

Final 2025 BUDGET

February 2025

Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority



Our Board of Directors:

Rear: Taylor Popkie, Steven Lewis, Roy Huetl, Wayne Baker, Paul Kehoe

Front: Bev Holmes, Janet Mason, Clarke Kelly, Dena Comley, and Jeff Atkinson Absent: Allan Hubley, Cathy Curry, Cindy Kelsey, Glen Gower, Helen Yanch, Jeannie Kelso, Mary Lou Souter, & Richard Kidd.

MVCA was established in 1968 to deliver programs for the **conservation**, **restoration**, **development and management of natural resources** in the Mississippi River and Carp River watersheds and in areas draining to the Ottawa River from the outlet of the Mississippi River downstream to Shirley's Bay.

We are a not-for-profit organization governed by a Board of Directors comprised of 17 representatives from the eleven municipalities we serve, and a provincially appointed agricultural representative.

Our annual budget was developed in accordance with Ontario Regulation 402/22 under the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

What we do

MVCA delivers a variety of programs and services ranging from the planning, design, and operation of water control structures through to the delivery of shoreline planting programs, and the operation of conservation areas. Our primary mandate is to deliver the following **Category 1** programs and services:

- Identify and delineate natural hazards (flooding, erosion, and unstable soils).
- Administer a permitting system that limits development in hazardous areas.
- Undertake regulatory compliance promotion, monitoring and enforcement.
- Review and comment on planning applications on behalf of the province.
- Forecast and issue flood warnings, and coordinate drought response.
- Monitor and manage ice.
- Manage water and erosion control structures we own or operate for others.
- Manage conservation lands we own or operate for others.

These activities constitute the majority of our work and ~85% of the Draft 2025 Operating Budget.

Category 1

• CA programs and services mandated by regulation.

Category 2

• Services that MVCA provides to help municipalities meet their legislated responsibilities.

Category 3

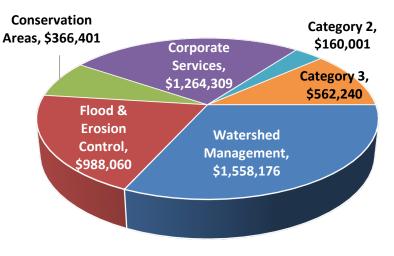
• Optional, largely communitybased programs that MVCA delivers as funding allows.

Our eleven municipalities pay an annual levy that covers ~68% of our annual operating costs. Commencing this year, they authorized spending up to 14% of their annual levy on Category 2 and 3 programs.

Budget Summary

	DRAFT 2025	5 Budget	
	2023 Actuals	2024 Budget	2025 Budget
Operating	\$4,570,646	\$4,542,341	\$4,879,431
Capital	\$1,002,491	\$1,789,397	\$1,741,288
Total	\$5,573,137	\$6,331,738	\$6,620,719

2025 Operating Budget



MVCA is currently in a period of significant capital renewal, with over \$1 million in capital expenditures occurring per year, largely

to address the needs of water and erosion control structures. In 2025, detailed design will be carried out for replacement of the Kashwakamak Lake Dam and various safety improvements are planned at Lanark Dam. MVCA is continuing to expand its water gauge system, enhance its predictive modeling capabilities, and implement its hazard identification and mapping program.

Operating budget increases are largely associated with employee wages to address cost of living and market rate conditions, increasing goods and service costs, and special projects to ensure that MVCA's flood forecasting and warning modeling and operational strategies reflect current knowledge regarding changing climatic conditions.

The budget is divided by regulatory category and by program area. Appendix 1 shows the impact of this budget on our operating and capital reserves. Appendix 2 provides a summary of municipal level apportionments. Appendix 3 contains details budget sheets.

