



Regional Watershed Alliance Meeting #1/20 was held at Head Office, 101 Exchange Avenue, Vaughan, on March 4, 2020. The Acting Chair, Alisa Mahrova, called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

PRESENT

Wickens, Andy	Vice-Chair Elect
Bream, Margaret	Member
Burnett, Neil	Member
Calvin, Elizabeth	Member
Dies, Joanne	Member
Dyce, David	Member
Hamilton, Jackie	Member
Iacobelli, Tony	Member
Laing, David	Member
Lockridge, Karen	Member
Mallet, Lisette	Member
Mattos, Mike	Member
McCullough, Sean	Member
McDowell, Madeleine	Member
McGlynn, Chris	Member
Miller, Learie	Member
Ngan, Amory	Member
Pickles, David	Member
Schulte, Deb	Member

ABSENT

Anvari, Alireza	Member
Barrett, Suzanne	Member
Broadbent, Heather	Member
Dasko, Stephen	Member
Deawuo, Leticia	Member
Drake, Jennifer	Chair Elect
Felix, Rui	Member
Gomez, Orlando	Member
Groves, Annette	Member
Heath, Jack	Member
Innis, Jennifer	Member
Keenan, Rosemary	Member
Kelleher, Maria	Member
Kelly, Jill	Member
Malowany, Mick	Member
Nonnekes, Joanne	Member
Olivieri, Sara	Member
Presutti, Michael	Member
Scotchmer, Carolyn	Member
Vrana, Andrew	Member
Wright, Doug	Member

The Acting Chair recited the Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory.

APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS

RES.#R1/20 - APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS

Moved by: David Laing
Seconded by: Joanne Dies

THAT Dr. Victoria Kramkowski, Government and Community Relations Specialist, Peel/York Watersheds, Jessica MacDonald, Administrative Assistant, Peel/York Watersheds, and Alisa Mahrova, Clerk and Manager, Policy, be appointed as scrutineers for the election of officers of the Regional Watershed Alliance.

CARRIED

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

CHAIR OF THE REGIONAL WATERSHED ALLIANCE

Tony Iacobelli nominated Jennifer Drake for the Chair of the Regional Watershed Alliance. Jennifer Drake indicated prior to meeting that she would stand for the office.

RES.#R2/20 - MOTION TO CLOSE NOMINATIONS

Moved by: David Pickles
Seconded by: Learie Miller

THAT nominations for the office of the Chair of the Regional Watershed Alliance be closed.

CARRIED

Jennifer Drake was declared elected by acclamation as the Chair of the Regional Watershed Alliance.

VICE-CHAIR OF THE REGIONAL WATERSHED ALLIANCE

David Dyce nominated Andy Wickens for the Vice-Chair of the Regional Watershed Alliance.

RES.#R3/20 - MOTION TO CLOSE NOMINATIONS

Moved by: Margaret Bream
Seconded by: Chris McGlynn

THAT nominations for the office of the Vice-Chair of the Regional Watershed Alliance be closed.

CARRIED

Andy Wickens was declared elected by acclamation as Vice-Chair of the Regional Watershed Alliance.

RES.#R4/20 - MOTION TO RECESS

Moved by: Tony Iacobelli
Seconded by: Madeleine McDowell

THAT the Regional Watershed Alliance recess for 5 minutes.

CARRIED

RES.#R5/20 - MINUTES OF MEETING #4/19, HELD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2019

Moved by: Margaret Bream
Seconded by: Madeleine McDowell

THAT the Minutes of Meeting #4/19, held on November 13, 2019, be approved.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 A letter dated February 24, 2020, from Andrew McCammon, Executive Director, Ontario Headwaters Institute, regarding WaterScape III project.

RES.#R6/20 - CORRESPONDENCE

Moved by: Elizabeth Calvin
Seconded by: David Pickles

THAT the above-noted correspondence 6.1 be received.

CARRIED

This backgrounder introduces you to a project that might be of interest to conservation authorities -- WaterScape III, being delivered by the Ontario Headwaters Institute in partnership with numerous organizations.

Established in 2003, the OHI initially focused on headwaters, the foundation of our watersheds. In 2018, we expanded our mandate to full watersheds, their natural heritage, and the health of receiving waters such as the Great Lakes. We address these issues through three portfolios: research, education, and civic engagement, which requires collaborative efforts with other organizations.

For 2020, we are pleased to announce WaterScape III, a collaborative effort to develop a renewed policy framework to ensure resilient landscapes and healthy water across South-central Ontario, found on a dedicated website at www.waterscape.ca.

WaterScape III builds on past collaborative efforts, including WaterScapes I and WaterScape II. The former held six meetings with more than 150 participants in 2018, leading to a submission with more than 140 co-signatories. The latter conducted a survey in 2019 with 128 respondents – 32% of 400 contacts – on sustainable planning in Ontario.

WaterScape III will:

- Circulate an extensive discussion document with two over-arching policy recommendations and 22 suggested priority actions;
- Solicit comments on the document through our website, social media, and presentations;
- Hold 10 – 15 presentations across the Greater Golden Horseshoe and in The Land Between;
- Use comments to issue a second draft of the document for final comments; and,
- Produce a final document for endorsement by organizations and members of the public.

The timing is important. Ontario's environmental protections are being reduced and public consultation is being constrained. WaterScape III seeks to facilitate increased understanding of:

- The importance of protecting our lands and water;
- The interdependence of environmental, economic, and social vitality; and,
- The need for sustainable planning, fulsome consultation, cumulative monitoring, adaptive management, and equitable access to legal recourse.

We are particularly concerned that recent changes to and current reviews of the Conservation Authorities Act, as well as the government's perceived direction on flooding, indicate the dismantling of historic efforts on the conservation of lands, watershed management, and flooding. We are concerned that this will present yet another outcome where key functions will be abandoned rather than improved.

We hope you find this note helpful, and ask you to consider sharing it internally and externally as you see fit.

Sincerely,

Andrew McCammon
Executive Director

Items for the Action of the Regional Watershed Alliance

RES.#R7/20 -

BRAMPTON RIVERWALK URBAN DESIGN MASTER PLAN PROJECT: TRCA INTERESTS AND INVOLVEMENT

To provide the Regional Watershed Alliance (RWA) with an update on the Brampton Riverwalk Urban Design Master Plan Project, so as to increase RWA understanding of the role and interests that Toronto and Region Conservation Authority has in this project and staff intent to continue to engage RWA membership over the course of this project.

