

Board of Directors Meeting was held via videoconference, on Friday, March 26, 2021, pursuant to section C.12 of the TRCA's Board of Directors Administrative By-Law. The Chair Jennifer Innis called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

PRESENT

Jennifer Innis	Chair
Jack Heath (<i>out: 10:07 a.m., in: 10:08 a.m.</i>)	Vice-Chair
Paul Ainslie	Member
Kevin Ashe	Member
Shelley Carroll	Member
Ronald Chopowick	Member
Dipika Damerla	Member
Joanne Dies (<i>out: 11:30 a.m.</i>)	Member
Joe DiPaola	Member
Jennifer Drake	Member
Paula Fletcher (<i>in: 10:10 a.m.</i>)	Member
Chris Fonseca	Member
Xiao Han	Member
Gordon Highet	Member
Linda Jackson	Member
Josh Matlow	Member
Mike Layton (<i>in: 9:44 a.m.</i>)	Member
Michael Palleschi (<i>out: 10:15 a.m.</i>)	Member
Steve Pellegrini (<i>in: 9:46 a.m.</i>)	Member
Anthony Perruzza (<i>in: 9:43 a.m.</i>)	Member
Gino Rosati	Member
Rowena Santos	Member
Don Sinclair	Member

ABSENT

Maria Kelleher	Member
Basudeb Mukherjee	Member
James Pasternak	Member
Connie Tang	Member
Estair Van Wagner	Member

The Chair recited the Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory.

RES.#A39/21 - MINUTES

Moved by: Paul Ainslie
Seconded by: Anthony Perruzza

THAT the Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held on February 26, 2021 be approved.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS

- 4.1. Delegation by Marlaine Koehler, Executive Director, Waterfront Regeneration Trust, in regard to Item 8.3 - Update on Planned Scarborough Bluffs West Individual Environmental Assessment

RES.#A40/21 - DELEGATION

Moved by: Joanne Dies
Seconded by: Paul Ainslie

THAT the above-noted delegation 4.1 be received.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS

- 5.1. Presentation by AECOM, WSP, and Ministry of Transportation staff, in regard to Item 7.2 – GTA West Transportation Corridor Environmental Assessment Update
- 5.2. Presentation by Laura DelGiudice, Senior Manager, Watershed Planning and Reporting, TRCA, in regard to Item 7.3 - Launch of Watershed and Ecosystems Reporting Hub

RES.#A41/21 - PRESENTATION

Moved by: Ronald Chopowick
Seconded by: Gino Rosati

THAT the above-noted presentation 5.1 be received.

CARRIED

RES.#A42/21 - PRESENTATION

Moved by: Ronald Chopowick
Seconded by: Jack Heath

THAT the above-noted presentation 5.2 be received.

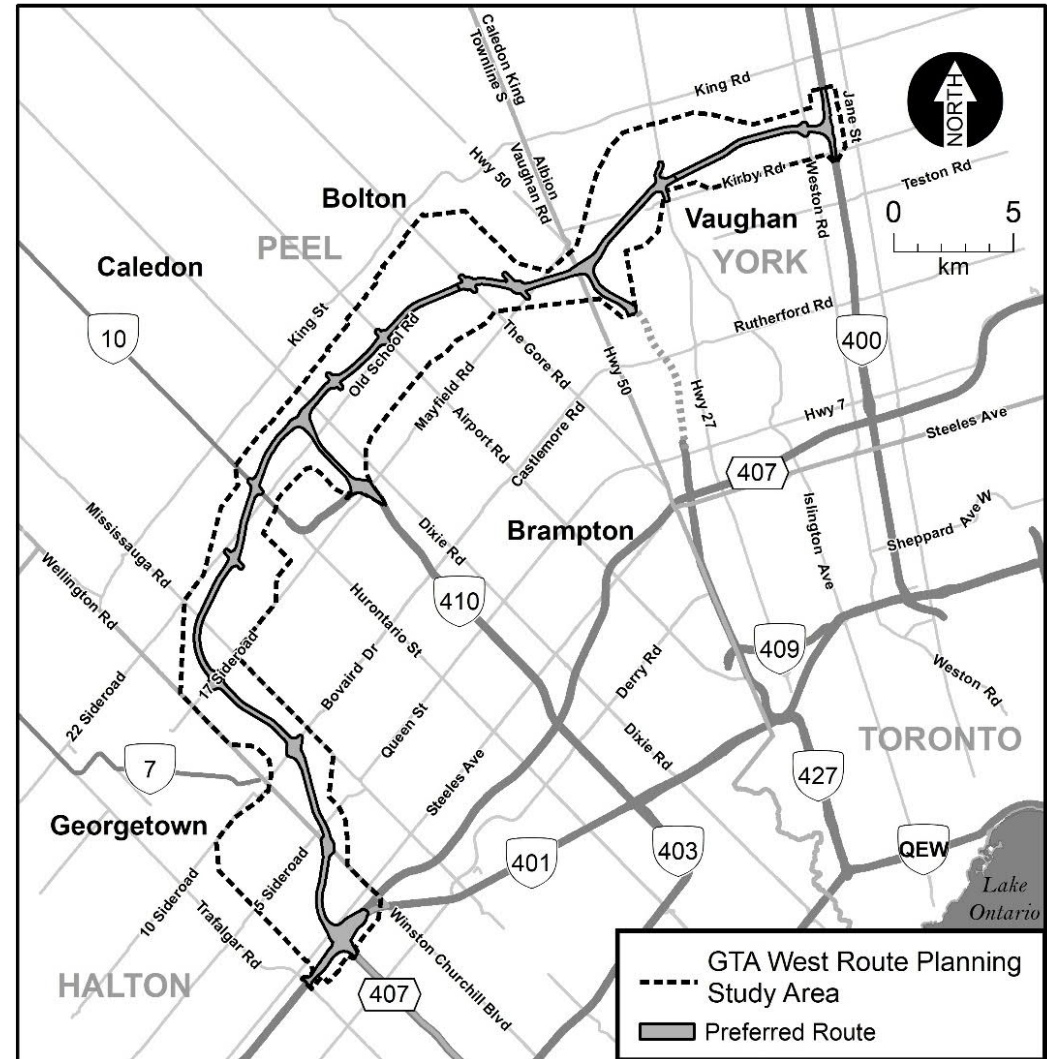
CARRIED

GTA West Transportation Corridor Route Planning and EA Study – Stage 2

TRCA Board of Directors

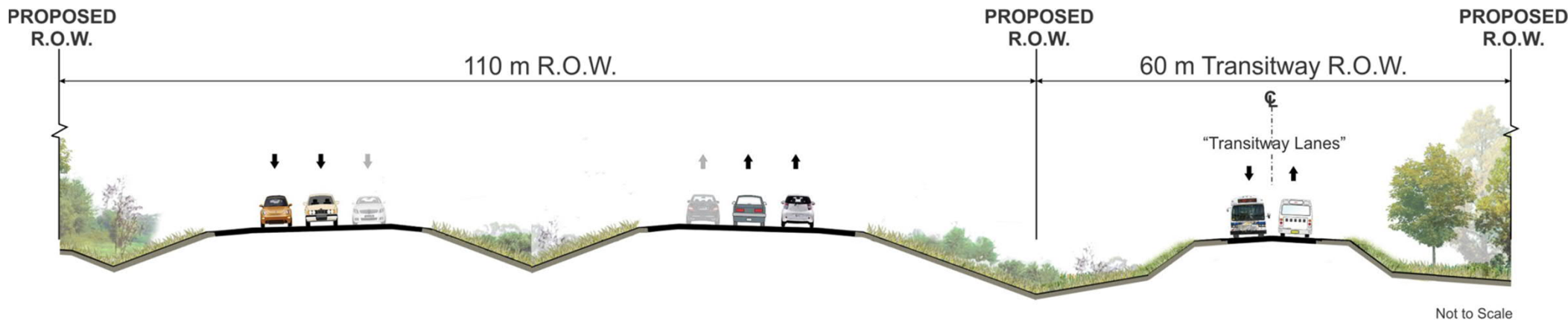
March 26, 2021

- Stage 1 was completed in November 2012 and recommended a multimodal strategy including:
 - Optimizing the existing transportation network.
 - Improving non-roadway transportation modes such as transit and rail.
 - Widening existing highways.
 - A new transportation corridor.
- Even with optimizing the existing transportation network, widening existing highways, and the transit expansion projects identified by Metrolinx, additional road capacity is needed.
- Stage 2 focuses on a new multimodal transportation corridor.
 - Extending from Highway 400 in the east to the Highway 401/407 ETR interchange area in the west.
 - Includes a 400-series highway, transitway, and potential goods movement priority features.



Planning *With* Vision, Planning *For* People

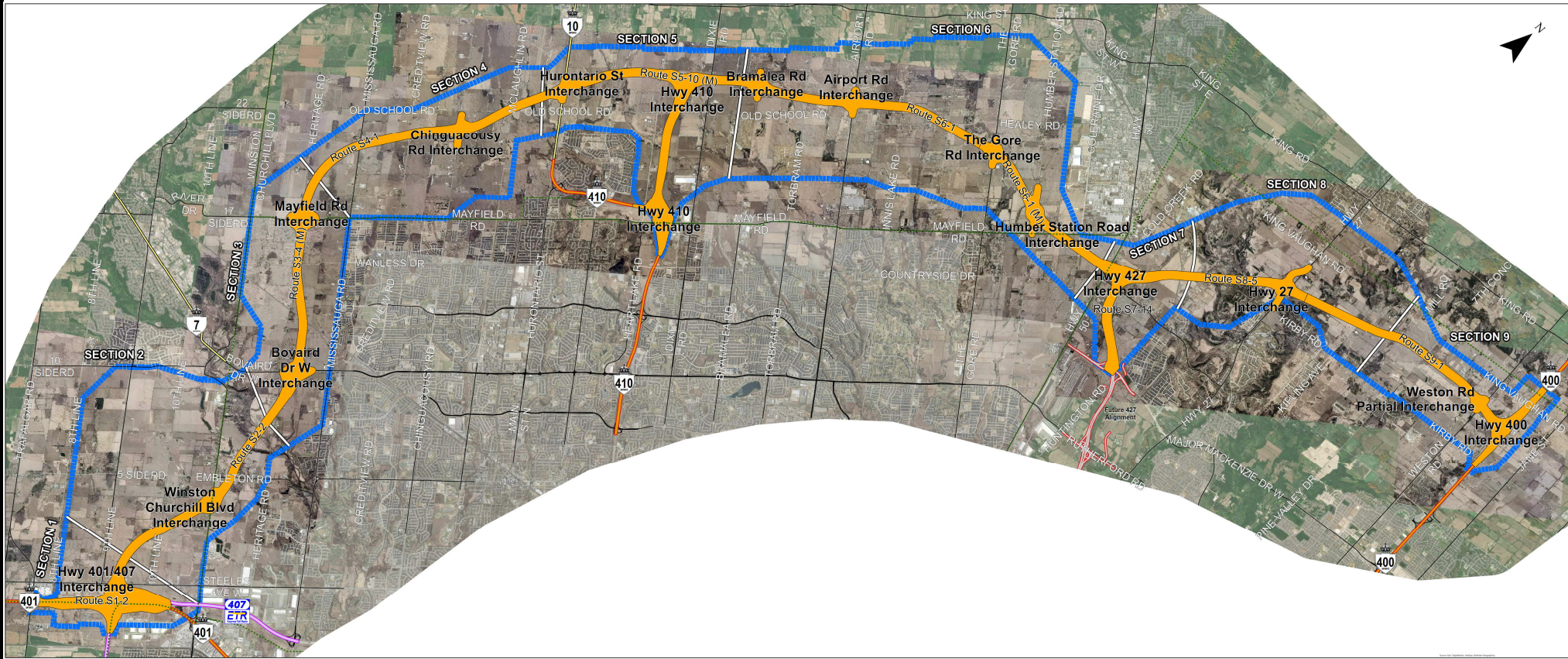
- The need for the GTA West Study remains and is strengthened by the GGH population and employment growth forecasts, reflecting more people and jobs by 2041 and beyond. By 2051, the population of the GGH is expected to grow to 14.8 million people, who will represent approximately 7 million jobs. It is good practice to do long-range planning for areas under development pressure.
- Committed to an open and transparent process that provides opportunities for all stakeholders to help shape the outcome of the project.
- Strive to arrive at a solution that provides the best balance of benefits and impacts for the local communities and the users of the transportation system.
 - To accomplish this, we are committed to engaging our stakeholders in open two-way communication that leads to meaningful discussions, proactive information exchange and a constructive working relationship.



The Multimodal Corridor

- The multimodal transportation corridor will initially be designed as a 4- to 6-lane highway and adjacent transitway.
- The typical right-of-way (ROW) will be 170m.
- The GTA West transitway will run parallel to the GTA West highway and will:
 - Allow buses (and potentially in the future, light rail vehicles) to operate on express schedules.
 - Include stations at strategic locations and provide transit connections with buses onto major arterial roadways, Highway 401, 407ETR, Highway 427, Highway 410, and Highway 400.

Preferred Route

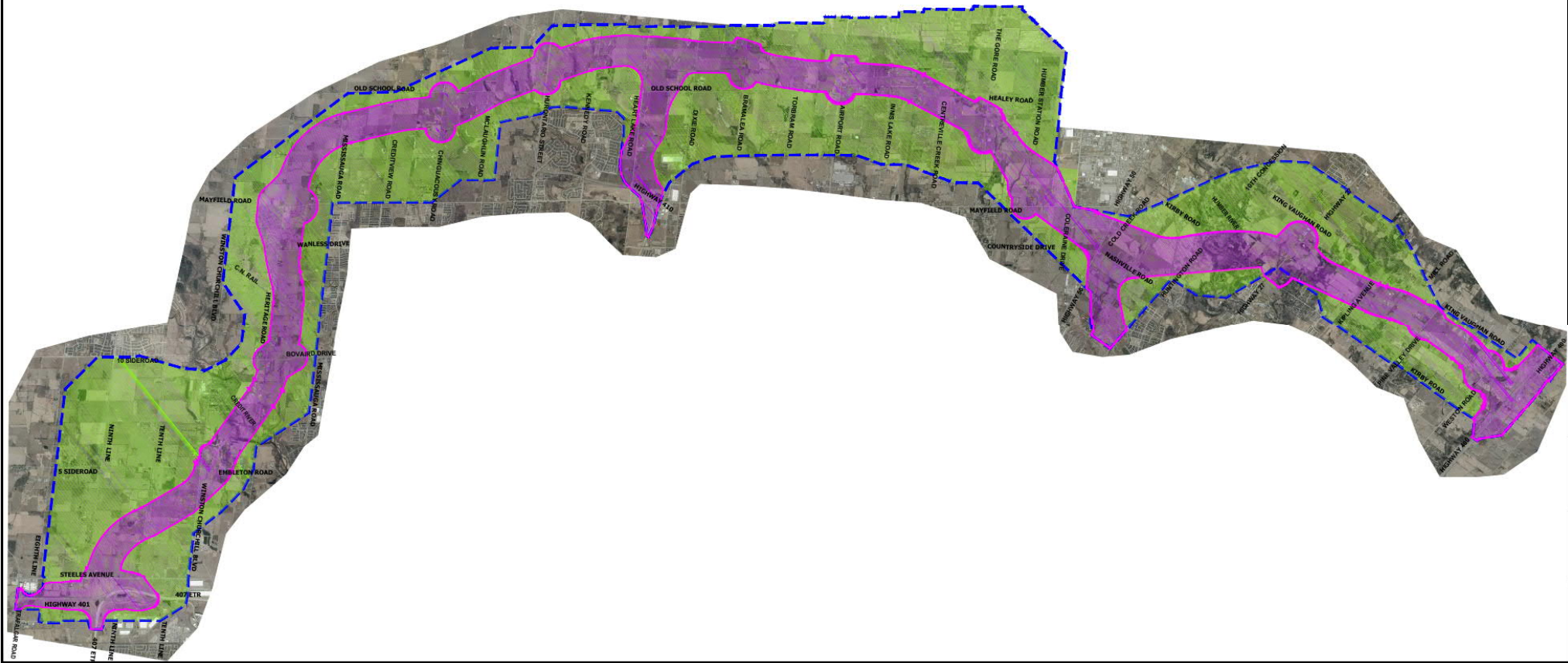


Route Planning Study
Area



Preferred Route and
Interchange
Locations

2020 Focused Analysis Area (FAA)



- **Purple Area** is the 2020 FAA. Properties located in this area could be directly impacted by the multimodal transportation corridor, ancillary uses, or if refinements are made to the route during preliminary design.
- MTO has reduced interest in properties in the **Green Areas**.

Goods Movement Priority Features



Truck Only Lanes

freightwaves.com



Intelligent Transportation Systems Features (variable message signs, real time traveler information)



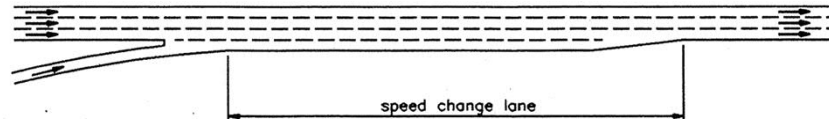
Truck Parking Facilities

hornlogistic.com



Enhanced Design to Accommodate Long Combination Vehicles

semanticscholar.org



Longer Speed Change Lanes



Enforcement Features (weight and inspection stations)

bristoltruckrentals.com

GTA West – The Real Facts

- Motorists that travel the entire GTA West highway in rush hour will **save approx. 30 minutes (not 30 seconds)** compared to driving via Hwy 401 and Hwy 400.
 - Drivers will save ~22,500 hours (aggregated) in travel time during the p.m. peak hour each day, commercial vehicles will save ~2,800 hours.
- Our government recognizes the importance of the Greenbelt. The GTA West Preferred Route was chosen, in part, to mitigate impacts to the Greenbelt.
 - January 2021 Toronto Star article quoted 1011.7 ha of Greenbelt land impacted. It's actually 172.35 ha based on current design.
 - The majority of the corridor is within the Whitebelt, which is already planned to be developed and requires an updated transportation network.
- The 407 is not enough. There will be a significant increase in highway usage in the next few decades given the expected population growth in the GGH.
- Your voice matters and we want to hear from you.
- The Project Team acknowledges TRCA's March 1, 2021 article responding to inaccurate media coverage of TRCA's stance regarding the GTA West highway.

Request to Designate the Study Under the IAA

- February 11, 2021: MTO received a letter from the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) notifying of the Minister of Environment and Climate Change's receipt of a request to designate the GTA West Study under subsection 9(1) of the Impact Assessment Act (IAA).
- March 3, 2021: MTO submitted a detailed response to the requested information.
- IAAC is reviewing information about the project, any concerns expressed by the public and Indigenous groups, expert advice from federal authorities and input from provincial ministries and municipalities to prepare a recommendation to the Minister on whether to designate the Project.
 - It is expected that the Minister will respond, with reasons, to the request by May 4, 2021.

Field Investigations

- Field investigations are being undertaken to inventory the natural, social, cultural and other infrastructure features in the study area:
- Permission to enter properties has been received from some owners to allow access to lands in order to obtain valuable field information that is helping to develop the preliminary design of the Preferred Route.

Discipline	Type of Field Investigation
Natural Environment	Fisheries (2020 & 2021), Wildlife (2020 & 2021), Wetlands (2020 & 2021), Vegetation (2020 & 2021)
Socio-Economic Environment	Land Use (2021), Agriculture (2021), Potentially Contaminated Sites (2021)
Cultural Environment	Archaeology (2021), Built Heritage (2020), Cultural Heritage Landscapes (2020)
Engineering	Fluvial Geomorphology (2020), Drainage (2021), Structural (2021), Geotechnical (2021), Pavement (2021), Electrical (2021), Erosion and Sediment Control (2021)

Upcoming Project Reports

- TRCA will have an opportunity to review the draft reports around the time of Public Information Centre #3.

Report	Anticipated Content
Fish and Fish Habitat Technical Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquatic habitat surveys, species at risk screening • Consideration of measures to avoid or minimize potential effects
Terrestrial Ecosystems Technical Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife habitat assessment and plant inventories, species at risk screening • Consideration of measures to avoid or minimize potential effects
Fluvial Geomorphological Analysis and Recommendations (input to Drainage and Stormwater Management Design Report and Watercourse Crossing Design Reports)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluvial geomorphic assessment • Identification of measures to mitigate future erosion risk
Groundwater Assessment Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Characterization of hydrogeological conditions • Potential groundwater impacts and mitigation
Landscape Composition Technical Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examination of existing landscape conditions and identification of potential effects on significant vegetation, views and viewsheds, topography and landform • Recommendations and mitigation strategies
Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of archaeological resources • Impact assessment and recommendation of mitigation measures • Recommendation for requirement of Stage 3 assessment, as necessary
Watercourse Crossing Design Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documentation of size and design of watercourse crossing structures
Drainage and Stormwater Management Design Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of existing conditions • Identification of stormwater management and watercourse impacts and mitigation

Next Steps

Summer 2020 - 2022	<p>Preliminary design of the Preferred Route, which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Additional field investigations where permission to enter is granted.• Consultation with property owners directly impacted by the Preferred Route.
Fall 2020 - Spring 2021	<p>Develop the draft Community Value Plan (the focus of CVP Meeting #3).</p>
Summer - Fall 2021	<p>Meetings with Indigenous Communities, Advisory Groups and Regional Municipal Councils.</p>
Anticipated in Late 2021	<p>Present the preliminary design of the Preferred Route and the final CVP at PIC #3.</p>

*** Schedule is subject to change**

Open Discussion

Watershed and Ecosystems Reporting Hub

Demo of Reporting Hub to TRCA Board of Directors

Presented by: Laura Del Giudice
Senior Manager, Watershed Planning & Reporting

March 26, 2021

Objectives for Today

- Introduce project and provide background on TRCA watershed reporting
- Demonstrate Reporting Hub content and capabilities
- Review BOD Recommendation
- Q&A



Acknowledgements

The development of this Reporting Hub required contributions from **30+ staff** across the organization, including:

- Watershed Planning and Ecosystem Science (all sub-business units)
- Information Technology and Records Management
- Communications, Marketing and Events
- Engineering Services
- Erosion Risk Management
- STEP
- Planning Policy & Regulation
- Government & Community Relations

Background

- TRCA issues The Living City Report Card (LCRC) and Conservation Ontario Watershed Report Cards every 5 years.
- Desire from TRCA's BOD and partners for more frequent and less technical reporting.
- TRCA has developed an online reporting platform, which will be the modern version of the LCRC.



Benefits

The Reporting Hub will:

- Enable regular updates to watershed and waterfront condition reporting, with links to Open Data.
- Enable tracking of progress against watershed plan implementation and help inform decision-making.
- Be interactive to allow users to view data at various scales, including municipal.
- Provide users with plain language orientation to the results of a broad array of TRCA monitoring data.
- Provide useful information to TRCA staff for their own projects, plan review, etc.

COLLECTION

Environmental Conditions of the Toronto Region

Explore the Watershed and Ecosystems Reporting Hub

Get started



1 Introduction



2 Natural Hazards



3 Future Climate



4 Land Use



5 Natural Heritage System



6 Water Resource System



7 Water Quality



8 Lake Ontario Nearshore

Each Storymap Contains:

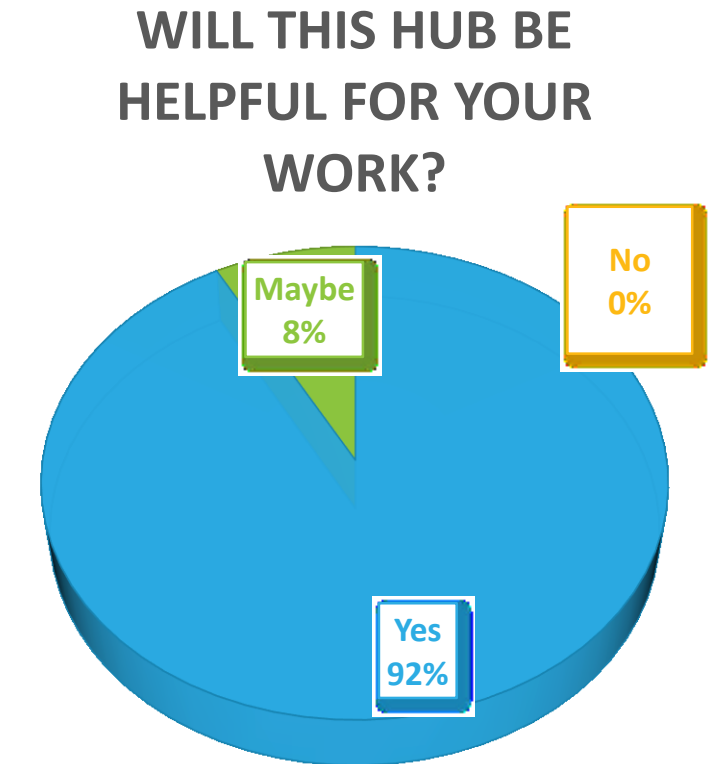
- Contextual Information
- Reporting on Indicators
 - **Targets:** Where do we want to be?
 - **Current Conditions:** Where are we now?
 - Below Target**
 - Achieved Target**
 - **Trends:** How are conditions changing?
 - Improving:** Conditions are getting better over time.
 - Stable:** Conditions are generally not changing over time.
 - Declining:** Conditions are getting worse over time.
 - **Dashboards:** Dynamic visualization of the data



Engagement and Feedback

TRCA has demonstrated early drafts of the Reporting Hub to:

- All regional municipalities
- Regional Watershed Alliance
- Remedial Action Plan Team
- TRCA staff
- Final draft circulated to municipalities and research partners for review



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4 Land Use



5 Natural Heritage System



6 Water Resource System



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Demonstration

Recommendations to BOD

1. Endorse the Watershed and Ecosystems Reporting Hub and authorize staff to proceed with its launch on April 22, 2021 (Earth Day).
2. Help promote the online tool through board member networks and use it to inform decision-making.





Future Iterations

- Staff plan to continue to adapt and update the Reporting Hub as new data becomes available and to respond to additional feedback received.
- The next phase will involve incorporating watershed planning information (i.e., our plans to address watershed issues).

Thank you!

Questions?

Section I – Items for Board of Directors Action

RES.#A43/21 -

APPOINTMENTS TO PARTNERS IN PROJECT GREEN EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

To seek Board of Directors approval of new appointments to the Partners in Project Green Executive Management Committee (PPG EMC).

Moved by: Linda Jackson
Seconded by: Shelley Carroll

THAT the appointment of the following members to the PPG EMC for a term from March 26, 2021 to November 14, 2022, or until successors are appointed, be approved:

Business Leader:

Patrick Huynh, Director, Carbon and Energy, Maple Leaf Foods

Advisory Member:

Christine Tu, Director, Office of Climate Change and Energy Management, Region of Peel

AND FURTHER THAT Tim Faveri and Learie Miller be thanked for their service to the PPG EMC.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

As per section 2.3 of the PPG EMC Terms of Reference, membership consists of one Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA) member, up to eight Business Community Leaders, one TRCA representative, up to four Municipal Leaders, and up to five advisory non-voting representatives. Section 2.4 further stipulates that members are appointed for a two-year, renewable term by the TRCA Board of Directors.

On February 26, 2021, the Maple Leaf Foods and Region of Peel positions on the PPG EMC became vacant. The new members have been appointed from their respective organizations and will serve until November 14, 2022, which is consistent with appointment terms that were recently approved by the Board of Directors at the February 26, 2021 meeting (RES.#A13/21). The appointment terms align with municipal Terms of Council and will improve efficiency of future appointments.

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

This report supports the following strategy set forth in the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan:
Strategy 7 – Build partnerships and new business models

Report prepared by: Daniel Ruberto, extension 6445

Emails: Daniel.Ruberto@trca.ca

For Information contact: Alisa Mahrova, extension 5381, Michael Tolensky, 5965

Emails: Michael.Tolensky@trca.ca

Date: February 26, 2021

RES.#A44/21 -

GTA WEST TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT UPDATE

Update on Ministry of Transportation (MTO) responses to TRCA recommendations regarding the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) technically preferred route for the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) West Transportation Corridor being developed through the environmental assessment study process.

Moved by: Ronald Chopowick
Seconded by: Jack Heath

WHEREAS on January 24, 2020 at Meeting #11/19 the TRCA Board of Directors passed Resolution #A233/19, as amended, related to the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) West Transportation Corridor Environmental Assessment (EA), and provided specific recommendations related to TRCA interests;

WHEREAS on September 25, 2020 at Meeting #6/20 the TRCA Board of Directors passed Resolution #A137/20 related to the announcement of the Ministry of Transportation's (MTO) preferred route and proposed Regulation for the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) West Transportation Corridor;

WHEREAS TRCA has passed several other resolutions since 2011 which reference TRCA's request for MTO to enter into a Voluntary Project Review (VPR) Agreement with TRCA on this project;

WHEREAS the TRCA VPR Agreement process is designed to allow staff to charge fees in accordance with its approved fee schedule to complete a comprehensive review based on its expertise as a watershed management agency, and its interests related to natural hazards, natural heritage, including aquatic and terrestrial species and habitats, and water management, to provide an opinion as to whether the interests, objectives, and tests of TRCA's Ontario Regulation 166/06 of Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alteration to Shorelines and Watercourses will be satisfied and fulfill TRCA's role with respect to provincially delegated responsibilities;

WHEREAS on November 26, 2020 the Ministry of Transportation provided a written response to TRCA Board recommendations that did not confirm MTO's position on the VPR Agreement Request;

WHEREAS TRCA has been advised that detailed technical information supporting the Province's technically preferred route will be available at the Preliminary Design stage;

WHEREAS TRCA Board Recommendation 3, #A233/19 requests MTO commit to receiving VPR signoff at the detailed design stage as it relates to TRCA's regulatory and policy interests, as well as provincially delegated responsibilities;

WHEREAS TRCA has requested in its letter to the Minister of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) that MTO commit to receiving VPR signoff at the detailed design stage as it relates to TRCA's regulatory and policy interests, as well as provincially delegated responsibilities.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED the November 26, 2020 MTO response be received;

THAT TRCA staff report back to the Board of Directors and seek further direction once the preliminary design alternatives and technical appendices are provided to staff for review and comment;

THAT TRCA reaffirm its request to the Ministers of MECP and MTO that MTO commit to receiving VPR signoff at the detailed design stage as it relates to TRCA's regulatory and policy interests, as well as provincially delegated responsibilities;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this report be provided to MTO and MECP, for inclusion in the EA study report.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

An update report was brought to the Board of Directors on January 24, 2020 ([Meeting #11/19, Res. #233/19 as amended, p. 75](#)) on the Ministry of Transportation's (MTO) Greater Toronto Area (GTA) West Transportation Corridor Route Planning and Environmental Assessment (EA) Study highlighting TRCA's concerns, along with 32 recommendations regarding the technically preferred route for the GTA West Transportation Corridor being developed in Stage 2 of the environmental assessment study process. On November 26, 2020, TRCA received a response to the TRCA Board recommendations outlined in the report and adopted an amended resolution.

