

**TOWNSHIP OF ESSA  
CONSENT AGENDA  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2020**

**A – ITEMS RECEIVED AS INFORMATION**

- p. 1 1. Request for Support from the Town of Penetanguishene dated January 14, 2020, re: Penetanguishene as a Primary Location for Francophone University.
2. Resolutions in Support of Conservation Authorities:
- p. 7 a) January 15, 2020 – Municipality of Dutton Dunwich
- p. 8 b) January 21, 2020 – Town of Collingwood
- p. 10 c) January 27, 2020 – Town of Orangeville
- p. 11 3. Correspondence from the Association of Municipalities (AMO) dated January 15, 2020, re: Government Announces Consultation on Re-composition of OPP Detachment Boards.
- p. 15 4. Correspondence from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) dated January 17, 2020, re: 2019 Year-End Assessment Report.
5. Correspondence from the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs:
- p. 19 a) January 20, 2020 –Rural Economic Development (RED) Program
- p. 21 b) January 22, 2020 – Drainage Act Approval Process
6. Correspondence from the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit:
- p. 28 a) January 24, 2020, re: Message from the Medical Officer of Health – Novel Coronavirus Update for Partners
- p. 30 b) January 29, 2020, re: Message from the Medical Officer of Health – Novel Coronavirus Update for Partners
7. Media Releases from the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA):
- p. 33 a) Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Issues Scam Alert
- p. 34 b) NVCA's 60<sup>th</sup> AGM was all about the Unique Position of Conservation Authorities.
- p. 36 c) Introducing Walk-in Tuesday and Thursday
- p. 37 8. News Bulletin from the Ontario Provincial Police Municipal Policing Bureau, January 2020.
- p. 38 9. Correspondence from the Ontario Farmland Trust, re: 2020 Farmland Forum.
- p. 39 10. NVCA Annual General Meeting Highlights (January 24, 2020).

**C**  
**B – ITEMS RECEIVED AND REFERRED TO SERVICE AREA FOR ACTION**

None to be presented.

**C – ITEMS RECEIVED AND REFERRED TO SERVICE AREA FOR REVIEW AND REPORT TO COUNCIL**

None to be presented.



January 14, 2020

Mayor and Council  
Township of Essa  
5786 County Road 21  
Utopia, ON  
L0M 1T0

Delivered by Email:  
llehr@essatownship.on.ca

Dear Mayor and Council;

**Re: Seeking Support – Penetanguishene as a primary location for Francophone University**

The Town of Penetanguishene sent correspondence to the County of Simcoe Mayors back in October 2019, in regards to its intent to lobby the Provincial Government to be considered as a primary location for the Francophone University.

Although it hasn't been officially announced, there's speculation that the location of Université de l'Ontario français will be within the Greater Toronto Area. Since an announcement hasn't been made, the Town of Penetanguishene will be continuing to pursue this endeavour until it's made official. We strongly believe that the Town's long standing French culture and heritage, the value add for the future of students studying in French, the location, the appropriate infrastructure to support such a worthwhile venture, and the overall quality of life for future students make Penetanguishene an excellent candidate.

For these reasons, please consider supporting the Town of Penetanguishene in the form of a resolution, as we lobby the Provincial and Federal governments in the pursuit of a Francophone University being situated in our Town and the County of Simcoe. Additional background information has been enclosed for your information.

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 705-549-7453 or dleroux@penetanguishene.ca.

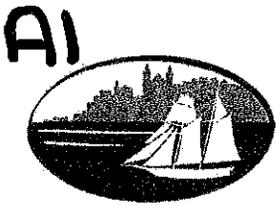
Most Sincerely,

Doug Leroux, Mayor  
Town of Penetanguishene

Encl.

cc: Jeff Lees, Chief Administrative Officer, Town of Penetanguishene  
George Cornell, Warden, County of Simcoe  
Mark Aitken, Chief Administrative Officer, County of Simcoe





October 15, 2019

Sandie Macdonald, Mayor  
Township of Essa  
5786 County Road 21  
Utopia, ON L0M 1T0

Delivered by email to:  
smacdonald@essatownship.on.

Dear Mayor and Council;

**Re: Seeking Support – Penetanguishene as a primary location for Francophone University**

The Provincial Government announced on September 7, 2019 that a memorandum of understanding had been reached between the Provincial and Federal Governments on the Université de l'Ontario français. The signed MOU affirmed both governments' commitment to address the needs of more than 600,000 Francophones in Ontario with respect to postsecondary education.

The Town of Penetanguishene wholeheartedly believes that Penetanguishene needs to be considered as the primary location due to its long standing French culture and heritage, the value add for the future of students studying in French, the location, the appropriate infrastructure to support such a worthwhile venture, and the overall quality of life for future students.

For these reasons, at the regular meeting of Council held on October 9, 2019, the Council of the Town of Penetanguishene passed a resolution seeking support from our neighbouring lower tier municipalities in the County of Simcoe as we lobby the Provincial and Federal governments in the pursuit of a Francophone University being situated in the Town of Penetanguishene.

As such, please find enclosed a copy of the above noted resolution. If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 705-549-7453 or dleroux@penetanguishene.ca.

Most Sincerely,

Doug Leroux, Mayor  
Town of Penetanguishene

cc: Jeff Lees, Chief Administrative Officer, Town of Penetanguishene  
George Cornell, Warden, County of Simcoe  
Mark Aitken, Chief Administrative Officer, County of Simcoe





**REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**  
October 9, 2019

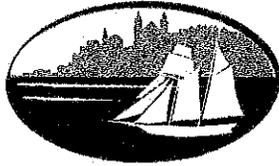
**MOVED BY:** Councillor Michel Mayotte  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Debbie Levy

**THAT** through collaboration with the Town's community partners, Council supports wholeheartedly the pursuance of the new Francophone University primary location being situated in the Town of Penetanguishene;

**AND THAT** Council requests formal support from neighbouring municipalities within the County of Simcoe, as well as community partners with a vested interest in the local French culture and heritage.

**CARRIED.**  
Mayor Doug Leroux

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**The Corporation of The Town of Penetanguishene  
Regular Council**

**COMMITTEE:** Council  
**COMMITTEE CHAIR:** Mayor Leroux  
**SUBJECT:** Francophone University – Council Support  
**REPORT:** CAO-2019-10

**REPORT HIGHLIGHTS**

- The Provincial Government announced on September 7, 2019 that a memorandum of understanding had been reached between the Provincial and Federal Governments on the Universite de l'Ontario Francais;
- It has been suggested that a joint working group will be formed between the two levels of government to decide on expenditures, timelines and activities for the \$126 million project;
- Penetanguishene needs to be considered as the primary location due to it's long standing French culture and heritage, the value add for the future of students studying in French, the location, the appropriate infrastructure to support such a worthwhile venture, and the overall quality of life for future students;
- Council is being asked to support the pursuance of the new Francophone University primary location being situated in the Town of Penetanguishene;
- Strong efforts will be made to engage with our local MPP and Associate Minister of Children and Women's Issues, the Ministry of Francophone Affairs, the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, in addition to the appropriate Federal Government Ministries.

**RECOMMENDATION**

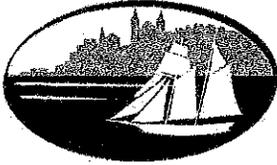
THAT through collaboration with the Town's community partners, Council supports wholeheartedly the pursuance of the new Francophone University primary location being situated in the Town of Penetanguishene;

AND THAT Council requests formal support from neighbouring municipalities within the County of Simcoe, as well as community partners with a vested interest in the local French culture and heritage.

**BACKGROUND**

Under the previous (2014-2018) term of Council, there was some political lobbying of the Provincial Government with respect to Penetanguishene being the most ideal location for a Francophone University. Soon thereafter, the notion of a Francophone University was put in abeyance.