Moved by: Amory Ngan
Seconded by: Chris McGlynn

THAT the Regional Watershed Alliance receive this report outlining Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's interests and roles in the Brampton Riverwalk Urban Design Master Plan Project, in conjunction with the City of Brampton staff report (Item 7.2);

AND FURTHER THAT Toronto and Region Conservation Authority staff be directed to continue to engage the Regional Watershed Alliance at major milestones throughout the duration and implementation of the project to share information and solicit input, as needed.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) and the City of Brampton have an extensive history of partnering on mutually beneficial and relevant projects and initiatives. One notable such project includes the Brampton Riverwalk Urban Design Master Plan Project (UDMP), which is a part of broader work being undertaken to protect Brampton's Downtown from flooding, amend the current Special Policy Area (SPA) designation in place which restricts development and land use changes based on new information, and, notably, revitalize Downtown Brampton by driving a more resilient, dynamic and greener urban core that embraces Etobicoke Creek at its center.

A key precursor to the UDMP and Riverwalk implementation is the completion of the Downtown Brampton Flood Protection Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA), which is being led by TRCA in partnership with the City of Brampton. The purpose of the EA is to identify a preferred alternative for providing flood protection for Brampton's Downtown core, while considering urban design and land use opportunities for the City. This includes identifying the best option to remove, in whole or in part, the SPA in place in Downtown Brampton which currently limits development and land uses in the area. The Draft Environmental Study Report associated with the EA was open for public review from January 30, 2020 to February 28, 2020.

The UDMP is intended to build upon the EA by integrating the planned flood protection work and infrastructure with a broader vision for Brampton's Downtown that makes the area more healthy, sustainable, resilient and vibrant. A vital piece of the UDMP involves turning the community's focus to Etobicoke Creek and making this watercourse a key feature of Brampton's Downtown.

RATIONALE

A more comprehensive overview of the purpose and process for the Brampton Riverwalk Urban Design Master Plan Project is provided in Item 7.2, provided by City of Brampton staff, Alex Taranu, in this agenda. While the UDMP is being led by the City, TRCA is, and will be, involved in this project in various capacities and welcomes the opportunity to participate in the development and implementation of Riverwalk, including involving the Regional Watershed Alliance as a multi-stakeholder body that can provide input to the process. Various components of the UDMP in which TRCA may be involved, provide input on and/or partner on include:

- Flood infrastructure detailed design, construction, operation and maintenance
- Engaging and/or innovative programming for the site;
- Land use planning
- Urban and landscape design and construction;
- Restoration and planting initiatives, including community-based planting events;
- Low impact development and green technologies;
- Neighbourhood and business sustainability initiatives and programs;
- Greenspace management;
- Aquatic and terrestrial habitat inventory and monitoring work; and,
- Grants and funding efforts involving senior levels of government

As the design and implementation processes surrounding the Riverwalk UDMP progress, TRCA will continue to look for ways in which it can support the City of Brampton in this municipally and regionally significant initiative.

Relationship to Building the Living City, the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan

This report supports the following strategies set forth in the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan:

Strategy 3 – Rethink greenspace to maximize its value

Strategy 4 – Create complete communities that integrate nature and the built environment

Strategy 7 – Build partnerships and new business models

Strategy 9 – Measure performance

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Currently, TRCA staff is providing input and support to the UDMP through their existing roles.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

Please see Item 7.2 in this agenda for the Riverwalk UDMP process. TRCA staff will be involved in this process in various capacities, based on their roles and expertise.

Report prepared by: Victoria Kramkowski, extension 5707

Emails: Victoria.Kramkowski@trca.ca

For Information contact: Victoria Kramkowski, extension 5707

Emails: Victoria.Kramkowski@trca.ca

Date: February 11, 2020

RES.#R8/20 -

AN INTRODUCTION TO BRAMPTON RIVERWALK URBAN DESIGN MASTER PLAN PROJECT

To inform and engage the Regional Watershed Alliance regarding the scope and status of Brampton Riverwalk Urban Design Master Plan Project.

Moved by: Amory Ngan
Seconded by: Chris McGlynn

WHEREAS the Brampton Riverwalk Urban Design Master Plan Project has been initiated,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Regional Watershed Alliance receive the City of Brampton staff report on the Riverwalk Urban Design Master Plan Project;

AND FURTHER THAT City of Brampton staff be requested to continue to engage the Regional Watershed Alliance through the duration and implementation of the project.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

Brampton's Riverwalk Project: Introduction

Initiated in 2011 as a partnership between the City of Brampton and Toronto Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), the Riverwalk initiative, which will be located along the Downtown Brampton portion of Etobicoke Creek, has initially focused on updating the Special Policy Area (SPA) in place since the 1980s. The SPA update was approved by the Province in 2014 and a series of feasibility studies have been initiated to evaluate potential flood protection and mitigation solutions.

The first feasibility study was completed in 2014 with a flood mitigation study led by TRCA and an Urban Design Study led by the City of Brampton, which included a Vision and principles. The associated report and the Vision for the area were approved by Brampton City Council in 2014.

A second, more detailed Feasibility Study was completed in 2018, led by the City of Brampton and with TRCA participation, and resulted in a detailed flood mitigation technical study and an accompanying Urban Design study.

As part of this work, preliminary urban design and development concepts were drafted, and intense advocacy, communication and visualization work was undertaken. The Vision for the area, approved by Council in June 2014, has the moniker "The City Faces the River, the City Discovers the River" and includes a number of key principles. "Green", "protect" "discover" and "diversity" are the main principles driving the resilience, sustainability and healthy development concepts, including environmental remediation and enhancement and identifying the Riverwalk area as a pilot demonstration project in this area in the city.

These concepts were further advanced through the City of Brampton 2040 Vision, endorsed by Brampton Council in 2018, which focused on "green" and "eco-design" as overarching concepts and identified the Riverwalk as a priority for revitalizing the Downtown.

A Downtown Brampton Flood Protection Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) was initiated in 2018, led by TRCA in partnership with the City of Brampton, and is currently being finalized.

