications. [footnote 1\[1\]](#)



Pathway to consolidation

Over the next year, OPCA will lead the transition for regional consolidation from 36 to 9 conservation authorities, in collaboration with conservation authorities and municipal partners, including:

- developing a structured process and roadmap outlining steps of the consolidation process
- establishing transition committees, with representation from each conservation authority, to ensure consolidation is organized and successful
- providing support and expertise on the organizational aspects of consolidation

- providing central coordination to address any issues that may arise, and to mitigate risks of delays
- putting in place a governance model that ensures balanced municipal representation
- requiring new Watershed Councils so local knowledge and expertise continues to guide watershed management planning

The regional consolidation of conservation authorities is not intended to take effect until early 2027, allowing for transition planning to occur throughout 2026, coordinated by OPCA.

Contact us

Questions or comments about the transition to regional consolidation may be submitted to the Office of the Chief Conservation Executive via CCEO@ontario.ca.

Questions about the *Conservation Authorities Act* and implementation matters related to the act, should be submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks at ca.office@ontario.ca.

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Footnotes

- footnote[1] [Back to paragraph^](#) The maps shown here are for illustration purposes only and are not suitable for site-specific use or applications. Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks provides this information with the understanding that it is not guaranteed to be accurate, correct or complete and conclusions drawn from such information are the responsibility of the user. While every effort has been made to use data believed to be accurate; a degree of error is inherent in all maps. Map products are intended for reference purposes only, and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks will accept no liability for consequential and indirect damages arising from the use of these maps. These maps are distributed 'as-is' without warranties of any kind, either expressed or implied, including but not limited to warranties of suitability to a particular purpose or use.

11.3) Lake Erie's Eroding Shoreline Raises a Bigger Question: Who Pays for Climate Risk?

April 15, 2026



Kylie Brezden - Stephen Lewis Climate Journalism Fellow



A mix of older and newer shoreline protection structures along the Lake Erie shoreline near Erie Shore Drive. (Kylie Brezden)

Walking along the shoreline of Erie Shore Drive, a narrow stretch of road along Lake Erie in Chatham-Kent, Ontario, the signs of climate change are hard to miss. Aging breakwaters, patchwork protection barriers, and empty lots where homes once stood, all point to its growing impacts. The area has become a visible example of what happens when climate impacts outpace planning, infrastructure, and policy responses, and when responsibility for those impacts remains unclear.

While this community is far from alone, Erie Shore Drive offers a stark view of how climate risk is reshaping communities and raising a more difficult question: who is responsible for the costs when changing environments put infrastructure and human lives at risk?

Declining ice cover is a key driver. **According to** local shoreline studies, Lake Erie has experienced a steady reduction in winter ice over recent decades, with projections suggesting it could be largely ice-free by late century. Without ice to protect against **wave energy**, shorelines are increasingly exposed to erosion and winter flooding.

“We’re seeing signs that things are changing—less ice cover, and erosion and damage happening during months when we haven’t seen it before,” said Jason Wintermute, manager of watershed and information services at the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority, in whose territory Erie Shore Drive is located.

The risk is not always gradual or predictable. “Shorelines and shoreline protection can look stable for years, and then suddenly fail—losing several metres of shoreline all at once into the lake,” Wintermute said. He added that much of the Lake Erie shoreline is composed of soil rather than bedrock, making it especially vulnerable. “It’s not as stable as bedrock, and it can collapse and erode over time.”

For homeowners, those risks are translating into financial uncertainty. “From a realtor’s perspective, people don’t realize that if a property falls within the 100-year flood line, you may have trouble getting a mortgage, and insurance likely won’t cover it,” said Nickey Calford, a real estate broker based in London, Ontario.



A vacant residential lot along Erie Shore Drive. (Kylie Brezden)

Without access to insurance or financing, the financial burden falls increasingly on homeowners, often leaving them with limited options. “What you’re really buying can start to feel more like a time-limited asset than a long-term investment,” Calford added. In some cases, these risks are contributing to properties being left vacant, as owners face limited options to sell, insure, or reinvest in homes exposed to ongoing erosion and flooding.

In many cases, insurance availability is becoming an early **signal of climate risk**, shaping what can be bought, sold, or financed. In Canada, as the 2022 report from a federal Task Force on Flood Insurance and Relocation **explains**, insurance providers already use risk assessments to determine coverage and pricing, and in some high-risk areas, coverage is becoming more limited or unavailable, influencing property values and development decisions.

Despite growing awareness of climate impacts, systems designed to manage risk are struggling to keep pace. **Conservation authorities** play a key role in **reviewing development** and regulating activities in hazard-prone areas such as shorelines, but responsibilities are split across multiple levels of government and **gaps remain** in how risks are managed.

In **Ontario**, provincial planning policy directs municipalities to consider natural hazards such as flooding and erosion, but how those risks are assessed and managed can vary in practice. “There’s [a] clearer [mandate] from the province on climate considerations in municipal planning, but less clarity when it comes to permitting and how those risks are actually managed,” Wintermute said.

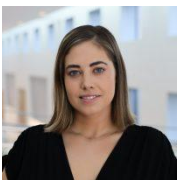
The result is a fragmented approach to adaptation, where responsibilities are split across municipalities, conservation authorities, and higher levels of government, often without clear coordination or sufficient funding, a challenge widely identified in Canadian climate adaptation **reports**.

That challenge becomes especially visible when considering long-term solutions such as **strategic relocation**. While precedent exists in some **parts of Canada**, where governments have supported buyouts and relocation programs in high-risk areas, applying those approaches in practice can be complex.

Associate Professor Brent Doberstein of the University of Waterloo notes that where development was originally approved, governments may bear partial responsibility for addressing the consequences. In practice, however, limited municipal budgets and unclear cost-sharing frameworks can make large-scale solutions difficult to implement.

As risks intensify, homeowners are left in a precarious position, caught between declining property values, limited insurance options, and uncertain pathways forward.

Erie Shore Drive is not an isolated case. It reflects a broader national challenge. As climate risks accelerate, Canada is increasingly forced to confront a difficult question: When past development decisions collide with present-day climate realities, who pays for the cost of adaptation or relocation?



Kylie Brezden

Stephen Lewis Fellow

Kylie Brezden is a freelance climate and environment writer focused on climate adaptation and how infrastructure, policy, and systems shape responses to climate risk in Canada. She holds a master’s degree in climate change and has experience across the public and private sectors.

12. Other Business

13. Adjournment