On September 7, 2019, a news release from the Provincial Government indicated that the Governments of Canada and Ontario reached a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on the Universite de l'Ontario Francais.



**The Corporation of The Town of Penetanguishene  
Regular Council**

**ANALYSIS**

Signed Memorandum of Understanding

The signed MOU affirmed both government's commitment to address the needs of more than 600,000 Francophones in Ontario with respect to postsecondary education. Highlights from the MOU are included on the attached news release.

It has been suggested through several news outlets that the two levels of government have promised to strike a joint working group to decide on eligible expenditures, timelines and activities for the estimated \$126 million school project.

Location

For a number of reasons with supported rationale, Penetanguishene needs to be considered by the Province as a primary location for Ontario's first and only French-language university. Between the long standing French culture and heritage in the area, the benefits to the students and the strength it would bring to the sub-region as a whole, the economic value it would bring to North Simcoe and Simcoe County, the ideal location geographically, or the existing infrastructure to support such a worthwhile venture, Penetanguishene needs to be considered as the primary location moving forward. Further, there will be immense value for the Francophone Community, both locally and provincially, for the students as well as the Province as a whole. Penetanguishene is one of a few French designated areas in Central Ontario. In Simcoe County, the Townships of Essa and Tiny are the other two designated areas.

It's been suggested that a University campus requires, among other amenities, transportation, sports, food, social and housing components, all of which Penetanguishene can support. Nothing compares to the quality of life that can be offered in the Heart of Georgian Bay.

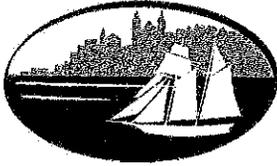
Next Steps

While recognizing there aren't a great deal of confirmed details as it pertains to the Province's next steps, specifically as it relates to how a location will be chosen, administration believes it's important to start engaging our local MPP and Associate Minister of Children and Women's Issues, Jill Dunlop. Further, reaching out to and engaging the Ministry of Francophone Affairs and the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities will be good strategic choices. In addition to the Provincial Ministries, engaging with the Federal Government and respective Ministries will be important.

At this time, Council is being asked to support highlighting for the Province of Ontario and Government of Canada why Penetanguishene needs to be considered as the primary location moving forward for the Francophone University.

In preliminary discussions on October 7, 2019 with Administration and the Warden at the County of Simcoe, they have no initial concerns with providing support to the approach generally articulated in this report. Further, as things move forward, it will be important to be aligned strategically when it comes time for discussions with the Provincial and/or the Federal Governments.

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**The Corporation of The Town of Penetanguishene  
Regular Council**

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no material financial implications as a result of this report that cannot be accounted for in the respective budget.

**RISK MANAGEMENT**

There are no direct significant risk management implications as a result of this report.

**COMMUNICATION & MARKETING**

As this matter progresses and significant updates are available, the Mayor and/or Administration will keep Council and the public apprised of progress.

**RELEVANT BACKGROUND REPORT(S)**

None

**SUSTAINABILITY**

One pillar:

1. Economic Prosperity

**STRATEGIC GOALS & OBJECTIVES**

Municipal objectives:

Programs

- Support local & regional economic development

Projects

- Develop initiatives to create a complete community

**Prepared by:** Jeff Lees, CPA, CGA, Chief Administrative Officer  
**Reviewed by:** Not applicable  
**COW Meeting Date:** N/A  
**Council Meeting Date:** October 9, 2019

**ATTACHMENTS**

Att. #1 – Sept. 7, 2019 Province of Ontario News Release



COUNCIL RESOLUTION

23

Res: 2020.01. 23

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Moved by: Mike Hentz

Seconded by: Patricia Cornell

**THAT** Conservation Authorities have been protecting people and conserving and restoring watersheds with local communities for over 50 years; and

**THAT** Municipalities must work together to ensure resilient and healthy watersheds for residents; and

**THAT** Conservation Authorities will be important partners in concrete and cost-effective initiatives to address climate change.

**THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Municipality of Dutton Dunwich supports the important role Conservation Authorities provide to local communities in delivering watershed management programs

**AND THAT** this resolution be circulated to all upper and lower-tier municipalities, Conservation Authorities and the Provincial Government (Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks) in Ontario

<u>Recorded Vote</u>	<u>Yeas</u>	<u>Nays</u>
P. Cornell	_____	_____
A. Drouillard	_____	_____
K. Loveland	_____	_____
M. Hentz	_____	_____
B. Purcell – Mayor	_____	_____

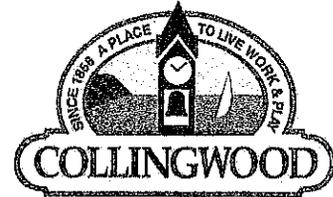
CARRIED:  
[Signature]  
Mayor

DEFEATED:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

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**TOWN OF COLLINGWOOD**


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Becky Dahl, Deputy Clerk  
 97 Hurontario St. P.O. Box 157  
 Collingwood, ON L9Y 3Z5  
 Tel: (705) 445-1030 Ex. 3230  
 Fax: (705) 445-2448  
 Email: [bdahl@collingwood.ca](mailto:bdahl@collingwood.ca)

January 21, 2020

The Honourable Jeff Yurek  
 Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
 College Park 5th Floor, 777 Bay Street  
 Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

**Re: Conservation Authorities**

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On behalf of the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Collingwood, I write to advise you of the following recommendation approved at its meeting held on January 20, 2020 for your consideration:

- WHEREAS** the Town of Collingwood has recently declared a Climate Emergency;
- AND WHEREAS** the Town of Collingwood has committed to nine core principles of sustainability;
- AND WHEREAS** the Town of Collingwood is a beneficiary of the upstream environmental remediation work done by the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA);
- AND WHEREAS** the Town of Collingwood is a member of the NVCA, with representation on its Board of Directors;
- AND WHEREAS** under the direction of the Board of Directors, the NVCA provides programs and services addressing local priorities to the residents of Collingwood and its other member municipalities, including inclusive outdoor education and recreation, water quality monitoring, preservation of species at risk as well as protecting life and property through a variety of measures;
- AND WHEREAS** the NVCA provides the Town of Collingwood with expert advice on the environmental impact of land use planning proposals and that the Municipality does not have staff with comparable expertise or experience;
- AND WHEREAS** the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks provides approximately one percent of the budget for programs and services currently delivered by the NVCA;
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Town of Collingwood supports Conservation Authority regulations under Bill 108 being completed in consultation with municipalities, the NVCA and Conservation Ontario;
- AND THAT** the Town of Collingwood supports continuation of the critical programs and services included in the mandate of Conservation Authorities;
- AND THAT** during the fulsome review and consultations the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks continue to allow local municipalities' designated representatives

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to determine which programs will be delivered and mandatory, along with the use of a Board-directed fair municipal levy as per current Regulation;

**AND THAT** this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Premier Doug Ford, MPP Jim Wilson, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority, Conservation Ontario, all Ontario municipalities, and the County of Simcoe.

Should you require anything further, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 705-445-1030 ext. 3230 or [clerk@collingwood.ca](mailto:clerk@collingwood.ca).

