



The Regional Municipality of Durham

COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

July 9, 2021

Information Reports

- 2021-INFO-72** Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health – re: A Joint Community Paramedicine Policy Framework by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs

Early Release Reports

There are no Early Release Reports

Staff Correspondence

1. **Memorandum from Dr. R. Kyle, Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health** – re: Health Information Update – July 4, 2021

Durham Municipalities Correspondence

1. **Town of Whitby** – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on June 21, 2021, regarding Condemnation of London Terrorism and Support for the Muslim Community
2. **Township of Scugog** – Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on June 28, 2021, regarding Hwy 7 - 12 Alternate Routes EA Study, Brooklin Area
3. **Township of Scugog** – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on June 28, 2021, regarding Williams Point Road and Beacock Road School Bus Turnarounds

Other Municipalities Correspondence/Resolutions

1. **County of Frontenac** – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on June 16, 2021, in support of the Town of Fort Erie resolution regarding Capital Gains Tax exemptions on Primary residences
2. **Municipality of Chatham-Kent** – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held on June 14, 2021, regarding Support for the Induction of the Coloured All-Star into the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame

3. **Town of Cochrane** – re: Resolution passed at their Council meeting held June 22, 2021, regarding Inclusion of the PSA Test for men into the National health care system

Miscellaneous Correspondence

1. **Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA)** – re: Update on Memorandums of Understanding and Service Level agreements with Municipalities
2. **Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA)** – re: TRCA Draft Comments to Environmental Registry of Ontario posting (ERO #019-2986) – Regulatory Proposals (Phase 1) under the Conservation Authorities Act
3. **Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA)** – re: Dispersal of Funeral Ashes in Watercourses
4. **Kawartha Region Conservation Authority** – re: Kawartha Region Conservation Authority's Comments on ERO #019-2986 – Regulatory Proposals (Phase 1) under the Conservation Authorities Act

Advisory / Other Committee Minutes

1. Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) minutes – **June 22, 2021**
2. 9-1-1 Management Board minutes – **June 24, 2021**

Members of Council – Please advise the Regional Clerk at clerks@durham.ca, if you wish to pull an item from this CIP and include on the next regular agenda of the appropriate Standing Committee. Items will be added to the agenda if the Regional Clerk is advised by Wednesday noon the week prior to the meeting, otherwise the item will be included on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting of the applicable Committee.

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The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

From: Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health
Report: #2021-INFO-72
Date: July 9, 2021

Subject:

A Joint Community Paramedicine Policy Framework by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs

Recommendation:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 To provide an update on a Community Paramedicine Policy Framework jointly developed by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs (OAPC), submitted to the Ministries of Health and Long-Term Care on June 28, 2021 (Attachment #1).

2. Background

2.1 Community paramedicine (CP) programs are a cost-effective way to deliver episodic, continuing community, and home-based healthcare in Ontario.

2.2 There are 263 CP pilot programs across Ontario. Despite the success of these programs, none are permanent.

2.3 Region of Durham Paramedic Services (RDPS) has operated a CP program locally since December 21, 2020, following receipt of one-time funding from the Central East Local Health Integration Network (CE LHIN). One-time provincial funding expired on March 31, 2021.

2.4 RDPS' CP program provides services to patients that no longer need acute care but are at high-risk for hospital re-admission. RDPS has served 97 patients enrolled in the program to-date; services include home visits and virtual consultations.

3. Previous Reports and Decisions

- 3.1 Report [#2020-INFO-127](#) provided an updated on one-time funding received from the CE LHIN for community paramedicine expansion in Durham Region.

4. Highlights from AMO/OAPC's Letter

- 4.1 The AMO/OAPC letter demonstrates the value of making CP programs permanent in Ontario.
- a. CP programs fill critical gaps that exist in primary-, home-, and community-care settings.
 - b. CP programs are cost-efficient.
 - The average cost for care at home is \$42.00 per day compared to \$842.00 per day in a hospital or \$126.00 per day in a long-term care (LTC) bed (costs as of 2011).
 - c. CP programs respect Ontarians' desire to remain at home for as long as possible.
 - A 2020 survey from the National Institute of Ageing found that seventy-eight per cent of Ontarians would prefer to have homecare for themselves or a loved one, instead of being in a LTC home.
 - d. CP programs deliver better value to the healthcare system.
 - The Ontario Community Paramedicine Remote Patient Monitoring Program demonstrated a 542 per cent return on investment in helping older patients with chronic conditions to remain living at home. It also reduced patients' needs to call 9-1-1 by 26 per cent, visit the emergency department by 26 per cent, and be admitted to hospitals by 32 per cent.
 - e. A permanent CP program would help address equity issues across the province (e.g., by addressing issues with access to primary care physicians).
- 4.2 Given the success of CP programs, AMO and OAPC have requested that the Ministries of Health and Long-Term Care provide permanent provincial funding and a commitment to CP, by:
- a. Establishing a working group to develop a CP policy framework that could be implemented by Fall 2022.
 - b. Creating standardized CP clinical/operational guidelines with accompanying quality assurance and performance reporting mechanisms.

5. Relationship to Strategic Plan

5.1 This report aligns with the following strategic goals and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:

a. Goal 2: Community Vitality

- 2.3 Influence the social determinants of health to improve health outcomes for vulnerable populations.
- 2.4 Support a high quality of life for all through human services delivery.
- 2.5 Build a healthy, inclusive, age-friendly community where everyone feels a sense of belonging.

b. Goal 5: Service Excellence

- 5.1 Optimize resources and partnerships to deliver exceptional quality services and value.
- 5.2 Collaborate for a seamless service experience.

6. Conclusion

6.1 CP programs are critical for supporting the needs of Ontarians and Durham Region's most vulnerable residents.

6.2 In the 2021 Ontario Budget, the province committed to investing approximately \$160 million over three years to support CP programs in 33 communities, however, Durham Region is not included in the list.

6.3 Based on the identified need to provide CP services to residents and in anticipation of a provincial commitment for ongoing funding, the Region of Durham has continued funding the CP program beyond March 31, 2021.

6.4 RDPS continues to advocate for provincial funding to support ongoing operation of the CP program, however, no confirmation of provincial funding has been received to date.

7. Attachments

Attachment #1: AMO-OAPC Community Paramedicine Policy Framework

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

R.J. Kyle, BSc, MD, MHSc, CCFP, FRCPC, FACPM
Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health

Sent by e-mail to: christine.elliott@ontario.ca
Sent by e-mail to: rod.phillips@pc.ola.org

June 28, 2021

The Honourable Christine Elliott
Minister of Health
College Park, 5th Floor
777 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2J3

The Honourable Rod Phillips
Minister of Long-Term Care
6th Floor, 400 University Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M5G 1S5

Dear Ministers Elliott and Phillips:

AMO and the Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs (OAPC) are pleased to submit to you our joint Community Paramedic Policy Framework for your consideration and action.

AMO and the OAPC have developed this paper to set out the immediate and future requirements to successfully develop a community paramedicine system in Ontario. We look forward to working with the Ministries of Health and Long-Term Care as valued partners along with Ontario Health to make a community paramedicine system in Ontario a reality.

Through this letter, AMO and OAPC respectfully ask the Ministries of Health and Long-Term Care to establish a working group with us, and the City of Toronto, in order to develop an agreed upon Community Paramedicine policy framework that could start to be implemented, by enabling legislation, by Fall 2022.

We look forward to discussing this with you and your officials soon so that together we can implement the start of a regularized Community Paramedicine program in Ontario.

Sincerely,



Graydon Smith
AMO President
Mayor of the Town of Bracebridge



Peter Dundas
OAPC President
Chief, Peel Regional Paramedic Services

cc: The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Kate Manson-Smith, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Helen Angus, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health
Richard Steele, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Long-Term Care
Melanie Fraser, Associate Deputy Minister, Health Services
Amy Olmstead, Executive Lead (Acting), Ontario Health Teams, Ministry of Health
Susan Picarello, Assistant Deputy Minister, Emergency Health Services, Ministry of Health
Janet Hope, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Long-Term Care

Encl: AMO-OAPC Community Paramedic Policy Framework



Community Paramedicine Policy Framework Paper

June 28, 2021

An AMO-OAPC joint paper

Introduction

Community paramedicine (CP) programs are a cost-effective choice for the delivery of episodic and continuing community and home-based healthcare in Ontario. They are innovative and agile by design to meet evolving community needs, with the flexibility to adapt services, scope, and scale to changing health system pressures. Essentially, community paramedicine is filling an urgent need to provide clinical support to vulnerable populations in their own homes, keeping our residents living well and improving their quality of life while reducing pressure on the health care system.

However as successful as CP programs are, they are all currently pilot projects aimed at filling the gaps that exist in primary care and home and community care. There is no legislative or policy framework to support them and no permanent provincial funding commitment. As per the Ministry of Health's recent survey of community paramedicine programs, there are 263 pilot programs within 43 of the 52 municipal/District Social Services Administrative Boards (DSSAB)/First Nations paramedic services throughout Ontario.

This position paper will set out what type of policy frameworks could lay the foundation for community paramedicine to become a permanent component of primary care in Ontario.

Through this paper, AMO and OAPC would ask the Ministries of Health and Long-Term Care (and the City of Toronto) to establish a working group to develop a Community Paramedicine policy framework that could start to be implemented, by enabling legislation, by Fall 2022.

Context

Municipal governments are active players in Ontario's health system. Although health is a provincial responsibility under Canadian federalism, municipal governments, and District Social Service Administration Boards (DSSABs) co-fund and deliver several health services. They also respond to the health-related needs of their communities to improve local population health outcomes.

The property tax base significantly finances this activity. In 2018, municipal governments spent \$2.23 billion for health-related costs. This includes the municipal portions of cost-shared programs such as public health, land ambulance and increasingly, long-term care homes (source: MMAH Financial Information Returns). In other provinces, these health-related costs are provincially funded rather than supported by the local property tax base.

At its core, paramedic service (land ambulance) is primary health care. Designated upper-tier and single-tier municipal governments co-fund and deliver land ambulance locally using the property tax base. In the north, paramedic services are provided by DSSABs financed by municipal governments. The *Ambulance Act* governs the delivery of land ambulance. The Ministry of Health (MOH) sets service standards and employee qualification requirements, with monitoring to ensure compliance with provincially set standards.

Community paramedicine involves having paramedics provide primary care in the home (limited scope), clinic-based assessments and medical referrals. This is not a mandated service under the *Ambulance Act*. However, many municipal governments and DSSABs have supported this useful intervention as a means of mitigating pressures on 911 ambulance response through prevention activities, thereby improving the health and security of local residents. The Province has yet to fund Community Paramedicine as a permanent service.

Since 2007, Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) have been responsible for determining the role and use of paramedicine in local communities. More recently in 2014, the Province invested approximately \$5.9 million dollars annually in CP initiatives. Programs include the Aging at Home Strategy, Health Links and, more recently, Ontario Health Teams and Community Paramedicine supporting persons awaiting Long-Term Care.

Community paramedicine has demonstrated great potential to provide further benefits to residents throughout Ontario. Community paramedicine can also benefit seniors and those living in rural and northern areas where access to primary care is limited. Community paramedicine has also demonstrated its impact on reducing health care costs by diverting patients from emergency rooms, decreasing admission rates, length of stay, and health system costs.

With an appropriate and sustainable provincial funding model of care, municipal governments, First Nations and DSSABs can deliver community paramedicine in a more integrated, coordinated, and effective way. The first CP initiative of \$5.9 million was only able to support 30 of 52 municipalities and DSSABs. This funding did not support First Nation Paramedic Services or ORNGE. As a result, municipal governments have been faced with community pressure to fill in gaps in provincial funding, despite multiple attempts to expand the funding and policy support from the Government of Ontario.

Another challenge relates to funding distribution. Because municipal governments and DSSABs are not considered 'health service providers' under the *Local Health Integrated Network Act*, LHINs must transfer funding for community paramedicine to a recognized provider such as a hospital. The hospital then transfers the funding over to the municipal

government or DSSAB to deliver the service. As community paramedicine becomes a permanent program that is an integral part of an integrated health care system, a more efficient and practical solution to this administrative work-around should be established to direct funding to municipal governments at 100% of the full program cost.

In its 2019 paper on the municipal role in health, AMO called upon the Province to expand community paramedicine across Ontario to willing municipal partners and to fully fund its implementation, as it is primary care in the home and community.

Municipal governments are deeply involved and invested in the provision of the upstream social determinants of health. They also see the lack of home and community health care especially in rural and northern Ontario. Home and community health care is directly tied to the housing continuum. We need a much broader range of housing to enable people to receive a range of primary health care, including an integrated community paramedicine system, where they are most comfortable. Health at home – for all ages and needs is a societal need and want. Municipal leaders continue to advocate for greater housing diversity throughout the province, which would include supportive and assisted housing. This would reduce the need for individuals to have to seek institutional care, such as long-term care.

Currently the Province has three CP initiatives underway. These include:

1. The current ongoing program through the LHINs available in some communities (\$5.9 million).
 - At the start of this program (2014), it was understood that it was to be 100% funded for all operating costs. However, there were no increases for inflation (even though paramedic salaries and benefits have increased via negotiated agreements) and all non-operating costs (such as administrative and management costs) were covered by the municipal service. The CP program was flexible, as it was designed to respond to specific community needs.
2. The Ministry of Health - High Intensity expansion program as announced in the 2020 Fall Preparedness Plan (\$10 million in the 4th quarter 20/21).
3. The Ministry of Long-Term Care waitlist program announced on October 30, 2020 (\$5 million in 20/21 for five pilots, December 2020 – March 2021). In November 2020, the Province announced that it was investing up to \$15 million more to expand the Community Paramedicine for Long-Term Care program. This initiative helps seniors on long-term care waitlists to stay safe at home longer. The total approved annual funding by Ministry of Long-Term Care for Community Paramedicine is \$54 Million for three years.
 - It should be noted that this is the **only** CP program that is fully 100% funded by the provincial government and operated in partnership with municipalities and DSSABs. The Community Paramedic - Long Term Care Program funding is directly sent to the

municipalities (unlike other CP programs which required administrative workarounds to deliver funding) and there is an inclusive approach to planning and implementation.

The following survey data was compiled by the Ministry of Health Emergency Health Services Division in 2020, prior to the implementation of the Ministry of Long -Term Care Community Paramedic Model of Care and the Ministry of Health High Intensity Supports Programs, both investments in excess of \$64 million annually. It is important to note that some of the information presented does not accurately depict the current state of Community Paramedic activities in Ontario. The following graph is intended to represent the number of Community Paramedic Programs by type.

According to the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) Community Paramedic Standard, “programs” would be Home Visits, Wellness Clinics, and Referrals. Remote patient monitoring is better defined as an intervention. High Intensity Needs, CP Long Term Care, Health Links, Ontario Health Teams, etc. are better understood as funding sources or populations of interest.

Community Paramedicine Programs (Pilots):

| Programs | % of all 263 CP programs |
|--|---------------------------------|
| | |
| | |
| 1. Education, Prevention and Monitoring | |
| Home and Virtual Visits | 48% |
| Assessment and Referrals | 35% |
| Remote Patient Monitoring | 24% |
| Wellness Clinics | |
| | |
| 2. Clinical Interventions | |
| Immunizations Clinics | 33% |
| COVID-19 Testing, Swabbing & Mobile Clinics | 23% |
| Palliative Care Programs | 15% |
| Mental Health + Addictions programs | 12% |
| High Intensity Needs Programs | 6% |

Source: MOH CP survey April 2021. For full details see appendix

Note: A number of CP programs (35%) were unique, localized programs not broadly offered elsewhere in the province. These programs included various patient cohorts and service offerings, including Naloxone kit distribution for overdose patients.

What Does the Evidence Say: Patient Outcomes and Cost Efficiency by the Numbers

A growing body of research and evidence shows that Ontario's investment in community paramedicine (CP) programs is achieving evidence-based patient- and system-level benefits that are well understood and reproducible.

Evidence-controlled trials and several observational studies suggest that current community paramedicine models are reducing repeated emergency calls, emergency transports, emergency department visits, and hospital admissions and readmissions, and that they are improving patient quality of life. Additionally, the cost-effectiveness of providing care in the home or community-based care is indisputable and staying at home is the preferred choice of virtually everyone. A chart in the appendix provides further details but the average per diem cost is:

Average Per Diem Cost as of 2011

(source: <https://www.homecareontario.ca/home-care-services/facts-figures/publiclyfundedhomecare>)

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------|------------|
| Hospital Bed | \$842.00/day | as of 2011 |
| Long-Term Care Bed | \$126.00/day | as of 2011 |
| Care at Home | \$42.00/day | as of 2011 |

The average amount per ED visit in Ontario in 2005-2006 was estimated to be \$148. This ranged from \$111 per visit in the North East LHIN 13 to \$219 per visit in Toronto Central LHIN.

[Source: [https://www.longwoods.com/content/20411/healthcare-quarterly/cihi-survey-ed-spending-in-canada-a-focus-on-the-cost-of-patients-waiting-for-access-to-an-in-pati#:~:text=Putting%20a%20Dollar%20Amount%20on,LHIN%207%20\(Figure%203\)](https://www.longwoods.com/content/20411/healthcare-quarterly/cihi-survey-ed-spending-in-canada-a-focus-on-the-cost-of-patients-waiting-for-access-to-an-in-pati#:~:text=Putting%20a%20Dollar%20Amount%20on,LHIN%207%20(Figure%203))]

Note: None of these numbers have been adjusted for inflation.

In the November 2020 National Institute on Aging report, "Bring LTC Home," the following per diem costs were provided:

- \$103/day for homecare provided for LTC home care equivalent
- \$201/day for LTC home care provided
- \$730/day for support of an ALC (alternative level of care) patient in hospital.