In conjunction with the EA, an Urban Design Master Plan (UDMP) study has been initiated to study the entire Etobicoke Creek valley through Downtown Brampton. The current report presents the UDMP scope and its current status.

CURRENT CONDITION

The Riverwalk project is an important initiative in Downtown Brampton - an infrastructure, as well as a city building, initiative integrating flood protection and infrastructure with open space/public realm and placemaking, downtown revitalization and re-development, environmental protection and enhancement, climate change mitigation and adaptation. Its ultimate goal is to remove a significant portion of the Downtown from the threat of flood, transforming a liability into a sustainable asset and attraction. The Riverwalk is a complex program integrating a number of projects, was deemed to be a game-changer project for the City and has been designated a Term of Council Priority.

There are currently three major active projects as part of the Riverwalk initiative:

Downtown Brampton Flood Protection Environmental Assessment (DBFP)

This project has commenced in 2018 in order to assess solutions for flood protection in the Downtown and is being led by TRCA in partnership with the City of Brampton. So far, three public information centres (PICs) have been held and the draft Environmental Study Report is currently available for public review. Further information on this project will be shared with the Regional Watershed Alliance at a future meeting.

Urban Design (Open Space) Master Plan (UDMP)

The UDMP, which is being led by the City, commenced in 2019 and is intended to complement the EA. Its goal is to produce an overall master plan for the area's open space with design concepts for the main parks/spaces, including preliminary programming, integrating resilience and sustainability concepts.

Economic Impact Study (ROI)

An Economic Impact Study (ROI) has been initiated to identify the full economic benefits of unlocking development in downtown Brampton. The study has been completed recently.

THE URBAN DESIGN (OPEN SPACE) MASTER PLAN

Scope Overview

- The UDMP assists and complements the EA to assess urban design and landscape impacts of engineering solutions, identify opportunities, and propose landscape treatments for flood mitigation solutions and their integration within the broader planning and design concepts
- It studies the broader valley area, with a focus on: open space and public realm perspective; integration of sustainable mobility, in particular active transportation; improvements in the area's character and identity; its attraction to the city's diverse population and for visitors; making it Brampton's "Emerald Necklace", "Central Park" and "High Line"; and bringing the river back as the approved vision anticipated.
- The UDMP will provide urban design and landscape concepts and guidelines, preliminary programming, as well as a framework for resilience and sustainability.
- Based on the EA outcome, the UDMP will also include detailed concepts for parks, trails, and public realm development facilitating advancement towards Riverwalk implementation and its contribution to Downtown revitalization.

Along the way, the study is also looking at best examples and innovative case studies, to learn from the most advanced approaches that are striving to integrate resilient infrastructure, placemaking, sustainable mobility, revitalization and economic development.

Scope of work details and deliverables:

The Open Space Plan is looking at the Etobicoke Creek valley between Vodden Street and Clarence Street (see Attachment 1 for the study area) and has the following major areas of focus:

- Opportunities for environmental enhancements, parks development, programming (including for environmental education), character and identity, public art, and celebration of local history, including that of Indigenous communities
- Opportunities to make the entire area more resilient, sustainable, healthy, and accessible, as well as an economic development attraction and trigger for revitalization/redevelopment

A main component and deliverable is the Resilience, Sustainability, and Healthy Development Framework:

- This component will look in more detail at opportunities for environmental enhancements (vegetation, ecology, water, air), resilience (climate change mitigation), sustainable development (e.g. low impact development, storm water management, energy), as well as opportunities for healthy development (walkability, healthy living, social/mental health)
- Based on this Framework, a comprehensive Resilience, Sustainability and Healthy Development Plan will be developed consequently for the area including key indicators and performance monitoring in conjunction with the broader City initiative to further develop the Sustainability Indicators
- The Riverwalk should become Brampton's pilot/demonstration project for resilience and sustainability, a landmark eco-park as anticipated by the Vision 2040

At the end, the UDMP will also produce urban design concepts and guidelines for five areas (Dugan Park, Central Public School Park, Rosalea Park, the revamped channel and Centennial Park), feeding into the detailed design for the flood mitigation solutions. It is expected that preliminary concepts will be developed in Spring 2020, with stakeholder engagement and possible public communication efforts in late Spring/early Summer 2020. It is expected that the study will be completed by the end of Summer/early Fall 2020.

CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS

The Riverwalk is an important, innovative initiative in Brampton and the surrounding region, which sets a new, integrative approach to resilience, sustainability, flood mitigation and open space design.

When complete, the Riverwalk will:

- Protect from flood and disasters
- Revitalize Downtown Brampton and the city as a whole
- Trigger infrastructure renewal
- Generate employment and attract people and investment
- Build community, support diversity and bring people together
- Develop a central park system and contribute to Brampton Eco Park initiatives
- Make a more resilient, sustainable, and healthy Downtown
- Support diversity and culture and improve social balance
- Stimulate new approaches, innovation, change

Further details will be presented as the project evolves, at which point Brampton staff would like to engage more thoroughly with the Regional Watershed Alliance, likely in September 2020.