Yours truly,

~~TOWN OF COLLINGWOOD~~



Becky Dahl  
Deputy Clerk, Clerk Services

c.c. Premier Doug Ford  
Jim Wilson, MPP  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority  
Conservation Ontario  
County of Simcoe  
Ontario municipalities

AZc

**From:** Tracy MacDonald [mailto:tmacdonald@orangeville.ca]  
**Sent:** January 27, 2020 6:34 PM  
**Subject:** Resolution - Environmental Awareness and Action

Good afternoon,

The Town Orangeville passed the following resolution at its January 13, 2020 Council meeting:

13.1 Councillor Peters – Environmental Awareness and Action

Resolution 2020-14

Moved by Councillor Peters  
Seconded by Councillor Post

That the Town of Orangeville supports continuation of the programs and services of the CVC, both mandatory and non-mandatory, and that no programs or services of the CVC or other CAs in Ontario be “wound down” at this time; and

That the Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks give clear direction as to what programs and services are considered mandatory and non-mandatory and how those programs will be funded in the future; and

That the Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks recognizes the strong and positive Provincial role Conservation Authorities (CAs) play in flood risk reduction programs and reinstates funding to the CAs of Ontario; and

That this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks, Premier Doug Ford, MPP Sylvia Jones, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Credit Valley Conservation Authority, Conservation Ontario, and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried.

Regards,

**Tracy Macdonald | Assistant Clerk | Corporate Services**  
**Town of Orangeville | 87 Broadway | Orangeville ON L9W 1K1**  
519-941-0440 Ext. 2256 | Toll Free 1-866-941-0440 Ext. 2256  
[tmacdonald@orangeville.ca](mailto:tmacdonald@orangeville.ca) | [www.orangeville.ca](http://www.orangeville.ca)

**From:** AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 15, 2020 5:37 PM  
**To:** Lisa Lehr  
**Reply To:** [Communicate@amo.on.ca](mailto:Communicate@amo.on.ca)  
**Subject:** Government announces consultation on re-composition of OPP Detachment Boards

AMO Update not displaying correctly? [View the online version](#)  
Add [Communicate@amo.on.ca](mailto:Communicate@amo.on.ca) to your safe list



January 15, 2020

## Government announces consultation on re-composition of OPP Detachment Boards

On January 15th, the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Ontario’s Solicitor General, wrote to Heads of Council to announce province-wide consultations on the drafting of regulations needed to support the establishment of new OPP detachment boards. These discussions will include changes to the billing framework allocating costs between municipalities with a shared OPP detachment board. AMO strongly encourages the participation of local elected officials in these discussions.

For municipalities, the goal of this engagement is a regulatory framework that supports successful and effective governance and delivers strong local civilian oversight of policing by the OPP. This should include mechanisms for every municipal council to be represented on an OPP detachment board and the equitable distribution of costs between municipalities.

The need for new OPP governance regulations is as a result of the new *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*. Key governance-related changes include:

### Structure of Boards and Local Say

- There shall be one OPP detachment board per detachment (with flexibility for unique circumstances/geography). A board’s composition, terms of office, and remuneration will be provided for in regulations and has yet to be determined.
- In effect, these changes extend police governance to about 200 municipalities (which do not have a board, ie. Section 5.1) but will consolidate multiple existing boards within a detachment.

**Activity of Boards**

- Boards shall determine local objectives, priorities, and policies in consultation with the Detachment Commander, consistent with the Solicitor General's strategic plan for the OPP.
- Boards shall consult with the Commissioner of the OPP regarding the selection of the Detachment Commander.
- The Detachment Commander shall prepare and adopt a local action plan in consultation with the board.
- Training for board members will become mandatory (Ministry support and funding is needed).

**Financial Considerations**

- There will be no distinction between contract and non-contract in the future. Effectively all policing will become contract.
- The focus of the billing related regulations will be to address transition matters and to account for service differences between municipalities as well as existing contracts expiring at the end of 2020.
- It should be noted, billing model changes will not lower the overall cost of policing for the municipal sector.

**OPP Governance Advisory Council (Provincial)**

- The establishment of this Council is to provide advice to the Solicitor General with respect to the use of the Solicitor General's powers related to the OPP.
- More generally, this change will enhance civilian governance of the OPP.

**AMO Advocacy**

AMO has impressed upon the Ministry of the need for:

- open and transparent discussions;
- a recognition that policing is fundamentally local (ie. it is important to maintain the close proximity of a community to its board and the police);
- locally workable governance arrangements; and
- the representation of every municipal council.

**Key Municipal Considerations**

For local elected officials participating in the government's consultation, here are some key considerations:

1. For communities without existing police service or detachment boards: boards are an opportunity to expand the democratic oversight and governance of policing. In the words of Sir Robert Peel, the father of modern policing, "the police are the public and the public are the police." A detachment board helps to align policing objectives, priorities, and policies with community expectations.
2. For communities with existing OPP boards: the legislation aims to consolidate existing municipal board boundaries with OPP detachment board boundaries (thus potentially including multiple neighbouring municipalities in the same detachment). However, the legislation provides for flexibility to address unique geographic circumstances. If you feel your area's needs are unique, help the Ministry understand that uniqueness in a province-wide context.
3. The size and composition of detachment boards have not been determined. This is your opportunity to inform the regulations which will determine board composition.
4. On the issue of policing costs, speak to your local circumstances. Highlight areas where your property taxpayers would benefit from greater transparency or illustrate steps that could be taken to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of policing in your community (ie. shift scheduling). This should include highlighting the need that all new policing regulations (governance and operations) should aim to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of policing and not drive policing costs even higher.
5. On the issue of OPP billing, note that billing changes alone will not lower the overall cost of policing by the OPP. The equitable distribution of costs across the detachment is a key goal of all municipalities.

The Solicitor General has advised that regional roundtable meetings will be taking place in Kenora, Thunder Bay, Sudbury, Timmins, London, Brockville, and Orillia. The Ministry will communicate the dates and times of these meetings shortly in separate correspondence.

In addition, the Ontario Association of Police Service Boards is convening an OPP Governance Summit on January 30, 2020 which will include a presentation by the Ministry.

AMO will continue to engage the Ministry in discussions related to OPP detachment boards and other regulations which affect policing (OPP and own-force) in all municipalities in the months ahead. Please feel free to relay any positions or concerns of sector-wide interest to AMO.

A3

**AMO Contact:**

Matthew Wilson, Senior Advisor, [mwilson@amo.on.ca](mailto:mwilson@amo.on.ca), 416-971-9856 ext. 323.

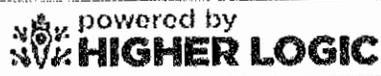
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Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
200 University Ave. Suite 801, Toronto ON Canada M5H 3C6

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**Krista Pascoe**

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**From:** Lisa Lehr  
**Sent:** January 17, 2020 6:49 PM  
**To:** Krista Pascoe  
**Subject:** Fw: 4321 Memo - 2019 Year-End Assessment Report  
**Attachments:** 19YEST4321.pdf

Consent please

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

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**From:** MR16Enquiry <MR16Enquiry@mpac.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 17, 2020 10:42 AM  
**To:** Lisa Lehr  
**Cc:** MR16Enquiry; Jylha, Kelan; Potts, Kaitlyn  
**Subject:** 4321 Memo - 2019 Year-End Assessment Report

Good morning,

I am following up on a communication I delivered in December to municipal CAOs and Finance staff on behalf of Chris Rickett, Director, Municipal and Stakeholder Relations regarding MPAC's 2019 Year-End Assessment Report which included two municipal level assessment snapshots unique to your municipality. You can find that communication below and the materials attached.

The report provides a high-level summary of MPAC's 2019 activities and detailed changes in your municipality's assessment base that will help Council's ongoing budgeting and tax policy planning.

Now that Finance staff have had a chance to review, we are requesting the opportunity to share this material with your municipal Council.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

I look forward to working with you during this Assessment Update year.