Seventy-eight per cent of Ontarians would prefer to have homecare for themselves or loved ones over care in a LTC home (NIA 2020).

In a recent study, it was shown that assessment and referral programs in Toronto have improved access to home care services by 24%, led to an average increase of 17.4 hours in total home care services per person, reduced 911 calls by 10%, and reduced ambulance transports to emergency departments by 7% over the study period.¹

The Ontario-based 'CP@Clinic' model also demonstrated, through a randomized control trial, that establishing wellness clinics in subsidized housing buildings can reduce 911 calls by 28%, while also improving patient wellbeing and quality of life.²

A home-visit program in Renfrew County has demonstrated its ability to reduce 911 usage by 24%, emergency department visits by 20%, and hospital admissions by 55%.³

The Ontario Community Paramedicine Remote Patient Monitoring (CPRPM) Program demonstrated its ability to provide a 542% return on investment for helping older patients with chronic conditions to remain living at home. It also reduced their need to call 9-1-1 by 26%, visits to the emergency department by 26%, and hospital admissions by 32%. It also improved the efficiency of home visit programs by allowing community paramedics to manage larger caseloads.⁴

A community paramedicine-enabled hospital discharge program in Sudbury reduced total health care costs per patient by 50% reduction and had an estimated cost avoidance of \$10,000 per patient enrolled⁵.

Why is a Policy Framework Needed Now?

Community Paramedicine programs are a proven, cost-effective choice for the delivery of episodic and continuing community-based primary health care in Ontario. Community Paramedic Programs are innovative and agile by design to meet evolving community needs, with the flexibility to adapt services, scope, and scale to changing health system pressures.

Community paramedicine, through the current series of pilots, are filling in gaps in home and community-based primary care. Municipal governments are supporting their paramedic services to provide more community paramedicine, especially given its nimbleness in urban, rural, and northern settings.

A large number of people across Ontario continue to lack access to a primary care provider – either a family physician or a nurse practitioner. These individuals are called unattached patients. The Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care implemented the Primary Care Access Survey (PCAS) in 2006 to measure primary care access on an ongoing basis. Analysis of the 2007–2008 PCAS (n=16,560) showed that 7.1% of Ontario's adults were unattached (Health Care Policy November 2010). In 2021, in communities such as Renfrew County, more than 25% of the population is unattached, with no primary care alternatives. As a result, people call 911 for assistance, or use hospital emergency departments, as their only access to primary care.

More up-to-date data was not found in an internet search (03/2021) and there is also no publicly available information to show that the number of unattached patients in Ontario has declined via the decade long roll-out of LHINs or Ontario Health Links. The recent evolution to Ontario Health and Ontario Health Teams again has increasing primary access as one of its

goals. However, given their current focus on hospitals and physicians, there is ongoing concern about the lack of improved patient access to community and home health care.

There is also an uneven distribution of primary care physicians across the province, with fewer doctors available in rural and northern Ontario – this has been an issue for decades. Although many provincial physician compensation and health team programs have been set up to address this ongoing challenge, physician and NP recruitment and retention in rural and northern Ontario continues to be a problem.

A permanent CP program would assist in addressing these inherent health equity issues. Community paramedicine also filled in critical gaps in service related to seasonal surges of influenza, as well as in response to COVID-19, through mobile assessment testing, in-home assessment, and treatment of COVID-19 patients. Community paramedics are a critical part of the vaccination roll-out across Ontario. However, as it is quickly being normalized and expanded, all of these CP programs are occurring as pilot projects dating back to 2007, 2014, and 2017 respectively. There are now three different program types with different funding parameters and criteria under two provincial ministries. It is an *ad hoc* situation rather than approach that could be more systematic, while remaining adaptable.

The paramedic 911 response program has a legislative base, while community paramedicine does not even have a policy framework, let alone a legislative foundation.

Both the provincial and municipal governments have a significant interest in regularizing community paramedicine to provide legal, policy, funding clarity and sustainability as primary care service in homes and the community increases. That does not mean it needs to be aligned with the medical delegation model for 911 paramedic services for patients who do not have a relationship with a delegating physician or embedded within the constraints of the *Ambulance Act*. We can and must do better.

The key areas that need to be established within a policy framework include:

- Create a legislative basis for a permanent community paramedicine system
 - to establish a community paramedicine system in Ontario
 - to enable regulations to:
 - set out the range of CP programs
 - set out what is included for CP scope(s) of practice / clinical practice guidelines
 - set out a quality management program administered by community paramedic programs
 - competency requirements/additional qualifications for CP paramedics (if needed)
 - include paramedics as health care providers and address long-standing privacy of health information issues
 - liability protection for good faith activities.
- Permanent and reliable funding source for a permanent community paramedicine system.

- Establish consistent approaches to the delegation of medical acts for a permanent community paramedicine system.

Principles for a Community Paramedicine Policy Framework

- All Ontarians should have access to timely, integrated, and appropriate primary health care (including community paramedicine) in their communities that would allow them to be and age in place. This is a matter of health equity.
- Paramedic skills and capacities should be maximized to be able to provide both emergency and primary care throughout Ontario.
- Primary health care is about how best to provide health care and services to everyone, everywhere, as the most efficient and effective way to achieve health for all (modified World Health Organization over all Primary Health Care principle).
- Services are most responsive to residents when delivered at the most local scale that is feasible (Program Delivery Subsidiarity).
- Program delivery integration with other health care providers such as Ontario Health, Ontario Health Teams, Family Health Teams, to make sure there is not duplication between providers and that there is planned and executed alignment of service delivery.
- Improving access to the health care system by connecting individuals and patients to health care services across an integrated continuum of care.

Unpacking the Policy Framework Elements and Discussion

1. Legislation

As stated above, an enabling legislative basis for a permanent community paramedicine system is required:

- to establish a community paramedicine system and model of care in Ontario
- to enable regulations to:
 - to set out the range of CP programs
 - to set out what is included for CP scope(s) of practice
 - to set out the training requirements/additional qualifications for CP paramedics (if needed)
 - personal health information and privacy matters.
- liability protection for good faith activities (similar to what is in place for public health):
 - s. 95 (1) of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*
- protection from personal liability
 - s. 95 (1) No action or other proceeding for damages or otherwise shall be instituted against the Chief Medical Officer of Health or an Associate Chief Medical Officer of Health, a member of a board of health, a medical officer of health, an associate

medical officer of health of a board of health, an acting medical officer of health of a board of health or a public health inspector or an employee of a board of health or of a municipality who is working under the direction of a medical officer of health for any act done in good faith in the execution or the intended execution of any duty or power under this Act or for any alleged neglect or default in the execution in good faith of any such duty or power

- provide for a uniform approach to medical delegation that is consistent with the *Medicine Act*.

Those items that are identified as requiring regulations will require further consultations and discussion once the enabling legislation is in place.

The first thing to be determined is to identify the most viable means of establishing a legislative basis for a permanent community paramedicine system across Ontario.

The three immediate options and their considerations are:

- Identify Paramedics (which will need to include Community Paramedics) as regulated health professionals through the *Regulated Health Professions Act*.
 - Clarifies the model of delegation of controlled acts.
 - Sets out the conduct and competency requirements for the profession.
 - Establishes a basis of procedural fairness and transparency while upholding the safety of the public.
 - Establishes entry to practice requirements and ongoing professional development standards.
 - Establishes a consistent mechanism for title protection.
- Establish stand-alone Community Paramedicine Program legislation.
 - Demonstrates that Community Paramedicine is a separate model of primary care, from the 911-generated Emergency Health Services under the *Ambulance Act*.
 - May give rise to CP programs being supported or coordinated provincially or under Ontario Health.
- Have a new schedule with respect to a community paramedicine system be amended to the *Ambulance Act*.
 - May be the most expedient method to provide a legislative basis to a permanent community paramedicine system.
 - May enable the CP program delivery and the 911-generated Emergency Health Services to be overseen by the same Ministry of Health division while operating from the municipal/DSSAB services.

Whatever the legislative basis for a permanent community paramedicine system, there will need to be transparent agreements on how CP programs will be integrated, coordinated, and work in partnership with Ontario Health, Ontario Health teams, hospitals, Primary Care Providers, and municipal/DSSAB/First Nation paramedic services.

2. Funding Source

The provision and funding of primary care is a responsibility of the provincial government. Canada has thirteen provincial and territorial health care systems that operate within a national legislative framework, the *Canada Health Act*, 1984. The Act defines the following standards to which provincial health insurance programs must conform in exchange for federal funding: universality (coverage of the whole population on uniform terms and conditions), portability of coverage among provinces, public administration, accessibility (first-dollar coverage for physician and hospital services), and comprehensiveness (defined as medically necessary health services provided by hospitals and physicians) (Marchildon 2005).

Although municipal governments are co-funders of both public health and land ambulance emergency services by provincial legislation, there is a long history of both being initially local activities due to their community focus. There is no such history of local municipal funding for primary care as it has been always been a provincial funding responsibility. The 2020 Ministry of Long-Term Care waitlist program 100% acknowledges this responsibility.

For the initial CP pilot programs, municipal governments which well understood the local needs, often made up for the funding gaps – as the \$5.9 million from the LHINs did not fully fund the CP pilots. As well, municipal governments often funded the CP pilot administrative and management costs through in-kind provision through their 911 Paramedic Services.

CP Program Funders – Overview

| BASE Funding Sources | # of CP programs | % of Base Funded Programs | % offered by municipal paramedic services |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Provincial only | 63 | 76% | 19 |
| Municipal only | 10 | 12% | 4 |
| Provincial + Municipal shared | 10 | 12% | 6 |
| Total | 83 | | |
| Project (one-Time) Funding Sources | | | |
| Provincial only | 61 | 50% | 28 |
| Municipal only | 23 | 19% | 11 |
| Provincial + Municipal shared | 4 | 3% | 3 |
| Hospitals | 4 | 3% | 3 |
| Federal | 5 | 4% | 6 |
| Other (e.g., CAMH) | 26 | 21% | 16 |
| Total | 123 | | |

Source: MOH CP survey April 2021

AMO, on behalf of Ontario municipal governments, as well as the Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs (OAPC), on behalf of the 52 Paramedic Chiefs, has been advocating for the Province to fully fund community paramedicine programs as they are primary care programs for which the Province is responsible. We are looking for a separate stream of committed 100% provincial funding which is not to be simply shifted from the current co-funded 911 emergency services.

It also needs to be noted that not all the municipal paramedic services have had access to provincial funding for the current CP pilots. It is understood that only 33 of the 52 paramedic services have been able to benefit from CP provincial funding which means 19 municipalities have had to fund CP programs themselves or who have not been able to have a CP program to date due to this funding challenge given limited municipal dollars. This is an inequity for these communities that must be addressed through a provincially funded CP program.

A cursory cost-benefit analysis with respect to a CP program reducing demand for emergency departments, hospital beds, or LTC beds accrues directly to the Province and the provincial health care system. Municipal governments would not receive any direct cost savings for a successful CP program.

Community paramedicine does provide for significant cost avoidance and savings for the provincial government as it is proven to reduce the number of people going to the hospital emergency departments, which directly reduces the pressure on “hallway medicine” for the health care system. This would also assist in shared cost-avoidance for both the Province and municipalities/DSSABs as this should decrease 911 pressures. Full analysis of this projected

cost avoidance cannot be calculated until the evaluations of the CP pilots have been done and are made available.

In our minds there is only one option. That is for the Province to fully, 100% fund a permanent community paramedicine system with predictable and sustainable funding in a single streamlined manner. Otherwise, it can never become a fully efficient and cost-effective, permanent community paramedicine system that addresses the lack of primary health care access across the province. Expecting municipal governments to continue to contribute to the funding of CP program, directly or in-kind, is both unreasonable and an abdication of the provincial responsibility for primary health care.

Although the provincial Treasury Board does not like to factor in future cost avoidance or projected system savings in its deliberations, the tangible cost savings of a permanent community paramedicine system to the provincially funded health care system (i.e., reduction in emergency department visits, reduction in hospital beds admissions, reductions in alternative level care beds, reductions in the LTC bed waiting lists) can not be understated. Perhaps the structured evaluation of the cost-effectiveness of the Ministry of Long-Term Care wait list program will provide additional evidence to the need for a fully provincially funded permanent community paramedicine system.

3. Medical Delegation

The regulatory framework that has been established for paramedics, principally under the *Ambulance Act*, does not address delegation of medical acts in community paramedicine programs. Each municipal paramedic service has established their own parameters depending on what delegation options were available and practical.

Community paramedics receive the authority to perform certain controlled acts through various authorized health care professionals. This is in addition to the delegations that 911 paramedics receive from their regional base hospitals in the course of their regular duties responding to 911 calls. The table, below, presents the sources of delegation.

| Delegation Source | % of CP Practices Using Delegation Source |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Base Hospital ** | 21% |
| Hospital Physician | 10% |
| Other Physician | 19% |
| Local Medical Officer of Health | 25% |
| Primary Care Physician | 13% |
| EMS Medical Director | 6% |
| Nurse Practitioner | 3% |
| LHIN Physician | 3% |
| LTC Medical Director | 1% |

Source: MOH CP survey April 2021

Note: Percentages are based the total number of delegated practices identified (72) rather than a percentage of 263 discrete programs due to the MOH survey design.

** Should be noted that delegation by base hospital physicians would have been done outside of their base hospital responsibilities to the 911 emergency paramedic program through a different fee for service method.

There exists a potential liability related to the delegation of controlled acts for all involved in the absence of a regulatory college of paramedics – the paramedic, the delegating physician, and the municipal/DSSAB/First Nation employer all share responsibility in the care of a patient. A standardized approach to medical delegation needs to be established for community paramedicine as it is fundamentally different in design and delivery than the base hospital relationship that exists in the 911 system.

Community paramedic delegation typically occurs between the most responsible medical provider (physician and nurse practitioners) for a patient they know and the community paramedic or by a physician affiliated with the Community Paramedicine Program. There is a pre-existing relationship between providers and the patient. It is important to understand that this model is different by design than that of the 911 system, which was established to specifically address the absence of a physician-patient relationship.

Options:

1. Develop a regulated health professional college for paramedics so that they can be self-regulated and have designated medical acts prescribed under such new legislation.
 - This has been a long-standing objective of the OAPC and paramedics throughout Ontario.
 - Given the range of other health professionals that are self-governing, from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario to the College of Traditional Chinese Medicine and Acupuncturists of Ontario, it would appear that paramedics are one of the very few health care providers that are not under a regulated college.
 - This would enable the paramedic to have a direct health care provider relationship with the patient, rather than having the relationship with a physician or nurse practitioner who delegates to the paramedic in the care of the patient.
 - Municipal employers would likely be supportive of a regulated health professional college for paramedics as long as the cost of such a college was not entered into the collective bargaining process (e.g., that municipal/DSSAB/First Nation employers end up paying for the self-regulation of paramedics). It is also understood that paramedic unions are also concerned about who pays for the College and related training and they are not supportive of those costs being borne by the paramedics themselves.
 - It would take a number of years to develop and work through long-standing issues with a regulated health professional college so that all the involved parties (e.g., MOH, municipal governments, OAPC, paramedic associations, and unions) can be addressed to everyone's satisfaction.

- An incremental approach to a self-regulated college may need to be explored while considering this option, such as the Authority provided under Bill 283, *Advancing Oversight and Planning in Ontario's Health System Act, 2021* which has elements of a self-regulated college (such as registration, complaints, and investigations).
2. Have one appointed physician per municipal/DSSAB/First Nation paramedic service provide for the medical delegation for all CP programs in each service region **where there is not** a Family Physician, Family Health Team/Ontario Health Team or Nurse Practitioner who is providing medical delegation to the CP as part of the patient's circle of care.
 - The physician would need to be expert in the field of primary care, palliative, and geriatric care.
 - The *Ambulance Act* use of base hospital physicians with the emphasis on emergency medicine expertise would not be appropriate for community paramedicine oversight given its primary health care focus.
 - This approach provides for care for unattached patients within their home and community.
 - This approach respects the current care model for each patient where it exists.
 - This could be a positive transitional first step toward regularizing the provision of medical delegation for community paramedicine.
 3. Continue the ad-hoc approach to CP program medical delegation.
 - This is a high-risk option for the provincial government as the legislative oversight authority for paramedics if they do not take appropriate preventative action as they are abundantly aware of the public risk.
 - This could enable municipal governments to countersue the Province if action is taken against them on this point as municipalities are not legislatively responsible for the *Medicine Act* nor the *Ambulance Act*. If this approach is continued, even as a transitional model, the process and quality management program around it must be standardized.
 4. Start with announcing Option 1 to establish a path forward with the transitional Option 2, including the proposed regional medical advisory board and the establishment of clinical standardized community paramedicine clinical guidelines or a community paramedicine operational guideline, as an interim approach while developing the legislative basis for a regulated health professional college for paramedics in Ontario.
 - This could be a prudent first step while considering the reapplication for a regulated Paramedic College.
 - This would reduce the potential risk to public safety and legal action.

In addition to the medical delegation options, establishing a regional medical advisory council for Community Paramedicine in each Ontario Region (same as ER and Critical Care) is strongly recommended.

Further, standardized community paramedicine clinical guidelines or a community paramedicine operational guideline (currently under development) need to be approved by the Ministry of Health (or the Paramedic College once up and running) and adopted by all municipal/DSSAB/First Nation paramedic services with an accompanying quality assurance and performance indicator reporting mechanism.