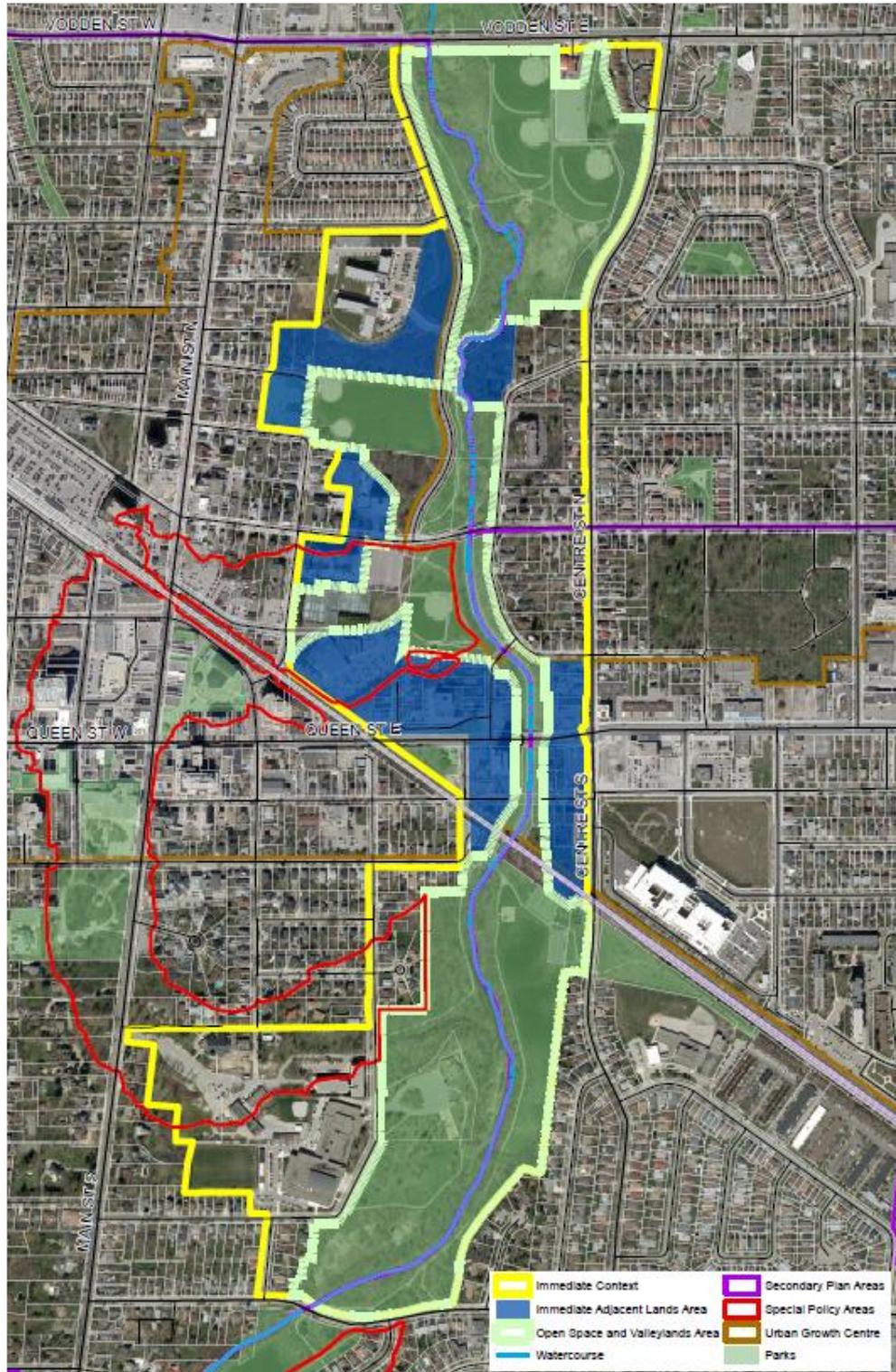
Report prepared by: Alex Taranu, City of Brampton, 905.874.3454

Email: alex.taranu@brampton.ca

Date: February 24th, 2020

Attachments: 1 (Study area)

Brampton Riverwalk Urban Design Master Plan Status Study Area



https://bramptonca-my.sharepoint.com/personal/alex_taranu_brampton_ca/Documents/Documents/Office/DECR/ACE Advocacy Communication Engagement2020/RWA engagement/rpt_AMT_200204_An Introduction to the Riverwalk.docx

RES.#R9/20 -

BOLTON CAMP REDEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Update to the Regional Watershed Alliance on activities related to the redevelopment of Bolton Camp in Caledon, Ontario.

Moved by: Margaret Bream
Seconded by: Lisette Mallet

THAT Toronto and Region Conservation Authority staff continue to engage the Regional Watershed Alliance in the redevelopment of Bolton Camp in order to share information through member networks and solicit input on relevant Bolton Camp projects and program activities;

AND FURTHER THAT Toronto and Region Conservation Authority staff be directed to incorporate Regional Watershed Alliance input into informing Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, stakeholder and partner planning and programming at Bolton Camp, including the Town of Caledon, Region of Peel and other community partners.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

At Authority Meeting #5/10, held on June 25, 2010, Resolution #A102/10 was approved, in part, as follows:

THAT a partial taking containing 105.6 hectares (260.91 acres), more or less, consisting of an irregular shaped parcel of land improved with in excess of 30 buildings and a private water system and sewage system including two sewage lagoons, said lands being Part of Lots 7, 8, 9 and 10, Concession 8, Albion, Town of Caledon, in the Regional Municipality of Peel, municipally known as 13540-13650 Caledon-King Townline South, be purchased from the Hi-Lands of Bolton Corp.;...

Opened in 1922 as a Fresh Air Camp, Bolton Camp provided experiences for mothers with small children, along with boys and girls from low income families in the City of Toronto for over 75 years. While the Camp in 1999, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) acquired the property in 2011 and undertook a process for developing a community-led vision for a renewed Bolton Camp. As developed by the community activities proposed for Bolton Camp include sports fields, a recreation hall/community hub, pool, green fitness equipment, yoga classes, running clinics, an outdoor community kitchen, tree-top tours/canopy tours, ropes courses, theatre and art spaces, retail or market space and outdoor classrooms/collaboration and innovation spaces, amongst others.

In order to facilitate the ongoing development of Bolton Camp, significant infrastructure upgrades have been required. This phase one work includes operational requirements such as site servicing (water, sewer, hydro), a new entrance and internal roadways, parking lots and bridge replacement. This work commenced in 2017 with anticipated completion in 2020.

Following completion of the site infrastructure, social and community infrastructure restoration will commence, including retrofitting the former recreation hall building and outdoor pool into an accessible and inclusive community recreation complex. TRCA has completed detailed design for the redevelopment and revitalization of the former gymnasium and swimming pool, with a goal of establishing a community hub and accessible swimming facility that meets the needs of local and regional residents.