**Kelan Jylha**

Account Manager | County of Simcoe and the Cities of Barrie and Orillia  
Municipal & Stakeholder Relations Department  
Office: 705-417-0326  
Cell: 705-220-7537

[mpac.ca](http://mpac.ca)

Municipal Property Assessment Corporation  
65 Cedar Pointe Drive, Suite 800 Barrie, ON L4N 5R7

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December 16, 2019

**To:** Chief Administrative Officers, Chief Financial Officers, Treasurers and Tax Administrators  
**From:** Chris Rickett, Director, Municipal and Stakeholder Relations  
**Subject:** 2019 Year-End Assessment Report

A4

We are pleased to share our 2019 Year-End Assessment Report for the 2020 tax year, which will be of interest to both municipal administration and elected officials. This report provides a high-level summary of MPAC's 2019 activities that are relevant to the municipal sector, and also two unique municipal level snapshots of the assessment changes within your municipality.

We are particularly proud of the partnerships we have developed this past year, some of which are highlighted on page 3 of the report. Be sure to take a look – and if you have a story of a collaboration with our MPAC team, please let us know as we would like to share it as well.

To encourage sharing with municipal councils, this report will also be delivered to Municipal Clerks in January for dissemination to your councils.

Your MPAC Account Manager or Regional Manager are available to answer any questions you may have.

On behalf of MPAC and our Municipal and Stakeholder Relations team, we wish you all the best for the holiday season.

We look forward to working with all of you in 2020 as we head into the Assessment Update.

Regards,

Chris

**Chris Rickett, BES, MPA**  
Director, Municipal and Stakeholder Relations  
Valuation and Customer Relations  
Mobile: 416 723-5809

mpac.ca  
Municipal Property Assessment Corporation  
1340 Pickering Parkway, Suite 101 L1V 0C4

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[EXTERNAL]



MUNICIPAL  
PROPERTY  
ASSESSMENT  
CORPORATION

## APPENDIX 1 Assessment Change Summary by Property Class Township of Essa

The following chart provides a comparison of the total assessment for the 2016 base year, and a comparison of the assessment change for 2019 and 2020 property tax year by property class.

Property Class/Realty Tax Class	2016 Full CVA	2019 Phased-In CVA	2020 Phased-In CVA	Percent Change 2019 to 2020
R Residential	2,772,066,300	2,639,036,001	2,772,066,300	5.04%
M Multi-Residential	13,202,400	12,872,747	13,202,400	2.56%
C Commercial	89,826,200	86,555,457	89,826,200	3.78%
S Shopping Centre	13,029,700	12,467,490	13,029,700	4.51%
X Commercial (New Construction)	11,054,300	10,898,012	11,054,300	1.43%
I Industrial	28,045,700	27,609,080	28,045,700	1.58%
J Industrial (New Construction)	4,679,900	4,656,405	4,679,900	0.50%
P Pipeline	7,711,000	7,538,485	7,711,000	2.29%
F Farm	414,604,400	381,278,863	414,604,400	8.74%
T Managed Forests	10,110,100	9,497,063	10,110,100	6.46%
W Railway Right-of-Way	0	0	0	0.00%
B Shortline Railway Right-of-Way	0	0	0	0.00%
U Utility Transmission & Distribution Corridors	0	0	0	0.00%
(PIL) R Residential	88,863,375	88,806,000	88,863,375	0.06%
(PIL) C Commercial	241,950,250	241,739,576	241,950,250	0.09%
(PIL) I Industrial	2,345,600	2,283,784	2,345,600	2.71%
E Exempt	110,194,375	107,156,064	110,194,375	2.84%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,807,683,600</b>	<b>3,632,395,027</b>	<b>3,807,683,600</b>	<b>4.83%</b>

LI

PI



MUNICIPAL  
PROPERTY  
ASSESSMENT  
CORPORATION

## APPENDIX 2

### Assessment Base Distribution Summary by Property Class Township of Essa

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This chart provides a comparison of the distribution of the total assessment for the 2016 base year, and the 2019 and 2020 phased-in assessment, which includes the percentage of the total assessment base by property class.

Property Class/Realty Tax Class	2016 Full CVA	Percentage of Total 2016 CVA	2019 Phased-In CVA	Percentage of Total 2019 Phased-In CVA	2020 Phased-In CVA	Percentage of Total 2020 Phased-In CVA
R Residential	2,772,066,300	72.80%	2,639,036,001	72.65%	2,772,066,300	72.80%
M Multi-Residential	13,202,400	0.35%	12,872,747	0.35%	13,202,400	0.35%
C Commercial	89,826,200	2.36%	86,555,457	2.38%	89,826,200	2.36%
S Shopping Centre	13,029,700	0.34%	12,467,490	0.34%	13,029,700	0.34%
X Commercial (New Construction)	11,054,300	0.29%	10,898,012	0.30%	11,054,300	0.29%
I Industrial	28,045,700	0.74%	27,609,080	0.76%	28,045,700	0.74%
J Industrial (New Construction)	4,679,900	0.12%	4,656,405	0.13%	4,679,900	0.12%
P Pipeline	7,711,000	0.20%	7,538,485	0.21%	7,711,000	0.20%
F Farm	414,604,400	10.89%	381,278,863	10.50%	414,604,400	10.89%
T Managed Forests	10,110,100	0.27%	9,497,063	0.26%	10,110,100	0.27%
W Railway Right-of-Way	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
B Shortline Railway Right-of-Way	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
U Utility Transmission & Distribution Corridors	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
(PIL) R Residential	88,863,375	2.33%	88,806,000	2.44%	88,863,375	2.33%
(PIL) C Commercial	241,950,250	6.35%	241,739,576	6.66%	241,950,250	6.35%
(PIL) I Industrial	2,345,600	0.06%	2,283,784	0.06%	2,345,600	0.06%
E Exempt	110,194,375	2.89%	107,156,064	2.95%	110,194,375	2.89%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,807,683,600</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>3,632,395,027</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>3,807,683,600</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

18

**From:** [noreply@salesforce.com](mailto:noreply@salesforce.com) <[noreply@salesforce.com](mailto:noreply@salesforce.com)> **On Behalf Of** Minister OMAFRA  
**Sent:** January 20, 2020 11:45 AM  
**To:** Colleen Healey <[chealey@essatownship.on.ca](mailto:chealey@essatownship.on.ca)>  
**Subject:** From the Honourable Ernie Hardeman, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

Ministry of Agriculture,  
Food and Rural Affairs

Ministère de l'Agriculture, de  
l'Alimentation et des Affaires rurales

Office of the Minister

Bureau du ministre

77 Grenville Street, 11th Floor  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1B3  
Tel: 416-326-3074  
[www.ontario.ca/OMAFRA](http://www.ontario.ca/OMAFRA)

77, rue Grenville, 11<sup>e</sup> étage  
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1B3  
Tél. : 416 326-3074  
[www.ontario.ca/MAARO](http://www.ontario.ca/MAARO)



Ontario

**This communication is in both English and French. The French-language message can be found immediately after the English-language message.**

**La présente communication est en anglais et en français. Le message en français se trouve immédiatement après la version anglaise.**

January 20, 2020

Dear Mrs. Healey-Dowdall:

I am pleased to announce the next application intake for the Rural Economic Development (RED) program will be from January 20 to February 24, 2020. You can find all program information, including how to apply, on my ministry's website at [ontario.ca/REDprogram](http://ontario.ca/REDprogram).

In July 2019, we announced the revitalized RED program. Our updates put the focus on outcome-based projects that will have tangible benefits for Ontario's rural and Indigenous communities. The updates to the RED program better align with our government's priorities to remove barriers to investment, open doors to rural economic development and create good jobs across the province.

The program now has two project categories:

- The Strategic Economic Infrastructure stream provides up to 30 per cent in cost-shared funding for minor capital projects that advance economic development and investment opportunities.
- The Economic Diversification and Competitiveness stream provides up to 50 per cent in cost-shared funding for projects that remove barriers to business and job growth, attract investment, attract or retain a skilled workforce, strengthen sector and regional partnerships and diversify regional economies.

