

Board of Directors Meeting

Hybrid meeting (via Zoom)

1:00 pm

September 9, 2024

MVCA Boardroom

AGENDA**ROLL CALL****Declarations of Interest (written)****Adoption of Agenda****MAIN BUSINESS**

1. Approval of Minutes: Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, July 8, 2024, Page 2
2. Delegation Presentation: Ginawaydaganuc, RoxAnne Darling, Page 12
3. GM Update, Report 3433/24, Sally McIntyre, Page 23
4. 2024 WECl Application Results and Project Awards, Report 3434/24, Juraj Cunderlik, Page 31
5. Kashwakamak Lake Dam Class EA - Preferred Alternative, Report 3435/24, Juraj Cunderlik, Page 34
6. Summer Nature Camp Program, Report 3436/24, Scott Lawryk, Page 37
7. Land Inventory Update, Report 3437/24, Sally McIntyre, Page 39
8. Financial Update – YTD June 30, 2024, Report 3438/24, Stacy Millard, Page 42
9. Auditor Update, Report 3439/24, Stacy Millard, Page 50

ADJOURNMENT



MINUTES

Hybrid Meeting Via Zoom
and at MVCA Office

Board of Directors Meeting

July 8, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT

Paul Kehoe, Chair
Jeff Atkinson, Vice Chair
Allan Hubley
Bev Holmes
Cathy Curry (Virtual – 1:16 p.m.)
Clarke Kelly (Virtual)
Dena Comley
Glen Gower (Virtual)
Helen Yanch (Virtual)
Janet Mason
Mary Lou Souter
Richard Kidd
Roy Huetl
Steven Lewis
Taylor Popkie (Virtual)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Allison Vereyken
Cindy Kelsey

STAFF PRESENT

Sally McIntyre, General Manager
Will Ernewein, Regulations Officer
Juraj Cunderlik, Director of Engineering
Scott Lawryk, Properties Manager
Alex Broadbent, Manager of IC&T
Matt Craig, Manager of Planning & Regulations
Stacy Millard, Treasurer
Mercedes Liedtke (Virtual)
Krista Simpson (Virtual)
Kelly Hollington, Recording Secretary

GUESTS

Faith Blacquiere

P. Kehoe called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

Declarations of Interest (Written)

Members were asked to declare any conflicts of interest and informed that they may declare a conflict at any time during the session. Declarations of Interest were declared by J. Atkinson and D. Comley in regard to in-camera item 8. J. Atkinson and D. Comley are councillors for the Town of Carleton Place; item 8 speaks to negotiations involving the Town of Carleton Place.

Agenda Review

P. Kehoe noted that there were no additions to the agenda.

BOD24/07/08 - 1

MOVED BY: D. Comley

SECONDED BY: M. Souter

Resolved, that the agenda for the July 8, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting be adopted as presented.

“CARRIED”

MAIN BUSINESS

1. a. Approval of Minutes: Board of Directors Meeting, May 13, 2024

P. Kehoe noted that there were no additions or amendments to the meeting minutes from May 13, 2024.

BOD24/07/08 - 2

MOVED BY: R. Huetl

SECONDED BY: J. Atkinson

Resolved, that the minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting held on May 13, 2024, be received and approved as printed.

“CARRIED”

- b. Receipt of Draft Minutes: Policy & Planning Advisory Committee Meeting, June 19, 2024.

P. Kehoe noted that the Policy & Planning Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes are for information.

2. Employee Presentation: Enforcement Activity Update (Will Ernewein)

W. Ernewein presented an update of MVCA's Enforcement Activity. He highlighted recent changes to the Conservation Authorities Act in regards to enforcement and offences and overviewed the period May 2023 to May 2024 in more detail noting that enforcement staff

mainly dealt with unauthorized development in floodplain areas and wetlands. He described the two resolution methods MVCA uses: retroactive permits and remediation agreements, and highlighted staff's objective of working with defendants/property owners to achieve voluntary compliance, noting that of the 205 permits issued in 2023, there were only 18 major violations and 3 charges laid. He overviewed challenges that the MVCA regulations department has faced including communications around regulatory changes, and the large and diverse nature of MVCA's jurisdiction.

P. Kehoe asked for the average cost of an MVCA permit. W. Ernewein responded that it depends on the type and scope of work. There is a range depending on factors such as amount of fill being placed. He noted that in the case of a violation, fees are doubled. P. Kehoe commented that Drummond North Elmsley has employed the same type of fee structure and that it seems to have helped to improve permit compliance when permit fees are doubled in the case of a violation. P. Kehoe expressed his thanks to W. Ernewein for a concise presentation.

G. Gower asked if MVCA compares itself to other Conservation Authorities (CAs), while acknowledging that each watershed is different; and whether MVCA has more or less violations and enforcement activities compared to other CAs. W. Ernewein responded that in his experience and in talking with other regulations staff that the past year has been relatively heavy in enforcement. He explained a contributing factor was staff turnover and a backlog of outstanding violations that required catch-up to address. He could not comment on how MVCA volumes compared to other CAs.

G. Gower commented that it would be difficult to compare to other CAs, and noted that MVCA would be best to compare its own year-over-year trends. He noted that the MVCA website has valuable information regarding regulations and is a good source for municipalities to gain and understanding of who to contact for various concerns. W. Ernewein noted that when concerns arise that don't fit within MVCA's mandate, staff use the opportunity for public education.

P. Kehoe asked M. Craig if he has any additional information regarding the provincial legislative changes. M. Craig explained that conservation authority staff in Eastern Ontario meet annually to discuss enforcement files, and that MVCA is on-par with the other CAs with an average of 2-5 charges a year and roughly 700 inquiries. He noted that the number of violations varies. He agreed that these types of statistics can be tracked annually for a year-to-year analysis.

3. GM Update, Report 3428/24 (Sally McIntyre)

P. Kehoe asked S. McIntyre to comment on the CBC report regarding Ontario's Minister of Natural Resources intervening in the implementation of Rideau Valley, South Nation and Raisin River Conservation Authorities wetland policy and mapping updates by putting them on hold.

S. McIntyre explained that in 2017 MVCA implemented comparable policies governing non-

provincially significant wetlands because of the hydrologic role they play in the watershed. The *Conservation Authorities Act* directs CAs to implement these policies, and noted that it was a challenging process for MVCA in 2017. RVCA, SNCA and RRCA are the last CAs in the province to implement these policies. The CAs were prompted to implement these policies in part due to the provincial regulatory changes that came into effect on April 1st. She explained that she cannot comment on the approach or methodology used in the implementation of their policies. She explained that she does not have any further insight into whether the hold by the Province will be permanent. She added that these types of policies have been in effect in all other CAs in the province for many years.

P. Kehoe explained that some of the municipalities on the Board share jurisdictions with more than one CA. When CAs have differing policies, it can cause confusion for municipal planning staff.

S. McIntyre presented the GM Update. She highlighted progress on the Kashwakamak Lake Dam EA and noted that MVCA staff will be attending and presenting at the upcoming Kashwakamak Lake Association Annual General Meeting. She said that MVCA is still waiting to hear about potential award of WECl funding and that J. Cunderlik had responded to questions from WECl regarding Year-2 projects. She noted that changes implemented under Bill 185 do not appear to have addressed concerns raised by Conservation Ontario. For example, there remain concerns regarding ministerial powers to override certain CA Board decisions. She also noted a funding opportunity for tree planting projects for municipalities.

R. Kidd asked if the ALUS program is advertised. S. McIntyre confirmed that MVCA advertises the ALUS program, promotes it on social media, and that a communications plan was developed for all stewardship programs. M. Craig added that ALUS programs are forwarded to all the member municipalities and to the Ontario Federation of Agriculture. ALUS staff also participate in local farm shows and agricultural fairs. M. Craig will confirm OFA circulation with R. Kidd. S. McIntyre added that MVCA is in partnership with other programs including the Rural Clean Water Program. She added that the ALUS program is fully subscribed for 2024. R. Kidd commented that ALUS programs are farm focused and that confirmation of OFA circulation is appreciated. He added that ALUS programs should be promoted through OFA.

4. Appointment to Public Advisory Committee, Report 3429/24 (Sally McIntyre)

P. Kehoe noted the qualifications set out in Bruce Moore's application to sit on the Mississippi River Watershed Plan Public Advisory committee.

BOD24/07/08 - 3

MOVED BY: R. Huetl

SECONDED BY: M. Souter

Resolved, That the Board of Directors appoint Bruce Moore to the Mississippi River Watershed Plan Public Advisory Committee.

“CARRIED”

5. Carp River Floodplain Mapping, Report 3430/24 (Juraj Cunderlik)

P. Kehoe noted that a submission received from Faith Blacquiere had been circulated to Board members, and that she was in attendance.