The following is a summary of 2019 and 2020 construction activities at Bolton Camp:

2019 Construction Activities

- Finalized design for the Recreational Hall and Swimming Pool
- Obtained building permits for Recreational Hall and Swimming Pool
- Tendered and commencement of construction of the water/wastewater municipal servicing (completion in February 2020)

2020 Construction Deliverables

- Obtain Amendment to Site Plan Approval for Recreational Hall and Swimming Pool major renovations.
- Complete the construction of the water/wastewater municipal servicing
- Tender and commence with King-Caledon Townline road widening and new entrance
- Tender and commence with Recreational Hall and Swimming Pool construction
- Tender installation of internal roadways and parking lots

The following is a summary of 2019 and planned 2020 program and community learning activities at Bolton Camp:

2019 Program Activities

- Hosted and engaged stakeholders or community members in on-site events and programs related to baseball diamond, education initiatives and recreational opportunities
 - Haunted Hill Run event held October 2019
 - Phase 1 of the Discovery Garden implementation was held in October 2019
 - Cedar “tickle” maze completed – installation of 80 trees
 - Planting of 1000 pollinator plants in garden boxes and surrounding area
 - Placing of four cardinal direction stones for gathering area
- Training and employment opportunities for Indigenous Youth as part of Nikibii Dawadinna Giigwag program
 - Hired 7 Indigenous Youth as part of the program
- Education and training opportunities for volunteers participating in Girls Can Too program
 - 46 participants – 1380 learner hours completed
- Training and employment opportunities for post-secondary students interested in green infrastructure and ecological conservation
 - Hired three crew leads to assist exclusively with Nikibii Dawadinna Giigwag program and one additional crew lead to work with Indigenous Youth program as well as Girls Can Too

2020 Planned Program Activities

- Provide mentorship, training, and hands-on or experiential learning opportunities for youth (i.e. Girls Can Too program)
- Host and engage stakeholders or community members in various events related to Bolton Camp redevelopment including site tours, information sessions, open houses and movie nights
- Host and engage schools and program partners (i.e. Caledon Challenger Program) to utilize the Bolton Camp site to deliver on-site programming
- Work with various internal staff and external stakeholders to facilitate the redevelopment plans for Bolton Camp

- Provide training, education, and employment opportunities for Indigenous Youth

RATIONALE

To realize the Bolton Camp vision, TRCA is developing partnerships with various like-minded community groups and organizations, including that developed in 2018 with the Town of Caledon and Bolton Braves for the purpose of establishing a Challenger Baseball program in Caledon. This partnership has resulted in improved access to baseball programs for people of all abilities through the creation of an accessible baseball diamond at Bolton Camp. Discussions are advancing with local organizations regarding potential service delivery partnerships that will support the operations of the recreation complex and swimming pool that supports capacity building within the partner organizations while also meeting the needs of local residents.

A key, and unique, aspect of the Bolton Camp plan is to allow and support a wide range of business models, including social enterprises, co-operatives, not-for profits, and others, that provide youth, community members, service club and local entrepreneurs the opportunity to take an active role in creating, developing and implementing programs, services and activities, while improving employment and economic outcomes in the region.

Additionally, TRCA continues to seek input and feedback from all segments of the community to ensure that Bolton Camp facilities and programs are reflective of the needs of watershed residents. As such, the Regional Watershed Alliance is an important venue to seek input on the proposed uses and activities for Bolton Camp, in addition to exploring new opportunities and ideas for animating this important community space.

Relationship to Building the Living City, the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan

This report supports the following strategies set forth in the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan:

Strategy 3 – Rethink greenspace to maximize its value

Strategy 5 – Foster sustainable citizenship

Strategy 7 – Build partnerships and new business models

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Emails: darryl.gray@trca.ca

Date: February 7, 2020

RES.#R10/20 -

2017-2021 REGIONAL WATERSHED ALLIANCE MID-TERM REVIEW

A mid-term review of the activities of the Regional Watershed Alliance and a proposed direction for the second half of the term.

Moved by: Madeleine McDowell
Seconded by: Lisette Mallet

THAT 2017-2021 Regional Watershed Alliance Mid-Term Review report be received;

THAT the Greenspace and Ecosystem Services Working Group and the Integrated Planning and Civic Engagement Working Group be consolidated into the Regional Watershed Alliance as a whole;

THAT the Regional Watershed Alliance continue to be engaged to provide valuable input into Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and partner initiatives, such as major studies, master plans and updates, and projects;

THAT the work of the Watershed Engagement Working Group be put on hold until November 2020 to allow Toronto and Region Conservation Authority staff the opportunity to explore the feasibility of integrating the proposed watershed planning learning event into an existing conference;

THAT Toronto and Region Conservation Authority staff be directed to update the Regional Watershed Alliance Terms of Reference accordingly;

AND FURTHER THAT Toronto and Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors Administrative By-Law be updated with the revised Regional Watershed Alliance Terms of Reference.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

The Regional Watershed Alliance (RWA) was established in November 2017 as a multi-stakeholder advisory committee to the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) Board of Directors (“the Board”), resulting from TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan’s call for regional engagement of a broad cross-section of the population at both local and regional scales within TRCA’s jurisdiction. As such, in 2015, upon the completion of the existing terms for the Don, Humber and Etobicoke-Mimico watershed committees, the Board directed staff to update TRCA’s community-focused engagement model in light of new trends and opportunities in civic engagement and to facilitate the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

On June 23, 2017, at Board Meeting #5/17, the Community Engagement Strategy, along with a new citizen governance model, was adopted. The new citizen governance model includes the RWA, and its Working Groups, including the TRCA Youth Council. Terms of Reference for the RWA were adopted at the October 27, 2017 Authority Meeting #8/17 (RES.#A178/17). The RWA Terms of Reference specify that members are appointed for a two-year term with a possible extension of two more years (Regional Watershed Alliance Terms of Reference, #4.3 Term of Appointment).

Achievements of the Regional Watershed Alliance

Over the course of the past two years, the RWA, as an advisory committee to the Board of Directors, provided valuable input and feedback on over thirteen TRCA-led and TRCA-partnered projects, programs, proposals and initiatives. Some of these initiatives include:

- Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan: Phase 2
- The Meadoway
- TRCA Trail Strategy for the Greater Toronto Area
- 20th Anniversary Celebration of the Designation of the Humber River as a Canadian Heritage River (see below for further details)
- Sustainable Neighbourhoods Retrofit Action Plan (SNAP)
- World Rivers Day Activities
- Flood Risk Management Outreach
- Ecosystem Service Values of the City of Toronto Ravine System

The RWA has also been informed of, and/or provided input on, TRCA responses to Provincial and Federal plans, policies and proposals. These include:

- Bill 66, Restoring Ontario's Competitiveness Act, 2018 (ERO #013-4293)
- Proposed Open-for-Business Planning Tool (ERO #013-4125)
- New Regulation Under the Planning Act (ERO #013-4239)
- Preserving and Protecting Our Environment for Future Generations: A Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan (EBR #013-4208)
- MMAH consultation on Increasing Housing Supply in Ontario (ERO #013-4190)
- Modernizing Conservation Authority Operations – Conservation Authorities Act (ERO #013-5018) and Focusing Conservation Authority Development Permits on the Protection of People and Property (#013-4992)
- Bill 108, More Homes, More Choices Act (ERO #013-5018)

Further, the RWA has helped to promote TRCA's 2018 and 2019 watershed events and over 55 projects with public consultation or engagement components through their networks.