Operating Summary: Category 1 and Corporate

	BUD	GET		2	025 REVENUE (D	Praft Proposed)		
Category 1	2024	2025 (Draft	Municipal	Reserve Fund	Provincial/	Fee for	Other	Total
	(APPROVED)	Proposed)	Levy	Reserve Fullu	Federal Grants	Service	Revenue	Revenue
Watershed Manag	gement							
Technical Studies	\$327,873	\$433,255	\$160,789	\$95,000	\$100,732	\$76,734	\$0	\$433,255
Planning & Regulations	\$1,004,375	\$1,046,915	\$750,115	\$16,800	\$0	\$280,000	\$0	\$1,046,915
Subtotal	\$1,332,248	\$1,480,170	\$910,904	\$111,800	\$100,732	\$356,734	\$0	\$1,480,170
Flood & Erosion Co	ontrol							
Flood Forecasting & Warning	\$741,284	\$801,514	\$673,078	\$0	\$128,436	\$0	\$0	\$801,514
Dam Operations & Maintenance	\$254,359	\$194,101	\$135,101	\$0	\$0	\$59,000	\$0	\$194,101
Subtotal	\$995,643	\$995,615	\$808,179	\$0	\$128,436	\$59,000	\$0	\$995,615
Conservation Area	IS							
Conservation Areas	\$298,613	\$312,620	\$272,620	\$0	\$0	\$35,000	\$5 <i>,</i> 000	\$312,620
Technical Studies	\$71,856	\$60,629	\$45,629	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$60,629
Subtotal	\$370,469	\$373,249	\$318,249	\$15,000	\$0	\$35,000	\$5,000	\$373,249

O.Reg. 686/21 defines mandatory Category 1 programs and services, and O.Reg. 402/22 sets out how they and corporate (general) services are to be recovered.

General / Corporate	e Services					
Subtotal	\$1,134,464 \$1,283,917	\$1,066,253	\$64,664	\$0	\$17,000	\$136,000 \$1,283,917
TOTAL	\$3,832,823 \$4,132,951	\$3,103,585	\$191,464	\$229,168	\$467,734	\$141,000 \$4,132,951

Operating Summary: Categories 2 & 3

	BUDO	GET	2025 REVENUE (Draft Proposed)					
CATEGORY 2	2024 (APPROVED)	2025 (Draft Proposed)	Municipal Levy	Reserve Fund	Provincial/ Federal Grants	Fee for Service	Other Revenue	Total Revenue
Watershed Manag	gement							
Monitoring & Watershed Planning	\$296,536	\$161,017	\$90,017	\$0	\$0	\$71,000	\$0	\$161,017
TOTAL	\$296,536	\$161,017	\$90,017	\$0	\$0	\$71,000	\$0	\$161,017

	BUD	GET		2	2025 REVENUE (D	Praft Proposed)		
CATEGORY 3	2024	2025 (Draft	Municipal	Reserve Fund	Provincial/	Fee for	Other	Total
	(APPROVED)	Proposed)	Levy	Reserve Fullu	Federal Grants	Service	Revenue	Revenue
Stewardship								
Stewardship	\$159,521	\$285,325	\$73 <i>,</i> 825	\$0	\$0	\$145,000	\$66,500	\$285,325
Education								
Education	\$61,170	\$134,044	\$19,719	\$0	\$13,000	\$96 <i>,</i> 325	\$5 <i>,</i> 000	\$134,044
Visitor Services								
Visitor Services	\$192,289	\$166,094	\$55 <i>,</i> 884	\$0	\$24,989	\$60,500	\$24,721	\$166 <i>,</i> 094
TOTAL	\$412,981	\$585,463	\$149,428	\$0	\$37,989	\$301,825	\$96,221	\$585,463

O.Reg. 687/21 defines Category 2 programs and services and sets out how they and Category 3 programs and services are to be cost recovered.

2025 Budget



MVCA has just over 30 full-time employees who are responsible for delivering a combination of Category 1, 2, and 3 programs and services.

The following budget sheets indicate the break-down in costs between payroll compensation, program expenses, and costs to be incurred to implement special projects. A list of projects is provided where applicable.

