

# NOTICE TO CLOCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Please find enclosed the **agenda** and supporting documents for the **CLOCA Board of Directors Meeting** on **Tuesday, December 16, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.** This meeting will be a **Hybrid meeting**. Members can join either virtual through TEAMS or attend in-person at the Authority's Administrative Office - 100 Whiting Avenue, Oshawa

The list below outlines upcoming meetings and events for your information.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Tuesday, December 16/25	5:00 p.m.	CLOCA Board of Directors Meeting	Hybrid Meeting

***\*Prior Tuesday meeting due to Monday being a statutory holiday***

## LATEST NEWS

Check Out our website! [www.cloca.com](http://www.cloca.com) Discover your local Conservation Area.  
***“Healthy Watersheds for Today and Tomorrow”***

# CENTRAL LAKE ONTARIO CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

## A G E N D A AUTHORITY MEETING

Tuesday, December 16, 2025 - 5:00 P.M.

**HYBRID MEETING LOCATION:** VIRTUAL THROUGH TEAMS (ACCESS DETAILS TO BE PROVIDED)  
OR 100 WHITING AVENUE, OSHAWA, AUTHORITY'S ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE, BOARDROOM

<b>Authority Members:</b>	Bob Chapman, Chair Rhonda Mulcahy, Vice Chair Marilyn Crawford Sami Elhajjeh Bruce Garrod Ron Hooper Rick Kerr Tito-Dante Marimpietri Ian McDougall John Neal David Pickles Elizabeth Roy Maleeha Shahid Corinna Traill Steve Yamada	<b>Authority Staff:</b>	C. Darling, Chief Administrative Officer B. Boardman, Senior Executive/Accounting Administrator R. Catulli, Director, Corporate Services J. Davidson, Director, Watershed Planning & Natural Heritage L. Hastings, Communications Specialist D. Hipple, Director, Engineering D. Hope, Director, Land Operations & Education C. Jones, Director, Planning & Regulation L. Vaja, Executive Assistant/Health & Safety Administrator/ Recording Secretary R. Wilmot, Information Management & Technology Manager
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### ***Others:***

#### **AGENDA ITEM:**

#### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

##### **1. CHAIR'S WELCOME**

We acknowledge that our watershed is located on the Lands of the Great Mississauga Nations who are signatories to the Williams Treaties. These communities include the Mississaugas of Scugog Island, First Nations of Alderville, Beausoleil, Curve Lake, Hiawatha, Chippewas of Georgina Island and Rama. We believe it is important that we learn, and work to reconcile the impact we, and those before us, have had on the original inhabitants. On behalf of CLOCA, we want to thank them for sharing this land and all its resources. At CLOCA, our goal is to respectfully share in the responsibility of the stewardship and protection of these ancestral lands and waters and continue towards truth and reconciliation as we move forward as friends and allies with all First Nations, Inuit, and Metis people.

##### **2. DECLARATIONS of interest by members on any matters herein contained.**

##### **3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES of November 18, 2025**

pg. 1

##### **4. PRESENTATIONS – *None***

##### **5. CORRESPONDENCE – *None***

Cont'd

**6. DIRECTOR, PLANNING & REGULATION**

(1) Staff Report #5961-25 pg. 7  
Re: Permits Issued under Part VI of the Conservation Authorities Act for development activities, interference with watercourses and wetlands – November 1 to 30, 2025

**7. DIRECTOR, WATERSHED PLANNING & NATURAL HERITAGE – *None***

**8. DIRECTOR, ENGINEERING – *None***

**9. DIRECTOR, LAND OPERATIONS & EDUCATION – *None***

**10. DIRECTOR, CORPORATE SERVICES**

(1) Staff Report #5963-25 pg. 9  
Re: 2026 Proposed Fees for Services & Programs Review

**11. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

(1) Staff Report #5962-25 pg. 20  
Re: Bill 68 Amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act and an ERO notice proposing the consolidation Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into regional conservation authorities

**12. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS – *None***

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

## **A G E N D A**

### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

**MEETING OF:** Authority

**DATE:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025

**TIME:** 5:00 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Hybrid – Virtual (TEAMS) or  
In-person - 100 Whiting Ave, Oshawa

# CENTRAL LAKE ONTARIO CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

## MINUTES NO. 7

### AUTHORITY MEETING

Tuesday, November 18, 2025 - 5:00 P.M.

**HYBRID MEETING LOCATION:** VIRTUAL THROUGH TEAMS (ACCESS DETAILS TO BE PROVIDED)  
OR 100 WHITING AVENUE, OSHAWA, AUTHORITY'S ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE, BOARDROOM

<b>Authority Members:</b>	Bob Chapman, Chair Rhonda Mulcahy, Vice Chair Marilyn Crawford Sami Elhajjeh Bruce Garrod Ron Hooper Tito-Dante Marimpietri Ian McDougall John Neal David Pickles Maleeha Shahid Corinna Traill Steve Yamada	<b>Authority Staff:</b>	C. Darling, Chief Administrative Officer B. Boardman, Senior Executive/Accounting Administrator R. Catulli, Director, Corporate Services N. Chan, Communications, SNAP J. Davidson, Director, Watershed Planning & Natural Heritage C. Gregory, Coordinator, Conservation Education L. Hastings, Communications Specialist D. Hipple, Director, Engineering D. Hope, Director, Land Operations & Education C. Jones, Director, Planning & Regulation P. Lowe, Coordinator, SNAP D. Moore, Senior Ecologist, Environmental Monitoring & Ecosystem Science L. Vaja, Executive Assistant/Health & Safety Administrator/Recording Secretary R. Wilmot, Information Management & Technology Manager
<b>Absent:</b>	Rick Kerr Elizabeth Roy	<b>Others:</b>	S. Provenzano, Guest

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Chair Chapman recited the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

M. Crawford Joined the meeting virtually at 5:00 p.m.

S. Yamada Joined the meeting virtually at 5:00 p.m.

### DECLARATIONS of interest by members on any matters herein contained

J. Neal noted a conflict on Staff Report #5954-25 - Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program, Town of Whitby Pilot Project: 2025 Update due to a family member having a contract with Durham Catholic District School Board. Councillor Neal did not take part in discussion or vote on the matter.

Chair Chapman noted a conflict on staff report #5950-25 - 2026 Proposed Fees for Services & Programs, Regulation Services, Planning Services, and Stewardship & Restoration Services as it recommends providing a discount to veterans and he is a veteran. Chair Chapman did not take part in discussion or vote on the matter.

### ADOPTION OF MINUTES (Agenda pg. 1)

Res. #68      Moved by J. Neal  
                  Seconded by R. Hooper

***THAT the Authority minutes of September 16, 2025, be adopted as circulated.***  
***CARRIED***

**PRESENTATIONS – None**

Cont'd

**CORRESPONDENCE – None**

**DIRECTOR, PLANNING & REGULATION**

(1) Staff Report #5951-25 (Agenda pg. 4)  
Re: Permits Issued for Development, Interference with Wetlands, and Alteration to Shorelines and Watercourses – September 1 to October 31, 2025

Res. #69 Moved by R. Mulcahy  
Seconded by M. Shahid  
***THAT Staff Report #5951-25 be received for information.***  
**CARRIED**

(2) Staff Report #5957-25 (Agenda pg. 6)  
Re: Annual Update to Regulated Areas Mapping (s. 4 mapping review)

Res. #70 Moved by R. Mulcahy  
Seconded by M. Shahid  
***THAT the Updated Regulated Areas Mapping posted to the website cloca.com/draft-regulation-area-mapping be endorsed and accepted for CLOCA's administration of Part VI of the Conservation Authorities Act; and,***  
***THAT CLOCA's watershed municipalities be provided with the updated regulation mapping.***  
**CARRIED**

**DIRECTOR, WATERSHED PLANNING & NATURAL HERITAGE**

(1) Staff Report #5954-25 (Agenda pg. 7)  
Re: Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program, Town of Whitby Pilot Project: 2025 Update

Res. #71 Moved by M. Crawford  
Seconded by B. Garrod  
***THAT Staff Report #5954-25 be received for information.***  
**CARRIED**

(2) Staff Report #5955-25 (Agenda pg. 11)  
Re: Lynde Shores Conservation Area Restoration and Resilience Project – Protective Wetland Features Project, Year 2 and 3

Res. #72 Moved by M. Crawford  
Seconded by B. Garrod  
***THAT SJL Engineering Ltd. be contracted to complete the remaining Year 2 and 3 work at Lynde Shores Conservation Area for the Protective Wetland Features Project at a cost not to exceed \$284,268 (excluding HST) for Year 2 and \$309,472 (excluding HST) for Year 3; and,***  
***THAT staff be directed to execute a new consulting contract with SJL Engineering accordingly.***  
**CARRIED**

**DIRECTOR, ENGINEERING – None**

**DIRECTOR, LAND OPERATIONS & EDUCATION**

(1) Staff Report #5952-25 (Agenda pg. 13)  
Re: Summer/Fall 2025 - Conservation Areas Update

Res. #73 Moved by R. Hooper  
Seconded by R. Mulcahy  
***THAT Staff Report #5952-25 be received for information.***  
**CARRIED**

**DIRECTOR, LAND OPERATIONS & EDUCATION - Continued**

(2) Staff Report #5956-25 (Agenda pg. 17)  
Re: Conservation Education Update – June 2025 to December 2025

Res. #74 Moved by R. Hooper  
Seconded by R. Mulcahy  
***THAT Staff Report #5956-25 be received for information.***  
**CARRIED**

**DIRECTOR, CORPORATE SERVICES**

(1) Staff Report #5950-25 (Agenda pg. 24)  
Re: 2026 Proposed Fees for Services & Programs, Regulation Services, Planning Services, and Stewardship & Restoration Services

***THAT the Proposed Fees for Services & Programs, as outlined in Attachments 1 and 3 be adopted, effective January 1, 2026; and***  
***THAT the Regulation & Planning Fees, as outlined in Attachment 2 be adopted, effective January 1, 2026, subject to the province not issuing a fee freeze directive.***  
***THAT a 20% discount on annual passes be established for:***

- Individuals with a medical prescription under the PaRx Program***
- Veterans and Active Military Personnel***

Vice Chair Mulcahy assumed the chair due to Chair Chapman's declaration of interest on this staff report.  
T.D Marimpietri left the meeting at 5:12p.m.