J. Cunderlik explained that regulatory hazard mapping was existing was prepared in 1983 and required updating. He highlighted the major development changes to the area since 1983 and how changes affect the hydrological response of the watershed. He noted that slope hazard was not previously mapped and that both flood and erosion hazards were mapped in the update. He overviewed the floodplain mapping methodology and highlighted that the project underwent a technical review process by a qualified third-party Engineering team from Stantec. He reviewed the data collected and used and noted that MVCA surveyed the entire river channel including the Carp River Restoration Area.

J. Cunderlik went on to provide a comprehensive presentation that addressed the modeling carried out, a comparison of 1:100 to 1:350-year event flood elevations, the creation of 47 map sheets using Drone 2019 imagery, and changes between old and new flood lines and elevations. He stated that 637 properties and infrastructure are affected by the mapping, with 29 newly affected properties since 1983 and 266 properties that are no longer affected. He also overviewed the public consultation process and noted major concern received regarding development in the upper watershed creating flooding in the lower watershed.

J. Cunderlik stated that maximum/peak flows are decreasing. He noted that the vast majority of flooding events are in the spring, which is related to snow melt during the spring freshet. He noted that there is a higher frequency in high flow events, due to factors such as climate change and urbanization. He noted that there is no evidence that flooding events are becoming more severe within the watershed, but may be more frequent.

J. Cunderlik stated that several fill projects that yet to be completed were accounted for within the modeling and study. He noted that the Glen Cairn flood control facility is the only flood control facility within the Carp River watershed.

A. Hubley asked if the storage capacity of the Glen Cairn flood control facility was measured after recent dredging and installation of a pump. J. Cunderlik responded that the pump was installed in a wet-pond up-stream of the Glen Cairn facility. He stated that the Glen Cairn facility is a dry-pond facility. The Glen Cairn facility was dredged roughly 10 years ago and needs more dredging to remove sediment.

A. Hubley asked if the pump works as a back-up should there be high levels of rainfall. J. Cunderlik confirmed. A. Hubley asked if stormwater management facilities were considered in the study. J. Cunderlik responded that the Glen Cairn flood control facility is the only facility that was considered as the provincial process does not consider stormwater facilities when completing floodplain mapping. He noted that stormwater management facilities are not regularly monitored for information or maintained.

A. Hubley asked if MVCA is accounting for water coming from the Fernbank development. J. Cunderlik responded that the City of Ottawa provided sewershed information that reflects artificial water transfers between the two watersheds.

G. Gower commented that J. Cunderlik did a good job addressing the questions and issues raised in the guest submission regarding the project. He asked how the City of Ottawa is involved in providing input and comments in the late stages of the project. J. Cunderlik responded that MVCA and the City of Ottawa have a floodplain mapping project agreement and that the City was involved in every stage of the process. The City of Ottawa supported 50% of the project cost and provided the LiDAR data. MVCA staff reviewed draft results with City staff in the planning and engineering departments.

G. Gower asked if there is any concern or any potential mitigations that might be needed based on the new floodplain mapping, and if there are any impacts on infrastructure, development underway or land designated for future development. J. Cunderlik responded that a few areas have higher flood elevations than the 1983 elevations. One area is upstream of the Campeau bridge built recently. MVCA consulted with the City regarding the existing infrastructure in the area to ensure mitigation of any concerns with infrastructure already in place. S. McIntyre added that MVCA staff identified and reviewed changes in floodlines with City staff. City staff were satisfied with MVCA's analysis and engagement with affected landowners.

C. Curry commented that consultation with City staff was highly appreciated and attended. She expressed the concerns of her community regarding a recent drowning at the Carp River Conservation Area, and asked if MVCA would be involved in site changes such as signage or a memorial tree planting. She asked if MVCA would require consultation prior to these activities and for the scope of MVCA's involvement and level of responsibility. S. McIntyre responded that MVCA's license of occupancy at CRCA allows naming rights, signage related to natural environment and flood mitigation, educational tours without the necessity of a permit, and for habitat enhancements. MVCA does not have day-to-day operations and maintenance responsibilities at that site, and the signage would be the purview of the City of Ottawa. MVCA would appreciate being informed of any safety improvements at the site and would not object to future works unless it has implications on the functioning of the facility. Any constructed works within the floodplain need to come to MVCA for approval if they fall within jurisdiction. C. Curry commented that if any future works are planned that she will consult with S. McIntyre.

J. Mason commented that there is a public perception that the Carp River is flooding more often and staying flooded. She commented that there needs to be education provided to the public regarding the mechanics of the Carp River including what may be causing more frequent flooding. She noted that the Carp River is complex. She expressed the frustration and disappointment of the community. She suggested that MVCA and City of Ottawa Councillors collaborate on education for the general public. She added that an information sheet regarding the Carp River and the restoration project would be useful as a tool for public education. She noted the negative public perception of the Carp River Restoration Project. P. Kehoe commented that S. McIntyre can address this in consultation with J. Mason and the City of Ottawa Councillors on the Board.

P. Kehoe asked if any members have questions regarding the guest submission from F. Blacquiere. He noted no questions were asked. P. Kehoe thanked F. Blacquiere for her submission and participation in the meeting.

BOD24/07/08 - 4

MOVED BY: J. Atkinson

SECONDED BY: G. Gower

Resolved, That the Board of Directors:

- a) Adopt the report *Carp River Floodplain Mapping Update*, dated June 2024, and the associated GIS-based Regulation Limit and floodplain maps as the delineation of areas along the Carp River that are susceptible to flooding during the Regional flood standard as defined in Schedule 1 of Ontario Regulation 41/24, and**
- b) Direct that the report, maps and Regulation Limit be used in the implementation of Ontario Regulation 41/24**

“CARRIED”

6. Land Conservation Strategy – Current State, Report 3426/24, (Sally McIntyre)

S. McIntyre stated that this project is designed to deliver on two of the six mandatory strategies required by end of 2024 as per Ontario Regulation 686/21: the Conservation Area Strategy and the Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy. She stated that completion of MVCA’s inventory of land set the stage to determine policy regarding those properties and the acquisition and disposal of property generally.

S. McIntyre reviewed the questions posed in the *Discussion Paper*. She noted that MVCA does not have a reserve fund for the acquisition of land and that policy is needed that would allow MVCA to consider the possibility of accepting land donations for the purpose of conservation or preservation.

S. McIntyre commented that MVCA does not have an active role in managing portage routes, but has done so historically and still receives calls regarding them. She stated that there is a need to contemplate how MVCA can help meet demand from a growing population in a manner that respects and protects natural heritage values of properties. She stated that several players operate in the land conservation and recreational sphere and that future requirements can be met by working in partnership with a variety of organizations.

She highlighted the questions regarding management of the Mill of Kintail Museum and its collection. She noted that other museums within MVCA jurisdiction are largely governed by not-for-profit, community-based organizations that may or may not have municipal funding. She stated that MVCA's governance is unique within the watershed, and museum operations is not a Category 1 service under the new regulation. Consideration is needed regarding the expiration of the 5-year contract signed by the municipalities for long-term management of the museum and its collection.

S. McIntyre reviewed MVCA's dams and their functions and questions posed in the Discussion Paper. She noted that Bennett Lake Dam and Farm Lake Dam were built and are operated to maintain recreational water levels and provide only local benefits--they do not provide habitat value or flood relief. She suggested that alternative cost-recovery methods should be considered for these facilities as is done by other CAs.

She summarized the proposed public consultation process and noted that briefings have been held with most member municipalities as well as with the Lanark and Frontenac counties. A virtual public information session is planned for July. Draft policy is planned to be tabled with the Board in October and finalized policy document to be tabled in December.

P. Kehoe commented that the Land Conservation Strategy is a highly consequential document that warrants a high level of consideration by the Board.

C. Curry commented that the annual report from Ottawa Hydro has valuable information regarding hydro electric power needs. She added that she feels there is a great need for hydro electric power and recommends that MVCA permit hydro development at dams where feasible and cost effective. She asked if Hydro Ottawa has been contacted as a key stakeholder in the project. S. McIntyre responded that Hydro Ottawa will be added to the list for consultation.

R. Kidd commented that there is no cost analysis accompanying the documents provided. He expressed concern in regards to expanding and adding programs and services. He noted the pending sale of the K&P Trail due to management difficulties. He expressed concerns regarding the cost implications associated with more land. S. McIntyre responded that the next stage of the project will include cost analysis. She noted that the K&P Trail is a large and linear asset that is costly and difficult to manage compared to a relatively small conservation area with limited use and costs. The counties have expressed interest in taking over the K&P trail and are

in a better position to manage and maintain it. The regulation asks to consider who is best positioned to deliver certain type of system or service. She highlighted that MVCA is best positioned toward managing parklands that are not linear in nature.

J. Mason commented that public consultation in the late summer is poor timing. She expressed concerns regarding the timing and public perception. She asked if MVCA will be consulting the general public on this project. S. McIntyre confirmed that is the case.