The budget also shows how each program is funded through a combination of municipal levy, reserves, fees for service, federal and provincial grants, and other contributions.

CATEGORY 1:	BUD	GET			2025 REVENUE (D	raft Proposed)		
PROGRAMS & SERVICES	2024 (APPROVED)	2025 (DRAFT PROPOSED)	Municipal Levy	Reserve Fund	Provincial/ Federal Grants	Fee for Service	Other Revenue	Total Revenue
Watershed Manag	ement							
Technical Studies								
Compensation	\$223,173	273,005						
Operating Expenses	\$25,700	\$8,200						
Special Projects	\$79,000	\$152,000						
Subtotal	\$327,873	\$433,255	\$160,789	\$95,000) \$100,732	\$76,734	\$0	\$433,255
Planning & Regulations								
Compensation	\$905,875	\$950,402						
Operating Expenses	\$83,500	\$96,513						
Special Projects	\$15,000	\$0						
Subtotal	\$1,004,375	\$1,046,915	\$750,115	\$16,800) \$0	\$280,000	\$0	\$1,046,915
TOTAL	\$1,332,248	\$1,480,170	\$910,904	\$111,800	\$100,732	\$356,734	\$0	\$1,480,170

Watershed management activities focus on the identification and management of natural hazards by:

- Monitoring water flows and levels, ice, surface and ground water quality, and changes in hydrologic and hydraulic conditions.
- Carrying out field investigations and developing predictive tools to identify, map, and managing natural hazards.
- Administering the regulatory permitting system to direct development away from hazards.
- Reviewing and commenting on planning applications on behalf of the province for compliance with provincial policy and regulations.

2025 Special Projects

- Ottawa Floodplain Mapping Update (Kinburn, Upper Feedmill)
- Unstable soils hazard identification and mapping
- Fall River flood plain mapping
- Climate change analysis (Mississippi and Carp models)

Details

Refer to sheets 1 thru 4 in Appendix 3.

CATEGORY 1:	BUD	GET			2025 REV	ENUE (Draft P	roposed)	
PROGRAMS & SERVICES	2024 (APPROVED)	2025 (DRAFT PROPOSED)	Municipal Levy	Reserve Fund	Provincial/ Federal Grants	Fee for Service	Other Revenue	Total Revenue
Flood & Erosion Co	ontrol							
Flood Forecasting & Warning								
Compensation	\$684,884	\$742,694						
Operating Expenses	\$56,400	\$58,820						
Special Projects								
Subtotal	\$741,284	\$801,514	\$673,078	\$0	\$128,436	\$0	\$0	\$801,514
Dam Operations & Maintena	nce							
Compensation	\$167,859	\$132,784						
Operating Expenses	\$86,500	\$61,317						
Special Projects								
Subtotal	\$254,359	\$194,101	\$135,101	. \$0	\$0	\$59,000	\$0	\$194,101
TOTAL	\$995,643	\$995,615	\$808,179	\$0	\$128,436	\$59,000	\$0	\$995,615

Flood & Erosion control activities focus on the following:

- monitoring and analysis of current water levels and flows and weather conditions.
- using predictive tools to identify short and medium-term risks of flooding and the potential need to operate control structures.
- operating water control structures to mitigate potential flooding and comply with Mississippi River Watershed Management Plan.
- notifying the public and key stakeholders of potential flood risks and coordinating drought response.
- collaborating with partner organizations such as OPG and MNRF for overall river management.

2025 Special Projects

No special projects are planned.

Details

Refer to sheets 5 and 6 in Appendix 3.