On September 25, 2020 ([Meeting #6/20, Res. #A137/20, p. 265](#)) an update report was provided to the Board of Directors on the Ministry of Transportation's (MTO) preferred route announcement for the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) West Transportation Corridor and Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's (TRCA) submission to the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO #019-1882) on a proposed regulation by MECP to update and streamline the existing environmental assessment process for this project. The report included discussion on planned next steps to resolve TRCA issues and concerns involving MTO. At this time, TRCA staff have not received a written response from MECP on our ERO comment letter.

As documented through extensive engagement in the EA review process, TRCA's Board and staff have identified numerous significant potential long-term environmental impacts to the integrity of Humber River and Etobicoke Creek watersheds within TRCA's jurisdiction. With the construction of the GTA West Transportation Corridor several property and socio-economic impacts (e.g., impacts on regional trails) have also been identified. In some municipalities, TRCA Board members have secured local and Regional council support for the request that MTO commit to receiving VPR signoff at the detailed design stage as it relates to TRCA's regulatory and policy interests, as well as provincially delegated review functions.

Additionally, on February 3, 2021, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) Canada received a request from Ecojustice, on behalf of Environmental Defence Canada to designate the proposed GTA West Project (the Project) under subsection 9(1) of the federal Impact Assessment Act (IAA). The Project, as proposed, is not currently a designated project as described in the Physical Activities Regulations and the impact assessment process under IAA only applies to designated projects. At that time, the Impact Assessment Agency invited input from affected municipalities on applicable bylaws and to confirm whether the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) is addressing the interests and issues of importance to those municipalities. TRCA has provided information in the form of previous Board reports and submission to the federal MOECC in response to their request.

As per the MTO response letter to TRCA on November 26, 2020, MTO is committed to developing a multimodal transportation corridor that balances, to the extent possible, the

benefits and impacts for the local communities and users of the transportation system. Through the environmental assessment process, MTO will identify commitments that are amenable to the MTO and that meet the mandate of TRCA before the project EA Study is finalized. However, the majority of TRCA's comments were noted by MTO or deferred to the Preliminary Design stage where TRCA will have an opportunity to review and comment. To date, MTO has made no commitment to follow the VPR process despite numerous requests from TRCA and its municipalities.

The following are key points from the MTO November 26, 2020 response as related to the January 24, 2020 TRCA Board recommendations:

1. **2041 Horizon:** As part of the Transportation Systems Planning and Traffic Engineering components, MTO will be updating traffic analysis to include the 2041-time horizon.
2. **Northwest GTA Transmission Corridor:** The Northwest GTA Transmission Corridor Identification Study is separate from the Ministry of Transportation's GTA West Transportation Corridor Route Planning and Environmental Assessment Study but MTO confirmed that the proponents of the two studies are sharing information with each other as required, and the Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines (ENDM) and the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) continue to engage through the GTA West Study's Regulatory Agency Advisory Group (RAAG). The two studies are moving forward with consideration for each other, in terms of public messaging and data sharing, but impact assessment as well as development of avoidance, mitigation and compensation measures are separate due to the differing nature and timelines of the studies.

Additionally, staff note that a revised study area related to the Northwest GTA Transmission Corridor Identification Study was released on November 18, 2020. Several changes were made to align the narrowed area of interest with MTO's 2020 Focused Analysis Area for the GTA West Transportation corridor, released on August 7, 2020 and were also intended to reduce the impacts on property owners and to avoid or mitigate impacts of a future transmission corridor and associated infrastructure on the natural heritage system, agricultural lands, and cultural heritage within the study area. The study areas continue to diverge in two locations to enable integration of a future corridor with existing electrical infrastructure: the connection to the 230 kV circuits between Milton TS and Meadowvale TS south of the 407 corridor and the connection to Kleinberg TS in Vaughan.

3. **Voluntary Project Review (VPR):** MTO confirmed that TRCA VPR signoff will be reviewed at detailed design. TRCA requested that this be a Condition of Approval by the Minister of MECP at the EA stage. Within the September 25, 2020 TRCA Board approved report, it was recommended that MTO commit to receiving VPR signoff at the design stage as it relates to TRCA's regulatory and policy interest, as well as provincially delegated responsibilities. It should be noted that VPRs are reviewed based on geographic area, as well as project schedule. As with other large infrastructure projects, it is presumed that multiple VPRs would be required. Additionally, it was also recommended that through the review of the proposed regulation that MTO develop a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with TRCA and that TRCA's VPR process be required through the detailed design stage so as to facilitate reviews for the multiple project segments and phases and to ensure a streamlined review process is in place with dedicated staff available to facilitate such reviews. To date no such commitment has been made.

4. **New Crossings:** MTO confirmed that they will consider using TRCA's Crossings Guideline for Valley and Stream Corridors (2015) as a reference. The Preliminary Design of the multimodal transportation corridor will follow the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads and MTO's supplemental guidelines and will then be balanced with other guidelines with industry practices, as appropriate. Through the Preliminary Design stage information about each watercourse and headwater drainage feature including proposed sizing of crossings, consideration of wildlife passage and fluvial geomorphology, flood conveyance, etc., will be compiled and the project report will document the proposed sizing of crossings that will be further developed during future stages of the study, if approved. A consistent approach will be applied throughout the Route Planning Study Area within the three conservation authority jurisdictions.

MTO staff noted that the GTA West/Highway 427 freeway-to-freeway interchange location is subject to significant constraints including the north-south hydro corridor adjacent to the current Highway 427 extension, watercourses, interchange spacing to the west, a rail crossing, and the crossing location of the Humber River. Based on the combination of these constraints, the ability to shift the interchange is very limited. The refinement of the transportation corridor alignment will be reviewed by the design team during Preliminary Design to try and minimize impacts to the mainline Humber River and associated tributaries. Options to reduce the impact to flood plain area will be explored and reviewed further as Preliminary Design progresses and TRCA continues to work with the EA project team to address TRCA concerns.

5. **Stormwater Management:** MTO confirmed that impacted conservation authorities (TRCA, CVC, CH) and municipalities will be contacted to confirm stormwater management criteria. Impact assessment at the outlet basis will be undertaken and a comprehensive stormwater management strategy will be developed at the EA/preliminary stage for the Preferred Route to address water quality, quantity, erosion, and water balance criteria. TRCA's stormwater management criteria document, as well as the stream crossing guidelines of the various conservation authorities will be considered. A consistent approach will be applied throughout the Route Planning Study Area within the three conservation authority jurisdictions.
6. **Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Passages:** TRCA has identified numerous technical studies that should be completed at the EA stage. Of particular importance is the analysis and identification of existing habitat and potential impacts to habitat connectivity and mitigation strategies in advance of Preliminary Design for adequate avoidance and mitigation of impacts. To this end, MTO has requested further data from TRCA related to completed analysis that can help inform opportunities and areas of concern about habitat connectivity and wildlife crossings in the GTA West study area to incorporate into the development of the wildlife crossing design for the project. TRCA staff is working with MTO to provide the predicted regional habitat connectivity priorities based on Circuitscape model (Attachment 1: Map 1, Regional Connectivity) and the mapped local habitat connectivity priorities based on accessible habitat and habitat network concept (Attachment 2: Map 2, Local Connectivity).

MTO has also confirmed that development of the wildlife passage design will follow the MTO 2017 Environmental Guide for Mitigation Road Impacts to Wildlife, which MTO considers for all new highway projects. In addition to data acquired through field investigations, wildlife movement and landscape connectivity will be assessed during the

Preliminary Design phase to inform wildlife passage locations through the review of background studies (e.g., subwatershed studies, natural heritage studies) and guidance documents (e.g., TRCA Crossings Guideline for Valley and Stream Corridors).

Additionally, MTO has confirmed that during Preliminary Design, watercourse crossing reports will be developed for each watercourse crossing/or groups of crossings that will be multi-disciplinary (i.e., fish and fish habitat, terrestrial / wildlife movement, fluvial geomorphology, hydrology/hydraulics, valley form / slopes etc.). The combined input will be used to generate the minimum span requirements and will inform, realignment recommendations. Opportunities for wildlife passages and incorporation of road ecology principles will be identified during Preliminary Design.

- 7. Mitigation and Compensation:** MTO confirmed their intention is to integrate mitigation and compensation features such as Species at Risk and wildlife crossings, and avoidance of sensitive features such as groundwater recharge areas where possible with consideration of factors from other disciplines. Preliminary plans to address negative effects of the project on the natural environment including but not limited to edge management, environmental monitoring, mitigation, restoration, and compensation, etc., will be developed during the Preliminary Design, and include high-level commitments and the identification of the objectives for each respective plan. Plans are typically not fully developed and finalized until detailed design. MTO will consult TRCA and other agencies during the detailed design stage when these plans are anticipated to be finalized.
- 8. Salt Loading:** MTO confirmed that impacts of salt loading to surface and groundwater features, salt spray to terrestrial habitats, the spread of invasive species along transportation, and fragmentation of habitats and migration corridors will be considered during the preliminary and detail design phases of the project.
- 9. Climate Change:** MTO confirmed that all new drainage infrastructure (culverts, storm sewers, ditches, etc.) will be designed considering climate change impacts. According to the provincial engineering memorandum (PEM) "Implementation of the Ministry's Climate Change Consideration in the Design of Highway Drainage Infrastructure" (#2016-14, October 28, 2016), highway drainage infrastructure should be designed to accommodate future rainfall values for the year corresponding to the end of the Design Service Life (typically 75 years) of the structure, in respect to conveyance, erosion, scour, stormwater management and fish passage.
- 10. TRCA Land Base Compensation:** MTO stated that once EA approval is obtained and approval to acquire lands is obtained, MTO staff will contact TRCA regarding their impacted lands to begin negotiations. MTO noted that only high-level construction costs were developed to support the evaluation of the short-list of route alternatives and that there were several other factors and criteria, such as the value of environmental mitigation measures, compensation, and enhancements, that were not applied as cost considerations in the evaluation process. No commitment to include TRCA land base compensation and future TRCA land acquisition costs within the costing analysis was provided.
- 11. TRCA Land Avoidance and Impact Mitigation:** MTO committed to working with TRCA through the Preliminary Design phase to arrive at a solution that balances, to the extent possible, the benefits and impacts for the local communities, regulatory agencies (including TRCA), and the users of the transportation system. MTO further noted that consideration will be given to specific property impacts such as fragmentation, and

efforts will be made to minimize those impacts including access to TRCA owned lands during Preliminary Design.

12. Trail Network: MTO stated that active transportation components such as sidewalks and cycling facilities at crossing roads and connecting to/continuing trail systems at watercourse crossings on a case-by case basis are being considered and further investigated during the Preliminary Design and detail design phases of this study. MTO stated that the 2019 TRCA Regional Trail Strategy for the Greater Toronto Region as well as municipal active transportation plans and Official Plans will be referenced. A separate active transportation corridor adjacent to the multimodal transportation corridor is not being considered at this time.

13. Communication: MTO confirmed that they will continue to respond to all correspondence from TRCA staff and the Board of Directors and will return and present to the TRCA Board of Directors during the Preliminary Design stage of the study.

RATIONALE

Detailed Design and Voluntary Project Review

If approved, the next stage in the project is to commence detailed design, whereby MTO is obligated to satisfy all Ministerial conditions, as well as to obtain all permits and approvals. As a Crown agency, MTO is exempt from obtaining a permit pursuant to TRCA's section 28 regulation under the Conservation Authorities Act. In such circumstances, TRCA offers proponents the option of submitting a VPR application to help ministries and government agencies reduce risk and better protect the natural environment.

The VPR allows staff to complete a comprehensive review based on its expertise as a watershed management agency, and its interests related to natural hazards, natural heritage, including aquatic and terrestrial species and habitats, and water management and provide an opinion as to whether the interests, objectives, and tests of TRCA's Ontario Regulation 166/06 of Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alteration to Shorelines and Watercourses will be satisfied. If staff can confirm that there will be no impacts to flooding, erosion, pollution, conservation of land or dynamic beaches, a VPR letter is issued confirming that our interests have been met.

Unless required to consult with TRCA as a Condition of Approval by MECP, MTO is under no obligation to seek further input at the detailed design stage. While the VPR process is used by other Crown agencies, such as Metrolinx, Parks Canada - Rouge National Urban Park and 407ETR, to date, it has not been pursued by MTO in other projects.

TRCA Fees or Service Level Agreement

TRCA charges fees for the review of VPR submissions as per the approved TRCA Fee Schedule. Should MTO follow the TRCA VPR process, individual applications related to all impacts to regulated areas would be expected. Depending on how MTO schedules the project, there could be staged VPR approvals for each project area (e.g., for abutments/bridges, culverts, ramps, stormwater facilities, boreholes, etc.). Each application is evaluated to determine appropriate fees based on detailed project requirements. Reviews follow the approved TRCA standard 30 to 60 business day review timelines, depending on complexity of the application.

Alternatively, MTO could choose to enter into a service level agreement with TRCA whereby MTO and TRCA would agree to specific service delivery provisions, generally including but not

limited to TRCA providing a dedicated staff team, shorter service delivery timeframes and regular project meetings.

Compensation for unavoidable ecological impacts, as well as property negotiations and archaeology review on TRCA-owned lands, are site specific and in addition to the above. Through the planning process, TRCA Property staff will work with MTO to negotiate acquisition of MTO surplus lands that meet TRCA strategic priorities.

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 7 – Build partnerships and new business models

Strategy 8 – Gather and share the best sustainability knowledge

FINANCIAL DETAILS

- Should the province pursue approvals through the TRCA VPR process, fees for these services will be charged based on service delivery requirements that are consistent with the TRCA Fee Schedule. If the VPR process is not followed, TRCA will charge fees for all updated data and mapping.
- Monetary requirements for natural heritage compensation will be negotiated.
- Acquisition of TRCA-owned property will require negotiation of land-based monetary compensation.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

- TRCA staff will continue to work with MTO staff through the Regulatory Agency Advisory Group, the Greenbelt Transportation Advisory Group, and separate working groups.
- TRCA staff will report back to the TRCA Board of Directors once the preliminary design alternatives and technical appendices are provided to TRCA staff for review and comment and provide an update as to how TRCA recommendations have been addressed. Should the project be approved with a condition that requires the TRCA VPR process to be implemented, TRCA staff will work with MTO through the detailed design and construction stages to ensure TRCA's regulatory, restoration and compensation concerns and objectives are addressed.

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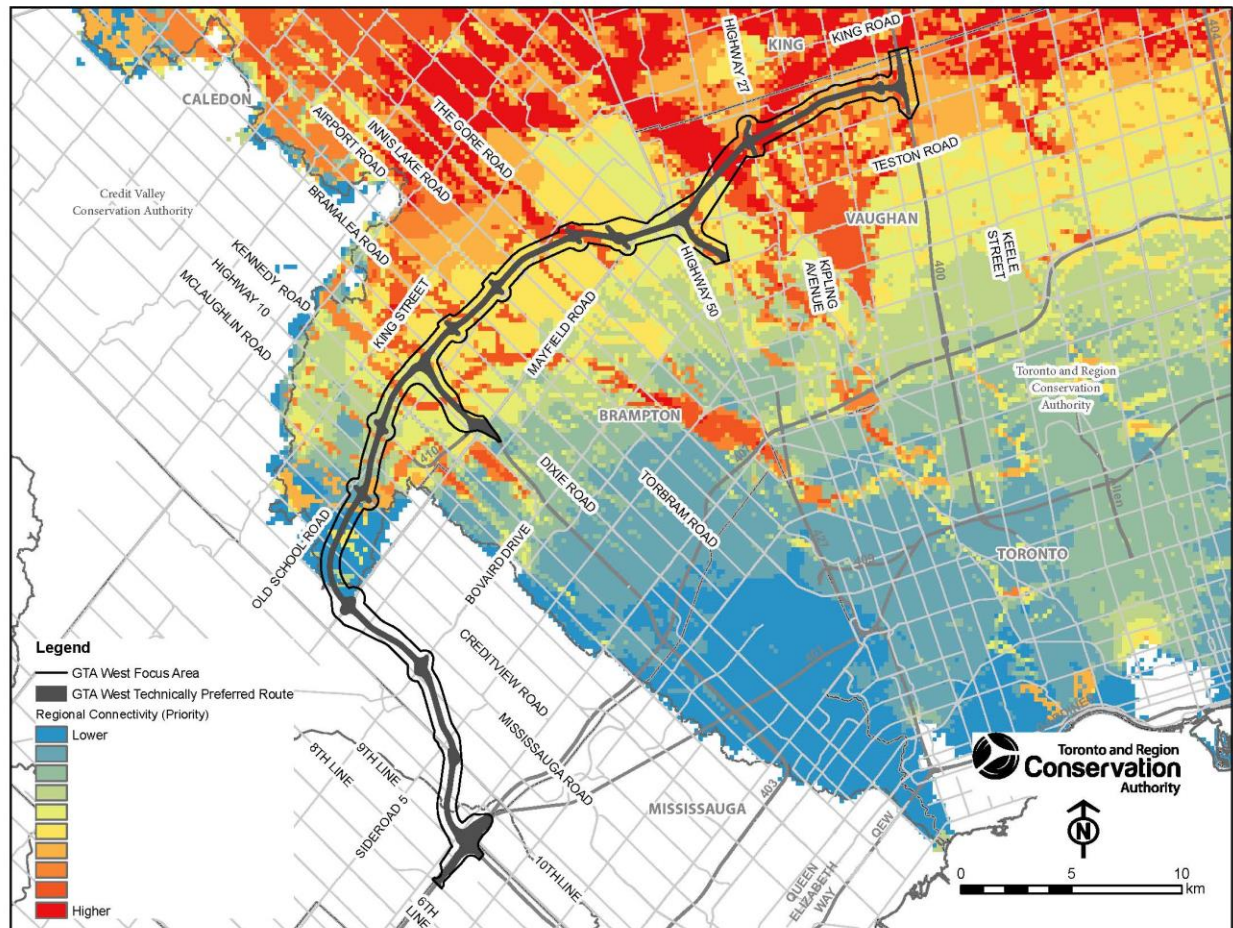
Date: March 18, 2021

Attachments: 2

Attachment 1: Map 1, Regional Connectivity

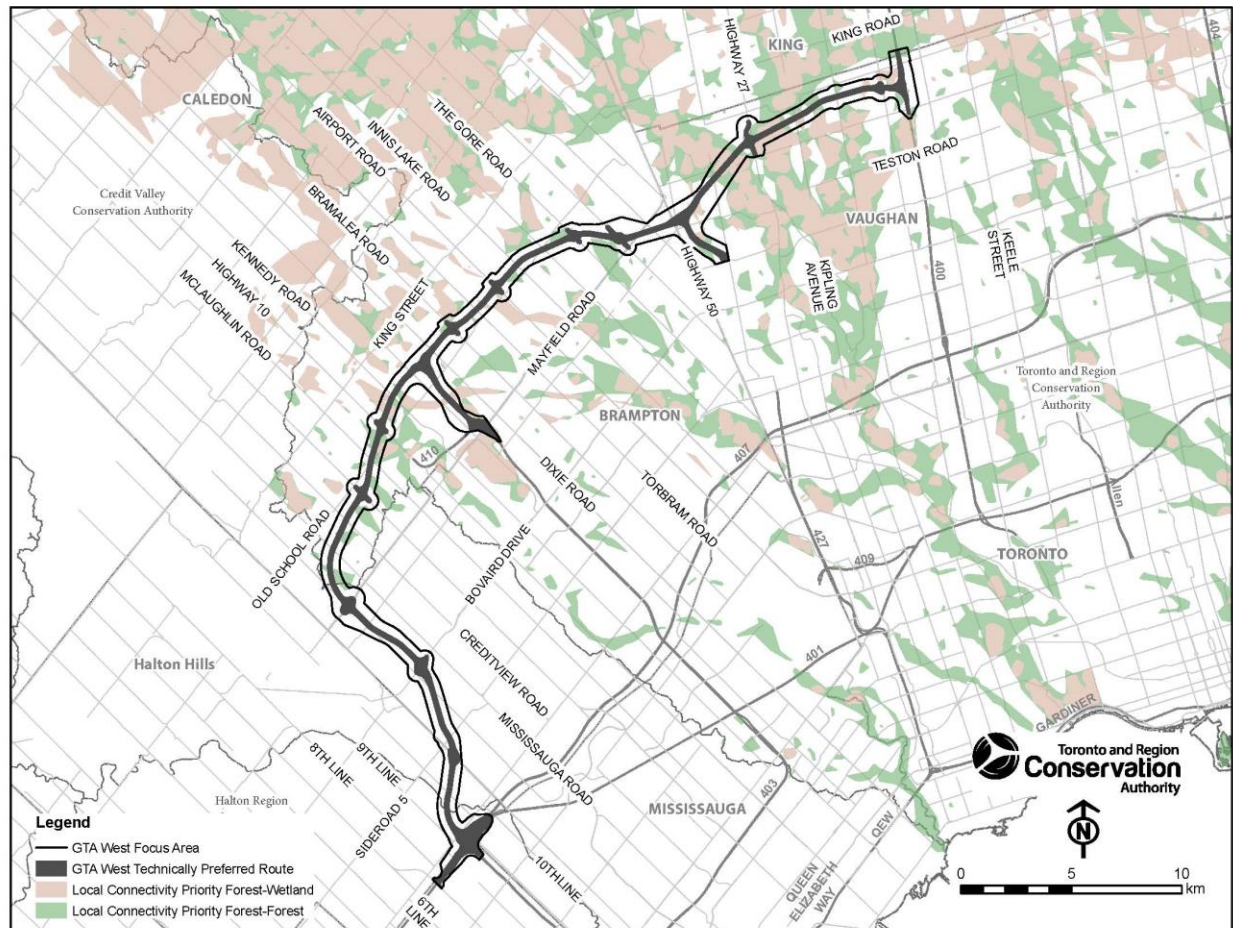
Attachment 2: Map 2, Local Connectivity

Attachment 1



Map 1: TRCA's regional connectivity map shows higher priority areas (in red, orange, and yellow) that are important for maintaining landscape level connectivity among habitat patches across TRCA jurisdiction. These areas provide critical north-south and east-west linkages and losing them would compromise the long-term resilience of ecosystem, habitat, and biodiversity in TRCA's jurisdiction.

Attachment 2



Map 2: TRCA's local connectivity map shows higher priority areas (in green and brown) that are important for maintaining habitat connectivity between forests-wetlands and between forests-forests patches. These areas show important locations where wildlife movement between habitat patches are more likely and roads can prevent wildlife movement as well as increase road mortality thereby decreasing biodiversity across TRCA jurisdiction.

RES.#A45/21 -

LAUNCH OF WATERSHED AND ECOSYSTEMS REPORTING HUB

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) is launching an online tool as the modern version of TRCA's The Living City Report Card to communicate up-to-date information about environmental conditions of the Toronto region to our partners and stakeholders.

Moved by: Ronald Chopowick
Seconded by: Jack Heath

WHEREAS TRCA issues reporting products to communicate the environmental conditions of the Toronto region to partners and stakeholders every five years, including The Living City Report Card;

WHEREAS TRCA's Board of Directors and its partners have requested that it provide more frequent plain language information about the environmental conditions of the Toronto region;

WHEREAS TRCA has developed an innovative online tool, called the Watershed and Ecosystems Reporting Hub, that allows TRCA to clearly communicate the environmental conditions of the Toronto region on an ongoing basis using interactive displays and other digital media;

AND WHEREAS TRCA intends to launch this online tool on April 22, 2021, to coincide with Earth Day;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT TRCA's Board of Directors endorse the Watershed and Ecosystems Reporting Hub and authorize staff to proceed with its launch;

AND FURTHER THAT Board members help promote the online tool through their networks and use it to inform decision-making.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

At Authority Meeting #5/17, held on June 23, 2017, Resolution #A127/17 was approved as follows:

THAT a report on the state of each one of the nine watersheds and the waterfront in the TRCA jurisdiction be presented by staff on a regular basis;

AND FURTHER THAT the scope, content and communication format of these reports, as well as potential alignment with the mandate of the proposed Regional Watershed Alliance, be developed by staff in consultation with a select group of Authority members interested in this initiative.

In response to requests for more frequent plain language updates about environmental conditions of the Toronto region, TRCA has developed an online tool that will be a modern version of The Living City Report Card.

The Watershed and Ecosystems Reporting Hub (Reporting Hub) presents a digital transformation in the way TRCA reports environmental conditions to our partners and stakeholders. This online tool was developed using Esri's ArcGIS StoryMaps, allowing TRCA to

clearly convey environmental conditions of the Toronto region using photos, graphics, and interactive displays.

The Reporting Hub allows the user to interactively explore data at various scales, including by watershed, region or local municipality. It uses plain language to explain the importance of different environmental indicators for understanding watershed and ecosystem health. Reporting for each indicator includes targets (where applicable), current conditions, and how conditions are changing over time, using the best available data. The Reporting Hub further provides users with the ability to dig deeper to better understand the methodologies and data behind the reporting, with links to Open Data.

When this project was first envisioned, a meeting was held with TRCA Board member Ronald Chopowick, the mover of the motion noted above, to ensure that it would meet the intent of the motion and to better understand what would be desired from the ultimate product.

More than 30 staff members from 10 business units across TRCA provided input on content development. Feedback on early drafts was provided through consultations with TRCA's regional municipal partners, members of the Toronto and Region Remedial Action Plan and the Regional Watershed Alliance.

RATIONALE

Indicators included in the Reporting Hub have been re-scoped from the metrics originally developed for The Living City Report Card. The scope of the Reporting Hub contents is aligned with core program areas for which TRCA collects and stores environmental data, including:

- Natural Hazards
- Future Climate
- Land Use
- Natural Heritage Systems
- Water Resource Systems
- Water Quality
- Lake Ontario Nearshore

This change in the scope of reporting in addition to the ability to update the data more frequently (annually, in some cases) will allow TRCA and its municipal partners to use the Reporting Hub to help inform decision making for watershed planning and environmental management. Data displayed in the Reporting Hub will assist in tracking progress toward our goals and demonstrate how successful we are in achieving watershed health through watershed planning and municipal policy implementation.

The Reporting Hub will continue to evolve as we receive feedback from partners and stakeholders, with regular updates to incorporate new data and science. Plans to enhance the Reporting Hub in the future include the development of new indicators in response to feedback from partners and the ability to track progress on watershed plan implementation.

A demonstration of the Reporting Hub content and capabilities will be presented at the meeting.

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 8 – Gather and share the best sustainability knowledge

Strategy 9 – Measure performance

Strategy 10 – Accelerate innovation

Strategy 12 – Facilitate a region-wide approach to sustainability

FINANCIAL DETAILS

TRCA staff involvement in the development of the Watershed and Ecosystems Reporting Hub has been supported through TRCA capital account 416-40, which is funded by the City of Toronto, Peel Region and York Region.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

TRCA has developed a Communications Strategy to help promote the Watershed and Ecosystems Reporting Hub. The communications campaign will roll out with the launch of the Reporting Hub on April 22, 2021 with ongoing promotions as the content is updated. The launch will include a press release along with social media. TRCA's municipal partners will be provided with access to the Reporting Hub through business-to-business communication. Board members may wish to be informed of new content updates to the Reporting Hub. In addition, Marketing and Communications will keep the Board informed and provide access to messaging as the Reporting Hub is promoted.

Report prepared by: Shari Dahmer, extension 5592

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Date: February 2, 2021

RES.#A46/21 -

FLIGHT OF THE MONARCHS DAY PROCLAMATION

Approval of a TRCA proclamation of Flight of the Monarch Day, on August 21, 2021, as well as TRCA application for mayoral proclamations in local watershed municipalities in support of Flight of the Monarch Day, on August 21, 2021.

Moved by: Linda Jackson
Seconded by: Shelley Carroll

WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) is the national host of the Monarch Teacher Network of Canada program, a special project and training program seeking to support monarch butterfly conservation education in Canada;

WHEREAS Monarch Teacher Network of Canada brings together a collective of educators and butterfly enthusiasts in Ontario and across Canada, whose combined experience and expertise in educating the public about monarch butterflies, places them in an ideal position to advocate for the monarch butterfly;

AND WHEREAS the monarch butterfly is designated as a species at risk in Ontario and Canada by The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC), Government of Canada *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) and Species At Risk in Ontario (SARO);

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT TRCA proclaim August 21, 2021 as Flight of the Monarch Day;

THAT an application for a mayoral proclamation be made to TRCA's local watershed municipalities to recognize August 21, 2021 as Flight of the Monarch Day;

AND FURTHER THAT TRCA staff work with other organizations and jurisdictions across Canada to seek adoption of a nationally-recognized day of awareness related to the monarch butterfly.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

Monarch butterflies are one of the most iconic and cherished insects in North America. Their epic 5,000-kilometre migration from eastern Canada to the forests of central Mexico begins in late August each year. In 2013, the eastern population of monarch butterflies dropped by 95 per cent, resulting in the smallest recorded population since the mid-1990s. Since 2013, the population has rebounded, owing in part to the collective efforts of thousands of individuals, groups and communities across Canada; however, the monarch's future remains in peril. *Flight of the Monarch Day* is an opportunity to celebrate the growing movement to protect monarch butterflies and the astonishing phenomenon of their migration as their epic journey southward begins.

Since 2009, TRCA has been the Canadian administrator for the Monarch Teacher Network of Canada, a national program focused on educating the public about monarch butterflies and empowering people to bring monarchs into a variety of teaching and learning contexts. The program inspires people to connect with nature through a series of hands-on training, educational activities and professional development workshops.