**AMENDMENT** Moved by C. Traill

Seconded by S. Yamada

***THAT the 2026 Proposed Fees for Services & Programs, Regulation Services, Planning Services, and Stewardship & Restoration Services, as outlined in attachments 1, 2, and 3, remain consistent with the 2025 fees and no increases be applied.***

M. Shahid, B. Garrod, M Crawford inquired about the potential impacts and how it will affect the levy from the Region.  
C. Darling noted that a fee freeze will place a greater reliance on the Regional Levy to offset the loss of revenue from fees and will have implication on the 2026 Draft Budget.  
C. Jones noted that the recommended fees were sent, consulted, and discussed with the Durham Home Builders and Build (Land Development Organization). They do not object to this increase.  
I. McDougall joined the meeting virtually at 5:16 p.m.

**AMENDMENT** Moved by C. Traill

Seconded by S. Yamada

***THAT the 2026 Proposed Fees for Services & Programs, as outlined in attachment 1, remain consistent with the 2025 fees and no increases be applied.***

***THAT the Regulation & Planning Fees, as outlined in Attachment 2 be adopted, effective January 1, 2026, subject to the province not issuing a fee freeze directive.***  
***THAT the Proposed Fee Schedule for Stewardship & Restoration Service, as outlined in attachment 3, be adopted.***

S. Yamada inquired what the amount of loss revenue would be from not increasing the fees as recommended in attachment 1. C. Darling noted that the amount of loss revenue under such a circumstance is not known at this time.

**REFERRAL** Moved by S. Elhajjeh  
 Seconded by R. Hooper  
**THAT the 2026 Proposed Fees for Services & Programs, as outlined in attachment 1, be referred back to staff for more information and implications and brought back to the December 16, 2025, Board Meeting.**

**DIVIDE** Moved by I. McDougall  
 Res. #75 Seconded by S. Elhajjeh  
**THAT the 2026 Proposed Fees for Services & Programs, as outlined in Attachment 1, be divided from the 2026 Proposed Regulation & Planning Fees, as outlined in Attachment 2, and, the 2026 Proposed Fee Schedule for Stewardship & Restoration Service, as outlined in attachment 3**  
**Res. #75 CARRIED AS DIVIDED**

**REFERRAL**  
 Res. #76 Moved by S. Elhajjeh  
 Seconded by R. Hooper  
**THAT the 2026 Proposed Fees for Services & Programs, as outlined in attachment 1, be referred back to staff for more information and implications and brought back to the December 16, 2025, Board Meeting.**

S. Elhajjeh requested a recorded vote.

MEMBER	YEA	NAY	CONFLICT	ABSENT
B. Chapman			X	
M. Crawford	X			
S. Elhajjeh	X			
B. Garrod	X			
R. Hooper	X			
R. Kerr				X
T-D. Marimpietri				X
I. McDougall	X			
R. Mulcahy	X			
J. Neal	X			
D. Pickles		X		
E. Roy				X
M. Shahid	X			
C. Traill		X		
S. Yamada	X			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>

**CARRIED**

Res. #77 Moved by S. Elhajjeh  
 Seconded by R. Hooper  
**THAT the Regulation & Planning Fees, as outlined in Attachment 2 be adopted, effective January 1, 2026, subject to the province not issuing a fee freeze directive.**  
**THAT the Proposed Fee Schedule for Stewardship & Restoration Service, as outlined in attachment 3, be adopted.**  
**CARRIED**

Vice Chair Mulcahy vacated the chair, and Chair Chapman resumed the Chair.

Cont'd

**DIRECTOR, CORPORATE SERVICES - Continued**

(2) Staff Report #5960-25 (Agenda pg. 31)  
Re: 2026 Draft Budget and Levy Submission

Res. #78 Moved by R. Hooper  
Seconded by D. Pickles

***THAT the 2026 Draft Operating Levy Submission, the Special Funding Request for the Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan (SNAP) totalling \$120,000, the Lynde Shores Restoration and Resilience Project totalling \$100,000, the FHIMP Floodplain Modelling and Mapping, Bowmanville Creek and Soper Creek totalling \$158,200, and the CA Collaborative Resilient Agriculture Landscape Program totalling \$78,500 be approved for circulation to the Region of Durham.***

**CARRIED**

D Pickles left the meeting at 5:27p.m.

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

(1) Staff Report #5949-25 (Agenda pg. 41)  
Re: 2026 Meeting Schedule - Board of Directors

Res. #79 Moved by I. McDougall  
Seconded by M. Shahid

***THAT the 2026 Meeting Schedule for Board of Directors be adopted.***

**CARRIED**

B. Garrod inquired about the need for monthly meetings. Suggested quarterly would work better

C. Darling noted that we do apply judgement on the need for Board Meetings based on number of staff reports and time sensitive staff reports and have cancelled meetings accordingly.

Chair Chapman noted that between the CAO and himself, they will discuss the need for meetings based on staff reports and if nothing is critical or time sensitive, they will cancel the meeting.

(2) Staff Report #5953-25 (Agenda pg. 42)  
Re: PaRx – A Prescription for Nature Program

Res. #80 Moved by I. McDougall  
Seconded by M. Shahid

***THAT Staff Report #5953-25 be received for information***

**CARRIED**

(3) Staff Report #5958-25 (Agenda pg. 53)  
Re: Bill 68 Amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act and an ERO notice proposing the consolidation Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into regional conservation authorities

Res. #81 Moved by I. McDougall  
Seconded by M. Shahid

***THAT Staff Report #5958-25 be received for information.***

**CARRIED**

C. Darling provided an overview of the proposed changes from the province. The ERO posting and the submission deadline is December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025. A formal comment and recommendation will be brought to the December Board meeting.

Cont'd

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER - Continued**

(4) Staff Report #5959-25 (Agenda pg. 58)  
Re: Approval of CLOCA Strategic Plan 2026-2035

Res. #82 Moved by I. McDougall  
Seconded by M. Shahid  
***THAT the Board of Directors approves the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority Strategic Plan 2026-2035 as presented in Attachment 1.***  
**CARRIED**

**CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS – None**

**NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Chair Chapman congratulated J. Neal who has been a Board Member for 25 consecutive years.

Chair Chapman requested that Members submit all future motions and amendments in writing. So that Members are clear on the intent and understand what they are voting on.

S. Elhajjeh asked for confirmation that staff are agreeable to Board Members reaching out directly with questions or concerns in advance of the Board Meeting.

Chair Chapman noted that staff are agreeable and more than pleased to answer inquiries, provide clarification, and to assist with amendments.

R. Hooper noted his congratulations to J. Neal in his long-standing tenure.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Res. #83 Moved by J. Neal  
Seconded by B. Garrod

***THAT the meeting adjourns.***  
**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

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BOB CHAPMAN, CHAIR

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CHRIS DARLING, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

**REPORT**  
**CENTRAL LAKE ONTARIO CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

**DATE:** December 16, 2025  
**FILE:** RPRG3974 **APPROVED BY C.A.O.** CD  
**S.R.:** 5961-25  
**TO:** Chair and Members, CLOCA Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Chris Jones, Director, Planning and Regulation  
**SUBJECT:** Permits Issued under Part VI of the Conservation Authorities Act for development activities, interference with watercourses and wetlands – November 1 to 30, 2025

Attached are Development, Interference with Watercourse and/or Wetland applications made pursuant to Part VI of the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 41/24, as approved by staff and presented for the members' information.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