R. Kidd expressed concerns regarding funding for more Conservation Areas. He noted the difficulty in funding dam maintenance. P. Kehoe agreed that a cost-benefit analysis is needed in the next stages of the project. S. McIntyre added that any policy direction on this matter would factor into annual needs assessment and prioritized year-over-year. Nothing would happen immediately—it would be the beginning of a process that could take years to implement.

BOD24/07/08 - 5

MOVED BY: B. Holmes

SECONDED BY: D. Comley

Resolved, That the Board of Directors approve release of the attached documents for public consultation in accordance with the Consultation Plan for development of a Land Conservation Strategy as set out in this report.

“CARRIED”

Items 7 and Item 8 were considered in-camera.

7. K&P Trail Update, Report 3431/24, (Scott Lawryk)

8. Water & Sewer Update, Report 3432/24 (Scott Lawryk)

BOD24/07/08 - 6

MOVED BY: J. Atkinson

SECONDED BY: T. Popkie

Resolved, That:

The committee move to in-camera session for discussion of the following matter:

- **A position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried by or on behalf of the Authority.**

And further resolved that:

- **Sally McIntyre, Scott Lawryk and Kelly Hollington remain in the room.**

“CARRIED”

BOD24/07/08 - 7

MOVED BY: J. Mason

SECONDED BY: R. Huetl

Resolved, That the Board move out of in-camera discussions

“CARRIED”

P. Kehoe noted that a closed meeting was held, the items considered concerned a position to be applied to negotiations carried on by or on behalf of the Board and that there was nothing further to report.

ADJOURNMENT

BOD24/07/08 - 8

MOVED BY: M. Souter

SECONDED BY: R. Kidd

Resolved, That the Board of Directors meeting be adjourned.

“CARRIED”

The meeting adjourned at time 2:51 p.m.

K. Hollington, Recording Secretary



Building Partnerships, Embracing Heritage, and Leading the Way in Truth and Reconciliation

SEPTEMBER 2024



Grandfather Williams Vision

➤ This project is dedicated to globally renowned **Algonquin Elder and visionary leader Grandfather William Commanda**.

➤ His simple but compelling message of **forgiveness, reconciliation,** and **enlightenment** is the foundation on which Ginawaydaganuc is grounded.

➤ His respect for **Mother Earth, racial harmony, social justice,** **Indigenous knowledge keeping,** and **peace** is in our hearts.



What Have We Accomplished?



Established governance, hired core employees, and created HR policies.



Developed strategic, operational, and fundraising plans.



Created marketing tools, including a website and social media, and secured architectural drawings from internationally renowned Blackfoot Architect Douglas Cardinal.



Established Advisory Circles with 24 of the most spectacular volunteers.



Developed training curricula for Indigenous Tourism and Green Building.



Secured grant funding support for a variety of initiatives.

Building Partnerships, Building Community, Ginawaydaganuc, We are all Connected.

MVCA is committed to honouring the intent of the Truth and Reconciliations Commissions Calls to Action and building respectful, reciprocal relationships with Interested Indigenous Communities and/or groups in the watershed.



Ginawaydaganuc Village is also committed to this initiative!

We want to plant the seeds for the next seven generations!



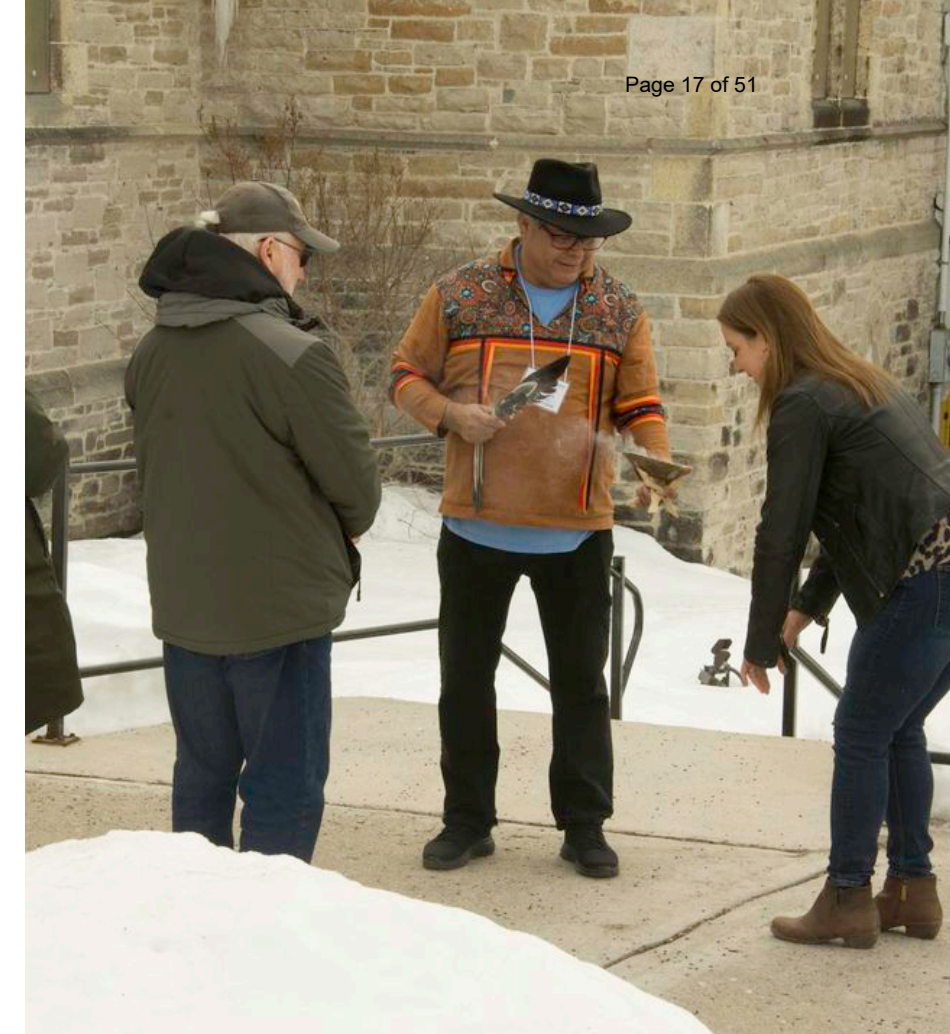


How does GV align with the strategic goals and Indigenous Engagement plan of the MVCA?



1.

Ginawaydaganuc Village aligns seamlessly with the MVCA's commitment to Truth and Reconciliation, promoting respectful, reciprocal relationships with Indigenous groups within the watershed.



2.

Together, we can lead the way in Indigenous engagement, responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action by fostering meaningful partnerships, that honor Indigenous knowledge and stewardship."



3.

Ginawaydaganuc Village offers the MVCA a unique opportunity to set a provincial standard for transformational Indigenous partnerships. Our shared expertise in environmental stewardship can enhance the well-being of all within the watershed.



4.

By uniting our strengths, Ginawaydaganuc and the MVCA can build a foundation of cooperation, utilizing our collective knowledge for the benefit of the land, water, and communities we serve.

K

A Word from John Henri Commanda



Share



Watch on  YouTube



THANK YOU!

ANY QUESTIONS?



REPORT
3433/24

TO:	The Chair and Members of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors
FROM:	Sally McIntyre, General Manager
RE:	GM Update
DATE:	September 4, 2024

For Information.

INTERNAL

- 1. Updated Regulation Mapping** – MVCA updated its regulation mapping to be consistent with new provincial regulations. The update reduced regulatory setbacks around provincially significant wetlands from 120 meters to 30 meters and associated changes. Maps on MVCA's website have been updated, and MVCA staff provided the updated GIS layer to municipal staff and municipal GIS consultants. This will ensure that municipalities are using the most up-to-date information for building permit and planning application screening.
- 2. Office Municipal Services** – MVCA submitted a letter to the Town of Carleton Place in support of the Town's efforts to reach an agreement with Cavanagh Construction on the apportionment of costs for the extension of water and sewer infrastructure. Specifically, the letter accepts the \$198,895 that the Town calculated to be MVCA's share of the cost to extend services to MVCA's property line. The Town is awaiting feedback from Cavanagh.
- 3. K&P Trail Landowner Dispute** – On June 3rd, the court gave permission for the adjacent landowner to produce and submit a report from its surveyor critiquing MVCA's 2019 legal survey. The report was to be submitted by the end of July, and on July 30th an extension was requested and granted to August 7th. Staff received a report on August 7th that critiqued the court-approved assumptions upon which the 2019 Reference Plan was based. MVCA has provided the document for comment to the firm that completed the 2019 survey and prepared the R-Plan. The next hearing is scheduled for September 26, 2024.
- 4. Conservation Area Capital Project Update** – Due to the extensive wet weather this summer, capital works were delayed due to above average dam operational requirements. To date, staff completed replacement of a foot bridge at the Morris Island Conservation Area, and approximately 1/5 of the refurbishment of the steps at the Purdon Conservation Area. The remaining sections are scheduled to be completed in coming years. Focus at Purdon has now

shifted to the replacement of another section of the boardwalk, with the goal of completing between a quarter and third of the remaining 'older section' this season.