Our government is committed to supporting economic growth in rural communities and ensuring Ontario is open for business.

I encourage you to take advantage of this funding opportunity and submit an application for your economic development project. Together, we can ensure Ontario's communities thrive.

Sincerely,

*Original signed by*

Ernie Hardeman

Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

**Ministry of Agriculture,  
Food and Rural Affairs**

**Ministère de l'Agriculture, de  
l'Alimentation et des Affaires rurales**



Office of the Minister

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Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1B3  
Tél. : 416 326-3074  
www.ontario.ca/MAAARO

January 22, 2020

Colleen Healey-Dowdall  
CAO  
Township of Essa  
chealey@essatownship.on.ca

Dear Mrs. Healey-Dowdall:

The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) is seeking input on a proposal to streamline Drainage Act approval processes that would address common stakeholder concerns about the act while maintaining our province's high environmental standards. This is part of our government's broader initiative to reduce regulatory burden in consultation with the farm and agri-food sector while preserving rules that keep Ontarians safe and healthy.

The Drainage Act Discussion Paper is posted on the province's Environmental Registry at [ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-1187](http://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-1187). It describes some of the proposed changes which would reduce costs and project delays for farmers and other rural landowners and municipalities. The paper also poses questions for your feedback.

OMAFRA will be hosting webinars for key stakeholders who play an important role in the Drainage Act. The webinars are scheduled for:

January 31st	10:00 - 11:00 a.m.	Municipalities
January 31st	1:00 - 2:00 p.m.	Conservation Authorities
February 7th	10:00 - 11:00 a.m.	Drainage Industry
February 7th	1:00 - 2:00 p.m.	General Farm Organizations

To register, please contact the Agricultural Information Contact Centre (AICC) by email to [ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca](mailto:ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca) or call 1-877-424-1300. Although the webinars are targeted to specific audiences, you are very welcome to enroll at a time or date that better suits your schedule.

.../2



Good things grow in Ontario  
À bonne terre, bons produits

Ministry Headquarters: 1 Stone Road West, Guelph, Ontario N1G 4Y2  
Bureau principal du ministère: 1 Stone Road West, Guelph (Ontario) N1G 4Y2

A5b

- 2 -

Printed copies of the French Discussion Paper are also available from the AICC on request.

Our Ministry is committed to relieving the red tape burden that will ensure drainage continues to deliver critical economic and environmental benefits that will help rural communities, agricultural landowners and drainage contractors save money and/or time. We are confident the proposed changes will assist in making this a reality.

I look forward to your input.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ernie Hardeman', written in a cursive style.

Ernie Hardeman  
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

# Drainage Act Discussion Paper

## Summary of Proposal

Ontario's agri-food sector is an important component of the provincial economy, contributing \$39.5 billion in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employing nearly 822,500 people in 2017. Primary agriculture accounted for roughly 11 per cent of the sector's GDP (\$4.4 billion), generating \$13.1 billion in farm cash receipts and employing 68,500 people in 2017 while producing a diverse range of over 200 different commodities.

Drainage is critical for supporting agricultural productivity and the production of food. It also enables sector growth by delivering environmental and economic benefits such as improved crop productivity, nutrient loss reduction, reduced soil erosion, habitat protection and flood control. Though mostly unnoticed, it is an essential part of the rural Ontario landscape with more than 45,000 kilometers of municipal drains servicing approximately 1.75 million hectares of cropland.

It also positively impacts the economy as over \$100M is privately invested in drainage annually which has created 800-900 jobs and supports over 100 independent businesses.

To permit the construction and maintenance of municipal drains and private agricultural drainage systems, the agricultural sector has relied on drainage legislation for over 150 years. OMAFRA administers three pieces of agricultural drainage legislation: the *Drainage Act*, the *Tile Drainage Act* and the *Agricultural Tile Drainage Installation Act*.

The *Drainage Act* is unique in many ways. It establishes a process for resolving property right disputes involving water flow and drainage. It is premised on a user pay system where costs are fairly assessed to the property owners within the watershed. A drainage engineers report provides the design and allocation of project costs for a municipal drain that involves multiple private properties. Through collaboration between private landowners, it has helped address broader societal benefits such as flood control within Ontario's rural communities.

The *Drainage Act* is one of the Province's oldest pieces of legislation. Passed in 1859, there have not been any significant changes to the legislation since 1975. This has led to stakeholders requesting changes to the Act. For example, some stakeholders have indicated there are too many steps and agencies involved for drainage construction, maintenance and improvements to be approved in a timely and less costly way. Others have suggested that additional protocols (such as the *Drainage Act and Conservation Authorities Act Protocol*) could help with streamlining approvals for low risk activities.

To address some of these stakeholder concerns and reduce burden (e.g. project delays and projects costs) while maintaining environmental standards, OMAFRA is considering changes to the *Drainage Act*. This is part of the Ontario Government's broader approach to cutting red tape and reducing regulatory burden for all businesses, to lower business operating costs and improve Ontario's competitiveness.

OMAFRA is proposing changes to the *Drainage Act* that would, if passed:

- Create a new streamlined *Drainage Act* process for minor improvements to drainage systems;
- Enable a simplified process to update the engineer's report to account for changes to the design made during construction; and
- Provide the minister with legislative authority to adopt technical protocols such as the DART Protocol by reference in regulation.

### 1. Supporting Technical Protocols

#### *Authority to adopt protocols by reference in regulation*

Currently, projects under the *Drainage Act* typically require approvals from multiple agencies (e.g. conservation authorities, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry) to address protection of endangered species, water management and flood risks and other environmental considerations. When not coordinated, these additional approvals can add cost and project delays.

Protocols (such as the *Drainage Act and Conservation Authorities Act Protocol*) when adopted, have been demonstrated to reduce project delays and project costs while maintaining environmental protections. OMAFRA is proposing to amend the *Drainage Act* to enable broader adoption of this collaborative approach by providing legislative authority for the minister to develop and sign off on technical protocols.

Similar to the DART Protocol that originated from a multi-agency *Drainage Act* and Regulations Team (DART), OMAFRA would work in collaboration with other ministries, regulatory agencies, conservation authorities, municipalities, farming organizations, indigenous organizations and others on the development of any new protocols.

The DART Protocol was established in 2008 to streamline approvals for municipal drain repair and maintenance projects that meet *Conservation Authorities Act* permitting requirements in order to support compliance with *Drainage Act* requirements. For example, specific drainage maintenance and repair that follows environmental mitigation measures recommended in the

DART Protocol are provided with a streamlined approval under section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* where conservation authorities have adopted the Protocol.

Numerous stakeholders contributed to the development of the DART protocol including the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Conservation Ontario, conservation authorities, the Drainage Superintendents Association of Ontario, the Society of Professional Engineers Land Drainage Committee, Ontario Federation of Agriculture, Ontario Farm Environmental Coalition and the Rural Ontario Municipal Association.

## **2. Streamlining Approvals**

### *Creating a new process for minor improvements*

The *Drainage Act* establishes a process for resolving issues involving water flow and drainage. However, it doesn't enable a streamlined process for simple drain improvement projects that have minimal impact on the environment and other properties. This leads to a very lengthy and involved process that involves all assessed landowners, creating additional cost and burden, and can result in delaying or avoiding improvement activities.

OMAFRA is considering a new *Drainage Act* process for minor improvements so projects could be completed in a less costly and more efficient way. Examples of minor improvements could include: creating or widening a crossing, relocating a drain on an individual property or the addition of a feature with environmental benefits (e.g. buffer, water retention area). It would also allow for easier adoption of some green infrastructure technologies that have multiple benefits.