A clearly articulated system of medical delegation is required for community paramedicine to reduce any potential risk for the patient, delegating physician, paramedic, and the municipal/DSSAB/First Nation paramedic service. It must be addressed immediately – preferably with a future orientation – that provides for a transitional approach along with mandated regional medical advisory councils and standardized community paramedicine clinical/operational guidelines.

Concluding Summary

Community paramedicine is here to stay in Ontario. Evidence shows that it is a cost-efficient health care program that can be integrated into home and community health care services that respects Ontarians' desire to remain at home for as long as possible while delivering better value to the health care system as a whole.

AMO and the OPAC have jointly written this paper to set out the immediate and future requirements to successfully develop a community paramedicine system in Ontario. We look forward to working with the Ministries of Health and Long-Term Care as valued partners along with Ontario Health to make a community paramedicine system in Ontario a reality.

Proposed Next Steps

That the Ministries of Health and Long-term Care agree to establish a working group with AMO, OAPC, Ontario Health (and City of Toronto) as partners to develop a community paramedicine policy framework that could start to be implemented, by enabling legislation, in Fall 2022. It is also proposed that standardized community paramedicine clinical/operational guidelines are finalized for use throughout the province in the same time period.

Appendix: Community Paramedicine Programs - as per MOH survey April 2021

| Program | Patient Cohort(s) and Selected Service Offerings | % of All 263 CP Programs |
|--|---|--------------------------|
| Programs Geared Toward Education, Prevention & Monitoring | | |
| Home and Virtual Visits | <p><u>Patient Cohorts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronic or complex elderly, frail, and palliative patients • Hospitalized patients being discharged back to the home or community setting. <p><u>Services:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home visits as part of inter-professional team supporting early discharge • Tele-home care (e.g. monitoring and recording vitals) | 48% |
| Assessment & Referral | <p><u>Patient Cohorts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patients in congregate settings, including seniors. • Recently discharged hospital patients. <p><u>Services:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Referral to a home visit program (e.g. Community Referrals by EMS, or CREMS) and/or CP led clinics (e.g. wellness clinics) | 35% |
| Remote Patient Monitoring | <p><u>Patient Cohorts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congestive heart failure and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease patients. • Frequent users of the 911 system and/or patients at high risk of hospitalization. <p><u>Services:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring of vitals signs through technology. | 24% |

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|----|
| Wellness Clinics | <p><u>Patient Cohorts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High-risk, elderly patients (including in congregate settings). • Vulnerable, including low-income and homeless population. <p><u>Services:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronic disease prevention education, blood pressure and blood glucose tests, general wellness assessments, education about healthy living | 6% |
|-------------------------|--|----|

Programs Geared Toward Clinical Interventions

| | | |
|---|--|-----|
| Immunization Clinics | <p><u>Patient Cohorts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on vulnerable populations and seniors. <p><u>Services:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immunization shots (e.g., seasonal flu, COVID-19 vaccination). | 33% |
| COVID-19 Testing/ Swabbing & Mobile Clinics | <p><u>Patient Cohorts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As directed by Local Medical Officer of Health. <p><u>Services:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swabbing and point-of-care testing. | 23% |
| Palliative Care Programs | <p><u>Patient Cohorts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patients deemed palliative by physician or Nurse Practitioner (NP). <p><u>Services:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute pain and symptom management. | 15% |
| Mental Health & Addictions (MH&A) Programs | <p><u>Patient Cohorts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patients referred by partners (e.g. CAMH, community partners) and as result of on-site 911 paramedic, police, physicians or NP. | 12% |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|----|
| | <p><u>Services:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient assessments and escalation to MH response teams and/or collaborative care teams. | |
| High Intensity Needs Programs | <p><u>Patient Cohorts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternate Level of Care (ALC) patients on the waitlist for long-term care. <p><u>Services:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute pain and symptom management, and other interventions required to maintain clinically complex patients in the home and community. | 6% |

Note: A number of CP programs (35%) were unique, localized programs not broadly offered elsewhere in the province. These programs included various patient cohorts and service offerings, including Naloxone kit distribution for overdose patients.

References

1. Verma A, Klich J, Thurston A, Scantlebury J, Kiss A, Seddon G, Sinha SK. Paramedic-initiated home care referrals and use of home care and emergency medical services. *Prehospital Emergency Care*. 2018 May 4;22(3):379-84.
 2. Agarwal G, Angeles R, Pirrie M, McLeod B, Marzaneck F, Parascandalo J, Thabane L. Evaluation of a community paramedicine health promotion and lifestyle risk assessment program for older adults who live in social housing: a cluster randomized trial. *CMAJ*. 2018 May 28;190(21):E638-47.
 3. Ruest MR, Ashton CW, Millar J. Community Health Evaluations Completed Using Paramedic Service (CHECUPS): Design and Implementation of a New Community Based Health Program. *JHSA*. 2017;(Fall).
 4. Brohman M, Green M, Dixon J, Whittaker R, Fallon L. Community Paramedicine Remote Patient Monitoring (CPRPM): Benefits Evaluation & Lessons Learned. Toronto, ON; 2018.
 5. McNeil D, Blanchard T. Community Paramedicine Program Evaluation [Internet]. Available from: <https://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=feed&action=file&attachment=16613.pdf>
- Marchildon GP. *Health Systems in Transition: Canada*. Copenhagen: WHO Regional Office for Europe on Behalf of the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies; 2005. [[Google Scholar](#)]



Interoffice Memorandum

Date: July 9, 2021

To: Health & Social Services Committee

From: Dr. Robert Kyle

Subject: Health Information Update – July 4, 2021

Health
Department

Please find attached the latest links to health information from the Health Department and other key sources that you may find of interest. Links may need to be copied and pasted directly in your web browser to open, including the link below.

You may also wish to browse the online Health Department Reference Manual available at [Board of Health Manual](#), which is continually updated.

Boards of health are required to “superintend, provide or ensure the provision of the health programs and services required by the [Health Protection and Promotion] Act and the regulations to the persons who reside in the health unit served by the board” (section 4, clause a, HPPA). In addition, medical officers of health are required to “[report] directly to the board of health on issues relating to public health concerns and to public health programs and services under this or any other Act” (sub-section 67.(1), HPPA).

Accordingly, the Health Information Update is a component of the Health Department’s ‘Accountability Framework’, which also may include program and other reports, Health Plans, Quality Enhancement Plans, Durham Health Check-Ups, business plans and budgets; provincial performance indicators and targets, monitoring, compliance audits and assessments; RDPS certification; and accreditation by Accreditation Canada.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

R.J. Kyle, BSc, MD, MHSc, CCFP, FRCPC, FACPM
Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health

*“Service Excellence
for our Communities*

UPDATES FOR HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
July 4, 2021

Health Department Media Releases/Publications

tinyurl.com/48vmw7t3

- Mobile COVID-19 Vaccine for Clients who are Housebound (Jun 21)

tinyurl.com/2arpxr4

- Health Department has received Pfizer vaccine shipment that was delayed earlier this week (Jun 24)

tinyurl.com/2vdw9v2y

- Durham Region Weekly Beach Report (Jun 25)

tinyurl.com/3htut7j7

- Limited COVID-19 vaccine appointments available for expanded eligibility groups second dose (Jun 25)

tinyurl.com/cnk9j5ff

- Durham Region Weekly Beach Report (Jul 2)

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Employment and Social Development Canada

tinyurl.com/t62mtd46

- Government of Canada introduces legislation to create the new Canada Disability Benefit (Jun 22)

tinyurl.com/dct8kefp

- Federal minimum wage of \$15 per hour to come into effect on December 29, 2021 (Jun 30)

Environment and Climate Change Canada

tinyurl.com/y9bnbfum

- Government of Canada legislates climate accountability with first net-zero emissions law (Jun 30)

Health Canada

tinyurl.com/var462kb

- Certain hand sanitizers recalled because they may pose health risks (Jun 22)

tinyurl.com/wr2dsn3s

- Supporting Canadians with improved labelling for natural health products (Jun 25)

tinyurl.com/mzyc6258

- Health Canada updates Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccine labels to include information on myocarditis and pericarditis (Jun 30)

Indigenous Services Canada

tinyurl.com/uastp4w

- Government of Canada COVID-19 Update for Indigenous Peoples and communities, week of June 21 (Jun 14)

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada

tinyurl.com/eryn98xv

- Government of Canada launches \$500 million Canada Community Revitalization Fund to drive post-COVID-19 recovery (Jun 23)

tinyurl.com/2ac3526c

- Government of Canada invests nearly \$16 million to bring high-speed Internet to 7,511 more homes in rural Ontario (Jun 25)

Natural Resources Canada

tinyurl.com/vteatatt

- Canada Releases National Issues Report on Climate Change Adaptation (Jun 28)

Prime Minister's Office

tinyurl.com/3u52huyr

- 4,500 Homes for Canadians (Jun 30)

Public Health Agency of Canada

tinyurl.com/56v9c5c3

- Government of Canada's first phase of easing border measures for travellers entering Canada (Jun 21)

tinyurl.com/39fdpm74

- Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada on June 21, 2021

tinyurl.com/4xw7czp7

- Joint Statement from the Co-Chairs of the Special Advisory Committee on the Epidemic of Opioid Overdoses – Latest Modelling Projections on Opioid Related Deaths and National Data on the Overdose Crisis (Jun 23)

tinyurl.com/wms4t2js

- Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada on June 23, 2021

tinyurl.com/ys6x6rb2

- Government of Canada funds new project to encourage vaccine uptake in Canada (Jun 24)

tinyurl.com/whyb6sck

- Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada on June 24, 2021

tinyurl.com/yrpn6uau

- Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada on June 26, 2021

tinyurl.com/cy8jc6e5

- Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada on June 27, 2021

tinyurl.com/257dxra3

- Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada on June 28, 2021

tinyurl.com/cnknjyx3

- Government of Canada funds four new projects to encourage COVID-19 vaccination in Canada (Jun 30)

tinyurl.com/2x3a2mh7

- Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada on June 30, 2021

tinyurl.com/63x8us4j

- Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada on July 2, 2021

Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada

tinyurl.com/3rkjsyyw

- Government of Canada delivers on plan to build safer communities and reduce firearms violence (Jun 22)

Transport Canada

tinyurl.com/wej8tbrn

- Canadians face increased fine amounts for trespassing onto railway property and interfering with the safe operations of the railway system (Jun 23)

tinyurl.com/26kn8vcj

- Building a green economy: Government of Canada to require 100% of car and passenger truck sales be zero-emission by 2035 in Canada (Jun 29)

GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO

Ministry of Colleges and Universities

tinyurl.com/y6t26aba

- Ontario Invests in Research and Innovation (Jun 29)

Ministry of Education

tinyurl.com/m2cjbda

- In-Person Summer Learning to Support Student Success and a Strong Start to 2021-22 School Year (Jun 24)

Ministry of Health

tinyurl.com/2tfk7a95

- Ontario Launching New \$30 Million Surgical Innovation Fund (Jun 23)

tinyurl.com/5er4yu4m

- All Ontarians 18+ Becoming Eligible for Accelerated Second Doses (Jun 25)

tinyurl.com/vkhjt949

- Youth Aged 12-17 Across Ontario Eligible for Accelerated Second Dose (Jul 2)

Ministry of Long-Term Care

tinyurl.com/ys6b494s

- Ontario Further Eases Long-Term Care Home Restrictions (Jun 29)

Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry

tinyurl.com/yvdjruxa

- Annual Rabies Bait Drop to Begin (Jun 24)

Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility

tinyurl.com/y98phvxw

- Ontario Providing Accessible Rides to COVID-19 Vaccination Sites (Jun 22)

Office of the Premier

tinyurl.com/hsrjaf7d

- Ontario Moving to Step Two of Roadmap to Reopen on June 30 (Jun 24)

tinyurl.com/ysp5h23t

- Ontario Thanks Dr. David Williams for his years of Dedicated Service (Jun 25)

tinyurl.com/uec7stdv

- Ontario Prioritizing People’s Safety While Reducing the Burden on Businesses and Organizations (Jun 30)

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Accessibility Standards Canada

tinyurl.com/yvk23fsw

- Accessibility Standards Canada 2020-2021 annual report: Keeping our focus on an accessible Canada (Jun 21)

Association of Local Public Health Agencies

tinyurl.com/39xjx65a

- Disposition of 2021 Resolutions (Jun 21)

tinyurl.com/yxfvs5uy

- COMOH urges Ontarians to get fully vaccinated with first COVID-19 vaccine offered (Jun 23)

tinyurl.com/2bp3e6wm

- 2020-21 Ombudsman’s Annual Report Response (Jun 30)

Ombudsman Ontario

tinyurl.com/2ca5eupm

- Ombudsman’s Annual Report stresses “essential” oversight of public sector in pandemic, highlights improvements and gaps (Jun 29)

Ontario Medical Association

tinyurl.com/465vyrv7

- Ontario’s doctors pleased with vaccination progress, optimistic about summer (Jun 30)

Public Health Ontario


tinyurl.com/2u8yr94r

- PHO Connections (Jun 28)

June 28, 2021

Via Email:

Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

| | |
|--|---|
|  | Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division |
| Date & Time Received: | June 30, 2021 2:56 pm |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

Re: Condemnation of London Terrorism and Support for the Muslim Community

Please be advised that at a meeting held on June 21, 2021, the Council of the Town of Whitby adopted the following as Resolution # 214-21:

Whereas on June 6, 2021, an attack ended the lives of Salman Afzaal, 46, his 44-year-old wife Madiha, their 15-year-old daughter Yumna, and the children's 74-year-old grandmother and seriously injured the 9 year old son Fayez;

Whereas hatred rooted in Islamophobia is becoming a regular occurrence in Canada with attacks on Muslim women in Alberta, the IMO mosque killing, and the Quebec City mosque massacre;

Whereas community members in London, Ontario and those across Canadian mourn the loss of life of the Afzaal family and send their prayers and well wishes for the 9 year old's recovery; and,

Whereas Federal, Provincial and Municipal leaders are condemning this incident as a terrorist attack and pledging their support to the Muslim community.

Therefore Be It Resolved:

1. That the Town of Whitby condemn the June 6, 2021 act of terrorism in London, Ontario and pledge its support to the Muslim community here in Whitby, Durham and across Canada;
2. That the Whitby Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee examine ways to strengthen our ties with our growing Muslim population;
3. That Staff bring forward a decision item as part of the 2022 budget process identifying the staff and other resources necessary to undertake the Diversity and Inclusion initiatives that will be identified in the Town's 2022-2024 Business Plan; and,

4. That a copy of this motion be sent to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Minister Bardish Chagger, Minister of Diversity, Inclusion and Youth, Premier Doug Ford, all Durham Region MPs and MPPs, The Region of Durham, and all Durham local area municipalities.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Town Clerk at 905-430-4315.



Kevin Narraway
Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk

Copy: C. Harris, Town Clerk - harrisc@whitby.ca
J. Romano, Commissioner of Community Services – romanoj@whitby.ca
F. Wong, Commissioner of Financial Services/Treasurer – wongf@whitby.ca

Honourable Bardish Chagger, Minister of Diversity and Inclusion and Youth - bardish.chagger@parl.gc.ca

Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario - premier@ontario.ca

Lindsey Park, MPP - Durham - lindsey.park@pc.ola.org

Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP, Pickering-Uxbridge - peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org

Lorne Coe, MPP, Whitby - lorne.coe@pc.ola.org

Jennifer French, MPP, Oshawa - jfrench-co@ndp.on.ca

Laurie Scott, MPP, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock - laurie.scott@pc.ola.org

Honourable Rod Phillips, MPP, Ajax - rod.phillips@pc.ola.org

Honourable Mark Holland, MP, Ajax – mark.holland@parl.gc.ca

Colin Carrie, MP, Oshawa - colin.carrie@parl.gc.ca

Erin O'Toole, MP, Durham - erin.otoole@parl.gc.ca

Ryan Turnbull, MP, Whitby - turnbullwhitby@parl.gc.ca

Jennifer O'Connell, MP, Pickering-Uxbridge - Jennifer.oconnell@parl.g.ca

Jamie Schmale, MP, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock

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M. Medeiros, City Clerk, City of Oshawa - clerks@oshawa.ca

S. Cassel, City Clerk, City of Pickering - clerks@pickering.ca

B. Jamieson, Director of Corporate Services/Municipal Clerk, Township of Scugog - bjamieson@scugog.ca


D. Leroux, Clerk, Township of Uxbridge - dleroux@town.uxbridge.on.ca



July 5, 2021

The Honorable Caroline Mulroney
Minister of Transportation
Sent via email to: minister.mto@ontario.ca

The Honorable Dave Piccini
Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks
Sent via email to: minister.mecp@ontario.ca

| | |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | July 06, 2021 2:33 pm |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

Re: Highway 7-12 Alternative Route(s) EA Study, Brooklin Area

Please be advised that at the last regular meeting of the Council of the Township of Scugog held June 28, 2021, the above captioned matter was discussed and the following resolution was passed:

“WHEREAS the Township of Scugog does support the Memorandum of Understanding that the Province of Ontario and the Town of Whitby entered in to on December 16, 2015 to create a traffic by-pass around the Village of Brooklin;

WHEREAS the project is known as the 7/12 realignment and is being led by the Town of Whitby;

WHEREAS the project has two preferred options;

WHEREAS both preferred options lie completely within the Oak Ridge’s Moraine Protected areas as per Ontario Regulation 140/02;

WHEREAS both preferred options will impact residents of Scugog;

WHEREAS the Township of Scugog has recently completed an Active Transportation and Transportation Master Plan and Environmental Assessment whereby there is no mention of the 7/12 Realignment project;

WHEREAS there has not been adequate notification to the Township of Scugog Residents or Scugog Council to allow meaningful input into the project to date;

WHEREAS the Township of Scugog does not have a representative on the Evaluation Committee despite choosing a joint asset as the projects preferred route;

WHEREAS the Township of Scugog does not have a representative on the Evaluation Committee despite choosing a joint asset as the projects preferred route;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Scugog does not support either of the two preferred options;

THAT the Township of Scugog request that the Brooklin Bypass not be located on the Scugog/Whitby Townline Road or anywhere within an impactful vicinity of Scugog's southern border and residents;

THAT the Township of Scugog does not support the relocation of the Brooklin Bypass or any part there of within the Oak Ridges Moraine protected by Ontario Regulation 140/02; and

THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Caroline Mulroney Minister of Transportation of Ontario, The Honourable Dave Piccini Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, MPP Lindsey Park, MPP Lorne Coe, Durham Region, Durham Region Municipalities, BT Engineering, Kawartha Conservation, and Central Lake Ontario Conservation."