In 2018, building on the success of the Monarch Teacher Network of Canada, TRCA was awarded a \$1,125,000 grant from Environment and Climate Change Canada to develop and deliver the Monarch Nation program. The goal of Monarch Nation is to improve engagement and awareness related to species at risk with children aged 6-12 years old. During the 3-year term of this program, Monarch Nation committed to leading the coordination of a national butterfly day to celebrate and raise awareness for monarch butterflies.

RATIONALE

On August 22, 2020, TRCA and Monarch Nation hosted the inaugural National Flight of the Monarch Day. Thousands of people across Canada participated in activities celebrating the monarch butterfly migration. Actions included citizen science monitoring, monarch-themed nature hikes and artistic performances. Due to the pandemic, Flight of the Monarch Day engagements were a blend of both online and outdoor in-person events. A post-event review of the metrics reveals:

- Eleven (11) upper- and lower-tier municipalities from TRCA's watersheds proclaimed August 22 to be Flight of the Monarch Day
- 270 organizations and families registered their participation, representing an estimated 4,000 participants in nine (9) provinces and one (1) territory
- 19,000 views of over twelve (12) Facebook Live events held by TRCA and other organizations on August 22, 2020
- More than 100 monarch butterfly-related sightings on Mission Monarch and iNaturalist platforms on August 22, 2020
- Nearly 1,200 'tweets' and 'retweets' using the hashtag #feeltheflutter
- 3,452 Instagram posts and 'likes' using the hashtag #feeltheflutter

Environment and Climate Change Canada funding for Monarch Nation is currently scheduled to end in March 2021, however staff continue to work to secure additional sources of funding including seeking renewed funding for this program from Government of Canada. TRCA's Monarch Teacher Network of Canada program will serve as lead organizer for Flight of the Monarch Day, ensuring event continuity and building on the momentum from TRCA's watershed municipalities and beyond.

TRCA's support of the Monarch Teacher Network of Canada allows key program activities to expand into new markets and user groups, leverages internal expertise, and enables the development of special resources and other marketing assets. The centralized support of these functions increases capacity and enhances efficiency for partners while providing consistent messaging related to monarch butterfly conservation.

Direct engagement of municipal councils through official proclamations of Flight of the Monarchs Day, will provide improved opportunities for collaboration between local municipalities and community partners in achieving goals related to monarch butterfly conservation.

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

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

Strategy 5 – Foster sustainable citizenship

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Funding for the Monarch Teacher Network of Canada program is provided in part through a trustee-initiated grant from The Weston Family Foundation. The expenses are tracked under

account code 366-55/11490.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

TRCA staff will prepare necessary materials for TRCA's proclamation of Flight of the Monarch Day, including events, press releases and any supporting promotional materials.

TRCA staff will prepare a support package for organizations wishing to hold an event as part of Flight of the Monarch Day, to be available as a download from the Monarch Teacher Network of Canada website.

Report prepared by: Vicky An, extension 5883

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Date: February 2, 2021

RES.#A47/21 -

**PLANNING APPLICATION REVIEW AND ENFORCEMENT SYSTEM
FINANCIAL PLAN**

Strategic Business Planning Policy

To provide information to the Board of Directors regarding the proposed financial plan to support the Planning Application Review and Enforcement System (PARES) project.

Moved by: Linda Jackson
Seconded by: Shelley Carroll

WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) has undertaken a detailed review of all funding options for the PARES program.

AND WHEREAS TRCA conducted an evaluation of all funding sources and potential strategies to determine the most appropriate approach for funding the development of the PARES project.

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT TRCA contribute \$1.78M from corporate reserves to support the development of the PARES program in 2021 -2022, with an agreed payback period of 9 years.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

The objective of the PARES project is to increase efficiencies in TRCA's planning, application review and enforcement processes. This project will improve client and staff user experience, improve client communications, and improve transparency and reporting. This will be achieved through the development of a web-based cloud platform that is designed to improve user experience and reduce inefficiencies by utilizing a "one-stop-shop" to modernize planning and permitting review at TRCA.

The development of this system is estimated to cost \$1.78M in one-time capital expenditures, with an additional \$0.35M in annual operating expenditures. These costs are currently outside of the existing funding envelope and the initiative is currently listed on TRCA's unfunded priorities list.

RATIONALE

In order to develop a sustainable funding strategy, TRCA examined all funding sources including existing funding, grants, municipal requests, reserve financing and TRCA generated revenues. Following extensive internal discussions, it was determined that a combined approach of reserve financing and TRCA generated revenues from permit fee enhancements would be a feasible approach to funding this initiative.

The implementation of the PARES project will result in both internal and external efficiencies related to staff time, decreased review timelines, and overall increased customer satisfaction for both partner municipalities and members of the public.

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 9 – Measure performance

Strategy 10 – Accelerate innovation

FINANCIAL DETAILS

The current total estimated cost to purchase and implement the PARES platform is \$1.6M between 2021-2022. The staff support required to guide the implementation process is estimated to be an additional \$175,000 (2021-2022) for a total one-time implementation cost of 1.78M over 2 years. The ongoing maintenance costs for the system including licensing fees, professional services and staff support are estimated at approximately \$350,000 per year throughout the lifecycle of the system. *Table 1 – Project Expenditures* provides a summary of the one-time implementation costs and the annual maintenance costs.

Table 1: Project Expenditures

Project Expenditures (\$000's)	Frequency	2021	2022	2023	2024
Implementation Costs*	One-time	888	887	-	-
Software Licensing	Annual	200	200	200	200
Staff Support	Annual	100	100	100	100
Professional Services	Annual	50	50	50	50
Totals		1,238	1,237	350	350

* Includes 10% contingency.

As the project implementation costs are currently unfunded, this project is listed on TRCA's 2021 unfunded priorities list. The ongoing annual costs totaling \$350,000 per year will be covered through existing user fees as per the approved TRCA fee schedule and service level agreements.

To realize the PARES initiative, this report seeks approval to finance the one-time implementation costs of \$1.78M between 2021-2022 using reserves according to the schedule as set out in *Table 2 – Proposed Funding Strategy*.

These reserve contributions are proposed to be reimbursed over a 9-year payback period. This payment plan would be facilitated through a scheduled fee increase for plan submissions and review of 12% from 2021-2029 and an increase of 4.5% onwards to cover upfront and ongoing costs respectively. If revenues exceed projections in a fiscal year, expedited payback may be considered. If revenues are lower than anticipated in a fiscal year, the payback period would be extended.

Table 2: Proposed Funding Strategy (\$000s)

Funding Strategy (\$000's)	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	Total
Corporate Reserves Contribution	888	887	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,775
Proposed Reserve Contribution Payback	(200)	(200)	(200)	(200)	(200)	(200)	(200)	(200)	(175)	(1,775)
Total Owing to Reserve	688	1,375	1,175	975	775	575	375	175	-	-

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

Following Board of Director approval for the reserve payment in support of the implementation of the PARES project, staff will continue to progress through the procurement process to select a preferred vendor. TRCA staff will work closely to ensure all requirements are met, and that appropriate training is coordinated.

Report prepared by: Kim Krawczyk, extension 5862

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Date: March 26, 2021

RES.#A48/21 -

JOINING THE 'UNFLOOD ONTARIO' NETWORK OF PARTNERS

Co-promoting the benefits of natural infrastructure

This report outlines the rationale and recommendation for the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) to join Unflood Ontario's network of partners, whose shared objectives include flood reduction and the promotion of natural infrastructure.

Moved by: Linda Jackson
Seconded by: Shelley Carroll

WHEREAS TRCA's strategic objectives include the management of water resources, the championing of sustainable development technologies and natural infrastructure in building complete communities, and engagement with community members to foster sustainable citizenship;

AND WHEREAS Unflood Ontario, a project of the Durham Community Foundation, the Toronto Foundation, and the Niagara Community Foundation, managed by the Small Change Fund, seeks to build demand for urban-based natural infrastructure by engaging the 'interested public and unusual allies' using community engagement and communications tools;

THAT TRCA join the Unflood Ontario network of partners, allowing TRCA to be acknowledged as such on the Unflood Ontario website;

THAT TRCA utilize its communications channels, where feasible and appropriate, to share Unflood Ontario's communications content, including videos, reports, and social media messaging;

AND THAT TRCA, through its relevant programs (including the Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program, Partners in Project Green, and the Sustainable Technologies Evaluation Program), explore collaboration opportunities with Unflood Ontario to promote natural infrastructure.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

TRCA's mission is to protect, conserve and restore natural resources and develop resilient communities through education, the application of science, community engagement, service excellence and collaboration with our partners. As a watershed-based organization with a mandate that includes flood risk reduction and the conservation of natural resources working within an urban context, TRCA has several objectives and specific programs that champion the implementation of green infrastructure and natural infrastructure. These programs include the Sustainable Technologies Evaluation program, the Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program, and Partners in Project Green.

Although flooding is a natural process, TRCA undertakes a variety of programs to reduce the risk of flooding to people and property, including education and outreach to residents living in flood vulnerable neighbourhoods and where feasible, advancing site-specific flood risk remediation. Simultaneously, TRCA's stormwater management criteria and the Living City Policies recognize the cumulative impacts of urbanization to water quantity and quality, and conversely the cumulative benefits of low-impact development/green infrastructure. Although staff recognize that it is not possible to 'unflood' our region, staff recognize that the underlying objective is that of promoting green infrastructure and the shared goal of reducing flood risks.

Unflood Ontario is a project of the Durham Community Foundation, the Niagara Community Foundation and the Toronto Foundation, with project management provided by the Small Change Fund. It is part of the Great Lakes One Water Initiative, a basin-wide international network of 7 teams led by community and working to reduce lake pollution.

Unflood Ontario's stated objectives are to:

- 1) Build public demand for urban-based Natural Infrastructure (NI) by using the flooding frame and highlighting its multiple benefits, especially as a COVID-19 recovery action, by engaging the 'interested public and unusual allies' using community engagement and communications tools.
- 2) Facilitate getting Natural Infrastructure installed in Greater Golden Horseshoe communities.

RATIONALE

Representatives from Unflood Ontario recently approached TRCA to seek approval to become part of its network of partners. Conservation Ontario has also consented to being part of the network. Members of this network would commit to the following:

- 1) Having the organization name added to the Unflood Ontario network list on the Unflood Ontario website. It would appear under the following wording:
 - *Our Network: The following groups and individuals are working together to “unflood” Ontario by educating and engaging the public about the impact of floods and the multiple benefits of Natural Infrastructure.*
- 2) Using their own organization's communications channels to promote and share Unflood Ontario communications content (e.g. videos, reports, social media messaging) and call to action, coinciding with the program launch in April 2021.
- 3) Working with Unflood Ontario to find local opportunities to promote Natural Infrastructure and flood reduction.

Unflood Ontario would offer content, including videos and reports, that are written for the general public, as well as access to community level networks to help mobilize the interested public to support policy matters. This content could be utilized by TRCA programs with similar strategic objectives.

TRCA's Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program (SNAP) will seek opportunities to cross-promote the Unflood Ontario movement as part of its ongoing initiatives in flood-prone communities. SNAP is a neighbourhood-based program for sustainable urban renewal and climate action which is underway in a number of neighbourhoods in the Toronto Region. Unflood Ontario videos and other helpful tools may be shared with residents in conjunction with local SNAP initiatives, including home retrofit programs, implementation of green infrastructure revitalization projects and neighbourhood resiliency programming.

The Sustainable Technologies Evaluation Program will also cross-promote and share Unflood Ontario communications to user groups. STEP is a collaborative between TRCA, CVC and LSRCA aimed at supporting broader adoption of sustainable stormwater practices in Ontario through research, the development of best practice guidelines and decision support tools, professional training and public outreach. Unflood Ontario videos and communications on Natural and Green Stormwater Infrastructure will be shared with other STEP materials through newsletters, social media and selected STEP events.

TRCA will also provide links to Unflood Ontario, so that their website can link back to TRCA expert content, ranging from low-impact development guidelines and best practices, to flood risk management personal preparedness resources, to various educational workshops and “do-it-yourself” guidelines for installing backyard rainwater management features.

The Unflood Ontario campaign consists of several videos and research papers, and is set to launch on April 19, 2021, with Earth Day occurring on April 22, 2021.

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 5 – Foster sustainable citizenship

Strategy 8 – Gather and share the best sustainability knowledge

FINANCIAL DETAILS

There are no financial commitments to being a part of Unflood Ontario’s network of partners.

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Date: March 15, 2021

Section III – Items for the Information of the Board

RES.#A49/21 - DISPERSAL OF FUNERAL ASHES IN WATERCOURSES

In response to inquiries received by TRCA, to identify appropriate options, in accordance with the requirements of certain faith groups, for the dispersal of funeral ashes in rivers or creeks within TRCA's jurisdiction.

WHEREAS the dispersal of funeral ashes is occurring on lands owned or managed by TRCA and our municipal partners;

AND WHEREAS, TRCA is limited in our ability to regulate or formalize such practices without support of our municipal partners;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT TRCA continue to support partner municipalities and organizations in the development of appropriate sites and solutions for the environmentally and culturally sensitive dispersal of funeral ashes when requested to do so or when TRCA permissions are required;

AND THAT TRCA recommend that municipal partners consult with TRCA regarding implementing processes or identifying sites related to the dispersal of funeral ashes in creeks and rivers to ensure such practices are carried out in a legally compliant and an environmentally sensitive manner;

AND THAT the TRCA Board of Directors resolve that TRCA lands only be considered for the dispersal of funeral ashes if the request is made to TRCA by a municipality, if required funding resources are provided for both construction and ongoing maintenance of an appropriate facility or site on TRCA lands, and if an appropriate licensing regime and service provider can be identified and developed through appropriate agreements.

RES.#A50/21 - AMENDMENT TO THE MAIN MOTION

Moved by: Jack Heath
Seconded by: Dipika Damerla

THAT the entire main motion be replaced with the following:

THAT the report be referred back to staff for further discussions with interested parties.

THE AMENDMENT WAS:

CARRIED

THE RESULTANT MOTION READS AS FOLLOWS:

THAT the report be referred back to staff for further discussions with interested parties.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

The dispersal of funeral ashes into rivers, creeks, and other water bodies is a common end-of-life practice for many faith groups. Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) is a regulatory body, a significant landowner of greenspace in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), a resource management agency, and a service provider to municipalities on the management of

their own greenspace and watercourses. Therefore, TRCA has an interest in practices surrounding the dispersal of funeral ashes in watercourses, as well as associated practices, such as the leaving of offerings, especially where these activities have the potential to negatively affect these features.

In 2004, TRCA and Credit Valley Conservation (CVC) began collaborative work to address the issue of religious offerings, such as coconuts, fruit, cloth, coins or jewelry, being deposited in rivers and creeks of Peel Region. Further, as the dispersal of funerary ashes into water is customary for many faith groups, CVC and TRCA also began exploring the issue of, and need for, appropriate sites and guidelines for this practice. As part of this work, TRCA and CVC established a working relationship with the Hindu community in Mississauga to learn more about Hindu practices and in turn, share knowledge about watershed health and potential impacts due to certain practices. As a result of this collaboration, in 2006 CVC, TRCA and the Hindu Federation jointly released a brochure providing information on the impacts of religious offerings to watercourses and providing more sustainable recommendations, such as composting flowers and coconuts instead of leaving them in waterways and donating unsustainable offerings to a local temple. TRCA continued to work with temple leaders to seek opportunities for outreach and education regarding water-based faith activities and the issue of religious offerings in watercourses.

In the Summer of 2007, the then Ministry of Government Services and Consumer Relations (MGSCR – later re-designated the Ministry of Consumer Services) created an inter-agency working group to investigate the uses and practices of dispersing ashes on water and recommend a solution. At the time, working group membership included MGSCR, Ministry of Natural Resources, Ministry of Environment, Environment Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada and CVC, who represented Conservation Ontario. As a result of the working group's efforts, the Ministry of Consumer Services stated that funerary ashes could be scattered on occupied and unoccupied Provincial Crown land and Crown land covered by water.

It should be noted that given the sensitive nature of dispersing funerary ashes into watercourses and water bodies, there exist several additional requirements for undertaking these practices. These include a certain level of privacy, securing of permits for any built structures, as well as additional logistical requirements, such as an accessible site and sufficient parking.

Current Provincial Legislation

Land ownership and regulation are the primary factors determining whether the dispersal of funeral ashes is legally permitted; that is, whether the land is privately owned, owned by an agency such as a municipality or regulated by the Crown. That division of regulatory responsibilities and ownership will be dependent on the specific location in question.

The Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act (2002, S.O. 2002, c. 33) does not explicitly discuss dispersal of ashes on public or Crown Land, or in watercourses. It does, however, outline the need to obtain permission for burial or dispersal on private lands, with the additional provision that if multiple internments or scatterings are to take place, the landowner must obtain a permit to operate as a cemetery. The Funeral Burial and Cremation Services Act prohibits the internment (i.e., burial) of human remains, including urns (containing ashes) except in a registered and operating cemetery.

The Government of Ontario has provided additional guidance that individuals have the right to: "scatter the remains from cremation or alkaline hydrolysis on Crown land, including land covered by water, if it is unoccupied (for example provincial park, conservation reserve, Great

Lakes) and there are no signs or postings that prohibit scattering.”

(<https://www.ontario.ca/page/arrange-funeral-burial-cremation-alkaline-hydrolysis-or-scattering>).

In line with that guidance, Ontario Parks allow the scattering of ashes without permission, but does, however, provide the following guidance:

- Prior to scattering any ashes, individuals should contact park offices to determine a suitable location;
- A day permit is required for park use;
- No offerings may be left at the site; and
- Burial is not permitted (per the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act)

Within the GTA, signage has been erected at Bronte Creek Provincial Park in Oakville advising of the right to disperse ashes on Crown land. However, there is currently no designated site for this activity at the park.

Current Municipal Practices within TRCA's jurisdiction

Generally, the scattering of funeral ashes is not explicitly permitted on municipal lands and many municipalities direct individuals to the Province of Ontario's direction regarding Crown lands. However, many municipalities are also noting an increased demand from the public and from faith groups for accessible options to undertake the dispersal of funeral ashes of loved ones. As such, many municipalities are taking another look at the options they offer for this practice. For example, City of Mississauga staff and TRCA are working together to explore various options to offer closer, more accessible sites for scattering funeral ashes (see "Rationale" section that follows).

Waterfront parks, as well as destination parks throughout the City of Toronto, are heavily used for personal recreational activities like picnicking, walking, running and cycling, as well as for informal and formal organized social and recreational programs and events (when compliant with local public health regulations and municipal permits). There is a need to reduce user conflict along the Lake Ontario waterfront and in other park locations where recreationalists come into contact with the bereaved as they undertake the dispersal of funeral ashes. This has been of particular concern at the boat launch areas at Bluffers Park in Toronto. While the City of Toronto does not currently allow the dispersal of funeral ashes on City property, including in parks, it is expected that new language around the scattering of ashes in City of Toronto parks and greenspace will be considered as part of an update to the City's Parks By-Law.

Other municipalities have elected to create facilities for the explicit purpose of funeral ash dispersal. The City of Pickering, for example, created an accessible path to facilitate access to its beachfront where users can leave religious offerings on and for the dispersal of ashes in Lake Ontario. While the City does not have any by-laws or Council resolutions explicitly allowing the dispersal of funeral ashes, City staff worked with the Devi Mandir Hindu Temple in Pickering to identify a suitable site, the location of which was chosen due to its proximity to parking and the accessibility and privacy it offers. The temple stewards the designated site and ensures that all offerings left are biodegradable and that no offerings are left which may negatively impact the environment. Both City and temple representatives have noted that while the site was created for the local community, many users of the site are now from other municipalities. High water levels on Lake Ontario can also make the site inaccessible and are also causing concerns related to erosion, but overall, the site has been well used for approximately a decade with very minimal public complaints or concerns.

Current Practices on TRCA Lands

Dispersal or scattering of funeral ashes is not currently explicitly sanctioned on TRCA lands. Rather, historical TRCA Board of Directors resolutions focus more so on continued partnership with, and outreach to, faith groups on environmentally responsible and culturally sensitive practices and options. TRCA Board of Directors resolutions also commit to assist our local municipalities in identifying locations for religious offerings and dispersal of ashes, when requested to do so (RES. #B120/09, Executive Committee Meeting #7/09 held on September 11, 2009).

Other Conservation Authorities have taken a similar approach. For example, the CVC Board of Directors has taken the position that the scattering of ashes on CVC owned land is not permitted (#69/14, CVC Board of Directors, July 4, 2014).

RATIONALE

Overseeing the location and activity of scattering funeral ashes does not fall within TRCA's mandated responsibilities. This service falls more appropriately within the jurisdiction of those agencies responsible for cemeteries and other end of life institutions, namely municipalities and faith-based organizations, or even private companies such as cemetery groups. As such, staff recommend that this activity is not an appropriate use of TRCA lands. However, TRCA would consider a request by a partner municipality subject to a detailed review and upon completion of an agreement as outlined in more detail below.

TRCA Support for Municipalities

However, in partnership with municipalities or in our role as technical reviewers and resource managers TRCA can play an important advisory role with respect to the selection of appropriate sites along watercourses within the jurisdiction, as well as potentially play a support role on a fee-for-service basis in the planning, design and construction of infrastructure along watercourses. As well, TRCA continues to play a regulatory role for any activities within a TRCA regulated area under s.28 of the Conservation Authorities Act, that would propose alterations to a watercourse. Regardless of the agency overseeing the dispersal of funeral ashes, the following considerations, and associated costs, should be kept in mind in site selection along watercourses for the purposes of scattering funeral ashes:

- There must be evidence there is no negative impact on the watercourse. This may be through investigatory studies, ongoing monitoring, or added restoration to mitigate potential impacts or create an added benefit to the aquatic system;
- To mitigate environmental risks and where it is culturally appropriate, it may be advisable to consider alternatives to direct input into a watercourse, such as a treatment wetland. However, such an option would need to be discussed with the potential user groups of such a site to ensure appropriateness for the faith groups that may utilize the facility;
- Provided there is no negative impact, infrastructure to minimize damage to shoreline should be considered, such as a modified fishing node;
- Archaeological sites along watercourses should be considered to prevent the contamination of those sites; and
- Cultural and accessibility, both in general and for people with mobility issues, considerations for the location and of the appropriateness of the site must be considered. Outreach to the community requesting a site should be carried out.
- Given the sensitive nature of dispersing the funeral ashes of loved ones, an appropriate agency or organization with appropriate experience should administer the customer services aspects of this work.

- That the organization is in compliance with the *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002*, including ensuring the site is designated as a cemetery and the relevant organization is licensed as a cemetery operator.

If a municipality approached TRCA to explore the possibility of dispersing funeral ashes on one or more of TRCA's properties, several pieces of work would need to be undertaken. TRCA would need to retain legal counsel with experience in this area to advise on compliance, both by TRCA and any potential operators of such services on TRCA land. TRCA staff would also need to identify appropriate sites where the regular dispersal of funeral ashes would have minimal property use and ecological impacts and potentially set limits on the number of dispersals allowed annually, as well as establish a monitoring program for the site. It is also recommended that either a municipality or appropriate organization (such as an end-of-life service provider) be retained to provide all services required for the bereaved related to the dispersal of ashes of their loved ones.

To provide additional clarity regarding roles and responsibilities, a review of the management agreements for the lands owned by TRCA and managed by partner municipalities could also be undertaken to add more specific language regarding the dispersal of ashes. This could be incorporated into a more fulsome TRCA policy regarding end-of-life commemorations or activities on TRCA-owned lands that are managed by a partner municipality, a faith-based organization or an organization involved in end of life services. If such activities were to be considered, it is critical that all costs, including both capital costs for infrastructure or facility development and background studies, as well as ongoing operating and monitoring costs, be funded by a municipality or appropriate agency.

TRCA's work with City of Mississauga

TRCA's work with the City of Mississauga is an example of how TRCA can support municipal partners in identifying options and considerations for sites to scatter funeral ashes in watercourses. In June 2019, local Councillors and TRCA Board Members requested that TRCA examine appropriate sites and processes to facilitate the dispersal of funeral ashes in accordance with the faith requirements of the Hindu community. Such a site would be non-denominational and could be utilized by various groups.

Through the latter half of 2019, TRCA staff met with City of Mississauga Parks and Forestry ("City") staff to discuss and identify opportunities for appropriate sites for the dispersal of funeral ashes in watercourses within TRCA's jurisdiction. City staff are determining both longer-term and shorter-term options for appropriate sites.

TRCA staff worked with City staff to determine risks due to the proposed dispersal of funeral ashes, including examining risks from a source water protection perspective, as well as risks to water quality and aquatic habitat. TRCA also reached out to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding this proposal. Ministry staff did not raise any concerns about the dispersal of funeral ashes in the creek. In all such cases, TRCA staff recommend that baseline and ongoing monitoring of the watercourse be undertaken to ensure that no damage or impairments to water quality or aquatic habitat occur. Concerns related to the dispersal of offerings that may impact water quality or aquatic habitat, such as coconuts, other fruit, coins, jewelry or other objects, could be dealt with through the City's By-Law Enforcement staff and through ongoing education efforts by both the City and TRCA. TRCA Archaeology staff should also review any proposed sites to confirm that there are no archaeological sites at risk registered along associated stretches and that there is no risk of impacting or contaminating

archaeological sites. If a site is selected, it is also recommended that TRCA and City staff review any restoration work that has been completed or is proposed for the site to ensure no impacts. Selected sites should also be identified to minimize future archaeological contamination from burial uses.

TRCA staff will continue to work with the City to support environmentally and culturally appropriate practices related to dispersing funeral ashes in watercourses, and will provide similar support, as requested, to partner municipalities, as well as continuing to play an ongoing regulatory role.

TRCA's work with faith-based organizations

In addition to supporting the City of Mississauga in this initiative, TRCA has also worked with other organizations to facilitate and provide guidance on the creation of appropriate sites for the dispersal of funeral ashes. For example, TRCA has worked with the Ontario Khalsa Darbar on proposed landscaping construction that the organization will undertake in order to create a site on Etobicoke Creek for the dispersal of funeral ashes. A permit was issued by TRCA in May 2020 for Ontario Khalsa Darbar to commence this work, with a member of the TRCA Board of Directors speaking at the launch of construction at this site.

TRCA has also worked with faith-based organizations on educational materials and initiatives related to the leaving of offerings in creeks and rivers, such as the brochure mentioned above, which was developed with the Hindu Federation and CVC, as well as undertaking outreach activities in Hindu temples.

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

This report supports the following strategy set forth in the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan:
Strategy 7 – Build partnerships and new business models

FINANCIAL DETAILS

TRCA has provided assistance to the City of Mississauga in recent discussions by facilitating high-level guidance and coordination with relevant TRCA staff through account 101-03. If municipalities or other organizations require more in-depth work from TRCA, including monitoring, in-depth stakeholder engagement, or design, restoration or project management work, it is expected that this would be conducted on a fee-for-service basis via an existing or expanded Memorandum of Understanding or Service Level Agreement.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

TRCA will continue to support municipalities, such as the City of Mississauga, through providing guidance on best practices and considerations and potentially engagement with relevant faith groups, where the work aligns with TRCA's mandate. TRCA may also provide fee-for-service work that can include: providing detailed advice; aquatic monitoring; design, restoration and/or project management services for sites or facilities adjacent to watercourses; and/or more in-depth education and engagement with stakeholders. TRCA will continue to provide plan review services for relevant projects and sites that require TRCA permits.

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Date: February 22, 2021

RES.#A51/21 -

**HUMBER RIVER CANADIAN HERITAGE RIVERS SYSTEM 10-YEAR
MONITORING REPORT 2020**

Humber River Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) 10-Year
Monitoring Report

Moved by: Paul Ainslie
Seconded by: Jennifer Drake

WHEREAS The Humber River was designated as a Canadian Heritage River in 1999 due to its outstanding human heritage and recreational values;

AND WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) is required to report on an annual and decadal basis on the activities that support the protection, restoration and celebration of cultural and recreational values that merit the Humber River's designation as a Canadian Heritage River;

AND WHEREAS TRCA's Strategic Plan priority "Tell the Story of the Toronto Region" promotes the celebration of cultural heritage of the Toronto Region, engagement of Indigenous and diverse communities in TRCA programming and the preservation and restoration of historic assets;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Humber River CHRS 10 – Year Monitoring Report be received for information;

THAT TRCA staff develop an annual CHRS reporting framework for the Humber, which aligns with the CHRS reporting guidelines and TRCA Strategic Plan and Annual Report Reporting metrics;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this report be circulated to Ontario Ministry of Conservation, Environment and Parks, Parks Canada, and all municipalities within the Humber Watershed.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

In 1999, the Humber River was officially designated as a Canadian Heritage River and included in the Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS), Canada's national river conservation program. The CHRS program is a Canadian-provincial-territorial managed program, which works with river managers across Canada to conserve and promote designated rivers in recognition that they are essential to our health, our communities, and our identity as Canadians.

The Humber River is exceptional on many accounts. From a natural environmental perspective, it drains the largest watershed in the TRCA jurisdiction and contains many of the most unique and sensitive natural spaces in the Greater Toronto region including portions of the Oak Ridges Moraine and Niagara Escarpment. However, the CHRS designation is based on the Humber River's rich human history as a home for Indigenous peoples along its banks, as a vital transportation route known as the Carrying Place Trail and as the site of many of Toronto's early European settlement homes and industries.

In receiving the Canadian Heritage River designation, the Humber River has been formally recognized for its cultural and recreational values and for its fundamental contributions to the development of Canada. Since 1999, TRCA has worked with municipal and community

partners, watershed residents and Indigenous communities on several CHRS-inspired or supported initiatives that protect, restore and celebrate the Humber River. Some of the accomplishments include:

- Watershed Plan for Humber River watershed;
- Humber River Watershed Report Cards;
- Humber River Heritage Bridge Inventory;
- The Shared Path Program;
- CHRS Heritage Plaques Program;
- Designation of heritage buildings and structures such as the Wiley Bridge and McVean Barn in the Claireville Conservation Area within the City of Brampton;
- Signature watershed events such as Humber by Canoe; and
- Support of community-led heritage events throughout the watershed.

