



**Regional Watershed Alliance Meeting was held via video conference on Wednesday March 2, 2022, pursuant to section C.12 of the TRCA's Board of Directors Administrative By-Law. The Chair, Jennifer Drake, called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.**

**PRESENT**

Thomas Bowers  
Heather Broadbent  
Elizabeth Calvin  
Stephen Dasko  
Joanne Dies  
Jennifer Drake - Chair  
Orlando Gomez  
Rosemary Keenan  
Maria Kelleher  
David Laing  
Karen Lockridge  
Mick Malowany  
Mike Mattos  
Madeleine McDowell  
Chris McGlynn  
Learie Miller - Non-voting member  
Joanne Nonnekes  
Blayre Parsons  
David Pickles  
Ruth Rendon  
Cameron Richardson  
Andy Wickens - Vice-Chair  
Doug Wright

**REGRETS**

Margaret Bream  
Dave Dyce  
Christina Early  
Rui Felix  
Jennifer Innis  
Lisette Mallet  
Amory Ngan  
Kevin O'Connor  
Sara Olivieri  
Michael Presutti  
Andrew Vrana

The Chair recited the Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory.

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**RES.#R1/22 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 10, 2021**

Moved by: David Laing  
Seconded by: Madeleine McDowell

**THAT the Minutes of Meeting held on November 10, 2021, be approved.**

**CARRIED**

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**RES.#R2/22 - BLACK CREEK RENEWAL AT VAUGHAN METROPOLITAN CENTRE**

Moved by: Stephen Dasko  
Seconded by: Heather Broadbent

**THAT the Black Creek Renewal at Vaughan Metropolitan Centre presentation be addressed first.**

**CARRIED**

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**ITEMS FOR ALLIANCE INFORMATION**

**RES.#R3/22 - BLACK CREEK RENEWAL AT VAUGHAN METROPOLITAN CENTRE**

Moved by: Heather Broadbent  
Seconded by: Andy Wickens

**THAT this report, and the accompanying presentation, be received by the Regional Watershed Alliance.**

**CARRIED**

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**ITEMS FOR ALLIANCE ACTION**

**RES.#4/22 - APPROVAL OF 2022-2023 TRCA YOUTH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE AND TRCA YOUTH COUNCIL 2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT**

Moved by: Elizabeth Calvin  
Seconded by: Joanne Dies

**WHEREAS TRCA's Youth Council has been active for three years, and the 2021-2022 Youth Council Executive have completed their most recent one-year term, ending March 2022;**

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Youth Council Executive's term be extended for an additional year for those eligible members who wish to continue;**

**AND FURTHER THAT the Regional Watershed Alliance accept the recruitment of additional Youth Council Executives to fill vacant seats;**

**AND FURTHER THAT the Regional Watershed Alliance accept the appended Youth Council Annual Report summarizing the work completed and evaluation of the Youth Council's 2021-2022 term.**

**CARRIED**

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**RES.#R5/22 -            WATERSHED PLANNING UPDATES**

Moved by:     David Pickles

Seconded by: Elizabeth Calvin

**WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) has begun implementation planning for the Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan (CCWP);**

**AND WHEREAS TRCA is finalizing the future management scenarios stage for the Etobicoke Creek Watershed Plan (ECWP) and planning the next round of engagement to share results and receive feedback;**

**AND WHEREAS TRCA has initiated the scoping and characterization stages for the Humber River Watershed Plan (HRWP);**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the Regional Watershed Alliance (RWA) members identify two members to participate in the Stakeholder Advisory Committee for the CCWP and to champion implementation initiatives through their networks;**

**THAT the RWA members encourage their contacts and networks to participate in the upcoming engagements for the ECWP to provide feedback to identify priority actions;**

**THAT staff continue to work closely with municipal partners, including the Region of Peel, Toronto, Mississauga, Brampton, and Caledon on coordinated engagement related to the Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR) and ECWP;**

**AND FURTHER THAT the RWA members review the draft Engagement Strategy for the HRWP and provide comments, including suggestions on any other stakeholders that TRCA staff should engage.**

**CARRIED**

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

ON MOTION from Heather Broadbent, the meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m., on Wednesday, March 2, 2022.

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**Jennifer Drake**  
**Chair**

### Item for the Action of the Regional Watershed Alliance

**TO:** Chair and Members of the Regional Watershed Alliance  
Wednesday, March 02, 2022 Meeting

**FROM:** John MacKenzie, Chief Executive Officer

**RE:** **APPROVAL OF 2022-2023 TRCA YOUTH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE AND TRCA YOUTH COUNCIL 2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT**

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#### KEY ISSUE

To receive Regional Watershed Alliance approval of the composition of the 2022-2023 TRCA Youth Council Executive and present the 2021-2022 Youth Council Annual Report and provide highlights of the Youth Council's term.

#### RECOMMENDATION

**WHEREAS TRCA's Youth Council has been active for three years, and the 2021-2022 Youth Council Executive have completed their most recent one-year term, ending March 2022;**

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Youth Council Executive's term be extended for an additional year for those eligible members who wish to continue;**

**AND FURTHER THAT the Regional Watershed Alliance accept the recruitment of additional Youth Council Executives to fill vacant seats;**

**AND FURTHER THAT the Regional Watershed Alliance accept the appended Youth Council Annual Report summarizing the work completed and evaluation of the Youth Council's 2021-2022 term.**

#### BACKGROUND

Youth Councils are being deployed around the world as a means to engage and inspire youth in community building efforts. TRCA's 2017 Community Engagement Strategy recommended the development of a Youth Council. The program framework of the Youth Council was developed by TRCA staff and Regional Watershed Alliance members through 2018 and 2019 and is now in place. The ultimate goal of the Youth Council is to contribute towards building healthy communities. This work is achieved through four program objectives:

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

## Item 7.1

The framework for the Youth Council was approved by the Regional Watershed Alliance (RWA) in February 2018 (RES.#R11/17).

Youth Council members may either join as a General Member or an Executive Member. General Members can take part in Youth Council events and initiatives and there is no significant vetting process to join as a General Member, nor any limit on the number of General Members. The Executive Membership, which consists of ten members, serve as the guiding body for the Youth Council and are responsible for the development of program activities and priorities that fit within the objects defined in the program framework, in collaboration with TRCA staff. Executive Members have a one-year term with the possibility of extension for an additional year and are appointed through an annual application and selection process that involves relevant TRCA staff and the RWA Youth Council Working Group, in accordance with TRCA's Public Appointments Policy. The most recent 2021-2022 Youth Council Executive term ends in March 2022.

### **RATIONALE**

#### **Appointment of 2022-2023 Youth Council Executive**

The ten members of the 2021-2022 Youth Council Executive were selected in February 2021 and included four returning members from the previous year. For the 2022-2023 Youth Council Executive term, it is recommended that the following existing members who were eligible to have their terms extended by an additional year and chose to continue on the Executive, be appointed for the 2022-2023 Youth Council Executive Term:

- Akash Kar
- Alliza Leogo
- Lillian Zhang

Recruitment to fill the Youth Council Executive vacancies for the 2022-2023 term was held from January 3 to January 31, 2022 and eighteen (18) applications were received. Of these applications, it was deemed that fifteen (15) applicants met the minimum criteria for Youth Council Executive membership based on age and residential or school attendance location within TRCA's jurisdiction. Youth Council Executive applications were reviewed by relevant program staff and by members of the RWA Youth Council Working Group. As a result, it is recommended that the following applicants be approved as members of the 2022-2023 Youth Council Executive:

- Bumika Srikanthalingam
- Elly Akuyu
- Erinn Lee
- Kasturi Bhatt
- Maham Malik
- Jessica Castellucci
- Vamika Sharma

### **2021-2022 Youth Council Achievements**

The current Youth Council Executive term (2021-2022) was the first full term that the program shifted entirely online. As a result, meetings and program initiatives have been adapted to suit that format.

Returning Executive members met with TRCA staff to develop a short series of online introductory working meetings that were held in March 2021. These meetings included interactive presentations introducing program framework, a general introduction to TRCA, work planning and goal setting, and a team building activity in the form of a “bake-along” where a Youth Council Executive member led a baking activity remotely. From these meetings, a communication framework was agreed upon, which included email as the primary means of contact, monthly meetings to be held the first Tuesday of each month, and additional meetings to be booked as necessary.

Youth Council Executive worked together to create a workplan to address program goals. This plan included regular newsletter communications to the General Membership, collaborative events to be held in partnerships with other agencies (such as the Toronto Zoo and Protect Our Winters), learning opportunities around Indigenous reconciliation, capacity building workshops around career building in the conservation sector, and a research initiative to better understand youth perspectives around inclusion in greenspace.

#### COVID-19 Pandemic Impact to Programming

The pandemic has continued to impact the Youth Council programming and has shifted the entire program to a virtual format. As this was the second year of the pandemic, the 2021-2022 Youth Council Executive had more time to adjust to the new realities brought on by COVID-19 compared to the 2020 Executive. This has meant that the 2021 Executive already had familiarity with online platforms and engagement initiatives with no required adjustment period.

This shift to online programming has had the benefit of increasing consistency in participation among Executive members as the barriers to participating in meetings has been greatly reduced by holding them online rather than in person. The Youth Council Executive has remained engaged throughout the duration of their term, which can also be attributed to the expectations set at the beginning of the term, and the passion and drive of those volunteer members. Furthermore, by shifting more events online, the recordings of these events are able to be shared on TRCA’s website, allowing them to be viewed and accessed on an ongoing basis.

#### Youth Council Highlights from 2021-2022

The following events were created and delivered by the Youth Council Executive members, under the guidance and support of TRCA staff.

##### *Online Movie Night: Climate Change (February 2021)*

This online movie night featured Protect Our Winter’s film “Electric Greg.” The film covers one man’s journey transitioning to a lifestyle that includes skiing but no fossil-fuels. There were two presentations following the movie, the first from Protect Our Winters to discuss their climate change programming in winter sports, and the second from TRCA’s Climate and Ecosystem Science team. The Youth Council Executive then led a panel discussion with both speakers. This event had 16 participants.

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### *Online Movie Night: Hidden Rivers (May 2021)*

Hidden Rivers is a documentary that explores the health and biodiversity of rivers in the United States Appalachian region. While there are some geographic differences between Appalachia and the Toronto region, many of the lessons around river health are true to both regions. Following the film, a panel discussion was held featuring the Toronto Zoo's Great Lakes and Aqua-Links Program and TRCA's Aquatic Monitoring and Management team. There were 29 participants at this event.

### *Facebook Live: Electrofishing in Toronto Harbour (July 2021)*

TRCA's Watershed Planning and Ecosystem Science team invited the Youth Council to co-host a live broadcast of electro-fishing in the Toronto Harbour. The event was broadcast on both Facebook Live and YouTube, and featured fishing demonstrations, fish identification, interviews with monitoring staff, and tours of the electrofishing boat. Participants were also invited to pose their own questions that were answered by staff live. At the time of broadcast there were 559 views (443 Facebook, 126 YouTube) and a recording of this event remains available online.

### *Come Learn With Us: Indigenous Canada Course (three events, held in June, July, and September 2021)*

Indigenous Reconciliation has been a topic of increasing interest among both General and Executive members of the Youth Council (see Attachment 1). The Youth Council Executive discussed at length how they could incorporate principles of reconciliation into their own work with the Youth Council. They decided that educating themselves, as a settler group, about Indigenous history and experiences would be an important first step toward reconciliation. The University of Alberta offers a free self-directed online course "Indigenous Canada" through the online platform Coursera. Course topics include land claims, environmental impacts, legal systems, Indigenous history, and current issues that affect Indigenous people today. The Youth Council Executive challenged themselves to take this course, and then hosted three online discussions at regular intervals over several months. They also invited General Members and other youth to join them in taking the course and participating in the discussion, hence the title of the campaign: "Come Learn With Us". There were few participants in these discussions beyond the Executive members, but the Executive believed that the discussion and incorporation of reconciliation into Youth Council programming was, nevertheless, worthwhile.

### *Ask Me Anything: Getting into Conservation (two events held in June and September 2021)*

This year the Youth Council Executive was fortunate to have strong participation from a high school student, Lillian Zhang. While many of the activities that the Youth Council Executive has organized in the past may have been of interest to all General Members, there were no campaigns aimed specifically at high school-aged members. To address this, Lillian suggested that the group create an online event for high school students who were interested in pursuing conservation/environment in post-secondary school. Rather than having TRCA staff discuss their professional journey, which may not be as immediately relevant for current high school students, this event featured the stories of the current Youth Council Executive. This provided strong peer-to-peer learning/mentorship and provided an opportunity for capacity building among both the participants and the presenters.

This event was very well received with 25 participants. The Youth Council Executive each presented their own journey from high school to university, and for some, the transition into their early careers. A lengthy discussion took place following the presentation, where participants were invited to unmute themselves and engage with the group directly. There was enough



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interest in the event that the Youth Council Executive decided to host a second event in September, which saw 13 participants.

### *Greenspace Accessibility Research Project*

The Youth Council Executive has consistently remained interested in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) topics surrounding the environmental field, including the importance of greenspace and barriers for certain groups to access greenspace. As a reflection of the research-background that many Executive members have, it was proposed to carry out a research project to determine the barriers faced by certain youth groups and audiences to accessing greenspace and make recommendations from a DEI perspective, which could also benefit TRCA's work. This project aligns with the Youth Council mandate to identify youth perspectives around environmental issues and how these might be incorporated in the work of TRCA and its partners.

TRCA staff have been extremely interested in supporting the Greenspace Accessibility Research Project and as a result, it has expanded to involve various teams, including Conservation Parks and Lands, Education and Training, and Ecosystem and Climate Science, staff who have helped scope and resourcing strategy for the project. The development of this research project is ongoing and will remain a long-term initiative of the Youth Council Executive. This work is also helping to lay the groundwork for how the Youth Council can be better integrated with the workings of TRCA.

### *#TRCANatureStories Social Media Campaign*

In order to engage a wider audience in greenspace, as well as help TRCA social media audiences get to know the Youth Council Executive, the Executive members led a social media campaign called “#TRCANature Stories” in which each Executive member drafted a short post about getting out into nature, as well as associated images. TRCA social media followers were encouraged to share their own “nature stories”.

### *Developing Your Environmental Career Online Event*

The Youth Council Executive held an online event on February 17, 2022 to help support young people, students and young professionals interested in entering the environmental field as a career. The event was divided into two components. In the first part, Executive members walked participants through tips and interactive exercises on finding, applying and interviewing for jobs of interest. Executive members were supported by TRCA staff in Human Resources and Education, Training and Outreach staff who provided resources to be shared and incorporated into the event. In the second part of the event, Executive members facilitated a panel discussion with five professionals in different sectors of the environmental field who spoke about their career path and answered attendee questions. Over 60 people registered for the event, with 19 attending live.