***THAT Staff Report #5961-25 be received for information.***

**Attach.**

**PERMITS APPROVED BY STAFF, FROM NOVEMBER 1 TO 30 2025**

Row	Municipality	Owner Applicant	Street Lot Con	Permit No	Approved Date	Description
1	CLARINGTON	PROPERTY OWNER / TAUNTON POOLS	85 KING LANE / LOT 18 / CON 05	C25-200-BG	4 NOV 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH LANDSCAPING AND THE CREATION OF AN IN-GROUND POOL.
2	CLARINGTON	PROPERTY OWNER / DAYTON GROUP GC	5 BIRCH TREE LANE / LOT 03 / CON BF	C25-204-HS	19 NOV 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH LANDSCAPING.
3	CLARINGTON	PROPERTY OWNER	367 STEPHENS MILL ROAD / LOT 06 / CON 04	C25-205-G	21 NOV 2025	PERMIT TO RESOLVE VIOLATION - AUTHORIZATION TO COMPLETE PARTIALLY CONSTRUCTED GRADING WORKS AND RETAINING WALL
4	CLARINGTON	REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF DURHAM / BT ENGINEERING INC.	REGIONAL ROAD 3 / LOT 33-35 / CON 07 & 08	C25-208-G	27 NOV 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH ROAD RECONSTRUCTION INCLUDING CULVERT REPLACEMENT, DITCH GRADING AND INSTALLATION OF WILDLIFE BARRIER FENCING, DURHAM REGIONAL ROAD 3
5	CLARINGTON DARLINGTON	THE CORPORATION OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF DURHAM / R.V. ANDERSON ASSOCIATES LIMITED	3375/3403 LIBERTY STREET NORTH / LOT 10 / CON 03	C25-207-BGW	27 NOV 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH EXPANDING DRINKING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE STORAGE AND PUMPING CAPACITY
6	OSHAWA	PROPERTY OWNER	95 SNOW RIDGE COURT / LOT 12 / CON 09	O24-202-BG	4 NOV 2025	REVISION - DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE DEMOLITION OF AN EXISTING DWELLING AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW DWELLING
7	OSHAWA	ROMAN CATHOLIC EPISCOPAL CORPORATION / PROPERTY OWNER	690 KING STREET EAST / LOT 05 / CON 02	O25-202-BG	6 NOV 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF A GARAGE
8	WHITBY	TOWN OF WHITBY / MOMENTUM EARTH SCIENCES LTD.	PRINGLE CREEK BETWEEN BROCK STREET NORTH AND GARDEN STREET / LOT / CON	W25-201-F	6 NOV 2025	DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH VARIOUS CULVERT HEADWALL AND WINGWALL STRUCTURAL REPAIR WORK IN THE TOWN OF WHITBY
9	WHITBY	MATTAMY HOMES	7480 GARRARD ROAD / LOT 19 / CON 07	W25-203-FGHW	17 NOV 2025	INSTALLATION OF EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES & ACCESS ROAD CONSTRUCTION TO SUPPORT TOPSOIL STRIPPING, TREE REMOVAL AND PRE-GRADING.
10	WHITBY	ENBRIDGE GAS INC.	GARDEN STREET (WHITBY GARDENS) / LOT 25 / CON 02	W25-206-BGH	27 NOV 2025	EXTENSION - DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH GAS SERVICE.

**REPORT**  
**CENTRAL LAKE ONTARIO CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

**DATE:** December 16, 2025  
**FILE:** AFEB21  
**S.R.:** 5963-25  
**TO:** Chair and Members, CLOCA Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Rose Catulli, Director of Corporate Services  
**SUBJECT:** **2026 Proposed Fees for Services & Programs Review**

**APPROVED BY C.A.O.** 

On November 18, 2025, the Board was presented with the proposed service and program fee increases for 2026 (**Attachment 1**). It was moved that the 2026 Proposed Fees for Services & Programs as outlined in **Attachment 1** be referred back to staff for more information and implications and brought back to the December 16, 2025, Board Meeting.

The following programs/fees will be discussed:

1. Conservation Areas/Facility Fees
2. Commemorative Brick
3. Maple Syrup Product Pricing
4. Education Program Fees

#### **1. Conservation Areas/Facility Fees (Attachment 2)**

##### **Russ Powell Nature Centre (RPNC)**

Minor renovations at the Russ Powell Nature Centre are nearing completion to better serve school programs, day camps, and day-use bookings. Work includes kitchen upgrades, storage improvements, new flooring, wall and ceiling enhancements, and washroom upgrades, with completion expected in early 2026.

The proposed fee increase reflects the improved facility amenities and supports ongoing maintenance of the upgraded space.

A comparison of rental rates in the surrounding area is summarized below.

	<b>Russ Powell</b> <b>Nature Centre</b>	<b>Ganaraska</b> <b>Forest Centre</b>	<b>Haydon Community</b> <b>Hall</b> <b>(Clarington)</b>	<b>Heydenshore</b> <b>Pavilion</b> <b>(Whitby)</b>
<b>2025</b>	\$ 250	\$ 515	\$ 275	\$ 620
<b>2026</b>	\$ 275			

The \$25 increase is in line with the Haydon Community Hall which is nearby the RPNC. Other comparable rental rates are well above the 2026 proposed rental fee of \$275.

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## 2. Commemorative Brick

Outside Heritage Hall we have created a "Heritage Walk" with bricks inscribed with the names of people we want to remember, or our community wants to remember. Currently, the minimum contribution for each brick is \$100 which includes four lines with a maximum of 10 characters per line (including spaces and punctuation). Heritage bricks measure 9 square inches (22.5cm) and are engraved using a technology that will not fade, chip, oxidize or peel.

Created in 2015 – current minimum fee \$100

The cost of the Heritage Walk Brick is outlined below:

Cost of Brick last time purchased	\$ 5
Cost of Engraving (Oshawa Monument Fee)	\$ 50
Cost of Installation (Wages & Mileage)	\$ 100
Total Cost to the Authority	<b>\$ 155</b>
<b>Proposed 2026 Fee</b>	<b>\$ 125</b>
<b>Net Loss</b>	<b>\$ 30</b>

The number of bricks purchased in the last three years is as follows:

2023 – 1

2024 – 0

2025 – 4

The recommended 2026 fee of \$125 does not provide full cost recovery. An increase of \$25.00 per brick will reduce the loss to the Authority. Incremental increases will be proposed in 2027 and onward to provide full cost recovery.

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### 3. Maple Syrup Product Pricing (Attachment 3)

A summary of CLOCA's historical maple syrup pricing is listed below:

CLOCA Historical Maple Syrup Product Pricing						
	250 ml	1/2 Litre	1 Litre	2 Litres	4 Litres	
2013	\$ 8.00	\$ 13.00	\$ 22.00	NA	\$ 80.00	
2014	\$ 8.00	\$ 13.00	\$ 22.00	NA	\$ 80.00	
2015	\$ 10.00	\$ 14.00	\$ 24.00	NA	\$ 80.00	
2016	\$ 10.00	\$ 14.00	\$ 24.00	NA	\$ 80.00	
2017	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 24.00	NA	\$ 80.00	
2018	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 80.00	
2019	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 80.00	
2020	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 80.00	
2021	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 80.00	
2022	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 80.00	
2023	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 80.00	
2025	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 80.00	
CLOCA Proposed pricing:						
2026	\$ 12.50	\$ 16.50	\$ 27.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 85.00	
Comparables: CAs						
2025	NA	\$ 16.94	\$ 30.83	N/A	\$ 91.67	
Comparables - Other Producers:						
2025	NA	\$ 17.34	\$ 29.55	\$ 49.80	\$ 89.83	

The current pricing has not increased since 2018.

CLOCA's proposed 2026 pricing increase is below the 2025 market pricing of the comparable Conservation Authorities listed in Attachment 2. CLOCA's proposed 2026 pricing compared to other producers is below the current market price in all sizes other than the 20-cent discrepancy in the 2L size as outlined in Attachment 2.

The chart below outlines the number of units sold of each size of CLOCA maple syrup for years 2024 and YTD 2025:

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CLOCA Maple Syrup Units Sold						
	250 ml	1/2 Litre	1 Litre	2 Litres	4 Litres	
2024	0	651	647	42	29	
2025	0	731	673	68	32	
2025 Price	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 80.00	
Proposed 2026 Price	<b>\$ 12.50</b>	<b>\$ 16.50</b>	<b>\$ 27.00</b>	<b>\$ 50.00</b>	<b>\$ 85.00</b>	
Proposed Price Increase	\$ 2.50	\$ 1.50	\$ 2.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	
<b>projected increase in revenue</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,097</b>	<b>\$ 1,346</b>	<b>\$ 340</b>	<b>\$ 160</b>	
						<b>\$ 2,943</b>

The proposed 2026 increase in maple syrup pricing is expected to generate approximately \$2,950 of product revenue, thus reducing the operating loss of the Purple Woods Maple Syrup Festival (PWMSF). The PWMSF historically has operated at a loss as demonstrated in the chart below.

Purple Woods Maple Syrup Festival	Budget	YTD	
	2026	2025	2024
<b>Revenue</b>			
Other Revenue			2,390
Maple Syrup Sales	35,500	35,305	33,100
Maple Syrup Sales - Office	4,000	6,375	5,215
Merchandise Sales	20,000	22,410	14,820
Gate Fees	55,000	54,335	57,020
Pancake Sales	38,000	38,925 *	27,810
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>152,500</b>	<b>157,350</b>	<b>140,355</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
Wages & Benefits	155,000	152,230	165,950
Bank Service Charges	4,500	2,395	4,545
Advertising	5,500	5,490	4,200
Insurance	1,300	1,240	1,300
Materials & Supplies	16,500	14,000	9,630
Purchases for Resale	14,000	9,810	13,500
Bulk Syrup for Resale	10,000	11,900	3,600
Other Expenses	11,825	15,065	7,925
	<b>218,625</b>	<b>212,130</b>	<b>210,650</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) from Operations</b>	<b>(66,125)</b>	<b>(54,780)</b>	<b>(70,295)</b>

Cont'd

Losses vary year to year, which is heavily dependent on attendance, weather conditions, and current economic conditions.

Maple syrup container prices have increased between 40-48% since 2018. As an example, the 1 litre plastic bottle in 2018 cost \$1.20 each; today the 1 litre bottles cost CLOCA \$1.78 each, an increase of 58 cents per bottle.

Additional pressures to production and the festival are the annual cost-of-living allowance to full-time staff, significant increases to the health care benefits for full-time staff, the increases to minimum wages affecting the seasonal staff hired to work at the festival, and the increase in grocery costs for the pancake program.