RATIONALE

As part of maintaining the Humber River's CHRS designation, TRCA is required to submit annual and 10-year monitoring reports to the CHRS following the guidance provided in the CHRS Policies, Procedures and Operating Guidelines for the CHRS Program (2019). The last 10-Year Monitoring Report for the Humber River was submitted to the CHRS in 2009.

At Board of Directors Meeting #8/18 held on October 26, 2018 a 20th Anniversary Celebration Plan framework for the Humber River was presented to the TRCA Board which included development of the 10-Year CHRS Monitoring Report. Since then, TRCA staff have developed the 10-Year Monitoring Report with input from various Business Units and Divisions across TRCA. The report outlines activities related to cultural and recreational values within the watershed from 2009 to 2019, including the Humber River's 20th anniversary celebrations as a Canadian Heritage River. The report is required for TRCA to fulfill its reporting obligations to the CHRS and demonstrate actions and measures to protect, restore and celebrate the cultural and recreation values in order to maintain its Heritage River designation. Furthermore, the report includes an important recommendation from TRCA to the CHRS Board to maintain the CHRS designation for the Humber River.

Schedule 7 of the CHRS Policies, Procedures and Guidelines includes the reporting framework for the ten-year monitoring report, which at a high-level includes:

- A summary of significant events, actions and research within the Humber since the last 10-Year Monitoring Report submitted to CHRS in 2009;
- A summary of changes or threats to the state or condition of the values for which the river was originally designated;
- The status of actions and management measures within the designation document;
- A summary list of benefits for the watershed as a result of the River's designation;
- Assessment of the ability to meet the criteria outlined in the designation document for continued designation as a Canadian Heritage River; and
- A recommendation for the Humber River to maintain its Canadian Heritage River designation, or that it be de-designated.

In addition, the Humber River 2020 10-Year Monitoring Report also includes additional information such as:

- A report on the Humber River's 20th Anniversary Celebration activities;

- Forewords written by the members of the Humber Heritage Committee and TRCA's Chair;
- A conditions assessment of the 9 CHRS plaques located within the Humber watershed;
- An overview of the number of archaeological and built heritage resources within the watershed; and
- Watershed mapping which illustrates cultural heritage and recreational sites across the watershed.

Moving forward, staff will be developing a framework for annual CHRS reporting which takes into account prescribed CHRS guidelines and metrics that TRCA reports on for Strategic Plan and Annual Report reporting purposes. In addition, staff will identify which internal data and information is useful to include in annual reports and can be reported on consistently. As part of the development of the CHRS annual reporting framework, staff will also reach out to relevant external agencies and partners to determine which external information would be accessible and useful to include on an ongoing basis. Staff will use this framework internally to collect data and information from various programs.

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

This report supports the following strategy set forth in the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan:
Strategy 6 – Tell the story of the Toronto region

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Staff-time for preparation of the Humber River CHRS 10-Year Monitoring Report is supported by Toronto, Peel and York capital budgets: 126-47, 126-85 and 126-90.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

- Circulate copy of the 10-Year CHRS Monitoring Report to stakeholders and relevant municipalities;
- Develop an annual reporting framework for the Humber River which aligns with CHRS guidelines and TRCA Strategic Plan and annual reporting framework;
- Collect data from various internal programs and external agencies for annual and future CHRS reports; and
- Submit the annual 2020 Humber River CHRS Report to the CHRS.

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Date: February 3, 2021

Attachments: 1

Attachment 1: Humber River Canadian Heritage Rivers System 10-Year Monitoring Report

CANADIAN HERITAGE RIVERS SYSTEM

10-Year Monitoring Report for the Humber River

December 2020

Canadian
Heritage
Rivers
System



Le Réseau
des rivières
du patrimoine
canadien



Toronto and Region
Conservation
Authority

FOREWORD FROM THE CHAIR

The history of the Humber River is a story of its people, their survival, and their connections to land and water, including on how the river informed the development of our nation. From the Carrying Place Trail and grand villages established by Indigenous communities for thousands of years, to the early settlers who traded and explored this landscape across vast trail networks, who farmed, built homes and industries, the Humber River's rich legacy is reflective of Canada itself. The Humber River continues to be celebrated by its modern-day people and communities alongside its designation as a Canadian Heritage River.

As a river manager, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) has had the responsibility of maintaining this prestigious designation since 1999. Through TRCA's Strategic Plan, we are motivated to create a strong sense of place and an understanding of how we connect and have connected with cultural heritage both now and in the past. Since the river's designation, TRCA has been working with CHRS, government and industry partners, watershed residents and organizations on various initiatives that support the Humber's heritage designation. Some of the accomplishments include: developing watershed plans, investing in our Regional Trail Strategy, preparing report cards that illustrate the health conditions of the watershed, conducting a Humber heritage bridge inventory, maintaining a heritage plaques program and holding signature events like Humber by Canoe, Canada Day events at Albion Hills Conservation Area in Caledon and others that encourage people to learn about and celebrate the rich natural, cultural and recreational values of the Humber River. Highlights of this great work have been captured in this 10-Year Monitoring Report.

TRCA has been working towards accomplishing a vision for a healthy and resilient Humber River watershed and continues to promote, protect and conserve the Humber River and create greater understanding and awareness of this designated Canadian Heritage River.

Jennifer Innis

Chair, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority



FOREWORD FROM THE HUMBER HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Forty years ago, a dedicated and creative group of volunteers decided that an urban river was as equally worthy a Canadian Heritage River as the many amazing waterways in more remote and wild areas of the country. Twenty years later with a little help from their friends, including TRCA, they proved that the Humber was like no other river in the world.

Today, we are grateful that we were able to celebrate the Humber River's 20th anniversary of its designation as a Canadian Heritage River in 2019. We are proud to have included Indigenous languages on the commemorating plaques.

As you are reading this, we are riding the second wave of a pandemic. The challenges of physical distancing have brought an increasing need to connect with nature. We have noticed an unprecedented interest in everything Heritage, especially environmental and cultural. People flocking to the Humber River waterways and its trails want to hear the stories of all that surrounds them and understand their relationship to the water.

As development pressures and population increase, people are also demanding stronger environmental protection of greenspaces including, the headwaters region of the Humber in Mono, Caledon, King, and Richmond Hill. TRCA is on leading edge of this work with many unfunded opportunities to address this need.

Twenty years on, we are no longer alone in realizing the importance of preserving and enhancing the health of the Humber River for the benefit of all. With support from the communities and all levels of government even more could be done to celebrate this vital Heritage River.

"The river made us, we have to save the river"

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Humber River is located in the Province of Ontario (Figure 1), arising 40 km to the north and northwest of the City of Toronto and draining southwest toward the city, culminating at Lake Ontario. The river is managed by Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), one of 36 Conservation Authorities across the Province of Ontario that are tasked with, among many things, watershed management, flood control, land management and stewardship, ecological monitoring and community engagement.

The Humber River is exceptional on many accounts. It drains the largest watershed in TRCA's jurisdiction and contains many unique and sensitive natural spaces in the Greater Toronto Area, including portions of the Oak Ridges Moraine and Niagara Escarpment. The three main tributaries of the Humber River – the Main, East and West branches, traverse ten local and five regional or single-tier municipalities (the City of Toronto, the Regional Municipalities of Peel, York, Dufferin, and Simcoe Counties) within the Province of Ontario. The watershed occupies 911 square kilometers and is home to nearly one million people. The Humber River also provides a multitude of recreational spaces including, hundreds of kilometers of trails, numerous conservation areas that provide picnicking, biking, hiking angling, and canoeing opportunities.



Figure 1: The Humber Watershed in the Context of the Province of Ontario

In addition to the river’s many natural heritage and recreational values, the Humber has a rich human history that has fundamentally contributed to the development of Canada. Historically, the river was used as an ancient transportation route known as the Carrying Place Trail, used by Indigenous peoples and early European explorers and settlers, who traded, settled and established industries along the banks of the Humber River.

In 1999, the Humber River was designated as a Canadian Heritage River and officially included in the Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS), Canada’s national river conservation program. The CHRS program is a federal-provincial-territorial managed program which works with river managers across Canada to conserve and promote the natural, cultural and recreational values of designated rivers. While the Humber did not meet the natural heritage criteria requirements set out by CHRS, since the river includes an impoundment (Claireville Dam), features such as the Carrying Place Trail and the extensive recreational trail system found throughout the watershed, amplified the rationale to support the Humber River’s CHRS designation for outstanding cultural and recreational values. Criteria for natural heritage values established by CHRS can be found in Appendix 1 and criteria for cultural and recreational heritage values which define the Humber’s CHRS designation are found in sections 5 and 6 of this report.

It should be noted that the West Humber River (a tributary of the Humber) was not included as part of the formal CHRS designation due to the human impacts on the river as a result of the Claireville Dam.

In 2008, CHRS developed a Strategic Plan which set out priorities to accomplish the vision for the CHRS. The Strategic Plan “is designed to serve as a catalyst for governments, communities, and local people to take action for their river, their community, and their lives.” In addition, it is “written to engage all Canadians in caring for our rivers.” (CHRS Strategic Plan 2008 – 2018). Similarly, in 2008 TRCA developed a Watershed Management Plan for the Humber River which set out strategies to protect, restore and celebrate this historic waterway. Over the past twenty years TRCA has continued to work with the CHRS, watershed residents, community partners and Indigenous communities on implementing priorities from the watershed plan.

2.0 METHODS

TRCA last prepared a 10-year comprehensive monitoring report to the CHRS in 2009. The 2020 10 – Year Monitoring Report was prepared by TRCA staff and completed following the guidelines provided by the CHRS as part of their Policies, Procedures and Operating Guidelines (2017). Data and information for the report was assembled through staff knowledge, a review of TRCA programs relevant to the Humber River watershed, in addition to specific requests to municipal partners for heritage data.

While there has been work carried out by other agencies that also celebrates the Humber’s cultural and recreational heritage, this report focuses on TRCA programming and initiatives, or work with our partners that is directly influenced or supported by TRCA. This report also only considers cultural and recreational values, as those values are responsible for the river’s designation. Natural heritage values are not reported in this report as the Humber River was not originally designated for natural heritage.

3.0 CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS SINCE 2009

The following table summarizes significant events, actions and special events undertaken by TRCA or in partnership with other agencies, community members or other partners within the Humber River watershed from 2009 to 2019.

TABLE 1: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS SINCE 2009**2009****Publication of Humber River Carrying Place Book**

A coffee table photo book was published in celebration of the Humber River's 10th anniversary as a Canadian Heritage River. The book tells the story of the Humber River's CHRS designation, and highlights the river's natural, cultural, and recreational features through colourful photographs collected through a public photo contest.

Humber 10th Anniversary Celebration

A celebration was held in Toronto's Etienne Brule Park to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Humber River's designation as a heritage river. The event saw participation from local officials, members of Indigenous communities, the Humber Heritage Committee, and the general public. Activities included an Indigenous drumming circle, the Humber River Run, a historic bicycling tour of Toronto's old French Forts, theatrical vignettes performed by the Humber River Shakespeare Company, native birds of prey and reptile demonstrations, tree planting and stewardship activities and walking tours.

Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program (SNAP): Black Creek

SNAP is a neighbourhood-based approach to sustainable urban renewal and climate action. The Black Creek SNAP, launched in 2009, was one of TRCA's first pilot SNAPs within the City of Toronto. Working with local partners, an Action Plan for "Growing Food and Green Opportunities" was completed in 2012. The plan responds to interests and needs of this north-west Toronto neighbourhood, located on the degraded Black Creek tributary of the Humber River. The Action Plan has been used as the catalyst for completing a broad range of multi-objective implementation initiatives, including: an extensive home retrofit program, a significant multi-unit residential revitalization project, many urban agriculture and green infrastructure initiatives, including activities at Black Creek Pioneer Village as well as community capacity building programs.

2010**Crossing the Humber, a Heritage Bridge Inventory**

This inventory was designed to promote the recognition and protection of heritage bridges throughout the Humber watershed as infrastructure essential to the preservation of community character and the development of social capital. The findings from this research have contributed to the emerging discourse on heritage conservation planning in Ontario, as well as watershed management practices in the Humber. The inventory was developed in collaboration with the Heritage Committee of the Humber Watershed Alliance.

Albion Hills Community Farm

Albion Hills Community Farm is a non-profit farm on TRCA owned land, within the Town of Caledon that advances the understanding of local food and sustainable agriculture practices through farming, education, conservation and community partnerships. Launched in 2010, the farm continues to be a place where students, teachers, farmers, community groups and families come together to learn about and participate in local food production in ways that serve the needs of growing near-urban communities.

Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve

In 2010, TRCA entered into an agreement with the Province of Ontario to manage the Oak Ridges Corridor Park lands in the City of Richmond Hill (formerly Town of Richmond Hill) which contains some of the kettle lakes and wetlands of the East Humber River watershed. These lands are known collectively as the Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve. TRCA continues to manage a trail system that spans the length of the reserve and which connects the Humber to the Don and Rouge River systems. TRCA and our partners offers a range of community engagement and educational programming within the Reserve out of Bathurst Glen, Swan Lake and Lake St. George Centres.

Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program (SNAP): Lake Wilcox

The Lake Wilcox neighbourhood is located within the larger community of Oak Ridges in the City of Richmond Hill (formerly Town of Richmond Hill). Home to a diverse and growing community, it contains the largest kettle lake on the Oak Ridges Moraine, Lake Wilcox, at the headwaters of the East Humber River. Developed in collaboration with York Region, the City of Richmond Hill, and many local community residents and organizations, the Lake Wilcox SNAP Action Plan was completed in 2012 and focuses on enhancing the natural environment of the area.

The Lake Wilcox SNAP's implementation activities, delivered between 2012 and 2015, centered around preserving and enhancing the ecological health of Lake Wilcox, as well as a locally tailored Eco-Landscaping program, involving front yard makeover demonstrations, monitoring and a strategically designed neighbourhood-wide program.

The Living City Report Card

TRCA and CivicAction's Greening Greater Toronto collaborated with organizations and environmental leaders across the region to produce the first The Living City® Report Card in 2011. The report assesses the environmental health of the Greater Toronto Area, reporting on six measures of environmental health: Water, Air Quality, Carbon, Land Use, Biodiversity and Waste. In addition, the Biodiversity indicators such as Fish and Natural Cover reported at the watershed scale, including the Humber watershed.

Shared Path/Le Sentier Partagé

The Shared Path/Le Sentier Partagé in the City of Toronto follows the banks of the Humber from the mouth of the river north to the Dundas Street bridge. The Path connects an ancient Indigenous portage route to modern roads and railways. It highlights stories of Indigenous peoples, 18th century French trading posts, Toronto's early French presence and shows the birth of industrial Toronto from the ruins of water powered mills. A series of educational plaques describing the history of the Humber can be found along the path's thirteen storytelling circles. The plaques are translated into English, French and Ojibway.

Bolton Camp

Bolton Camp, on the banks of the Humber River, in the Town of Caledon opened its doors in 1922 and was a popular destination for families from low income areas of Toronto for 75 years. In 2011, TRCA purchased the property and began developing a plan to re-purpose the site as a community hub: a destination for people to come together to learn, play, create, explore and share in unique experiences. Work on Bolton Camp continues, and the new Bolton Camp will respect the history of the site, while helping to create new cultural and social innovation opportunities in the region and contributing to the health and well-being of residents.

Black Creek Community Farm (BCCF)

The BCCF is situated in north Toronto on an eight-acre property that includes farmland, a heritage farmhouse and barn, and a surrounding forest that extends down into the Black Creek ravine. BCCF has been operation since 2012 as a start-up focused on improving food security, reducing social isolation, and improving employment and education outcomes.

Claireville Conservation Area (CCA) Management Plan Update

The CCA Management Plan Update addresses public use pressures, natural habitat conservation and enhancement, cultural heritage preservation, property securement, community stewardship and conservation education at the 848 hectares of conservation lands that make up the CCA in the City of Brampton, City of Mississauga and City of Toronto.

Discovery of the Carberry Site

As part of the Goreway Drive Road Widening Project, TRCA Archaeologists conducted archaeological assessments of authority owned land ahead of its disposition within the City of Brampton. During this survey, remnants of one of the earliest homesteads in Gore Township, Peel County, was unearthed. Archival records indicate the homestead was occupied by well-known local family, the Carberrys, who constructed a one-storey log cabin ca. 1830 at this location. This cabin stayed in the family for over a century before being sold in 1941, and ultimately torn down. Excavation revealed remnants of the stone foundation, a well, a summer kitchen, smoke house, garden steps and much more. Thousands of artifacts were unearthed, and the property's history, uses and alterations were documented in a rare opportunity to collaborate with living Carberry descendants.

Last Term of Humber Watershed Alliance

The Humber Watershed Alliance was a volunteer group that helped TRCA develop watershed management plans, and other strategies to protect and celebrate the Humber watershed. The CHRS designation was one of the initiatives spurred by the Humber Heritage committee under the Alliance. The Alliance was dissolved in 2013 as TRCA revisited their engagement strategy and looked to improve their engagement with the community.

The Bolton Resource Management Tract (BRMT) Management Plan

The BRMT Management Plan was developed to manage a 973-hectare conservation property within the Town of Caledon, Region of Peel. The Management Plan aims to protect, conserve and restore the valuable ecological features and functions of this tract of land, while guiding the current and potential future recreational development.

Publication of the Watershed Report Card

Watershed report cards are produced every five years by conservation authorities to track and report on surface water and groundwater quality as well as forest conditions. This research enhances our knowledge of each watershed, guides its stewards to focus efforts to critical areas, and identifies ecologically important areas that require protection or enhancement.

The 2013 Humber River watershed Report Card reported a decline in surface water quality, but an improvement in stormwater management since the previous report card. There were no changes in forest conditions. These data were used to inform watershed management actions, and recommendations for land use planning.

Huron-Wendat Repatriation

In September 2013, human remains from twelve Huron-Wendat ancestral villages located throughout the Greater Toronto Area, including several from the Humber watershed, were repatriated at Thonnakona Ossuary, in Vaughan Ontario. The skeletal remains from over 1,700 people were privately reburied in a sacred location within this part of the watershed by the Huron-Wendat of Wendake, Quebec.

Anniversary Celebration of CHRS Designation

2014 marked the Humber River's 15th anniversary of designation as a Canadian Heritage River under the Canadian Heritage Rivers System. This momentous anniversary was celebrated at Etienne Brule Park with a community event held in partnership with the City of Toronto, World Wildlife Fund, Future Watch, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, four local Police Services (Durham, Peel, Toronto and York) - the 4 Directions Peacekeepers. This event celebrated the unique cultural, recreational, and natural heritage of the river by focusing programming on traditional teachings, historical education of cultural significance, and outdoor education.

60th Anniversary of Hurricane Hazel

In 1954 Hurricane Hazel struck the Humber River, resulting in devastating flooding that caused extensive damage to homes and property, and the death of 62 people in the City of Toronto. This tragic event resulted in a new focus on watershed management and ultimately the development of TRCA as an agency. The 60th anniversary event hosted walking tours of the lower Humber River, extensive media coverage and a social media campaign aimed at reminding the community of the dangers of building in floodplains, erosion and the important work conservation authorities are carrying out throughout Ontario.

Humber Gateway Parkette Grand Opening

On September 24, 2014, the City of Richmond Hill (formerly Town of Richmond Hill), along with their partners including TRCA, celebrated the opening of the Humber Gateway Parkette. The park is situated in a unique geographic location at the easterly edge of the headwaters to the East Humber River and offers its visitors a pathway lined with native plantings, as well as an information kiosk which provides information pertaining to the importance of the headwater areas and the status of the Humber River as a Canadian Heritage River.

Humber Heritage River Plaque Program

TRCA, with the support of municipal and community partners, installed eleven bronze plaques throughout the Humber River watershed to celebrate its designation as a Canadian Heritage River. This includes five plaques with a map of the Carrying Place Trail, and six Canadian Heritage Rivers System plaques. Each plaque was cast with a message celebrating the Humber River in three languages: English, French, and one of three Indigenous languages: Huron-Wendat, Onondaga, or Mississauga.

The Living City Policies

The Living City Policies is a policy document approved by TRCA's Board on November 28, 2014. It is a conservation authority policy document to guide the implementation of TRCA's legislated and delegated roles and responsibilities in development and infrastructure planning processes as well as TRCA's regulatory role under section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act. Section 6.9 in The Living City Policies promotes the importance of cultural heritage to the planning and development of sustainable communities. This section also cites a number of partnership initiatives or programs that identify, conserve and promote Indigenous and non-Indigenous/Settlement Period cultural heritage landscapes and resources on TRCA-owned lands, including the Humber River's CHRS designation, illustrating the 10,000+ year history of Indigenous and early European reliance on the Toronto Carrying Place Trail.

2015

Nashville Resource Management Tract (Nashville Conservation Reserve) Management Plan

The Nashville Resource Management Tract (NRMT) is an 820-hectare TRCA-owned property, located in the Region of York, within the municipalities of King and Vaughan. NRMT is a diverse site containing many different habitat types such as upland forests, bottomland forests, meadows, former agricultural fields, wetlands and small tributaries that feed into the main stem of the upper Humber River. The property supports a variety of wildlife, provides significant deer wintering yards and is an important migratory corridor. The NRMT Management Plan provides guidance to protect the natural heritage system of NRMT, while also providing visitors with nature-based recreation opportunities.

2016

Albion Hills Conservation Area (AHCA) Master Plan

In the 1950s, AHCA was identified as the optimal location to provide the surrounding region with access to outdoor recreation, education, and agricultural opportunities. Today AHCA is widely recognized as one of the premier destinations for outdoor recreation and learning activities within the Greater Toronto Area. Completed in 2016, the Master Plan is a visioning document to guide the management of 486 hectares of conservation lands to ensure that the natural areas are preserved and enhanced, while recreational and educational activities are continued to be provided to visitors.

Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan (SNAP): West Bolton

The West Bolton SNAP is located in a mature neighbourhood in Bolton, Caledon's major urban centre. The neighbourhood is west of the historic downtown core and comprises mostly residential properties, with pockets of commercial and institutional development. The neighbourhood also includes parks, schools, greenspaces and trails, and is transected by Jaffary's Creek, a tributary of the Humber River. The overarching theme of this Action Plan is "bringing people, nature and places together". This theme reflects local interest in connectivity: physical connection to local destinations, natural areas and people, and emotional connection to and recognition of the neighbourhood's history and future. Community consultations were initiated in 2016 and the Action Plan completed in 2019 with a number of implementation initiatives underway.

2017

The Living City Farm

The Living City Farm, a 4.8-hectare farm operated by Akachi Farms, is located at the Kortright Centre for Conservation in Vaughan. The farm produces over 100 varieties of vegetables and fruits using biodynamic farming practices and innovative technology. As a learning centre for youth, adults and new farmers, the farm offers educational programs each year; these programs focus on local food, environmental stewardship and the role of animals in the farm system. The yields are sold directly to community members on-site and at farmers markets.

TRCA Community Engagement Strategy

TRCA's Community Engagement Strategy was developed to align and guide TRCA's approaches to community engagement over the next 10 years (2017-2027) so that TRCA supports broader and deeper community mobilization and maximizes collective impact in pursuit of TRCA's vision for The Living City and Strategic Plan objectives.

TRCA Regional Watershed Alliance Launched

The Regional Watershed Alliance is an advisory and action-based committee comprising diverse community members from across the Toronto region who contribute their unique perspectives and capabilities. The Regional Watershed Alliance was developed following the dissolution of the individual watershed volunteer committees, which were originally launched in the early 1990s. This jurisdiction-wide approach to citizen governance provides more opportunities for coordination and collaboration across watersheds.

The Regional Watershed Alliance works toward The Living City Vision for healthy rivers and shorelines, regional biodiversity, and sustainable communities across the nine watersheds in the Toronto region and its Lake Ontario waterfront now, and for future generations.

Canada 150 at Black Creek Pioneer Village

In 2017, TRCA received grants from Ontario's Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Sport and the Department of Canadian Heritage to create, promote, and deliver a unique event celebrating Canada 150 at Black Creek Pioneer Village on the banks of a tributary of the Humber in Vaughan and Toronto. Combining historical and archaeological elements with a grand birthday celebration, the event "Party Like its 1867" attracted more than 7,000 people. Participants explored the history of the Toronto region and experienced engaging activities, exhibits, and theatrical performances as they would have at the time of the country's Confederation.

Launch of Humber by Canoe at MomenTO, Celebrating Canada's 150th

Humber by Canoe is a full day of free, family activities including paddling, live entertainment, heritage walks and educational activities to celebrate the heritage of the Humber River in the City of Toronto. The event offers free paddling opportunities and safety demonstrations allowing participants to get on the river and explore its natural heritage for themselves. The first annual event was held in partnership with the City of Toronto, through their MomenTO campaign. MomenTO, part of the City's TO Canada with Love program, was produced by the City of Toronto in partnership with the Province of Ontario's Ontario 150 Program and the Government of Canada and CHRS.

William Granger Greenway – Humber Trail Guide Launch

An updated trail guide was produced for the Humber Trail running through the William Granger Greenway within the City of Vaughan. This area is rich in cultural heritage, recreational value, and significant natural features. The updated trail guide allows visitors to explore the area with ease.

TRCA Youth Council Launched

TRCA's Community Engagement Strategy (2017) recommended more focused engagement of youth to enhance the reach of TRCA programs and activities and prepare the next generation of conservation leaders. The Youth Council is for people aged 16-30 who either reside or attend school in TRCA's jurisdiction. Led by a group of youth executives, the council seeks to build a youth network, understand youth perspectives, provide fun opportunities, and build youth capacity. In 2018/19 the council undertook a survey to better understand youth perspectives, and delivered a number of engagement events, including a movie night hosted with Swim Drink Fish and Patagonia.

Publication of the Watershed Report Card

The update to the 2013 report card found no change to surface water quality or forest conditions. Ground water quality was measured through monitoring wells throughout the watershed. All wells were found to have acceptable levels of nitrate, but only half of those wells were found to have acceptable levels of chloride. This is thought to be the result of road salt and/or contamination from septic systems and water softeners. Natural cover was also found to be unevenly distributed through the watershed. It was found that the watershed was 37% urban, 30% rural, and 33% natural cover, with most of the natural cover found in the headwater regions of the watershed.

The Living City Report Card Art Exhibit

In 2018, TRCA launched an art exhibit in partnership with Evergreen and Crazy Dames showcasing artwork around the six themes of The Living City Report Card: Air, Water, Land Use, Biodiversity, Waste, and Carbon.

Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve 10th Annual Schools Native Tree and Shrub Planting

Since 2008 TRCA has partnered with the Rotary Club of Richmond Hill, City of Richmond Hill and York Region to host a restoration event at Grovewood Park. In May 2018 for the 10th anniversary of this annual event, over 100 students and community members participated in planting 175 native trees and shrubs. The group also helped to remove invasive buckthorn plants and learned about citizen science through TRCA's Young Tree and Shrub Monitoring Program (YTMP). By tagging a certain percentage of plant material with a unique ID tag, and providing baseline measurements, this information is used to track the health of the trees to develop fine-tuned maintenance strategies.

Raising the Roof-Restoration of Heritage Church

In 2017, Raising the Roof, a national charitable organization that provides long-term solutions to homelessness, reached out to TRCA to repurpose a designated historical church to provide housing for at risk youth. The church, located in the old hamlet of Cedar Mains in Caledon, was built in 1857, converted into a house in the mid twentieth century and designated as a heritage structure in 2009. Through partnerships and collaborations with diverse stakeholders, Raising the Roof is able to educate the public on homelessness and invest in local communities. A lease agreement was struck between Raising the Roof and TRCA in 2018 and the project is expected to be completed in 2020.

Removal of the Dam at Albion Hills Conservation Park

The historic Albion Hills Pond was located in the Albion Hills Conservation Park. The original dam structure was built in the 1950s and reconstructed in 1965 to create a pond for recreational purposes. The Dam was identified as a major barrier to fish movement in the Humber River Fish Management Plan. Online ponds, such as the Albion Hills Pond, also increase in-stream temperatures, making the aquatic habitat uninhabitable for coldwater fish species such as brook trout, and disrupt sediment movement in the creek, causing erosion and destruction of fish habitat.

The dam was also becoming a health and safety risk to the users of the Conservation Park. In 2011, a comprehensive Dam Safety Review was undertaken that identified several deficiencies with the dam which could ultimately lead to dam failure. A Bridge Condition Assessment was subsequently completed in 2013, and identified that the dam structure was also unable to support heavy traffic (e.g., trucks or buses).

Complete dam removal was identified as the preferred option through collaborative efforts of the TRCA Project Management Team, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), regulatory agencies, as well as input received through public consultation. The removal of the dam was completed in 2018.

Humber River 20th Anniversary Celebrations

2019 marked the 20th anniversary of the designation of the Humber River as a Canadian Heritage River. A variety of celebratory events took place, which are outlined in detail in section 4.0.

Trail Strategy for the Greater Toronto Region

In 2019 TRCA released The Trail Strategy for the Greater Toronto Region. The strategy outlines TRCA's plan to work with partners to complete, expand, manage and celebrate the Greater Toronto Region Trail Network, a connected trail network in our regional greenspace system. It serves as a framework to protect potential trail alignments, and to guide the planning, development, and management of these trails.

Wiley Bridge Restoration

The Wiley Bridge was built in 1924 and designated as a heritage property on the City of Brampton's Heritage Register. In 2019, a conditions report was commissioned on the Wiley Bridge that determined the bridge was in dire need of structural repairs. As a heritage feature and part of a vast network of trails located within Claireville Conservation Area, TRCA has begun the process of restoring the bridge.

Great Red Oak Tree Commemoration

A large red oak (*Quercus rubra*) is situated in the backyard of 76 Coral Gable Drive in the City of Toronto. It is estimated that the tree is over 250 years old, one of the oldest trees in the entire City. This tree, found near the Humber Carrying Place Trail, survived both colonization and development of the neighbourhood in the 1960s. With the support of TRCA, in September 2019, Heritage Toronto unveiled a commemorative plaque, which captures this great oak's place in our natural heritage. There is an ongoing City of Toronto effort to raise money to purchase the property, demolish the existing house and create a new park.