### Program Evaluation and Recommendations

The 2021-2022 Youth Council Executive was consistently highly engaged throughout their term. They delivered a wide variety of events that ranged from movie nights to peer-to-peer mentorship, to challenging discussions around indigenous reconciliation. The continued engagement of the Executive could be attributed to several factors including: strong mentorship from returning Youth Council Executives who helped to establish expectations and norms from the outset; tapping into a strong network of applicants; and reduced barriers to participation due to the shift to a virtual format.

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The positive impact of the Youth Council program for Executive members can be seen in their continued interest in leading activities, and the application of their experience in furthering their own careers and aspirations. Since the program's inception, Youth Council Executives have used their experience in the program for employment and post-secondary school applications. This has led to Youth Council Executives securing jobs with Credit Valley Conservation, Nature Conservancy Canada, and even TRCA. Youth Council Executives have been accepted into graduate programs at York University and in an effort to recognize the hard work of the Executive volunteers, TRCA continues to identify opportunities to nominate members for relevant awards. For example, in 2021 Wai Ying Lam was awarded Water Canada's 2021 Water's Next Award in the Young Professional category.

While the program has seen much success in meeting goals and objectives, after undertaking a program evaluation process, the following is a summary of the recommendations for program improvement:

- Continue online program delivery, and/or consider a hybrid approach as restrictions allow
- Consider new methods of network building, such as LinkedIn or tapping into existing youth networks through TRCA's municipal partners
- Continue efforts to broaden the recruitment of the Youth Council to include more members from diverse communities through more deliberate recruitment strategies with different groups/agencies who work in target communities.
- Continue to find synergies between TRCA's work and strategic goals/priorities and the work of the Youth Council, as is being undertaken as part of the Research Project.
- Identify how to build stronger connections between the Executive and General Membership in order to better involve the General Membership in the development of Youth Council initiatives, where appropriate.
- Consider soliciting testimonials from previous Youth Council Executive members to use for promotion of the 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 5 – Foster sustainable citizenship**

**Strategy 7 – Build partnerships and new business models**

### **FINANCIAL DETAILS**

Funds are available in TRCA Government and Community Relations program accounts for watershed engagement and community projects to support the Youth Council recruitment process, as well as support Youth Council initiatives. Staff work with the Regional Watershed Alliance Youth Council Working Group and with the Youth Council itself to ensure that the scope of work reflects available budget and staff support

### **DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE**

- Revise program recruitment and delivery to align with recommendations in Attachment 1
- Develop Youth Council-specific Terms of Reference that align with the RWA Terms of Reference

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**Report prepared by: Kate Goodale, extension 5280**

**Emails: Kate.Goodale@trca.ca**

**For Information contact: Victoria Kramkowski, extension 5707**

**Emails: Victoria.Kramkowski@trca.ca**

**Date: February 9, 2022**

**Attachments: 1**

**Attachment 1: 2021-2022 TRCA Youth Council Annual Report**



## TRCA Youth Council Annual Report 2021

Prepared by Kate Goodale

January, 2022

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## INTRODUCTION

Around the world, youth councils have been created by governments, community groups, and non-profit organizations as a means of providing local youth with an opportunity to gain important skills, build capacity and network, while providing the sponsoring agencies with important input and perspectives from youth stakeholders. The long-term success of efforts to advance environmental protection and sustainability in the Toronto region depend on the support of the region's youth, both now and into the future. TRCA's Community Engagement Strategy (2017) recommends more focused engagement of youth to enhance the reach of TRCA programs and activities and prepare the next generation of conservation leaders (Actions 6.1 and 6.2). Activities of the Youth Council build on existing engagement programs while deploying tools and strategies to develop a strong network of youth driven to take active ownership of their local environment.

The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) Youth Council reports directly to the Regional Watershed Alliance. The mission, mandate and goals, were developed by TRCA and the Regional Watershed Alliance (RWA) in consultation with relevant stakeholders. At RWA Meeting #1/2017, held on November 15th, 2017, Resolution #R002/17 was approved, in part, as follows:

WHEREAS THE Terms of Reference of the Regional Watershed Alliance proposes the establishment of Watershed/Working Groups, Youth Council, and Indigenous Liaison Committee;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the following members of the Alliance [the RWA Working Group] work with staff to lead the establishment of Youth Council including development of Terms of Reference:

a) Lisette Mallet; b) Amory Ngan; c) Rui Felix; d) Mick Malowany; and e) Karen Lockridge.

The current term of the Youth Council Executive runs from March 2021 to March 2022. This report provides an overview of the 2021-2022 Youth Council program, recruitment of new Executives, workplan, and a program evaluation and recommendations for program improvement.

## PROGRAM FRAMEWORK

The program framework for the Youth Council was created through a collaborative process between TRCA staff and RWA Working Group members. The program framework remains the same as it did in 2017 when it was developed.

The framework is intentionally open-ended so that Youth Council Executive members can develop their own project ideas to meet program goals. The ultimate goal of the Youth Council is to build healthy communities. This is achieved through four program objectives:

- a) Build capacity and engage youth by providing youth across the Toronto region with learning opportunities;
- b) Build a youth network/strengthen existing networks through creation of a broad network of youth in the region that is interested in environmental and sustainability issues;

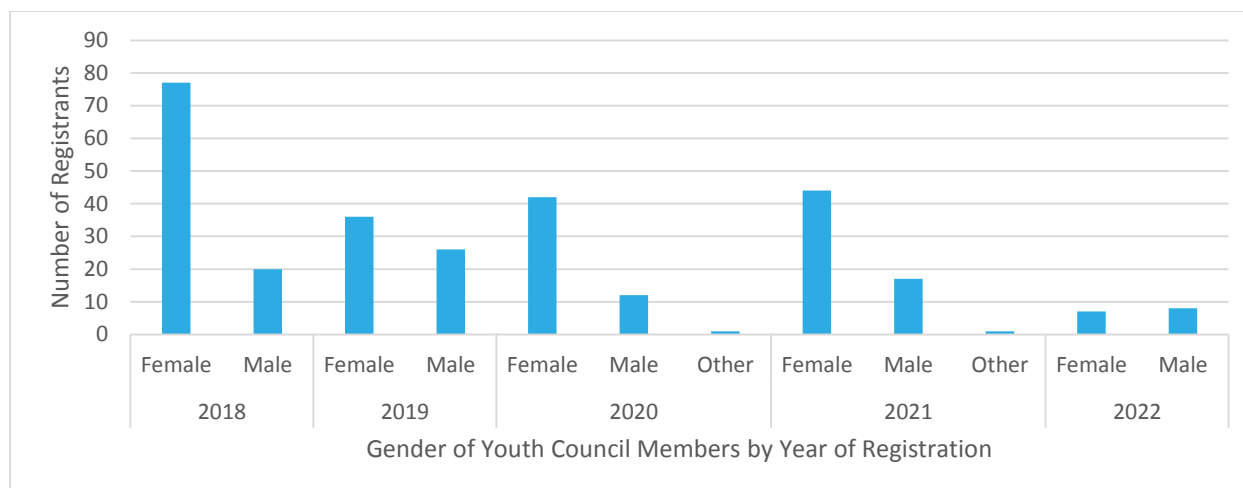
- c) Identify youth perspectives by developing an understanding of youth opinion around current environmental issues and how these might be incorporated in the work of TRCA and its partners; and
- d) Create fun opportunities for youth through entertaining and engaging learning opportunities.

For a more fulsome discussion of program development and rationale please see the 2018-2019 Youth Council Annual Report.

Youth Council members may either join as a General Member or an Executive Member. General Members can take part in Youth Council events and initiatives and there is no significant vetting process to join as a General Member, nor any limit on the number of General Members. The Executive Membership, which consists of ten members, serve as the guiding body for the Youth Council and are responsible for the development of program activities and priorities that fit within the objects defined in the program framework, in collaboration with TRCA staff. Executive Members are expected to volunteer approximately 3 to 4 hours a week, and maintain correspondence with the TRCA staff and the rest of the Executive. Executive Members have a one-year term with the possibility of extension for an additional year and are appointed through an annual application and selection process that involves relevant TRCA staff and the RWA Youth Council Working Group, and takes place in accordance with TRCA's Public Appointments Policy. The intake for general members is open year-round, while the applications for the Executive only open for approximately one month.

## DEFINITION OF YOUTH

The term "youth" has no consistent definition. Depending on program goals the target audience of "youth" may consider only high school students or may consider older groups all the way up to university graduates and young professionals. The original program framework for TRCA's Youth Council set the age threshold as 16 to 24 years old. It was noted, however, that the demographics of youth recruited in those first few months, skewed heavily towards a majority of female members. After consulting with TRCA's Education and Training Division, as well as the Regional Watershed Alliance, the decision was made in 2019 to expand the age cut-off to 30 years old. The rationale for this was that males are more likely to volunteer when they are older. Data collected from registrants suggest that increasing the age had marginal impact on gender distribution, as the gap between male and female registrants has shrunk since the first year of the program but there is still a disparity between the number of male and female registrants (Figure 1).



**FIGURE 1 NUMBER OF REGISTRANTS BY GENDER AND YEAR**

Despite this ongoing disparity in gender, it is recommended that the age distribution remain at ages 16 to 30. While the age distribution is large, we have noted that there is valuable peer mentorship between Executive members who are at different life stages. Thus, this large distribution of ages is positive for the experience and capacity of Executive members.

## RECRUITMENT

A recommendation was made in the 2019-2020 Youth Council Annual Report to extend the terms of all the 2020 Youth Council Executive by several months. The rationale for this was due to the ongoing changes to regulations around gatherings resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. The Youth Council Executive was forced to adapt to an entirely online presence, and by extending the term by several months, it allowed the cohort time to adjust to the new realities brought on by the pandemic and more time to complete planned initiatives. The 2019-2020 Youth Council Executive members were provided with the opportunity to elect to extend their term for another year. This resulted in six vacant seats for new members for the 2021-2022 term. Because of these decisions, applications for the new 2021 Youth Council Executive did not open until December 2020 and remained open until late January 2021. 24 applications were received (for comparison, there were 19 applicants in fall 2018 and 31 applicants in fall 2019).

Applications were evaluated by the RWA Youth Council Working Group and TRCA staff. Considerations for the selection of Executive Members included: representation from across the jurisdiction, demographic factors, and merit based on the quality of application. Responses to short answer questions were weighted more heavily than other factors. Age was also factored into the assessment of their experience and writing level, as applicants ranged from high school to post-graduate level students. Furthermore, since there is a large age distribution, and there has historically been less representation from the younger cohorts, two spaces were intentionally held for high school-aged applicants. It was decided not to hold interviews, as the role is volunteer based, and it would be difficult and time consuming to schedule. Generally, most applicants were either nearing the end of undergraduate/college degrees or had recently graduated. The new Executive was selected by February 2021.

Representation on the Youth Council (both General and Executive) is inconsistent across TRCA's jurisdiction (Table 1). This is partially to be expected as a result of population and post-secondary institution distribution



across the jurisdiction. In an effort to maintain diversity (geographically and demographically), specific outreach to communities continues to be made through the assistance of members of the Regional Watershed Alliance, municipal partners, and agencies that work specifically with different communities.

**TABLE 1: LOCATION OF YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERS (BOTH GENERAL AND EXECUTIVE)**

Region	City	Count	Proportion of Total	Regional Proportion
<b>Durham</b>	Ajax	7	2%	5%
	Oshawa	2	1%	
	Pickering	5	2%	
	Uxbridge	1	0%	
	Whitby	1	0%	
<b>Outside*</b>	Alliston	1	0%	4%
	Guelph	5	2%	
	Kitchener	1	0%	
	Milton	3	1%	
	Oakville	2	1%	
<b>Peel</b>	Brampton	28	9%	13%
	Caledon	1	0%	
	Mississauga	10	3%	
<b>Toronto</b>	East York	1	0%	59%
	Etobicoke	14	5%	
	North York	30	10%	
	Scarborough	35	11%	
	Toronto	103	33%	
<b>York</b>	Concord	1	0%	19%
	Maple	3	1%	
	Markham	14	5%	
	Newmarket	1	0%	
	North York	1	0%	
	Richmond Hill	8	3%	
	Stouffville	7	2%	
	Thornhill	5	2%	
	Vaughan	7	2%	
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>308</b>		

\*Recruitment is open to individuals who reside or attend school in TRCA's jurisdiction. Some members, therefore, reside outside the jurisdiction.

## ONBOARDING YOUTH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE 2021-2022

In past years, in-person workshops have been held for new Youth Council Executive as a means to introduce the new members to each other, engage in team building experiences, and start work planning for the year. As a result of gathering restrictions in place due to COVID-19, all activities had to take place remotely. TRCA staff met with the returning Youth Council Executive members to plan an online onboarding event. There was concern

that an activity that was longer than 1.5 to 2 hours online would be overwhelming for the group, especially considering that most members will have already had many other online activities throughout their day with work or school. To alleviate fatigue and capture the interest of the new members, it was decided that the onboarding activities would be split into two 1.5-hour sessions to be held on consecutive weeks. These activities included an interactive presentation introducing conservation authorities and TRCA, setting expectations for the group for the year, drafting a preliminary workplan and determining preferred methods of communication. The Youth Council Executive agreed to monthly meetings to be held the first Tuesday of each month and opted to use email as the main means of contact.

The introductory presentation was delivered using Mentimeter software. This allowed for some traditional PowerPoint-style slides and some interactive slides whereby participants answer questions on their own devices and the answers are posted to the entire audience in real time. Following the introductory presentation, the Youth Council Executive were posed the question "What do you think are the most critical issues in TRCA's jurisdiction?" The responses to this question can be seen in Figure 2 through a word cloud. The size of the lettering is indicative of the number of times that response was written.

## What do you think are the most critical issues in TRCA's jurisdiction?

Mentimeter



**FIGURE 2 WORD CLOUD GENERATED RESPONSES; THE SIZE OF THE LETTERING INDICATES THE FREQUENCY THAT A RESPONSE WAS WRITTEN.**

Finally, a group “bake-along” team building activity was led by returning Youth Council Executive Wai Ying Lam. Youth Council Executives were provided with an oatmeal chocolate chip cookie recipe in advance of the online meeting. It was a fun and casual activity that helped the group bond as peers, despite the physical distance.

## IMPACT OF COVID-19

The 2021-2022 term was the second year that the Youth Council has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This was the first entirely online term, and it bears note that the consistency in the participation among Youth Council Executives was the most consistent to date. There are likely different factors impacting this

phenomenon including having a strong cohort of returning executives that set expectations for participation by peers, and online meetings being more accessible for the group than having to travel for in-person meetings. Furthermore, all members of the Executive were already very familiar with online meeting platforms and etiquette, which reduced the learning curve compared to the previous year.

## WORKPLAN: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The broad goals and objectives outlined in the program framework remained the same from previous years. The following section outlines the initiatives created by the 2021-2022 Executive, and how they addressed program goals and objectives.

### Objective: Build youth network

The Executive continued to create newsletters that were sent out on a regular basis, ranging from quarterly to monthly. The content of the newsletters was created by the Executive and typically included a call to action in the form of an event that General Members were invited to participate in.