### Education Program Fees

A 5% increase in education fees is proposed for 2026 due to the rising cost of materials and supplies for education programming and events. A comparison of fees charged by other Conservation Authorities in areas with similar demographics to our own and similar sizes shows that our fees are often lower in comparison, our maple syrup tour fee in particular. This comparison is another reason for the modest increase and why our maple syrup tour fee went up slightly more than the 5% increase. Fees for maple syrup pancake meals added onto maple syrup tours for visiting classes went up slightly more than the other fees to better reflect the expense.

Conservation Authority Comparables	School Program Fee (1/2 day)	School Program Fee (full day)	Maple Syrup Tours
Conservation Halton	\$ 16.00	\$ 17.17	\$ 12.00
Ganaraska Region			
Grand River	10.00	20.00	
Kawartha Region	10.00	13.33	
Nottawasaga	12.00	17.30	12.00
TRCA	16.67	21.67	
Average	<b>12.93</b>	<b>17.89</b>	<b>12.00</b>
<b>CLOCA</b>			
Current Rates	\$ 8.75	\$ 15.00	\$ 4.00
Proposed 2026 Rates	<b>9.25</b>	<b>15.75</b>	<b>4.50</b>
<b>Attendance</b>			
# of students in 2024	1,304	1,287	2,083
# of students in 2025 YTD	1,498	1,776	1,899 *
<b>* 340 participants cancelled due to weather</b>			
<b>Projected Annual Increase in Fees</b>	2024 \$ 652	\$ 965	\$ 1,042
	2025 \$ 749	\$ 1,332	\$ 950
	avg \$ 701	\$ 1,149	\$ 996 \$ 2,845

Cont'd

The increase in fees is expected to generate an additional \$2,845 in revenue for the Authority.

Historically, the Education Program has depended on the Region of Durham's General Levy to fund the deficit from operations. The last three years of activity are summarized in the chart below:

<b>Education Program</b>		<b>YTD</b>		
		<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Revenue</b>				
Education Fees	35,725	31,900	27,300	
Maple Syrup Tours	7,200	8,690	7,335	
Total Revenue	<u>42,925</u>	<u>40,590</u>	<u>34,635</u>	
<b>Operating Expenses</b>				
Wages & Benefits	212,410	221,020	238,200	
Other Expenses	9,055	8,715	12,085	
	<u>221,465</u>	<u>229,735</u>	<u>250,285</u>	
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) from Operations</b>	<b>(178,540)</b>	<b>(189,145)</b>	<b>(215,650)</b>	

## Conclusion

In summary, the proposed fee increases for services & programs outlined in Attachment 1, will assist in cost recovery and minimize reliance on the General Levy from the Region of Durham, will address rising costs of materials and supplies and are for the most part below external comparables.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

***THAT the Proposed Fees for Services & Programs, as outlined in Attachment 1 be adopted, effective January 1, 2026.***

Attach.

RC/lv  
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# 2026 Proposed Fees - Services & Programs - Fees effective January 1, 2026

Attachment 1

PROGRAM/SERVICES	2025 APPROVED	2026 PROPOSED CHANGES	Notes (* Fee includes HST) (**Fee +HST)
<b>CONSERVATION AREA/FACILITY FEES</b>			
Vehicle/Parking Fee (LYSCA, HDCA, BWCA, LSCA, SGCA, ECA, PWCA)	\$7.00	Per day*	
Vehicle Seasons Pass – All Areas – 1 year (from date issued)	\$85.00	Per year*	20% Discount for PaRX (proof required), Veterans/Military (proof required); Indigenous (free)
Public Lock Key Deposit	\$20.00	Per group*	
Russ Powell Nature Centre	\$250.00	Per day/use*	\$275.00 Per day/use* includes kitchen use and hydro - maximum 70 ppl
Russ Powell Nature Centre - Summer Camp	\$250.00	Per day/use*	\$275.00 Per day/use* includes kitchen use, hydro, & parking - includes 50 campers
Russ Powell Nature Centre - Summer Camp	\$5.00	Per day/camper*	this rate is charged over 50 campers (51-60 campers)
Russ Powell Nature Centre - Cleaning Fee	\$75.00	Per clean*	\$100.00 Per clean*
Enniskillen Nature Nook Fee - Rental	\$25.00	per day*	\$30.00 per day* Free to school groups that book full day
Picnic Area – (sheltered – HDCA & ECA) - Summer Camp	\$5.00	Per day/camper*	includes hydro, parking, includes min. 20 50 campers to be consistent RPNC
Picnic Area – non-sheltered (HDCA)	\$100.00	Per day*	parking additional
Picnic Area – sheltered (HDCA, ECA)	\$150.00	Per day*	parking additional, hydro additional (if required \$25)
Special Event Minor – Less than 50 people (ie. Wedding, Memorial, Races)	\$300.00	Per day*	area preparation, parking included
Special Event Major - 50 to 100 people (ie. Wedding, Memorial, Races)	\$600.00	Per day*	area preparation, parking included
All Areas Fee (over 250 people) – DAY USE ONLY	\$300.00	Per event*	Parking additional (hydro included)
Garbage Pick-Up Fee	\$25.00	Per bag*	if garbage is left behind
Professional Photography Fee (wedding, graduation, etc.)	\$50.00	Per hour*	For professionals selling or offering an item or service as a business or enterprise.
Filming Fees (damage deposit may be required – negotiable)	\$1600.00	Per film day (+HST)	Additional fees may be applied (i.e., parking lots/cleaning etc.)
- Prep and Wrap Days	\$500.00	Per day (+HST)	Additional fees may be applied (i.e., parking lots/cleaning etc.)
- Staff requested to be on site	\$100.00	Per hour/staff*	
<b>Heritage Hall Rental Fees:</b> Monday to Friday	\$800.00	Per day*	Approved Management Plan usage only
Saturday to Sunday	\$1100.00	Per day*	Approved Management Plan usage only
- Heritage Hall Kitchen only	\$150.00	Per day*	
- Heritage Hall - Summer Camp	\$600.00	Per day*	Includes max 50 campers
- Heritage Hall - Summer Camp	\$5.00	Per day/camper*	this rate is charged over 50 campers (51-60 campers)
- Heritage Hall – Summer Camp Clearing Fee	\$150.00	Per clean*	
Building Access Washrooms – Monday to Friday	\$250.00	Per day*	
Building Access Washrooms – Saturday or Sunday	\$350.00	Per day*	
- Damage Deposit	\$500.00	Per day	
- Additional on-site staff visits	\$200.00	Per visit*	Over the initial viewing, opening/closing staff visits, which are included.
Memorial Bench	\$1500.00	Per bench*	Placement of memorial benches within CLOCA CA's
Commemorative Brick	\$100.00	Per brick*	\$125.00 Per brick* Placement of personalized brick at PWCA
Storoshchuk Pit Filling Fee	\$3.75	Per cubic meter***	
<b>MAPLE SYRUP/FESTIVAL</b>			
Entrance Fee Online (Purple Woods)	\$8.00	Per person*	Children 2 & under are free
Entrance Fee On-site (Purple Woods)	\$11.00	Per person*	Children 2 & under are free
<b>MAPLE SYRUP</b>			
4 litres	\$80.00	each	\$85.00 each
2 litres	\$45.00	each	\$50.00 each
1 litre	\$25.00	each	\$27.00 each
½ litre	\$15.00	each	\$16.50 each
½ litre Glass	\$20.00	each	\$22.00 each
¼ litre	\$10.00	each	\$12.50 each