CATEGORY 1:	BUD	GET				2025 REV	ENUE (Draft Pi	oposed)	
PROGRAMS & SERVICES	2024 (APPROVED)	2025 (DRAFT PROPOSED)	Municipal Levy	Reserve Fund	F	Provincial/ ederal Grants	Fee for Service	Other Revenue	Total Revenue
Conservation Area	S								
Conservation Areas									
Compensation	\$233,813	\$246,140							
Operating Expenses	\$64,800	\$66,480							
Special Projects									
Subtotal	\$298,613	\$312,620	\$272,620		\$0	\$0	\$35,000	\$5,000	\$312,620
Technical Studies									
Compensation	\$60,856	\$29,129							
Operating Expenses	\$0	\$0							
Special Projects	\$11,000	\$31,500							
Subtotal	\$71,856	\$60,629	\$45,629	\$15,	,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$60,629
TOTAL	\$370,469	\$373,249	\$318,249	\$15,	,000	\$0	\$35,000	\$5,000	\$373,249

MVCA has six conservation areas: four that it owns, and two at City of Ottawa properties. Operational activities at these sites include the following:

- Year-round site maintenance (parking areas, trails and bridges, washrooms, signage, grass).
- Hazard tree, drinking water and other health and safety inspections and measures.
- Public notifications and other communications.

2025 Special Projects

- K&P ownership project
- Mill of Kintail Masterplan Update
- Accessibility study of MOK

Details

Refer to sheets 7 and 8 in Appendix 3.

	BUD	GET			2025 REV	ENUE (Draft	Proposed)	
	2024 (APPROVED)	2024 (DRAFT PROPOSED)	Municipal Levy	Reserve Fund	ncial/ Grants	Fee for Service	Other Revenue	Total Revenue
Corporate Services	;							
Corporate Services								
Compensation	\$721,172	\$811,186						
Operating Expenses	\$411,792	\$457,731						
Special Projects	\$1,500	\$15,000						
TOTAL	\$1,134,464	\$1,283,951	\$1,066,253	\$64,664	\$0	\$17,00	0 \$136,000	\$1,283,917

Corporate services refers to the variety of services used to support delivery of our mandate and includes the following activities:

- Board administration and corporate governance.
- Financial management.
- Fleet management.
- Information and communication technology support.
- Communications.
- Utility and other operating expenses at our office on Highway 7.

2025 Special Projects

Strategic Plan Update.

Details

Refer to sheets 9 thru 13 in Appendix 3.

CATEGORY 2:	BUD	GET			2025 REV	/ENUE (Draft P	roposed)	
PROGRAMS & SERVICES	2024 (APPROVED)	2025 (DRAFT PROPOSED)	Municipal Levy	Reserve Fund	Provincial/ Federal Grants	Fee for Service	Other Revenue	Total Revenue
Watershed Manag	ement							
Technical Studies								
Compensation	\$144,536	\$97,817						
Operating Expenses	\$82,000	\$45,700						
Special Projects	\$70,000	\$17,500						
TOTAL	\$296,536	\$161,017	\$90,017	\$0	\$0	\$71,000	\$0	\$161,017

Approximately ~3% of the Annual Operating Levy goes towards the following technical supports to our eleven member municipalities:

- Field monitoring of surface water bodies that are not captured in the provincial monitoring program and for parameters not captured under that program.
- Watershed planning and implementation of watershed plans.
- Public engagement including administrative support to the Mississippi River Watershed Plan Implementation Public Advisory Committee.

2025 Special Projects

- Facilitation of Large Park Planning
- Indigenous Engagement

Details

Refer to sheets 14 and 15 in Appendix 3.

CATEGORY 3:	BUD	GET			2025 RE	VENUE (Draft P	roposed)	
PROGRAMS & SERVICES	2024 (APPROVED)	2025 (DRAFT PROPOSED)	Municipal Levy	Reserve Fund	Provincial/ Federal Grants	Fee for Service	Other Revenue	Total Revenue
Stewardship			· · ·					
Stewardship								
Compensation	\$82,571	\$136,325						
Operating Expenses	\$7,500	\$5,500						
Special Projects	\$69,450	\$143,500						
TOTAL	\$159,521	\$285,325	\$73,825	\$ 0	\$0	\$145,000	\$66,50	0 \$285,325

MVCA administers a variety of programs to help property owners, community groups and the public at large take action to prevent soil erosion, maintain and restore ecological features and functions, including:

- County of Lanark Program Community Forest
- Ottawa Clean Water Program
- Shoreline Naturalization
- ALUS Project Delivery
- City Stream Watch
- Rural Stream Watch
- Trees Canada Program (RVCA Partnership)

2025 Special Projects

No special projects are planned.