Should you require anything further regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Carol Coleman, Director of Public Works and Infrastructure at 905-985-7346 ext. 149.

Yours truly,



Becky Jamieson
Director of Corporate Services/Municipal Clerk

cc: Carol Coleman, Director of Public Works and Infrastructure
Chief Kelly Laocca, Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation
info@scugogfirstnation.com

MPP Lindsey Park

Lindsey.park@pc.ola.org

MPP Lorne Coe

Lorne.coe@pc.ola.org

Ralph Walton, Regional Clerk, Durham Region
Durham Region Municipalities

clerks@durham.ca

Steve Taylor, BT Engineering

steve.taylor@bteng.ca

Kawartha Conservation

GenInfo@KawarthaConservation.com

Central Lake Ontario Conservation

mail@cloca.com



July 6, 2021

Honorable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario

Sent via email to: premier@ontario.ca

Honorable Stephen Lecce
Minister of Education

Sent via email to: minister.edu@ontario.ca

Honorable Caroline Mulroney
Minister of Transport

Sent via email to: minister.mto@ontario.ca

Re: Williams Point Road and Beacock Road School Bus Turnarounds

Please be advised that at the last regular meeting of the Council of the Township of Scugog held June 28 2021, the above captioned matter was discussed and the following resolution was passed:

“That Report PWIS-2021-022, Williams Point Road and Beacock Road School Bus Turnarounds, be received;

That Council request the Durham Student Transportation Services to consider the previous motion of Council of April 26, 2021, and request that the policies to allow 3-point turns or backing up where necessary, to provide safer service to dead-end and private road children and prevent the need for additional turnarounds to be constructed on Township of Scugog roads; and

That Council request the Province of Ontario to consider the previous motion of Council and request that the policies to allow 3-point turns or backing up where necessary, to provide safer service to dead-end and private road children and prevent the need for additional turnarounds to be constructed on municipal roads; and

THAT a copy of this motion and the staff report be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Honorable Stephen Lecce (Minister of Education), Honorable Caroline Mulroney (Minister of Transport), Durham Student Transportation Services, Durham District School Board, Durham MPP Lindsey Park, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP Laurie Scott, all Durham MPPs, Durham Region, all Ontario Municipalities, Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA), and Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).”

Should you require anything further regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Carol Coleman, Director of Public Works and Infrastructure at 905-985-7346 ext. 149.

Yours truly,



Becky Jamieson
Director of Corporate Services/Municipal Clerk

Attachments

cc: Carol Coleman, Director of Public Works and Infrastructure
Durham Student Transportation Services kelly.mechoulan@dsts.on.ca
kimberley.briggs@dsts.on.ca
Durham District School Board, Norah Marsh, Director of Education
norah.marsh@ddsb.ca
Carolyn Morton, School Trustee carolyn.morton@ddsb.ca
Durham MPP Lindsey Park lindsey.park@pc.ola.org
Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP Laurie Scott laurie.scott@pc.ola.org
All Durham MPP's -
Rod Phillips, MPP Ajax Rod.phillips@pc.ola.org
Lorne Coe, MPP Whitby Lorne.coe@pc.ola.org
Jennifer French, MPP Oshawa Jfrench-QP@ndp.on.ca
Lindsey Park, MPP, Durham Lindsey.park@pc.ola.org
Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP Pickering-Uxbridge Peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org
Ralph Walton, Regional Clerk, Durham Region clerks@durham.ca
All Ontario Municipalities
Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) roma@roma.on.ca
Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) info@ogra.org
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) amo@amo.on.ca



April 28, 2021

Minister Stephen Lecce
Minister of Education
Sent via email to: minister.edu@ontario.ca

Re: Bus Stops on Dead End Roads

Dear Minister:

At the last regular Council meeting of the Township of Scugog held April 26, 2021, the above captioned matter was discussed and I wish to advise that the following resolution was passed:

That Dead-End Road delegations be received: from parents, [video](#), site www.durhamdeadendroadkids.ca and attached correspondence and;

Whereas Dead-End Road kids (cul-de-sacs, private roads) busing being moved from long-time residential to highspeed (some 80km) common stop pickups; percentage of 830,000 Ontario bused students impacted as Student Transportation Services (STS) citing buses shouldn't access private roads, do 3-point-turns, or back up; kids expected to walk 1-2km twice daily (caregivers 4x) in morning dark, on narrow road shoulders, with no "bus stop ahead" warning signage;

Whereas Parents report employment/housing at risk. Must leave work to drop off/pick up children to avoid safety hazards of kids walking on highways unsupervised; secondary school youth reporting education at risk as missing class/affecting grades; children with disabilities not helped like double amputee who needs stop moved 160ft; parents told it's their "responsibility to get kids to bus safely";

Whereas Parents being told busing policy is schoolboard's, but they say it's STS's, who say it's Governance Committee or Ministry of Transportation, but Ministry of Education say it's "transportation consortia who administer policy"; and trustee, governance say cannot change policies, so parents appealing to police, press, & councils re dangers then; oncoming car killed 12-yr-old Cormac and injured sister while waiting at newly relocated bus stop at the base of a hill;

Whereas STS have advised road improvements are responsibility of municipalities, yet municipalities don't own needed land, nor have \$ millions to create 77m bus turnarounds, meanwhile;

Whereas Ontario Transportation Funding is \$1 billion; Jan 27/20 Ministry said they'd improve student transportation, review funding formula; and given STS gets their funding by scoring well in reviews, and given Ministry establishing "Student Transportation Advisory Group" to hear STS sector expertise, experience and ideas;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Municipality of Scugog requests:

THAT exceptions to allow 3-point turns or backing up where necessary, to provide safer service to dead-end and private road kids, that policies be amended to reflect; when not possible;

THAT exceptions to allow indemnification agreements to access private land for bus turnarounds to keep bus stops safer and closer to prescribed 800m distance; when not possible;

THAT "Bus Stop Ahead" warning signage be required to notify oncoming traffic, prior to STS moving common stop to main roadway;

THAT STS be comprised of solutions like mini-buses, vans, taxis, or public transit, worked into funding formula so doesn't negatively impact STS funding stats;

THAT Kid KPI "Key Performance Indicator" be included for Ministry "Effectiveness & Efficiency Follow Up Reviews", establishing benchmarks for responsive-problem-solving for kids & parents' busing concerns, and this be an STS factor to receive funding;

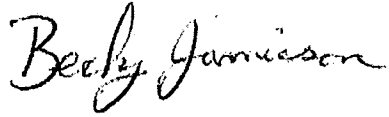
THAT Province provide "Parent Portal" for ongoing busing feedback of their STS, so families and kids can review/provide comments, especially during Ministry STS reviews and revisions to funding;

THAT Province have GPS tracking software to notify parents when children picked up/dropped off, and

THAT this motion be distributed to Premier Doug Ford, Honorable Stephen Lecce (Minister of Education), Honorable Caroline Mulroney (Minister of Transport), Durham MPP Lindsey Park, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP Laurie Scott, all Durham MPPs, Durham Region, all Ontario Municipalities, Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA), and Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

Should you require any further information in regard to this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Carol Coleman, Director of Public Works and Infrastructure Services at 905-985-7346 ext.149.

Yours truly,



Becky Jamieson
Director of Corporate Services/Municipal Clerk

Attachments

cc: Carol Coleman, Director of Public Works and Infrastructure Services
Premier of Ontario, Honourable Doug Ford premier@ontario.ca
Honorable Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transport minister.mto@ontario.ca
Durham MPP Lindsey Park lindsey.park@pc.ola.org
Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP Laurie Scott laurie.scott@pc.ola.org
All Durham MPP's -
 Rod Phillips, MPP Ajax Rod.phillips@pc.ola.org
 Lorne Coe, MPP Whitby Lorne.coe@pc.ola.org
 Jennifer French, MPP Oshawa Jfrench-QP@ndp.on.ca
 Lindsey Park, MPP, Durham Lindsey.park@pc.ola.org
 Laurie Scott, MPP Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock
 Laurie.scott@pc.ola.org
 Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP Pickering-Uxbridge
 Peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org
Ralph Walton, Regional Clerk, Durham Region clerks@durham.ca
All Ontario Municipalities
Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) roma@roma.on.ca
Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) info@ogra.org
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) amo@amo.on.ca


I trust you will find this in order; however should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 613-548-9400, ext. 302 or via email at jamini@frontenacounty.ca.

Yours Truly,



Jannette Amini, Dipl.M.M., M.A. CMO
Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk

Copy: Ontario Municipalities
File

| | |
|---|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | July 05, 2021 9:11 am |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

Municipality of Chatham-Kent

Corporate Services

Municipal Governance

315 King Street West, P.O. Box 640
 Chatham ON N7M 5K8

Tel: 519.360.1998 Fax: 519.436.3237
 Toll Free: 1.800.714.7497

June 29, 2021

Via Email: scott@baseballhalloffame.ca

Scott Crawford, Director of Operation
 Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame & Museum
 PO Box 1838, 386 Church St. S.
 St. Marys, ON N4X 1C2

Re: Support for the Induction of the Coloured All-Stars into the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame

Please be advised the Council of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent at its regular meeting held on June 14, 2021 passed the following resolution:

“Whereas The Chatham Coloured All-Stars first formed in 1932, with majority of the players being from North Buxton, Chatham and Windsor areas;

And Whereas they began competing in the Chatham City League in 1932;

And Whereas they broke colour barriers being the first black team to win a major championship competing for and winning the Ontario Baseball Amateur Association’s Intermediate B Championship on October 24, 1934;

And Whereas the team was honoured by both the Chatham Sports Hall of Fame and the Ontario Baseball Hall of Fame;

And Whereas in 2001 and 2002, the Toronto Blue Jays wore replica Chatham Coloured All-Stars uniforms in honour of the team when Major League Baseball honoured the Negro Leagues.

Be it therefore resolved that the Municipality of Chatham-Kent endorse this resolution to support the induction of the Coloured All-Stars into the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame”.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Judy Smith at ckclerk@chatham-kent.ca

Sincerely,




Judy Smith, CMO
 Director Municipal Governance
 Clerk /Freedom of Information Coordinator

“Via Email: justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

June 24th, 2021

The Honourable Justin Trudeau
 Prime Minister of Canada
 Office of the Prime Minister
 80 Wellington Street
 Ottawa, ON
 K1A 0A2

| | |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | June 30, 2021 3:07 pm |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

Re: Motion to Include the PSA Test for Men into the Medical Care

This will serve to advise you that Council, at its regular meeting held Tuesday, June 22nd, 2021, passed the following resolution:

“Resolution No. 182-2021

Moved By: Robert Hutchinson

Seconded By: Daniel Belisle

WHEREAS the male population has been made to pay for prostate blood test and whereas 11 Canadian men will die of prostate cancer every day and

WHEREAS 1.5 million Canadian men are not seeking the early detection PSA testing and

WHEREAS prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men and

WHEREAS when detected early the survival rate is close to 100% and detected late 3 of 4 men will be lost and

WHEREAS men who wish to have this test done have to pay \$33.00 for the test



THEREFORE I Robert Hutchinson move that both the Federal and Provincial Governments move to have this test included in the national health care system and that it be made available for all Canadian men at no charge and further that the Government make every effort to have this become a reality sooner than later as stated above every day that goes by another 11 men will die of this avoidable disease and

FURTHERMORE that this motion be distributed to Right Honourable Justin Trudeau Prime Minister of Canada, Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario, Minister of Health (Canada) Honourable Patty Hajdu, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health (Ontario) Honourable Christine Elliott, all municipalities, and all First Nation Communities .

Carried”

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated!

Yours Truly,


THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COCHRANE



Alice Mercier
Clerk

/am

c.c.: Hon. Doug Ford Premier of Ontario,
Hon. Patty Hajdu, Minister of Health (Canada)
Hon. Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health (Ontario)
All Municipalities
All First Nation Communities

| | |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | June 30, 2021 2:59 pm |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |



June 29, 2021

Sent via email

RE: Update on Memorandums of Understanding and Service Level Agreements with Municipalities

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) Board of Directors, at its meeting, held on June 25, 2021 adopted Resolution #A143/21 as follows:

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT this progress report be received;

THAT TRCA staff report back to the Board of Directors on the progress of Memorandums of Understanding and Service Level Agreements once Conservation Authorities Act regulations are released;

AND FURTHER THAT the Clerk and Manager, Policy, circulate this report to TRCA's municipal partners, and the Province, including the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, and Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

The report and referenced resolution are attached to this letter and can also be accessed at the TRCA Board of Directors [webpage](#). If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Victoria Kramkowski at 416-661-6600 ext. 5707, victoria.kramkowski@trca.ca or Nancy Gaffney at 416-661-6600 ext. 5313, nancy.gaffney@trca.ca.

<Original signed by>

Alisa Mahrova
 Clerk and Manager, Policy

cc: John MacKenzie, Chief Executive Officer, TRCA
 Nancy Gaffney, Government and Community Relations Specialist, Toronto/Durham Watersheds, TRCA
 Victoria Kramkowski, Government and Community Relations Specialist, Peel/York Watersheds, TRCA

DISTRIBUTION LIST

Hon. Steve Clark, Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
 Hon. David Piccini, Minister, Environment, Conservation and Parks
 Hon. Greg Rickford, Minister, Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry
 Gillian Angus-Traill, Clerk, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville
 Susan Cassel, City Clerk, City of Pickering
 Todd Coles, City Clerk, City of Vaughan
 Nicole Cooper, Director, Legislative and Information Services /Town Clerk, Town of Ajax
 Michael de Rond, Town Clerk, Town of Aurora
 Mark Early, Chief Administrative Officer and Clerk, Town of Mono
 John Elvidge, City Clerk, City of Toronto
 Peter Fay, City Clerk, City of Brampton
 Kim Gavine, General Manager, Conservation Ontario

Dianne Gould-Brown, Clerk, Township of Adjala-Tosorontio
Laura Hall, Town Clerk, Town of Caledon
Stephen M.A. Huycke, City Clerk, City of Richmond Hill
Kimberley Kitteringham, City Clerk, City of Markham
Debbie Leroux, Clerk, Township of Uxbridge
Kathryn Lockyer, Regional Clerk and Director of Clerks and Legal Services, Regional Municipality of Peel
Kathryn Moyle, Township Clerk, Township of King
Christopher Raynor, Regional Clerk, Regional Municipality of York
Diana Rusnov, City Clerk, City of Mississauga
Ralph Walton, Regional Clerk / Director, Legislative Services, Regional Municipality of Durham

Section III – Items for the Information of the Board

RES.#A143/21 - UPDATE ON MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING AND SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS WITH MUNICIPALITIES

To provide an update to Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's (TRCA) Board of Directors on work underway to advance Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) and Service Level Agreements (SLAs) with partner municipalities in the context of the updated *Conservation Authorities Act* (CA Act) and consultation regarding upcoming Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks and Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry regulations.

Moved by: James Pasternak
Seconded by: Ronald Chopowick

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT this progress report be received;

THAT TRCA staff report back to the Board of Directors on the progress of Memorandums of Understanding and Service Level Agreements once *Conservation Authorities Act* regulations are released;

AND FURTHER THAT the Clerk and Manager, Policy, circulate this report to TRCA's municipal partners, and the Province, including the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, and Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

Since 2015, the *Conservation Authorities Act* (CA Act) has been amended multiple times to introduce measures that provide further clarity and transparency surrounding the various types of services that conservation authorities provide to, and on behalf of, municipalities. These amendments were undertaken through the *Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017* (Bill 139) in 2017, the *More Homes, More Choice Act* (Bill 108) in 2019, and the *Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020* (Bill 229) in 2020. As a result of these amendments to the CA Act, conservation authorities will need to execute Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) and Service Level Agreements (SLAs) with partner municipalities in order to deliver services deemed to be non-mandatory.

As directed by the Board of Directors at [Board of Directors Meeting #11/19](#) held on January 24, 2020 (Resolution #A237/19), [Board of Directors meeting #3/20](#), held on April 24, 2020 (Resolution #A31/20), and [Board of Directors Meeting #6/20](#) held on September 25, 2020, TRCA staff have undertaken discussions with municipal partners to develop and execute MOUs and SLAs. A full description of related Board resolutions, and the most recent update on MOU discussions, at can be found in Item [12.7 \(Update on Municipal Memorandums of Understanding and Service Level Agreements\)](#) from Board of Directors meeting #1/21 (February 26, 2021).

Staff also provided updates on amendments to the [Conservation Authorities Act](#) and *Planning Act* through Schedule 6 of [Bill 229](#) from December 8, 2020 and the Province's [announcement of the formation of a Conservation Authorities Working Group](#) from December 16, 2020. TRCA has representation on the Working Group, with additional representation from other conservation authorities (CAs), Conservation Ontario, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and municipal, development and agriculture sectors.