## 2026 Proposed Fees - Services &amp; Programs - Fees effective January 1, 2026

PROGRAM/SERVICES	2025 APPROVED	2026 PROPOSED CHANGES	Notes (*Fees include HST)
<b>EDUCATION PROGRAM FEES - includes entrance fee</b>			**Fee + HST (for high school/adult education programs)
Outdoor Classroom Environmental Education School Tour – full day program (HDCA/ECA/LYSCA/PWCA)	\$15.00	Per student**	\$15.75 Per student** min. \$236.25 (max. 30 students per class)
Outdoor Classroom Environmental Education School Tour – ½ day program (HDCA/ECA/LYSCA/PWCA)	\$8.75	Per student**	\$9.25 Per student** min. \$138.75 (max. 30 students per class)
Outdoor Classroom Environmental Education School Tour	\$3.00	Per adult**	\$3.25 Per adult** Adult Volunteer more than recommended volunteer/student radio
Nature Nook (with ½ day booking)	\$25.00	Per booking	\$26.25 Per booking Use of the Nature Nook with ½ day program (Free for use at lunch with a full day program)
School Booking with ½ day program (additional use of picnic shelter)	\$25.00	Per booking**	\$26.25 Per booking** Use of the picnic shelter with ½ day program
Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) Program	\$35.00	per student	\$36.75 per student 3-hour program (Minimum \$588)
In-School "In Your Backyard Program"/Watershed Wishes/Summer Onsite Program^	\$150.00	Per class**	\$157.50 Per class** 1-hour program (Max 30 students per program delivery) Min. 2 morning or 2 afternoon classes/programs^
Outdoor Classroom Environmental Education Tour Cancellation Fee	\$75.00	Per booking**	\$78.75 Per booking** No charge if minimum 2 weeks notice provided or if another date is selected
Maple Syrup Tour without Pancake meal	\$4.00	Per student**	\$4.50 Per student** 1-hour tour only
Pancake meal addition to Maple Syrup Tour	\$5.00	Per student**	\$5.50 Per student** Pancake meal (child size)
Maple Syrup Tour	\$3.00	Per adult**	\$3.25 Per adult** Adult Volunteer exceeding the recommended volunteer/student radio
Other Group Tours	\$8.75	Per student**	\$9.25 Per student** 1.5-hour tour (Minimum fee \$138.75)
Online School Program	\$75.00	Per class**	3 class (90 students) maximum
Durham Children's Watershed Festival (DCWF) Student	\$12.50	Per student*	\$13.25 Per student* includes bus
Durham Children's Watershed Festival (DCWF) Cancellation Fee	\$75.00	Per class**	\$78.75 Per class** Received 13 working days prior to event
Outreach Organized Community Events	\$5.00	Per adult**	\$5.25 Per adult** Events outside normal business hours
	\$2.50	Per child	\$2.75 Per child Children 3-12 years of age; 2 years of age and younger free
<b>ADMINISTRATION FEES</b>			
Black & White Photocopies	\$0.25	Each*	
Colour Photocopies	\$1.00	Each*	
Special Board Meeting	\$1,000.00	Per meeting*	
Administration/Cancellation/NSF Cheque Fee	\$25.00	Each*	
Reports - All Reports	\$20.00	Minimum*	Fee set at the discretion of staff
Report Lending Deposit	\$20.00	Each	Deposit
Late Payment Service Charge	1.5%	Per month	Payment Terms: NET 30 – Service charge of 1.5% per month (Effective rate of 19.56% per annum)
<b>GIS Services</b> – Free for Municipal and Regional projects. For analysis requests, \$113 initial fee, plus \$113/hour, plus tertiary fee of \$23 per megabyte of digital information			
Digital Data Request	\$113.00	Initial fee*	Initial handling fee to cover administrative time
Technical Staff Time: Processing Data Requests	\$113.00	Per hour*	Minimum one hour. Data prep and analysis
<b>Watershed Information and Services</b>			
Technical Staff Time (Natural Heritage, Engineering, Groundwater	\$113.00	Per hour*	Minimum one hour. Data preparation and analysis
Shaping Watersheds Display/Exhibit (Reality Sandbox): half day	\$250.00	Half day*	Includes staff time, set-up/take-down & travel within CLOCA Watershed
full day	\$500.00	Full day*	Travel costs extra outside CLOCA Watershed
Floodplain mapping	\$68.00	Per sheet*	Per printed map sheet in colour
	\$45.00	Per PDF*	Per PDF map sheet
Floodplain Modeling Package (HEC-RAS, VO2 Reports)	\$339.00	Per FP study*	Per Floodplain (FP) Study
Geospatial Data Fee	\$23.00	Per megabyte*	Per megabyte of digital information
<b>Municipal Freedom of Information/Protection of Privacy Act ~ Part IV - General s. 45 (1) Fees (effective Feb.1/06)</b>			
(1) A Head shall require the person who makes a request for access to a record to pay fees in the amounts by the regulations for,			
a) the cost of every hour of manual search required to locate a record			
b) computer/other costs incurred in locating, retrieving, processing copying			
c) the cost of preparing the record for disclosure			
d) shipping costs			
e) any other costs in responding to a request for access to a record			

### Russ Powell Nature Centre (RPNC) – Rental Rates

Last rate change

2013 - \$200

2023 - \$250

2026 – recommended \$275

Capacity 70

Located in the Enniskillen Valleylands in the countryside, the Russ Powell Nature Centre offers a small intimate location with a wood stove for colder seasons, large sliding doors that open onto a lawn, outdoor picnic tables, a projector and screen, a pollinator garden, stone learning circle and a completely accessible pond and trail with floating docks.

Interior renovations, including floors, ceiling, kitchen, and washrooms 2024/2025/2026 to support Education Programs and facility reservations (YMCA, family gatherings).

#### **Comparables:**

##### ➤ Ganaraska Forest Centre

Great Hall \$515 for day or \$150/hr

Seminar room \$315 for day or \$100/hr

##### ➤ Municipality of Clarington

Haydon Community Hall - 2503 Concession Road 8, Haydon

**\$275 full day (weekdays and weekends)**

#### **Indoor amenities**

- Hall 30'x26'
  - Chairs with tables - capacity 70 to 85 people
  - Chairs with tables and a dance floor - capacity 52 people
  - Non-fixed chairs, no tables, concert style - capacity 104 people
- Kitchen
- Parking for up to 25

##### ➤ Town of Whitby

Heydenshore Pavilion offers a large hall for hosting meetings, workshops, birthday parties, receptions, showers, team fundraisers, weddings and trade shows. 589 Water St, Whitby, ON L1N 9V9

#### **Rates:**

- **Whitby Resident Rates:**
  - Sundays to Thursdays 1/2 day (5 hours or less): \$549.37 +HST
  - Sunday to Thursdays Full day (over 5 hours): \$887.59 + HST
  - Fridays, Saturdays and long weekends: \$1,204.04 +HST /flat rate
- **Non-Resident Rates:**
  - Sundays to Thursdays 1/2 day (5 hours or less): \$645.39 +HST
  - Sunday to Thursdays Full day (over 5 hours): \$1,040.41 +HST
  - Fridays, Saturdays and long weekends: \$1,420.43 + HST /flat rate

### **Cleaning Fee - RPNC**

Cleaning fee is only charged when the group has not cleaned adequately after their rental and during the summer for the summer camp. The building is cleaned and sanitized, including washrooms daily plus 1 day on the weekend. An increase from \$75/clean to \$100/clean based on staff time

### **Nature Nook**

**Installed 2023 - \$25 (Free to school groups that book full day)**  
**2026 – recommended \$30 – maintenance and upkeep costs**

### **Create Your Own Play**

This 'play space' at Enniskillen Conservation Area provides children with the opportunity to create their own play in a forest area equipped with natural play materials (loose parts, e.g., rails, sticks, stones, logs, tree cookies).

The play space is contained within cedar rail fencing and in a forested area with little vegetation on the ground, to minimize off-trail impacts. The Nature Nook was created with the knowledge that child-directed play helps with the development of the whole child — cognitive, social, emotional and physical skills.

Research has also shown that this type of play contributes to school success and is both a necessary and important part of a child's life. Children who play in natural landscapes appear to be healthier, have improved motor skills, balance and coordination, and demonstrate more creativity in their play. When playing outside, children also benefit from being exposed to sunlight, natural elements, and open air, which contribute to stronger immune systems.

The intentionally irregular boundaries formed by the snaking cedar rail fence and internal fenced islands were designed to give students a sense of freedom and a desire to explore while containing them within a safe space with defined limits.

***Use of the space at lunch time during a full-day booking is free of charge. A \$25 fee applies for the use of the space for a half-day booking.***

<b>Maple Syrup Pricing Comparables</b>						
<b>Maple Syrup Vendor</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>500mL</b>	<b>1L</b>	<b>2L</b>	<b>4L</b>	
CLOCA(Existing Pricing)	Oshawa	\$ 15.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 80.00	
CLOCA(Proposed Pricing)	Oshawa	<b>\$ 16.50</b>	<b>\$ 27.00</b>	<b>\$ 50.00</b>	<b>\$ 85.00</b>	
<b>Comparables - Conservation Authorities</b>						
Nottawasaga Valley CA	Alliston	\$ 16.00	\$ 30.00	N/A	N/A	
Toronto & Region CA(Voisin's)	Toronto	\$ 15.75	\$ 28.50	N/A	\$ 90.00	
Credit Valley CA	Mississauga	\$ 17.00	\$ 34.00	N/A	\$ 85.00	
Conservation Halton	Halton	\$ 19.00	N/A	N/A	\$ 100.00	
<b>Comparables Average</b>		<b>\$ 16.94</b>	<b>\$ 30.83</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>\$ 91.67</b>	
<b>Comparables - Other Producers</b>						
Ashton Maple	Port Perry	\$ 15.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 80.00	
Ashton Maple (Sunderland Festival)	Sunderland	N/A	\$ 30.00	N/A	N/A	
Emes Maple (Robinson's)	Dorset	\$ 18.00	\$ 30.00	N/A	N/A	
Fulton's Maple	Packenham	\$ 17.00	\$ 27.00	\$ 46.00	N/A	
Jakeman's Maple	Woodstock	\$ 23.70	\$ 44.49	N/A	N/A	
McLean Berry Farm	Buckhorn	\$ 18.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 105.00	
Pefferlaw Creek Farms	Pefferlaw	\$ 15.00	\$ 28.00	N/A	\$ 90.00	
Rainbow Maple	Kirkfield	\$ 16.00	\$ 26.00	\$ 48.00	\$ 90.00	
Red Mill Maple Syrup	Millbrook	N/A	\$ 25.99	N/A	\$ 85.00	
Voisin's Maple	Formosa	\$ 16.00	\$ 29.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 89.00	
<b>Comparables Average</b>		<b>\$ 17.34</b>	<b>\$ 29.55</b>	<b>\$ 49.80</b>	<b>\$ 89.83</b>	

CLOCA is a member of the Ontario Maple Syrup Producers (Haliburton – Kawartha Chapter).  
 The prices above reflect the current 2025 price schedule.