- 5. Banking Improvements** – Over the past year, staff moved MVCA's banking from the local branch of Scotiabank to its Commercial Division, which has significantly improved support and advice with the result that several improvements have been made to our payment and bank monitoring process:

- All electronic payments now require multi-steps and approvals.
- Entry of a new vendor to pay electronically must be entered and approved by two different authorized people.
- The payment of bills electronically (EFT, E-Transfer or Online Bill Payment) all require two different authorized users to approve and submit.
- Any payment over \$25,000 additionally gets e-mail approval from the Chair or Vice-Chair.
- All of our MVCA and MVCF bank accounts are accessible online and monitored daily.

A recent meeting with bank representatives around preventing bank fraud provided the feedback that we are in excellent shape with our set up and procedures.

- 6. Insured Benefits** – See Attachment 1 for the updated rates for staff's benefits package. Rates went up a modest 0.7% on September 1, 2024.
- 7. Digital Raster Acquisition Project East (DRAPE)** – The province recently notified MVCA that it will fund the 2024 aerial photography (see Attachment 2.) This means that there will be no cost to MVCA to acquire, process and access the imagery. As all future imagery is to be released under an Open Government Licence of Ontario, we will no longer need to sign a participant agreement, and will be similarly accessible by municipal staff.
- 8. Monitoring System Improvements** – Work continues to expand and automate field data collection stations, most recently by bringing gauge stations at Buckshot Lake and Huntley Creek online. These additions are important for enhancing real-time data collection and a fulsome understanding of flows and levels across the watershed. At Silver Lake, an air temperature sensor was installed to support future ice monitoring by providing insight into winter conditions. Other improvements recently completed included grounding the station at Shabomeka Lake, fine-tuning the calibration of the MVCA Office weather station, and repairing various sensors across the network to ensure optimal functionality.
- 9. Bathymetric Surveys** – In preparation for replacement of the Kashwakamak Lake Dam, a detailed survey was conducted using our RTK system. Other survey work included a comprehensive topographic-bathymetric survey of key sections of Feedmill Creek, Kinburn Drain, Joe's Lake, and the Fall River.

- 10. Stream Flow Monitoring** – The most demanding and impactful endeavor this year was spring and summer streamflow monitoring in the Carp River and its major tributaries, particularly during and after heavy rain events. Utilizing our new ADCP, we captured critical data that will allow us to update stage-discharge rating curves and flood plain maps. Our Engineering Interns played an important role in this work.
- 11. Agricultural Projects** – Three wetlands have been completed to date through ALUS Mississippi-Rideau and the Ottawa Rural Clean Water Program, with the final works scheduled in the coming weeks. The first ALUS Mississippi-Rideau pollinator grassland is also expected to be completed by the end of the month.
- 12. Shoreline Planting** – The fall planting season is underway, with over 1,000 native trees, shrubs, and wildflowers expected to be planted on 7 properties. Uptake in the program continues to increase, with a waitlist started for spring 2025 plantings.
- 13. City Stream Watch** – Twenty volunteers worked with MVCA staff to sample over 60 reaches (over 6 kms!) of Feedmill Creek and Poole Creek this past season.
- 14. Supervisor Guidebook** – Management and the JH&SC are working on a guidebook to support supervisors (including functional supervisors) in carrying out their responsibilities, in particular how to plan and supervise work in accordance with corporate policies and the *Ontario Health & Safety Act*. The guide covers a wide range of matters including site hazard assessments, work planning, PPE and other equipment requirements, violence in the workplace, and discrimination and harassment.
- 15. Contract with TRCA** – Due to current and projected maternity leaves in the Engineering group, MVCA has entered into a contract with Toronto Region Conservation Authority to provide back-up engineering review services. The contract will help MVCA to ensure it meets regulated commenting periods on behalf of the province for planning applications circulated by member municipalities.

16. Staffing

- **Mike Way** – Joined MVCA on August 12th as the new Maintenance Technician.
- **Jane Cho** – commenced maternity leave mid-July and we wish her and her newborn a wonderful year.
- **Summer Students** – The stewardship and monitoring team said goodbye to their three students: Nata Culhane, Sam King, and Ben Bezaire at the end of August. And, the engineering group bid farewell to students Ella Queshri and Julia Fulton. Our successful field season would not have been possible without the hard work of our summer students.

- **Co-op Placement** – Maggie McGlynn from Canadore College has joined MVCA for a four-month co-op placement this fall. She will be helping with the fall lake sampling visits, benthic invertebrate collections, PGMN well sampling, and the fall planting programs.

EXTERNAL

- 17. Reconciliation and Thanksgiving Harvest, October 3** – Board members are invited to attend this event to be held at the new Healing Place in Spencerville. See Attachment 3 for more information.
- 18. New Provincial Planning Statement and Transitional Matters** – The province has issued the new *Provincial Planning Statement* that is come into effect on October 20, 2024 and revoked *A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2019*. MMAH is [seeking feedback](#) on specific planning matters to be addressed through a transition regulation. These may include, for example, development applications or planning matters under appeal. Comments can be submitted to the MMAH by October 4, 2024.
- 19. 2024 Latornell Conference October 8-9** – The [program](#) offers a comprehensive agenda spanning three streams (People, Land, and Water) throughout the two-day Symposium. Attendees can look forward to insightful keynotes, informative presentations, interactive workshops, and engaging panel discussions led by experts and industry leaders addressing the critical conservation challenges of our time.

**Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority
Comparison Of Current And Renewal Costs**

	Volume	Current Cost		Negotiated Renewal Cost Effective September 1, 2024		
		Current Rate	Monthly Premium	Renewal Rate	Monthly Premium	Variance To Current
Life Insurance	4,722,000	\$ 0.080	\$ 377.76	\$ 0.080	\$ 377.76	0.0%
AD&D Insurance	4,722,000	0.018	85.00	0.018	85.00	0.0%
Dependent Life Insurance	20	2.870	57.40	2.870	57.40	0.0%
Long Term Disability Insurance (Plan 2)	116,577	1.805	2,104.21	1.679	1,957.33	-7.0%
Extended Health Care	Single 10	106.48	1,064.80	105.42	1,054.20	-1.0%
	Family 21	275.30	5,781.30	272.55	5,723.55	
Dental (Plan 3)	Single 10	35.08	350.80	38.94	389.40	11.0%
	Family 21	113.95	2,392.95	126.48	2,656.08	
TOTAL MONTHLY PREMIUM \$ 12,214.22 \$ 12,300.72						
TOTAL ANNUAL PREMIUM \$ 146,570.64 \$ 147,608.64						
Variance To Current Cost \$ 1,038.00 0.7%						



Ministry of Natural Resources

Corporate Management and
Information Division

Digital, Data, Information and
Business Services Branch

300 Water Street,
Peterborough, ON K9J 3C7

Ministère des Richesses naturelles

Division de la gestion des affaires
ministérielles et de l'information

Direction de la cartographie et des
ressources informationnelles

300, rue Water,
Peterborough, ON K9J 3C7



To: DRAPE Project Partners

From: Larissa Mathewson-Brake

Date: July 22, 2024

Subject: Introducing Geospatial Ontario

I would like to share some news about the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources' (MNR) mapping and geographic information program, Land Information Ontario. Starting this year Land Information Ontario will transition to Geospatial Ontario (GEO). The aim of this change is to provide open access to geospatial data and improve services for all Ontarians.

This letter is to notify partners of the Digital Raster Acquisition Project East (DRAPE) 2024 that, as part of this change, the collection of aerial imagery (including the DRAPE 2024) will be fully funded by the government of Ontario. This means that there will be no cost to partners of the DRAPE 2024 project to acquire, process and access the imagery.

All imagery will be released under the [Open Government Licence of Ontario](#), making it available to everyone as soon as it is ready as a mappable product. DRAPE partners will not need to sign a participant agreement as previously required with past projects.

As a valued imagery partner, I want to give you prioritized notice of the changes to the DRAPE 2024 project as part of our transition from Land Information Ontario to Geospatial Ontario. We appreciate your assistance in helping us plan and execute the project and will send the imagery for your area of interest as soon as it is ready. Stay tuned for further announcements including the availability of open online data services including a DRAPE 2024 service.

The Ontario government recognizes the importance of imagery as a versatile and critical tool required for mapping, land use planning, economic development, emergency

planning, natural resources management, environmental protection, modern farming and much more. To support these activities, we must modernize how Ontario delivers geospatial services. The move to Geospatial Ontario means we can continue to improve how we manage and store data, make valuable datasets like imagery more accessible and centralize funding for geospatial programs.