In addition to this work by the broader RWA, associated Working Groups have also undertaken various types of work relevant to their mandate.

Watershed Engagement Working Group

The Watershed Engagement Working Group seeks to support the engagement and outreach to stakeholders around key watershed themes through the design and development of an annual Watershed Forum event. The goals for the Working Group within the context of the Watershed Forum include providing new information on sustainability challenges and opportunities, sharing ideas with community groups, creating networking opportunities and positioning the RWA as a strong voice of civic leadership. Given that 2019 marked the 20th anniversary of the Humber River being designated a Canadian Heritage River, for 2018-2019, the Watershed Engagement Working Group focused on carrying out their goals within the context of the celebrations surrounding this anniversary.

Events and initiatives to which the Watershed Engagement Working Group contributed in 2018-2019 included:

- Humber 20th Anniversary Launch Event: TRCA partnered with McMichael Canadian Art Collection to launch the Humber 20th Anniversary Celebration on April 12th, 2019

- Bolton Camp Discovery Garden: Working Group members provided input to the Bolton Camp Discovery Garden Design Charette hosted on July 11th, 2019
- Humber River Stories: Working Group members submitted their personal Humber River stories/narratives to the Humber's 20th Anniversary Engagement HQ webpage
- Humber by Canoe: Working Group members helped plan the Humber by Canoe Event on Sunday September 8th
- Humber Heritage Committee Exhibit: Working Group members helped to arrange an exhibit commemorating the Humber's 20th Anniversary, hosted at Lambton House, Toronto from August 1st to October 31st, 2019
- Open House at Doctors McLean District Park: The City of Vaughan hosted an event to celebrate the Humber River's 20th Anniversary on Saturday, September 21st 2019 which included wildflower plantings, guided nature walks and an opportunity to learn about the Humber River Urban River Valley and Vaughan's trail network

Youth Council

The Youth Council framework was approved at RWA meeting #2/17 held on February 21st, 2018. The framework described four objectives for the Youth Council:

- Build capacity and engage youth by providing youth across the Toronto region with learning opportunities;
- Build a youth network and strengthen existing networks through creation of a broad network of youth in the region that is interested in environmental and sustainability issues;
- Identify youth perspectives by developing an understanding of youth opinion around current environmental issues and how these might be incorporated in the work of TRCA and its partners; and
- Create fun opportunities for youth through entertaining and engaging learning opportunities.

The Youth Council has two tiers of membership: general membership, which is open to all youth in TRCA's jurisdiction and who can participate in Youth Council meetings and events, and Executive members, who are appointed through an application to the RWA Youth Council Working Group and are responsible for the development of priorities, communication with the general membership, organizing meetings, and the development of a work plan.

The 2018/2019 Youth Council Executive developed and carried out several activities, events and projects for the benefit of the broader Youth Council. These included:

- A comprehensive survey on youth perspectives;
- Developing a newsletter and engagement through yoursay.ca;
- A guided walk (9 Executive members and 10 general Youth Council members participating);
- An Earth Day Clean-up (9 participants and 271 pounds of litter collected);
- A free documentary movie night (Over 140 participants);
- Providing direction on building youth capacity in the environmental sector.

Overall, the Youth Council Executive built strong partnerships with Evergreen Brickworks, Patagonia and Swim Drink Fish, and continue to engage the general membership through a series of newsletters.

The new 2019/2020 Youth Council was selected by the RWA Youth Council Working Group, with the new Executive being approved at RWA meeting #4/19 on November 13, 2019, which includes a mix of returning and new members.

Greenspace and Ecosystem Services Working Group

The Greenspace and Ecosystem Services (GES) Working Group seeks to increase the public's understanding and influence of the perceived monetary and intrinsic value of nature and greenspace, both regionally and locally. This includes increasing accessibility to nature, encouraging greening on private property, and improving the quality of greenspace in TRCA's jurisdiction.

The GES Working Group took on the role of providing input, guidance and direction on the development of the Claireville Conservation Area Public Use Activation Plan. This included attending an introductory tour to Claireville Conservation Area in November 2018, as well as providing input on various phases of the Claireville Conservation Area Public Use Activation Plan. TRCA staff also shared information with, and solicited feedback from, the GES Working Group on the Draft TRCA Trail Strategy for the Greater Toronto Area and the work done by TRCA on the valuation of ecosystem services.

Integrated Planning and Civic Engagement Working Group

The Integrated Planning and Civic Engagement (IPCE) Working Group seeks to improve the integration of environmental protection and community well-being in land use planning, design, growth management decisions and consideration of future climate change impacts, including increasing the preparedness and protection of communities from existing and future flooding and extreme weather events. This includes leveraging member networks to help the public navigate the planning system, maximizing opportunities for public consultation and engagement, and bringing together various stakeholders to achieve a common understanding of integrated planning.

The IPCE Working Group is the product of the amalgamation of the Integrated Community/Watershed Planning and Civic Engagement Working Group and the Flood and Extreme Weather Outreach Working Group. Over the course of 2018-2019, these Working Groups, and the amalgamated IPCE Working Group, received information on, and provided input to, the Carruthers Creek Watershed Planning process, the SNAP Program and TRCA's Flood Vulnerable Area Outreach work. As well, the Working Group circulated information on relevant components of these initiatives to their broader networks.

RATIONALE

The recommended direction for the RWA's second half of its current term focuses on maximizing the efficacy of the broader committee as a means of providing strategic multi-stakeholder input and feedback for important TRCA and partner projects, proposals and initiatives. TRCA staff and partners have recognized the value of bringing key projects and programs before the RWA for the following purposes:

- To increase the RWA's understanding of TRCA work, and of significant relevant work within TRCA's jurisdiction, in order to create an informed advisory committee to the Board;
- To disseminate and market relevant TRCA work and events through the extensive networks of RWA members; and,
- To solicit feedback from the RWA on proposed work in order to obtain knowledgeable input from a range of TRCA stakeholders and partners

Originally, it was envisioned that these Working Groups would undertake self-directed work that could result in certain TRCA products or processes (e.g. outreach materials, reports or events). However, given constraints on TRCA staff resources and the time of RWA members, it may not be feasible to continue this expectation of the Working Groups.