Greenlands Acquisition Project (GAP) 2009-2019

The purpose of the GAP is to provide background information, and implementation tools for the securement of greenlands by TRCA. Between 2009 and 2019, TRCA acquired approximately 913 hectares within the Humber River watershed.





4.0 HUMBER RIVER 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

The Humber's 20th anniversary as a Canadian Heritage River was a significant milestone event for TRCA and an opportunity to celebrate the watershed's rich cultural and recreational heritage. Development of the 20th Anniversary Celebration Plan incorporated ongoing watershed programs and activities of TRCA and its partners. In addition, when developing the plan, staff undertook a review of activities undertaken by other Heritage Rivers across the country celebrating their designation anniversaries. The overall framework for the Celebration Plan consisted of the following four components:

1. Collaborative and Signature Events
2. Legacy Projects
3. Marketing and Communications
4. Community Engagement and Recognition

The following section provides an overview of each component of the Celebration Plan, along with a summary of accomplishments.

Item	Description/Accomplishments
1. COLLABORATIVE AND SIGNATURE EVENTS	
Launch at McMichael Canadian Art Collection	In partnership with McMichael Canadian Art Collection, TRCA hosted a special event to kick off the 20th anniversary celebrations in Kleinburg. With local Canadian art in the background, the event began with an Indigenous blessing and welcome from Elder Garry Sault from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Speakers at the launch included Her Honour, The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario; Jennifer Innis, Chair of TRCA's Board of Directors; John MacKenzie, Chief Executive Officer of TRCA; Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education and Member of Provincial Parliament for King–Vaughan; and City of Vaughan Regional Councillor Linda Jackson.
Humber by Canoe Signature Event	<p>The annual Humber by Canoe event was the main CHRS anniversary celebration event. Held at Etienne Brule Park in Toronto, the event celebrated the rich heritage of the Humber River. Under the supervision of experts, the event offered free canoeing and provided the chance for first-time canoers to explore the river. The event also featured live performances, family activities, urban farm vendors, food trucks, heritage hikes and more.</p> <p>With 3,500 participants in attendance, the event saw the highest attendance recorded since the event's launch in 2017. The event was kicked off by a welcome and Indigenous blessing, and a water ceremony performed by an Indigenous Elder and Knowledge Keeper from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. As part of the event, the Humber Heritage Committee also organized a commemorative tree planting of a paper birch tree at Etienne Brule Park.</p>
Watershed Community Events	TRCA supported and participated in various community events throughout the Humber watershed through materials, displays and activities that celebrated the Humber's 20th anniversary. For example, the mobile museum was featured at community-based restoration events in Claireville and Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve, and an exhibit was held at the historic Lambton House (a more extensive list of events can be found in section 4 of this table, Regional Watershed Alliance Watershed Engagement Working Group).

Item	Description/Accomplishments
2. LEGACY PROJECTS	
CHRS Digital Story Map	In partnership with Parks Canada, TRCA developed content for the digital Humber River CHRS Story Map to be featured on the CHRS website. The story map is an interactive platform which features various points of interest within the Humber watershed around the themes of natural, cultural, and recreational heritage within the watershed. The story map also features key projects on the ground and the location of CHRS plaques. The Humber River Story Map is expected to be launched in 2021.
Discovery Garden at Bolton Camp	TRCA and partners developed a therapeutic and healing landscape at Bolton Camp, Town of Caledon that will provide space promoting mental, emotional and physical health and well-being. The development of the garden engaged Indigenous communities through the design and building of garden spaces. On Saturday October 19, 2019, phase 1 of the Bolton Camp Discovery Garden was implemented through a community planting event.
3. MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION	
Anniversary Theme	A visual theme was created for the 20th anniversary which was incorporated into TRCA's website, newsletter and promotional materials.
Anniversary Video	An anniversary video was developed as part of the CHRS Story Map and highlighted accomplishments over the past 20 years, including, TRCA, partner and stakeholder testimonials.
Social Media Strategy	A social media strategy for TRCA social media accounts was developed to create awareness for the Humber's 20th Anniversary.
Mobile Display	The mobile museum was created through collaboration with Black Creek Pioneer Village and TRCA's Archaeology departments. Archaeological artifacts were displayed to help tell the story of the Humber River and created a visual experience to bridge the past, present, and future of the Humber River, creating awareness around the Humber River's Canadian Heritage Rivers Designation and the legacy surrounding the Carrying Place Trail. The mobile museum travelled to various community, partner and TRCA events throughout the year.

Item	Description/Accomplishments
4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND RECOGNITION	
Indigenous Engagement	<p>Indigenous communities were engaged in the following initiatives related to the 20th Anniversary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bolton Discovery Garden (described above) • CHRS Story Map (described above) • Launch event (described above) • Humber by Canoe (described above) • Albion Hills Garlic Festival – Kim Wheatly, Ojibwe Anishinaabe Grandmother from Shawanaga First Nation Reserve, shared Indigenous knowledge and told stories through a hands-on craft activity.
Humber Heritage Committee Tree Commemoration	<p>On September 8, 2019, members of the Humber Heritage Committee and TRCA Regional Watershed Alliance, Carolyn King, Former Chief of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation at the time of the Humber's designation, and former City of Toronto Mayor, David Miller planted a paper birch tree to commemorate the Humber's 20th Anniversary as a Canadian Heritage River at Etienne Brule Park in Toronto.</p>
Regional Watershed Alliance Working Group	<p>The Watershed Engagement Group of the TRCA Regional Watershed Alliance took on the role of Planning Committee for the celebrations surrounding the 20th anniversary of the Humber River's designation as a Canadian Heritage River.</p> <p>The Watershed Engagement Working Group members contributed to planning the following Humber River 20th Anniversary celebrations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humber 20th Anniversary Launch Event, Friday April 12, 2019 • Bolton Camp Discovery Garden • Humber by Canoe, Sunday September 8 • Humber Heritage Committee Exhibit at Lambton House, Toronto, August 1 to October 31, 2019 • Humber Public Art Project • Open House at Doctors McLean District Park hosted by the City of Vaughan which included wildflower plantings, guided nature walks and an opportunity to learn about the Humber River Urban River Valley and Vaughan's trail network.



5.0 CULTURAL VALUES

5.1 Introduction

The Humber River watershed has a rich cultural history commencing at the end of the Ice Age roughly twelve thousand years ago with the arrival of Indigenous peoples. The glacial melt waters caused the lake to rise 30 meters over its current levels, flooding all land south of the Lake Iroquois Shoreline (Figure 2). The early Indigenous inhabitants used the Humber for travel, trade, hunting, and fishing and would locate their settlements close to its banks. The Humber River also served as an important transportation route into the interior, but due to the steep drop in elevation and the resulting rapids, large portions of the river were impassible to canoes.

The Humber Carrying Place Trail was a historic portage route that was used to join Lake Ontario and Lake Simcoe via the Humber and Holland Rivers (Figure 2). This route was used by ancestral Huron-Wendat who built their villages along its path to facilitate travel and trade (Figure 2). Later Indigenous groups would migrate to the Humber and settle on the portage route. In the late 17th century, a group of Seneca arrived from New York State and founded the village of Teiaiagon, which was later occupied by the Mississauga.

The first European to see the Humber was Étienne Brulé in 1615 which began the French Period. Missionaries and explorers visited Teiaiagon, and trading posts were built at the mouth of the river for the trade. This culminated in the building of Fort Rouillé in 1751 (Figure 2) which was abandoned in 1759 at the end of the Seven Years War and signified the end of the French and the beginning of the British Period.

The first European settlers arrived in the Humber during the 1790s. Many were attracted to the river’s potential for milling owing to the steep drop in elevation. This resulted in many historic milling sites and bridges to be built along the Humber. Land grants were given to Loyalists who had fled the American Revolution, and soon after settlers arrived from the British Isles. Their legacy can be found in the many designated and listed heritage structures found throughout the Humber River watershed (Figure 3).

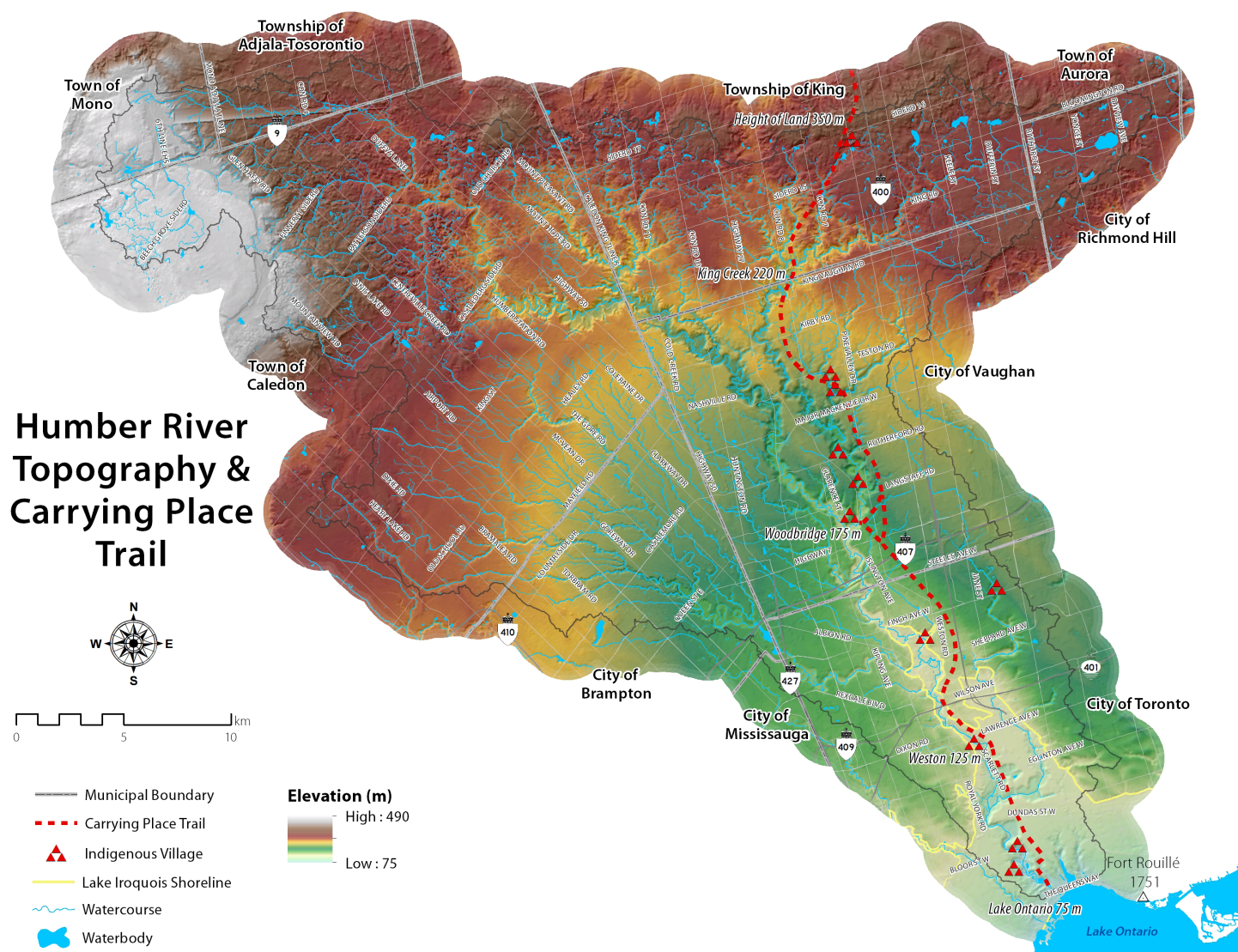


Figure 2: Map of the Carrying Place Trail

TRCA engages with eleven First Nations (FN) throughout the Humber River watershed on projects including environmental and archaeological assessments. These Nations include: Beausoleil FN, Georgina Island FN, Rama FN, Huron-Wendat Nation, Curve Lake FN, Haudenosaunee Confederacy, Hiawatha FN, Alderville FN, Scugog Island FN, Mississaugas of the Credit FN and Six Nations of the Grand River. For environmental assessments, TRCA engages as directed by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF). For archaeological assessments, TRCA engages with descendent groups and treaty holders, with some consultation with the Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI). Between 2010 and 2019, TRCA engaged First Nation communities on more than 40 cultural and environmental projects.

This section provides a summary of the significant cultural values found throughout the Humber River watershed, and the status of those values (section 5.2). In addition, a summary of the status of archaeological (Table 3) and built heritage sites (Table 4) is also included in this section. Unfortunately, built heritage data received by municipalities for this report update did not coincide with previous years. That is why some data saw an increase in values, while others showed a decrease. Furthermore, many municipalities have changed how they collect and store data making consolidating the data challenging.

TABLE 3: NUMBER OF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES FOUND IN THE HUMBER WATERSHED

Archaeological Sites (known and registered to date)	1998	2008	2019	10 – Year Increase:
Palaeo	14	14	14	-
Archaic	70	101	129	+28
Woodland	47	69	71	+2
Historic	58	121	316	+195
Unclassified	162	285	544	+259
Total	351	590	1,074	484

TABLE 4: NUMBER OF BUILT HERITAGE RESOURCES IN THE HUMBER WATERSHED

Built Heritage Resources (Known to Date)	1998	2008	2019*	10 – Year Increase:
Heritage Conservation District	0	2	not reported on	-
Designated	85	349	780	+ 431
Listed	563	675	1,067	+ 392
Burials/Cemeteries	108	156	48	conflicting data
Mills***	33	33	not reported on	-
Historic Plaques and Interpretive Markers	10	37	not reported on	-
Total	799	1,252		

* some information compiled, not registered

TABLE 5: CONDITION OF CULTURAL VALUES SINCE 2009

CULTURAL VALUE CATEGORY (appendix G)	CULTURAL VALUE	DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE IN VALUE (e.g. Magnitude, Positive or Negative Change, Immediate or Long-term)	REASON FOR CHANGE (e.g. Threat, Stressor, Management Action)	ACTIONS TAKEN IN RESPONSE
CULTURAL VALUE: RESOURCE HARVESTING				
Fishing (prehistoric and historic)	Fishing in the Humber has taken place historically by Indigenous People and early settlers. The River continues to provide fishing opportunities (summarized in “Recreation Values” table in section 6.2).	None		
Shoreline Resource Harvesting (fur bearing animals, foraging)	Historic resource harvesting of fur bearing animals and foraging was a cornerstone of life for the Indigenous People who resided in the Humber watershed. European colonizers would have also hunted and foraged along the river.	None		
Extraction of Water	The Humber River was used extensively by settlers in mill production. None of the mills are currently in operation.	None		
CULTURAL VALUE: WATER TRANSPORTATION				
Commercial Transportation	The Humber River was used historically as a transportation route for goods and services both by Indigenous People and later on by European settlers.	None		
Transportation Services	The Toronto Carrying Place Trail The Humber River was used as an important travel route, and the Carrying Place Trail was the historic route linking the communities around Lake Ontario to Lake Simcoe.	The trail has been highlighted by the installation of interpretive signs along the lower Humber in the City of Toronto as part of the Shared Path/Sentier Partagé Project.	Management Action	This management action was undertaken to improve public awareness of the Carrying Place Trail.
Exploration and Surveying	The Humber River and the Carrying Place Trail was a key feature in the exploration and surveying of the region during European colonization.	None		

CULTURAL VALUE: RIPARIAN SETTLEMENT

Siting of Dwellings	The Humber River watershed has long been inhabited, first by Indigenous People about 12,000 years ago and then later by European settlers.	Communities continue to grow throughout the watershed, and efforts have been made to preserve Indigenous sites and neighbourhoods of cultural significance through archaeological and heritage studies.	Management Action	TRCA continues to work with partner municipalities to inform land planning, including archeological work.
River-Based Communities	Seed Barker Site The Seed-Barker Site is a Late Iroquoian (16th Century) Village strategically located along the Carrying Place Trail. Excavations have found evidence of twenty longhouses and an eight-row palisade, 13 other structures, and recovered more than one million artifacts. Between 1975 – 2005, the site hosted a series of archaeological field schools and allowed the opportunity for over 1,000 high school and university students to participate in excavating the site. Annual excavations have fostered the education of a generation of archaeologists. It is one of very few sites that has been excavated entirely by hand.	None. This is a registered and protected archaeological site.		
	Teiaiaagon The Seneca village of Teiaiaagon, the Seneca name for 'it crosses the stream' was situated on the peninsula that is now known as Baby Point in the City of Toronto. Protected on three sides by the Humber River and elevated high above the river, the peninsula was a classic defensive location for situating an Iroquoian village. Teiaiaagon is situated at the northern end of the navigable section of the Humber and the start of the Carrying Place Trail. This allowed for the settlement to act as a toll gate controlling the flow of furs brought south by the Anishinaabe, and allowed the Seneca to act as middlemen between themselves and French.	None. The City of Toronto has established an Archaeological Sensitive Area surrounding the village to protect the disturbance of any further cultural remains.		
	In 1695, the Seneca abandoned the village and a French fort stood in its place by 1720 which was known as le Magasin Royal and built by Captain Alexandre Dagneau Douville. This fort marks the first European settlement in the Greater Toronto Area. Due to aggressive trade competition from the British, the fort eventually fell into decline.	None. The City of Toronto has established an Archaeological Sensitive Area surrounding the village to protect the disturbance of any further cultural remains.		

CULTURAL VALUE: RIPARIAN SETTLEMENT - CONT.

River-influenced Transportation	<p>There are numerous historic bridges found throughout the watershed. The maintenance of those bridges falls to different municipal stakeholders.</p> <p>There are a small number of bowstring bridges that span the Humber River that are found on TRCA property. Of those bridges, only the Wiley Bridge is designated as a heritage bridge.</p>	The Wiley bridge structure, like many of the historic bowstring bridges found on TRCA property, has deteriorated over time.	Weather and management over time.	An engineering assessment was carried out in 2017. TRCA plans to undertake that repair work. The bridge will not be open to vehicular traffic but will be open for pedestrian use.
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CULTURAL VALUE: CULTURE AND RECREATION

Spiritual Associations	<p>There are some spiritually significant sites for Indigenous people found along the Humber River.</p> <p>Reburial of Huron Wendat Ancestors in Kleinburg While there are other spiritual ossuaries in the Humber, this is unique as it was excavated/removed and then repatriated with other ancestors who were removed from their original resting locations throughout the GTA.</p>	None		
Cultural Expression	<p>Black Creek Pioneer Village Black Creek Pioneer Village is an open-air heritage museum overlooking Black Creek, a tributary of the Humber River.</p> <p>Black Creek Pioneer Village represents the largest collection of heritage buildings in the region – and one of the largest in the country. The historic structures include the original Stong Family Farm buildings, a water-powered grist mill, a general store, a blacksmith shop, and many more.</p> <p>At the Village, visitors can discover 40 historic buildings, 70 rare and heritage breed animals, 10 different gardens with flowers and vegetables grown from heirloom seeds, 50,000 historical artifacts, and a wide variety of engaging programs for people of all ages.</p>	Periodic heritage restoration of heritage buildings.	Management Action	Ongoing restoration work and programming.

CULTURAL VALUE: CULTURE AND RECREATION - CONT.

Cultural Expression	Le Sentier Partagé/The Shared Path The Shared Path/Le Sentier Partagé in Toronto follows the banks of the Humber from the mouth of the river north to the Dundas Street bridge. The Path connects an ancient Indigenous portage route to modern roads and railways. It highlights stories of Indigenous peoples, 18th century French trading posts, Toronto's early French presence and shows the birth of industrial Toronto from the ruins of water powered mills. A series of educational plaques describing the history of the Humber can be found along the path's thirteen storytelling circles. The plaques are translated into English, French and Ojibway.	Installation of interpretive signs.	Management Action	Highlighting the cultural history of the Humber River.
	The McMichael Canadian Art Collection The McMichael Canadian Art collection is Canada's only art gallery featuring Canadian artists.	None		
	McVean Barn This unique property is Brampton's oldest farm and was once owned by early settler Alexander McVean. The Double English Wheat Barn that McVean and his family built in the 1840s still stands today and is designated a "Category A" heritage resource by the City of Brampton.	The McVean Barn structure has deteriorated over time.	Weather and management over time.	An engineering assessment was carried out in 2017. TRCA is still looking to secure funds to undertake those repairs.
Early Recreation	The Humber River has historically been used for recreational purposes such as boating and canoeing, with particular emphasis on the lower Humber where the river meets Lake Ontario.	None		

CULTURAL VALUES: JURISDICTIONAL USES

Conflicts & Military Associations	The Humber River contains some historically significant sites from the early days of European colonization. The French built two forts near the mouth of the Humber.	None		
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CULTURAL VALUES: JURISDICTIONAL USES

Legislation	<p>Preservation of cultural heritage in Ontario is regulated under the Ontario Heritage Act, 1990 (OHA). The Minister is responsible for the administration of the OHA and may determine policies, priorities and programs for the conservation, protection and preservation of the heritage of Ontario. With its primary focus being to protect heritage properties and archaeological sites, the OHA gives municipalities and the provincial government powers to preserve the heritage of Ontario.</p> <p>In addition, the following provincial policies and plans direct the protection of cultural heritage resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden horseshoe - Section 4.2.7 contains policies to protect cultural heritage resources, which the Growth Plan defines as including built heritage resources, cultural heritage landscapes and archaeological resources. • Niagara Escarpment Plan includes examples of cultural heritage landscapes as “viewsheds” and “natural areas”. • Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan – the four designations in the Plan of Natural Core, Natural Linkage, Countryside, and Settlement Areas all have policies to protect cultural heritage resources. • Provincial Policy Statement – section 2.6 speaks to the protection of cultural heritage resources including cultural heritage landscapes. <p>Duty to Consult with Indigenous Communities As defined by the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs (2013), the Supreme Court of Canada has determined that the constitutional protection accorded Aboriginal rights and treaty rights under section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 requires the Crown to consult with Aboriginal people when it has knowledge of an existing or asserted Aboriginal or treaty right and contemplates conduct that may adversely affect the right in question. The Supreme Court of Canada has further determined that third parties do not owe a duty to consult Aboriginal people. The Crown may delegate “procedural aspects” of Aboriginal consultation to third parties through legislation and associated regulations, guidelines and policies.</p>	Fluctuating changes with new and updated legislation.	Management Action	TRCA continues to work within applicable requirements of legislation and provincial policies and plans alongside partner municipalities, Indigenous communities and community members to preserve and protect cultural heritage resources.
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6.0 RECREATIONAL VALUES

6.1 Introduction

The Humber River watershed contains a wealth of recreational opportunities, including an extensive trail network, camping, canoeing and fishing. TRCA continues to manage a network of conservation lands throughout the watershed that provide a diversity of experiences for recreationists (Figure 4). Albion Hills Conservation Park, Ontario's oldest conservation area, is found in the northern part of the Main Humber River at the confluence with Centreville Creek. Albion Hills boasts over 53 km of trails for mountain biking, hiking, and cross-country skiing. It is also linked to the Humber Trail, a series of trails that follow nearly the length of the river. As a historic transportation route, the Humber River continues to provide opportunities for canoeing, especially in the lower stretches of the river through the rich Humber Marsh ecosystem. This section provides an overview of the recreation opportunities managed by TRCA along the length of the Humber River.

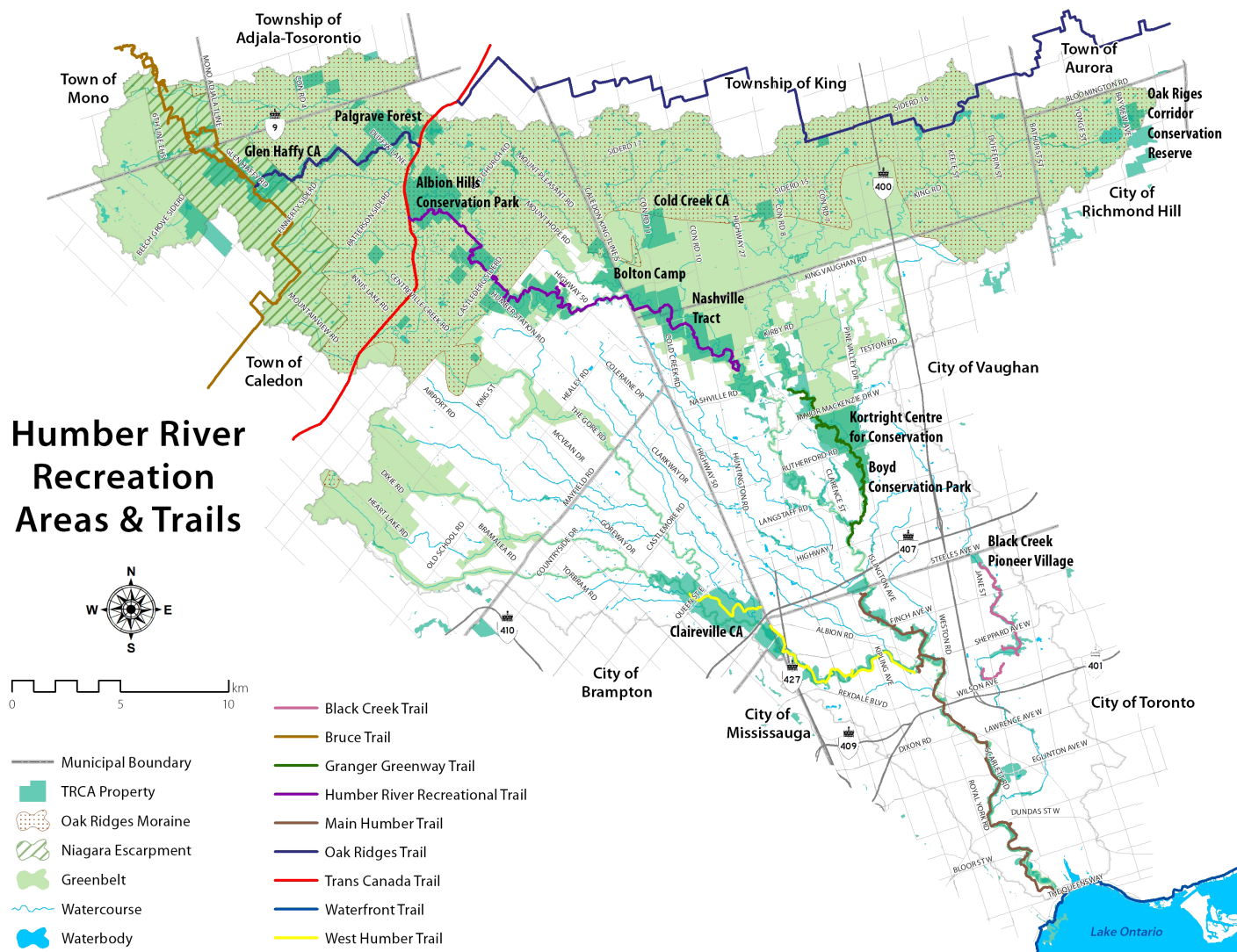


Figure 4: Map of Recreational Heritage of the Humber Watershed

6.2 Condition of Recreational Values Since 2009

While there are plentiful opportunities for recreation along the Humber, there have been some impacts to those opportunities as a result of decreased water quality. As development increased throughout the watershed, this led to increased storm water, and in turn decreased water quality. TRCA continues to work to improve storm water management, and water quality through restoration and integrated watershed planning. Furthermore, TRCA continues to link trail networks to improve recreation and active transportation throughout the watershed. Not only do expanded trail networks improve active transportation, but also link communities thereby improving public access and wellbeing. The following table provides a summary of the recreational values in the Humber that are actively managed by TRCA, and how those values have changed over the last ten years.

TABLE 6: CONDITION OF RECREATIONAL VALUES SINCE 2009

RECREATIONAL VALUE CATEGORY (appendix G)	RECREATIONAL VALUE	DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE IN VALUE (e.g. Magnitude, Positive or Negative Change, Immediate or Long-term)	REASON FOR CHANGE (e.g. Threat, Stressor, Management Action)	ACTIONS TAKEN IN RESPONSE
RECREATIONAL VALUES: BOATING				
Canoeing	Humber Marshes The Humber Marshes have long been an important place for fishing and canoeing. Currently the Humber Marshes are a destination for canoers, anglers, and other recreationists.	Humber by Canoe is a new event led by TRCA. This event provides an opportunity for participants to try canoeing for the first time.	Management Action	This management action was undertaken to improve community engagement and uptake of recreational activities.
	Lake St George Lake St George is a kettle lake found in the head waters of the Humber River. The Lake St George field centre provides canoe lessons for schools and private groups and is not open to the general public.	Since 2017 TRCA has expanded the range of canoe programs from community paddle events such as sunset paddles to Ontario Recreational Canoeing and Kayaking Association (ORCKA) certifications. In 2018/2019 a pilot program was launched with York Region District School Board to have grade 7 students access paddling for the first time and worked with high school groups in a learn to camp training program that incorporated paddling time into their sessions.	Management Action	This management action was undertaken to improve community engagement and uptake of recreational activities.