Details

Refer to sheet 16 in Appendix 3.

	BUD	GET			2025 RE\	/ENUE (Draft P	roposed)	
CATEGORY 3: PROGRAMS & SERVICES	2024 (APPROVED)	2025 (DRAFT PROPOSED)	Municipal Levy	Reserve Fund	Provincial/ Federal Grants	Fee for Service	Other Revenue	Total Revenue
Education								
Education								
Compensation	\$41,470	\$112,244						
Operating Expenses	\$4,700	\$21,800						
Special Projects	\$15,000	\$0						
TOTAL	\$61,170	\$134,044	\$19,719	\$0	\$13,000	\$96,325	\$5,000	\$134,044

MVCA's education program was suspended during the pandemic. A trial summer program was introduced in 2024, and a program evaluation carried out to determine if there is a business case to reintroduce a more comprehensive program.

The 2025 Budget provides for near-full cost recovery of an education program that is to be offered at the Mill of Kintail, as well as at schools and in the broader community.

2025 Special Projects

No special projects are planned.

Details

Refer to sheet 17 in Appendix 3.

CATEGORY 3: PROGRAMS & SERVICES	BUDGET		2025 REVENUE (Draft Proposed)						
	2024 (APPROVED)	2025 (DRAFT PROPOSED)	Municipal Levy	Reserve Fund Federal Grau		Other Revenue	Total Revenue		
Visitor Services									
Visitor Services									
Compensation	\$146,130	\$110,594							
Operating Expenses	\$46,159	\$50,500							
Special Projects		\$5,000							
TOTAL	\$192,289	\$166,094	\$55,884	\$0 \$24,98	\$60,500	\$24,721	\$166,094		

Our Mill of Kintail site has been developed over the years to provide a variety of community-based services including the following:

- The Mill of Kintail Museum displays artifacts from the lives of James Naismith and R. Tait McKenzie, renowned Canadians.
- Gate House rented by community groups and individuals; houses our museum archives.
- Cloister and Picnic Shelter rented by community groups and individuals for special events.

This budget provides for museum and site management. MVCA is working towards full cost-recovery of these programs.

2025 Special Projects

• Review of secondary entrance at Gate House

Details

Refer to sheet 18 in Appendix 3.

	BUDGET		2025 REVENUE (Draft Proposed)						
Capital Budget	2024 (APPROVED)	2025 (DRAFT PROPOSED)	Municipal Levy	Reserve Fund	Provincial/ Federal Grants	Fee for Service	Other Revenue	Total Revenue	
Capital Budget									
Category 1									
WECI Capital Projects	\$295,000	\$360,244	\$167,119	\$0	\$193,125	\$0	\$0	\$360,244	
Conservation Areas	\$78,250	\$61,100	\$61,100	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$61,100	
Corporate Projects	\$891,850	\$860,750	\$145,750	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$715,000	\$860,750	
Tech Studies - Capital	\$149,375	\$78,475	\$78,475	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$78,475	
Debt Repayment	\$344,922	\$328,669	\$293,257	\$35,412	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$328,669	
Category 3									
Mill of Kintail	\$30,000	\$52,050	\$15,218	\$24,332	\$0	\$0	\$12,500	\$52,050	
TOTAL	\$1,789,397	\$1,741,288	\$760,919	\$59,744	\$193,125	\$0	\$727,500	\$1,741,288	

Water & Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) projects:

- Lanark Dam Safety/Condition
 Improvements
- Kashwakamak Lake Dam Design

Conservation Area projects:

- Purdon Boardwalk
- Purdon Stairs
- MOK Workshop Building
- Morris Island bridge
 improvements
- Category 3:
 - Condition assessment of MOK buildings (ARO)
 - Accessibility improvements at Education Centre

Other projects:

- MVCA FFW System Model
- Water & Sewer connection at HQ

Details

Refer to sheets 19-24 in Appendix 3.