For further questions, please reach out to the imagery team at imagery@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'L. Mathewson-Brake', is positioned above the printed name.

Larissa Mathewson-Brake
Director, Digital, Data, Information and Business Services Branch
Corporate Management and Information Division
Ministry of Natural Resources

She:kon | Kwey | Dear Neighboring Conservation Authorities:

The Healing Place Working Group Partners launched the “The Healing Place | Tsi Tehshakotitsénhtha | Endajimino-pimaadizi | Lieu de guérison” in September 2020. The gathering space was created with intention at the intersection of connections to land, ecological restoration, as well as truth and reconciliation. We know that planting is an act of reconciliation; bringing together First Peoples, Canadians, and creation, and cultivating relationships out of mutual respect.

Partners have worked diligently since the beginning of 2020 to create an ethical space for shared cultures and knowledge while supporting First Nation food sovereignty.

On October 3rd, 2024, the Partners are gathering at “The Healing Place | Tsi Tehshakotitsénhtha | Endajimino-pimaadizi | Lieu de guérison” for a Reconciliation and Thanksgiving Harvest. On behalf of the Partners, we invite you to join us as we harvest the remaining produce and seeds from the Three Sisters Garden and prepare the beds for winter.

Reconciliation and Thanksgiving Harvest
Thursday, October 3rd, 2024
8040 Shanly Road
Spencerville, ON


10:00 a.m. Opening Ceremony
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Harvest, Garden Maintenance, and Feast
1:00 p.m. Closing Ceremony

This event requires pre-registration to participate, please register at: bit.ly/4cQI3fW

Kindly register by October 1st, 2024.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sken:nen | Mino-Pimaadiziwin | Sincerely,


Ronda Boutz
South Nation Conservation
613.984.2948 | rboutz@nation.on.ca

Healing Place partners extend our thanks to Ontario Power Generation's Power for Change Project, supporting grassroot initiatives in the communities where OPG operates. The Empowerment Grant is supporting the Reconciliation and Thanksgiving Harvest event.
#PowerForChange #ElectrifyingLife.

REPORT**3434/24**

TO:	The Chair and Members of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors
FROM:	Juraj Cunderlik, Director, Engineering
RE:	2024 WECl Application Results and Project Awards
DATE:	August 14, 2024

For Information.**1.0 2024 WECl Application Results**

In 2024 the Water & Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECl) became a two-year agreement program. Call for applications for Year 1 (2024-25) and Year 2 (2025-26) projects was announced in June 2024. MVCA applied for WECl funding to support the following capital projects:

	Project	Schedule	Budget	Grant (50%)
1	Farm Lake – Condition Assessment	Year 1	\$50,000	\$25,000
2	Lanark Dam – Dam Safety Review	Year 1	\$100,000	\$50,000
3	Widow Lake Dam – Dam Safety Review	Year 1	\$100,000	\$50,000
4	Lanark Dam – Public Safety Measures	Year 2	\$200,000	\$100,000
5	Kashwakamak Dam – Preliminary and Detail Design	Year 2	\$200,000	\$60,000*
Total:			\$650,000	\$285,000

*50% of remaining project cost (\$120,000) not funded through DMAF

The confirmation of WECl funding was received on August 8, 2024. MVCA did not receive WECl funding for Year 1 projects (2024-25) but was successful in securing funding for Year 2 projects (2025-26). The total amount of funding received for Year 2 projects is \$160,000.

2.0 Project Awards

The lowest-cost project planned for this year (2024-25) that was also least likely to receive funding¹ is the Farm Lake Condition Assessment. Given the low probability of funding, the project was proposed and approved to be funded using the Capital Levy in the 2024 budget.

¹ Based upon the current scoring methodology.

Staff proceed with this project in the absence of WECl funding. One (1) proposal was received in response to the RFP. The project was awarded to Englobe Inc. in the amount of \$9,956.00 plus HST.

The Lanark Dam Public Safety Measures project is conditional upon completion of the Lanark Dam Safety Review (DSR) in 2024-25. Since this project was not funded by WECl MVCA will reassign Widow Lake budgeted dollars to make up for the loss of 50% WECl funding on the Lanark Dam project this year.

Three (3) proposals were received in response to the RFP. The proposals were evaluated by MVCA's Proposal Evaluation Committee based on the following criteria:

1. Project Understanding (10%),
2. Approach, Methodology and Schedule (35%),
3. Project Team (25%),
4. Corporate Experience (10%),
5. Cost (20%).

A summary of the submissions is provided below.

Lanark DSR Submission Results			
Vendor	Compliance (Y/N)	Total Cost (excl. HST)	Score
D.M. Wills	Y	\$59,790.00	88.7
Tulloch	Y	\$66,140.00	80.6
Englobe	Y	\$103,880.00	63.3

The study was awarded to D.M. Wills in the amount of \$59,790.00 plus HST.

Unless surplus WECl funding becomes available at the end of 2024-25 or 2025-26 fiscal years, the Widow Lake DSR project will be deferred to 2026-27 in the MVCA's 10-year Capital Plan.

3.0 CORPORATE STRATEGIC PLAN

This is a priority project of the organization and is being carried out in accordance with the following goal and objectives:

Goal 1: Asset Management – revitalize watershed management activities and invest in our legislated mandate.

- a) Implement the ten-year capital program.

- b) Strengthen our risk analysis and management capacity to include climate change and development impacts.
- c) Plan for the next phase of asset development and management.

REPORT

3435/24

TO:	The Chair and Members of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors
FROM:	Juraj Cunderlik, Director, Engineering
RE:	Kashwakamak Lake Dam Class EA – Preferred Alternative
DATE:	September 9, 2024

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Directors endorse Alternative 4 as identified through the Class EA process as the preferred approach for replacing the Kashwakamak Lake Dam.

1.0 BACKGROUND

The Kashwakamak Lake Dam replacement has been MVCA's priority capital infrastructure project since 2020. In 2021, a Dam Safety Review (DSR) completed for the structure confirmed the need for replacing the dam within the next five years. In 2022, MVCA secured funding for the project through Infrastructure Canada's Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund (DMAF). The DMAF funding (40% of estimated eligible project costs) will be further supplemented by provincial WECL funding (additional 30% of the eligible costs).

2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

In 2023, MVCA retained Egis Group to undertake a comprehensive Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) for the Dam replacement. Egis inventoried baseline conditions, and identified and assessed five technical alternatives for the project:

1. Do nothing,
2. Decommission the existing dam and construct a passive control system (i.e. a weir),
3. Rehabilitate the existing dam,
4. Replace the existing dam at the same location, and
5. Construct new dam downstream.

Comparative analysis of the five alternatives are presented in Figure 1. On the basis of cost, safety, environmental considerations, operational requirements, and service life the Class EA concluded that **Alternative #4** is the preferred alternative for the project. It is noted that, conceptually, dam replacement at the same location (Alternative #4) was previously considered by MVCA staff and approved by the Board for implementation as part of the MVCA's 10-year

Capital Plan. As such, the findings of the Class EA support the recommendations of previous studies and are in line with the project's original scope of work.

3.0 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

MVCA issued notifications in late 2022 to First Nations and has maintained ongoing communications with those that expressed interest in the project, with some participating in archeological field investigations. As well, MVCA established a Community Liaison Committee (CLC) that met twice during the EA to provide comment and build community awareness. On May 23, 2024, MVCA hosted a virtual Public Information Session (PIC) that was promoted in local papers and social media, with 14 people participating. And, most recently, staff attended the annual Kashwakamak Lake Association AGM and presented on the project, with approximately 50 in attendance.

4.0 ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Artifacts were recovered during Stage 2 and 3 assessments from several test areas downstream of the dam but none were found at the dam site or in areas to be disturbed during construction. Past Recovery, the firm that carried out the work said that the province will likely designate those areas as a no-go zone, which will include the dig site plus a 10-meter buffer zone.

5.0 NEXT STEPS

The next steps of the project are to:

- develop mitigation measures for preferred alternative,
- prepare a Project Plan, and
- issue a Notice of Completion for the 30-day review period

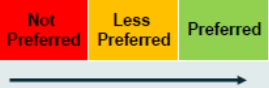
After the review period a conceptual design and preliminary cost estimate will be developed for the preferred alternative and presented to the Board before tendering the next phase of work.

6.0 CORPORATE STRATEGIC PLAN

This is a priority project of the organization and is being carried out in accordance with the following goal and objectives:

- Goal 1: Asset Management – revitalize watershed management activities and invest in our legislated mandate.
 - a) Implement the five-year capital program.
 - b) Strengthen our risk analysis and management capacity to include climate change and development impacts.
 - e) Plan for the next phase of asset development and management.