This year, the reach of the Youth Council was broadened as new youth councils or youth initiatives reached out to program staff for guidance, or with collaborative opportunities. Some new groups that reached out this year included The Bruce Trail Conservancy, MP Maninder Sidhu's Brampton East Youth Council, and The York Region Food Network.

### Objective: Learn about what is important to Youth

All members, whether they are General Members or applying to be on the Executive, complete a survey as they register. The same survey has been used for the duration of the Youth Council program.

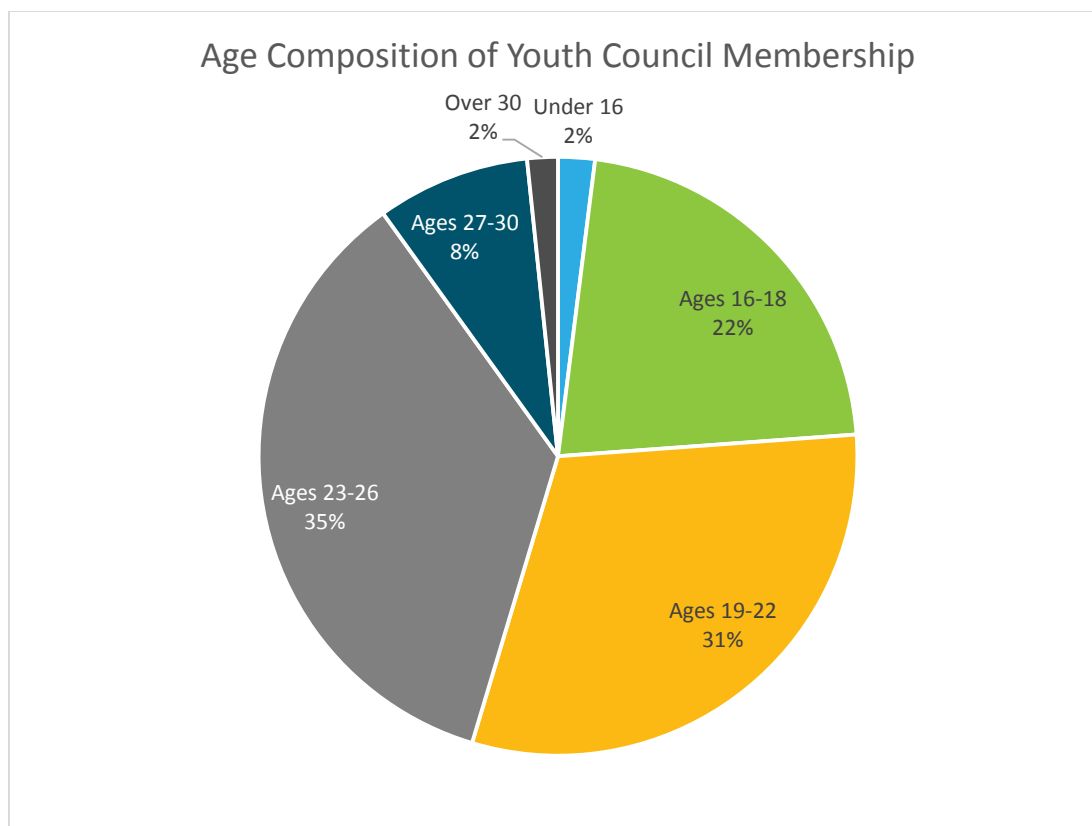
#### Survey Methods

All members are required to complete a short survey at registration. In this survey, in addition to demographic questions, registrants were asked to select their top five interests from a list of 25 different topics. Topics include a range of sustainability, environmental, and social issues. For a more detailed description of the rationale for the selection of those topics and survey questions, see "TRCA Youth Council 2018-19 Report".

#### Results

##### Demographics

Youth Council members are mostly from Toronto (59%, Table 1) and are mostly in their early to mid-twenties (Figure 3). This is reflective of the strong university network that we have tapped into. As mentioned in previously, the Youth Council membership is comprised of more females (71%) than males (29%).



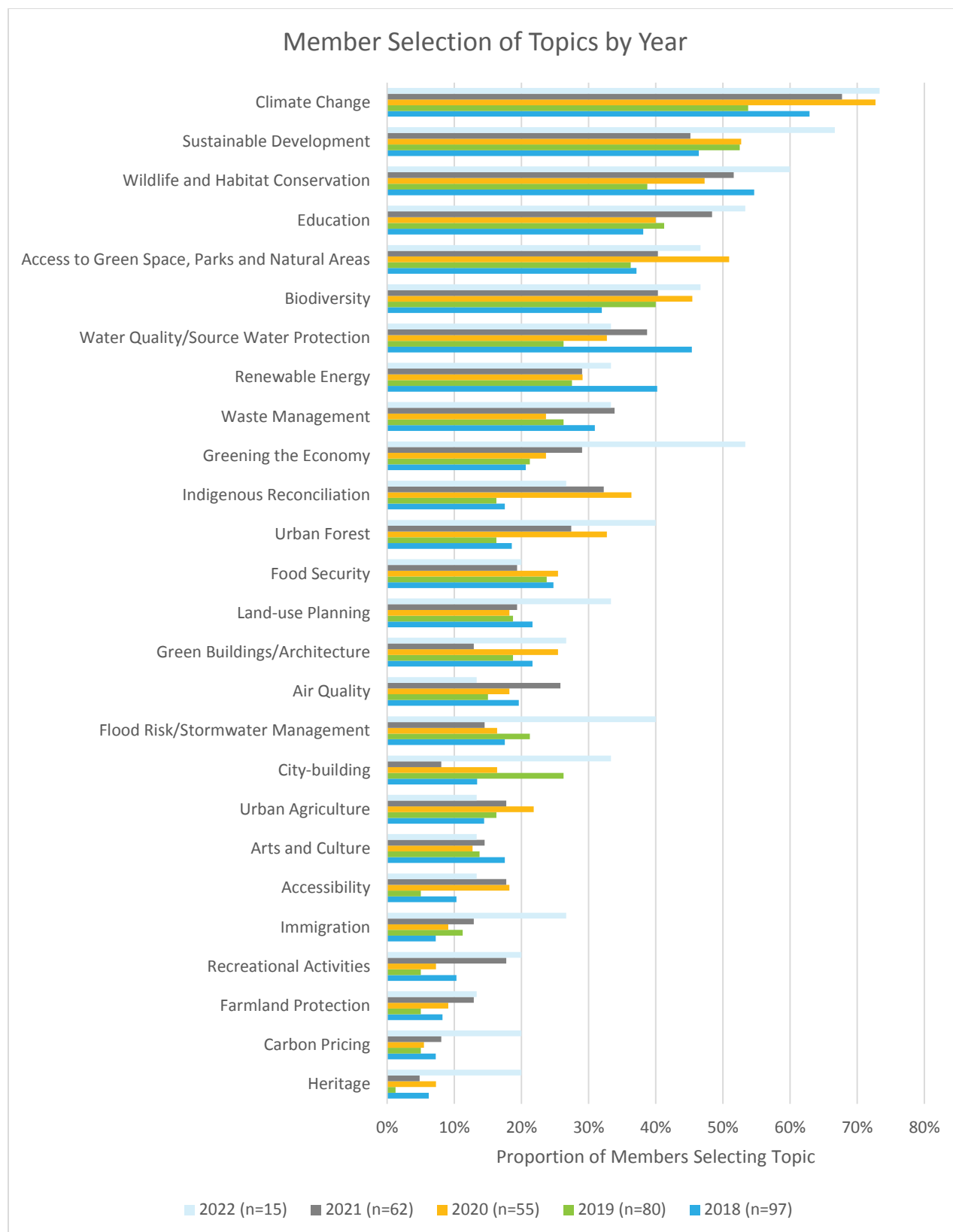
**FIGURE 3: AGE DISTRIBUTION OF MEMBERSHIP**

#### Most Important Issues

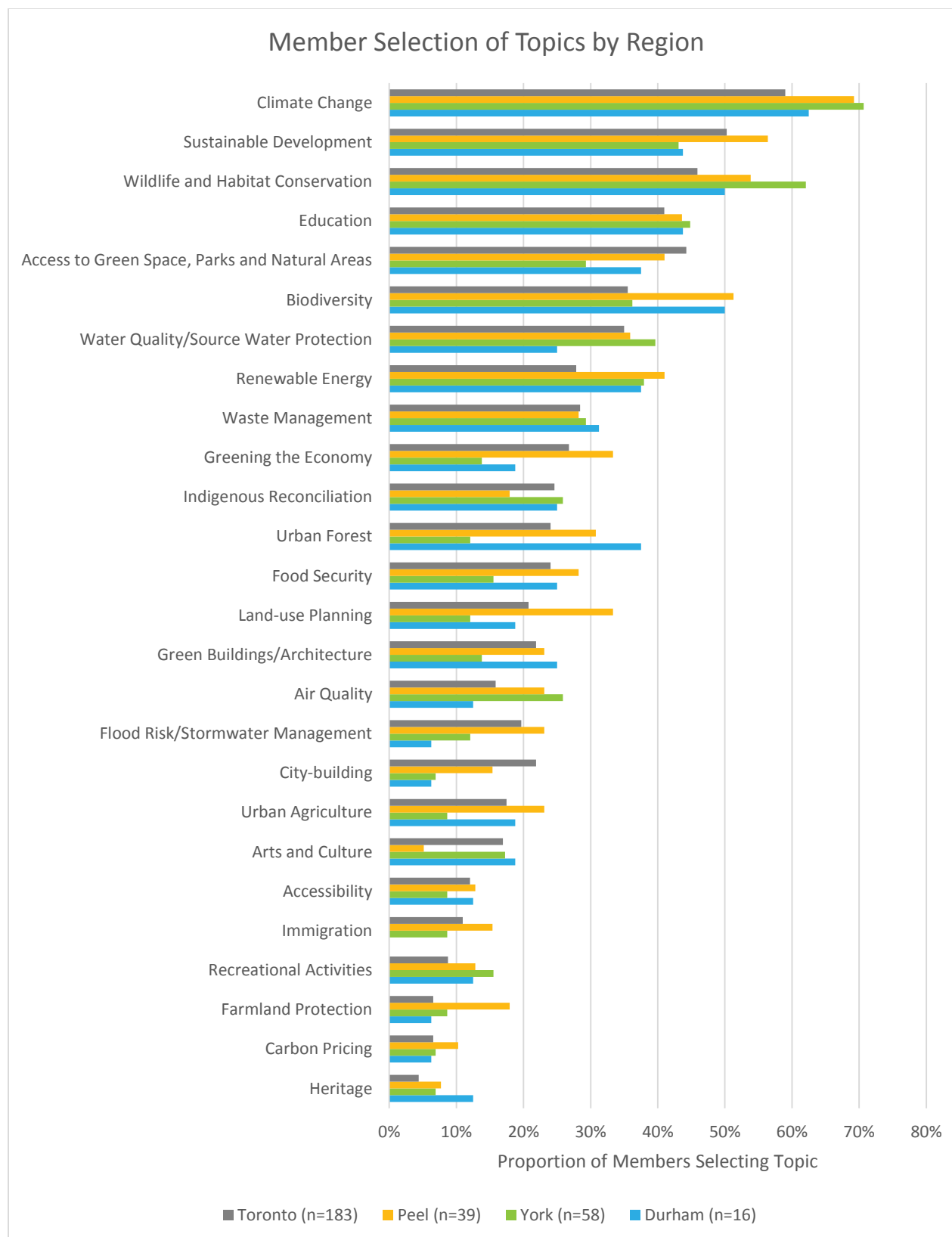
Registrants were instructed to select the top five most important issues from a list. This list included environmental, social, and sustainability issues, and was developed through a collaborative effort between the RWA Youth Council Working Group and TRCA staff (a more fulsome discussion of this process can be found in the “TRCA Youth Council 2018/19 Report”). Some respondents elected to choose more than five, and those additional answers were recorded. There is no way to determine the individual hierarchy of importance for each respondent, therefore we rely on the number of times an item was selected to indicate its overall importance to the entire group.

Aggregated responses were similar to last year (Figure 4), where “Climate Change” was once again the most frequently selected topic. Indigenous Reconciliation is a topic that has seen increased interest over the last four years. Results from 2022 survey respondents should be interpreted with caution, with only 15 respondents at the time of writing this report. A fulsome overview of 2022 survey responses will be provided in the 2022-2023 Youth Council Annual Report.

There are some differences by municipality (Figure 5), but these differences should also be approached with caution as the low number of members in some municipalities (e.g., Durham) will exaggerate those proportions. Climate Change continues to be the most important issue throughout TRCA’s jurisdiction.



**FIGURE 4: MEMBER SELECTION OF TOPICS BY YEAR**



**FIGURE 5: MEMBER SELECTION OF TOPICS BY REGION**

### Greenspace Accessibility Research Project (Ongoing)

The Youth Council Executive has consistently remained interested in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) topics surrounding the environmental field, including the importance of greenspace and barriers for certain groups to access greenspace. As a reflection of the research-background that many Executive members have, it was proposed to carry out a research project to determine the barriers faced by certain youth groups and audiences to accessing greenspace and make recommendations from a DEI perspective, which could also benefit TRCA's work. This project aligns with the Youth Council mandate to identify youth perspectives around environmental issues and how these might be incorporated in the work of TRCA and its partners.

TRCA staff have been extremely interested in this project and as a result, it has expanded and various teams, including Conservation Parks and Lands, Education and Training, and Ecosystem and Climate Science, have become involved in helping to develop the scope of the project and resourcing. The development of this research project is ongoing and will remain a long-term initiative of the Youth Council Executive. This work is also helping to lay the groundwork for how the Youth Council can be better integrated with the workings of TRCA.

### Objective: Create Fun Opportunities

In lieu of in person activities, the Youth Council Executive hosted a number of online events, including online movie nights, live broadcasts, open meetings, and interactive presentations. The following section provides a brief overview of each activity hosted by the 2021-2022 Youth Council Executive.

#### Online Movie Night: Climate Change (February 2021)

This online movie night featured Protect Our Winter's film "Electric Greg." The film covers one man's journey transitioning to a lifestyle that includes skiing but no fossil-fuels. There were two presentations following the movie, the first from Protect Our Winters to discuss their climate change programming in winter sports, and the second from TRCA's Climate and Ecosystem Science team. The Youth Council Executive then led a panel discussion with both speakers. This event had 16 participants.

#### Online Movie Night: Hidden Rivers (May 2021)

Hidden Rivers is a documentary that explores the health and biodiversity of rivers in the United States Appalachian region. While there are some geographic differences between Appalachia and the Toronto region, many of the lessons around river health are true to both regions. Following the film, a panel discussion was held featuring the Toronto Zoo's Great Lakes and Aqua-Links Program and TRCA's Aquatic Monitoring and Management team. There were 29 participants at this event.