It is estimated that a streamlined minor improvement process could reduce the approval process by half; from 9 months to possibly 4-5 months. Less process and fewer meetings could result in an estimated 10 per cent savings a year for minor improvement project costs. The reduced process and costs would be especially important in facilitating environmental improvements to drains.

Moving the requirements into a new regulation would define minor improvement projects and describe a process to implement them in a streamlined way.

### 3. Simplifying Administrative Processes

#### *Accounting for changes to drain design during construction*

An engineer's report is prepared at the beginning of a drainage project to assess water drainage needs, affected landowners, system design and costs. It is common for drainage systems built under the *Drainage Act* to deviate from the design plans in the engineer's report because of unforeseen site conditions in the field. These changes are currently not identified in the engineer's report since there is no authority or defined process in the Act to follow to amend the report with new information. This can lead to a lack of clarity for municipal drainage superintendents who plan and implement maintenance and repair activity in accordance with the engineer's report.

OMAFRA is considering amendments to the *Drainage Act* to enable a simplified process to update the engineer's report to account for any changes made during construction. This would recognize and align with existing engineering practices.

It would also ensure the municipality has the authority to maintain the drain "as built" which would ensure that landowners are fairly assessed for the costs of maintaining and repairing the drain. By providing clarity to municipalities on the content of the engineer's report (accounting for changes made to the design during construction), cost savings could also be expected for municipalities while increasing certainty for landowners.

## Summary

Changes to the *Drainage Act* are proposed that would, if passed, enable a streamlined process for drainage projects to meet the requirements of property owners, municipalities and a cross section of government agencies. Additional housekeeping amendments may be considered.

The ministry is seeking your feedback on potential amendments to the *Drainage Act* and related programs. Your feedback will be considered during the development of possible legislative amendments.

We are also committed to consulting further on more specific changes to be included in a regulatory proposal for minor drain improvements.

**Questions for Consultation**

- i. Beyond the DART Protocol, what additional protocols could be established to help streamline approvals?*
- ii. What projects should be included in the definition of minor improvements? What else would you like a minor process to achieve?*
- iii. Do you have any specific concerns with any of the items discussed in the paper?*
- iv. Do you have any additional suggestions to reduce burden or contribute to additional opportunities for your business?*

**Email**

OMAFRA: [sara.peckford@ontario.ca](mailto:sara.peckford@ontario.ca)

**Address**

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs  
Food Safety and Environmental Policy Branch  
1 Stone Road West, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor SW  
Guelph, ON N1G 4Y2  
*c/o Sara Peckford*

## Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Update for Partners

### Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

January 24, 2020

Message from the Medical Officer of Health

Current Situation

Risk Assessment

Public Health Planning and Response

#### ***Message from the Medical Officer of Health***

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) is actively monitoring the rapidly evolving the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) situation and will provide regular updates as needed as a means to support your information needs, planning, communications and access to resources.

The updates will be based on the best available information at the time, acknowledging that the novel nature of 2019-nCoV means it will continue to be monitored closely (locally, provincially, nationally and worldwide) and analyzed to ensure that recommendations and actions are based on the best available knowledge.

We will also continue to work with and communicate to partners through regular channels where they exist to support ongoing planning and updates, including to all health care agencies, physicians and primary care providers. If you have questions please contact your regular health unit liaison contact or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520.

Sincerely,

Dr. Charles Gardner

Medical Office of Health

#### ***Current Situation***

##### **World**

- On December 31, 2019, an outbreak of respiratory illness with pneumonia-like symptoms was reported in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China.
- The cause has been confirmed as 2019-nCoV, a new coronavirus that has not previously been identified in humans.
- Hundreds of infections with 2019-nCoV have been reported in China, including outside of Hubei Province.

- Human infections with 2019-nCoV have been confirmed in Taiwan, Thailand, Japan, South Korea, and the United States. The first case in the United States was announced on January 21, 2020.

## Canada/Ontario

- There are no identified cases of 2019-nCoV in Canada at this time.

## **Risk Assessment**

- The Public Health Agency of Canada has assessed the public health risk associated with 2019-nCoV as *low* for Canada and for Canadian travelers.
- Public health risk is continually reassessed as new information becomes available.

## **Public Health Planning and Response**

### National

- The Public Health Agency of Canada is working with international partners, including the World Health Organization, to actively monitor the situation.
- Canada's Chief Public Health Officer of Canada is in close contact with provincial and territorial Chief Medical Officers of Health to ensure that Canada is prepared to rapidly identify and manage 2019-nCoV should it arrive in Canada.

### Provincial

- The Government of Ontario has made 2019-nCoV a **reportable disease**, which means public health can track and investigate cases of the disease and close human contacts.
- Health sector partners in Ontario are preparing a coordinated response, based on learning from SARS, including surge planning for increased demand for healthcare, etc.

### SMDHU

- SMDHU is working with health sector partners to increase screening and infection prevention control measures in health care settings.
- Further information is available on our [website](#).

# Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Update for Partners

## Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

January 29, 2020

- Message from the Medical Officer of Health
- Current Situation (as of 08:00 January 30, 2020)
- Risk Assessment
- Public Health Planning and Response
- Other Available Resources

### ***Message from the Medical Officer of Health***

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) continues to actively monitor the rapidly evolving novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) situation and will continue to provide weekly updates as needed as a means to support your information needs, planning, communications and access to resources. The weekly updates will be based on the best available information at the time, acknowledging that the novel nature of 2019-nCoV means it will continue to be monitored closely (locally, provincially, nationally and worldwide) and analyzed to ensure that recommendations and actions are based on the best available knowledge. Previous updates can be found at [www.smdhu.org/coronavirus](http://www.smdhu.org/coronavirus).

Dr. Charles Gardner  
Medical Office of Health

### ***Current Situation*** (as of 08:00 January 30, 2020)

#### **World**

- There are over 7800 cases of 2019-nCoV worldwide.
- The vast majority of these cases are being reported from China where over 7700 2019-nCoV cases have been confirmed, with 170 resulting in death.
- No deaths from 2019-nCoV have been reported outside of China.
- Human infections of 2019-nCoV have also been confirmed in 19 other countries outside of China, including in other parts of Asia, Europe, North America and Oceania.
- For up-to-date information see the [European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control website](#).

**Canada**

- There are 3 confirmed cases in Canada – two in Ontario, one in British Columbia.

**Ontario**

- There are two confirmed cases of 2019-nCov in Ontario.
- For up-to-date information on cases being investigated in Ontario see the Ontario Ministry of Health.

**Simcoe Muskoka**

- There are no confirmed cases of 2019-nCoV in the County of Simcoe or District of Muskoka.

**Risk Assessment**

- The Public Health Agency of Canada continues to assess the public health risk associated with 2019-nCoV as **low** for Canada and for Canadian travelers.
- The risk of the spread of 2019-nCoV within Ontario remains low at this time.
- Public health risk is continually reassessed as new information becomes available.

**Public Health Planning and Response**

**National**

- The Public Health Agency of Canada is working within Canada and with international partners, including the World Health Organization, to actively monitor the situation.
- The Chief Public Health Officer of Canada is in close contact with provincial and territorial Chief Medical Officers of Health to ensure that any cases of 2019-nCoV occurring in Canada continue to be rapidly identified and managed in order to protect the health of Canadians.
- The Government of Canada is advising Canadians to
  - Avoid all non-essential travel to China; and
  - Avoid all travel to Hubei Province in China.
  - For up to date travel advisories see Government of Canada Travel Advice and Advisories

**Provincial**

- 2019-nCoV is a **reportable disease** in Ontario, meaning public health is tracking and investigating cases of the disease and close human contacts.
- Health sector and other system partners are responding in a coordinated manner to detect, respond to and prevent the spread of 2019-nCoV in the province.