FIGURE 1

Category	Alternative 1 Do Nothing	Alternative 2a Decommission the Existing Dam and Construct Passive Control System	Alternative 3 Rehabilitation of the Existing Dam	Alternative 4 Replace the Existing Dam at the Same Location	Alternative 5 Construct New Dam Downstream
Functional / Physical	Not Preferred	Less Preferred	Less Preferred	Preferred	Preferred
Natural Environment	Less Preferred	Less Preferred	Preferred	Preferred	Less Preferred
Social Environment	Less Preferred	Not Preferred	Preferred	Preferred	Less Preferred
First Nations/Cultural Environment	Preferred	Less Preferred	Preferred	Preferred	Less Preferred
Economic Environment	Less Preferred	Preferred	Not Preferred	Less Preferred	Not Preferred
Summary (Key Pros/Cons):	Not Recommended – Does not address the PS.	Not Recommended – Does not address the PS.	Not Recommended – Does not address the PS.	Recommended – Addresses the PS.	Not Recommended – Addresses the PS.
Abbreviation Legend: PS – Problem Statement WMP - Watershed Management Plan SAR – Species at Risk Ranking: 	Pros: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing conditions remain the same. Cons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Less resiliency to larger storm events (climate change). Continue to deteriorate. Continued risk of dam failure. Maintains current WMP until potential failure of the dam. 	Pros: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relatively low/moderate cost. Property acquisition most likely not required. Cons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction/limited ability to mitigate floods/droughts and maintain current WMP. Limited ability to fully adapt to Climate Change. High fluctuation in water levels. Potential impacts to the Manòmin. Temporary impacts due to construction activities (i.e. property, recreational, tourism, etc.). 	Pros: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains current WMP. Maintains existing conditions. No significant change to water elevation and volume. Cons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Less resiliency to larger storm events (climate change). Continued risk of dam failure. Temporary impacts due to construction activities (i.e. property, recreational, tourism, etc.). 	Pros: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains current WMP. Designed to accommodate larger storm events and adapt to climate change. Meet safety guidelines. Sensitive fish spawning habitat maintained. No long-term impacts to First Nation Lands including Manòmin. No permanent property impacts anticipated. Cons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Temporary impacts due to construction activities (i.e. property, recreational, tourism, etc.). 	Pros: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains current WMP. Designed to accommodate larger storm events and adapt to climate change. Meet safety guidelines. No direct or indirect impacts to the recreational/tourism use of the lake. Cons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires larger structure. Significant cost. Additional property requirements/acquisition. Environmental Impacts. Unaltered lands and watercourse impacted by construction. Temporary impacts due to construction activities (i.e. property, recreational, tourism, etc.).

REPORT**3436/24**

TO:	The Chair and Members of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors
FROM:	Scott Lawryk, Property Manager
RE:	Summer Nature Camp Program
DATE:	September 9, 2024

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors authorize renewal of the Summer Nature Camp program at the Mill of Kintail for 2025.

1.0 BACKGROUND

In July 2023, the Board of Directors approved \$20,000 in municipal levy funding to reinstate a Summer Nature Camp in 2024. The summer camp was a long-standing and popular program offered to children ages 6 to 11 at the Mill of Kintail Conservation Area that was suspended in 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

2.0 2024 OUTDOOR ADVENTURE DAY CAMP PLAN

The 2024 Summer Nature Camp program targeted 32 children per week, ages 6 to 12 years of age, for four full-weeks, from July 8th through to August 2nd. For the cost of \$250 per week, children were able to enjoy a nature-based curriculum, exploration, games, nature-based activities, wildlife or nature education, forest walks, crafts, and free-play.

With the \$20,000 funding commitment, MVCA was able to hire a Summer Program Coordinator from May through the end of August to help design, plan, and execute the camps. Emma Higgins was instrumental in the full design of the program curriculum, as well as the onsite delivery of the camps. Participants were able to enjoy a different theme for each day of camp, offering them a wide variety of activities and exposure to the many amenities that the Mill of Kintail Conservation Area has to offer.

Summer Camp Counselors were hired to supervise campers and facilitate the program, keeping a minimum ratio of eight campers to every one staff member.

3.0 2024 CAMP RESULTS

The program was a sellout for all four weeks: 32 campers per week, totalling 128 participants. Fifteen people were placed on a waitlist, indicating that interest in the camp exceeded year-one targets.

The camp generated \$34,000 in revenue, and recovered all-but \$7,000 from the \$20,000 the Board had approved to facilitate the program.

Based on a post-event participant survey, overall child experience was 91 out of 100. Parent interaction and experience was ranked 90 out of 100. Every respondent indicated that they would be interested in programming offered by MVCA, whether it be Summer Camps or other options (e.g. PD Day and March Break camps.)

4.0 2025 SUMMER NATURE CAMP

Based on the positive outcomes of the 2024 camp, staff feel that the program should continue into 2025 and could grow as follows:

- target 50 participants/week; and
- offer the camp over six weeks.

On this basis, the camp would generate approximately \$78,000 and be fully cost-recoverable.

5.0 CORPORATE STRATEGIC PLAN

Delivery of a Summer Nature Camp support achievement of the following goal and objectives:

Goal 2: Community Building – engage local partners to foster connections, leverage our resources, and strengthen our “social license” to operate.

- a) Demonstrate MVCA to be a trusted, client-centered, resourceful, and helpful partner.
- b) Strengthen relationships with municipalities and community stakeholders, First Nations, the agricultural sector, developers, not-for-profits, and academia.

REPORT**3437/24**

TO:	The Chair and Members of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors
FROM:	Sally McIntyre, General Manager
RE:	Land Inventory Report, Update
DATE:	September 4, 2024

For Information.

1. BACKGROUND

O. Reg. 686/21 under the *Conservation Authorities Act* requires all conservation authorities to prepare a land inventory by December 31, 2024. A draft document was tabled at the March 2024 Board meeting to support preparation of the Land Conservation Plan and the Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy. Several issues were flagged for follow-up:

- Conflicting land ownership information at some dams.
- Lack of easements at most dams and some monitoring gauges.
- Lack of clear management objectives for shoreline parcels acquired in the late 1980s, early 1990s.
- Uncertainty regarding MVCA's stewardship obligations at some sites.
- Need for digitization and proper file management of ownership, easement, and related agreements.
- Need to develop a strategy to prioritize and address the above.

2. UPDATE

Staff were successful in finding historical records to fill several gaps. The following findings are of note:

- In the 1970s, MVCA was previously mandated by the province and had been provided with provincial and other grants to establish portage routes along the entire length of the Mississippi River¹. It remains unclear when that mandate changed.

¹ Template letter from MVCA, September 23 1992 to landowners (Sent to Alves Worms).

- Land acquired from OPG in the former Township of Palmerston in 1978 were acquired for the purpose of developing portage sites.²
- The Glen Cairn facility was designed to provide flood and erosion control to the Glen Cairn subdivision, and was designed and constructed *following* initial development of the subdivision. The Draft Land Inventory Report misidentified this as a stormwater management facility.
- Portions of Carp Creek riverbed downstream of the Glen Cairn Facility were acquired to provide outlet drainage for those portions of the subdivision already constructed, as it is necessary to lower substantial portions of the Carp River channel downstream of the Glencairn Subdivision.³
- MVCA has no residual interests in the MacLaren's Landing slope stabilization structure on the Ottawa River. All easements taken were temporary and clearly state that "all maintenance is the responsibility of the Owner" and that MVCA is "not under further obligation...and is not responsible for" the works carried out.⁴
- Morris Island CA is subject to two agreements: a bilateral licencing agreement between MVCA and the City to operate the conservation area on City lands; and a tri-lateral agreement between MVCA, the City and OPG, which owns significant shoreline and islands that also comprise the conservation area. The second agreement, signed in 1988, is currently being updated. MVCA and the City have at regular intervals updated the licence of occupancy agreement.
- While title documents or legal affidavits were found for almost all MVCA properties, several lack registered legal surveys and a strategy for surveying affected properties is needed. The same is true for easements used to access MVCA dams.
- Staff are digitizing and filing historical records used to prepare the Land Inventory.
- Agreements are needed with current landowners for several monitoring sites.

3. NEXT STEPS

The Land Inventory Report is being updated to reflect these findings and to document deed details etc. No other action is required to fulfill the requirements of O. Reg. 686/21. Staff will return at a future date regarding a plan for surveying MVCA properties and easements.

4. CORPORATE STRATEGIC PLAN

Implementation of new legislative and regulatory requirements supports achievement of:

² Letter to Ministry of Natural Resources Regional Director, May 16 1977.

³ Glencairn Subdivision Drainage and Flood Control Investigation Report, Crysler & Lathem Ltd., June 17, 1975.

⁴ Templated "Temporary Easement" agreement circulated to affected landowners and executed by Shabeer and Joan Ahmed October 3, 1988.

