

Section I – Items for Authority Action

TO: Chair and Members of the Authority
Meeting #2/18, Wednesday, September 19, 2018

FROM: Chandra Sharma, Director, Watershed Strategies

RE: **REGIONAL WATERSHED ALLIANCE WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIP**

KEY ISSUE

Confirmation and approval of Regional Watershed Alliance (RWA) Working Group Membership.

RECOMMENDATION

WHEREAS the Regional Watershed Alliance (RWA) considered the formation of the Greenspace and Ecosystem Services, Flooding and Extreme Weather Outreach, and Integrated Community/Watershed Planning and Civic Engagement and Watershed Forum Working Groups at its previous meetings;

AND WHEREAS the RWA also approved the framework for the development and implementation of the Youth Council Working Group;

THEREFORE IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the membership list for the RWA working groups, as appended, be confirmed and approved;

AND FURTHER THAT these Working Groups meet on an as needed basis, no more than monthly, to develop and implement work plans with support from TRCA staff.

BACKGROUND

The RWA Terms of Reference identifies that members have the opportunity to help TRCA advance its strategic goals and priorities, as well as to voice their interests and undertake activities that align with those broader goals. Section 6.0 of the Terms of Reference of the Regional Watershed Alliance states:

The watershed/waterfront working groups will be subcommittees of the RWA and formed as deemed appropriate by the Regional Watershed Alliance. These committees may solicit local community representatives or experts to participate as needed. Mandate of these subcommittees can be watershed-wide or specifically focused around projects such as watershed plans. The Watershed/Waterfront Working Groups will report to the Regional Watershed Alliance. The supporting TRCA staff will coordinate regular reports to the Regional Watershed Alliance on the activities of these groups. Items pertaining to the working groups will be a standing item on the agenda of Regional Watershed Alliance meetings.

At RWA Meeting #1/17, held on November 15, 2017, Resolution #R2/17 was approved, in part, as follows:

*... the following members of the Alliance work with staff to lead the establishment of Youth Council including development of terms of reference:
Lisette Mallet; Amory Ngan; Rui Felix; Mick Malowany; and Karen Lockridge.*

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At RWA Meeting #2/17, held on February 21, 2018, Resolution #R12/17 was approved, in part, as follows:

the RWA, establish a Watershed Forum Working Group to collaborate with TRCA Staff on the study, design, and development of a model for an annual watershed forum in the Toronto region beginning in 2018;

At RWA Meeting #2/18, held on May 23, 2018, the following recommendation was considered:

THAT the following three Working Groups, comprised of interested RWA members and other interested parties, be formed around the collective priorities of:

- a) Greenspace and Ecosystem Services;*
- b) Flooding and Extreme Weather Outreach; and*
- c) Integrated Community/Watershed Planning and Civic Engagement;*

RATIONALE

The five identified working groups were developed based on facilitated discussions about RWA collective priorities and opportunities for action that took place at RWA Meeting #1/17 and RWA Meeting #2/17. A summary of the collective priorities and opportunities for action resulting from these facilitated discussions can be found in Attachment 1 of Item 7.1 from RWA meeting #2/17.

RWA members were invited to volunteer to participate in at least one of the five working groups via the online platform. Participants will be responsible for developing and implementing work plans as well as providing the RWA with regular updates regarding accomplishments of the working groups.

The RWA Working Group members list, Attachment 1, is appended to this report for confirmation and approval. Participation on at least one working group is recommended but not mandatory as per the RWA Terms of Reference.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

- RWA members who are not currently participating in at least one working group are encouraged to volunteer for one working group of interest to them.
- Following approval of the membership list, the established working groups will be responsible for developing and implementing 2018-2019 work plans.
- TRCA staff will support working groups through attendance at meetings, booking facilities, and through program support as identified by the working group. The working group lead will be responsible for the development of meeting agendas, and work priorities through consultation with TRCA staff.

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Date: August 31, 2018

Attachments: 1

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