On May 13, 2021, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) posted on the [Environmental Registry of Ontario](#) a “REGULATORY PROPOSAL CONSULTATION GUIDE: Regulations Defining Core Mandate and Improving Governance, Oversight and Accountability of Conservation Authorities” for a 45-day public commenting period ending June 27, 2021. The purpose of the Consultation Guide is to provide a description of the proposed regulations and solicit feedback that will be considered by the Ministry when developing the proposed regulations. The Guide does not include draft regulations. This first phase of the Ministry’s process is focused on the proposed regulations related to:

- the mandatory programs and services to be delivered by conservation authorities;
- the proposed agreements with participating municipalities to fund non-mandatory programs and services through a municipal levy;
- the transition period to establish those agreements;
- the requirement to establish ‘community’ advisory boards; and
- the Minister’s section 29 regulation relating to conservation authority operation and management of lands owned by the authority.

The Consultation Guide lays out a proposed requirement for conservation authorities to establish a Transition Plan that includes the following requirements:

- An inventory of programs and services to be completed, including identifying which of the authority’s non-mandatory programs and services will require agreements with participating municipalities to continue financing (in whole or in part) through the municipal levy.
- Consultation with participating municipalities on the inventory undertaken to ensure they agree with the authority’s classification of its programs and services.
- List of steps set out by the authority to be taken to enter into any agreements with participating municipalities for funding of authority determined programs and services.
- That these transition materials be provided to the Minister.

In response to the ERO posting, TRCA posted a [news release](#) on our website on May 18, 2021 and also brought forward [a report](#) (Item 8.4, Regulatory Proposals (Phase 1) Under the Conservation Authorities Act, Environmental Registry of Ontario Posting (ERO #019-2986) at the Board of Directors meeting held on May 28, 2021 on the Consultation Guide and potential implications, as well as solicited input from Board members on TRCA’s proposed ERO submission.

RATIONALE

Staff have been undertaking discussions with partner municipalities since June 2019, with discussions increasing in frequency and productivity over the last year. The productivity of MOU/SLA discussions has been supported by the resources developed by staff and described in the Board reports noted above. TRCA staff are also undertaking regular reviews and updates of the resources that have been developed. This includes updating the template MOU and SLA that were developed as municipal preferences and other considerations emerge, as well as undertaking a regular review of the detailed list of TRCA services every few months to ensure that it continues to reflect the breadth of TRCA services and expertise. In addition, new resources are being developed. Letter Agreement templates lay out the expected structure and content of a Letter Agreement, which would be appended to the SLA for each service, program or project that TRCA undertakes on behalf on a municipality. Several different versions of the Letter Agreement templates are being developed to reflect the different types of work that TRCA

could undertake along with associated details that would need to be included in any agreements. TRCA staff have also developed presentation templates for meetings with municipalities and other internal and external stakeholders in order to share the rationale for developing MOU/SLAs, the MOU/SLA agreement structure, TRCA service areas, and other considerations.

TRCA continues to participate in the Province's Conservation Authority Working Group. Based on TRCA's direct experience with developing MOUs with partner municipalities, staff have provided input related to the principles on which MOUs and SLAs could be based and the mandatory programs and services that conservation authorities would be required to provide. TRCA is encouraged that the direction laid out in the Consultation Guide, including for both the MOU Transition Plan and the development and execution of MOUs and SLAs themselves, aligns with the approach that TRCA has been taking in both discussions with partner municipalities and in the development of MOU-related resources. In many cases, TRCA is already meeting or exceeding many of the potential requirements of CAs, including having multi-stakeholder advisory committees to TRCA's Board (such as the Regional Watershed Alliance), already delivering mandatory CA services, and undertaking MOUs, SLAs and/or other agreements for the delivery of other individual services, programs and/or projects for municipalities.

Since the last update to the Board of Directors on the MOU-SLA process (Meeting #1/21, February 26, 2021), discussions with many partner municipalities have continued to progress (**Attachment 1**). This progress includes the following:

- Beyond initial discussions and/or meetings have been undertaken with all municipalities within TRCA's jurisdiction, TRCA resources have been distributed to all municipalities, including template MOUs and SLAs and the detailed list of TRCA services, at a minimum.
- Discussions on MOUs and SLAs have progressed to a more detailed stage with many municipalities. These detailed discussions include municipal staff reviewing TRCA's list of services, considering which services they currently utilize or might utilize, and reviewing any additional considerations, both internally and with TRCA staff. These detailed discussions may also include municipalities reviewing the template MOU and SLA with their legal counsel and/or conferring with their procurement/purchasing staff to understand any limitations and whether amendments may be required to current municipal procurement mechanisms.
- The execution of MOUs and/or MOUs moving to an advanced stage of development or approval. This includes where an MOU and the associated list of services has been drafted and is under review.
- Where relevant, staff have undertaken some joint meetings with municipal staff and neighbouring conservation authorities in order to better coordinate the development of MOUs and SLAs to ensure consistent services across a municipal jurisdiction.

While most municipalities do want to, and continue to, work with TRCA to identify services of interest and to develop and review an MOU and SLA(s) with TRCA, many municipalities also continue to prefer to wait until the regulations are released to finalize and execute MOUs. TRCA staff continue to work with partner municipalities to move the MOUs and SLAs forward to an advanced stage so that they can easily be brought forward for endorsement. TRCA staff are also reviewing the Provincial requirements for an MOU Transition Plan and will build upon the MOU resources and work already undertaken in order to meet the December 31, 2021 deadline proposed by the Province in the current ERO posting.

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

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

FINANCIAL DETAILS

There is no immediate financial impact due to carrying out the recommendations above. The process of undertaking agreements with municipalities related to non-mandatory municipal programs and services provided by TRCA under the amended *Conservation Authorities Act*, as well as with other external organizations, is expected to have positive financial impacts for TRCA based on the interest from most municipalities in providing funding and or jointly seeking funding for a selection of TRCA service areas that support areas of need for the municipalities in question and shared municipal and TRCA interests.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

- Continue to communicate implications of the Consultation Guide to TRCA Board of Directors, municipal partners and relevant stakeholders, as well as information related to the enabling regulations, once released;
- Continue to meet with municipal partners in order to continue development and execution of MOUs based on municipal preferences and needs;
- Continue working with municipalities, where required, to address any potential procurement policy approvals or required by-law amendments to support updated MOUs and SLAs;
- Continue working with neighbouring Conservation Authorities in order to coordinate MOU development;
- Develop the Provincially required MOU Transition Plan, and bring the Plan to the TRCA Board of Directors in Q4 2021 for approval; and
- Update existing, and finalize new MOUs and SLAs, as appropriate.

Report prepared by: Nancy Gaffney, extension 5313, Victoria Kramkowski, extension 5707

Emails: nancy.gaffney@trca.ca, victoria.kramkowski@trca.ca


For Information contact: Nancy Gaffney, extension 5313, Victoria Kramkowski, extension 5707

Emails: nancy.gaffney@trca.ca, victoria.kramkowski@trca.ca

Attachment 1: Municipal MOU/SLA Status Progress Table

Attachment 1: Municipal MOU/SLA Status Progress Table

| Municipality | Initial Meeting or Discussions Held | Draft MOU and SLA Shared | Draft Corporate Report Shared | Detailed Discussions Undertaken | Advanced MOU Development or Execution |
|---|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Adjala-Tosorontio | X | X | | | |
| Mono | X | X | | | |
| City of Toronto | | | | | |
| Parks Forestry and Recreation, and Transportation | X | X | X | X | X |
| Toronto Water | X | X | X | X | |
| Waste Management | X | | | | |
| Create TO | X | X | | X | |
| Toronto Botanical Gardens | X | X | X | X | X |
| Durham Region | | | | | |
| Region of Durham | X | X | X | X | |
| Ajax | X | X | X | X | |
| Pickering | X | X | X | X | |
| Uxbridge | X | X | X | X | |
| Peel Region | | | | | |
| Region of Peel | X | X | | | |
| Brampton | X | X | X | X | X |
| Caledon | X | X | X | | |
| Mississauga | X | X | X | X | |
| York Region | | | | | |
| Region of York | X | X | | | |
| King | X | X | X | X | X |
| Markham | X | X | X | X | X |
| Richmond Hill | X | X | X | | |
| Vaughan | X | X | X | X | |
| Whitchurch-Stouffville | X | X | X | X | |

| | |
|---|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | June 30, 2021 2:59 pm |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |



June 29, 2021

Sent via email

RE: TRCA Draft Comments to Environmental Registry of Ontario Posting (ERO #019-2986) – Regulatory Proposals (Phase 1) under the Conservation Authorities Act

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) Board of Directors, at its meeting, held on June 25, 2021 adopted Resolution #A142/21 as follows:

WHEREAS on May 13, 2021, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) posted a 'REGULATORY PROPOSAL CONSULTATION GUIDE: Regulations Defining Core Mandate and Improving Governance, Oversight and Accountability of Conservation Authorities' for public comment on the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO);

AND WHEREAS THE ERO imposes a June 27, 2021 deadline for submission of comments on this Phase 1 of the MECP's regulatory proposals under the Conservation Authorities Act;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) draft comments to ERO #019-2986 be received and that any comments from the Board of Directors inform TRCA's final submission to the ERO;

AND FURTHER THAT the Clerk and Manager, Policy, so advise TRCA's partner municipalities, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD), and Conservation Ontario.

The report and referenced resolution are attached to this letter and can also be accessed at the TRCA Board of Directors [webpage](#). If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Laurie Nelson at 416-661-6600 ext. 5281, laurie.nelson@trca.ca.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

Alisa Mahrova
 Clerk and Manager, Policy

cc: John MacKenzie, Chief Executive Officer, TRCA
 Laurie Nelson, Director, Policy Planning, TRCA

DISTRIBUTION LIST

Hon. Steve Clark, Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
 Hon. Greg Rickford, Minister, Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry
 Gillian Angus-Traill, Clerk, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville
 Susan Cassel, City Clerk, City of Pickering
 Todd Coles, City Clerk, City of Vaughan
 Nicole Cooper, Director, Legislative and Information Services /Town Clerk, Town of Ajax
 Michael de Rond, Town Clerk, Town of Aurora
 Mark Early, Chief Administrative Officer and Clerk, Town of Mono
 John Elvidge, City Clerk, City of Toronto
 Peter Fay, City Clerk, City of Brampton

Kim Gavine, General Manager, Conservation Ontario
Dianne Gould-Brown, Clerk, Township of Adjala-Tosorontio
Laura Hall, Town Clerk, Town of Caledon
Stephen M.A. Huycke, City Clerk, City of Richmond Hill
Kimberley Kitteringham, City Clerk, City of Markham
Debbie Leroux, Clerk, Township of Uxbridge
Kathryn Lockyer, Regional Clerk and Director of Clerks and Legal Services, Regional Municipality of Peel
Kathryn Moyle, Township Clerk, Township of King
Christopher Raynor, Regional Clerk, Regional Municipality of York
Diana Rusnov, City Clerk, City of Mississauga
Ralph Walton, Regional Clerk / Director, Legislative Services, Regional Municipality of Durham
Dave Wilkes, President and Chief Executive Officer, BILD

RES.#A142/21 -

TRCA DRAFT COMMENTS TO ENVIRONMENTAL REGISTRY OF ONTARIO POSTING (ERO #019-2986) – REGULATORY PROPOSALS (PHASE 1) UNDER THE CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES ACT

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) draft comments to the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO on the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) posting of a [“REGULATORY PROPOSAL CONSULTATION GUIDE: Regulations Defining Core Mandate and Improving Governance, Oversight and Accountability of Conservation Authorities”](#), Phase 1 Regulatory Proposals under the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

Moved by: Kevin Ashe
Seconded by: Linda Jackson

WHEREAS on May 13, 2021, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) posted a ‘REGULATORY PROPOSAL CONSULTATION GUIDE: Regulations Defining Core Mandate and Improving Governance, Oversight and Accountability of Conservation Authorities’ for public comment on the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO);

AND WHEREAS THE ERO imposes a June 27, 2021 deadline for submission of comments on this Phase 1 of the MECP’s regulatory proposals under the *Conservation Authorities Act*;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) draft comments to ERO #019-2986 be received and that any comments from the Board of Directors inform TRCA’s final submission to the ERO;

AND FURTHER THAT the Clerk and Manager, Policy, so advise TRCA’s partner municipalities, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD), and Conservation Ontario.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

On May 13, 2021, MECP posted on the [ERO](#) a “REGULATORY PROPOSAL CONSULTATION GUIDE: Regulations Defining Core Mandate and Improving Governance, Oversight and Accountability of Conservation Authorities” for a 45-day public commenting period ending June 27, 2021. The purpose of the Consultation Guide is to provide a description of the proposed regulations and solicit feedback that will be considered by the Ministry when developing this first phase of proposed regulations. The Guide does not include draft regulations. At the Board of Directors Meeting held on May 28, 2021, Resolution #A109/21 was approved as follows regarding the staff report and preliminary analysis of the ERO posting:

WHEREAS on May 13, 2021, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) posted a ‘REGULATORY PROPOSAL CONSULTATION GUIDE: Regulations Defining Core Mandate and Improving Governance, Oversight and Accountability of Conservation Authorities’ for public comment on the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO);

*AND WHEREAS THE ERO imposes a June 27, 2021 deadline for submission of comments on this Phase 1 of the MECP’s regulatory proposals under the *Conservation Authorities Act*;*

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) staff report and preliminary analysis of the ERO posting be received and that any comments from the Board of Directors inform TRCA's final ERO submission;

AND FURTHER THAT staff report back on TRCA's final ERO submission to the Board of Directors on June 25, 2021;

AND FURTHER THAT the Clerk and Manager, Policy, so advise TRCA's partner municipalities, the Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD), and Conservation Ontario.

RATIONALE

TRCA's draft submission to the ERO posting, including recommendations to inform the development of the enabling CA Act regulations for Phase 1 of MECP's regulatory proposal, is provided in Attachment 1. Subject to the incorporation of any feedback received from the Board, it is recommended that the letter be finalized for submission to the ERO.

It should also be noted that on June 18, 2020, The Honourable Dave Piccini assumed the role of Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks. Both the Chair and CEO have had discussions with Minister Piccini and TRCA looks forward to working collaboratively with the Minister in the future.

Also, Greg Rickford is now the Minister of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry and Minister, Indigenous Affairs.

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

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

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

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

Strategy 7 – Build partnerships and new business models

Strategy 8 – Gather and share the best sustainability knowledge

Strategy 12 – Facilitate a region-wide approach to sustainability

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Staff are engaged in this policy analysis work per the normal course of duty, with funding support provided by TRCA's participating municipalities to account 120-12. No additional funding is proposed to support the policy analysis work associated with the preparation of these comments.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

Staff are undertaking the following next steps:

- Finalize TRCA's submission to MECP in response to the ERO posting on the Consultation Guide based on any input from the Board of Directors at this meeting.
- Continue to inform the Board of Directors on any new postings on the ERO or other provincial initiatives related to the CA Act regulations and any outcomes of engagements with MECP and MNRF.
- Advance and protect TRCA interests through Senior Leadership Team representatives' role on the CA Act Working Group.

Report prepared by: Laurie Nelson, extension 5281

Emails: laurie.nelson@trca.ca

For Information contact: Laurie Nelson, extension 5281

Emails: laurie.nelson@trca.ca

Date: June 23, 2021

Attachments: 1

Attachment 1: Draft TRCA Submission to ERO #019-2986

Chief Executive Officer



June 29, 2021

BY E-MAIL ONLY (ca.office@ontario.ca)

Ms. Liz Mikel
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Conservation and Source Protection Branch
40 St. Clair Avenue West, Floor 10
Peterborough, ON M4V 1M2

DRAFT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENTS

RE: Regulatory proposals (Phase 1) under the Conservation Authorities Act (ERO #019-2986)

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) posting on the Phase 1 Regulatory proposals under the *Conservation Authorities Act* (CA Act). The following comments were approved by Resolution #XX/21 of Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's (TRCA) Board of Directors on June 25, 2021.

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

With almost five million people living within our jurisdiction, 75% of which live within 2 km of a TRCA owned or managed property, TRCA's covers nine watersheds and over 70 km of the collective Lake Ontario Shoreline stretching from Mississauga to Ajax and across the Oak Ridges Moraine from Mono in the west to Uxbridge in the east. Some of Canada's largest and fastest growing municipalities, including Toronto, Markham, and Vaughan are located entirely within TRCA's jurisdiction which spans six upper-tier and 15 lower-tier municipalities. TRCA is the largest non-governmental landowner within the jurisdiction, owning and managing 16,860 ha which function to primarily protect residents and provide treasured public greenspace for existing and new communities.

TRCA with and on behalf of its government and agency partners advances flood infrastructure, trails and restoration projects, and works with our partner municipalities, agencies and applicants to ensure timely issuance of well over 1,000+ development and infrastructure permit approvals annually, while protecting the environment, and safeguarding our communities from the risks of flooding and erosion. We are also experts at ensuring our watersheds and the Lake Ontario shoreline are protected, restored, and made more resilient to impacts of climate change including more extreme weather events through our shoreline design and construction expertise. TRCA, its Board of Directors and its various subcommittees of the Board of Directors provides advice to the Province and partner municipalities on their initiatives including projects and plans. TRCA also provides advice to municipal, provincial, and federal governments on policy initiatives which has included TRCA staff serving on

government committees including CEO and senior staff involvement in the Province's CA Act Working Group.

Although TRCA is often referred to as the largest of Ontario's 36 conservation authorities, it is vital to recognize that TRCA is in a field of its own, as exemplified by the following 2020 statistics:

- TRCA's revenues of \$162M were more than five times larger than the second largest conservation authority;
- Only nine conservation authorities had revenues that exceeded \$10M and TRCA's revenues were equal to the combined revenues of the other eight; and
- The remaining 27 conservation authorities had combined revenues below \$100M, an average less than \$4M per authority.