Goal 1: Asset Management – revitalize watershed management activities and invest in our legislated mandate, and

Goal 3: People and Performance – support the operational transformations required to achieve MVCA’s priorities and to address legislative changes.

REPORT**3438/24**

TO:	The Chair and Members of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors
FROM:	Stacy Millard, Treasurer & Sally McIntyre, GM
RE:	Financial Update – YTD June 30, 2024
DATE:	September 4 2024

For Information.

The purpose of this report is to present year-to-date financial data as at June 30, 2024 and updated financial projections for fiscal 2024. Details are contained in Attachments.

1.0 OPERATING

Year-to-date expenditures and revenues are on track and sit at 45.65% of budgeted, as shown in Table 1. Details are shown in Attachments 1 and 2.

Table 1: Operating Budget

Budget Item	2024 Budget	June 30 2024 YTD actuals	YTD Percentage of Budget	Revised Projection
Expenditures				
Corporate Services	\$1,129,772	\$613,094	54.27%	\$1,163,352
Watershed Management	\$1,850,453	\$807,939	43.66%	\$1,872,630
Flood and Erosion Control	\$482,130	\$209,540	43.46%	\$460,930
Conservation Services	\$370,469	\$146,080	39.43%	\$332,648
Category 2 Programs	\$296,536	\$92,246	31.11%	\$244,661
Category 3 Programs	\$412,981	\$204,898	49.61%	\$469,459
Total Operating	\$4,542,341	\$2,073,796	45.65%	\$4,543,680
Revenues				
Municipal Levy	\$3,140,197	\$1,449,124	46.15%	\$3,140,197
Reserve Funds	\$196,786	\$1,469	0.75%	\$84,581
Provincial & Federal Grants	\$237,116	\$68,698	28.97%	\$249,694
Fees for Service	\$776,020	\$390,915	50.37%	\$808,627
Other Revenue	\$192,221	\$163,590	85.11%	260,581
Total Revenues	\$4,542,341	\$2,073,796	45.65%	\$4,543,680

We did not receive any student grants in 2024 and may need to use some operating reserves to cover Student wages. However, combining the unfilled Watershed Planner position and multiple Paternity/Maternity Leaves we are projecting that Compensation could come in approximately \$200,000 below budget. We have not updated projections to show this as the plan to offset coverage of position is to use consultants, primarily through a shared services agreement with Toronto Region Conservation Authority.

2.0 CAPITAL BUDGET AND 10-YEAR CAPITAL PLAN

Referring to Attachment 3, capital projections have been updated as follows:

- WECI Capital Projects
 - No WECI funding was received for 2024-25 studies, to offset this we are postponing the Widow Lake Dam DSR.
- Conservation Areas
 - MOK – Workshop Building and Washroom projects have been delayed to future years.
- Corporate Projects
 - HQ Sewer & Water Connection is on hold and not expected to happen in this fiscal year.
 - Vehicle plan has been adjusted to acquire 1 SUV and 1 Large Truck, instead of original plan of 2 SUVs. This is due to maintenance issues with our Large Truck. This is a timing adjustment on our 10 Year Capital Plan and not a new item.
- Tech Studies Capital
 - MVCA FFW System Model has been delayed, with completion expected in 2025.
- Category 3 Capital
 - Windows at MOK – Gatehouse were not brought forward from the 2023 budget, the Category 3 – Operating Reserve will be used to offset.

3.0 RESERVES

Reserve Balance projections have been updated as shown in Attachment 4. We are projecting decreased use of Category 1 Reserves, with potential further reductions based on actual Compensation and Consulting costs. We are projecting higher contributions to Category 2 & 3 operating reserves due to budget savings and additional funding found.

Total Operating Summary	2024	YTD JUNE 30	YTD	REVISED	VARIANCE
	APPROVED	2024	PERCENTAGE	PROJECTION	PROJECTION
	BUDGET		OF BUDGET		TO BUDGET
Category 1					
Category 1 Programs					
Compensation	\$2,997,631	\$1,337,248	44.61%	\$2,969,775	-\$27,856
Operating Expenses	\$728,692	\$406,570	55.79%	\$745,607	\$16,915
Special Projects	\$106,500	\$32,834	30.83%	\$114,177	\$7,677
TOTAL	\$3,832,823	\$1,776,652	46.35%	\$3,829,559	-\$3,264
Category 2					
Category 2 Programs					
Compensation	\$144,536	\$57,931	40.08%	\$120,313	-\$24,223
Operating Expenses	\$82,000	\$4,717	5.75%	\$54,200	-\$27,800
Special Projects	\$70,000	\$29,598	42.28%	\$70,148	\$148
TOTAL	\$296,536	\$92,246	31.11%	\$244,661	-\$51,875
Category 3					
Category 3 Programs					
Compensation	\$270,172	\$130,385	48.26%	\$314,430	\$44,258
Operating Expenses	\$58,359	\$36,150	61.94%	\$57,579	-\$780
Special Projects	\$84,450	\$38,363	45.43%	\$97,450	\$13,000
TOTAL	\$412,981	\$204,898	49.61%	\$469,459	\$56,478
Total Operating - Expenses	\$4,542,341	\$2,073,796	45.65%	\$4,543,680	\$1,339
REVENUE					
Municipal Levy	\$3,140,197	\$1,449,124	46.15%	\$3,140,197	\$0
Reserve Fund	\$196,786	\$1,469	0.75%	\$84,581	-\$112,206
Provincial/Federal Grants	\$237,116	\$68,698	28.97%	\$249,694	\$12,578
Fees for Services	\$776,020	\$390,915	50.37%	\$808,627	\$32,607
Other Revenue	\$192,221	\$163,590	85.11%	\$260,581	\$68,360
Total Operating - Revenues	\$4,542,341	\$2,073,796	45.65%	\$4,543,680	\$1,339

CATEGORY 1: PROGRAMS & SERVICES					
	2024 APPROVED BUDGET	YTD JUNE 30 2024	YTD PERCENTAGE OF BUDGET	REVISED PROJECTION	VARIANCE PROJECTION TO BUDGET
EXPENSES					
Watershed Management					
Technical Studies					
Compensation	\$734,378	\$300,242	40.88%	\$734,378	\$0
Operating Expenses	\$33,700	\$4,878	14.47%	\$27,700	-\$6,000
Special Projects	\$79,000	\$32,224	40.79%	\$107,177	\$28,177
Subtotal	\$847,078	\$337,343	39.82%	\$869,255	\$22,177
Planning & Regulations					
Compensation	\$905,875	\$410,055	45.27%	\$905,875	\$0
Operating Expenses	\$82,500	\$60,541	73.38%	\$97,500	\$15,000
Special Projects	\$15,000	\$0	0.00%	\$0	-\$15,000
Subtotal	\$1,003,375	\$470,596	46.90%	\$1,003,375	\$0
TOTAL	\$1,850,453	\$807,939	43.66%	\$1,872,630	\$22,177
Flood & Erosion Control					
Flood Forecasting & Warning					
Compensation	\$173,679	\$83,176	47.89%	\$173,679	\$0
Operating Expenses	\$51,092	\$34,594	67.71%	\$54,292	\$3,200
Special Projects					
Subtotal	\$224,771	\$117,770	52.40%	\$227,971	\$3,200
Dam Operations & Maintenance					
Compensation	\$167,859	\$59,766	35.60%	\$167,859	\$0
Operating Expenses	\$89,500	\$32,004	35.76%	\$65,100	-\$24,400
Special Projects					
Subtotal	\$257,359	\$91,770	35.66%	\$232,959	-\$24,400
TOTAL	\$482,130	\$209,540	43.46%	\$460,930	-\$21,200
Conservation Areas					
Conservation Areas					
Compensation	\$233,813	\$92,912	39.74%	\$233,813	\$0
Operating Expenses	\$64,800	\$36,951	57.02%	\$60,335	-\$4,465
Special Projects					
Subtotal	\$298,613	\$129,863	43.49%	\$294,148	-\$4,465
Technical Studies					
Compensation	\$60,856	\$16,193	26.61%	\$33,000	-\$27,856
Operating Expenses	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Special Projects	\$11,000	\$24	0.21%	\$5,500	-\$5,500
Subtotal	\$71,856	\$16,217	22.57%	\$38,500	-\$33,356
TOTAL	\$370,469	\$146,080	39.43%	\$332,648	-\$37,821
Corporate Services					
Corporate Services					
Compensation	\$721,172	\$374,904	51.99%	\$721,172	\$0
Operating Expenses	\$407,100	\$237,602	58.36%	\$440,680	\$33,580
Special Projects	\$1,500	\$587	39.14%	\$1,500	\$0
TOTAL	\$1,129,772	\$613,094	54.27%	\$1,163,352	\$33,580
Total Category 1 - Expenses	\$3,832,823	\$1,776,652	46.35%	\$3,829,559	-\$3,264
REVENUE					
Municipal Levy	\$2,817,071	\$1,387,151	49.24%	\$2,817,071	-\$500
Reserve Fund	\$196,786	\$21,086	10.72%	\$188,098	-\$8,689
Provincial/Federal Grants	\$147,671	\$9,178	6.21%	\$137,614	-\$10,057
Fees for Services	\$511,295	\$259,934	50.84%	\$510,277	-\$518
Other Revenue	\$160,000	\$99,303	62.06%	\$176,500	\$16,500
Total Category 1 - Revenues	\$3,832,823	\$1,776,652	46.35%	\$3,829,559	-\$3,264

