



SOUTH NATION
CONSERVATION
DE LA NATION SUD

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Board of Directors

Supplemental Agenda

Date: January 16th, 2025

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: SNC Watershed Room
SNC Office
38 Victoria Street
Finch, ON K0C 1K0



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Board of Directors

Supplemental Agenda

January 16th, 2025, 9:00 a.m.

1. New Business

- | | |
|--|-----|
| a. Request for Approval: 2025 Conservation Ontario Levy: Carl | 3-5 |
| b. Update: Provincial Changes under the Conservation Authorities Act: Carl | 6-9 |
| c. Update: 2024 Technical Reviews: Marieh | 10 |

Carl Bickerdike,
Chief Administrative Officer.

/rb



To: Board of Directors
From: Carl Bickerdike, Chief Administrative Officer
Date: January 13th, 2024
Subject: Request for Approval: 2025 Conservation Ontario Levy

RECOMMENDATION:

The Board of Directors approve the payment of the 2025 Conservation Ontario Levy of \$45,010, payable in two installments of \$22,505.

DISCUSSION:

Each year SNC must pay a levy to Conservation Ontario (CO). CO helps to further the work of Conservation Authorities (CA) at the provincial level.

SNC's 2025 CO levy apportionment of \$45,010 represents a 23% increase over 2024, whereas CO's total levy request from all CAs increased by 3.1% from 2024 to 2025.

CO levy is determined by placing all CAs on a mathematical regression curve, using a three-year average of gross revenues to determine placement. The larger a CA's revenue, the larger their levy payment, but at a lower marginal rate. SNC's three-year average gross revenue increased significantly with the addition of the 2023 financial year.

Fundraising successes in 2023 included:

- Federal funding for the Findlay Creek Boardwalk - \$685,000
- Federal land securement funding from Conservation Ontario - \$760,000
- Several land donations - \$715,000
- GFL donation for wetland purchase - \$120,000



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FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

Compliance with Budget:

Total levy of \$45,010 is included in the 2025 Budget under Corporate and Community Services: Corporate Services: Administration, pages 36-37.

SNC Policy Adherence:

SNC Purchasing Policy – Board approval required for expenditures over \$25,000.

Programs and Services Category: Category 1 – Mandatory: Administration

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. Bickerdike', is written over a horizontal line.

Carl Bickerdike,
Chief Administrative Officer.