RECREATIONAL VALUE: ANGLING

Fishing	<p>Recreational fishing has long been an important activity along the Humber River. While recreational fishing continues to be accessible along the length of the river, there are some particular sites that are of significance for fishing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Humber Marshes - Glen Haffy Conservation Area - Lake Wilcox 	<p>Fishing continues to be an important recreational opportunity in the Humber River. There is currently work underway to construct “fishing nodes” to make fishing more accessible to people in the City of Toronto.</p>	<p>Lack of accessible fishing sites along the river in the City of Toronto created a stressor to the river as humans created informal trails to the water’s edge.</p>	<p>Nodes (i.e., constructed platforms) continue to be built by TRCA and the City of Toronto.</p>
Fly Fishing	<p>Glen Haffy Conservation Area (Caledon) is home to a fly-fishing club. Members are provided access to a trout-stocked pond.</p>	<p>The fly-fishing club, and trout stocking continues with little change over the last ten years.</p>		
Ice Fishing	<p>Lake Wilcox, a kettle lake found in Richmond Hill, is one of the few areas along the Humber River where ice fishing is possible.</p>	<p>None</p>		
Specific Fish Species	<p>There are many fish present in the Humber River that are recreationally significant—the Chinook Salmon was introduced for game purposes in the early 20th century and continues to thrive in the river.</p>	<p>Chinook Salmon populations have been increasing over time. There is a continued threat of invasive species such as the sea lamprey which can negatively impact the fish.</p>	<p>Invasive species and barriers to fish passage are threats that are addressed through management action.</p>	<p>Sea Lamprey gates have been installed in the lower Humber to prevent lamprey from spawning upstream.</p>

RECREATIONAL VALUE: WATER-ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES

Trail Use (hiking, walking, cycling)	Albion Hills Conservation Park Albion Hills Conservation Park is a 486 ha greenspace in the Humber Headwaters region of Caledon. The park has over 50 km of mountain biking trails, cross country ski trails, and hiking trails. The Albion Hills Conservation Park Master Plan recommends targeted improvements and upgrades to the existing network.	53 km summer trails, 27 km winter trails	Management Action: Master plan implementation is underway.	TRCA is working with local trail organizations, the Town of Caledon and the Regional Municipality of Peel to complete trail implementation.
	Bolton Resource Management Tract (BRMT) Found in Caledon, the BRMT is a 973 ha property that boasts 16 km of hiking trails. The 2013 BRMT Management Plan recommended developing 29.5 km of additional trail including a multi-use extension of the Humber Trail.	16 km of trails	Management Action: Management plan implementation is underway.	TRCA is working with local trail organizations the Town of Caledon and the Regional Municipality of Peel to complete trail implementation.
	Glen Haffy Conservation Area Glen Haffy is found where the Oak Ridges Moraine meets the Niagara Escarpment in the Town of Caledon. Here the Oak Ridges Moraine Trail also meets the Bruce Trail. The Glen Haffy Conservation Park Master Plan is currently under development (anticipated 2023).	6 km of trails	Management Action: Master Plan is anticipated for 2023.	Master Plan including trail recommendations anticipated 2023.
	Claireville Conservation Area Claireville Conservation Area is 343 ha of natural and forested area that straddles the Region of Peel and City of Toronto. A passive conservation area for the preservation of local wildlife and natural landscape, Claireville is a popular destination for local birders, walkers and bikers. The Park has 17 km of trails. The 2012 Claireville Conservation Area Management Plan Update proposed a new interregional trail alignment including 6km of new trail.	17 km of trails	Management Action: Management plan implementation is underway.	Management Plan Implementation is underway.
	Cold Creek Conservation Area Found in King Township, this conservation area is owned by TRCA but managed by the Township. It boasts over 6 km of trails. Including a boardwalk through a unique spruce bog.	No new trails have been constructed in the last 10 years, there are currently 6 km of trails in the park.	No current plans to extend the trail network.	No current plans to extend the trail network.

RECREATIONAL VALUE: WATER-ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES

Trail Use (hiking, walking, cycling)	Kortright Centre for Conservation Found in the City of Vaughan along the Main Branch of the Humber River. Kortright offers visitors year-round hiking opportunities. The Park has 16 km of trails.	16 km of trails	No current plans to extend the trail network.	No current plans to extend the trail network.
	Boyd Conservation Park Boyd Conservation Park offers hiking and picnicking opportunities for visitors. The Park has 4 km of trails.	4 km of trails	No current plans to extend the trail network.	No current plans to extend the trail network.
	Boyd North and Glassco Park Encompasses almost 700 ha of land (and includes the William Granger Greenway) in the City of Vaughan along the Main Branch of the Humber River. Boyd North is owned by TRCA, while Glassco Park is owned by the Province of Ontario through the Ontario Heritage Trust and managed by TRCA. There is a multi-use trail that follows the Humber through the park complex. The Park has 2.5 km of trails. The Boyd North and Glassco Park Management Plan was developed in 1999. This management plan proposed new local and interregional trails, and this plan has since been fully implemented.	2.5 km of trails	No current plans to extend the trail network.	No current plans to extend the trail network.
	Humber Source Woods, part of Happy Valley Forest 22 ha of TRCA lands located in the Township of King in the Regional Municipality of York.		Management Action: Management plan implementation is underway.	Management plan implementation is underway.
	Humber Trails Conservation Area 48 ha located in the Township of King in the Regional Municipality of York.	No significant changes in value have been made over the last 10 years.		
	Nashville Conservation Reserve (NCR) Nashville Conservation Reserve (NCR) is a 900+ ha TRCA property located in York Region. Guests can find some limited trails throughout the reserve. The Park has 5 km of trails. In 2015, the NCR Management Plan was completed, proposing 25 km of trails.	5 km of trails	Management Action: Management plan implementation is underway.	TRCA is working with local trail organizations, private donors, the City of Vaughan and the Regional Municipality of York to complete trail implementation.

RECREATIONAL VALUE: ANGLING

Trail Use (hiking, walking, cycling)	Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve The Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve (ORCCR) is an important ecological linkage on the Oak Ridges Moraine. Located in the City of Richmond Hill, York Region, the 175+ ha property is dominated by mature forests, wetlands, meadows, kettle lakes and a significant network of recreational trails. Management and trail plans for the properties recommend 20 km trail network.	15 km of trails	Management Action: Management plan implementation is underway.	TRCA is working with local trail organizations, private donors, the City of Richmond Hill and the Region of York to complete trail implementation.
	Palgrave Forest and Wildlife Area Palgrave Forest and Wildlife Area (PFWA) is a 306 ha greenspace located in Peel Region. It contains portions of the Oak Ridges Trail Main Trail and Side Trail in a nearly 22 km trail network. The PFWA Trail Plan was completed in 2006 and has been successfully implemented.	22 km of trails	No current plans to extend the trail network.	No current plans to extend the trail network.
Camping	Albion Hills Campground The Albion Hills Campground is open for camping from May until October.	No significant changes in value have been made over the last 10 years.		
	Indian Line Campground The Indian Line Campground is open from May until November.	No significant changes in value have been made over the last 10 years.		
Hunting	Not described as a value at point of designation.			

RECREATIONAL VALUE: WINTER ACTIVITIES

Cross-country skiing	Albion Hills Conservation Area Albion Hills Conservation Area offers 27 km of cross-country skiing trails.	Fewer days for skiing as a result of warmer winters due to climate change.	Climate change threat	None
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RECREATIONAL VALUE: NATURAL HERITAGE APPRECIATION

Wildlife, Vegetation, Vistas/Scenic Quality, Geologic/Water Features	Lake St George Lake St George is an educational facility in the headwaters of the Humber River, and is not open to the general public. This facility provides outdoor education programming for students from across the GTA.	Increased public use and impacts of climate change result in environmental stress to natural heritage.	Management Action	TRCA continues to enhance the natural heritage where opportunities exist.
	Albion Hills Conservation Area	Increased public use and impacts of climate change result in environmental stress to natural heritage.	Management Action: Master plan implementation is underway.	Through implementation of the management plan, TRCA continues to enhance the natural heritage where opportunities exist.
	Bolton Resource Management Tract	Increased public use and impacts of climate change result in environmental stress to natural heritage.	Management Action: Management plan implementation is underway.	Through implementation of the management plan, TRCA continues to enhance the natural heritage where opportunities exist.
	Glen Haffy Conservation Area	Increased public use and impacts of climate change result in environmental stress to natural heritage.	Management Action: Master Plan endorsement is anticipated in 2023.	TRCA continues to enhance the natural heritage where opportunities exist.
	Claireville Conservation Area	Increased public use and impacts of climate change result in environmental stress to natural heritage.	Management Action: Management plan implementation is underway.	Through implementation of the management plan, TRCA continues to enhance the natural heritage where opportunities exist.
	Cold Creek Conservation Area	Increased public use and impacts of climate change result in environmental stress to natural heritage.	Management Action: Management plan implementation is underway.	Through implementation of the management plan, TRCA continues to enhance the natural heritage where opportunities exist.

RECREATIONAL VALUE: NATURAL HERITAGE APPRECIATION

Wildlife, Vegetation, Vistas/Scenic Quality, Geologic/Water Features	Kortright Conservation Area	Increased public use and impacts of climate change result in environmental stress to natural heritage.	Management Action	TRCA continues to enhance the natural heritage where opportunities exist.
	Boyd Conservation Park	Increased public use and impacts of climate change result in environmental stress to natural heritage.	Management Action	TRCA continues to enhance the natural heritage where opportunities exist.
	Boyd North and Glassco Park	Increased public use and impacts of climate change result in environmental stress to natural heritage.	Management Action: Management plan implementation is underway.	Through implementation of the management plan, TRCA continues to enhance the natural heritage where opportunities exist.
	Nashville Conservation Reserve	Increased public use and impacts of climate change result in environmental stress to natural heritage.	Management Action: Management plan implementation is underway.	Through implementation of the management plan, TRCA continues to enhance the natural heritage where opportunities exist.
	Oak Ridges Corridor Conservation Reserve	Increased public use and impacts of climate change result in environmental stress to natural heritage.	Management Action: Management plan implementation is underway.	Through implementation of the management plan, TRCA continues to enhance the natural heritage where opportunities exist.
	Palgrave Forest and Wildlife Area	Increased public use and impacts of climate change result in environmental stress to natural heritage.	Management Action: Trail plan implementation is underway.	TRCA continues to enhance the natural heritage where opportunities exist.

RECREATIONAL VALUE: NATURAL HERITAGE APPRECIATION

	Humber Source Woods, part of Happy Valley Forest	Increased public use and impacts of climate change result in environmental stress to natural heritage.	Management Action: Management plan implementation is underway.	Through implementation of the management plan, TRCA continues to enhance the natural heritage where opportunities exist.
	Humber Trails Conservation Area	Increased public use and impacts of climate change result in environmental stress to natural heritage.	Management Action	TRCA continues to enhance the natural heritage where opportunities exist.

RECREATIONAL HERITAGE: HUMAN HERITAGE APPRECIATION

Historic Sites	Black Creek Pioneer Village North Lands The Black Creek Pioneer Village North Lands (BCPVNL) is home to an additional five 19th century buildings, including the 1809 Schmidt-Dalziel Barn, which is unique in Ontario due to its age, size, and provenance. This barn, along with the 1808 Schmidt-Dalziel House, are two of the oldest existing buildings in the Toronto region and all five buildings are designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act. Surrounded by 16 ha of woodlands and greenspace, the property is primarily used for film shoots, special events, and educational programming.	No significant changes in value have been made over the last 10 years.		
Cultural Events/Activities	Humber by Canoe Humber Canoe is an annual TRCA community event that began in 2017 as a means of celebrating the rich cultural and recreational heritage of the Humber River.	The event was converted to a virtual platform in 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.	Global pandemic	TRCA has created virtual tours of the canoe route and is looking to hold the event once again in person when local health authorities deem it safe to gather in large groups.



7.0 INTEGRITY GUIDELINES

The integrity of the cultural and recreational values of the Humber River are under threat from continued urbanization across the watershed, but particularly in the northern parts of the watershed where development continues to push out from the urban core. Urbanization has impacted stormwater management and has resulted in degradation of water quality. TRCA continues to inform municipal planning through the development of integrated watershed plans informed by ecological monitoring and community input.

This table outlines any changes to the integrity of the cultural and recreational values of the Humber River since 2009.

TABLE 7: INTEGRITY OF CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL VALUES SINCE 2009

CULTURAL INTEGRITY VALUE	STATUS	CHANGE IN INTEGRITY VALUE	THREAT OR STRESSOR (Current, Immediate, Long-Term)	ACTION TAKEN TO ADDRESS CHANGE
1. CULTURAL VALUES				
1.1 The nominated section is of sufficient size to include significant representations of all of the features, activities or other phenomena which give the river its outstanding cultural value	The Humber River watershed covers 911 km ² and the Main Branch of the river flows 126 km from its source to Lake Ontario. The river has been a traditional travelling route for Indigenous People, and later on European settlers, for thousands of years.	No change	The size of the river is not under threat.	
1.2 The visual character of the nominated section enables uninterrupted appreciation of at least one of the periods of the river's historical importance	The Humber River contains a rich natural heritage system. Since much of the lower Humber is confined to a valley system, where development is prohibited, much of the visual character of the river continues to be preserved.	Increased development in the northern sections of the river.	It is anticipated that as the population in the Humber watershed increases over time, development will requisitely increase, thus, resulting in a long-term threat to the river's visual character.	TRCA continues to advise municipalities through Integrated Watershed Management Planning.
1.3 The key artifacts and sites comprising the cultural values for which the river is nominated are unimpaired by impoundments and human land uses	The Humber contains numerous significant cultural, historical, and archeological sites (summarized in sections 5.1 and 5.2).	Increased development particularly in the northern sections of the river.	Development may pose a risk to some heritage sites.	TRCA continues to advise developers and municipalities through our Archeological Assessment process.
1.4 The water quality of the nominated section does not detract from the visual character or the cultural experience provided by its cultural values	The water quality of the Humber River is inextricably linked to human activity, development and impacts of climate change. Industrialization and development have had a negative impact on water quality through increased storm run-off and contamination, especially in the more urbanized, developed, lower parts of the watershed.	Since the designation the water quality has improved.	Water quality is impacted by current storm water management practices and will continue to be impacted.	TRCA continues to advise municipalities through Integrated Watershed Management Planning.

CULTURAL INTEGRITY VALUE	STATUS	CHANGE IN INTEGRITY VALUE	THREAT OR STRESSOR (Current, Immediate, Long-Term)	ACTION TAKEN TO ADDRESS CHANGE
2. RECREATIONAL VALUES				
2.1 The river possesses water of a quality suitable for contact recreational activities, including those recreational opportunities for which it is nominated	There are ample areas for recreation along the length of the Humber. The quality of the water does not impede recreational activities such as fishing or canoeing, with the exception of swimming in the River and lakes. However, the water quality will impact the long-term quality of those activities.	Monitoring from the watershed report cards has revealed that by 2013 the surface water quality throughout the Humber River had declined slightly as a result of contamination from <i>E. coli</i> and phosphorus. In subsequent reporting in 2018, that contamination remained, but had not declined further.	Poor stormwater control and aging infrastructure will continue to threaten the water quality of the Humber, especially in the lower, more urbanized parts of the watershed.	TRCA continues to help municipalities adopt better stormwater management practices.
2.2 The river's visual appearance is capable of providing river travelers with a continuous natural experience, or a combined natural and cultural experience, without significant interruption by modern human intrusions	The Humber River continues to be a site for recreation. The visual character of the river is defined, in part, by the ravine system that it flows through. This ravine has prevented development from occurring along the shore of the river, preserving the visual appearance.	Increased development in the northern sections of the river.	It is anticipated that as the population in the Humber watershed increases over time, development will requisitely increase, thus, resulting in a long-term threat to the river's visual character.	TRCA continues to advise municipalities through Integrated Watershed Management Planning.
2.3 The river is capable of supporting recreational uses without significant loss of, or impact on, its natural and cultural values or its visual character	The river continues to provide ample recreational activities. By undertaking relevant studies, assessments and review of data informed decisions are made when planning new recreational opportunities within the watershed.	None		



8.0 REVIEW OF MANAGEMENT PLAN OBJECTIVES

The Humber River Watershed Plan: Pathways to the Healthy Humber (2008) and the Humber River Watershed Plan Implementation Guide (2008) are the culmination of research in hydrology, ecology, human activity and more, and provide a framework for the continued protection and enhancement of the river.

Building upon the general framework of the Watershed Plan and Implementation Guide, the set of actions summarized in the table below were developed by TRCA staff and watershed stakeholders to set the future direction for the watershed. The Humber River Watershed Plan is scheduled to be updated and TRCA is undergoing the pre-planning to support that work.

TABLE 8: CREVIEW OF MANAGEMENT PLAN OBJECTIVES AND THEIR CURRENT STATUS
Humber River Watershed Plan (2008)

Expand the terrestrial natural heritage system.

DEGREE OF ACHIEVEMENT

TRCA is currently updating its Natural Heritage System mapping to include enhancement areas based on innovative scientific research that is required to support an ecosystem's long-term resiliency to urbanization and climate change vulnerabilities. TRCA works closely with its municipal partners to incorporate new scientific data into Official Plan updates that are currently underway.

TRCA continues to expand the terrestrial natural heritage system throughout the Humber watershed through habitat creation and restoration work. Between 2012 and 2019, TRCA acquired an additional 239 hectares within the watershed. This ongoing work will subsequently continue into the future watershed plans.

Urban Forestry Studies

York Region conducted forest studies with all local municipalities between 2009-2016. They will be updating and building on the baseline studies between 2021-2025.

Green Infrastructure Coalition

The Green Infrastructure Ontario (GIO) Coalition is an alliance of organizations that share a common vision for a healthy, green Ontario where the economic, social, environmental and health benefits of green infrastructure are fully realized. Co-founded by TRCA in 2009, and guided by a steering committee, they work to promote awareness and understanding of green infrastructure, and to support policy and activities that increase implementation of green infrastructure across Ontario.

Build sustainable communities.

DEGREE OF ACHIEVEMENT

TRCA continues to advise municipalities of sustainable planning practices as part of its role in planning and development processes. This work is guided by TRCA's Living City Policies and informed by watershed studies and plans.

The Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program (SNAP) brings a neighbourhood based approach to sustainable urban renewal and climate action in older urban areas. TRCA has two active SNAP neighbourhood projects in the Humber watershed: in Caledon's West Bolton area and in Black Creek in Toronto. A third SNAP project in Toronto's Rexdale neighbourhood on the Humber River is being launched in 2020. The SNAP program works with municipalities and communities to build their capacity to help improve sustainability through a combination of retrofits, greenspace enhancement, urban agriculture and community building projects.

- The West Bolton SNAP Action Plan was completed in 2019. Implementation is underway, including: home retrofit program delivery, a green home makeover demonstration project, depave and park revitalization and a number of tree planting initiatives. The Black Creek SNAP Action Plan was completed in 2012. Eight years of implementation and community capacity building achievements have resulted in: multi-unit residential tower revitalization, extensive home retrofit program uptake among homeowners, a number of urban agriculture and green infrastructure initiatives and formation of community leaders and new social enterprise groups.
- The Rexdale SNAP action planning process is beginning in 2020 and will focus additional attention on community-based resilience planning.

Recognize the distinctive heritage of the Humber through an enhanced regional open space system.

DEGREE OF ACHIEVEMENT

In 2019 TRCA released a new trail strategy. The Trail Strategy for the Greater Toronto Region outlines TRCA's plan to work with partners to complete, expand, manage and celebrate the Greater Toronto Region Trail Network, a connected trail network in our regional greenspace system. It serves as a framework to protect potential trail alignments, and to guide the planning, development, and management of these trails. TRCA continues to develop an implement management and master plans for our conservation lands, which provide direction to enhance the regional open space system. Relevant plans are summarized in Table 6.

Promote greater collaboration between public and private sector partners.

DEGREE OF ACHIEVEMENT

TRCA continues to work with our municipal partners on a range of projects from municipal planning to outdoor education. Additionally, TRCA works extensively with the private sector through Partners in Project Green. Increasingly, many of TRCA's programs bring public and private sector and non-profit partners together on shared goals.

Examples of some of the projects that TRCA collaborates with municipal, private sector and non-profit partners on includes:

- Development and implementation of Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plans based on neighbourhood priorities
- Trail design and construction
- Citizen-based Restoration
- Flood outreach activities
- Natural channel and valley-land restoration
- Low Impact Development (LID) project design and implementation
- Stormwater management pond maintenance
- Community events, engagement and outreach

This work is ongoing.

Pursue a collaborative and integrated approach with stakeholder development.

DEGREE OF ACHIEVEMENT

TRCA has developed a Community Engagement Strategy to align and guide TRCA's approaches to community engagement over the next 10 years (2017-2027) so that TRCA supports broader and deeper community mobilization and maximizes collective impact in pursuit of TRCA's vision for The Living City and Strategic Plan objectives.

TRCA has also developed a Process Guide for Watershed Planning that will direct how watershed plans are developed at TRCA, including engagement activities for the upcoming Humber River watershed Plan update. This updated Watershed Planning process aligns with TRCA's Community Engagement Strategy.

The Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program (SNAP) works at the neighbourhood scale to facilitate a collaborative approach to advance multi-objective, integrated projects in the public and private realms.

Raise awareness about the Humber River as a Canadian Heritage River through community outreach, stewardship, education and media.

DEGREE OF ACHIEVEMENT

TRCA's Education and Training Division continues to lead education and development with stakeholders across the watershed. Some programs of note include:

- Partners in Project Green, a team that work with the business community to improve sustainability
- Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program (SNAP) incorporates culture and heritage as an integral component of place-making as part of neighbourhood revitalization plans and programs.
- The Education and Training team has developed curriculum-based programming with school boards in the watershed
- Girls Can Too, a hands-on program that introduces girls to the skilled trades
- Bolton Camp, a community hub that provides a diversity of programs, including Indigenous engagement and education.

TRCA also promoted the cultural and recreational heritage of the Humber through the 20th Anniversary Celebrations (described in section 4.0).

Furthermore, TRCA is undergoing the development of a Watershed and Ecosystem Reporting Hub that will provide data regarding watershed and ecosystem health indicators through a dynamic online platform. This app is anticipated to launch in 2021 as the modern iteration of The Living City Report Card. Finally, TRCA continues to engage the public via social media on a variety of different platforms.

Implement the Humber River Watershed Fisheries Management Plan, with support from the Ministry of Natural Resources.

DEGREE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Completed in 2005 in collaboration with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, the Humber Watershed Fisheries Management Plan continues to be used to inform decision making and projects throughout the watershed. (available here: <http://trca.on.ca/dotAsset/25855.pdf>)

Encourage the documentation and designation of heritage structures in the Humber River watershed on TRCA property and within municipalities.

DEGREE OF ACHIEVEMENT

In 2011 TRCA released a Heritage Bridge Inventory Report.

Of the historic assets on TRCA property, the Wiley Bridge and the McVean Barn have both been designated as heritage structures. Preservation and repair of the bridge is anticipated to start in 2021. Repairs for the barn will begin once adequate funding can be secured.

Pursue floodplain management, stormwater management and water quality improvements throughout the Humber River watershed.

DEGREE OF ACHIEVEMENT

TRCA continues to develop and implement watershed plans which help inform municipal planning policies and the work of TRCA. Pre-planning for an updated watershed plan for the Humber River began in 2020 and will continue in 2021, along with the commencement of preliminary scoping and characterization work. These watershed plans are used to inform the management of the watershed, and to inform municipal land use planning and infrastructure decisions.

The mapping of TRCA regulated areas has been updated to reflect new technical information, such as new flood plain mapping, provincial wetland data, and information based on field verification. These updates more accurately capture areas regulated by TRCA. The mapping update may capture new areas meeting the description in Ontario Regulation 166/06.

TRCA works with its municipal partners on the maintenance and restoration of stormwater ponds. Public engagement programs such as SNAP also help to improve water quality and storm water management at a local scale.

The Sustainable Technologies Evaluation Program (STEP) is a multi-agency initiative developed to support broader implementation of sustainable technologies and practices within a Canadian context.

Seek new partnership opportunities in near urban agriculture and sustainable neighbourhood activities.

DEGREE OF ACHIEVEMENT

In the past, TRCA has worked with food and farming organizations and individual farmers to develop four urban farms within the Humber watershed: Albion Hills Community Farm, Black Creek Community Farm, The Living City Farm and the McVean Farm.

The Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program (SNAP) has worked with local partners to advance urban agriculture strategies in the Black Creek neighbourhood, including installation of numerous allotment gardens, urban orchards, balcony gardens, surplus harvest donation and capacity building for local social enterprise businesses who deliver fruit tree care and garden services.

TRCA has also provided secretariat support for the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farm Alliance. With members encompassing regions and municipalities across the Greater Golden Horseshoe, the Alliance works collaboratively on complex food and farming-related projects.



9.0 BENEFITS OF DESIGNATION

The designation of the Humber River as a heritage river has provided many benefits—both to the river’s natural heritage and for the surrounding communities. There has been increased access to funding through granting bodies such as Canada150, and increased opportunities to partner with different agencies who are also tied to the river. The designation has provided opportunities for relationship building with Indigenous communities through projects and events of mutual interest. Above all, the designation has increased the profile of the river and has galvanized community support for the river. The following table summarizes the many benefits that have arisen as a result of the designation.

TABLE 9: BENEFITS OF CHRS DESIGNATION.

TYPE OF BENEFIT	DESCRIPTION
Community Engagement and Collaboration Increased dialogue with community and other partners and stakeholders Increased participation in river management discussions Increased involvement in river activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• TRCA continues to partner with agencies and community groups to deliver programs that highlight the cultural and recreational significance of the Humber River.• The Canada 150 celebrations included Humber by Canoe, and a series of walks highlighting the historically significant sites along the lower Humber.
Education Development of educational programs related to the health of the river or watershed, or use of the river Development of communications products such as signage, exhibits, photo contests, social media and web to communicate the designation and its benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Humber by Canoe launched a social media campaign, and the event itself was covered by traditional media outlets—including Fairchild TV (a Chinese media network).• A photo book was launched in 2009, commemorating the Humber River’s 10th anniversary as a Canadian Heritage River.• The Humber River has a dedicated webpage within TRCA’s website which profiles current initiatives.• The 20th Anniversary Celebration Plan included development of communication products i.e., brochures, posters, in addition to website updates to promote the CHRS anniversary, including the development of a mobile museum. TRCA supported the Humber Heritage Committee with an exhibit that they organized in celebration of the anniversary.

TYPE OF BENEFIT	DESCRIPTION
Environmental Benefits Improved water quality Improved habitat Increases in fish/animal/plant populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased public recognition of the ecological importance of the Humber River. Development of a management plan to guide policies.
Cultural Benefits Improved appreciation of river, watershed, Indigenous or other history of use Increased identification and protection of culturally significant sites and landscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased public recognition of the cultural significance of the river. Improved awareness of the Indigenous history and ongoing significance of the river. Improved awareness of the European history of the river. More opportunities to work with Indigenous communities. Increased collaboration on heritage projects with municipal partners.
Recreational Benefits Increased or decreased use of river Changes in use of river Improved access to river Improved knowledge Increased understanding of river wildlife, vegetation, history or traditional knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved knowledge of recreational opportunities provided by the river. Development of signature events such as Humber by Canoe which promote the cultural and recreational values of the Humber River. Humber by Canoe is an event that engages Indigenous communities each year in Indigenous ceremonies and knowledge sharing in celebration of the Humber River.
Monetary Benefits Increased access to funding Increased revenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to Canada 150 funding through CHRS and the City of Toronto provided the impetus for the now annual Humber by Canoe event.
Stewardship Increased involvement in stewardship activities Increased number of stewardship activities and events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TRCA continues to facilitate stewardship across the watershed with local stakeholders (residents, students, municipalities, and businesses).



10.0 CHRS COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE INVENTORY REPORT

The following section summarizes the location and current condition of each of the CHRS Commemorative plaques.



King Township Museum, King Township

[43.92389 -79.55056]

The King Township Museum Carrying Place Trail plaque is centered on a large stone along a foot path located south-east of the King Township Museum building. There is some minor chipping of the paint on the lettering but the sign is still legible and in great condition. There are no signs of debris, garbage, damage or vandalism on or near the plaque property.



Dundas Street and Old Dundas Street, Toronto

[43.66167 -79.50694]

The Dundas Street Carrying Place Trail plaque is positioned on a large vertically upright stone facing Old Dundas Street. The plaque is located along the sidewalk on the south-east corner of the intersection between Dundas Street West and Old Dundas Street. The plaque has multi-coloured graffiti in the upper right corner with additional black graffiti on the stone above the plaque. Overall the plaque is in good condition with no chipping or letters missing. The area surrounding the plaque is clean and well-kept, with no overgrown plants or grass that block its presentation. The plaque is in clear sight with no tree canopy shading it.



Weston Road and Little Avenue, Toronto

[43.70083 -79.51944]

The Carrying Place Trail plaque at the south-west corner of Weston Road and Little Avenue is positioned on a large stone which lies flat on the ground surface. The plaque is in excellent condition with only minor scuff marks and some of the blue paint chipping off. A few of the letters at the bottom of the sign have paint that is slowly being removed but is still legible. Overall, there are no signs of vandalism and/or graffiti on the plaque or the stone which it rests on. There is some construction nearby with tubes and pipes being rested near the stone but this has not caused any damage.



Weston Road and 16th Side Road, King Township

[43.95444 -79.58611]

The Carrying Place Trail plaque at the north-east corner of Weston Road and 16th Side Road is centered on a large stone which lies flat on the ground surface, underneath a tree. The plaque is in good condition, and the surrounding area of the plaque is clean and without any garbage laying around. Tree material and debris can fall directly onto the plaque, but this can easily be cleaned and does not pose long-term risk to the plaque. Some of the blue paint is beginning to chip off the plaque. The letters are all legible and overall the plaque is in good condition.



Holancin Road and Highway #9, King Township

[44.02639 -79.60833]

The two Carrying Place Trail plaques are centered on two large stones that are south facing along the Canal Bank Road, a dirt road parallel to Highway 9. The plaques are in clear sight and easy to locate. The green Carrying Place plaque has some minor chips to the lettering and stone surrounding the plaque but is still legible and well kept. The blue plaque is in excellent condition. Overall both plaques are in very good condition.



Boyd Conservation Area, Vaughan (at entrance to Humber Trail)

[43.81361 -79.58333]

The Huron-Wendat plaque at Boyd Conservation is located near the beginning of the William Granger Greenway Trail. It lies on a rock that is positioned on the ground surface. The plaque is in great condition with little to no scratches. The surrounding area where the plaque lies is well managed. There is little over hanging vegetation that would interfere with the plaque. The plaque has no signs of vandalism or graffiti.



Humber Gateway Parkette, King Road and Yonge Street, Richmond Hill

[43.94472 -79.45444]

The Huron-Wendat plaque at Humber Gateway Parkette is next to a small pavilion with information on the Oak Ridges Moraine. The plaque is centered on a rock which lies on the ground. There are scratches and chips in the paint located in the upper left corner of the plaque. The letters at the bottom of the plaque have had the paint wear off but are still mostly legible. There is no graffiti on the plaque.



Sheldon Look-out, mouth of the Humber, western bank, Toronto

[43°37'52"N 79°28'18"W]

The Mississauga plaque at the Sheldon Look-out is centered on a stone which is positioned on the ground along the Martin Goodman Trail. The plaque is surrounded by tree canopy, which as a result deposits leaves and other debris on the flat-facing plaque. Overall, the plaque is in good condition, there is no signs of vandalism and/or graffiti.