CATEGORY 2: PROGRAMS & SERVICES					
	2024 APPROVED BUDGET	YTD JUNE 30 2024	YTD PERCENTAGE OF BUDGET	REVISED PROJECTION	VARIANCE PROJECTION TO BUDGET
Watershed Management					
Technical Studies					
Compensation	\$144,536	\$57,931	40.08%	\$120,313	-\$24,223
Operating Expenses	\$82,000	\$4,717	5.75%	\$54,200	-\$27,800
Special Projects	\$70,000	\$29,598	42.28%	\$70,148	\$148
TOTAL	\$296,536	\$92,246	31.11%	\$244,661	-\$51,875
Total Category 2 - Expenses	\$296,536	\$92,246	31.11%	\$244,661	-\$51,875
REVENUE					
Municipal Levy	\$178,536	\$13,361	7.48%	\$178,536	\$0
Reserve Fund	\$0	\$0		-\$51,875	-\$51,875
Provincial/Federal Grants	\$50,000	\$10,886	21.77%	\$50,000	\$0
Fees for Services	\$68,000	\$68,000	100.00%	\$68,000	\$0
Other Revenue	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Total Category 2 - Revenues	\$296,536	\$92,246	31.11%	\$244,661	-\$51,875

CATEGORY 3: PROGRAMS & SERVICES					
	2024 APPROVED BUDGET	YTD JUNE 30 2024	YTD PERCENTAGE OF BUDGET	REVISED PROJECTION	VARIANCE PROJECTION TO BUDGET
Stewardship Programs					
Stewardship Programs					
Compensation	\$82,571	\$49,962		\$118,000	\$35,429
Operating Expenses	\$7,500	\$1,884		\$7,500	\$0
Special Projects	\$69,450	\$35,211		\$89,450	\$20,000
TOTAL	\$159,521	\$87,057	\$51,996	\$214,950	\$55,429
Education Services					
Education Services					
Compensation	\$41,470	\$11,369		\$50,300	\$8,830
Operating Expenses	\$4,700	\$5,044		\$5,420	\$720
Special Projects	\$15,000	\$3,153		\$8,000	-\$7,000
TOTAL	\$61,170	\$19,565	\$19,970	\$63,720	\$2,550
Vistor Services					
Vistor Services					
Compensation	\$146,130	\$69,054		\$146,130	\$0
Operating Expenses	\$46,159	\$29,222		\$44,659	-\$1,500
Special Projects					\$0
TOTAL	\$192,289	\$98,276	\$72,623	\$190,789	-\$1,500
Total Category 3 - Expenses	\$412,981	\$204,898	\$144,590	\$469,459	\$56,478
REVENUE					
Municipal Levy	\$144,590	\$48,612	33.62%	\$144,590	\$0
Reserve Fund	\$0	-\$19,617		-\$51,642	-\$51,642
Provincial/Federal Grants	\$39,445	\$48,635	123.30%	\$62,080	\$22,635
Fees for Services	\$196,725	\$62,982	32.02%	\$230,350	\$33,625
Other Revenue	\$32,221	\$64,287		\$84,081	\$51,860
Total Category 3 - Revenues	\$412,981	\$204,898	49.61%	\$469,459	\$56,478

Total Capital Summary					
	2024 APPROVED BUDGET	YTD JUNE 30 2024	YTD PERCENTAGE OF BUDGET	REVISED PROJECTION	VARIANCE PROJECTION TO BUDGET
Category 1					
WECI Capital Projects	\$295,000	\$57,399	19.46%	\$190,000	-\$105,000
Conservation Areas	\$78,250	\$20,492	26.19%	\$43,750	-\$34,500
Corporate Projects	\$891,850	\$58,955	6.61%	\$235,400	-\$656,450
Tech Studies - Capital	\$149,375	\$6,489	4.34%	\$111,500	-\$37,875
Debt Repayment	\$344,922	\$156,208	45.29%	\$312,417	-\$32,505
Total Category 1	\$1,759,397	\$299,543	17.03%	\$893,067	-\$866,330
Category 3 Capital	\$30,000	\$0	0.00%	\$76,000	\$46,000
Total Capital Program	\$1,789,397	\$299,543	16.74%	\$969,067	-\$820,330
FUNDING					
Municipal Levy	\$691,745	\$183,560	26.54%	\$691,745	\$0
Reserve Fund	\$237,652	\$0	0.00%	\$161,831	-\$75,821
Provincial/Federal Grants	\$150,000	\$95,491	63.66%	\$95,491	-\$54,509
Fees for Services	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0
Other Revenue	\$735,000	\$0	0.00%	\$20,000	-\$715,000
Total Category 3 - Revenues	\$1,814,397	\$279,051	15.38%	\$969,067	-\$845,330

Reserve Investments

	Dec 31 2023 Balance	2024 Budget Allocations FROM Reserves	2024 Budget Allocations TO Reserves	Projected Dec 31 2024 Balance
Capital Reserves				
Building (HQ) Reserve	\$534,701	\$0		\$534,701
Conservation Areas Reserve	\$185,700		\$34,500	\$220,200
Information & Communication Technology Reserve	\$80,185	\$47,000		\$33,185
Priority Projects (Formerly Glen Cairn)	\$438,836	\$28,874		\$409,962
Sick Pay (STD) Reserve	\$73,843	\$21,086		\$52,757
Vehicles & Equipment Reserve	\$263,537	\$47,880		\$215,657
Water Control Structure Reserve - MVCA	\$514,391	\$35,412		\$478,979
Category 3 Capital Reserve	\$39,000	\$62,165	\$23,165	\$0
Total	\$2,130,193	\$242,417	\$57,665	\$1,945,441
Operating Reserves				
Museum Building & Art Reserve	\$0			\$0
Operating Reserve	\$1,022,526	\$142,012	\$0	\$880,514
Category 2 Operating Reserve	\$89,000		\$51,875	\$140,875
Category 3 Operating Reserve	\$125,760	\$23,165	\$51,642	\$154,237
Total	\$1,237,286	\$165,177	\$103,517	\$1,175,626
TOTAL	\$3,367,479	\$407,594	\$161,182	\$3,121,067

REPORT**3439/24**

TO:	The Chair and Members of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority Board of Directors
FROM:	Stacy Millard, Treasurer
RE:	Auditor Update
DATE:	September 4, 2024

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Directors withdraw appointment of KPMG for the 2025 Financial Audit.

1. BACKGROUND

When MVCA received notice that Cross Street chartered accountants would no longer be conducting public sector audits, proposals were sought from three firms to conduct the 2023 Financial Audit. Two submissions were received of comparable price, with KPMG selected as the preferred vendor at a price of \$19,000, plus \$1,500 to prepare MVCA's tax return.

2. 2023 FINANCIAL AUDIT PROCESS & FINDINGS

Issues arose early in the audit process when staff were informed that:

- MVCA was expected to prepare its own Financial Statements and that KPMG would only review them.
- No excel templates would be provided to support MVCA's preparation of the financial statements.
- For KPMG to prepare the financial statements would cost an extra \$6,000.
- MVCA was required to implement a new accounting standard related to Asset Retirement Obligations (AROs) that would cost an additional \$8,000-\$12,000 for KPMG to complete.
- If MVCA completed the ARO assessment, KPMG would charge \$3,500-\$4,500 to review them.

In order to mitigate a significant increase in costs, staff prepared the Financial Statements to the 95% complete mark, requesting support with a very limited number of line items. As well, staff

undertook the ARO assessment and pricing of potential AROs and submitted it for review by KPMG.

It is important to note that in the known history of MVCA and amongst colleagues that staff consulted at other conservation authorities and municipalities, no other auditor required the client to prepare their own Financial Statements.

As the Board is aware, concerns were also raised regarding the format of its report and KPMG's presentation of findings to the Board.

3. 2023 AUDIT EXTRAS

Despite staff undertaking significant work to mitigate extra costs, KPMG submitted extra billing totaling \$11,250.00. This exceeds their estimated extra charge as outlined above. Meetings with the auditors to discuss and address these concerns were unsatisfactorily and staff do not believe it prudent to continue with this relationship.