# REPORT

## CENTRAL LAKE ONTARIO CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

**DATE:** December 16, 2025  
**FILE:** ACAF54  
**S.R.:** 5962-25  
**TO:** Chair and Members, CLOCA Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Chris Darling, Chief Administrative Officer  
**SUBJECT:** Bill 68 Amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act and an ERO notice proposing the consolidation Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into regional conservation authorities.

**APPROVED BY C.A.O.** 

### Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board of Directors with an overview of the changes to the Conservation Authorities Act contained as a result of Bill 68, Plan to Protect Ontario Act (Budget Measures), 2025 and a proposal posted on the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO 025-1257) to consolidate conservation authorities.

### Background:

#### Bill 68- Schedule 3

On November 6, 2025, the province introduced Bill 68, Plan to Protect Ontario Act (Budget Measures) which includes Schedule 3 amending the Conservation Authorities Act to establish a Provincial Conservation Agency and outline its objects, responsibilities and functions such that the new Agency would now govern conservation authorities, have power to issue directions and collect fees from conservation authorities to cover its expenses. Bill 68 received Royal Assent on November 27, 2025.

The following provides a summary of the changes to the Conservation Authorities Act:

- Establishment of an Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA) with the following objects:
  - 1) Oversee the governance of authorities and other aspects of authorities such as their operations, including the programs and services they provide, to further the purposes of the Act.
  - 2) Oversee the transition to a regional watershed-based framework for authorities in Ontario.
  - 3) Promote consistent policies, standards and fees for programs and services provided by authorities.
  - 4) Assess and report on the effectiveness of authorities in furthering the conservation, restoration, development and management of natural resources in watersheds in Ontario, including outcomes related to the implementation of their programs and services.
  - 5) Oversee and evaluate the financial performance of authorities to ensure their long-term operational and capital financial sustainability, including the financial sustainability of their programs and services.
  - 6) Guide and evaluate the strategic planning by authorities to ensure it aligns with provincial objectives.
  - 7) Support the development and implementation of a standardized and centralized system for processing applications for permits issued by authorities.
  - 8) Lead the development and implementation of digital strategies and shared services to support the operations of authorities, including their programs and services.
  - 9) Support strategic investment in programs and services provided by authorities, including leveraging funding available to Ontario and authorities.
  - 10) Advise the Government of Ontario in respect of the programs and services authorities provide under the Act and any matters related to the objects of the Agency.
  - 11) Any other objects prescribed by regulation.

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- The Agency will consist of at least five and not more than 12 Board members appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council who shall form the board of directors of the Agency and the agency will be staffed.
- Where the Minister considers it to be in the public interest to do so, the Minister may issue directions to the Agency.
- The Agency may issue directions and/or guidelines to one or more authorities, to address matters such as service standards, information technology, procurement, budgeting, asset management plans and strategic planning.
- The Minister may provide funding to the Agency and Agency may establish and require the payment of fees related to the performance of its duties and the exercise of its powers under this Act.
- For the purpose of recovering the costs and expenses the Agency incurs, the Agency may determine the amounts of the costs and expenses that the authorities collectively owe to the Agency and apportion those amounts to the authorities.

### **Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO 025-1257)**

On November 7, 2025, the Province posted a proposal on the ERO (ERO 025-1257) seeking feedback on proposed boundaries and criteria for the regional consolidation of Ontario's 36 CAs (see link <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/025-1257>)

The deadline for comments is Dec 22, 2025. The proposal would consolidate the 36 conservation authorities into 7 regional conservation authorities. The posting includes a map depicting the boundaries of the proposed regional conservation authorities refer to attachment 1 and 2. CLOCA would be consolidated into an Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority which is a consolidation of the following seven conservation authorities:

- Central Lake Ontario CA
- Kawartha Region CA
- Otonabee Region CA
- Ganaraska Region CA
- Lower Trent Region CA
- Crowe Valley CA
- Quinte Region CA

Municipalities that would fall within the proposed Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority include: City of Belleville, City of Kawartha Lakes, City of Oshawa, City of Peterborough, City of Pickering, City of Quinte West, Prince Edward County, Municipality of Brighton, Municipality of Centre Hastings, Municipality of Clarington, Municipality of Hastings Highlands, Municipality of Highlands East, Municipality of Marmora and Lake, Municipality of Port Hope, Municipality of Trent Hills, Municipality of Trent Lakes, Municipality of Tweed, Town of Ajax, Town of Cobourg, Town of Deseronto, Town of Greater Napanee, Town of Whitby, Township of Addington Highlands, Township of Alnwick/Haldimand, Township of Asphodel-Norwood, Township of Brock, Township of Cavan Monaghan, Township of Central Frontenac, Township of Cramahe, Township of Douro-Dummer, Township of Faraday, Township of Hamilton, Township of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen, Township of Limerick, Township of Loyalist, Township of Madoc, Township of North Frontenac, Township of North Kawartha, Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan, Township of Scugog, Township of Selwyn, Township of South Frontenac, Township of Stirling-Rawdon, Township of Stone Mills, Township of Tudor and Cashel, Township of Tyendinaga, Township of Uxbridge, and the Township of Wollaston.

The Province used the following criteria for determining the proposed boundaries for regional conservation authorities:

- Maintaining watershed-based jurisdictions – Aligning with natural hydrological boundaries to support effective flood and water management, consistent with drinking water Source Protection Areas and Regions.
- Relationships between conservation authorities and municipalities – Reducing administrative duplication and overlap for municipalities and conservation authorities to simplify accountability and strengthen local partnerships.
- Balancing expertise and capacity across conservation authorities – Enhancing technical skills and resources across conservation authorities to improve service and program delivery.
- Service Continuity – Ensuring uninterrupted delivery of local conservation authority programs – including flood forecasting and warning, permitting, and source water protection – through and after consolidation.

The ERO notice lists the following discussion questions to assist in receiving feedback:

- What do you see as key factors to support a successful transition and outcome of regional conservation authority consolidation?
- What opportunities or benefits may come from a regional conservation authority framework?
- Do you have suggestions for how governance could be structured at the regional conservation authority level, including suggestions around board size, make-up and the municipal representative appointment process?
- Do you have suggestions on how to maintain a transparent and consultative budgeting process across member municipalities within a regional conservation authority?
- How can regional conservation authorities maintain and strengthen relationships with local communities and stakeholders?

Consolidation is not intended to be initiated until after municipal elections in October 2026; existing board members would continue to serve until the expiration of their terms next year.

### **Analysis and Comments**

The Province indicates that the new OPCA and the proposed consolidation is required to modernize conservation authorities and achieve consistent standards and service delivery, increase technical capacity, update data systems and avoid duplication. Conservation Ontario, CLOCA and other conservation authorities have made significant progress on modernization. For example, we deliver timely development approvals achieving 100% compliance with permit timelines, use state-of-the-art modern digital permitting system, have robust hazard mapping, developed current technical guidelines and policies, apply transparent budgeting and governance and deliver watershed management programs and services that respond to the needs of our local community.

The proposed consolidation into seven regional conservation authorities would merge a large geographic area with drastically different watershed characteristics, municipal planning priorities, flood infrastructure profiles, ecological conditions, and development pressures under a single agency. The proposed consolidation raises many concerns including:

- Loss of local autonomy, accountability, engagement and transparency
- Loss of local governance
- Fair and equitable governance representation
- Loss of effective and efficient decision making
- Loss of effective local customer service
- Shift in governance from local based to large regional and provincial based.
- Loss of financial reserves for local priorities
- The need to retain independent corporations to ensure no loss of donated land assets
- Financial cost of consolidation transition
- Complexity of managing seven watersheds with distinct and unique characteristics and needs
- Loss of local technical capacity through dispersal
- Weakening well-functioning systems through administrative complexity and diluted oversight
- Significant operational disruptions, impacting our ability to provide timely decisions

### **Rationale for Pausing Proposed Consolidation**

CLOCA recognizes the importance of modernization and supports efforts to enhance both efficiency and environmental protection across the province. A system that delivers services more consistently, transparently, and predictably will benefit municipalities, developers, and communities alike, particularly as Ontario continues to grow and climate-related risks intensify. The creation of the OPCA aims to provide centralized leadership, efficient governance, and strategic direction for all conservation authorities. OPCA can help ensure faster, more consistent permitting and provide the oversight needed to align conservation authorities with modern standards and best practices.

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The objects of the OPCA address the same objects of consolidation such that, if the OPCA is successful in achieving its goals the need for consolidation is either diminished or eliminated. Further, the OPCA can achieve the goals of consolidation without the risk of destabilization and disruption of service that can result in counter productivity. As a result, it is recommended that the proposal for consolidation be paused until the first term of the OPCA has been completed. Following the first term, a needs assessment for consolidation should be revisited.

The proposed consolidation would create a large watershed management unit consisting of different watershed characteristics, municipal planning priorities, and development pressures under a single agency and risks outcomes that are counter productive to the province's objectives. Consideration should be given to alternative consolidation models that could deliver better outcomes such as:

- the consolidation on a smaller more effective scale and size such as consolidation of two neighboring conservation authorities having similar watershed conditions. This would still result in efficiencies and capacity building but would limit service disruptions and maintain local autonomy and relationships.
- consolidation of only those conservation authorities that don't have the capacity to undertake critical natural hazard management programs
- consolidation of one or two conservation authorities as a case study prior to implementing consolidation province wide
- using a voluntary consolidation process like the public health unit consolidation process that involved an expert panel to examine challenges and make recommendations regarding organizational structure, governance and integration

Consideration of consolidation should be paused to allow for meaningful engagement and a cost-benefit analysis of alternative consolidation models.