#### Facebook Live: Electrofishing in Toronto Harbour (July 2021)

TRCA's Watershed Planning and Ecosystem Science team invited the Youth Council to co-host a live broadcast of electro-fishing in the Toronto Harbour. The event was broadcast on both Facebook Live and YouTube, and featured fishing demonstrations, fish identification, interviews with monitoring staff, and tours of the electrofishing boat. Participants were also invited to pose their own questions that were answered by staff live. At the time of broadcast there were 559 views (443 Facebook, 126 YouTube) and a recording of this event remains available online.

### #TRCANatureStories Social Media Campaign (November 2021 Onwards)

In order to engage a wider audience in greenspace, as well as help TRCA social media audiences get to know the Youth Council Executive, the Executive members led a social media campaign called “#TRCANature Stories” in which each Executive member drafted a short post about getting out into nature, as well as associated images. TRCA social media followers were encouraged to share their own “nature stories”.

### Objective: Build youth capacity and learning opportunities


#### Come Learn With Us: Indigenous Canada Course (three events, held in June, July, and September 2021)

Indigenous Reconciliation has been a topic of increasing interest among both General and Executive members of the Youth Council (see Attachment 1). The Youth Council Executive discussed at length how they could incorporate principles of reconciliation into their own work with the Youth Council. They decided that educating themselves, as a settler group, about Indigenous history and experiences would be an important first step toward reconciliation. The University of Alberta offers a free self-directed online course “Indigenous Canada” through the online platform Coursera. Course topics include land claims, environmental impacts, legal systems, Indigenous history, and current issues that affect Indigenous people today. The Youth Council Executive challenged themselves to take this course, and then hosted three online discussions at regular intervals over several months. They also invited General Members and other youth to join them in taking the course and participating in the discussion, hence the title of the campaign: “Come Learn With Us”. There were few participants in these discussions beyond the Executive members, but the Executive believed that the discussion and incorporation of reconciliation into Youth Council programming was, nevertheless, worthwhile.

To promote this campaign, the Youth Council Executive recorded a promotional video explaining their motivations for taking the course, and what they hoped to gain from the experience. This promo is still available online here: [https://youtu.be/1yXbqLhL4\\_Y](https://youtu.be/1yXbqLhL4_Y)


FIGURE 6: NEWSLETTER INVITING GENERAL MEMBERS TO JOIN IN THE COME LEARN WITH US SERIES





Dear Youth Council Members,

We would like to invite you for an opportunity to “come learn with us” about Indigenous issues and reconciliation.



Akash Kar

The Youth Council Exec will be taking the University of Alberta’s free online course “Indigenous Canada”, and we are hoping that you might be interested in taking it with us. Through this self-directed course, we hope to better understand Indigenous history, as well as current issues that affect Indigenous peoples today. Course content will include land claims, environmental impacts, legal systems, as well as a variety of other topics. For the 12 lessons, we’ll have 3 meet-up sessions where we discuss what we have learned.

We feel that it is important for us to take steps to learn more about Indigenous issues, but we aren’t experts in Indigenous studies and these discussions are intended for all of us to get together and reflect on what we learn through the course.

We also understand that people learn at different paces, and so we will provide lots of time for you to complete the course modules—and even if you miss one we would still love to have you join in the discussion!

We hope to see you on Thursday, June 24 at 5:30 p.m. for our first session where we will discuss the first module. The second and third meet ups will be later in the summer and early fall—so stay tuned!

[Register through Coursera](#)

Note that while there is an option to purchase the course and get access to graded assignments and a shareable certificate, this is not required to participate in the Youth Council discussion sessions.

[Join the Zoom discussion](#)

We are very excited to all learn together!

-Youth Council Exec

### Ask Me Anything: Getting into Conservation (two events held in June and September 2021)

This year the Youth Council Executive was fortunate to have strong participation from a high school student, Lillian Zhang. While much of the activities that the Youth Council Executive has organized in the past may have been of interest to all General members, there were no campaigns aimed specifically at high school-aged members. To address this, Lillian suggested that the group create an online event for high school students who were interested in pursuing conservation/environment in post-secondary school. Rather than having TRCA staff discuss their professional journeys, which may not have been as relevant for current high school students, this event featured the stories of the current Youth Council Executive. This provided strong peer-to-peer learning/mentorship and an opportunity for capacity building among both the participants and the presenters.

Leading up to the event, the Youth Council Executive worked with TRCA’s Marketing team to develop personalized content to be shared through Instagram. This social media campaign took place during the weeks leading up to the event, and first posed the questions:

- Are you in high school or university and interested in environmental issues?
- Curious to know what type of careers are out there when you finish school?
- Ask us anything! Answers will be posted on TRCA’s story or presented in the Youth Council’s AMA Event on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Click the link in the bio to register!

Some user questions were collected through Instagram, and the Youth Council Executive recorded short answers, which were subsequently reviewed by TRCA's Marketing team and then posted on TRCA's social media. This promotion had the benefit of allowing the Youth Council Executive a platform to address their audience personally, and also to generate some excitement for the event.

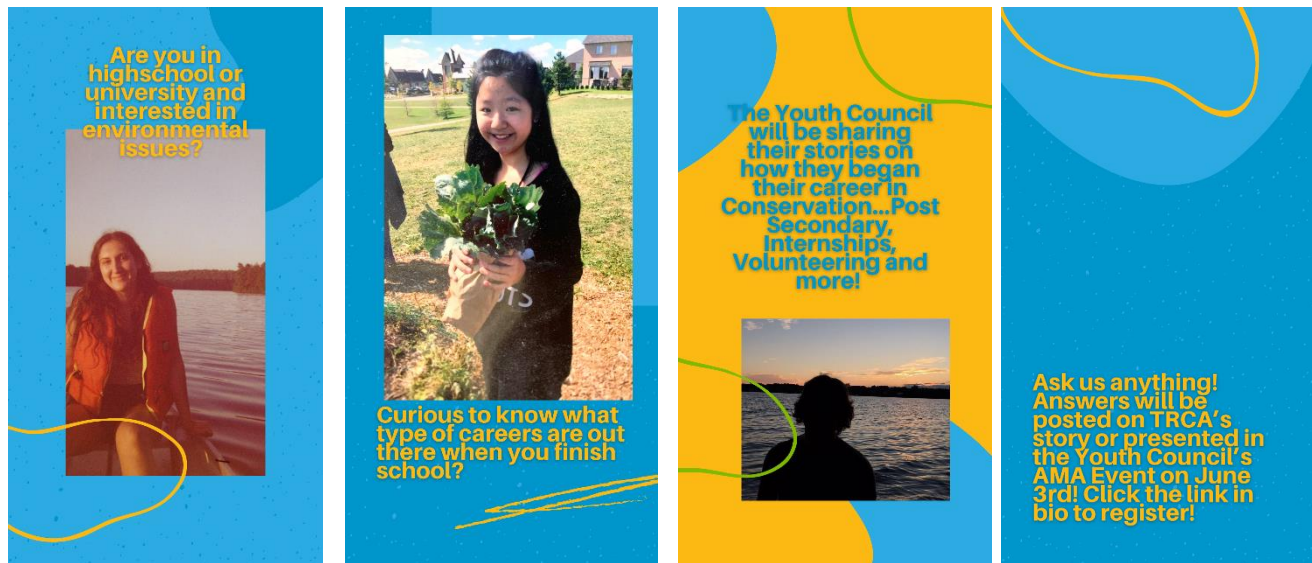


FIGURE 7: IMAGES FROM ASK ME ANYTHING SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN FEATURING PHOTOS OF THE YOUTH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE

This event was very well received with 25 participants. The Youth Council Executive each presented their own journey from high school to university, and for some, the transition into their early careers. A lengthy discussion took place following the presentation, where participants were invited to turn on their mics to engage with the group directly. There was enough interest in the event that the Youth Council Executive decided to host a second event in September, which saw 13 participants.

### Youth Council Executive Monarch Tagging

In the Summer of 2021, gathering limit restrictions were eased and TRCA was able to commence some in-person activities. As such, we held an in-person event for the Youth Council Executive at Tommy Thompson Park in Toronto with the Monarch Teacher Network. This activity included training and a demonstration of how Monarch butterflies are tagged and released, and a lesson on Monarch biology and conservation efforts. This was the first and only in person event held with the Youth Council Executive this year, and it was a great team building and experiential learning opportunity.



FIGURE 8: YOUTH COUNCIL EXECUTIVES AND TRCA STAFF AT TOMMY THOMPSON PARK

### Developing Your Environmental Career Online Event (February 2022)

The Youth Council Executive held an online event on February 17, 2022 to help support young people, students and young professionals interested in entering the environmental field as a career. The event was divided into two components. In the first part, Executive members walked participants through tips and interactive exercises on finding, applying and interviewing for jobs of interest. Executive members were supported by TRCA staff in Human Resources and Education Training who provided resources to be shared and incorporated into the event. In the second part of the event, Executive members facilitated a panel discussion with five professionals in different sectors of the environmental field who spoke about their career path and answered attendee questions. Over 60 people registered for the event, with 19 attending live.

## PROGRAM EVALUATION

### Structure

The structure of the Youth Council has seen some minor adjustment since the program's inception, but the delivery of the program has changed most significantly to adapt to an online framework as a result of COVID-19. There are now two seats reserved for high school-aged candidates, and new members have an opportunity to continue their term for an additional year. This helps to maintain some institutional memory across years and provides an opportunity for returning members to mentor incoming members. Furthermore, this strategy allows the continuation of events at the outset of the new term. For example, the climate change movie night was organized chiefly by returning Executive members and provided an opportunity for new members to engage in event organizing as soon as their term began rather than waiting until the work planning discussion were

complete. This reduced the learning curve for those new members and allowed the Executive to deliver more events during the length of their term.

## Goals and Objectives

### Build youth capacity and learning opportunities

Capacity building amongst the youth council executive has been significant. Extending the terms of some of the Executive has resulted in strong peer-to-peer knowledge sharing and mentorship, which has increased the overall capacity of the Youth Council Executive. The returning Executive members set expectations and norms that helped to ensure that the 2021 Executive remained consistently engaged throughout their term.

Furthermore, the mentorship and expectations set by the group helped to provide an atmosphere where new members were comfortable sharing ideas and taking the lead on new activities and initiatives.

The activities held by the Youth Council Executive were empowering not only for the participants, but also for the youth organizing the event. The Ask Me Anything activity helped the Executive learn how to plan and deliver events, and also learn from each others' experiences. The Come Learn With Us series, while it saw little participation from General Membership, was an important learning experience for the Youth Council Executive. It provided a deeper understanding of Indigenous experiences and issues in Canada and helped to provide more context and capacity for the Youth Council to continue to address issues of reconciliation in their future work.

One of the recommendations from last year was to explore new methods of communication with General Members. The Come Learn With Us and Ask Me Anything events both promoted two-way conversation between Youth Council Executives and General Members. While participation levels varied for these events, the increased communication has been a great capacity building opportunity for the Youth Council.

There are clear benefits to the Youth Council Executive for participating in the program. The Youth Council Executive has used their experience to help advance their own careers and interests. Over the last two years, members of the Executive have secured jobs with Credit Valley Conservation, Nature Conservancy Canada, and Toronto and Region Conservation Authority using their direct experience with the Youth Council on their applications. We have also had one member use their experience on a successful graduate school application for York University. In an effort to recognize the hard work and dedication of the Executive volunteers, we have been looking for opportunities to nominate our Executive for awards. This past year, we were pleased to announce the Wai Ying Lam was the successful recipient of the Water Canada Waters Next award. This type of recognition is not only a boon for the Youth Council program but will also provide individuals with valuable experience and recognition that will help them in their own careers.



## Category—People: Young Professional

Wai Ying Lam—PhD Candidate, Environmental Science, University of Toronto



Wai's research focuses on the hydrological impacts of forest harvesting on mercury in headwater streams. She is dedicated to science communication and has shared her master's research on road salt in the Three Minute Thesis competition and her PhD research on mercury at Soapbox Science. She was also an early member of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's Youth Council and has played a significant role in its development.

FIGURE 9: WAI YING LAM'S PROFILE ON THE [CANADIAN WATER SUMMIT'S PAGE](#)

### Build youth network

The youth network continues to grow as more groups reach out to learn about the Youth Council, and more events are hosted with various different partners. Hosting events in partnership with other groups has been a crucial part of youth network development. By extending our audience through partner networks, we reach groups that may not have been previously aware of TRCA. The shift of the program to an online format has helped to strengthen and broaden the youth network. Events now more accessible and can reach a larger audience.

### Learn about what is important to youth

The entrance survey continues to provide the most robust data indicating the most important issues to youth. As was discussed earlier, some changes in the most frequently selected topics changed from year to year, which has been reflective of the current situation that has arisen from the pandemic as well as growing social movements in diversity and inclusion, as well as Indigenous reconciliation. The Youth Council will continue to collect this data to inform their, and TRCA's, programming.