As such, while the perspectives and recommendations reflected in TRCA's response usually align with that of Greater Golden Horseshoe conservation authorities, they may not always be consistent or similar to those of Conservation Ontario or other conservation authorities.

Accordingly, the issues prevalent for our organization, due to the scale, size and pressures of our jurisdiction, can be substantially different from our counterparts.

Government Proposal

MECP has posted a "REGULATORY PROPOSAL CONSULTATION GUIDE: Regulations Defining Core Mandate and Improving Governance, Oversight and Accountability of Conservation Authorities" on the ERO. The purpose of the Consultation Guide is to provide a description of the proposed regulations and solicit feedback that will be considered by the Ministry when developing the proposed regulations. The Guide does not include draft regulations. This first phase of the Ministry's process is focused on the proposed regulations related to:

- the mandatory programs and services to be delivered by conservation authorities;
- the proposed agreements that may be required with participating municipalities to fund non-mandatory programs and services through a municipal levy;
- the transition period to establish those agreements;
- the requirement to establish community advisory boards; and
- the Minister's section 29 regulation relating to conservation authority operation and management of lands owned by the authority.

As noted on the ERO, in the coming months, MECP will be consulting on the second phase of proposed regulations under the CA Act, including:

- Municipal levies governing the apportionment of conservation authority capital and operating expenses for mandatory programs and services and for non-mandatory programs and services under municipal agreement. This would also set out provisions pertaining to municipal appeals of conservation authority municipal levy apportionments, including who would hear those appeals.
- Standards and requirements for the delivery of non-mandatory programs and services.

It is our understanding that there will be a future ERO posting by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) regarding the permitting regulation under section 28 of the CA Act. We would strongly encourage the MNRF posting or consultation guide to be released

shortly so these compendium pieces can be considered together prior to regulations being finalized and approved.

General Comments

TRCA continues to support the provincial requirement for three types of programs and services that conservation authorities provide: (1) legislated as mandatory by the Province, (2) provided on behalf of municipalities, and (3) those that TRCA undertakes to further its objectives under the CA Act. TRCA views these in the context of the Act's purpose of, "providing for the organization and delivery of programs and services that further the conservation, restoration, development and management of natural resources in watersheds in Ontario." In our early discussions with partners, we note that the four categories as described in the Guide has caused some potential confusion and may not be required as both the CA and municipality must be in agreement to provide the service or program. Based on this early feedback from our municipal partners we would encourage the government to maintain only three categories in a future regulation.

Mandatory Programs and Services

In June 2019, the *More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019*, amended the CA Act to identify the categories of mandatory programs and services that conservation authorities are required to provide, where applicable in their specific jurisdictions. The *Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020*, re-enacted this provision. Mandated by the Province, these programs and services may be funded by provincial grants and/or conservation authority self-generated revenue (e.g., user fees) and/or municipal levy. CAs can levy participating municipalities to fund budgeted (revenue) shortfalls. The following comments and recommendations are provided to inform the development of the regulations for the proposed scope of mandatory programs and services as set out and described in the Consultation Guide.

A. Mandatory Programs and Services Related to the Risks of Natural Hazards

It is proposed by MNRF that each conservation authority would be required to implement a program or service to help manage the risk posed by the natural hazards within their jurisdiction, including flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches, hazardous sites as defined in the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS), 2020 and low water/drought as part of Ontario's Low Water response. This program shall be designed to:

- identify natural hazards;
- assess risks associated with natural hazards including impacts of climate change;
- manage risks associated with natural hazards; and
- promote public awareness of natural hazards.

Managing risks associated with natural hazards may include prevention, protection, mitigation, preparedness, and response.

The detailed list of mandatory programs and services related to the risk of natural hazards as proposed in the Consultation Guide generally aligns with current TRCA programs and services for this category. It includes the administration of permits issued under section 28.1 of the CA Act, (sections 28.1 and 28.1.2 once proclaimed) and associated enforcement activities. The delineation and mapping of regulated natural hazards (e.g., flood plain, hazardous lands and hazardous sites) and features (e.g., wetlands, river or stream valleys defined or undefined) are critical to the implementation of this program. Wetland mapping has not been captured

within the list and should be included. The inclusion of wetland mapping would recognize that managing risks associated with natural hazards includes the identification and protection of natural features such as wetlands.

The section in the Guide related to the role of CAs in land use planning requires clarification and should be expanded to capture all the activities TRCA undertakes in support of our municipal, provincial, agency and industry partners. TRCA conducts itself in accordance the MNR Procedural Manual chapter, “Policies and Procedures for Conservation Authority Plan Review and Permitting Activities”. Accordingly, TRCA is a public commenting body under the *Planning Act* and *Environmental Assessment Act*; an agency delegated the responsibility to represent the provincial interest on natural hazards under Section 3.1 of the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS); a service provider in accordance with a municipal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU); a regulator under section 28 of the CA Act; a Source Protection Authority under the *Clean Water Act*; a resource management agency; and a landowner. In these roles, and as stated in the “Made in Ontario Environment Plan,” conservation authorities work in collaboration with municipalities and stakeholders to protect people and property from flooding and other natural hazards, and to conserve natural resources.

In absence of more specific details, the reference to “Provincial One Window Planning Service protocols”, could be interpreted to limit the role of CAs and depart from the MNR Policies and Procedures noted above, the Conservation Ontario/Ministry of Natural Resources/Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Memorandum of Understanding, and current streamlined Plan Input and Plan Review services provided to our municipal partners and public agencies - much of which is embedded in existing MOUs between TRCA, partner municipalities, and neighbouring CAs. The *Planning Act* Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) was updated in 2020 and the following statement was added to Section 3.0: “Mitigating potential risk to public health or safety or of property damage from natural hazards, including the risks that may be associated with the impacts of a changing climate, will require the Province, planning authorities, and conservation authorities to work together.” Retaining and recognizing current practices including the ability to independently appeal decisions related to natural hazards to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT), (formerly LPAT) is critical to managing the risks associated with natural hazards and upholding the PPS, as well as other relevant provincial plans (e.g., A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the GGH). We would appreciate staff reviewing the above protocols in the context of preparing both the updated MNR and MECP regulations to ensure these well-established functions are accurately captured.

The section on operation and maintenance of water control and erosion control structures, should include acquisition or construction costs of such infrastructure. The technical studies required for rehabilitation/restoration or repair of infrastructure typically include an ecological component and given the important role of natural cover in watershed management usually include a natural heritage study component. In addition, natural heritage considerations are also a factor or information requirement in many provincial legislative or regulatory requirement approvals required to upgrade water control infrastructure, e.g., MECP *Endangered Species Act*, *Environmental Protection Act* Environmental Compliance Approval, or MNR *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act* permissions. Mitigating natural hazards through both structural and non-structural measures and a recognition of the need to consider natural heritage matters as part of this work should be included in the list.

In the Consultation Guide, conservation authority input and review on municipal land use planning matters outside of natural hazard policies, such as natural heritage policies, is used as an example of a non-mandatory program and service that a municipality may request and would require a CA-Municipal

MOU. Like natural hazards, the natural heritage aspects of a watershed know no political boundaries and so it would make sense, instead, for municipalities to be required to utilize CAs for natural heritage planning services (providing CA input and review on land use planning matters for natural hazards and natural heritage on the municipality's behalf). For most of our partners, TRCA's existing MOU or service level agreements include such a role. Based on our observations and experience of our CA partners in the GGH, there is a cost risk to the taxpayers by making natural heritage non-mandatory. For example, we have observed that it is far more costly to the municipal taxpayer for their municipality to procure private consulting natural heritage services to inform municipal initiatives than to work with their CA partners. In most cases, once retained, private natural heritage consultants end up reaching out to CAs to obtain data and confirm findings and thus end up engaging CAs resulting in double the effort, more costs for staff time that the municipality must cover, and a resulting inefficient use of taxpayers' dollars. By working directly with a CA to leverage their existing data, a municipality is receiving a comprehensive service, the full benefit of watershed/science-based approach (and a level playing field) that has influence over the environment in its neighbouring jurisdiction just as it does with the environment in its own boundaries. In current practice in our jurisdiction, TRCA's municipal partners appreciate the watershed-based perspective and holistic environmental expertise including natural heritage expertise of TRCA in commenting on land use planning matters.

We note that ice management plans and services (preventative or remedial) should be appropriate for the circumstances of the individual CA. In TRCA's jurisdiction, our focus is on the technical advisory elements of ice management and response, while our municipal partners operationalize the response (e.g., responsible for standby equipment).

Recommendations:

- **That CAs retain the ability to represent the provincial interest related to section 2 of the *Planning Act* and the Natural Hazards policies of the PPS for all applications under the *Planning Act*, input into the review of applications for new and amended Special Policy Areas, and to independently appeal decisions related to natural hazards to the OLT when appropriate to ensure that the provincial interest is met.**
- **That the Province ensure provincial standards, as referenced in this section of the Guide, are current to ensure consistency amongst CAs. More specifically the MNRF Hazard Technical Guides for natural hazards (flooding, erosion, Great Lakes) and Special Policy Area Procedures need to be updated to reflect current science, technology and best management practices, the urban context (e.g., redevelopment, infill, community revitalization, etc.), address gaps or deficiencies, and provide guidance on incorporating climate change in natural hazard management.**
- **That wetland mapping be added to the list of information needed to support CAs in the implementation of s. 28 permitting responsibilities.**
- **That the ecological components identified in a study to manage natural hazards (e.g., rehabilitation/restoration or repair of infrastructure) be included.**
- **That the ecological and hydrological components (natural heritage aspects) to prevent new hazards from being created and existing hazards from being aggravated, and to avoid adverse environmental impacts, also be included (conservation authority input and review on**

municipal land use planning matters outside of natural hazards, specifically natural heritage policies).

B. Mandatory Programs and Services Related to the Management of Conservation Authority Land

The mandatory programs and services related to the conservation and management of lands owned or controlled by a conservation authority, including any interests in land registered on title, relate to the conservation authority as the owner of its land and also to land owned by others where the conservation authority has an “interest” or right related to that other person’s property, as granted by the property owner (e.g., “conservation easements” that may protect a natural heritage feature or ‘access easements’ that may enable a conservation authority to develop trails that cross another landowner’s property).

Each conservation authority will be required to implement the mandatory programs and services as set out in the Consultation Guide related to the conservation and management of lands owned or controlled by the authority, including any interests in land registered on title, within their jurisdiction.

Generally, the scope of activities in the Consultation Guide related to the conservation and management of conservation authority land are supported and align with current TRCA programs and services. It should be clarified throughout the Guide that while CA land is considered private, it benefits the public at large. Often, these acquired lands are contiguous river and stream systems that form essential corridors and connections through communities that protect natural heritage, as well as natural hazards and provide economic value through a myriad of ecosystem services. Further, through public access, these lands provide base level open space for passive use, such as trails. The provision of services and infrastructure to accommodate public access is currently not identified as a mandatory activity and TRCA sees this as an important required clarification, especially in our jurisdiction where our system of lands, trails, and amenities often provide important active transportation and regional scale linkages for larger networks (e.g., The Great Lakes Waterfront Trail, the Humber River Trail, segments of the Trans Canada Trail, etc.).

The administration of the s. 29 Minister’s Regulation of “Conservation Areas” is included within the scope of this category. TRCA’s detailed comments and recommendations are provided in a separate section below related to the proposed s. 29 Regulation.

Recommendation:

- **That maintenance of conservation parks and lands for safe public access and use be included as a mandatory activity provided by CAs as through the provision of safe access, we are ensuring public infrastructure is accessible and emergency routes through conservation lands are provided.**

C. Mandatory Programs and Services Related to Source Protection Authority responsibilities under the Clean Water Act, 2006

Under the *Clean Water Act*, 2006 conservation authorities are required to exercise and perform the powers and duties of a drinking water source protection authority. Each conservation authority therefore would be required to implement programs and services related to those responsibilities as source protection authorities under the *Clean Water Act*, 2006.

The scope of mandatory programs and services related to source protection appears to be consistent with the current responsibilities of the Toronto and Region Source Protection Authority for the Credit Valley-Toronto and Region-Central Lake Ontario (CTC) Source Protection Region. The Province has funded this program since its inception. It will be important to understand MECP's intent with respect to continued financial support for this program so that municipalities are informed of any potential budget implications.

Recommendation:

- **That TRCA supports the inclusion of programs and services related to source protection. Sustained and adequate funding is required to enable CAs and municipalities to carry out the legislated duties under the *Clean Water Act*.**

- D. Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority duties, functions, and responsibilities under the Lake Simcoe Protection Act, 2008 – Not applicable to TRCA**
- E. Mandatory Programs and Services Related to Conservation Authority Responsibilities Under an Act Prescribed by Regulation – Not applicable to TRCA**
- F. Mandatory Programs and Services Prescribed in Regulation (Within the Year after the Transition Period for Municipal Funding Agreements for Non-Mandatory Programs and Services)**

The CA Act also allows for the prescribing of 'other' programs and services not listed in previous mandatory categories. These 'other' programs and services must be prescribed within a year after the end of the transition period for municipal funding agreements for non-mandatory programs and services. The Ministry is proposing to prescribe the following as mandatory programs and services:

1. Core Watershed-based Resource Management Strategies
2. Provincial Water Quality and Quantity Monitoring, including:
 - a. Provincial stream monitoring program
 - b. Provincial groundwater monitoring program

Core Watershed-based Resource Management Strategies

To capture the value of the broader watershed and resource management perspective that CAs have, MECP is proposing that each conservation authority be required to develop a core watershed-based resource management strategy that documents the current state of the relevant resources within their jurisdictions in the context of the mandatory programs and services described in the Guide. This strategy can provide a means to develop an improved integrated process with a longer-term perspective and inform an adaptive management approach to address issues or threats such as mitigating the risks from the impacts of natural hazards. A successful strategy should also help ensure effective and efficient use of funding, especially of the municipal levy. The ministry provides examples, using three tables in the Guide, of how mandatory programs and services would be incorporated in the strategy, as well how non-mandatory programs and services could be incorporated, subject to an MOU/agreement.

The value and addition of core watershed-based resource management as a prescribed mandatory program and services is a very positive aspect of the Ministry's proposal and aligns with the collaborative work of CAs, partner municipalities and stakeholders, as stated in the

Made-In-Ontario Environment Plan, to focus and deliver on the CA “core mandate of protecting people and property from flooding and other natural hazards and conserving natural resources.” While the Guide indicates the strategy would principally focus on water resources, equally important in the management of natural hazards is protecting, restoring, and enhancing the natural environment. Water resources and natural heritage systems are intrinsically linked in watershed management and recognized as such in provincial policy and plans, as well as municipal and CA policies.

By assisting our municipal partners in the growth management planning process, TRCA advocates for subwatershed planning and updated watershed plans to protect resources, address downstream risks, and facilitate integrated infrastructure and development planning to accommodate approved growth in designated settlement areas in our jurisdiction as part of this Core Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy. This implementation piece for these Strategies is missing from the Consultation Guide. Based on our experience of successfully working with industry, stakeholders and government agencies, greater certainty for all stakeholders involved in the growth planning process can be achieved through the completion of science-based watershed and subwatershed studies. TRCA’s recently released [Watershed and Ecosystem Reporting Hub](#) identifies the current conditions and explains the importance of different environmental indicators for understanding watershed and ecosystem health within the watersheds and the waterfront in TRCA’s jurisdiction. TRCA’s [Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan](#) approved by Durham Region Council on June 23, 2021, is our most recent plan to help guide future decision-making for this watershed by the Region of Durham, City of Pickering, Town of Ajax, TRCA, and watershed residents and other stakeholders. These are two examples that demonstrate the integration of mandatory and non-mandatory activities related to core-watershed resource management.

Recommendations:

- **That TRCA supports the addition of Core-watershed Resource Management Strategies as prescribed mandatory programs and services.**
- **That it be recognized that water resources systems and natural heritage systems are intrinsically linked in watershed management, as per provincial policies and plans.**
- **That it be recognized that these Strategies can be used to inform municipal growth planning to achieve shared municipal-CA goals in watershed management.**
- **That provincial staff review recently completed TRCA and partner supported projects including the Watershed and Ecosystem Reporting Hub and the Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan to inform any future guidance and work on regulations.**
- **That it be clarified that the three tables provided in the Consultation Guide (pages 18-20) are examples of programs and/or activities and potential funding mechanisms and will not be included in the regulation. The lists are not complete, nor do they recognize all potential funding arrangements.**

Provincial Water Quality and Quantity Monitoring

At this time, the Ministry is proposing mandatory programs and services for conservation authorities related to water quality and groundwater quantity monitoring to be prescribed in this category with the possibility of additional programs and services prescribed later within the timeframe enabled by the CA Act.

All 36 conservation authorities currently participate in the Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network (stream water quality) and in the Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network (groundwater levels and chemistry). The Ministry manages the water monitoring programs by providing technical leadership, coordination, guidance, data administration, laboratory analysis, instrumentation, and training to support the conservation authority role in this work. Conservation authorities install and maintain equipment, collect samples/data, and send samples to the Ministry laboratory for chemical analysis.