Palgrave Mill Pond Pavilion, Town of Caledon

[43°57'11"N 79°50'26"W]

The Mississauga plaque at the Palgrave Mill Pond Pavilion is centered on a stone which lies flat on the ground. There are small shrub plants in the upper portion of the plaque which slightly hang over the monument. The bronze plaque is in good condition, however, there are minor scratches found above the plaque on the blue paint, and some small scratches around the corners. The plaque is surrounded by a few large rocks along the walkway that distinguishes its location in the Palgrave Mill Pond area.



11.0 CONCLUSION

The Humber River is the most urbanized river within the CHRS system. As such, the Humber is not only presented with unique challenges, but also opportunities. These challenges and opportunities set the framework for TRCA's continual advocacy of a healthy and celebrated watershed. TRCA continues to work with its partners, watershed residents and stakeholders to champion river stewardship and sustainability initiatives within the watershed guided by watershed management strategies prescribed in Pathways to a Healthy Humber River. We have seen from the CHRS 20th anniversary celebrations that the Humber's designation has provided an opportunity to galvanize the community towards an increased connection to the river and community driven action that supports the protection, restoration and celebration of the natural, cultural and recreational values of the Humber River.

Through the CHRS Program, TRCA has been able to access resources to aid in the promotion of the Humber River's natural, cultural and recreational values. TRCA has worked alongside CHRS and other river managers across the nation to build capacity and leverage resources to initiate new and innovative projects and initiatives in support of the CHRS designation. In addition, there have been numerous other benefits associated with the Humber River's CHRS designation, as summarized in Table 9.

The next 10 years will mark a new era for river management at TRCA as a new watershed management plan is developed for the Humber River based on the latest science and watershed data – setting the direction for the next 10 years. Although in 1999 the Humber River did not meet the CHRS criteria to be designated on the merits of natural heritage, TRCA would be interested in exploring the possibility of recognizing the Humber River for its outstanding natural heritage values. The interface between natural heritage and cultural and recreational heritage within the watershed is a strong rationale for this consideration, in addition to the decades of restoration work and investment that has taken place within the watershed.

This report summarizes the various initiatives and watershed management actions that have been implemented in relation to the River's cultural and recreational values and how we have responded to threats and stressors within the watershed. The findings of the report also reinforce TRCA's role as a river manager to lead the next 10 years of watershed management activities for the Humber River to protect, restore and celebrate the legacy of the Humber River. As such, TRCA staff recommend that the Humber River's designation remain in place.

APPENDIX 1: NATURAL HERITAGE CRITERIA

Natural Heritage Criteria, as stated in the Canadian Heritage Rivers System Operating Procedures and Guidelines 2017:

1. Is an outstanding example of river environments as they are affected by the major stages and processes in the earth's evolutionary history as represented in Canada; or
2. Contains outstanding representations of significant ongoing fluvial, geomorphological and biological processes; or contains along its course unique, rare or outstanding examples of biotic and abiotic natural phenomena, formations or features; or
3. Contains along its course habitats of rare or endangered species of plants and animals, including outstanding concentrations of plants and animals of Canadian interest and significance.

RES.#A52/21 -

UPDATE ON PLANNED SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST INDIVIDUAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Update on the status of the Scarborough Bluffs West Individual Environmental Assessment (IEA) and proposed next steps with the City of Toronto and senior levels of government to confirm funding to proceed.

Moved by: Paul Ainslie
Seconded by: Josh Matlow

WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), in partnership with the City of Toronto, plans to undertake an Individual Environmental Assessment (IEA) to create a system of greenspaces along the Lake Ontario shoreline between R. C. Harris Water Treatment Plant and Bluffer's Park that will respect and protect the significant natural and cultural features of the Bluffs, enhance the terrestrial and aquatic habitat, and provide a safe and enjoyable waterfront experience so as to implement the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Future of Toronto's Waterfront;

WHEREAS Toronto City Council approved, through the Capital Budget, a \$2 million Toronto Water Capital Reserve contribution towards the Scarborough Bluffs West IEA;

WHEREAS based on estimated costs to conduct the IEA and expenditures to date on monitoring, a gap in funding of \$2,911,375 currently exists to allow for the Scarborough Bluffs West IEA to be initiated and completed within the next three years;

THEREFORE, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT staff meet with relevant City of Toronto staff to confirm that baseline monitoring can continue in 2021 using existing funds;

AND THAT staff meet with relevant City of Toronto staff, and representatives of senior levels of government to report back on the status of funding to advance the Scarborough Bluffs West IEA by Q3 of 2021.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

The 1991 Royal Commission on the Future of Toronto's Waterfront included several recommendations for the Scarborough shoreline. A key recommendation was the development of a waterfront trail in Scarborough as part of the Regional Greenway. TRCA, in partnership with the City of Toronto, initiated an IEA for the first phase of Scarborough Waterfront Project (eastern section) in 2014 under the *Environmental Assessment Act* to advance the vision for a system of public greenspaces along the Lake Ontario shoreline between Bluffer's Park and East Point Park, which respect and protect the significant natural and cultural features of the Bluffs, enhance terrestrial and aquatic habitat, and provide a safe and enjoyable waterfront experience. On November 6, 2019 TRCA received approval for the Scarborough Waterfront IEA from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (formerly Ministry of Environment and Climate Change). Detailed design for the Brimley Road access to Bluffer's Park and the west shoreline is currently being undertaken by TRCA in partnership with the City of Toronto.

While the Scarborough Waterfront Project (eastern section) was underway, at City Council Meeting #11 on December 9 and 10, 2015, Resolution EX10.23 was passed. This resolution directed City Council, through the Capital Budget, to include a \$2 million contribution from the Toronto Water Capital Reserve towards the initiation of an IEA for the western section of the Scarborough shoreline (R.C. Harris Water Treatment Plant to Bluffer's Park) cash flowed over

the life of the project. This project is currently referred to as the Scarborough Bluffs West IEA. To eliminate potential public confusion and recognizing increasing costs due to public concerns with the IEA for the eastern section that was underway at that time, a mutual decision between TRCA and the City of Toronto was made to delay formal initiation of the Scarborough Bluffs West IEA until the planning and consultation process for the eastern IEA was complete.

To best position the launch of the future Scarborough Bluff West IEA, baseline studies and environmental monitoring in support of the project were completed between 2016 and 2020. This includes terrestrial and aquatic ecology surveys, coastal condition studies, and terrestrial and marine archaeology studies. In order to inform the future IEA, TRCA staff would like to confirm that we can continue these baseline studies and environmental monitoring work while we engage in funding discussions with appropriate City of Toronto divisions and senior levels of government.

RATIONALE

When the Scarborough Waterfront Project IEA (eastern section) was approved by the Minister of MECP TRCA re-initiated discussions with the City of Toronto, including with Toronto Water, to confirm funding and other details to advance the Scarborough Bluffs West IEA. The City Council allocation of \$2 million for the IEA was not based on a detailed workplan, and is inadequate to complete the planning process. In addition, funds from the \$2 million allocation were required to address and resolve significant public and private landowners concerns to obtain approval for the eastern IEA. Draft budgets and workplans informed by the eastern IEA process indicate that \$3.5 million will be needed to formally initiate and successfully complete the Scarborough Bluffs West IEA. Confirmation of the planning process under the recently updated *Environmental Assessment Act* and a competitive process for required external expertise will further refine this budget.

COVID-19 has significantly increased budget pressures across all divisions of the City of Toronto. However, COVID-19 has also increased use of Lake Ontario waterfront parks and greenspaces across the City in general. TRCA continues to receive inquiries from stakeholders and members of the public requesting access improvements to the shoreline west of Bluffer's Park. In January 2021, the Toronto Lakefront Community group prepared an access and signage report for Councillors Bradford and Crawford outlining some of the Fallingbrook community's concerns and recommendations. A safer shoreline trail connection in this area has also been a long-standing high priority for the Waterfront Regeneration Trust and their signature Great Lakes Waterfront Trail initiative, that is also a key element of TRCA's Board endorsed Trail Strategy for the Greater Toronto Region. The City of Toronto has, along with 155 communities along the Great Lakes, committed to establishing the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail.

Recently, TRCA has experienced success in partnering with the City of Toronto and with other municipalities in our jurisdiction to secure limited amounts of senior government funds for shoreline projects through the Federal Disaster Mitigation Adaptation Fund, and the National Disaster Mitigation Program. Technical feasibility and consultation with the public, stakeholders, and Indigenous communities are all elements that are accomplished or furthered through an Environmental Assessment process. Bringing projects like Scarborough Bluffs West to a 'shovel ready' state via Environmental Assessment Act approvals has been an important success factor in leveraging senior government investments for TRCA and partner municipalities. Therefore, TRCA generally recommends advancing environmental assessments' where funding can be found considering other government pressures and priorities.

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 3 – Rethink greenspace to maximize its value

Strategy 5 – Foster sustainable citizenship

FINANCIAL DETAILS

City Council previously authorized \$2 million for the Scarborough Bluffs West IEA supported by funding from the City of Toronto through the Toronto Water division. To date \$1,411,375 has been spent from the \$2 million allocation to advance the eastern IEA to successful completion and to conduct necessary baseline conditions and monitoring work for the west section, leaving \$588,625 remaining. It is anticipated that the Scarborough Bluffs West IEA would cost approximately \$3.5 million from launch to completion over a period of three or more years, based on TRCA and the City's experience with the eastern Scarborough Waterfront Project IEA. As a result, a gap of \$2,911,375 in funding to initiate and complete this project currently exists. This project has been included on the unmet needs list for the City of Toronto capital budget since 2016.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

TRCA staff will continue to engage the City of Toronto staff and senior levels of government in discussions towards securing a multi-year funding commitment of \$3.5 million to formally initiate the Scarborough Bluffs West IEA. TRCA will also seek confirmation that we can continue to utilize the previous allocation for baseline fisheries monitoring in 2021 to best position the project for a future launch. An update on the status of this IEA will be brought to the Board of Directors after further discussions on cost sharing occur involving all levels of government.

Report prepared by: Lisa Turnbull, extension 5645

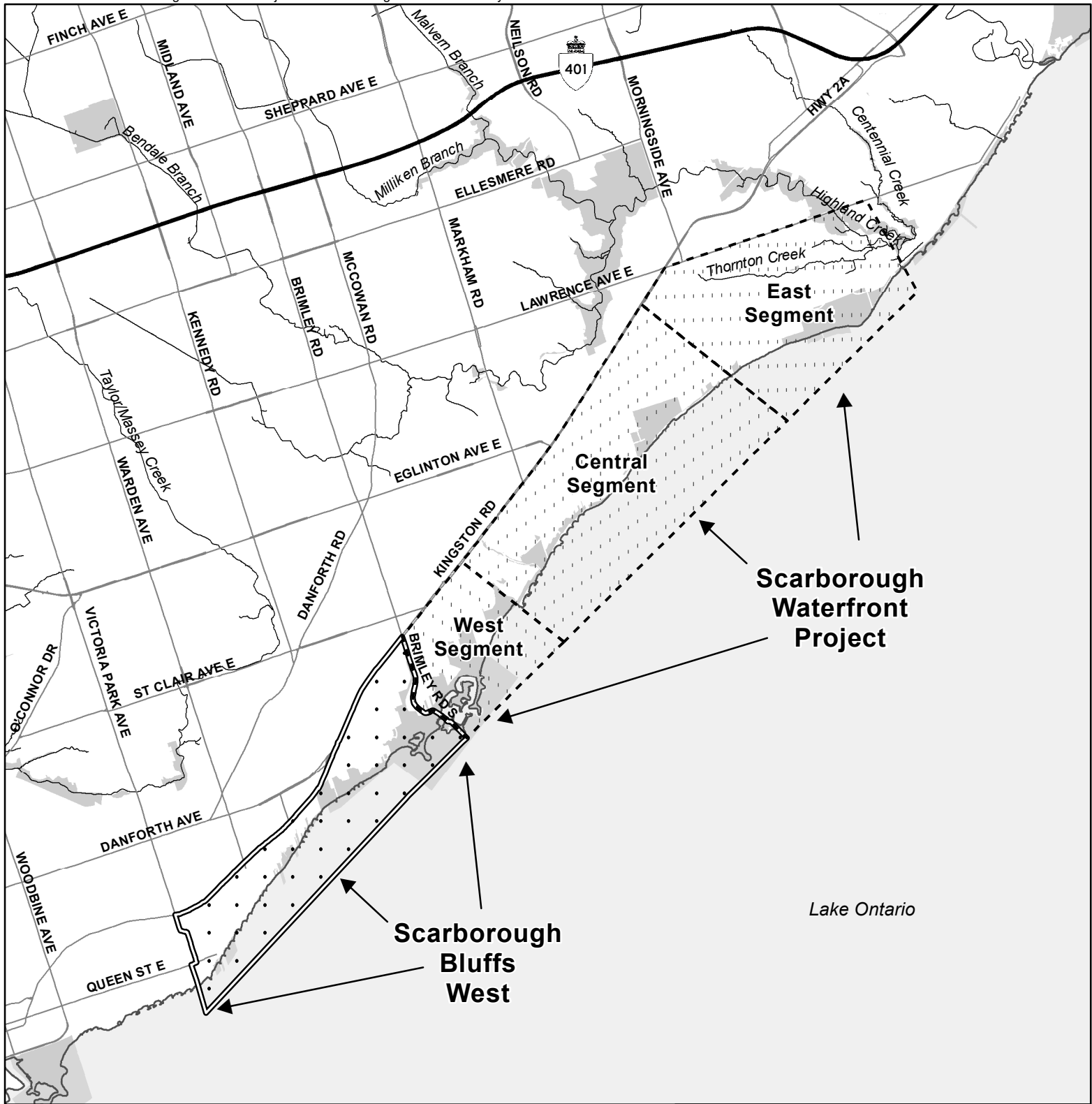
Emails: lisa.turnbull@trca.ca






For Information contact: Lisa Turnbull, extension 5645

Emails: lisa.turnbull@trca.ca

Attachments: 1

Attachment 1: Scarborough Waterfront Project and Scarborough Bluffs West Study Area



-  Scarborough Waterfront Project
-  Scarborough Bluffs West
-  Shoreline
-  Watercourse
-  TRCA Property



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RES.#A53/21 -

SMOKING POLICY UPDATE

To update the Board of Directors on the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) updated Alcohol, Smoking and Cannabis Policy.

Moved by: Paul Ainslie
Seconded by: Jennifer Drake

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the Smoking Policy Update report be received.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

TRCA staff brought forth a report entitled *Smoking Policy Updates - Progress Report* at Board of Directors Meeting #4/19, held on April 26, 2019. Resolution #A50/19 was approved as follows:

WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) public use lands and facilities are situated across multiple municipal jurisdictions, are subject to several management agreements, and include lease and partnership agreements with various stakeholders;

AND WHEREAS TRCA's Smoking Policy ("the Policy") must consider the complexities of all applicable by-laws, existing partnership agreements, and all users and stakeholders;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the progress report regarding updates to TRCA's Smoking Policy (herein Policy) be received;

AND THAT staff report back prior to spring of 2020 with an updated Smoking Policy.

Following review of municipal partner smoking policies as well as consultation with TRCA partners, staff have updated TRCA's Alcohol, Smoking and Cannabis Policy (Attachment 1). Upon review of TRCA's existing policy structure, it was determined that a gap remained in addressing use of cannabis by third parties on TRCA land and there was also a need to update TRCA's use of alcohol policies. Given that most rules on the issue of smoking cannabis in Ontario follow the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act*, and the recreational nature of the new cannabis policy regime in Ontario, staff recommended combining the update to the Smoking Policy with that of the Alcohol Policy with necessary amendments to reflect use of recreational cannabis.

This policy was reviewed and approved by TRCA's Senior Leadership Team on November 12, 2020.

RATIONALE

Over the 2019-2020 operating seasons, staff undertook the following steps to inform changes to the former Smoking Policy:

- Reviewed by-laws and policies of TRCA's partner municipalities and school boards to ensure that Policy updates are complimentary to their regulations;
- Consulted with other Conservation Authorities;
- Consulted with applicable health units regarding proposed updates;
- Consulted staff to determine frequency of any smoking related complaints and related enforcement requirements;

- Considered enforcement of potential policy changes;
- Consulted with TRCA's on-site business partners, Tree Top Trekking, byPeterandPauls.com, special event organizers, etc. regarding proposed policy updates;
- Consulted with stakeholders currently leasing lands from TRCA; and
- Reviewed TRCA's existing land management agreements, for land managed by TRCA on behalf of a third party (i.e. Glen Rouge Campground, Oak Ridges Corridor Park).

The updated policy aligns with the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act*, *Liquor License Act*, and the *Cannabis Act*.

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

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

Strategy 5 – Foster sustainable citizenship

Report prepared by: Amanda Lazarevski, extension 6425

Emails: amanda.lazarevski@trca.ca

For Information contact: Richard Ubbens, extension 5672

Emails: richard.ubbens@trca.ca

Date: February 10, 2021

Attachments: 1

Attachment 1: CS-5.20-P Alcohol Smoking Cannabis

CORPORATE POLICY & PROCEDURE

POLICY TITLE: ALCOHOL, CANNABIS, AND SMOKING
POLICY NO.: CS-5.20-P

Chapter:	Corporate Services		
Section:	5. Property and Risk Management		
Effective Date:	March 26, 2021	Last Review Date:	March 26, 2021
Approval Authority:	Board of Directors		
Issued to:	All TRCA Employees		
Policy Owner:	Property and Risk Management		

1. PURPOSE

- 1.01. The purpose of this Policy is to provide guidance on smoking and on the sale, service, and consumption of alcohol and cannabis at Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's (TRCA) facilities or events.

2. SCOPE

- 2.01. This Policy applies to all TRCA facilities and operations, as well as events held on TRCA property.
- 2.02. This Policy does not apply to TRCA staff in a personal capacity at all TRCA facilities and events held on TRCA property. All employee-related matters are addressed by *HR-4.01-P Code of Conduct Policy*.

3. POLICY

- 3.01. No sale or consumption of alcohol, cannabis or tobacco is permitted on TRCA properties or at TRCA events except as allowed by law and by this Policy.
- 3.02. Alcohol is not allowed at events targeted exclusively to youth under 19 years of age held at TRCA locations.
- 3.03. Smoking or consumption of tobacco or cannabis is not permitted at TRCA properties except as allowed by this Policy or where otherwise indicated at a TRCA property or facility.
- 3.04. No person is permitted to be in an intoxicated condition because of the use of alcohol, cannabis or any other substance while on TRCA premises.

Policy Title: ALCOHOL, CANNABIS, AND SMOKING

Policy No.: CS-5.20-P

4. RESPONSIBILITY

- 4.01. **Facility Managers and Event Managers** are responsible for:
- (a) Reviewing local municipal by-laws and public health directives for their facility or event;
 - (b) Posting notices as indicated in this Policy; and
 - (c) Notifying vendors of the requirements of this Policy.
- 4.02. **TRCA Staff** involved in events or operations involving the sale and consumption of alcohol, or the consumption of recreational cannabis, are responsible for being familiar with this Policy. This includes, but is not limited to, event organizers or managers of facilities to which members of the public are attending and all other staff are responsible for compliance with this Policy.
- 4.03. On motion from TRCA's Board of Directors, TRCA may accept, revise or rescind this Policy.

5. PROCEDURE

General Alcohol Consumption

- 5.01. Alcohol consumption is only permitted in the following locations on TRCA property or at TRCA events:
- (a) An area licensed under the *Liquor License Act*;
 - (b) A permitted campsite;
 - (c) A motor vehicle equipped with sleeping accommodation and cooking facilities while it is parked and being used as a residence at a permitted TRCA campsite; or
 - (d) An area with a valid Special Occasions Permit, Catering Endorsement, or other valid Liquor Sales permit.
- 5.02. TRCA will during certain times of the year designate some facilities as dry, at which point alcohol will not be permitted to be possessed or consumed. TRCA will consider failure to comply with such a Policy as grounds for removal from the facility. TRCA will post notice of such a Policy clearly to all permit holders and facility entrants at those given times.

Eligible Locations for the Special Occasions Permit (SOP)

- 5.03. TRCA may consider TRCA-owned buildings, facilities, parks, properties to be locations for SOP events. The following criteria will be reviewed when considering an SOP event on TRCA property:
- (a) Nature, duration and hours of the proposed event;
 - (b) Impact upon neighboring properties and other facility users;
 - (c) TRCA staff and public safety considerations;
 - (d) Proximity to public transportation services;
 - (e) Adequate availability of space, parking and washrooms;
 - (f) Adequate availability of water and electrical supply; and
 - (g) Ability to comply with all other provisions of this Policy.

Policy Title: ALCOHOL, CANNABIS, AND SMOKING

Policy No.: CS-5.20-P

- 5.04. All SOPs must be issued by the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (“AGCO”). Once the SOP has been approved, the Event Organizer must submit evidence of the SOP to TRCA to obtain the appropriate approval for the SOP event.
- 5.05. Granting of a TRCA permit to host an event or use that includes the serving and consumption of alcohol is contingent on full responsibility and liability being assumed by the event organizer and furthermore on compliance with any additional conditions as may be required by TRCA.
- 5.06. If an event is being held at different TRCA facilities, a separate SOP is required for each location.
- 5.07. Provision of an SOP does not guarantee approval by TRCA for the event to proceed. TRCA reserves the right deny a TRCA-issued permit or approval for a proposed SOP event at any TRCA managed locations.
- 5.08. The SOP holder must purchase third-party public liability insurance for their event. This insurance will include:
- (a) A minimum \$2,000,000 (Two Million Dollars) per occurrence limit for small scale events (less than 3000 people expected per day);
 - (b) A minimum \$5,000,000 per occurrence limit or large-scale events (greater than 3000 people expected per day);
 - (c) Identify TRCA as an additional insured with respect to the permitted event;
 - (d) Include a host liquor liability endorsement;
 - (e) Higher limits may be required as requested by Property and Risk Management after considering among other things:
 - Length and frequency of activity
 - Number of venues
 - Incorporation of other activities that include additional risk (adventure tourism activities, amusement rides, pyrotechnics, etc.)
 - (f) The event organizer must provide TRCA with a valid evidence of insurance, the SOP and any other required documents at least 10 days prior to the Event. Failure to submit any of these documents may result in the TRCA withholding permission for the event, and the event organizer forfeiting any deposits.
- 5.09. TRCA may request a reasonable damage deposit be made for use of TRCA space by higher risk events or activities.

Food, Beverages and Responsible Consumption

- 5.10. The following apply to all events or facilities where alcohol is served on TRCA managed property. In general, the Event Organizer or Facility Manager responsible for an event or facility where alcohol is being served is expected to encourage responsible drinking by ensuring the following practices:
- (a) Non-alcoholic beverages must be available, either at no charge or less than the price of alcoholic beverages being sold at all events or facilities where alcohol is served on TRCA managed property

Policy Title: ALCOHOL, CANNABIS, AND SMOKING

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- (b) Event organizers must provide and encourage the consumption of food. Chips, peanuts, and other such snacks do not qualify as food. Sandwiches and other light meals are considered appropriate for such events.
- (c) Practices that encourage immoderate consumption of alcohol is not permitted (for example, drinking contests or games, and discounting of ticket prices for volume buying). Practices which encourage increased consumption of alcohol are not allowed. Specifically, oversize drinks, double shots, pitchers of beer, drinking contests and volume discounts are not allowed.
- (d) Only alcoholic beverages purchased from a licensed retail store such as the Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO), The Beer Store, or stores of Ontario wineries and breweries may be sold/served at SOP events held at TRCA managed land. Event organizers and participants may not sell, bring or consume home-made alcoholic beverages or their own alcoholic beverages at SOP events held on TRCA managed land. The permit and alcohol purchase receipt(s) must be available for inspection upon request by AGCO Compliance Officials or police officers
- (e) Under no circumstances may a person under the age of 19 be served, or be allowed to consume, an alcoholic beverage or be sold vouchers for an alcoholic beverage. If there is any doubt about a person's age, servers must ask for an acceptable form of identification. Servers must ID any individuals who appear to be under the age of 25. Acceptable forms of identification include:
 - Ontario Driver's License
 - Canadian Passport
 - Canadian Citizenship Card
 - Canadian Armed Forces Identification Card
 - Photo card issued by the LCBO, entitled Bring Your ID (BYID) (The AGCO accepts this identification for applicants of all lines of business.)
 - Secure Indian Status Card issued by the Government of Canada
 - Permanent Resident Card issued by the Government of Canada
 - Photo card issued under the *Photo Card Act, 2008*
- (f) Alcohol, or vouchers for alcohol, must not be sold or served to anyone who is, or appears to be, intoxicated.
- (g) The SOP holder is responsible to ensure that an intoxicated person does not enter the licensed premises, and anyone who becomes intoxicated does not remain in the licensed premises.
- (h) All Events must have a drink monitoring system in place, which ensures that patrons do not drink to the point of intoxication. Relying solely on visible signs of intoxication is not as effective as monitoring consumption. Examples of drink monitoring systems are outlined in Smart Serve training.
- (i) Servers must not dispense any person more than two alcoholic drinks at any one time.

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Bar Requirements and Operation

- 5.11. Bars should be located in areas that allow Event Workers to see and monitor Event participants while they are consuming alcohol.
- 5.12. All areas where alcohol will be served and consumed (indoor or outdoor) must be readily distinguishable from areas where the permit does not apply.
- 5.13. All empty alcohol containers must remain in the bar or licensed area.
- 5.14. Alcoholic drink sales must end at least 30 minutes prior to the bar closure time specified on the TRCA-issued permit. There must be no last call for the bar. Last call usually encourages high and rapid consumption of alcohol and results in high blood alcohol levels just as the event is ending.
- 5.15. All signs of sale and service must be cleared within forty-five (45) minutes of the end time stated on the permit. This includes the removal of all partially consumed and empty bottles, and glasses that contain(ed) alcohol.
- 5.16. All bars must close at the time indicated on the TRCA-issued permit, the SOP, the Catering Endorsement, or other License, whichever is earlier.

Event Workers and Security

- 5.17. Event Organizers are responsible for ensuring that an adequate number of event workers are available for the size and type of their licensed event.

TRCA, in consultation with the Event Organizer, will determine the number of Event workers required for each Event. This will be based on:

- (a) The nature of the event (private versus public);
 - (b) The location of the event (indoor versus outdoor);
 - (c) The expected attendance;
 - (d) The type of bar operation (open bar versus cash bar); and
 - (e) Any other factors relevant to the need for additional event staff.
- 5.18. The Event Organizer must ensure that adequate floor monitors are present for the entire event. The role of the floor monitor is to ensure that the SOP requirements and the requirements of the TRCA alcohol Policy are carried out.
 - 5.19. Event Workers involved in the sale or handling of alcohol must have proof of Smart Serve, or other AGCO certification, available while they are working and be at least 18 years of age.
 - 5.20. Event Organizer and Event Workers (the permit holder or his/her designate and persons working for the permit holder) must not consume alcoholic beverages while they are working at the event, or after the bar is closed and the event is over.
 - 5.21. The Event Organizer or his/her designate, must be present for the duration of the event and be responsible for decisions regarding the operation of the event.

Policy Title: ALCOHOL, CANNABIS, AND SMOKING

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- 5.22. Event Workers must ensure the participants do not engage in activities that could potentially harm themselves and others.
- 5.23. Event Workers should be easily identifiable to TRCA staff, e.g. wear badges, caps.
- 5.24. TRCA staff will determine if a TRCA representative should attend an SOP event. The designated TRCA staff representative will have the authority, on behalf of TRCA, to shut down the event.
- 5.25. The Event Organizer shall provide security sufficient to ensure that unauthorized persons do not attend the event and that the conditions of the permit, and applicable regulation, are observed. In some cases, and at the discretion of TRCA management, pay-duty police may also be required at the event. TRCA may also require that entrances to license bar areas be supervised by police officers or professional security staff.
- 5.26. Costs of providing security as well as all other Event Workers shall be borne by the Event Organizer.

Signage

- 5.27. In addition to any signage required by law, including the Liquor License Act and its regulations, TRCA requires that the Event Organizer post the following information near each bar area:
 - (a) The legal drinking age in Ontario is 19. No persons under 19 years of age shall drink any alcoholic beverages at a TRCA-issued permitted event.
 - (b) If anyone appears to be under 25 years of age, the bartender, other event staff and/or TRCA staff can request proof of age and the acceptable forms of ID including a photo and date of birth.
 - (c) Alcohol may be purchased until one half hour before the bar closes. There will be no last call.
 - (d) At any one time, patrons may only be served up to two drinks.
 - (e) It is against the law for bartenders, servers or participants to provide alcohol to anyone who is, or appears to be, intoxicated.
 - (f) The capacity of the licensed area.
- 5.28. If the majority of event participants do not speak English, the permit holder(s) must post the contents of the signs translated into the language(s) of the majority of the participants, as well as the English sign.
- 5.29. The Event Organizer must display a sign cautioning that consumption of alcohol during pregnancy can cause Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), as per Sandy's Law.
- 5.30. Event Organizers should promote messages such as the importance of staying hydrated, and that free water is available while clearly indicating where drinking water stations are located.

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Safe Transportation

- 5.31. Permit holders must ensure that provisions have been made for safe transportation of intoxicated participants, should any participant be or become intoxicated.

Plans for safe transportation may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) a designated driver program (including advertising of such a program at the event);
- (b) free non-alcoholic drinks for any designated drivers;
- (c) arrangements for event sponsors to drive intoxicated patrons home;
- (d) taxi chits (receipts to be provided for money owed);
- (e) Promoting the use of taxis by posting locally available taxi numbers at an event;
- (f) calls to the police if intoxicated participants insist on driving.

Accountability

- 5.32. If this Policy is violated, TRCA management or their designate can, at their own and exclusive discretion:
- (a) close down the event immediately; and/or
 - (b) refuse to issue future facility permits to the event organizers.