### Create fun opportunities for youth

The Youth Council Executive have continued to pursue diverse fun opportunities for youth. Of the activities that were delivered online, follow up surveys were used to measure participant engagement. Feedback from the surveys suggested that the participants enjoyed their online experience. The platform used also tracked attentiveness, that is, how much the participant continued to engage with the webinar and did not switch to a different window on their computer. Overall attentiveness score for all online events was 100%--which means that the audience stayed engaged with the content.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Overall, the Youth Council program continues to reach program goals of creating fun opportunities for youth, building capacity, identifying youth perspectives, and building a youth network. The following is a summary of the recommendations for program improvement through the evaluation of meeting goals and objectives:

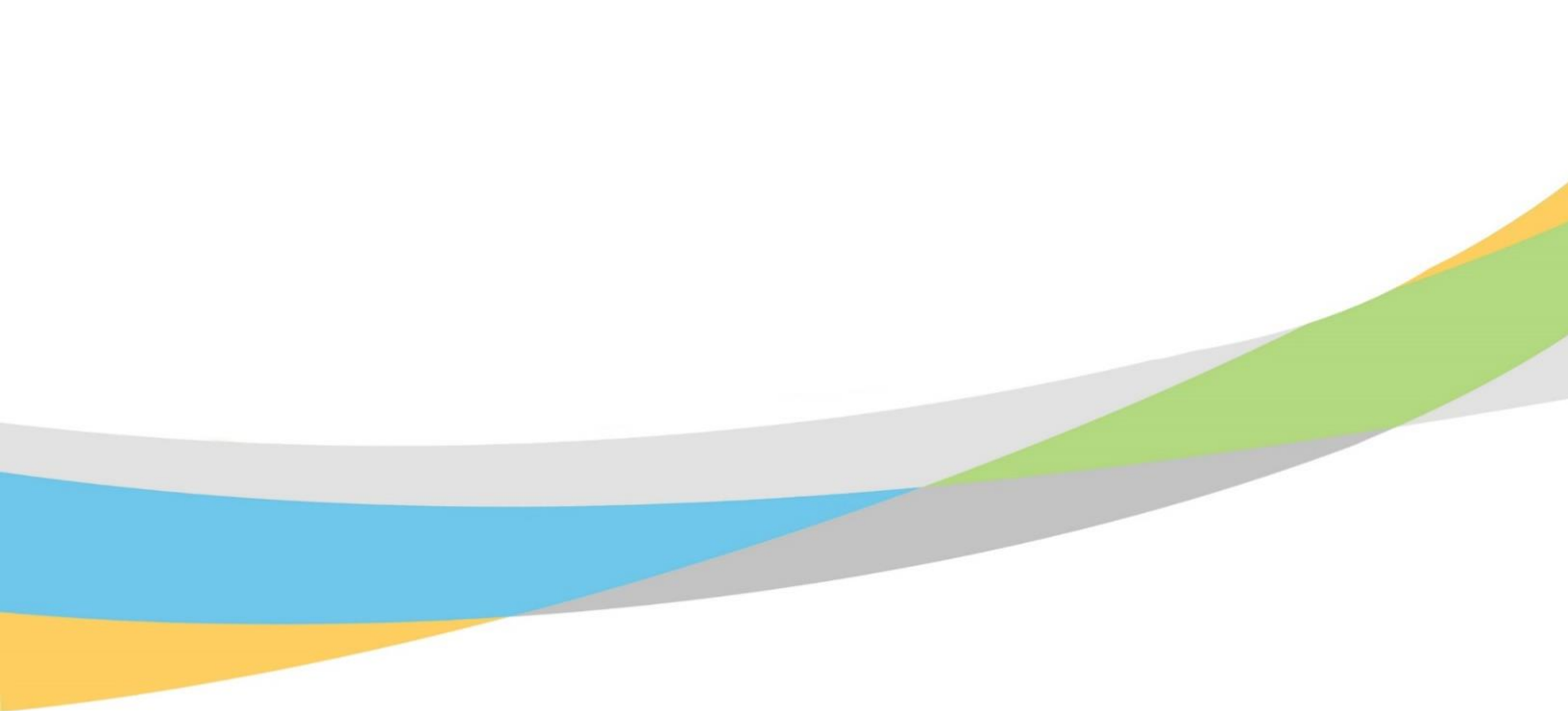
- Continue online program delivery, and/or a hybrid model (as restrictions allow)

- Consider new methods of network building, such as LinkedIn or tapping into existing youth networks through TRCA's municipal partners and the RWA
- Continue efforts to broaden the recruitment of the Youth Council to include more members from diverse communities through more deliberate recruitment strategies with different groups/agencies who work in target communities.
- Continue to identify synergies between TRCA's work and strategic goals/priorities and the work of the Youth Council
- Identify how to build stronger connections between the Executive and General Membership in order to better involve the General Membership in the development of Youth Council initiatives, where appropriate.
- Consider soliciting testimonials from previous Youth Council Executive members to use for promotion of the program
- Ask participants if they knew about the Youth Council or TRCA when they register for events

## CONCLUSION

The TRCA Youth Council program seeks to engage youth aged 16-30 in TRCA's jurisdiction. It is a program that is led by Youth under the mentorship and guidance of TRCA staff. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the program has shifted to an entirely online format. This change has had some net positive impacts on the program as it has reduced the barriers for youth to participate, and has help to expand the youth network. The events and initiatives of the 2021-2022 term are demonstrative of the drive and passion of the 2021-2022 Youth Council Executive. We are pleased to see how the Executive has been able to achieve progress towards the goals set out in the program framework. Above all, the positive impact of the Youth Council program for Executives has been an important achievement. Members have been able to use their experiences on the Executive to help further their own goals and aspirations in the environmental field.

With these successes in mind, there is always room to improve program delivery. A number of recommendations have been provided, including the continuation of online or hybrid event and program delivery, broadening the network to include more recruitment with different groups and agencies who work with target communities (e.g., Indigenous youth, newcomers, or other under-represented groups), better integrating the Youth Council with TRCA staff work, exploring improved connections between the Youth Council Executive and General Membership, and using testimonials from previous Youth Council Executives to help highlight the benefits of their experiences in the program.



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### Item for the Action of the Regional Watershed Alliance

**TO:** Chair and Members of the Regional Watershed Alliance  
Wednesday, March 02, 2022 Meeting

**FROM:** Sameer Dhalla, Director, Development and Engineering Services

**RE:** **WATERSHED PLANNING UPDATES**  
Carruthers Creek, Etobicoke Creek, and Humber River

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#### KEY ISSUE

To provide an update on the status of watershed planning at TRCA, including the implementation of the Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan (CCWP), and the development of the Etobicoke Creek Watershed Plan (ECWP) and the Humber River Watershed Plan (HRWP).

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

**WHEREAS** Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) has begun implementation planning for the Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan (CCWP);

**AND WHEREAS** TRCA is finalizing the future management scenarios stage for the Etobicoke Creek Watershed Plan (ECWP) and planning the next round of engagement to share results and receive feedback;

**AND WHEREAS** TRCA has initiated the scoping and characterization stages for the Humber River Watershed Plan (HRWP);

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT** the Regional Watershed Alliance (RWA) members identify two members to participate in the Stakeholder Advisory Committee for the CCWP and to champion implementation initiatives through their networks;

**THAT** the RWA members encourage their contacts and networks to participate in the upcoming engagements for the ECWP to provide feedback to identify priority actions;

**THAT** staff continue to work closely with municipal partners, including the Region of Peel, Toronto, Mississauga, Brampton, and Caledon on coordinated engagement related to the Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR) and ECWP;

**AND FURTHER THAT** the RWA members review the draft Engagement Strategy for the HRWP and provide comments, including suggestions on any other stakeholders that TRCA staff should engage.

#### BACKGROUND

TRCA currently has three active watershed plans in various stages as part of TRCA's next generation of watershed planning, as follows:

##### **Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan (CCWP)**

The CCWP was approved by the TRCA Board in September 2021 and is now in the implementation stage. Watershed Planning and Reporting (WPR) staff have been working closely with partner municipalities to identify implementation actions for 2022.



### **Etobicoke Creek Watershed Plan (ECWP)**

At the RWA meeting on May 19, 2021, TRCA staff provided the results of the ECWP characterization stage and provided initial information on the future management scenario stage, informed by land use planning in Peel, Caledon, and by the Province. Since then, various technical analyses have taken place for the future management scenarios stage and additional engagement is planned for the ECWP for 2022.

### **Humber River Watershed Plan (HRWP)**

TRCA is undertaking the scoping and characterization stages of the HRWP in 2022. Like the ECWP, a Steering Committee with key partners will be established and an Engagement Strategy developed. The initial engagements will help draft the vision for the watershed and guide future work. The watershed characterization stage is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

## **RATIONALE**

### **Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan**

Based on the initial discussions with our municipal partners, TRCA will establish an Implementation Steering Committee and a Stakeholder Advisory Committee in 2022 to support implementation of the CCWP.

The Implementation Steering Committee will consist of staff from TRCA, the Region of Durham, City of Pickering, Town of Ajax, and Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation. This committee will advocate for effective implementation of the CCWP, provide input on annual prioritization of actions and budgeting, and track progress for regular reporting.

The Stakeholder Advisory Committee will consist of diverse stakeholders from across the Carruthers Creek watershed including residents, business representatives, developers, the Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD), agricultural organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other community groups. Membership on the committee will be open to individual residents, or representatives of businesses, developers, agricultural organizations, community organizations, or NGOs, who reside or have interests within the Carruthers Creek watershed and support the implementation of the CCWP.

Initial membership of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee will be on a first-come, first-serve basis and applications of interest will be submitted through the project website. Membership will consist of up to a maximum of 18 to 24 persons. The Stakeholder Advisory Committee will play an important role in encouraging and enabling stakeholders within the watershed to participate and engage more directly in various implementation activities to ensure implementation of the CCWP.

To facilitate reporting on implementation progress, TRCA will expand the functionality of the existing [Watershed and Ecosystems Reporting Hub](#) by developing both a watershed planning platform that would incorporate the CCWP (and each watershed plan as they are developed), and a watershed plan implementation tracking platform to track and report on implementation progress / watershed trends over time to ensure public accountability on the part of TRCA and municipal partners.

Several actions are planned for 2022 in collaboration with various TRCA teams and municipal staff. These actions are intended to address various management recommendations from the

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CCWP as outlined in the table below:

Management Recommendation	2022 Planned Action
1.1.1	Town of Ajax Green Development and Environmental Design Guidelines – anticipated completion in Q2 2022
1.1.6	Update to Town of Ajax Salt Management Plan – Town is collaborating with TRCA to complete a salt vulnerable areas assessment
1.1.7	Ajax SNAP – Council approved funding to implement a Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program
2.1.3 and 3.1.3	Priority restoration areas in southern portion of the watershed (Kingston Road East, Rossland Road, and Warbler Woods) – TRCA, the Region of Durham, and Town of Ajax have funding for some on the ground restoration projects and have applied for additional funds to the Nature Smart Climate Fund grant administered by Environment and Climate Change Canada
3.1.4	Land securement – Ajax is in the process of securing additional lands for environmental protection in the three priority restoration areas identified above
3.3.1 and 3.3.2	Update to Urban Forest Management Plan – Ajax and TRCA are partnering to complete an urban forest technical assessment

*Request to RWA on CCWP:* For CCWP implementation, TRCA requests the RWA identify two members to sit on the Stakeholder Advisory Committee. Further, we request that RWA members circulate information to their networks on the CCWP Stakeholder Advisory Committee when provided by TRCA staff.

### Etobicoke Creek Watershed Plan

TRCA staff is finalizing the future management scenarios stage of the watershed planning process, which will result in a consolidated scenario analysis report examining how the watershed may respond to different land use changes and climate change (see Figure 1).

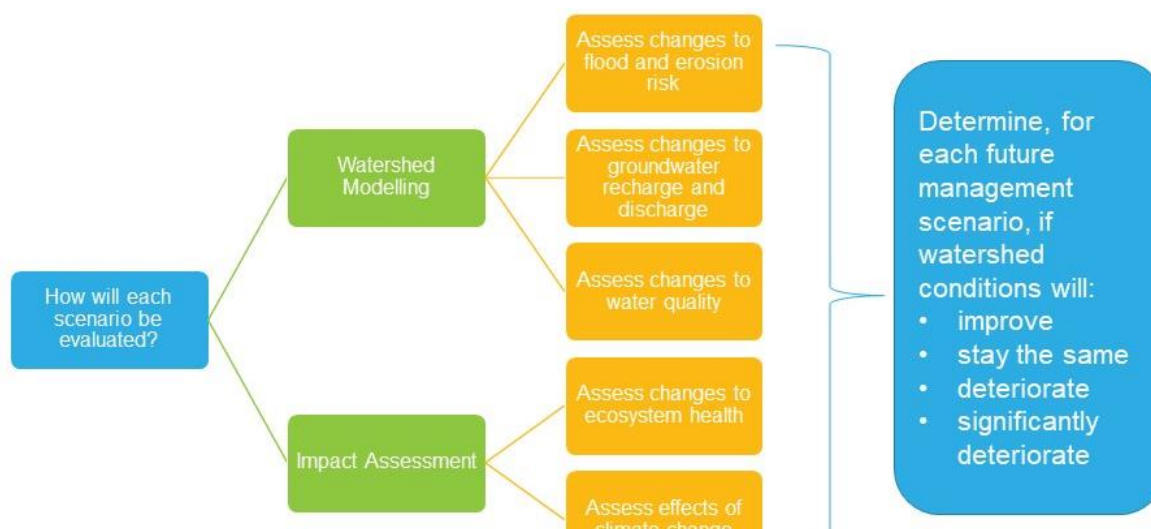


Figure 1 - ECWP Future Management Scenarios Stage

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As part of this stage of the watershed planning process, TRCA is analyzing four future management scenarios as outlined below. It is important to note that this work is being closely coordinated with the MCR, Official Plan reviews, and Minister's Zoning Order reviews.

	<b>Scenario 1:</b> Urban Expansion with Minimal Enhancements	<b>Scenario 2:</b> Urban Expansion with Mid-Range Enhancements	<b>Scenario 3:</b> Urban Expansion with Optimal Enhancements	<b>Scenario 4:</b> Existing Urban Boundary with Optimal Enhancements
Description	Build-out of whitebelt lands in headwaters. No stormwater retrofits in existing developments and no changes to natural cover from existing.	Same as scenario 1, but enhancements to stormwater management, urban forest, and natural cover. Includes the GTA West Highway	Same as scenario 1, but further enhancements to stormwater management, urban forest, and natural cover than scenario 2.	Same enhancement assumptions as scenario 3, but there is no urban boundary expansion into the headwaters.
Rationale	Compares current conditions to headwater build-out with minimal other watershed interventions.	Compares additional watershed interventions to scenario 1.	Compares a higher level of watershed interventions.	Compares the higher level of watershed interventions without further greenfield expansion.
<p><b>Notes:</b> Scenario 1 is compared to current conditions, while scenarios 2, 3 and 4 are compared to scenario 1.</p> <p>The urban expansion in scenarios 1, 2, and 3 assumes a full build-out of the whitebelt lands in the headwaters of Etobicoke Creek. Peel Region staff guided these scenario assumptions. TRCA staff have also been heavily involved in the Scoped Subwatershed Study being conducted by Peel Region to inform any potential Settlement Area Boundary Expansion in the headwaters. This involvement includes providing data and commenting on reports in collaboration with municipal staff and planning consultants to ensure alignment between the ECWP and that work.</p>				

TRCA staff will prepare the future management scenario report based on ongoing discussions with the Region and Town of Caledon and circulate it for review in the spring of 2022. In addition, another round of ECWP engagement will be undertaken in spring 2022. The main objective will be to provide an overview of the results from the characterization and future management scenarios stages, to solicit feedback on the objectives and indicators for the management framework, and to determine priority actions to address key issues of concern in the watershed.

This engagement will include public and stakeholder engagement on the ECWP that will consist of an online survey, map viewer commenting tool, virtual webinars, and in-person open houses (if permitted). There will be email notifications, postcards at events, newsletters, and posters at

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TRCA sites in the watershed, which will allow for wider dissemination of information about the engagement. Discussions are underway with the Town of Caledon and the Region of Peel to continue sharing and coordinating information and engagement processes with the MCR process also underway. For example, any engagement events will occur after Peel Regional Council makes a decision on the MCR package that will ultimately be submitted to the Province.

The table below provides details on various components of the engagement plan and timelines.