Recommendation:

- **That TRCA supports the addition of the provincial water quality and groundwater monitoring programs as prescribed mandatory programs and services.**

Non-Mandatory Conservation Authority Programs and Services

Conservation authorities will be required to have mutually agreed upon Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) or other such agreements (service contracts) with their participating municipalities for the funding of non-mandatory programs and services to be delivered on behalf of, and at the request, of a municipality, through a funding mechanism chosen by the municipality. Within our jurisdiction TRCA has MOU or other agreements in place with most of its municipal and agency partners regarding the services we deliver and undertakes regular pre-budget meetings to confirm funding and priorities. However, TRCA is supportive of the intent of the province to ensure updated agreements are in place between CAs and municipal partners to further clarify funding for programs and services.

Regulation for Municipal Agreements and Transition Period

MECP is proposing to proclaim sections 21.1.1, 21.1.2 and 21.1.4 of the CA Act and develop one Minister's regulation that would establish standards and requirements for entering into agreements for municipal funding of non-mandatory programs and services, including municipal programs and services under section 21.1.1 funded by revenue that is not from a municipal levy, and other programs and services under section 21.1.2 funded through a municipal levy.

The regulation would also govern the matters to be addressed in each authority's transition plan. Conservation authorities would be required to submit copies of their transition plan to the Minister for information purposes (not approval) by a date to be set out in the proposed regulation, and to its participating municipalities and to make the plans available to the public online (e.g., on a conservation authority's website).

MECP is proposing January 1, 2023, as the prescribed date by which municipal agreements must be in place for authorities to use or continue to use the levy powers to fund non-mandatory programs and services. To achieve this timeline and process, MECP is proposing that: the transition plan be completed by December 31, 2021; quarterly reporting during the fiscal year 2022 on the status and progress made in attaining agreements; and all CA/municipal agreements in place and funding reflected in authority budgets for 2023.

The Ministry is proposing to authorize the granting of extensions to the prescribed date for completing municipal agreements where an authority, with the support of one or more participating municipalities in the authority, submits a written request for the extension to the timeline/prescribed date.

Through engagement with our partner municipalities on non-mandatory programs and services as directed by the Board, TRCA is at the forefront of meeting what is envisioned in the Consultation Guide, as we continue to establish comprehensive, updated MOUs and to refine existing municipal-CA agreements, where required. Staff regularly report to the TRCA Board of Directors on the status and progress being made on this work. However, to meet the budgeting process for 2023, it will be critical for TRCA, with the support of its municipal partners, to advance the completion of this work as early in 2022 as possible to provide certainty in meeting shared municipal-TRCA objectives and avoid the need to request an extension. This will include ensuring that MOUs are considered in a timely way by municipal partners at relevant committee and Council meetings in 2021 and early 2022 at the latest.

Recommendations:

- **That the proposed regulation contain high-level direction and principles for developing MOUs that provide CAs and municipalities with the flexibility and latitude to negotiate mutually beneficial agreements.**
- **That the Ministry proclaim the regulation in a timely manner for CAs to meet the prescribed timelines for the transition plan and execution of municipal agreements.**
- **That the Ministry encourage municipal Council consideration of the updated MOUs and SLAs at the earliest opportunity to ensure the prescribed timelines can be achieved.**

Regulation to Require “Community” Advisory Boards

The Province is proposing to proclaim a provision of the CA Act related to advisory boards and to develop a Lieutenant Governor in Council (LGIC) regulation to require conservation authorities to establish community advisory boards, that can include members of the public, to provide advice to the authority. The government is also proposing to make a Minister’s regulation to provide greater clarity that conservation authority by-laws are applicable to the community advisory boards.

In recognition of the variation in the circumstances of individual conservation authorities, the government is considering an approach to structure the conservation authority community advisory boards with minimal prescribed requirements applied to all the boards, while enabling local flexibility of some aspects of the community advisory board to reflect a conservation authority’s circumstances and to accommodate a conservation authority’s preferences for their use of the community advisory board. The government would defer other specific details related to the composition, activities, functions, duties, and procedures of the community advisory board to a Terms of Reference document, which would be developed and approved by each authority and reiterated in the authority’s by-laws. This Terms of Reference could be amended over time, to ensure the most relevant issues and solutions are considered by the community advisory board and that the membership of the board has the necessary skills to carry out those tasks.

Under the current provisions of the CA Act, TRCA currently has two advisory boards: Partners in Project Green (PPG) and the Regional Watershed Alliance (RWA). Each of these advisory

boards have a comprehensive Terms of Reference, which are incorporated into TRCA's Administrative By-law. The role, composition, and function of the existing RWA closely aligns with the description in the Guide of the government's proposal to create a 'community' advisory committee. TRCA's Board of Directors also recently approved the establishment of a multi-stakeholder Natural Science and Education Committee and associated Terms of Reference.

Recommendations:

- **That the general functions of a community advisory board shall be to provide advice to the conservation authority on the authority's strategic plans and community-oriented programs and services.**
- **That the requirements for the process to establish an advisory board acknowledge/recognize that where existing CA advisory boards or committees involving members of the public already perform such functions, a CA is not required to establish a new community advisory provided the substantive requirements of the regulation are met.**

Section 29 Minister's Regulation (CA Landholdings)

Once the new section 29 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* is proclaimed, a Minister's regulation is proposed to consolidate the current individual authority section 29 'Conservation Areas' regulations regarding activities on lands owned by conservation authorities into one regulation. MECP is intending for the Minister's regulation to be broadly consistent with the policy principles and provincial content that has been used in the past. The current regulations will continue until such time as the new Minister's regulation replaces them.

Current section 29 regulations manage activities on all authority owned land including the use by the public of the lands and services available; the prohibition of certain activities; setting fees for access and use of lands including recreational facilities; administering permits for certain land uses; and protecting against property damage and for public safety.

The administration of section 29 is included as a mandatory program and service related to the management of land owned by CAs. Throughout the review of the CA Act, TRCA requested the Province to enhance the section 29 regulatory enforcement and compliance provisions to be consistent with the protections afforded under the *Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act* to adequately protect our 16,860 ha, (owned and managed), public landholdings. There is no indication in the Consultation Guide that any substantial changes to the section 29 regulation are being proposed and as such, this aspect of the Ministry's proposal remains a concern to TRCA.

As urbanization pressures increase and the population expands within our communities, municipal by-law and police forces are strained resulting in a growing responsibility on CAs to preserve, protect and manage use of valuable greenspaces and regulated areas. These pressures occurred prior to, but have increased during the COVID-19 pandemic. Currently, TRCA participates on various committees comprised of municipal and enforcement related agencies to coordinate enforcement and compliance efforts to leverage their enforcement tools (e.g., municipal by-laws, etc.) where feasible given the limitations under the CA Act. However, a long-term solution and modernization of the s. 29 enforcement provisions are urgently needed to improve compliance, ensure public and CA officer safety, and effectively deter undesirable activities and behaviours on TRCA landholdings. The following examples demonstrate some of the enforcement provisions required within the s. 29 regulation:

Vehicle operator to stop

The lawful ability to stop vehicles involved in the commission of vehicle related offences on CA-owned lands is an effective public and staff safety and compliance tool. Current CA regulations do not fully encompass the range of moving vehicle violations occurring on our lands (i.e., excessive speeds, unsecured passengers, unlawful operation of ATVs and snow machines, and in extreme circumstances, intoxicated driving). The addition of this provision within the CAA will allow CA officers to effectively address these undesired activities and public safety issues.

Searches and Seizures

The addition of both search and seizure provisions is necessary for CA officers to properly protect and conserve the ecological integrity of CA-owned lands. Offenders involved with illegal hunting and the commercial harvesting of flora and fauna (i.e., American Ginseng, Fiddleheads, Leeks) from these protected areas is increasing, and CA officers have no current ability to, upon reasonable grounds, search and seize items gained in the commission of these offences. The lack of these provisions allows offenders to leave these lands with their illegal harvests and return to re-engage in the activity with the knowledge that CA officers are unable to effectively stop the continuation of an offence and secure the required evidence pertaining to the offence. Without these provisions, it further incentivizes offenders to return to the lands to re-engage without appropriate consequences for their actions.

Require Identification

The ability to require an individual to identify themselves involved in the commission of an offence will enable officers to lawfully obtain the appropriate information and hold offenders accountable for their actions or behaviours on our lands. It will assist with investigations and reduce individuals from evading appropriate enforcement actions for public safety and/or ecological destruction of CA landholdings.

In addition, the un-proclaimed s. 30 enforcement and compliance provisions (e.g., stop orders, etc.) associated with s. 28 of the CA Act should be expedited and proclaimed.

S.28 Stop Orders

This provision needs to be enacted to provide TRCA officers the ability to stop activities in a timely manner and reduce the significant impacts of flooding, erosion, and other natural hazards that may jeopardize the health and safety of persons and the destruction of property. It will also provide officers with the necessary tools and ability to protect sensitive features and reduce the devastating effects associated with unlawful destruction of our Provincially Significant Wetlands and other ecologically sensitive features. It also holds parties accountable for failure to comply with a stop order through significant penalties. In numerous instances, including in a recent example within the Natural Heritage System of the Greenbelt Plan, TRCA enforcement officers were unable to stop the destruction of a Provincially Significant Wetland due to the lack of powers as compared to MECP provincial officers.

Recommendations:

- **That the Ministry convene a working group with staff from the Province, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)/municipalities, CAs and enforcement agencies to identify a long term, sustainable strategy that will enable CAs to fulfill their obligations to monitoring and enforcement action on CA owned lands or managed lands where applicable, as established under s. 29 of the CA Act. Compliance and enforcement tools must be available to CAs to protect and manage CA-owned lands, safeguard the health and safety of the public and CA officers, protect the**

environment, and reduce/avoid the potential for a devastating occurrence that would cause harm to life and property.

- That if amendments to the CA Act, as opposed to the regulation, are required to facilitate enhancements to s. 29, the Ministry enable such amendments in a timely manner through all available legislative mechanisms including future bills on the CA Act or related legislation.
- That, while not part of this ERO posting, the Province expedite consultation on Section 28 (permitting) regulatory proposals and the enactment of all Section 30 provisions including Stop Orders to deal with enforcement matters such as large-scale filling and development activities in highly sensitive and risk regulated areas.


Thank you once again for the opportunity to provide comments on the *Consultation Guide*. Should you have any questions, require clarification on any of the above, or wish to meet to discuss our remarks, please contact the undersigned at 416.667.6290 or at john.mackenzie@trca.ca.

Sincerely,

John MacKenzie, M.Sc.(PI) MCIP, RPP
Chief Executive Officer

BY E-MAIL

cc:

| | |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | June 30, 2021 3:04 pm |
| Original To: | CIP |
| Copies To: | |
| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Notes/Comments: | |



June 29, 2021

Sent via email

RE: Dispersal of Funeral Ashes in Watercourses

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) Board of Directors, at its meeting, held on June 25, 2021 adopted amended Resolution #A146/21 as follows:

WHEREAS partner municipalities and organizations have expressed interest in accessing lands owned or managed by Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) for the immersion, or dispersal of funeral ashes in rivers, creeks and other bodies of water;

AND WHEREAS TRCA is limited in its ability to regulate or formalize such practices, which sit outside of the mandate of conservation authorities, without the support of our municipal partners;

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT TRCA continue to support the Province, partner municipalities and organizations in the development of appropriate sites and solutions for the environmentally and culturally sensitive immersion of funeral ashes when requested to do so or when TRCA permissions are required;

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

THAT TRCA express willingness to work with partner municipalities and interested organizations and entities to facilitate requests to identify appropriate sites on TRCA lands for the environmentally and culturally sensitive immersion of funeral ashes, subject to the municipality providing all required funding, maintenance and customer service resources, and to enter into appropriate fee for service and other agreements with TRCA to this end;

AND FURTHER THAT this report be circulated to the municipalities in TRCA's jurisdiction, Conservation Ontario, and other conservation authorities.

The report and referenced resolution are attached to this letter and can also be accessed at the TRCA Board of Directors [webpage](#). If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Victoria Kramkowski at 416-661-6600 ext. 5707, victoria.kramkowski@trca.ca.

Sincerely,

Alisa Mahrova
 Clerk and Manager, Policy

cc: John MacKenzie, Chief Executive Officer, TRCA
 Victoria Kramkowski, Government and Community Relations Specialist, Peel/York Watersheds, TRCA

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Kathryn Moyle, Township Clerk, Township of King

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Diana Rusnov, City Clerk, City of Mississauga

Ralph Walton, Regional Clerk / Director, Legislative Services, Regional Municipality of Durham
Ontario Conservation Authorities



June 28, 2021

Liz Mikel
Conservation and Source Protection Branch
40 St. Clair Ave W., 14th Floor
Toronto, ON, M4V 1M2
ca.office@ontario.ca

| | |
|--|--|
|  Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division | |
| Date & Time Received: | June 30, 2021 3:09 pm |
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| Take Appropriate Action | <input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/> |
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RE: Kawartha Region Conservation Authority's Comments on ERO #019-2986 – Regulatory Proposals (Phase 1) under the *Conservation Authorities Act*

Dear Ms. Mikel,

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comment on the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks Phase 1 Regulatory Proposal Consultation Guide. The comments below are reflective of Kawartha Conservation's Board of Directors perspectives on the consultation guide, approved at their meeting of June 24th, 2021. The comments are generally organized by the headings provided in the consultation guide.

General Overview:

- The content of the consultation guide is generally encouraging, and content provided suggests that the regulations will be somewhat flexible and have a scalable approach to implementation.
- We applaud the province for engaging the working group to help the province form perspectives regarding the regulatory proposal. We hope this engagement continues in the development of regulations flowing from this consultation, in addition to the complementary work on other regulations and provincial standards for programming areas identified.
- There will be challenges to implementing the regulatory changes at the operational level and within the timeframes identified.
- Release of the draft regulations will provide additional clarity on the specific translation of this guide to the legislative context. We look forward to the opportunity to review the regulations once drafted. Further, we look forward to the release of additional supporting regulations, which will provide a full picture of the regulatory changes before us and their interrelated nature.
- The province identifies a number of requirements in the regulatory proposal and in the conservation authorities act. The establishment of a transition fund by the province, available to conservation authorities should be strongly considered.
- The province should consider establishing an ongoing fund to help further the requirements to study and assess natural hazard related features to complement the existing WECL funding and S. 39 transfer payments.

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KawarthaConservation.com

Our Watershed Partners:

City of Kawartha Lakes • Region of Durham • Township of Scugog • Municipality of Clarington • Township of Brock • Municipality of Trent Lakes • Township of Cavan Monaghan



Part One: Programs and Services Delivered by Conservation Authorities

1. Mandatory Conservation Authority Programs and Services Regulation

A. Mandatory Programs and Services Related to the Risk of Natural Hazards

- The activities identified with respect to the risk of natural hazards is supported and covers a range of important programs necessary for natural hazard management. The activities presented are at times very specific in their wording and there may be a benefit to adding a general statement to further the objectives of the natural hazards program in the regulation or to broaden slightly the context provided. (e.g., suggested wording could be “activities associated with the management of section 28.1 including permitting and enforcement” vs. current wording identifying “the administration of permits under section 28.1 including associated enforcement activities”)
- The inclusion of communication, public awareness and education regarding the risk of natural hazards is a fundamental part of managing natural hazards, particularly given the need to continuously inform residents of the risk given changing land ownership.
- Setting minimum provincial standards with respect to flood forecasting and warning activities and the low water program is reasonable and will benefit from consultation to ensure practical application.

B. Mandatory Programs and Services Related to the Management of Conservation Authority Land

- The consultation guide identifies that all properties owned or controlled will require a strategy and a management plan. The inclusion of “controlled lands” (i.e., not owned) which may be managed on behalf of another organization and interests in land registered on title (e.g., conservation easements) is problematic and should be differentiated from owned lands which are in direct control of a conservation authority.
- We recommend that managed lands should operate under agreement with the organization that is in control of the property. The province should consider a recommendation (vs. requirement) for a management plan for managed properties.
- Conservation easements are a legal instrument that form a long-term agreement with a landowner, who controls the property. Often an assessment report establishing baseline conditions is a requirement in establishing a conservation easement. Developing a management plan on behalf of the landowner can be interpreted as a material benefit to the landowner, and therefore contrary to the Income Tax Act. We recommend that a management plan should not be proposed as part of the regulation.
- Controlled lands may meet a class of properties owned as identified in the consultation guide, and therefore, inclusion in a strategy document or inventory, is reasonable.
- There is a clear distinction in the guide that mandatory activities related to property ownership do not include public access to property, or any amenities or community programming that may be currently available. While we understand the distinction that the province is aiming to provide, it is recommended that passive recreation as supported by management plans (and/or agreements in the case of controlled lands) should also be included in the mandatory activities given the positive impact that community use has on the enforcement of property directly supporting the current postulation for enforcement of these properties as

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mandatory programming. Further, given the immense importance of green community space for mental health, physical well-being, and community connectedness, including passive use of property will assist the province by alleviating pressures on the public health system through healthy lifestyles.

- The consultation guide indicates that the province would not be favourable to the disposition of lands that relate to hazard lands, lands of natural heritage significance or managed/agreement forest lands. We suggest that the disposition of land may be appropriate in certain limited circumstances, where an appropriate agency, such as a land trust, may be able to hold land in protection for the long-term.

C. Mandatory Programs and Services Related to Source Protection Authority Responsibilities under the Clean Water Act, 2006

- Keeping drinking water safe for our communities is an important role that conservation authorities contribute to, and it is an important consideration of mandatory programs included in the consultation guide. We look forward to continued and full funding of this program by the province.