- Primary care guidance documents have been released and will be updated as needed.

#### **SMDHU**

- SMDHU is working with health sector partners to increase screening and infection prevention control measures in health care settings.
- Information and provincial guidance for primary care providers is available on our [health professional portal](#) for easy access.
- Our partners and the public are being kept up to date through our [website](#), social media, press releases, media interviews and [Q&As](#).

#### ***Other Available Resources***

- [Ontario Ministry of Health](#)
- [Government of Canada](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention\(CDC\)](#)
- [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)



**Nottawasaga Valley**  
Conservation Authority

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## MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority issues scam alert**

UTOPIA, Ontario (January 21, 2020) – The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) is warning residents in the Nottawasaga Valley Watershed and beyond to ignore a scam that uses the organization's name, slogan and logo.

The scam is disguised as a Go Fund Me campaign, with a photo of a boy in a hospital, with text describing his serious illness and that it will require a large sum of money to help with his recovery. When clicking on the link to donate, it goes to a PayPal payment platform.

"We are asking members of the public to not click, respond or donate when seeing this email," says Sheryl Flannagan, Director of Corporate Services at the NVCA. "Our staff are working hard to rectify the situation and to find the source of the scam. In the meantime, we would like to ensure everyone that our data is secure. This is a matter of misusing our name, slogan and logo. We invite anyone who has questions or concerns to contact us."

For more information about the scam, please contact NVCA at 705-424-1479 or email [admin@nvca.on.ca](mailto:admin@nvca.on.ca).

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**About NVCA:** The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority is a public agency dedicated to the preservation of a healthy environment through specialized programs to protect, conserve and enhance our water, wetlands, forests and lands.

**Media contact:** Maria Leung, Communications Coordinator 705-424-1479 ext.254, [mleung@nvca.on.ca](mailto:mleung@nvca.on.ca)



**Nottawasaga Valley  
Conservation Authority**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **NVCA's 60th AGM was all about the unique position of conservation authorities**

UTOPIA, Ontario (January 27, 2020) – The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) held its 60th Annual General Meeting (AGM) on January 24, 2020. Keith White, Councillor for the Town of Essa, was elected as Chair, Mariane McLeod, Councillor at the Town of Collingwood was elected as Vice-Chair, and George Watson, Councillor at the Town of Wasaga Beach accepted his role as Past Chair.

"For the last 60 years, the NVCA has been protecting people, property and the environment by providing important and specialized technical services to our watershed," said Councillor Keith White. "The NVCA continues to play a critical role in managing this watershed as we face unprecedented pressures from population growth and associated land development, all the while adjusting to the realities of climate change. I look forward to working with our member municipalities, county partners, provincial and federal governments and all other stakeholders, as we continue to support integrated watershed management."

In her nomination speech, Councillor Mariane McLeod said she doesn't bring a ton of experience to the role of the Vice-Chair, but will bring the work ethic of a farm girl, curiosity of a journalist and the enthusiasm of a fly fisher to the work of the NVCA.

"I can offer no guarantees about the stand I will take on issues that have not yet been identified," said McLeod. "But I do guarantee I will relentlessly advocate for the continued existence and reasonable mandate of conservation authorities in general and the NVCA in particular."

Jack Imhof, keynote speaker for the AGM, delivered a strong message about the importance of integrated watershed management. Conservation authorities are in a unique position to increase the functions of the watershed and to build resiliency so that we are able to cope with future extreme weather, drought and flooding brought by a changing climate. NVCA staff also produced a video about how various departments at the conservation authority work together to achieve integrated watershed management.

- 30 -

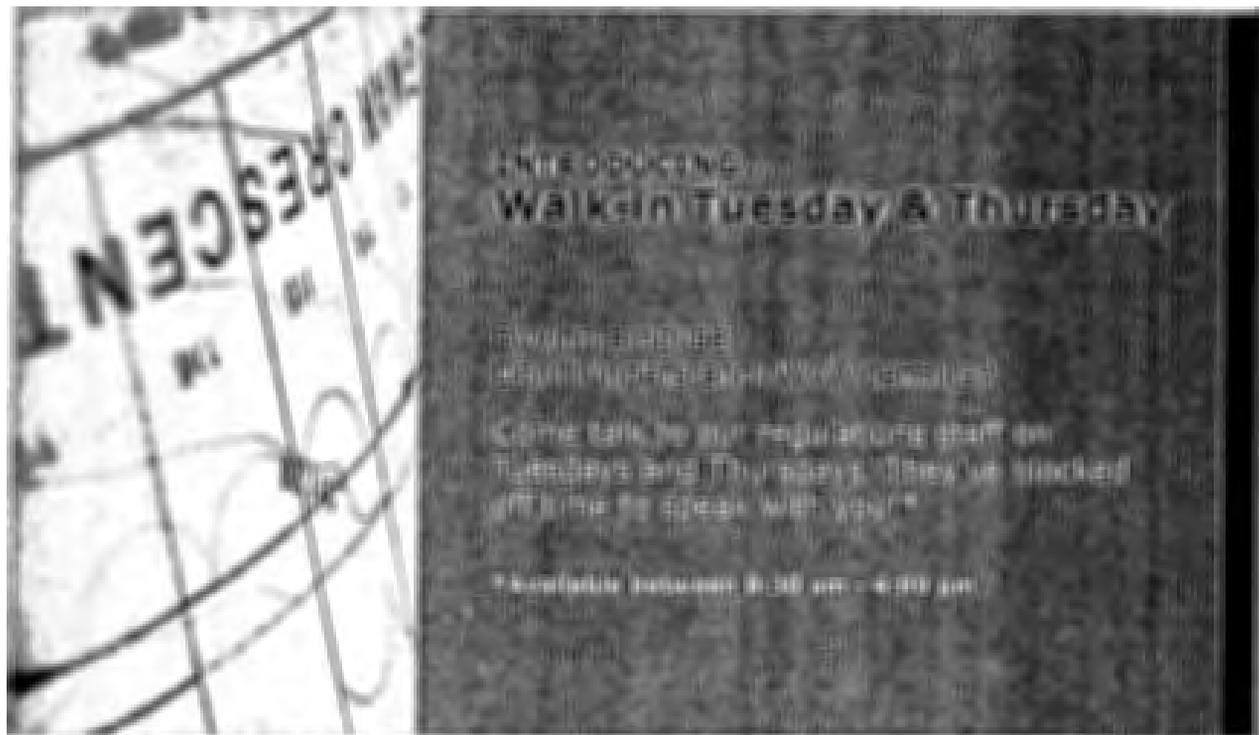
A7b

**About NVCA:** The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority is a public agency dedicated to the preservation of a healthy environment through specialized programs to protect, conserve and enhance our water, wetlands, forests and lands.

**Media contact:** Maria Leung, Communications Coordinator 705-424-1479 ext.254,  
[mleung@nvca.on.ca](mailto:mleung@nvca.on.ca)

New from the NVCA:

"To serve you better, we're introducing Walk in Tuesday and Thursday! Our regulations staff have blocked off time on Tuesdays and Thursdays to answer all your questions about NVCA permits."





**New Year — New OPP Efficiency**

Greetings from OPP Municipal Policing Bureau! May 2020 bring us more opportunities to strengthen the relationship with your municipality and make our communities safer!



We all know, in an emergency every second counts! Accidental and non-urgent calls to 9-1-1 like pocket dials tie up emergency lines, communicators and officers and can result in the slower response to a real emergency, risking the safety of people

who may need urgent help.

The OPP recently updated its 9-1-1 call handling work flow and policies to allow its emergency communicators more discretion to divert certain 9-1-1 calls and ensure more frontline OPP members are available for actual emergencies.