Engagement component	Details	Timeline
Project webpage	Will be updated to highlight all engagement details, including link to survey, storymap/ArcGIS map viewer, times/dates/locations of engagement events, and supporting information.	By early April
Virtual Webinars and Open Houses	Three one-hour webinars consisting of a presentation, demonstration of map viewer, interactive polling, and question and answer session.  Up to three evening drop-in open houses (if permitted) at locations throughout the watershed. There will be information panels, comment sheets, and a large map for sticky notes.	May, 2022
Survey	Short ranking, multiple choice, comment questions (approximately eight) focused on watershed plan objectives, indicators, and priority watershed actions.	Available for a month before the first webinar / open house and for one week after the last webinar / open house
Story Map and ArcGIS Map Viewer	An interactive version of the Etobicoke Creek watershed with various data layers for reviewers to leave comments on main issues of concern and priority actions spatially. An accompanying story map will include general information on watershed planning, the ECWP, types of feedback requested and how to leave a comment.	Same as the survey
Watershed Walk	One or two events along parts of the Etobicoke Creek (if permitted) to explain the importance of watershed planning, discuss the watershed plan and recommendations, and tour watershed features.	April or May (possibly coinciding with Earth Day)

*Request to RWA on ECWP:* TRCA staff requests RWA members to distribute notifications about the ECWP engagement through their networks, once provided.

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### **Humber River Watershed Plan (HRWP)**

TRCA staff has initiated the development of the HRWP, which is expected to be completed in a three-year timeframe by early 2025. A general overview of the timeline for completion of the various stages of the HRWP is provided below.

Stage	Timeline
Preparation and scoping	Early 2022
Watershed characterization	2022 – 2023
Future management scenarios	2023 – 2024
Implementation planning and watershed plan development	2024 - 2025

As part of 2022 workplan, TRCA staff is undertaking the first two stages of the watershed planning process, scoping and watershed characterization stages. As such, we are in the process of establishing a Steering Committee with relevant partners and have prepared a draft Engagement Strategy (attached to this report), which is consistent with the process followed for the ECWP. Similar to the ECWP, work is underway with all relevant municipal partners to ensure this is coordinated with the MCR process and provincial land use and infrastructure planning processes.

*Request to RWA on HRWP:* TRCA staff requests that RWA provide input on the stakeholder list in Table 5 in the draft Engagement Strategy to ensure it is comprehensive and representative of this watershed.

### **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 12 – Facilitate a region-wide approach to sustainability**

### **FINANCIAL DETAILS**

Funds to support watershed planning are provided through capital levy by our regional partner municipalities (accounts 120-02 and 120-04).

### **DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE**

#### **Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan**

TRCA will establish a Stakeholder Advisory Committee to support implementation of the CCWP and develop tracking tools to report on implementation progress. Implementation actions will be identified annually by the Implementation Steering Committee, subject to available budget and capacity.

#### **Etobicoke Creek Watershed Plan**

A Scenario Analysis Report outlining the results of the future management scenarios stage will be publicly released once it has undergone internal TRCA and Steering Committee review. TRCA staff will carry out engagement on the results of watershed characterization and the future management scenarios, and initial implementation planning as outlined in the engagement plan discussed earlier in this report. Based on the results of that engagement, a

## Item 7.2

draft management framework will be developed in collaboration with Steering Committee members and ultimately a draft watershed plan, which will result in further engagement.

### **Humber River Watershed Plan**

The HRWP is in early preparation and scoping stages with the next steps being the establishment of the Steering Committee and finalization of the Engagement Strategy. Watershed characterization consistent with the process carried out for the ECWP will also be conducted in 2022.

**Report prepared by: Tony Morris, Senior Project Manager, Watershed Planning and Reporting, extension 5651**

**Emails: [tony.morris@trca.ca](mailto:tony.morris@trca.ca)**

**For Information contact: Namrata Shrestha, extension 5782**

**Emails: [Namrata.shrestha@trca.ca](mailto:Namrata.shrestha@trca.ca)**

**Date: January 26, 2022**

**Attachments: 1**

Attachment 1: **Humber River Watershed Plan Engagement Strategy**



## Draft Engagement Strategy Humber River

Prepared by:

Watershed Planning and Reporting

January 2021

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## Purpose:

This Engagement Strategy is designed to:

- Identify engagement methods that will be used throughout the watershed planning process
- Identify key periods within the process for engagement
- Identify stakeholders

Effective and meaningful engagement can lead to improved watershed planning outcomes by ensuring community buy-in, support from key landowners and stakeholders, and political support, and by facilitating effective implementation by relevant partners.

## Engagement Objectives:

To build partnerships with key stakeholders and landowners within the watershed to maximize opportunities to improve watershed conditions through strategic resource-sharing.

To build community awareness on the importance of watersheds and identify opportunities for improved community stewardship of the Humber River Watershed Plan (HRWP).

To achieve broad based endorsement of watershed plan goals, objectives, and management actions to increase the likelihood of effective implementation.

## Engagement Methods:

Engagement will occur on a spectrum (see [Figure 1](#)), which will influence the methods used depending on the stage of the process and interest level of different audiences. Engagement methods will comply with the guidance of public health authorities.

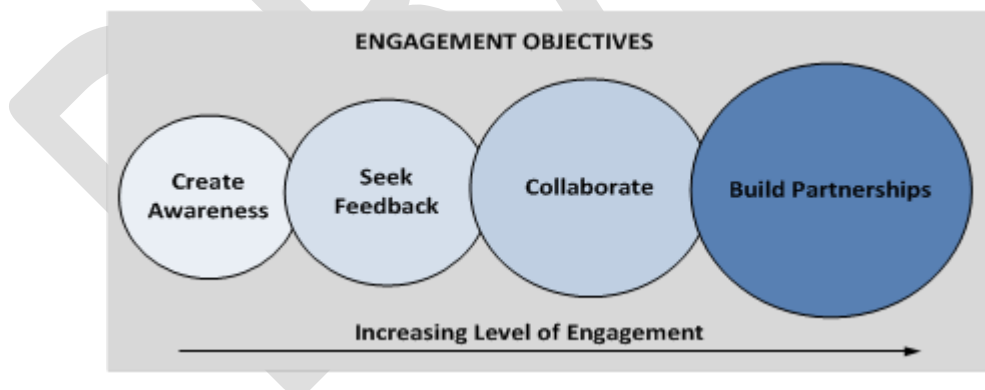


Figure 1 - Engagement Spectrum

Below is a selection of methods that may be used at different stages of the watershed planning process based on the engagement spectrum. Engagement activities will be decided in collaboration with the Steering Committee. The collaborate and partnership end of the spectrum is achieved through the Steering Committee, as represented by key watershed management partners.

Table 1 - Engagement Methods

Awareness	Feedback	Collaborate	Partnerships
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fact sheets</li> <li>• Letter / Email / Social Media notifications</li> <li>• Newsletters, bulletins</li> <li>• Website updates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public comment periods</li> <li>• Open houses / webinars</li> <li>• Focus groups</li> <li>• Surveys</li> <li>• Meetings</li> <li>• Interviews</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consensus-building forums</li> <li>• Working groups</li> <li>• Pilot projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint project planning (e.g. restoration activities)</li> <li>• Co-drafting of management actions</li> <li>• Shared governance (e.g. joint implementation agreements)</li> </ul>

TRCA will produce engagement materials / notifications and distribute through its website and social media channels. Other Steering Committee members should also distribute notifications through their appropriate distribution processes to ensure maximum public exposure of information related to this watershed planning process (i.e. community bulletins and events pages).

### Engagement Process:

The list of stakeholders and interested individuals will be regularly updated as the watershed planning process progresses. A subscribers list will be maintained by TRCA through a project website where individuals can subscribe to be kept notified about this process. A generic email address, [humber@trca.ca](mailto:humber@trca.ca) will be available for questions, comments, and information requests. Any correspondence sent about this process will also identify a mechanism for individuals / organizations to be added to this subscribers list by responding to [humber@trca.ca](mailto:humber@trca.ca). The subscriber list will be maintained as a MailChimp list within TRCA's databases and not be available for public release. Notifications or correspondence will be distributed by project management staff within Watershed Planning and Reporting (WPR), except where otherwise noted (e.g. Board members and municipal Councillors). The frequency of correspondence will vary throughout the watershed planning process, but follow these general guidelines:

- Notification of engagement events at least one month ahead of time and two weeks ahead of time, with a reminder the week of.
- Notification of public comment periods on technical reports and draft plans, including at least one reminder of comment deadline.

At any meetings / webinars or open houses, attendees will be asked to sign in and whether they wish to receive correspondence from TRCA on this project. Personal information will be kept confidential and made only available to members of the Steering Committee. As part of engagement reporting, general information will be made publicly available, such as number of attendees / comments received, summaries of comments received, and responses provided (not attributed to any particular party) and engagement methods utilized.

## Engagement by Watershed Planning Stage

Some of these activities may overlap as the stages of the watershed planning process shift from one stage to the next.

Table 2 - Engagement Methods by Watershed Planning Stage

Stage / Activities	Engagement Methods
<b>Stage 1: Preparation and Scoping</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Endorsement of Engagement Strategy by Steering Committee</li> <li>Establishment of project webpage (and subscriber form)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Website updates (project webpage, subscriber submission function)</li> </ul>
<b>Stage 2: Watershed Characterization</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify issues of concern to stakeholders and members of the public within the watershed</li> <li>Engage on draft Vision for the watershed</li> <li>Engage on the outcomes of watershed characterization (i.e. draft Characterization Report)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Survey about issues and key components of a watershed vision to subscribers list, stakeholders list and social media channels</li> <li>Open house on outcomes of watershed characterization and draft management scenarios</li> </ul>
<b>Stage 3: Future Management Scenarios</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek feedback on draft management scenarios (in conjunction with review of draft Characterization Report)</li> <li>Engage on results of stage 3 (Scenario Analysis Report)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Above noted open house</li> <li>Notifications to subscribers list, stakeholders list, social media channels on draft management scenarios</li> </ul>
<b>Stage 4: Implementation Planning &amp; Stage 5: Monitoring and Evaluation Framework</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage on draft management framework</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open house on draft management framework and results of scenario analysis</li> </ul>
<b>Draft Watershed Plan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage on draft Watershed Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public comment period of draft plan with associated notifications</li> </ul>

## Engagement Record

TRCA will maintain a detailed engagement record throughout the watershed planning process that catalogues all correspondence distributed / received.

## Indigenous Engagement

TRCA has included the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation as partners on the Steering Committee as the treaty holding First Nation within the Humber River watershed. As part of project engagement, TRCA will also engage directly with Indigenous groups that have traditional territories within the watershed. This includes Williams Treaties First Nations, the Huron-Wendat Nation, the Six Nations and the Métis Nation of Ontario. Notifications and correspondence to Indigenous groups to be sent out by project management staff within WPR.

Table 3 - Contact Information for Indigenous Groups

Indigenous Group	Contact Information
<b>Williams Treaties First Nations</b>	
Beausoleil First Nation	Susan Copegog, Consultation Worker <a href="mailto:consultations@chimnissing.ca">consultations@chimnissing.ca</a> Joanne Sandy, Chief <a href="mailto:bfnchief@chimnissing.ca">bfnchief@chimnissing.ca</a>
Chippewas of Rama First Nation	Sharday James, Community Consultation Worker <a href="mailto:shardayj@ramafirstnation.ca">shardayj@ramafirstnation.ca</a>
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation	Natasha Charles, Project Consultant <a href="mailto:natasha.charles@georginaisland.com">natasha.charles@georginaisland.com</a>
Curve Lake First Nation	Julie Kapyrka, Lands Resource Consultation Liaison <a href="mailto:juliek@curvelake.ca">juliek@curvelake.ca</a> Kaitlin Hill, Lands Resource Consultation Liaison <a href="mailto:kaitlinh@curvelake.ca">kaitlinh@curvelake.ca</a> Gary Pritchard, Principal Consultant, 4 Directions of Conservation <a href="mailto:gpritchard@4directionsconservation.com">gpritchard@4directionsconservation.com</a>
Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation	MSIFN Consultation Email: <a href="mailto:consultation@scugogfirstnation.com">consultation@scugogfirstnation.com</a> Monica Sanford, Community Consultation Administrative Assistant <a href="mailto:msanford@scugogfirstnation.com">msanford@scugogfirstnation.com</a> Colleen Kennedy, First Nation Manager <a href="mailto:ckennedy@scugogfirstnation.com">ckennedy@scugogfirstnation.com</a> Waverley Birch, Regulatory Consultant <a href="mailto:wbirch@ibabraiding.com">wbirch@ibabraiding.com</a> Don Richardson, Regulatory Consultant <a href="mailto:Don@ibabraiding.com">Don@ibabraiding.com</a>
Hiawatha First Nation	Tom Cowie, Lands Resource Consultation Liaison <a href="mailto:tcowie@hiawathafn.ca">tcowie@hiawathafn.ca</a>
Alderville First Nation	Dave Simpson, Councillor <a href="mailto:consultation@alderville.ca">consultation@alderville.ca</a>
<b>Huron-Wendat Nation</b>	Mario GrosLouis, Project Coordinator - Ontario <a href="mailto:mario.grosLouis@wendake.ca">mario.grosLouis@wendake.ca</a> Lori-Jeanne Bolduc, Project Coordinator – Ontario <a href="mailto:lori-jeanne.bolduc@wendake.ca">lori-jeanne.bolduc@wendake.ca</a>
<b>Six Nations of the Grand River</b>	Lonny Bomberry, Lands and Resources Director

	<a href="mailto:lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca">lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca</a> Bethany Kuntz Wakefield, Wildlife Manager <a href="mailto:wildlife@sixnations.ca">wildlife@sixnations.ca</a> Robin Vanstone, Consultation Supervisor <a href="mailto:rvanstone@sixnations.ca">rvanstone@sixnations.ca</a>
<b>Métis Nation of Ontario</b>	<a href="mailto:consultations@metisnation.org">consultations@metisnation.org</a>

## Municipal Councillors and TRCA Board Members

Engagement notifications and status updates on the development of the HRWP will be sent to relevant municipal Councillors and TRCA Board members via TRCA's clerks office. Project management staff within WPR will prepare the relevant correspondence for approval and distribution. The list below reflects the relevant elected members within the boundaries of the Humber River watershed:

Table 4 - Contact Information for Board Members and Councillors

Representative	Contact Information
<b>TRCA Board Members</b>	
<b>Toronto:</b> Paul Ainslie, Jennifer Drake, Maria Kelleher, Basudeb Mukherjee, Connie Tang, Shelley Carroll, Paula Fletcher, Josh Matlow, James Pasternak, Estair Van Wagner, Ronald Chopowick, Xiao Han, Mike Layton, Anthony Perruzza  <b>Region of Peel:</b> Dipika Damerla, Michael Palleschi, Chris Fonseca, Rowena Santos, Jennifer Innis  <b>Region of York:</b> Joe DiPaola, Jack Heath, Linda Jackson, Steve Pellegrini, Gino Rosati  <b>Dufferin County / Simcoe County:</b> Don Sinclair	Clerks Office will have contact for relevant Board members listed in left column.
<b>City of Toronto Councillors</b>	
Mark Grimes – Etobicoke Lakeshore	<a href="mailto:councillor_grimes@toronto.ca">councillor_grimes@toronto.ca</a>
Gord Perks – Parkdale – High Park	<a href="mailto:councillor_perks@toronto.ca">councillor_perks@toronto.ca</a>
Stephen Holyday – Etobicoke Centre	<a href="mailto:councillor_holyday@toronto.ca">councillor_holyday@toronto.ca</a>
Frances Nunziata – York South-Weston	<a href="mailto:councillor_nunziata@toronto.ca">councillor_nunziata@toronto.ca</a>
Mike Colle – Eglinton-Lawrence	<a href="mailto:councillor_colle8@toronto.ca">councillor_colle8@toronto.ca</a>