Consolidation of such a large scale will bring many logistical and administrative challenges disruptions such as:

- harmonizing accounting and financial systems, human resource policies, and health and safety practices and policies
- different IT systems, and integrating them requires careful assessment and planning and often upgrades to IT infrastructure, all of which takes time and financial resources
- transfer of assets that have conditions attached in favour of local conservation authorities

These challenges will result in significant disruptions that will take staff resources away from the delivery of critical of natural hazard and heritage management responsibilities. Consolidation should be paused to ensure that these challenges are addressed prior to consolidation.

### **Responses to Questions posed in ERO Posting 025-1257**

The ERO notice proposing the consolidation contains 5 specific questions relating to the transition into regional conservation authorities, governance considerations, and approaches to ensure strong relationships with municipalities and communities within the new structure. The responses to the questions contained in **Attachment 3** are based on a number of fundamental principles of effective watershed management such as:

- Local municipal representation and local watershed scale decision-making are essential to effective natural hazard management and local accountability
- Local governance, autonomy, accountability and local relationships
- Partnership with local municipal partners, the development community, and landowners with timely, reliable service
- Enhancing the economic, environmental, and community health of the watershed
- Providing meaningful opportunities for people to connect with nature
- Effective and adaptable organizations that meet the demands of a rapidly growing region.

Should the government decide to proceed with consolidation, the ERO responses contained in **Attachment 3** provide recommendations aimed at mitigating the identified risks and concerns.

Cont'd

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

*WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has posted Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) Posting #025-1257 proposing the consolidation of Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities into 7 Regional Conservation Authorities;*

*WHEREAS the proposed Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority would consolidate Central Lake Ontario with Kawartha Region, Otonabee Region, Ganaraska Region, Lower Trent Region, Crowe Valley CA, Quinte Region Conservation Authority's, resulting in significant changes to governance, service delivery, financial structures, land management, and municipal oversight;*

*WHEREAS the proposed consolidation raises substantial concerns and risks related to local decision-making authority, municipal representation, transition funding, asset ownership, service disruption and the protection of local programs;*

*WHEREAS there is a need for meaningful consultation and engagement with stakeholders to address identified concerns and risks of the proposed consolidation;*

*WHEREAS the objects of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA) can accomplish the same goals and objectives of consolidation of conservation authorities without service disruption and interference that will come with consolidation;*

*WHEREAS there is a need to undertake a full cost-benefit analysis of alternative consolidation models;*

***THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT*** the CLOCA Board of Directors requests the Province of Ontario to pause any decision to consolidate conservation authorities to allow:

- the OPCA to complete its first 3-year term and a subsequent assessment of the need for consolidation
- for meaningful engagement needed to address the concerns and risks of the proposed consolidation
- for the review of alternative consolidation models and processes that would result in better outcomes

*THAT the commentary in Staff Report #5962-25 and Attachment 3 be endorsed and submitted to the Province of Ontario as CLOCA's comments regarding Environmental Registry Posting 025-1257;*

*THAT the resolution be forwarded to all municipalities within CLOCA's watershed;*

Attach. 1 Map of proposed consolidation

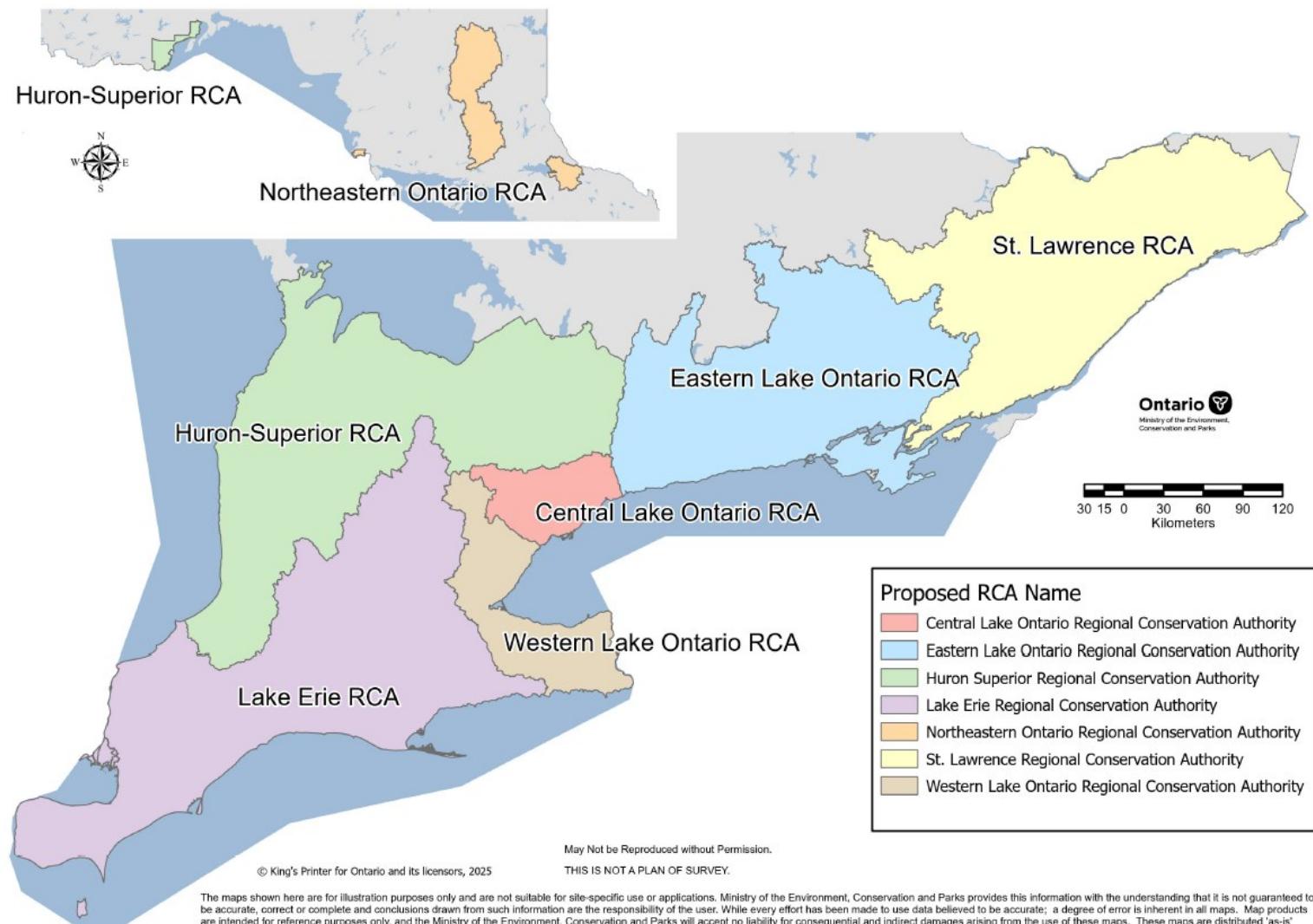
2 Map of proposed Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority

3 Response to ERO Notice 025-1257

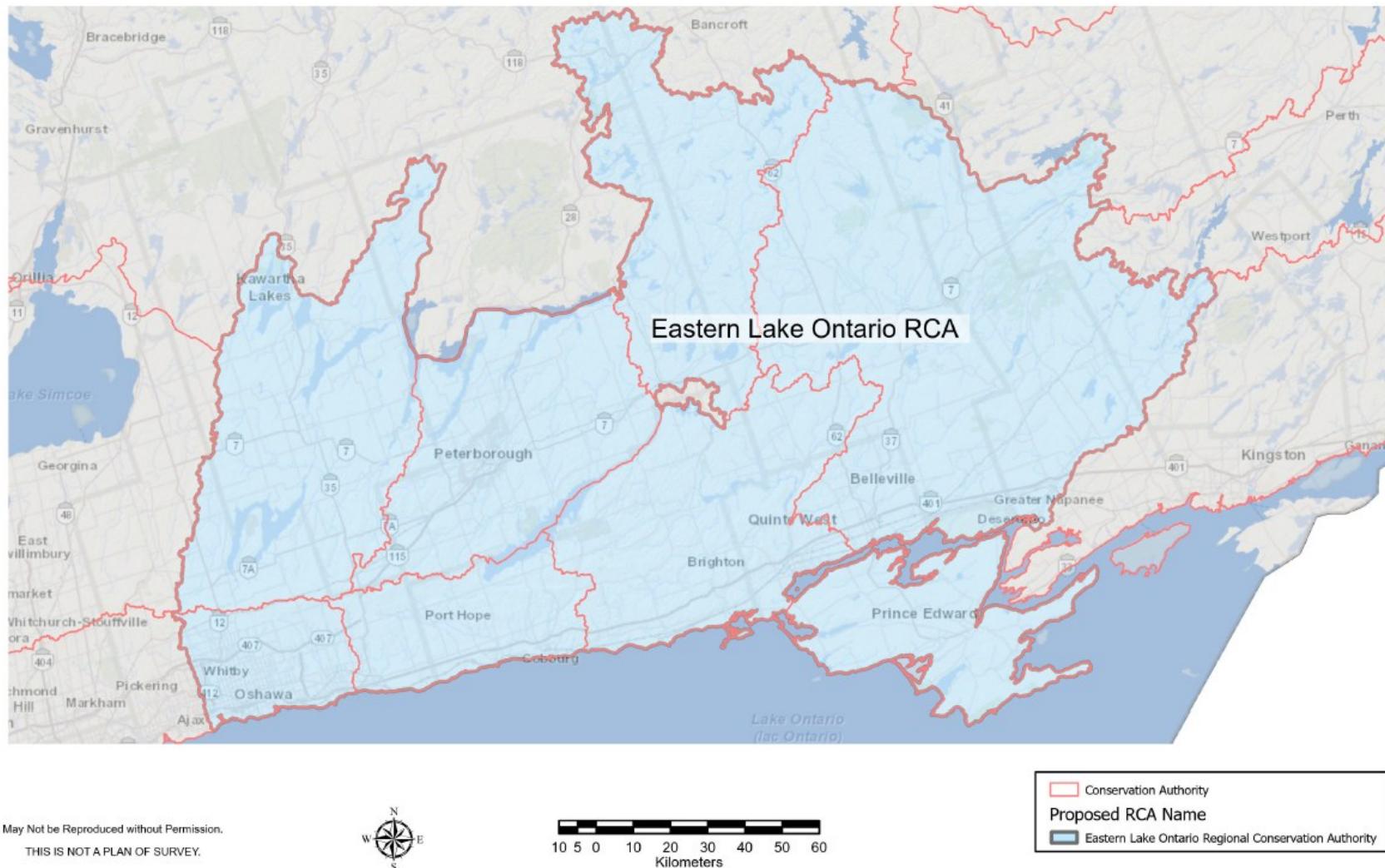
## Maps

### Map of Proposed Regional Conservation Authorities

## PROPOSED 7 REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES (RCA)



## Map of Proposed Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority

**EASTERN LAKE ONTARIO REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

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## **Responses to Questions posed in ERO Posting 025-1257**

**What do you see as key factors to support a successful transition and outcome of regional conservation authority consolidation?**

- Consideration of consolidation should be paused to allow for a measured approach with meaningful engagement. Engagement should include
  - a cost benefit analysis of alternative consolidation models that could have better outcomes such as:
    - the consolidation on a smaller more effective scale and size of two neighboring conservation authorities having similar watershed conditions, such as CLOCA and Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority. This would still result in efficiencies and capacity building but would limit service disruptions and maintain local autonomy and relationships.
    - consolidation of only those conservation authorities that don't have the capacity to undertake critical natural hazard management programs
    - consolidation of one or two conservation authorities as a case study prior to implementing consolidation province wide
    - using a voluntary consolidation process similar to the public health unit consolidation process that involved an expert panel to examine challenges and make recommendations regarding organizational structure, governance and integration.
    - Establishment of regional conservation authority service corporations that could be separate not-for-profit corporations which could provide regional wide corporate service functions such as finance, IT, and HR support.
- Maintain local governance, autonomy, accountability and local relationships by:
  - maintaining existing conservation authority administration offices staff to ensure accessibility, effective customer service and continuity, local science-based decision-making, deep knowledge of local properties, issues and preservation of staff relationships with local municipalities and stakeholders.
  - Retaining the responsibility for planning advice (development planning) and regulation administration, including permit decisions with staff in local administration offices and local boards where local expertise exists, and informed decisions can be made.
  - maintaining local watershed boards that would provide advice and recommendations to regional boards on matters related to budgeting, and the provision of program and services that meet the needs of the local community, including oversight of local development planning and regulation matters
- Province must fund all costs associated with consolidation. The cost of implementing consolidation not be financed by diverting funding away from the implementation of critical watershed management programs and services.
- The OPCA must provide:
  - a transition plan that includes guidance from experts having experience in consolidations.
  - a communication plan that proves information to all stakeholders on the transition process and any changes in governance and responsibilities

- Consideration must be given to protecting watershed reserves and land assets. Protective measures are required to ensure that conservation authority resources and assets are maintained as intended, such as land donations that include an agreement that the property will remain in the ownership of the current named conservation authority. The Conservation Authorities Act should include a reference that the current entities (i.e. Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority) are continued under the new name of the consolidated conservation authority.
- The *Conservation Authorities Act* should be amended to remove the provision allowing for the dissolution of conservation authorities. The proposed changes may not be well received by some municipalities and consolidation must not result in a loss of the important watershed management services.
- Restore conservation ability to provide land use planning natural heritage technical advice to municipal partners based on a willing municipality model. This will support faster development approvals.
- Ensure consolidation transition timing aligns with the necessary budgeting consultations between conservation authorities and municipalities.
- The OPCA has the ability to levy funding from conservation authorities. Levying conservation authorities should only occur once financial savings have been realized from the work achieved by the OPCA and the levy amount should not exceed the financial savings. The OPCA should also be accountable to the conservation authority by reporting annually on outcomes of the levy support.

**What opportunities or benefits may come from a regional conservation authority framework?**

NOTE: The following benefits can be achieved through OCA objects as well.

- Improved capacity of smaller conservation authorities that lack sufficient capacity to effectively carry out mandated programs. However, consolidation risks weakening well-functioning systems through administrative complexity and diluted oversight. Increasing capacity of smaller conservation authorities must not come at the cost of diminishing capacity of other conservation authorities.
- Greater consistency in policies, standards, fees and service delivery levels (OPCA can also address this). However, the object of achieving consistency must recognize the needs for some variability to address the diversity in watershed characteristics.
- Consolidation of IT systems, GIS data bases could result in economies of scale and faster and more informed decision. Implementation of universal permitting content management /GIS platform can modernize service delivery. CLOCA has developed a Conservation Authority Content Management System that is currently being used by a number of conservation authorities and could be further developed and deployed.
- Well-functioning conservation authorities have the technical knowledge and methodologies that can be leveraged across the regional conservation authorities to elevate Integrated Watershed Management programs and services in smaller conservation authority jurisdictions. This could result in more robust/consistent publicly accessible data sets across the province and reduce the development communities' reliance on high-cost consultant generated information.

However, increasing capacity of smaller conservation authorities must not come at the cost of diminishing capacity of other well-functioning conservation authorities.

- With a more consistent approach to integrated watershed management being employed across the province, conservation authorities would be best positioned to role out provincially funded conservation programs to implement high-value conservation projects that align with provincial interests (for example, increasing access to the Wetland Conservation Partnership Program and the Species Conservation Fund). This would reduce the time spent by CAs competing for available funding and instead focusing on generating significant results in faster timelines. Prioritizing CAs for this existing provincial funding would effectively increase RCA operation budgets at no additional cost to the province.

**Do you have suggestions for how governance could be structured at the regional conservation authority level, including suggestions around board size, make-up and the municipal representative appointment process?**

- Board membership size needs to be small enough to allow for effective deliberation and decision-making. Currently the seven conservation authorities included in the proposed eastern consolidation have a total of 85 Board Members – far too many to effectively govern.
- A tiered governance structure should be implemented. Maintenance of local boards is needed to ensure local accountability and relationships at a manageable and reasonable scale for efficient and effective representation and administration. The local board could include a higher percentage of non-elected officials than what is currently prescribed in the CA ACT and be responsible for providing advice and recommendations to a regional board on matters related to budgeting, and the provision of program and services that meet the needs of the local community, including oversight of local development planning and regulation matters. This tiered system would support greater consistency, centralized leadership, economies of scale, while enabling strong, local governance that facilitates effective and efficient watershed management.
- In such a tiered structure, consideration should be given to a regional board made up of the Chairs from the various local boards (with an appointed alternate). Consideration should be given to the allowance of one or two additional Board Members to ensure representation is commensurate with funding obligations. The regional board would be responsible for budget approval, Corporate Strategic Planning, S. 28 hearings, Corporate Services, CAO staffing decisions, policy and guidance approval, and overall governance authority.
- Maintain local municipal service agreements so that locally funded initiatives—such as land acquisition, land management, trail maintenance, restoration projects, or capital works remain under local control and not be redirected without municipal consent.
- To ensure continuity and retention of institutional knowledge of large consolidation organization, the *Conservation Authorities Act* should be amended to allow for Chairs of a regional board to set for a 2- year term with an option of another additional 2-years.

**Do you have suggestions on how to maintain a transparent and consultative budgeting process across member municipalities within a regional conservation authority?**

- Maintain local boards so that they can provide budgetary advice to a regional board on local watershed management needs.
- Consideration should be given to establishing upper-tier municipalities as participating municipalities under the *Conservation Authorities Act*.
- Maintain current process of transparent draft budget preparation and consultation with participating municipalities including a 5-year budget forecast.
- Requirements for annual report to be circulated to member municipalities

**How can regional conservation authorities maintain and strengthen relationships with local communities and stakeholders**

- Maintain existing conservation authority local boards and administrative offices to ensure community access, community connection, the application of local staff expertise, effective customer service and preservation of existing relations with local communities and stakeholders. Maintaining this form of local administration and accountability will ensure that CAs can remain nimble to address local needs quickly and effectively.
- Maintain conservation authority staff and program and service delivery at current local conservation authority offices. Local staffing resources have expert knowledge needed to make informed decisions and have important relationships with municipal staff, private landowners and local NGOs that must be maintained to ensure efficient and effective service. This approach also ensures that locally collected data is better leveraged at the local level by those most familiar with the local watersheds.
- Require conservation authorities to prepare annual reports outlining accomplishments, measurable outcomes and workplans and to share this documentation to all stakeholders.
- Local staffing resources have developed meaningful relationships with First Nations and Indigenous People in their local geographies. Maintaining local offices and staffing will allow for continued relationship building with First Nations and Indigenous Peoples under a consolidated framework.