It is also recognized that the IPCE Working Group and the GES Working Group have both provided valuable input into a variety of TRCA initiatives outlined above. However, it is recommended by staff that TRCA and our partner municipalities and agencies could benefit even more by bringing proposed projects before the RWA as a whole, in order to access the full spectrum of knowledge and expertise held by RWA members. As a result, it is recommended that the functions of the IPCE Working Group and GES Working Group be consolidated into the RWA general membership.

Furthermore, while the Watershed Engagement Working Group has been tasked with organizing and carrying out an annual Watershed Forum, staff have expressed interest in integrating a watershed planning stream into the existing TRIECA conference and/or another existing forum or conference, which would serve the same function as the proposed Watershed Forum. Integrating a watershed planning stream into an established and well-regarded conference, such as TRIECA, would achieve multiple benefits, including utilizing existing TRIECA processes and resources (e.g. marketing, conference logistics, staff) and having immediate access to an established and receptive audience. Therefore, it is recommended that the Watershed Engagement Working Group be put on hold while staff explore the feasibility of integrated the functions and themes of a Watershed Forum into TRIECA or another existing conference or forum.

Given the extensive activities being undertaken by the Youth Council Executive, the reach of the Youth Council general membership, the minimal TRCA staff and RWA member time required to support the Youth Council, and the benefit of having a clear link to the youth within TRCA's jurisdiction, it is recommended that the Youth Council Working Group continue their work through the second half of the current RWA term.

By focusing the efforts and energy of the RWA membership on the Youth Council and on providing strategic, informed input to TRCA work, it is expected that the positive impacts of the RWA will be maximized.

Relationship to Building the Living City, the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan

This report supports the following strategies set forth in the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan:

Strategy 5 – Foster sustainable citizenship

Strategy 7 – Build partnerships and new business models

Strategy 8 – Gather and share the best sustainability knowledge

Strategy 12 – Facilitate a region-wide approach to sustainability

FINANCIAL DETAILS

This report does not require additional TRCA funds or staff time, beyond existing allocations and roles.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

Provided the recommendations in this report are endorsed, the Regional Watershed Alliance Terms of Reference will need to be amended to reflect the consolidation of the Integrated Planning and Civic Engagement Working Group and the Greenspace and Ecosystem Services Working Group into the broader RWA.

Report prepared by: Victoria Kramkowski, extension 5707

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For Information contact: Victoria Kramkowski, extension 5707

Emails: Victoria.kramkowski@trca.ca

Date: February 14, 2020

Items for the Information of the Regional Watershed Alliance

RES.#R11/20 - MULTI-STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION ON CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES

Update on the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks' (MECP) multi-stakeholder engagement sessions on conservation authorities to inform the forthcoming enabling regulations associated with the amended *Conservation Authorities Act*.

Moved by: Margaret Bream
Seconded by: David Laing

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the update on the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks' multi-stakeholder engagement sessions on conservation authorities be received.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

The *Conservation Authorities Act*, (CA Act) was amended on June 6, 2019 as part of [Bill 108](#), the "More Homes, More Choice Act", Schedule 2 (refer to TRCA's [web page](#) on the CA Act review). While Bill 108 is now law, many of the provisions of the amended CA Act are still subject to enabling regulations to be proclaimed by the Lieutenant Governor (Cabinet) or by the Minister. The content of the regulations that will enact the amended legislation is to include:

- Mandatory Program and Service Regulations;
- Transition Regulation - transition plan, consultation, timeframe to achieve compliance;
- Governing apportionment of operating expenses and capital costs; and
- Classes of programs and services for fees and prescribed amounts.

These regulations will dictate financing arrangements for mandatory services funded by upper tier municipalities. Financing for non-mandatory services will be addressed through the Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) and Service Level Agreements (SLAs) executed as part of future (2021) annual budget processes. An update on the work underway and required support to achieve these agreements with our partner municipalities and agencies was provided in a report to the Board of Directors on January 24, 2020. While timelines associated with the release of the draft enabling regulations are unknown, as noted in the January Board report, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) had indicated that further stakeholder consultation was being planned. Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) was subsequently advised of three stakeholder meetings planned for Barrie (January 31st), Colborne (February 7th) and London (February 14th).

Summary of Barrie Consultation Session:

The Chair of TRCA's Board of Directors and staff attended the first consultation session hosted by MECP in Barrie on January 31st. Municipalities, conservation authorities, development, agricultural, landowner and environmental organizations were in attendance to provide input on how to improve the efficiencies, consistency, transparency and oversight of conservation authorities (CAs). Minister Jeff Yurek provided opening and closing remarks, while Assistant Deputy Minister, Chloe Stuart, facilitated the session.

The session began with short presentations from stakeholders invited to speak about CAs' mandatory programs and services and how all stakeholders can work together on key issues involving conservation authorities. Presenters at this session included Conservation Ontario, Ducks Unlimited, Ontario Federation of Agriculture and the Ontario Home Builders' Association.

Facilitated roundtable discussions with the multi-stakeholder participants followed the presentations. Participants were provided with a series of questions under the following themes:

- Mandatory and non-mandatory programs and services;
- The existing CA model;
- Partnerships and collaborations; and
- Any other feedback that would inform the governments' review of legislation, regulations and policies related to CAs.

The questions and topics discussed during the roundtable discussions were generally consistent with the ongoing dialogue with the Province and stakeholders throughout the CA Act review process to date. Ministry staff took notes during the discussions but encouraged participants to submit written comments. It is staff's understanding that the Ministry will be posting the questions online and stakeholders will be given a deadline to submit comments. Staff will be preparing a written submission to the Ministry, informed by comments and positioning previously endorsed by the Board of Directors. It will be crucial that the forthcoming draft regulations continue to enable TRCA to support provincial and municipal goals and objectives in a growing and intensifying city-region.