Representative	Contact Information
James Pasternak – York Centre – <b>TRCA Board Member</b>	<a href="mailto:councillor_pasternak@toronto.ca">councillor_pasternak@toronto.ca</a>
Anthony Perruzza – Humber River – Black Creek	<a href="mailto:councillor_perruzza@toronto.ca">councillor_perruzza@toronto.ca</a>
Michael Ford – Etobicoke North	<a href="mailto:councillor_mford@toronto.ca">councillor_mford@toronto.ca</a>
<b>Region of Peel Councillors</b>	
Ian Sinclair – Town of Caledon (Ward 1)	<a href="mailto:ian.sinclair@caledon.ca">ian.sinclair@caledon.ca</a>
Johanna Downey – Town of Caledon (Ward 2)	<a href="mailto:johanna.downey@caledon.ca">johanna.downey@caledon.ca</a>
Jennifer Innis – Town of Caledon (Ward 3 and 4) – <b>TRCA Board Chair</b>	<a href="mailto:jennifer.innis@caledon.ca">jennifer.innis@caledon.ca</a>
Annette Groves – Town of Caledon (Ward 5)	<a href="mailto:annette.groves@caledon.ca">annette.groves@caledon.ca</a>
Gurpreet Dhillon – City of Brampton (Wards 9 and 10)	<a href="mailto:gurpreet.dhillon@brampton.ca">gurpreet.dhillon@brampton.ca</a>
Pat Fortini – City of Brampton (Ward 8)	<a href="mailto:pat.fortini@brampton.ca">pat.fortini@brampton.ca</a>
Carolyn Parrish – City of Mississauga (Ward 5)	<a href="mailto:carolyn.parrish@mississauga.ca">carolyn.parrish@mississauga.ca</a>
<b>City of Mississauga Councillors (Only relevant Councillors that aren't also Regional Councillors)</b>	
<i>Ward 5 is represented by Regional Councillors</i>	See above
<b>City of Brampton Councillors (Only relevant Councillors that aren't also Regional Councillors)</b>	
Charmaine Williams – Ward 8	<a href="mailto:Charmaine.williams@brampton.ca">Charmaine.williams@brampton.ca</a>
Harkirat Singh – Wards 9 and 10	<a href="mailto:Harkirat.singh@brampton.ca">Harkirat.singh@brampton.ca</a>
<b>Town of Caledon (Only relevant Councillors that aren't also Regional Councillors)</b>	
Lynn Kiernan – Ward 1	<a href="mailto:lynn.kiernan@caledon.ca">lynn.kiernan@caledon.ca</a>
Christina Early – Ward 2	<a href="mailto:christina.early@caledon.ca">christina.early@caledon.ca</a>
Nick DeBoer – Ward 3 and 4	<a href="mailto:nick.deboer@caledon.ca">nick.deboer@caledon.ca</a>
Tony Rosa – Ward 5	<a href="mailto:tony.rosa@caledon.ca">tony.rosa@caledon.ca</a>
<b>Region of York Councillors</b>	
Wayne Emmerson – Regional Councillor/Chair/CEO	<a href="mailto:wayne.emmerson@york.ca">wayne.emmerson@york.ca</a>
	<a href="mailto:joe.dipaola@richmondhill.ca">joe.dipaola@richmondhill.ca</a>
	<a href="mailto:carmine.perrelli@richmondhill.ca">carmine.perrelli@richmondhill.ca</a>

Representative	Contact Information
<p>Joe DiPaola, Regional Councillor and Acting Mayor (Richmond Hill) – <b>TRCA Board Member</b></p> <p>Carmine Perrelli – Regional Councillor (Richmond Hill)</p> <p>Maurizio Bevilacqua – Mayor Vaughan</p> <p>Mario Ferri – Regional Councillor (Vaughan)</p> <p>Linda Jackson – Regional Councillor (Vaughan) – <b>TRCA Board Member</b></p> <p>Gino Rosati – Regional Councillor (Vaughan) – <b>TRCA Board Member</b></p> <p>Iain Lovatt – Mayor (Whitchurch-Stouffville)</p> <p>Steve Pellegrini – Mayor (King) – <b>TRCA Board Member</b></p> <p>Tom Mrakas – Mayor (Aurora)</p>	<p><a href="mailto:maurizio.bevilacqua@vaughan.ca">maurizio.bevilacqua@vaughan.ca</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:mario.ferri@vaughan.ca">mario.ferri@vaughan.ca</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:linda.jackson@vaughan.ca">linda.jackson@vaughan.ca</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:gino.rosati@vaughan.ca">gino.rosati@vaughan.ca</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:mayor@townofws.ca">mayor@townofws.ca</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:spellegrini@king.ca">spellegrini@king.ca</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:tmrakas@aurora.ca">tmrakas@aurora.ca</a></p> <p><b>Note: York Regional Councillors are representative of lower tier municipalities and not of their wards</b></p>
<b>City of Vaughan (Only relevant Councillors that aren't also Regional Councillors)</b>	
<p>Marilyn Iafrate – Ward 1</p> <p>Tony Carella – Ward 2</p> <p>Rosanna DeFrancesca – Ward 3</p> <p>Sandra Yeung Racco – Ward 4</p>	<p><a href="mailto:marilyn.iafrate@vaughan.ca">marilyn.iafrate@vaughan.ca</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:tony.carella@vaughan.ca">tony.carella@vaughan.ca</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:rosanna.defrancesca@vaughan.ca">rosanna.defrancesca@vaughan.ca</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:sandra.racco@vaughan.ca">sandra.racco@vaughan.ca</a></p>
<b>Township of King (Only relevant Councillors that aren't also Regional Councillors)</b>	
<p>Jordan Cescolini – Ward 1</p> <p>David Boyd – Ward 2</p> <p>Jakob Schneider – Ward 3</p> <p>Debbie Schaefer – Ward 5</p>	<p><a href="mailto:jcescolini@king.ca">jcescolini@king.ca</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:dboyd@king.ca">dboyd@king.ca</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:jschneider@king.ca">jschneider@king.ca</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:dschaefer@king.ca">dschaefer@king.ca</a></p>
<b>City of Richmond Hill (Only relevant Councillors that aren't also Regional Councillors)</b>	
<p>Greg Beros – Ward 1</p>	<p><a href="mailto:greg@gregberos.com">greg@gregberos.com</a></p>
<b>Town of Aurora (Only relevant Councillors that aren't also Regional Councillors)</b>	
	<p><i>Aurora is switching to a ward system in 2022 – it will be ward 4 that has the small portion of the Humber.</i></p>
<b>Dufferin County</b>	

Representative	Contact Information
John Creelman – Mayor Mono	<a href="mailto:jcreelman@dufferincounty.ca">jcreelman@dufferincounty.ca</a>
Fred Nix – Deputy Mayor Mono	<a href="mailto:fred.nix@townofmono.com">fred.nix@townofmono.com</a>
<b>Town of Mono</b>	
See right column	There is no ward system in Mono so they are all Councillors at large. Mayor and Deputy Mayor from above should be contacted at minimum.
Laura Ryan – Mayor Mono	<a href="mailto:laura.ryan@townofmono.com">laura.ryan@townofmono.com</a>
John Creelman – Deputy Mayor Mono	<a href="mailto:john.creelman@townofmono.com">john.creelman@townofmono.com</a>
<b>Simcoe County</b>	
Floyd Pinto – Mayor Adjala-Tosorontio	<a href="mailto:fpinto@adjtos.ca">fpinto@adjtos.ca</a>
Bob Meadows – Mayor Adjala-Tosorontio	<a href="mailto:bmeadows@adjtos.ca">bmeadows@adjtos.ca</a>
<b>Township of Adjala-Tosorontio</b>	
Annette Bays – Ward 1	<a href="mailto:abays@adjtos.ca">abays@adjtos.ca</a>



## Stakeholder List

Notifications and correspondence will be sent out by project management staff within WPR.

Table 5 - Stakeholder List

Stakeholder / Individual	Municipality	Contact Information	Notes (If applicable)
Development Industry			
Building Industry and Land Development (BILD) Association	Toronto	Danielle Chin Director, Policy and Advocacy dchin@bildgta.ca	<a href="https://bildgta.ca/">https://bildgta.ca/</a>
Canadian Heritage Rivers System			
Jason Travers – A/Director of Ontario Parks	N/A	<a href="mailto:Jason.Travers@ontario.ca">Jason.Travers@ontario.ca</a> <a href="mailto:Joslyn.Spurgeon@ontario.ca">Joslyn.Spurgeon@ontario.ca</a>	Ontario representatives for CHRS, both at Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Joslyn Spurgeon – Park Planner			
Community Groups / Resident Associations			
McVean Farm	Brampton	TRCA -property	
Black Youth Community Farm	Brampton	TRCA -property	
Albion Hills Community Farm	Caledon	TRCA -property	
Concerned Citizens of King Township (CCKT)	King	N/A – website has generic contact form	<a href="https://cckt.ca/">https://cckt.ca/</a>
Peel Agricultural Advisory Working Group	Peel	Mark Head – to connect	
Peel Federation of Agriculture	Peel		<a href="https://ofa.on.ca/federations/peel/">https://ofa.on.ca/federations/peel/</a>
Richmond Hill Rotary Club	Richmond Hill	Rajasri Sriskandarajah - President General contact form on website	<a href="https://richmondhillrotary.com/">https://richmondhillrotary.com/</a>
Humber Bay Shores Condominium Association	Toronto		<a href="https://hbsca.ca/">https://hbsca.ca/</a> Also has a Facebook group
Swansea Area Ratepayers' Association	Toronto	N/A – website has generic contact form	<a href="http://swansearatepayers.ca/">http://swansearatepayers.ca/</a>
Kingsway Park Ratepayers Inc.	Toronto	N/A – website has generic contact form	<a href="http://kingswayparkratepayers.com/">http://kingswayparkratepayers.com/</a>
Warren Park Ratepayers	Toronto		N/A
Rockcliffe – Smythe Community	Toronto		<a href="https://rockcliffesmythe.wordpress.com/">https://rockcliffesmythe.wordpress.com/</a> Also has a Facebook group

Stakeholder / Individual	Municipality	Contact Information	Notes (If applicable)
Bloor West Village Residents Association	Toronto		<a href="https://bwvra.ca/">https://bwvra.ca/</a>
Mount Dennis Community Association	Toronto		<a href="https://www.mountdennis.ca/">https://www.mountdennis.ca/</a>
Société d'Histoire de Toronto	Toronto	Lisette Mallet – Présidente (RWA member)	<a href="https://sht.ca/">https://sht.ca/</a>
Black Creek Community Farm	Toronto	TRCA -property	
Foodshare	Toronto	Katie German, Director of Advocacy and Programs	<a href="https://foodshare.net/">https://foodshare.net/</a>
Jane and Finch Community Centre	Toronto	Community Development	<a href="https://www.janefinchcentre.org/">https://www.janefinchcentre.org/</a>
Toronto Environmental Alliance	Toronto	TEA@torontoenvironment.org	<a href="https://www.torontoenvironment.org/">https://www.torontoenvironment.org/</a>
Kleinburg & Area Ratepayers Association	Vaughan	Kathryn Angus, President	<a href="http://www.kara-inc.ca/">http://www.kara-inc.ca/</a>
Millwood Woodend Ratepayers Association	Vaughan	Tim Sorochinsky Chair, Millwood-Woodend RatePayers Association	N/A
Mackenzie Ridge Ratepayers Association—only northern portion is in the Humber	Vaughan	Robert A. Kenedy, President	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/MacKenzieRidgeRatepayerAssociation/">https://www.facebook.com/MacKenzieRidgeRatepayerAssociation/</a>
Carrying Place & Sonoma Heights Ratepayers Association	Vaughan	Tony Zuccaro, President	<a href="https://carryingplace.weebly.com">https://carryingplace.weebly.com</a>
Greater Woodbridge Ratepayers Association	Vaughan		<a href="http://www.gwra.ca/">http://www.gwra.ca/</a> - currently under construction <a href="https://www.facebook.com/greaterwoodbridgeratepayers/">https://www.facebook.com/greaterwoodbridgeratepayers/</a>
West Woodbridge Homeowners Association	Vaughan	Nick Pinto, President	<a href="http://wwha.ca/">http://wwha.ca/</a>
Village of Woodbridge Ratepayers Association	Vaughan	Maria Verna, President	<a href="https://villageofwoodbridge.ca/">https://villageofwoodbridge.ca/</a>
Vaughanwood Ratepayers' Association (Vaughan)	Vaughan	Mary Mauti, Secretary	N/A
Pinewood Estates Ratepayers' Association (Vaughan)	Vaughan	Pia Famiglietti, Secretary/Treasurer	<a href="https://m.facebook.com/pinewoodra/">https://m.facebook.com/pinewoodra/</a>

Stakeholder / Individual	Municipality	Contact Information	Notes (If applicable)
National Estates Ratepayers' Association (Vaughan)	Vaughan	Anthony La Regina, President	N/A
Weston Downs Ratepayers' Association	Vaughan	Victor Lacaria, Co-President Nadia Magarelli, Co-President Rose Savage, Co-President	<a href="https://westondownsra.ca/">https://westondownsra.ca/</a>
Sustainable Vaughan	Vaughan	sustainablevaughan@gmail.com	<a href="https://sustainable-vaughan.com/">https://sustainable-vaughan.com/</a>
Kortright Community Farm	Vaughan	TRCA -property	
Historic Wallace House	Vaughan		<a href="http://www.wallacehouse.ca/">http://www.wallacehouse.ca/</a>
York Federation of Agriculture	York		<a href="https://ofa.on.ca/federations/york/">https://ofa.on.ca/federations/york/</a>
York Region Agricultural Advisory Committee	York	York Region Committee	<a href="http://www.york.ca/agrifood">www.york.ca/agrifood</a>
York Region Food Network	York		<a href="https://yrfn.ca/about/contact-us/">https://yrfn.ca/about/contact-us/</a>
Oak Ridges Friends of the Environment	York	May not be active anymore	
York Region Environmental Alliance	York		<a href="http://yrea.org/">http://yrea.org/</a>
McVean Farm	Brampton	TRCA -property	
<b>Golf Courses</b>			
Lambton Golf and Country Club	Toronto	Peter Holt – General Manager / COO - <a href="mailto:pholt@lambtongolf.com">pholt@lambtongolf.com</a>	<a href="https://www.lambtongolf.com/">https://www.lambtongolf.com/</a>
Weston Golf and Country Club	Toronto	Rob Ackermann – Superintendent - <a href="mailto:rackermann@westongolfcc.com">rackermann@westongolfcc.com</a>	<a href="https://www.westongolfcc.com/Home">https://www.westongolfcc.com/Home</a>
Oakdale Golf and Country Club	Toronto	Patrick Greenman – Director of Property - <a href="mailto:pgreenman@oakdalegolf.com">pgreenman@oakdalegolf.com</a>	<a href="https://oakdalegolf.com/">https://oakdalegolf.com/</a>
National Golf Club of Canada	Vaughan	Jermaine Brissett – General Manager - <a href="mailto:Jermaine@nationalgolf.ca">Jermaine@nationalgolf.ca</a>	<a href="https://nationalgolf.ca/">https://nationalgolf.ca/</a>
Copper Creek Golf Club	Vaughan	John Young – General Manager - <a href="mailto:jyoung@coppercreek.ca">jyoung@coppercreek.ca</a>	<a href="https://www.coppercreek.ca/">https://www.coppercreek.ca/</a>
Nobleton Lakes Golf Club	King	Jason Bindi – Superintendent - <a href="mailto:superintendent@nobletonlakesgolf.com">superintendent@nobletonlakesgolf.com</a>	<a href="https://www.nobletonlakesgolf.com/">https://www.nobletonlakesgolf.com/</a>