Appendix 1: Impact on Reserves

	Dec 31 2023 Balance	2024 Projected Allocations FROM Reserves	2024 Projected Allocation s TO Reserves	Projected Dec 31 2024 Balance	2025 Budget Allocations FROM Reserves	2025 Budget Allocation s TO Reserves	Projected Dec 31 2025 Balance
Capital Reserves							
Building (HQ) Reserve	\$534,701	\$0		\$534,701			\$534,701
Conservation Areas Reserve	\$185,700		\$0	\$185,700			\$185,700
Information & Communication Technology Res.	\$80,185	\$23,004		\$57,181			\$57,181
Priority Projects (Formerly Glen Cairn)	\$438,836	\$45,000		\$393,836	\$95,000		\$298,836
Sick Pay (STD) Reserve	\$73,843	\$21,086		\$52,757			\$52,757
Vehicles & Equipment Reserve	\$263,537	\$30,000		\$233,537			\$233,537
Water Control Structure Reserve - MVCA	\$514,391	\$65,412		\$448,979	\$35,412	\$25,494	\$439,061
Category 3 Capital Reserve	\$39,000	\$58,165	\$19,165	\$0			\$0
Total	\$2,130,193	\$242,667	\$19,165	\$1,906,691	\$130,412	\$25,494	\$1,801,773
Operating Reserves							
Operating Reserve	\$1,022,526	\$161,239	\$90,000	\$951,287	\$96,464	\$2,486	\$857,309
Category 2 Operating Reserve	\$89,000	\$90,000	\$3,774	\$92,774			\$92,774
Category 3 Operating Reserve	\$125,760	\$19,165	\$24,500	\$131,095	\$24,332		\$106,763
Total	\$1,237,286	\$180,404	\$118,274	\$1,175,156	\$120,796	\$2,2486	\$1,056,846
TOTAL	\$3,367,479	\$423,071	\$137,439	\$3,081,847	\$251,208	\$27,980	\$2,858,619

Appendix 2: 2025 Total Municipal Levy (General Benefiting)

Municipality	2024 Apportionment %	2024 Levy	2025 Apportionment %	2025 Levy	Variance	% Ch.
Addington Highlands	0.1551	\$5,945	0.1535	\$6,299	\$354	5.96%
Beckwith	0.6922	\$26,524	0.6987	\$28,676	\$2,151	8.11%
Carleton Place	2.6709	\$102,347	2.7932	\$114,633	\$12,286	12.00%
Central Frontenac	0.4303	\$16,490	0.4284	\$17,579	\$1,090	6.61%
Drummond/North Elmsley	0.4870	\$18,662	0.4849	\$19,899	\$1,237	6.63%
Greater Madawaska	0.0351	\$1,344	0.0352	\$1,446	\$102	7.59%
Lanark Highlands	1.1084	\$42,473	1.1065	\$45,411	\$2,938	6.92%
Mississippi Mills	2.7838	\$106,674	2.8059	\$115,153	\$8,479	7.95%
North Frontenac	0.9116	\$34,931	0.8997	\$36,925	\$1,994	5.71%
Ottawa [*]	90.103 0	\$3,452,696	89.975 6	\$3,692,554	\$239,858	6.95%
Tay Valley	0.6226	\$23,857	0.6183	\$25,374	\$1,517	6.36%
Total	100	\$3,831,942	100	\$4,103,949	\$272,007	7.10%

* Plus special levy of \$71,000 for City of Ottawa Baseline Monitoring Program

Appendix 3: Budget Details