OPP communicators are well trained to recognize indicators of an emergency that warrant officers being dispatched.

Changing our 9-1-1 response process aligns with those of other major and medium police services while exceeding North America industry standards. The changes further help optimize our resources and support the pending implementation of 'next generation' 9-1-1 infrastructure, including the future handling of calls for service via social media.

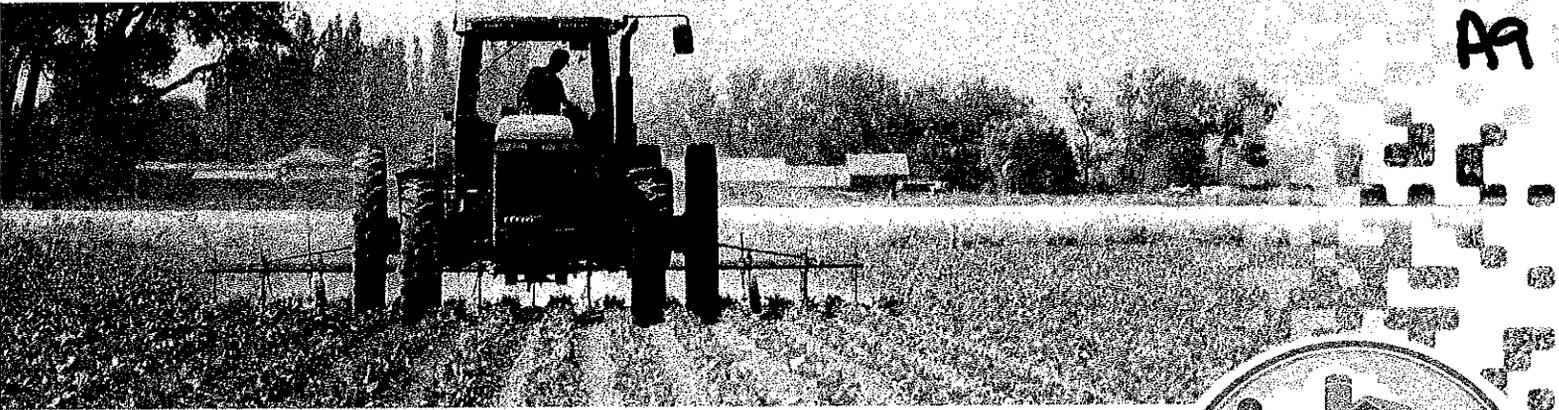
There may be some reduction in the billable calls for service costs in the Annual Billing Statements for OPP-policed municipalities as frontline officers are dispatched to fewer calls. Any reduction to the overall billing is expected to be negligible as officers are still on duty working in communities and available 24/7 to respond to calls for service

If municipal leaders require further information, please contact your local Detachment Commander or visit the OPP booth (#414) at the annual Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA) Conference.

**NEED MORE INFO / HAVE QUESTIONS?**

Visit [www.opp.ca/municipalpolicing](http://www.opp.ca/municipalpolicing) / [www.opp.ca/billingmodel](http://www.opp.ca/billingmodel)  
Contact us [OPP.MunicipalPolicing@opp.ca](mailto:OPP.MunicipalPolicing@opp.ca) or (705) 329-6200

AA



# 2020 FARMLAND FORUM

The Shifting Landscapes of Farmland Protection



## FEATURING



**KEVIN EBY**

*On...*

- The potential impact of changing growth forecasts and housing preferences on the need for urban expansions
- The potential impacts on urban land needs and municipal infrastructure financing



**PHILLY MARKOWITZ**

*On...*

- Grey County's efforts to map the local agri-food system to complement federal and provincial data sets and mapping
- How the agri-food system overlaps with the county's economic development priorities

### And panels on...

- The shifting landscapes of farming and farmland protection
- The Agricultural System in Ontario

# MARCH 26, 2020

## THE GRAND BANQUET & EVENT CENTRE

### 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

A day of sharing, networking, and exploring policy and land-use planning innovation for the changing landscapes of farmland protection in Ontario.

**TICKETS:** [www.ontariofarmlandtrust.ca](http://www.ontariofarmlandtrust.ca), [info@ontariofarmlandtrust.ca](mailto:info@ontariofarmlandtrust.ca)

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## NVCA 60th Annual General Meeting Highlights January 24, 2020

Next Meeting: February 28, 2020, Tiffin Centre for Conservation, Utopia

For the full meeting agenda including documents and reports, visit [nvca.on.ca/about/boardofdirectors](http://nvca.on.ca/about/boardofdirectors)

### NVCA Board of Directors Election

NVCA Board of Directors has elected and/or appointed the following officers for 2020:

- Chair: Keith White, Councillor for the Town of Essa
- Vice-Chair: Marlane McLeod, Councillor for the Town of Collingwood
- Past-Chair: George Watson, Councillor for the Town of Wasaga Beach

### Keynote Speaker

Jack Imhof, retired National Biologist and Director of Conservation Ecology for Trout Unlimited Canada delivered a keynote speech titled 'Protect the Best and Restore the Rest: The Value of Rebuilding Watershed Resilience'.

Jack emphasized and reiterated the importance of integrated watershed management and the unique position of conservation authorities to increase the functions of the watershed in order to build resiliency towards future extreme weather conditions, drought and flooding brought by a changing climate.

### 2019 Accomplishments

- NVCA's Manager of Forestry, Rick Grillmayer has planted close to 2.5 million trees since starting with the NVCA 25 years ago.
- In 2019, NVCA's stewardship team rehabilitated and protected almost 12 kilometres of streams and shorelines through 134 projects. This was thanks to the \$280,000 that was generously donated

by our community partners, and the many hours that were contributed by our volunteers.

- Watershed science continues to monitor the health of our ground and surface water
- Conservation lands worked with community partners to construct a green energy outdoor accessible washroom at the Tiffin Conservation Area, and started to build a hiking trail at the Utopia Conservation Area
- NVCA's planning and engineering departments are proactively protecting people and their property from natural hazards like flooding and erosion. With another record year with over 2,600 applications and inquiries, the NVCA is again one of the fastest growing conservation authorities in Ontario.
- Flood management continued to monitor weather forecasts and watershed conditions while maintaining and improving the system. Our flood team issued 8 flood messages in 2019.
- Over 12,000 students attended our education programs. Our very own Camp Tiffin saw over 500 children attend, the largest Camp Tiffin to date.

### Video: Managing our watershed at the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority

NVCA staff created a video showcasing how each department at the conservation authority

are linked together to practice integrated watershed management.

[Click here to view the video.](#)

### **2018 Watershed Health Checks**

In 2019, NVCA staff completed nine subwatershed health checks and one watershed-wide health check in 2018.

The health checks subwatershed health checks provide an overview of forest, wetlands, stream and groundwater health within the larger NVCA watershed. They also identify stewardship priorities, future challenges and opportunities to improve environmental health.

Our science monitoring staff collects samples from forests, wetlands, streams and groundwater for data analysis. Our stewardship staff uses this information to determine the success of past restoration projects and areas in need of improvement.

[Click here to view the 2018 Watershed Health Checks](#)

### **Upcoming events**

#### **Minesing Wetland Snowshoe Hike**

Date: Saturday, February 8, 2020 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Location: Announced a week before hike

#### **Family Nature Day - Winter Trek**

Date: Thursday, February 13, 2020 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Location: Tiffin Centre for Conservation

#### **Family Nature Day - Get back to the Sugar Shack**

Date: Friday, March 6, 2020 10:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Location: Tiffin Centre for Conservation

#### **March Break Camp**

Date: Monday, March 16, 2020 9:00 AM - Friday, March 20, 2020 4:00 PM

Location: Tiffin Centre for Conservation, 8195 8th Line, Utopia