Stakeholder / Individual	Municipality	Contact Information	Notes (If applicable)
Maple Downs Golf and Country Club	Vaughan	Ryan Bradshaw – General Manager - <a href="mailto:rbradshaw@mapledowns.com">rbradshaw@mapledowns.com</a>	<a href="https://www.mapledowns.com/">https://www.mapledowns.com/</a>
<b>Major Landowners and/or Institutions</b>			
Humber College	Toronto	Andrew Leopold – Director of Communications <a href="mailto:andrew.leopold@humber.ca">andrew.leopold@humber.ca</a> Deborah Green – Director Office of the President and Board of Governors - <a href="mailto:deborah.green@humber.ca">deborah.green@humber.ca</a> Arboretum – Lynn Short, Environmental Stewardship Coordinator -	<a href="https://humber.ca/">https://humber.ca/</a>
Seneca College	Toronto		<a href="https://www.senecacollege.ca/home.html">https://www.senecacollege.ca/home.html</a>
York University	Toronto	Community Engagement City Institute TD Community Engagement Centre	
Niagara University in Ontario	Vaughan		<a href="https://niagarau.ca/">https://niagarau.ca/</a>
Casino Woodbine	Toronto	Chuck Keeling – Executive Vice President - <a href="mailto:ckeeling@gcgaming.com">ckeeling@gcgaming.com</a>	<a href="https://casinowoodbine.com/">https://casinowoodbine.com/</a>
Wet n Wild Toronto	Brampton	Steve Mayer – General Manager - <a href="mailto:info@wetnwildtoronto.com">info@wetnwildtoronto.com</a>	<a href="https://www.wetnwildtoronto.com/">https://www.wetnwildtoronto.com/</a>
Canada's Wonderland	Vaughan	Grace Peacock – Director of Communications - <a href="mailto:grace.peacock@canadaswonderland.com">grace.peacock@canadaswonderland.com</a>	<a href="https://www.canadaswonderland.com/">https://www.canadaswonderland.com/</a>
<b>NGO's</b>			
Greenbelt Foundation	Toronto	Communications and Engagement - <a href="mailto:pndebele@greenbelt.ca">pndebele@greenbelt.ca</a>	<a href="https://www.greenbelt.ca/">https://www.greenbelt.ca/</a>
Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust	York	<a href="mailto:landtrust@oakridgesmoraine.org">landtrust@oakridgesmoraine.org</a>	<a href="https://www.oakridgesmoraine.org/">https://www.oakridgesmoraine.org/</a>
WWF - Canada	Toronto		<a href="https://wwf.ca/">https://wwf.ca/</a>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>			

Stakeholder / Individual	Municipality	Contact Information	Notes (If applicable)
Toronto Humber Yacht Club	Toronto	<a href="mailto:info@torontohumberyachtclub.com">info@torontohumberyachtclub.com</a>	<a href="https://www.torontohumberyachtclub.com/">https://www.torontohumberyachtclub.com/</a>
Humber Valley Heritage Trail Association – Bolton Chapter	Caledon	<a href="mailto:hvtrail@gmail.com">hvtrail@gmail.com</a>	<a href="http://www.humbertrail.org/">http://www.humbertrail.org/</a>
Humber Valley Heritage Trail Association – Kleinburg Chapter	Vaughan	<a href="mailto:hvhtak@gmail.com">hvhtak@gmail.com</a>	<a href="https://hvhta.ca/">https://hvhta.ca/</a>
McMichael Gallery	Vaughan	<a href="mailto:info@mcmichael.com">info@mcmichael.com</a>	<a href="https://mcmichael.com/">https://mcmichael.com/</a>
Oak Ridges Trail Association	York	<a href="mailto:info@oakridgestrail.org">info@oakridgestrail.org</a>	<a href="https://www.oakridgestrail.org/">https://www.oakridgestrail.org/</a>
Black Creek Conservation Project of Toronto **may not be active anymore	Toronto	<a href="mailto:BCCP@rogers.com">BCCP@rogers.com</a>	<a href="https://www.blackcreekproject.ca/">https://www.blackcreekproject.ca/</a>

## Appendix A: Communications Protocols

The Humber River Watershed Plan project webpage will be regularly updated as reports are developed, as new information is available and engagement events are planned in collaboration with the TRCA Marketing and Events team. A link to the webpage will be provided here when available.

Correspondence via emails and social media posts will alert stakeholders identified in this Engagement Strategy to project status updates.

As mentioned, in the Engagement Strategy, notifications will be sent to the following groups:

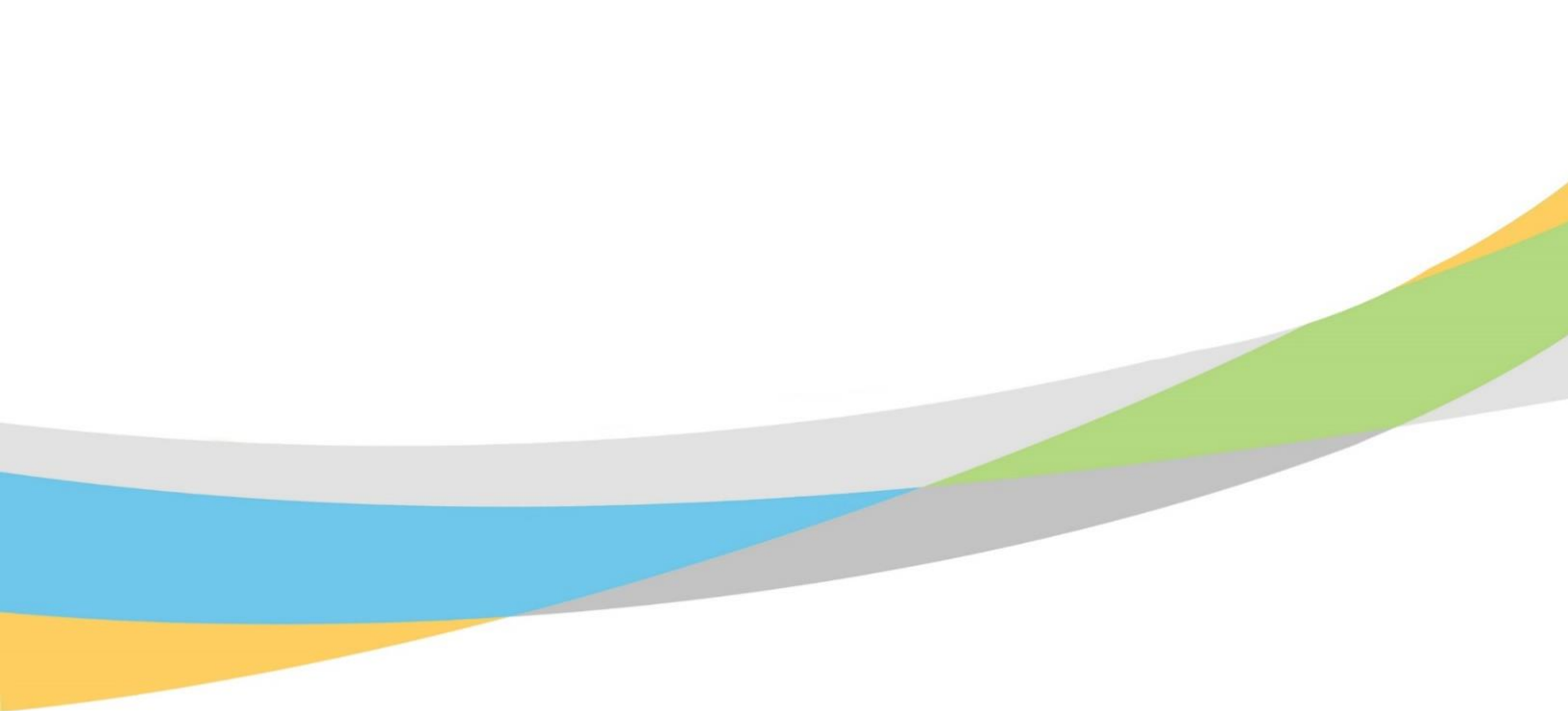
- Board Members and Councillors, Regional Watershed Alliance – via Clerks Office with Director approval
- Indigenous Groups – via WPR Project Management staff
- Stakeholders and Subscribers – via WPR Project Management staff (including via Mailchimp)
- Education and Training (including SNAP) Stakeholders – via WPR Project Management staff in collaboration with Education and Training staff
- Urban Agricultural Tenants – via TRCA property staff

Email notifications will be general in nature referring each group to updated information on the project webpage. The table below outlines expected communication points during each stage of the watershed planning process:

Table 6 – Tentative Communications Protocol Timeline

Timeline	Nature of Communication
<b>Stage 2: Watershed Characterization</b>	
May / June 2022	Email notifications to each group and social media posts (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter) about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the watershed planning process</li> <li>• initial engagement survey (on watershed vision and key issues of concern)</li> </ul>
Early 2023	Email notifications to each group and social media posts about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• open house / public meeting(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Outcomes of initial engagement survey</li> <li>○ Findings from Characterization Report. Report will be added to project webpage. (Could end up being a virtual webinar)</li> <li>○ Feedback on draft future management scenarios for Stage 3</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Summer 2023	Email notifications about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watershed tour with Board Members, Councillors and Steering Committee members</li> </ul> Email notifications to each group and social media posts about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watershed hike / clean-up with Indigenous history presentation from Mississaugas of Credit First Nation. Could involve a few different days in different locations.</li> </ul>

Timeline	Nature of Communication
<b>Stage 3: Future Management Scenarios</b>	
Mid-2024	Email notifications to each group and social media posts about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Results of Stage 3, involving webpage updates</li> </ul>
<b>Stage 4: Implementation Planning</b>	
Late 2024	Email notifications to each group and social media posts about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open house / public meeting(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft Management Framework (goals, objectives, indicators, actions)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Final Watershed Plan</b>	
Early to mid-2025	Email notifications to each group and social media posts about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public review of draft Watershed Plan (minimum 60 days)</li> </ul>
Late 2025	Email notifications to each group and social media posts about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Release of final Watershed Plan</li> </ul>



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### Item for the Information of the Regional Watershed Alliance

**TO:** Chair and Members of the Regional Watershed Alliance  
Wednesday, March 02, 2022 Meeting

**FROM:** Sameer Dhalla, Director, Development and Engineering Services

**RE:** **BLACK CREEK RENEWAL AT VAUGHAN METROPOLITAN CENTRE**

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#### KEY ISSUE

Report outlining the Black Creek Renewal project, which is the subject of a joint presentation with City of Vaughan staff.

#### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT this report, and the accompanying presentation, be received by the Regional Watershed Alliance.**

#### BACKGROUND

The Vaughan Metropolitan Centre (VMC) is the City of Vaughan's downtown core, intended to continue to grow as a complete and balanced community with high-density mixed uses that are transit supportive and pedestrian friendly, and include a distinctive sense of place, enhanced public realm and environmentally resilient features.

The Black Creek tributary of the Humber River watershed runs through the VMC, and is prone to existing flood risk, exacerbated by the highly urbanized nature of the surrounding drainage areas. The area is one of TRCA's Flood Vulnerable Clusters (Edgeley/Vaughan Centre), and has historically experienced flooding with high-intensity, short duration storms, such as the August 19, 2005 storm.

The City of Vaughan previously completed the Black Creek Storm Water Optimization Study Master Plan Class Environmental Assessment (EA). The study identified a range of alternative solutions to reduce flooding and flood damages, improve water quality and limit stream bank erosion in Black Creek. The preferred solution to address flooding was determined to be the reconstruction and renewal of Black Creek between Edgeley Pond (north of Highway 7) and Highway 407. Subsequently, the City undertook the Black Creek Renewal Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Study, which established the alignment and form of Black Creek through the south-east quadrant of the VMC Secondary Plan Area, and was initially started in 2012. An extensive consultation and facilitation process took place over 2013 and 2014 with directly affected landowners and agencies to better understand key issues, opportunities and constraints. Subsequently, a financial strategy was developed to establish the framework for funding the realignment and renewal of the Black Creek channel. The financial strategy was approved by City of Vaughan Council in June 2016, and the Black Creek Renewal Municipal Class Environmental Assessment was approved by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks in 2019.

#### RATIONALE

The Black Creek Renewal Design is based on the following guiding principles:

## Item 8.1

- Re-align and Reconstruct the Black Creek Corridor
- Mitigate flooding impacts to Adjacent Properties
- Create a signature public destination
- Implement a Public Realm
- Establish Habitat and Enhance Ecology
- Create New Connections and Opportunities
- Celebrate Stormwater
- Educate and Inform

The main components to the project include the development of the Edgeley Pond and Park, improvements to culverts along Highway 7 (York Regional Road) that restrict hydraulic capacity, and the renewal of the Black Creek Channel south of Highway 7.

The Black Creek Renewal and Edgeley Pond & Park project is being advanced using a design-build project delivery model, the first project to utilize this methodology for the City of Vaughan. The Edgeley Pond and Park design was completed and circulated for approval agencies review, and a technical consultant has been engaged to provide 30% technical design completion for the Black Creek Renewal component of the project. Meanwhile, the City of Vaughan has been partnering with York Region to advance the culvert improvements on Highway 7. In October 2021, the City of Vaughan submitted its application to Infrastructure Canada's Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund to secure matching funds for this project. The TRCA has supported this potential grant opportunity.

### **DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE**

As the 30% technical design continues to advance, land acquisition is expected to commence in Spring 2022, with the design-build contractor award scheduled for 2023.

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

**Report prepared by: Rehana Rajabali, extension 5220**

**Emails: Rehana.Rajabali@trca.ca**

**For Information contact: Rehana Rajabali, extension 5220**

**Emails: Rehana.Rajabali@trca.ca**

**Date: February 18, 2022**