Smoking of Tobacco and Cannabis

- 5.33. No tobacco or cannabis products will be sold at any TRCA point of sale.
- 5.34. All TRCA properties and facilities are required to comply with the *Smoke Free Ontario Act*, as well as municipal by-laws for the respective location of the event.
- 5.35. Smoking is prohibited including but not limited to within:
- (a) 9m of any entrance or exit to a TRCA building or inside of any building;
 - (b) 9m of any or inside of any enclosed workspace;
 - (c) 9m of any window or opening into an enclosed workspace or building;
 - (d) 9m of any public shelter or picnic shelter;
 - (e) 9m of any permanent or temporary outdoor venue, public gathering space or public square;
 - (f) 9m of a patio of any bar or restaurant;
 - (g) 20m of any buildings or the grounds surrounding private schools, where the private school is the only occupant of the premises;
 - (h) 20m of any outdoor seating area accompanying a permanent or temporary sports or entertainment area;
 - (i) 20m or in any Children's playgrounds;
 - (j) 20m of any sporting areas or seating adjacent to sporting areas;
 - (k) 20m of the grounds or within any community recreational facility; or
 - (l) Inside any owned, rented, or leased TRCA fleet vehicle or equipment.
- 5.36. Each Facility Manager shall post a 10cm x 10cm Tobacco Sign, an Electronic Cigarette Sign or a Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sign as issued by the local public health unit or the Ministry of Health at each entrance and exit to any enclosed workspace or public building and in sufficient numbers to ensure all staff are aware

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that smoking and use of electronic cigarettes is not allowed in the enclosed workspace or area.

5.37. Facility or Event Managers may delineate and post a sign designating an area where smoking is permitted in part of a facility or the grounds of a facility where smoking is not otherwise prohibited.

5.38. Facility or Event Managers may further restrict smoking as necessary to ensure the health and safety and to assist in the operation of their facility or event, provided such further restrictions are clearly displayed to all members of the public and staff on site.

6. DEFINITIONS

6.01. **“Community Recreational Facility”** means a community recreational facility is an enclosed public place or enclosed workplace that offers athletic and recreational programs to the local community and is owned or operated by:

- (a) a not-for-profit corporation;
- (b) an organization registered as a charity;
- (c) the province; or
- (d) a municipality.

6.02. **“Event Organizer”** means the person responsible for an event or program that involves the sale or service of alcohol, tobacco or cannabis at a TRCA facility or property.

6.03. **“Event Worker”** means a person working at an event where alcohol, tobacco or cannabis is served or sold at a TRCA facility or property.

6.04. **“Smoking”** means to:

- (a) Smoke or hold lighted tobacco
- (b) Smoke or hold lighted cannabis; or
- (c) To use an electronic cigarette.

6.05. **“Special Occasion Permit”** The Special Occasion Permit (SOP) is a permit issued by the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario. It allows the permit holder to sell or serve liquor during a special occasion under the regulations of the Liquor License Act.

7. ADMINISTRATION

Administered by the Clerk’s Office

Review Schedule:	5 Years	Next Review Date:	March 26, 2026
Supersedes:	<i>Alcohol at TRCA Permitted Functions Policy and Procedures (2008-06-27)</i> <i>Non-Smoking Policy (2015-03-19)</i>		

Policy Title: ALCOHOL, CANNABIS, AND SMOKING

Policy No.: CS-5.20-P

Related Legislation, Regulations and Guidelines:	Ontario's <u>Liquor Licence Act, RSO 1990, c L.19</u>	
	Ontario's <u>Liquor Licence Act, R.R.O. 1990, REGULATION 718</u>	
	Ontario's <u>O. Reg. 70/09: Possession of Liquor in Certain Parks and Conservation Areas</u>	
	Ontario's <u>O. Reg. 389/91: Special Occasion Permits</u>	
	Ontario's <u>Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017, SO 2017, c 26, Sch 3</u>	
Related Policies and Policy Tools:	CS-5.20-P Attachment 1: Summary of Municipal Smoking and Cannabis By-Laws	
Revision History		
Version Number	Version Date	Description
1	March 26, 2021	Policy went into effect.

RES.#A54/21 -

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT

Statement of Interest: Strategic Business Planning Policy

To provide information to the Board of Directors regarding planned initiatives of the Information Technology and Records Management Business Unit including the Data Strategy and Digital Strategy.

Moved by: Paul Ainslie
Seconded by: Jennifer Drake

WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) staff have explored the requirements for developing both a comprehensive Data and Digital Strategy which will create a streamlined and coordinated approach to data management and will ensure TRCA staff have access to modern digital tools which support efficient service delivery;

THEREFORE, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the details and next steps to securing a Data Strategy be received;

AND THAT the details and next steps to securing a Digital Strategy be received.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

In accordance with TRCA's Strategic Business Planning (SBP) Policy, all potential new projects/programs or proposed modifications to existing initiatives must proceed through the SBP Policy workflow, including reporting to the Board of Directors for informational purposes.

RATIONALE

A Data and Digital Strategy is foundational to all technology solutions, reporting and analytics, and enables an organization to continue to make informed decisions. The Data Strategy will enable TRCA to outline the current state of data; identify a data vision and key gaps; assess data governance, staffing, and skill gaps; and define a roadmap to execute next steps. A Data Strategy will help define rules around data governance and management, stewardship, data quality and analytics, all of which are key to running an efficient and effective operations.

The Digital Strategy initiative proposes to procure consulting services to develop and define TRCA's digital vision and mandate and establish a multi-year road map for implementing the strategy. The Digital Strategy will involve all key stakeholders, outlining key aspirations, drivers for changes and pain points, market assessment, opportunities to digitize and develop a cohesive analysis.

The Digital Strategy will also result in developing a prioritized list of digital initiatives for the organization, which will inform a multi-year roadmap towards TRCA's digital maturity.

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 10 – Accelerate innovation

Strategy 9 – Measure performance

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Based on a preliminary estimation it is anticipated that the Data Strategy will require a total budget of \$85,000 to procure IT services from a third-party vendor for the development of the strategy. This is currently unfunded within the existing budget envelope.

Similarly, to facilitate the Digital Strategy, a total budget of \$70,000 is required to hire a consultant for the development of the strategy. This is currently unfunded within the existing budget envelope. This strategy, once established, will contain a multi-year road map of initiatives which will each require separate funding. These initiatives will be submitted for consideration after the strategy is defined and approved.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

Following the receipt of this report and pending no issues, both the Data Strategy and Digital Strategy will continue through the SBP Policy workflow and be added to the unfunded priorities list. Based on their position within the prioritized list, TRCA's Senior Leadership Team will be recommending that these initiatives be funded for 2021. Staff will continue to refine the scope of work and procure the required services to progress these initiatives.

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Date: March 26, 2021

RES.#A55/21 -

WATERSHED PLANNING & REPORTING PROGRAM

Strategic Business Planning Initiative

To provide information to the Board of Directors regarding a planned initiative to modernize Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's (TRCA) Watershed Planning and Reporting program.

Moved by: Paul Ainslie
Seconded by: Jennifer Drake

WHEREAS TRCA staff have assessed the existing Watershed Planning & Reporting program, identifying opportunities for improving the program to better serve the needs of our municipal partners;

WHEREAS TRCA staff are recommending an approach to watershed planning that accelerates the existing process through budget enhancement to support the simultaneous development of three watershed plans at various stages at any given time, rather than just one watershed plan;

AND WHEREAS Benefits of this approach will ensure that municipalities have timely and up-to-date science to guide land use and infrastructure decisions and will enable TRCA municipal partners to conform to provincial policies requiring that they undertake watershed planning;

THEREFORE, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the Strategic Business Planning Policy Statement of Interest report outlining the details for improving the Watershed Planning & Reporting program be received.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

In accordance with TRCA's Strategic Business Planning (SBP) Policy, all potential new projects/programs or proposed modifications to existing initiatives must proceed through the SBP Policy workflow, including reporting to the Board of Directors for informational purposes.

Watershed plans are strategic documents that are intended to direct the work of conservation authorities (CAs), municipalities, and their government and community partners to achieve the goal of watershed health. Recent changes to provincial policies now require municipalities, in partnership with CAs, to ensure watershed planning is undertaken to inform land use and infrastructure planning decisions. Given the breadth of watershed planning and management experience, TRCA is well-positioned to deliver watershed plans to assist its municipal partners achieve policy conformity. These watershed plans require updates to include new science and policy direction, as well as collaboration and alignment of priorities across the organization to both develop and implement the plans.

RATIONALE

The Watershed Planning & Reporting (WPR) business unit currently has an annual budget of approximately \$625,000, which allows for one watershed plan to be underway in any given year, taking a total of 3 years to complete each plan. The enhanced WPR approach would enable the ability to have three watershed plans under development at various stages each year. This would enable all TRCA watershed plans to be updated on roughly a 10-year cycle ensuring up-to-date science is available to TRCA and its partners and

stakeholders. To achieve this vision of a 10-year cycle, an additional \$600K per year is required, for a total annual WPR budget of \$1.2M.

The scope of watershed plans would generally include analysis of the flooding, erosion, water quality, natural heritage (incl. urban forest), and water resource system characteristics of a watershed and recommend the management actions needed to ensure watershed health is protected and restored in the face of drivers like climate and land use changes. The total required budget of \$1.2M includes the scoping and development of the watershed plans, but excludes resources required for watershed plan implementation and additional watershed monitoring as recommended by the plan.

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

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

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

Strategy 8 – Gather and share the best sustainability knowledge

Strategy 9 – Measure performance

FINANCIAL DETAILS

To facilitate the enhanced WPR program, a total budget of \$1.2M is required. The existing budget of \$623,000 would remain as part of this initiative, resulting in a funding gap of approximately \$600,000.

To work towards securing the additional funding to support this program, a business plan inclusive of a financial strategy must be completed, resulting in the unfunded portion of the initiative being added to TRCA's unfunded priorities list. Given the reforms to the Conservation Authorities Act and the impending changes to the enabling Regulations, there may be a direct impact on the funding model for programs such as these, and it is recommended that this project consider these potential changes in the development of the funding strategy.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

In order to complete the watershed planning cycle, funding must be available to support watershed plan implementation, and direction generated from watershed plans needs to be incorporated across all business units and with external stakeholders.

With watershed plans requiring input and collaboration from across the organization, internal business units should work towards accommodating watershed plan updates in their work plans by working collaboratively with WPR to identify key tasks and timelines for required staff.

Report prepared by: Kim Krawczyk, extension 5862

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Date: March 16, 2021

RES.#A56/21 -

PRACTICING WELL-BEING IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Strategic Business Planning Policy

To provide information to the Board of Directors regarding a planned initiative to participate in a research project which explores the impact that green buildings have on the well-being of building occupants using Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's (TRCA) current and future head office.

Moved by: Paul Ainslie
Seconded by: Jennifer Drake

WHEREAS TRCA staff have reviewed the resources required and potential benefits to participating in the Practicing Well-being in the Built Environment research project in partnership with University of Toronto, Sustainable Buildings Canada, and the WELL Being Institute;

THEREFORE, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the report outlining the details and benefits for participating in the Practicing Well-Being in the Built Environment research project be received.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

In accordance with TRCA's Strategic Business Planning (SBP) Policy, all potential new projects/programs or proposed modifications to existing initiatives must proceed through the SBP Policy workflow, including reporting to the Board of Directors for informational purposes.

Practicing Well-being in the Built Environment is a research project led by the University of Toronto in partnership with Sustainable Buildings Canada and the international WELL Building Institute, which will study the impact that green buildings have on the well-being of building occupants. This research intends to influence future changes to the WELL system and provide TRCA with data required to obtain WELL certification which is a priority as part of the migration to the new administrative office building planned for 2022.

RATIONALE

TRCA's participation in this research project may provide a positive profile of the new administrative office building at both a national and international scale. It also offers TRCA the opportunity to participate in the refinement of WELL certification system. The results of this research project will provide some of the required data as part of TRCA's WELL certification valued at approximately \$3k - \$5k. Information gathered as part of this research project, such as the post-occupancy staff survey and/or environmental quality data, will also serve to enhance TRCA's own internal performance reporting program.

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 1 – Green the Toronto region's economy

Strategy 8 – Gather and share the best sustainability knowledge

Strategy 11 – Invest in our staff

FINANCIAL DETAILS

TRCA's participation in the research project will require administrative coordination for: development of a Memorandum of Understanding with the research team; staff engagement during the research process; and oversight to ensure the project meets TRCA's privacy and confidentiality policies. The scope and sampling for the research project will include a pre- and

post- occupancy survey with 350 staff, and a more in-depth engagement approach with 12 staff using both a pre- and post-occupancy interval.

The total estimated cost for this project is \$16,400, phased over 2-years (2021-2022). Funding to support this initiative will come from the Corporate Sustainability and Community Transformation program.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

In accordance with the SBP Policy, staff will continue to progress through the policy workflow. Once approved, the next steps within the process include refining the budget and ensuring deliverables are reflected in both 2021 and 2022.

Report prepared by: Kim Krawczyk, extension 5862

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For Information contact: Darryl Gray, extension 5881

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Date: March 26, 2021

MATERIAL FROM MARCH 5, 2021 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

[Meeting Minutes Link](#)

Section I – Items for Board of Directors Action

RES.#A57/21 - REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR VENDORS OF RECORD FOR SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF VARIOUS EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL MATERIALS

Award of Request for Proposal (RFP) No. 10035552 for a Vendors of Record (VOR) arrangement for supply and delivery of various erosion and sediment control materials from May 6, 2021 to May 6, 2023.

Moved by: Joe DiPaola
Seconded by: Xiao Han

THAT WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) is engaged in a variety of programs/projects that require the installation of erosion and sediment control materials in order to operate;

AND WHEREAS TRCA solicited proposals through a publicly advertised process and evaluated the proposals based on the criteria outlined in this report;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT Request for Proposal (RFP) No. 10035552 - Vendors of Record for Supply and Delivery of Erosion and Sediment Control Materials be awarded to Devron Sales Ltd., Erosion Solutions Ltd., Layfield Canada Ltd., Nilex Inc., Organic Express Inc., and Terrafix Geosynthetics Inc. for two (2) years at a total cost not to exceed \$635,333, plus applicable taxes, to be expended as authorized by TRCA staff;

THAT TRCA staff be authorized to approve additional expenditures to a maximum of \$95,300 (approximately 15% of the anticipated expenditures), plus applicable taxes, in excess of the contract cost as a contingency allowance if deemed necessary;

THAT should TRCA staff be unable to negotiate a contract with the above-mentioned Proponents, staff be authorized to enter into and conclude contract negotiations with other Proponents that submitted proposals, beginning with the next highest ranked Proponent meeting TRCA specifications;

AND FURTHER THAT authorized TRCA officials be directed to take whatever action may be required to implement the contract, including the obtaining of necessary approvals and the signing and execution of any documents.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

TRCA requires supply and delivery of various erosion and sediment control (“ESC”) materials while completing a variety of engineering, habitat restoration, and trail building projects throughout TRCA’s jurisdiction. These materials are crucial for preventing erosion and sediment deposition in the waterways adjacent to, and within TRCA’s construction projects.

By establishing a Vendors of Record (“VOR”) arrangement for the supply and delivery of erosion and sediment control materials, Vendors are authorized to provide these goods and services for a defined period of time and with fixed pricing.

In accordance with the contract documents for this VOR arrangement, staff may contact a Vendor on the list with the material and delivery turn-around times required for their project with a value up to \$25,000 per project, per annum. Goods and services above this threshold will be procured through a separate competition and are subject to TRCA's Procurement Policy. Vendors will provide all resources required to service the divisional or program needs in accordance with applicable laws, codes, standards, and terms and conditions of the VOR agreement.

The VOR arrangement will be subject to annual review in order to confirm that the Vendors are providing an adequate level of service and to update any applicable insurance, certifications, or policies of the Vendors.

The term of this Vendors of Record arrangement is for two (2) years. TRCA has the option to extend for an additional two (2) years, pending further Board of Director and TRCA staff approvals at a later date.

RATIONALE

RFP documentation was posted on the public procurement website www.biddingo.com on January 20, 2021 and closed on February 4, 2021. A total of thirty-seven (37) firms downloaded the documents and eight (8) proposals were received from the following Proponent(s):

- Devron Sales Ltd.
- Erosion Solutions Ltd.
- Gray's Landscaping and Snow Removal Inc.
- Layfield Canada Ltd.
- Nilex Inc.
- Organic Express Inc.
- Silt Sock Environmental
- Terrafix Geosynthetics Inc.

An Evaluation Committee comprised of senior staff from the Restoration & Infrastructure division reviewed the proposals on February 9, 2021. The criteria used to evaluate and select the recommended Proponents included the following:

Criteria	Maximum Score	Minimum Score
Proponent Information and Executive Summary	15	
Scope of Work Capabilities	15	
Sub-Total	30	15
Pricing	70	
Sub-Total	70	
Total Points	100	

Proponents had the option to provide pricing for up to six (6) different categories of ESC materials. The three (3) highest scoring Proponents for each material category are recommended for contract award.

Through the evaluation process it was determined that Devron Sales Ltd., Erosion Solutions Ltd., Layfield Canada Ltd., Nilex Inc., Organic Express Inc., and Terrafix Geosynthetics Inc. are

one of the three (3) highest scoring Vendors for each category, meeting the qualifications and requirements set out in the RFP. Therefore, it is recommended that contract No. 10035552 be awarded to Devron Sales Ltd., Erosion Solutions Ltd., Layfield Canada Ltd., Nilex Inc., Organic Express Inc., and Terrafix Geosynthetics Inc. at a total cost not to exceed \$635,333, plus 15% contingency, plus applicable taxes, over the initial two (2) year term.

Proponent's scores and staff analysis of the evaluation results can be provided in an in-camera presentation, upon request.

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 7 – Build partnerships and new business models

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

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Based upon expenditures during the previous VOR contract (2019-2021), the anticipated value of the requested goods and services under this contract is anticipated to be approximately \$635,333, plus applicable taxes for the two (2) year term.

Vendors may increase unit rates on a per annum basis, to a maximum of the preceding year's [Ontario Consumer Price Index \(Toronto – All Items category\)](#) as published by Statistics Canada. The value being proposed for this contract assumes a 2% increase of unit rates per annum for all Vendors.

An increase or decrease in workload will have an impact on the value of this contract. All Vendors on the VOR list understand both the potential cost and resource implications associated with changes in workload. Goods and services will be provided on an "as required" basis with no minimum orders guaranteed.

Funds for this contract are identified in a variety of capital and cost recoverable project accounts.

Report prepared by: Alex Barber, extension 5388

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Date: February 9, 2021

RES.#A58/21 -

PATTISON OUTDOOR ADVERTISING LP

Proposal from Pattison Outdoor Advertising LP to amend the terms of the proposed master lease for the construction and operation of both electronic and static advertising signs on various locations on Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) owned lands (CFN 62783).

Moved by: Joe DiPaola
Seconded by: Xiao Han

THAT WHEREAS the Board of Directors at its' meeting, held on June 26, 2020 approved the terms of the proposed Master Lease with Pattison Outdoor Advertising LLP (Resolution #A99/20);

AND WHEREAS TRCA is in receipt of a request from Pattison Outdoor Advertising LP to revise the terms of the proposed Master Lease from an initial term of five years, with three further renewal options of five years each, at TRCA's sole option, to an initial term of ten years, with two further renewal options of five years each, at TRCA's sole option;

AND WHEREAS it is the opinion of TRCA that it is in the best interest of TRCA in furthering its objectives, as set out in Section 20 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, to cooperate with Pattison Outdoor Advertising LP in this instance;

AND WHEREAS TRCA staff have also identified that the form of the agreement should be amended from a lease to a licence to reflect its contents more accurately;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT Resolution #A99/20 be amended to replace all references of 'Lease' with 'Licence'; to amend the term of the licence from five years with three further renewal options of five years each, at TRCA's sole option; to ten years, with two further renewal options of five years each, at TRCA's sole option;

AND FURTHER THAT the general terms and conditions be revised to reflect these amendments.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

TRCA is in receipt of a request from Pattison Outdoor Advertising LP (Pattison) to amend the terms of the proposed master lease for the construction and operation of both electronic and static advertising signs on TRCA-owned lands.

At Board of Directors Meeting held on June 26, 2020, Resolution #A99/20 was approved as follows:

THAT WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) is in receipt of a proposal from Pattison Outdoor Advertising LP, to enter into a Master Lease for the use of TRCA-owned lands located at various locations for outdoor advertising;

AND WHEREAS it is in the best interest of TRCA in furthering its objectives as set out in Section 20 of the Conservation Authorities Act to cooperate with Pattison Outdoor Advertising LP, in this instance;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT TRCA enter into a Master Lease with Pattison Outdoor Advertising LP, for the use of TRCA land for outdoor advertising;

THAT the following locations be included in the Master Lease:

- (1) Part of Lot 5, Concession 9, Northern Division, Toronto Gore, City of Brampton, Regional Municipality of Peel*
- (2) Part of Lot 6, Concession 8, Northern Division, Toronto Gore, City of Brampton, Regional Municipality of Peel*
- (3) Part of Lot 17, Concession 2, East of Centre Road, Chinguacousy, City of Brampton, Regional Municipality of Peel*

THAT staff be directed to work with Pattison Outdoor Advertising LP or any other interested party for additional outdoor advertising sites that may be identified;

THAT the Master Lease with Pattison Outdoor Advertising LP be subject to the following general terms and conditions:

- (I) The term of the lease will be for five years, with three further renewal options of five years each, at TRCA's sole option;*
- (II) Pattison Outdoor Advertising LP will pay a share of the gross revenue of 35% in years one to five and 40% for three subsequent lease renewals;*
- (III) Each sign will have minimum annual guaranteed base rent payment;*
- (IV) Pattison Outdoor Advertising LP will be responsible for any permitting approvals required for the construction and operation of the advertising signs;*
- (V) Pattison Outdoor Advertising LP will be responsible for any costs associated with the construction and operation of the advertising signs and associated equipment;*
- (VI) TRCA receive up to 12.5% of available advertising time at no cost to TRCA;*
- (VII) The final terms and conditions of the Master Lease be satisfactory to TRCA staff and solicitor;*
- (VIII) The sign(s) not be illuminated between 11:00 pm and 7:00 am or as regulated by local municipal guidelines.*

THAT archeological reviews be completed with any mitigative measures being carried out to the satisfaction of TRCA staff at the expense of Pattison Outdoor Advertising LP;

THAT the CEO be granted delegated authority to approve the addition of another 11 sites proposed by Pattison Outdoor Advertising LP to the Master Lease that comply with TRCA policies and procedures;

AND FURTHER THAT authorized TRCA officials be directed to take the necessary action to finalize the Master Lease, including obtaining any necessary approvals and the signing and execution of documents.

Due to the financial commitment associated with the construction and installation of the advertising signs, Pattison has requested greater security for the initial term of the agreement by amending the term from five years with three further renewal options of five years each, at TRCA's sole discretion, to a term of ten years with two further renewal options of five years each, at TRCA's sole discretion. TRCA staff have also identified that the form of the agreement should be amended from a lease to a licence to reflect its contents more accurately.

RATIONALE

When finalizing the terms and conditions for the Master Lease agreement, Pattison requested that TRCA consider amending the initial term from five years to ten years to recognize the financial commitment associated with the construction and installation of the advertising signs. TRCA staff reviewed the proposal to determine its feasibility.

TRCA cannot enter into lease agreements for terms longer than five years without provincial approval; however, upon further review of the content of the agreement, it was identified that the agreement was more reflective of a licence agreement than a lease agreement, and therefore the request for an extended initial term could be considered.

Amending the terms of the agreement from an initial five year term with three five year renewal options to an initial ten year term with two five year renewal options does not change the total length of the term (twenty years) but does permit Pattison time to recuperate their initial financial commitment and also allows TRCA the opportunity to fully evaluate the benefits and impacts of outdoor signs on TRCA property.

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

FINANCIAL DETAILS

As noted at the Board of Directors June 26, 2020 meeting, the annual base rent for the three signs is projected to be a minimum of \$57,500 per site for the first 10 years. The annual base rent will be re-negotiated when renewal options are exercised by Pattison. The base rent amount will be paid to TRCA irrespective of Pattison Outdoor Advertising LP sales performance. In addition, Pattison Outdoor Advertising LP will provide a revenue sharing program that would see TRCA receive 35% in years one to five and 40% in years six to twenty of the gross advertising revenue from space and time sold less the annual base rent. The revenue sharing percentage remains at 40% for the duration of the lease to offset capital costs to replace, upgrade and maintain the signs and screens as they age.

The Master Lease with Pattison Outdoor Advertising LP does not exclude TRCA from dealing with other interested parties, however, they will undertake to evaluate all TRCA lands to establish additional optimal locations for signs. These sites will be vetted by all appropriate TRCA staff, and if acceptable, be added to the existing Master Lease with projected revenues to be negotiated at that time.

Report prepared by: Trina Seguin, extension 6433; Daniel Byskal, extension 6452

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Date: February 3, 2021

RES.#A59/21 - SECTION II – ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE ACTION

Moved by: Mike Layton
Seconded by: Shelley Carroll

THAT Section II item 9.2.1, contained in the March 5, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes be received.

CARRIED

Section II Item 9.2.1

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR CONCEPTUAL DESIGN DEVELOPMENT FOR THE TORONTO ISLAND PARK FLOOD AND EROSION MITIGATION PROJECT, CITY OF TORONTO (*Executive Committee RES.#B7/21*)

RES.#A60/21 - SECTION II – ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE ACTION

Moved by: Joe DiPaola
Seconded by: Xiao Han

THAT Section II item 9.2.2, contained in the March 5, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes be received.

CARRIED

Section II Item 9.2.2

REQUEST FOR TENDER FOR THE LAMBTON WOODS PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT (*Executive Committee RES.#B8/21*)

RES.#A61/21 - SECTION III – ITEMS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE BOARD

Moved by: Joe DiPaola
Seconded by: Xiao Han

THAT Section II item 9.3.1, contained in the March 5, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes be received.

CARRIED

Section II Item 9.3.1

2020 YEAR END FINANCIAL REPORT
(*Executive Committee RES.#B9/21*)

Section IV - Ontario Regulation 166/06, As Amended

RES.#A62/21 - ONTARIO REGULATION 166/06, AS AMENDED
(*Executive Committee Res.#B10/21*)

Moved by: Jack Heath
Seconded by: Chris Fonseca

THAT item 9.4 – Section IV - Ontario Regulation 166/16, as amended, contained in the March 5, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes be received.

CARRIED

March 5, 2021 Executive Committee Closed Session Items

RES.#A63/21 - EQUESTRIAN MANAGEMENT GROUP (EMG)
(Executive Committee Res.#B11/21)

Moved by: Paul Ainslie
Seconded by: Don Sinclair

THAT Toronto and Region Conservation Authority staff be directed to proceed with the confidential report recommendation.

CARRIED

RES.#A64/21 - COMPLAINT UNDER THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS CODE OF CONDUCT
(Executive Committee Res.#B14/21 and Res.#B15/21)

Moved by: Paul Ainslie
Seconded by: Don Sinclair

THAT the confidential report recommendation be received.

CARRIED

RES.#A65/21 - PICKERING DEVELOPMENTS (SQUIRES) INC.
(Executive Committee RES.#B16/21)

Moved by: Paul Ainslie
Seconded by: Don Sinclair

WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) received a letter on the evening of March 4, 2021 from Hon. John Yakabuski, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, informing TRCA that pursuant to s.28.0.1(35)(b)(i) of the *Conservation Authorities Act* the Minister made Ontario Regulation 159/21 ordering TRCA to grant a permission in response to the applicant's February 16, 2021 "Application for Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses" by March 12, 2021;

AND WHEREAS TRCA received on February 25, 2021 a complete permit application to interfere with and develop within a Provincially Significant Wetland, place fill, and site grade the property known municipally as 1802 Bayly Street in the City of Pickering for the purposes of future development approved by the Province through a Minister's Zoning Order (MZO);

AND WHEREAS the application includes a proposed ecosystem compensation framework from the applicant;

AND WHEREAS TRCA staff have commenced their review of the permit application and the applicant's proposed ecosystem compensation framework and by applying TRCA's science-based watershed approach, acknowledging the intricate environmental impacts

associated with the permit, are concurrently drafting proposed conditions of approval for the permit which must be granted under the *Conservation Authorities Act*;

AND WHEREAS the conditions of approval for the permit are intended to come as close as possible to addressing the cost and environmental impacts associated with the permit application;

AND WHEREAS the applicant has indicated objections to draft conditions of approval for the permit and requested a Hearing take place;

AND WHEREAS the Executive Committee reiterates the position of the Board of Directors, as adopted at the October 23, 2020 Board of Directors meeting (amended Res.#A164/20), that in recognition of TRCA's role as a watershed management and regulatory agency, and stewards of lands within TRCA's jurisdiction, the Board of Directors does not support development within wetlands, particularly, Provincially Significant Wetlands, and on this basis does not support development of this site as per the MZO approved by the Province;

AND WHEREAS TRCA staff using a science-based approach to decision making and TRCA's Living City Policies, would customarily recommend declining the issuance of a permit in support of development within a Provincially Significant Wetland and, specifically, in the instance of this MZO;

AND WHEREAS Section 28.0.1 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* requires TRCA to issue permission for a development project that has been authorized by a MZO under the *Planning Act*, outside of the Greenbelt;

AND WHEREAS Section 28.0.1 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* requires that TRCA shall not refuse to grant permission for a development project that has been authorized by a MZO, outside of the Greenbelt, under subsection (3) despite, (a) anything in section 28 or in a regulation made under section 28; and (b) anything in subsection 3 (5) of the *Planning Act*;

AND WHEREAS all material related to an application subject of a Hearing must be distributed to Board members and the applicant in advance of the meeting and no new information may be introduced at the Hearing;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT a Hearing on the permit application be held on March 12, 2021, 10:00 AM before the Board of Directors sitting as a hearing tribunal;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province of Ontario, Region of Durham, City of Pickering, along with organizations and individuals that have requested notice be provided with notice of the Hearing and advised of the opportunity to make written submissions to TRCA's Board of Directors prior to the Hearing, with a deadline of 4:30 PM on Wednesday, March 10, 2021, such that public input be included on the Hearing record.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION by Jack Heath, the meeting was adjourned at 12:01 p.m., on Friday, March 26, 2021.

Jennifer Innis
Chair

John MacKenzie
Secretary-Treasurer

/dr