F. Mandatory Programs and Services Prescribed in Regulation (Within the Year after the Transition Period for Municipal Funding Agreements for Non-Mandatory Programs and Services

- The importance of managing the landscape on a watershed basis has been recognized in the consultation guide, which is a critical development, and we strongly support this inclusion.
- While the landscape approach has been recognized, it is done so with a relatively finite perspective without recognition that other program areas have in supporting the objectives of natural hazard programming. The ability identified for municipalities to compensate for this finite perspective is an important flexibility provided. The optional component of the watershed-based resource management strategy will round out the strategy and would reflect a contemporary management approach currently employed in our lake management plans or watershed plans.
- We understand the province is aiming to focus on the regulatory activities related to the protection of people and property primarily from natural hazards at the watershed scale. The province may wish to consider a more holistic expression of the regulation which would encompass program areas that are a positive expression of land stewardship activities and similarly protect people and property from risks posed by natural hazards.

Conservation Authority Costs Not Related to Delivery of Programs and Services

- We strongly support the inclusion of costs related to the operation of conservation authorities responsible for a number of critical business functions. We look forward to consultation on future regulations that will detail this information, which will also be important to be able to effectively enter into agreements with our municipalities and to develop budgets within the timeframes identified.
- It will be ideal to consider these critical business functions as a wholesome requirement of the organization, rather than segmented into mandatory vs. non-mandatory programming, since these business functions will remain in place regardless of other program areas.

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2. Non-mandatory Conservation Authority Programs and Services

- The ability to develop transition plans and enter into agreements with our member municipalities for non-mandatory programs and services is directly dependent on having a full perspective of the requirements of the regulations. We understand the peril of developing regulations in a rushed fashion, which will provide long-term direction. Appropriate consideration of reasonable timelines for the transition plan and agreements with municipalities relative to the development of the regulations should be taken into consideration.
- The timeframe to implement all of the requirements and have an operational budget fully functional by January 1, 2023 is very tight. We note that a standard budget year will require a budget to be developed beginning in July of a calendar year. The implementation of a budget by January 1, 2023 will require a redevelopment of the budget in 2022, while agreements are being struck with municipalities in addition to the traditional budget development process. Funding available from the province or appropriate timeframes to manage these expectations would be appreciated.
- Our comments from April 2019 and November 2020 remain valid which identifies that non-mandatory programs run the risk of becoming unviable if each watershed municipality independently decides to periodically opt in/out, which may result in a loss of expertise that may be relied on by other program areas.

Part Two: Governance and Oversight of Conservation Authorities

1. Regulation to Require 'Community' Advisory Boards

- The consultation guide indicates the intent to require conservation authorities to establish community advisory boards to provide advice to the authority. The ability to establish a Community Advisory Board exists within our current governance by-laws. We engage our community and stakeholders in many aspects of our business currently on focussed areas of our program areas.
- The desired intent to use the Board Governance and Administrative By-Law as the rules of operation for the Community Advisory board is not considered directly appropriate, although certain components of the by-law may be applicable. The development of a terms of reference and meeting procedures specific to the functions of a community advisory board is more appropriate.
- The costs of managing a community advisory board would represent a direct cost to our municipalities and would require additional resources to manage. The inclusion of costs should be supported financially by the province or as a secondary consideration, included in the consideration of a minimum levy provision if mandated by the province.
- The content detailed in the regulatory proposal suggests that there is minimal flexibility in the role of the Board in developing, composing, or determining the role of the community advisory board. Consideration to a less prescriptive approach is strongly supported.

Part Three: Other Regulatory Matters

1. Section 29 Minister's Regulation

- We are generally in support of a single regulation to consolidate individual authority regulations governing conservation lands, which would benefit from modernization with respect to better alignment with the

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enforcement provisions provided in other properties accessed for community benefit, such as municipal and provincial parks. Enforcement provisions are currently limited with respect to conservation areas when compared to these other types of properties.

Thank-you for your consideration of our comments provided.

Sincerely,

Mark Majchrowski, CAO
Kawartha Conservation

c.c. Member Municipalities
Conservation Ontario

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If you require this information in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2097.

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

A meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at Regional Headquarters, Council Chambers, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 1:00 PM. In accordance with Provincial legislation, electronic participation was permitted at this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: C. Boose, Chair
D. Campbell, Whitby, Vice-Chair
H. Hall, Participation House
D. Hume-McKenna, DMHS
Councillor R. Mulcahy attended the meeting at 1:04 PM
M. Peters, Clarington
R. Purnwasie, Ajax
M. Roche, Oshawa
L. Schisler, Whitby
***all members of the committee participated electronically**

Absent: A. Beach, Oshawa
S. Sones, Whitby

Staff

Present: S. Austin, Director of Corporate Policy and Strategic Initiatives
M. Binetti, Supervisor, Service Design, Durham Region Transit
A. Burgess, Manager, Corporate Initiatives
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
L. Kubilis, Transit Planning and Scheduling, Durham Region Transit
J. Traer, Accessibility Coordinator, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer
N. Prasad, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by M. Roche, Seconded by R. Purnwasie,
That the minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting
held on May 25, 2021, be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Presentations

A) Alison Burgess, Manager, Corporate Initiatives, re: Intelligent Communities

Alison Burgess, Manager, Corporate Initiatives, provided a PowerPoint Presentation with regards to Intelligent Communities.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Smart 21 Communities of the Year
- Durham's Smart Cities Forum
- Smart Cities – Intelligent Communities
- Intelligent Communities Framework
- Intelligent Community Project
- What's Next?

A. Burgess stated that in 2021, the Region of Durham was named one of the smart 21 communities of the year by the global organization, Intelligent Communities Forum. She advised that in 2018, there was a Smart Cities Forum that was held to bring the community together which resulted in new collaborations and projects. The concept of smart cities was revisited in 2020 with the help of a consultant which resulted in the Intelligent Communities Framework.

A. Burgess stated that an Intelligent Community is focused on solving problems that matter to citizens, not just problems that can be fixed by technology. She advised that through the consultation sessions, the following four focus areas were developed for 2021:

1. organizational structure
2. data governance
3. evaluation framework
4. formalized partnership

A. Burgess provided an overview of some of the Region-led Intelligent Community Projects: Canada Learning Bond; City Studio Initiative; myDurham311; COVID data tracker. She stated that staff is still in the early days of implementing the framework and many more projects are being led by local municipal partners, post secondary institutions and other community and private partners across the Region. She advised that a regional steering committee has been set up to collect and gather information and staff is looking to set up a community advisory committee to work collectively as partners.

A. Burgess responded to questions with regards to the representation on the advisory committee and whether staff is considering certain communities to encourage diverse voices at the table; whether staff will be incorporating an accessibility component; as well as whether accessibility in terms of employment will be addressed in future conversations.

B) Michael Binetti, Supervisor, Service Design, Durham Region Transit re: Self Service Kiosks

Michael Binetti, Supervisor, Service Design, and Lauren Kubilis, Transit Planning and Scheduling, Durham Region Transit, provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to Self Service Kiosks.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Kiosk Information – DRT Age-Friendly Grant
- Background
- Tablet Devices
- Option 1 – Wall Mount
- Option 2 – Sitting Podium Kiosk
- Option 3 – Standing Kiosk
- Option 4 – Keeping Device at Front Desk
- Additional Resources Provided

M. Binetti advised that Durham Region Transit received an age friendly grant from the federal government in May 2021. The grant allows funding to enhance access to transit for seniors and vulnerable populations. He advised that iPads, kiosks and promotional items will be granted to 9 senior facilities as well as the Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health.

M. Binetti stated that 8th generation iPad devices will be used and each facility will be asked to choose one of four kiosk options (wall mount, sitting kiosk, standing kiosk or front desk) which will be placed in a main lobby location. He advised that each iPad will be loaded with the Transit App as well as DRT On Demand.

L. Kubilis provided a detailed overview with regards to each of the 4 options for the iPad placement. She also advised that in addition to the kiosk facilities, additional resources will be provided such as travel training (which will most likely be in a virtual environment unless COVID restrictions are lifted); user-friendly guides; and magnets.

M. Binetti responded to questions with regards to how the printed material can be made accessible for those with vision impairments; the possibility of having audio options; and whether trips have a return component.

Comments provided included: the importance of having good colour contrast on screens; reviewing the height of the kiosks; the importance of educating all parties on the use of the kiosks; the importance of being open to feedback from those who have used the kiosks; and the consideration that some people may be colour blind.

C) Lori Schisler, AAC Member re: Community Care Durham Services

Lori Schisler, AAC Member provided a PowerPoint presentation with regards to Community Care Durham and services provided.

Highlights of the Presentation included:

- Supporting and Enhancing Independence
- About Us
- COVID-19
- Our Mission
- Services
 - Adult Day Program
 - Assisted Living/Supportive Housing
 - Community Food Box
 - COPE Mental Health
 - Meals on Wheels
 - Respite
 - Telephone Reassurance
 - Transportation
 - Exercise and Falls
 - Foot Care Clinics
 - Home At Last (HAL)
- Suspended Services

L. Schisler advised that Community Care Durham (CCD) is a multi service, registered charitable organization providing a broad range of community support services for adults and their caregivers who have needs related to aging, physical and/or mental health. She advised that the organization enriches the well-being and quality of life for clients by offering services and programs that help them maintain their independence while continuing to live at home. She advised that a lot of services had to be adapted/changed due to COVID and that they continue to work closely with Public Health and other partners to protect the ongoing safety of staff, volunteers and clients.

L. Schisler provided a detailed overview of the following services offered at CCD: Adult Day program; assisted living; community food box; COPE Mental Health Telephone Support; Meals on Wheels; Respite, Telephone Reassurance; Transportation; Exercise and Falls; Foot Care Clinics; Home At Last. She advised that some services such as Luncheon Out and In-Person Friendly Visiting have been suspended due to COVID.

L. Schisler responded to questions with regards to challenges encountered with services; the possibility of more hybrid services in the future; the intake process to access the variety of programs; whether there is a cost to access any of the services; the availability of subsidy for those with limited incomes and whether referrals are needed; and whether more people are living and aging at home.

The Committee recessed at 2:22 PM and reconvened at 2:30 PM.

Following the recess, the Committee Clerk conducted a roll call and all members of the Committee were present except for A. Beach and S. Sones.

5. Discussion Items

There were no items of discussion.

6. Correspondence

There were no items of correspondence to consider.

7. Information Items

A) Education Sub-Committee Update

J. Traer advised that staff will be proceeding with the Joint AAC Forum in a virtual format. She requested that members provide thoughts and suggestions on speakers.

B) Update on the Transit Advisory Committee (TAC)

M. Roche provided an update on the Transit Advisory Committee via email prior to the meeting.

He advised that Reports of the following 4 matters were discussed at the May 18th TAC Meeting:

- Report on what happened when DRT conventional transit charged no fares for the period from late March to the end of June. This enabled riders to enter the bus through the front doors and leave using the back doors thereby minimizing physical contact due to COVID-19;
- Report on Transit Assistance Program for all social assistance clients in Durham (OW and ODSP). There were 5000 TAP cards issued of which 2800 were used on a regular basis. Clients were surveyed and, recommendations were made for DRT to continue with the program;
- Report on the Secondary Student Transportation Incentive program in conjunction with the school boards; and
- Report on the ON Demand program used in areas with very low ridership resulting in suspension of regular bus service.

C) Accessibility Coordinator Update

J. Traer provided the following update:

- There were two Lunch and Learn Sessions held during National AccessAbility Week. The presenters were Julie Sawchuk, Sawchuk Accessible Solutions and Stephanie Skopyk, from Mission United.
- The Corporate Communications Division sent out numerous messages during AccessAbility Week regarding inclusion and identifying barriers, etc.
- J. Traer recently met with Works Department staff, M. Roche and D. Campbell to discuss the installation of an accessible electric vehicle charging station at Regional Headquarters. She advised that there are accessible parking spots outside the west entrance of the building and two extra spots will be made accessible with a charging station installed between them.
- J. Traer will be reaching out over the summer months to discuss what should be included in the Region's 2022 to 2025 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan.
- The balance of the 2021 AAC meetings will be held virtually at this time. J. Traer requested that the Committee provide feedback on their thoughts with regards to future speakers, technology advances or other related accessibility initiatives.
- Meaghan Peters has resigned from the Committee as she will be moving out of Durham Region. Meagan was thanked for her time as an AAC member and wished well with regards to her move and future endeavours.

8. Reports for Information

There were no reports to consider.

9. Other Business

There were no items of other business.

10. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at 1 PM.

11. Adjourment

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 PM

C. Boose, Chair
Accessibility Advisory Committee

N. Prasad, Committee Clerk

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2097.

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

9-1-1 MANAGEMENT BOARD

June 24, 2021

A regular meeting of the 9-1-1 Management Board was held in the Council Chambers, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, at 9:32 A.M. In accordance with Provincial legislation, electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: P. Hallett, Durham Regional Police (Chair)
T. Cheseboro, Region of Durham Paramedic Services
L. Kellett, Oshawa Central Ambulance Communications Centre, Ministry of Health – Emergency Health Program Management & Delivery Branch
M. Simpson, Director of Risk Management, Economic Studies and Procurement, Durham Region
G. Weir, Clarington Emergency & Fire Services
J. Wichman, Communications/9-1-1 Technical Manager
*** all members of Committee participated electronically**

Also

Present: J. Henry, Regional Chair

Absent: B. Drew, Durham Regional Council

Staff

Present: R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
T. Fraser, Legislative Services Division – Corporate Services Department

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Approval of Minutes

Moved by G. Weir, Seconded by M. Simpson,
(1) That the minutes of the 9-1-1 Management Board meeting held on April 27, 2021, be adopted.

CARRIED

4. 9-1-1 Call Statistics

J. Wichman provided the statistics on calls transferred from January to May, 2021. He advised that call volume increased in May 2021 and that this is expected to continue over the summer months as COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

5. 9-1-1 System Complaints reported by Technical Manager

J. Wichman provided an overview of the following issues involving the 9-1-1 system:

- On June 23, 2021, the Central Ambulance Communications Centre (CACC) received two calls with no caller, which were from unregistered handset numbers. These calls were not transferred from the Durham Regional Police Service Communications/9-1-1 Unit. This is being monitored and call takers have been asked to advise if they receive any additional calls.

L. Kellett advised that the CACC is receiving telemarketing calls coming through on 9-1-1 lines. She noted that their phone numbers have been added to the National Do Not Call List and they believe the calls may be coming from auto dialer programs using the 10-digit backup numbers. She added that the calls are possibly coming from outside of Canada.

J. Wichman agreed to look into the issue and he provided an overview of legislation passed prior to COVID 19. L. Kellett responded to questions with respect to the calls and the cyber security measures in place at the CACC.

J. Wichman advised that security is a big concern heading into next generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) and it is being discussed nationally.

6. Discussion re: cell abandons call volume and solutions

J. Wichman advised that cell abandon calls have been a growing concern since Bell Canada changed the timing on dropped calls. He explained that almost immediately if you call 9-1-1 and hang-up the call comes through to the Primary Public Safety Answering Point (P.P.S.A.P.). He also explained that they call individuals back to ensure they are safe, and some call backs have ended up being incidents.

J. Wichman advised that one of the first changes being implemented to the current process is a text message will be sent to cell phone callers advising that their phone dialed 9-1-1 and that the P.P.S.A.P. will be calling from a blocked number and to please answer the phone to advise that they are safe. It will also state that if this was a 9-1-1 call to please dial back immediately. He explained that it is hoped that this will speed up the call back process.

J. Wichman also advised that he is involved nationally with next generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) and the Emergency Services Working Group (ESWG) and he hopes to be able to work on this issue nationally and to engage cell phone manufacturers. He also noted that he has a call with the ESWG in July 2021 and this is one of the topics he has raised.

J. Wichman responded to questions with respect to whether the text feature was included in the Komutel CTI Solution package.

7. Other Departments - Comments/Concerns

a) Comments/Concerns – Regional Council

Regional Chair Henry advised that Chief Rollauer provided an update at the June 23, 2021 Regional Council meeting. He advised that he did have some concerns related to the radio advertisement regarding the 9-1-1 Call Centre and he is aware that further information will be brought forward for 2022 budget deliberations.

Regional Chair Henry thanked the Board for their work and the work of 9-1-1 Call takers.

b) Comments/Concerns – Durham Police

J. Wichman advised that on June 14, 2021 the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Committee (CRTC) issued new dates for implementation of next generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1). By March 1, 2022, network and telecom providers must provide NG9-1-1 voice services and March 4, 2025, is the decommissioning date for the current E9-1-1 system. He noted that a deadline for providing NG9-1-1 text messaging services has not yet been set.

c) Comments/Concerns – Fire Departments

G. Weir advised that he is retiring on July 31, 2021, and that Mark Berney, Fire Chief, for the Township of Scugog, has been selected as his replacement by the Fire Chiefs Committee.

d) Comments/Concerns – Oshawa Central Ambulance Communications Centre

L. Kellett advised that their call volume is increasing, and they are experiencing normal staffing issues related to the summer. She also advised that they are moving forward with their new telephony system and do not yet have an implementation date. She noted that she will put forward a question about security of the network at their next working group meeting.

e) Comments/Concerns – Durham Finance

M. Simpson advised that the 2022 budget process has started.

f) Comments/Concerns – Region of Durham Paramedic Services

T. Cheseboro advised that call volume is increasing, and they are experiencing usual staffing challenges. He also advised that they are still awaiting their new radio system from the Province. He further advised that they are transitioning to a new feature with one of their vendors called CADLink. He explained that this will allow for a voiceless transmission of data between their computers and the dispatch centre. He added that this will improve times and accuracy of information entered into electronic records. Implementation is anticipated for late 2021.

8. Other Business

There was no other business.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the 9-1-1 Management Board will be held on Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at the Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, in Council Chambers.

10. Adjournment

Moved by M. Simpson, Seconded by G. Weir,
(2) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 10:01 AM

P. Hallett, Chair

T. Fraser, Committee Clerk