Relationship to Building the Living City, the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan

This report supports the following strategies set forth in the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan:

Strategy 2 – Manage our regional water resources for current and future generations

Strategy 4 – Create complete communities that integrate nature and the built environment

Strategy 8 – Gather and share the best sustainability knowledge

Strategy 12 – Facilitate a region-wide approach to sustainability

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Staff are engaged in this legislative review and policy analysis work per the normal course of duty with funding support provided by TRCA's participating municipalities to account 120-12. No additional funding is proposed to support the policy analysis work associated with the preparation of these comments.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

Staff will prepare a formal submission to MECP in response to the engagement session questions, informed by previously Board endorsed TRCA submissions. Staff will continue to keep the Board informed on the outcome of the consultation sessions and the release of draft regulations associated with the amended *Conservation Authorities Act*.

Report prepared by: Laurie Nelson, extension 5281

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For Information contact: Laurie Nelson, extension 5281

Emails: laurie.nelson@trca.ca

Date: February 5, 2020

RES.#R12/20 -

2020 TRCA EVENTS SUMMARY

Report outlining the 2020 schedule of major events, including Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) led and third-party events taking place on TRCA properties.

Moved by: Learie Miller
Seconded by: Margaret Bream

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the 2020 TRCA Events Summary report be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Regional Watershed Alliance members be invited to participate in these major events at the earliest opportunity.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

Events promote community involvement and recreation in Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's (TRCA) natural spaces while generating diversified revenue that supports TRCA's program delivery and financial sustainability. Many events are conducted at the request of, or in partnership with, TRCA's community, industry, and municipal partners.

The Marketing and Events business unit provides strategic direction and assistance to all TRCA divisions as required, to stage or participate in successful events, and takes the lead in oversight of TRCA's signature, fundraising and internal events.

Staff are currently developing corporate event policies and procedures to aid staff and to formalize a corporate-wide approach and standards for the initiation, planning, and implementation of events hosted by TRCA.

While TRCA produces a wide range of events, it also contracts space out to external partners to produce events, outlined in Attachment 1 under third party events.

Attachment 1 lists the events taking place in 2020 and categorizes them into six types of events as follows:

Signature events are TRCA staff-led events that have been designated by the CEO as being of special significance to TRCA, including but not limited to, events with a higher level of complexity; a high reputational risk; that are large in scale; work within a capital budget; and/or have an estimated attendance of more than 500 attendees. These are also denoted with a (S) in the following Schedule of Events.

Fundraising events include events that have been designated to raise funds in support of TRCA's programs and initiatives. These events engage sponsors and flow through the Toronto and Region Conservation Foundation (TRCF).

Celebration events includes events that bring the community together for an extraordinary experience or occasion.

Industry/Business events include events that showcase TRCA's leadership in a specific area, are knowledge sharing, and/or bring together industry professionals for networking opportunities.

Internal events include events created for TRCA staff.

Third Party events include events that are coordinated and implemented by external partners. These partners will enter into an agreement with TRCA to reserve space at one of our Conservation Areas where they will deliver their event. Third party events are revenue generating.

Some events can be both a signature event and an event in another category. For example, the TRIECA conference is an industry business event but is a signature event in that it is projected to include over 1000 attendees.

Relationship to Building the Living City, the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan

This report supports the following strategies set forth in the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan:

Strategy 3 – Rethink greenspace to maximize its value

Strategy 7 – Build partnerships and new business models

Report prepared by: Sabrina Minnella, extension 5736

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For Information contact: Sabrina Minnella, extension 5736

Emails: sabrina.minnella@trca.ca

Date: February 6, 2020

Attachments: 1

Attachment 1: 2020 TRCA Schedule of Events

2020 TRCA Schedule of Events

<i>Signature</i>
Sugarbush Maple Syrup Festival March 14 – April 12 at Kortright Centre and Bruce’s Mill Conservation Area
<i>Fundraising</i>
Living City Environmental Dinner (S) – Toronto and Region Conservation Foundation November 5
<i>Celebration</i>
Spring Bird Festival May 9 at Tommy Thompson Park
Doors Open May 23 and 24 at Black Creek Pioneer Village
Bike the Creek June 13 at Jim Archdekin Recreation Centre in Brampton
Caledon Canada Day July 1 at Albion Hills Conservation Area
Flight of the Monarch Day and Butterfly Festival (S) August 22 at Tommy Thompson Park
Harvest Festival September 19 at Black Creek Pioneer Village
Fall Fair September 20 at Black Creek Pioneer Village
Meadoway Event* Fall
Humber by Canoe* Summer/Fall
Magical Christmas Forest (S) November 27, 28, 29, and December 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23 at Kortright Centre
Christmas by Lamplight (S) December 5, 12, and 19 at Black Creek Pioneer Village

<i>Industry/Business</i>
TRIECA Conference (S) March 25 and 26 at Pearson Convention Centre
Partners in Project Green: Spring Networking* Spring
Partners in Project Green: Forum* Fall
Ontario Climate Consortium Symposium* Fall
<i>Internal</i>
TRCA Service Recognition Awards September 18
TRCA Staff Pancake Breakfast* December
<i>Third Party</i>
York Region Water Festival presented by The Regional Municipality of York May 12, 13 and 14 at Bruce's Mill Conservation Area
Peel Children's Water Festival presented by The Regional Municipality of Peel May 21 – 28 at Heart Lake Conservation Area
24-Hours of Summer Solstice presented by Chico Racing June 19, 20 and 21 at Albion Hills Conservation Area
MEC Trail Run presented by Mountain Equipment Co-operative July 18 at Kortright Centre
Rastafest presented by Rastafest Inc. August 15 at Black Creek Pioneer Village – North Property
Afro-Caribbean Festival presented by Moksha Canada Foundation August 22 and 23 at Black Creek Pioneer Village – North Property
Mud Hero Toronto presented by 365 Sports Inc. August 22 and 23 at Albion Hills Conservation Area
Mud Girl Toronto Run presented by Sport Era Inc. September 12 (Park location to be confirmed)
One Walk presented by Princess Margaret Cancer Centre September 12 at Boyd Conservation Area

*Date to be confirmed. For more information, please contact Sabrina Minnella at Sabrina.minnella@trca.ca.

(S) Signature Event

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION from Madeleine McDowell, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m., on Wednesday, March 4, 2020.