

Section III – Items for the Information of the Board

TO: Chair and Members of the Board of Directors
Friday, February 26, 2021 Meeting

FROM: Michael Tolensky, Chief Financial and Operating Officer

RE: **2020 TORONTO AND REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY (TRCA)
ANNUAL REPORT – CONSERVATION MATTERS**

KEY ISSUE

Presentation of the 2020 TRCA annual report *Conservation Matters* summarizing key accomplishments in accordance with TRCA's approved 2018 Strategic Plan Five-Year Update.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the 2020 Toronto and Region Conservation Authority annual report be received.

BACKGROUND

Building The Living City, the 2013-2022 Toronto and Region Conservation Authority Strategic Plan, was endorsed at Authority Meeting #3/13 held on April 26, 2013. The plan outlined how TRCA would help realize The Living City Vision in its watersheds by protecting healthy rivers and shorelines, preserving greenspace and biodiversity, and contributing to the building of sustainable communities. The Five-Year Strategic Plan Update was endorsed at the Board of Directors Meeting #8/18 held on October 26, 2018. The updated Strategic Plan reflects the changing environment, industry trends, staff and stakeholder input while incorporating a framework of performance metrics which help to evaluate and report on TRCA's progress towards achieving the Strategic Plan Priorities. The updated Strategic Plan identified that the Annual Report would be linked to the projected outcomes and priorities of the Strategic Plan as part of the methodology to evaluate our success in achieving them.

RATIONALE

TRCA's 2020 annual report *Conservation Matters* is organized according to each strategic priority within the Strategic Plan to improve the evaluation and reporting process towards achieving these desired outcomes. Connecting the yearly accomplishments directly to the Strategic Plan allows for a clearer understanding of how TRCA is contributing, on an annual basis, towards the 10-year desired outcomes and projected accomplishments. The Annual Report also includes an outline of the major challenges that TRCA will need to overcome to continue making progress.

Conservation Matters, the title and theme of this year's annual report, showcases the vital role that TRCA plays in protecting the region's infrastructure, community, and the environment against the increasing impacts of climate change. In the face of growing challenges, TRCA will be required to continue adapting business models to mitigate the financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, while also updating the permitting regulation, and planning and development processes in consultation with the Province and our partners as the revised *Conservation Authorities Act R.S.O. 1990, c. C.27* and regulations are enacted.

Item 12.1

To further increase the transparency of TRCA's annual achievements, TRCA's online version is interactive and user friendly, including a new video which has been created to highlight the critical role TRCA plays in restoration and flood mitigation within our jurisdiction ([available at the link](#)). Users can also download a PDF of the document, for a more traditional viewing.

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

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

Strategy 9 – Measure performance

Strategy 11 – Invest in our staff

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

Future annual reports will continue to be developed in a manner that focuses on reporting on the actual outcomes as compared to the Strategic Plan intended outcomes. This will enable TRCA to increase accountability and improve performance, allowing the Senior Leadership Team and Board of Directors to make informed evidence-based decisions.

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Attachments: 1

Attachment 1: 2020 Annual Report – *Conservation Matters*