Attachment: 2025 Levy Apportionment Schedule from Conservation Ontario



2025 Levy Apportionment Schedule from Conservation Ontario

Conservation Authority	3 Year Average Revenue	2023 Revenue	2022 Revenue	2021 Revenue	2024 Levy	2025 Levy 3.1%	Total 2025 Levy
Ausable Bayfield	\$3,970,406	\$4,441,996	\$3,813,467	\$3,655,754	\$26,532	\$28,178	\$1,464,000
Cataraqui Region	\$4,945,768	\$5,450,350	\$5,004,137	\$4,382,818	\$31,501	\$30,693	
Catfish Creek	\$1,739,583	\$1,624,093	\$2,308,305	\$1,286,351	\$19,980	\$19,888	
Central Lake Ontario	\$7,752,536	\$8,292,782	\$7,922,119	\$7,042,707	\$37,094	\$38,276	
Credit Valley	\$36,950,423	\$38,047,166	\$35,813,760	\$36,990,344	\$93,755	\$96,675	
Crowe Valley	\$1,181,333	\$1,312,769	\$1,149,742	\$1,081,487	\$18,763	\$19,025	
Essex Region	\$9,481,230	\$8,018,921	\$12,312,401	\$8,112,368	\$42,510	\$37,554	
Ganaraska Region	\$3,634,447	\$3,952,335	\$3,426,311	\$3,524,694	\$25,421	\$26,544	
Grand River	\$37,879,689	\$35,451,966	\$48,007,585	\$30,179,515	\$88,349	\$93,339	
Grey Sauble	\$2,973,943	\$3,373,316	\$2,906,732	\$2,641,780	\$22,922	\$23,812	
Halton	\$37,229,132	\$42,046,759	\$39,302,895	\$30,337,742	\$92,804	\$99,100	
Hamilton	\$17,635,656	\$21,009,161	\$15,827,402	\$16,070,405	\$57,154	\$68,142	
Kawartha	\$3,512,297	\$3,895,412	\$3,388,404	\$3,253,076	\$25,312	\$26,215	
Kettle Creek	\$2,703,440	\$2,878,671	\$2,777,499	\$2,454,150	\$23,547	\$23,574	
Lake Simcoe Region	\$19,889,564	\$19,902,683	\$24,208,351	\$15,557,657	\$70,577	\$65,292	
Lakehead Region	\$2,149,580	\$2,346,166	\$2,277,957	\$1,824,617	\$22,092	\$22,144	
Long Point Region	\$5,741,096	\$6,249,786	\$5,680,904	\$5,292,598	\$31,788	\$32,910	
Lower Thames Valley	\$4,732,823	\$4,846,586	\$5,112,265	\$4,239,618	\$30,204	\$29,062	
Lower Trent	\$2,587,070	\$2,971,992	\$2,492,206	\$2,297,012	\$22,717	\$23,658	
Maitland Valley	\$4,127,226	\$4,554,282	\$4,033,168	\$3,794,228	\$26,577	\$28,137	
Mattagami Region	\$1,029,670	\$1,010,180	\$1,162,232	\$916,597	\$18,801	\$17,971	
Mississippi Valley	\$4,891,289	\$5,181,171	\$4,585,163	\$4,907,533	\$28,722	\$29,959	
Niagara Peninsula	\$13,996,753	\$15,847,287	\$13,454,507	\$12,688,464	\$52,013	\$55,997	
Nickel District	\$2,214,156	\$2,540,346	\$1,877,695	\$2,224,428	\$21,417	\$22,618	
North Bay-Mattawa	\$4,200,953	\$4,500,142	\$3,563,390	\$4,539,328	\$26,815	\$28,055	
Nottawasaga Valley	\$5,846,132	\$6,089,974	\$5,817,864	\$5,630,558	\$32,168	\$32,514	
Otonabee	\$3,576,404	\$3,691,795	\$3,889,121	\$3,148,296	\$26,747	\$25,826	
Quinte	\$4,874,331	\$5,061,828	\$5,302,118	\$4,259,048	\$29,534	\$29,457	
Raisin Region	\$2,869,828	\$3,150,199	\$2,859,830	\$2,599,456	\$23,786	\$24,367	
Rideau Valley	\$11,690,330	\$12,813,188	\$11,455,426	\$10,802,377	\$45,068	\$49,667	
Saugeen	\$5,236,261	\$6,162,063	\$5,223,739	\$4,322,982	\$30,515	\$32,745	
Sault Ste Marie	\$796,065	\$843,666	\$806,262	\$738,268	\$17,739	\$17,646	
South Nation	\$8,655,742	\$10,839,752	\$8,071,598	\$7,055,877	\$36,493	\$45,010	
St. Clair Region	\$8,277,855	\$5,916,597	\$9,018,053	\$9,898,914	\$39,787	\$31,700	
Toronto and Region	\$167,145,616	\$176,647,000	\$165,664,972	\$159,124,875	\$121,083	\$124,050	
Upper Thames River	\$17,674,696	\$19,064,066	\$16,721,216	\$17,238,805	\$59,713	\$64,200	
					\$1,420,000	\$1,464,000	



To: Board of Directors
From: Carl Bickerdike, CAO
Date: January 14th, 2025
Subject: Update: Provincial Changes under the *Conservation Authorities Act*

RECOMMENDATION:

The Board of Directors receive and file the Provincial Changes under the *Conservation Authorities Act* update.

DISCUSSION:

Previous changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act* (the “Act”) included provision of new powers for the Minister. In the last month, some changes to Conservation Authority operations have been made through regulation and Minister’s direction, summarised as follows:

1. Extension of Minister’s direction for conservation authorities regarding fee changes associated with planning, development, and permitting fees

Conservation Authorities received an updated direction from the Minister on December 12th, 2024 (attached as Agenda Item #9a Correspondence) informing them of the extension of a fee freeze on fees for any program or service related to reviewing and commenting on planning and development related proposals or land use planning policies, or for permits issued by conservation authorities.

Budget impacts from these freezes are outlined in Agenda Item #7a.

AMO has published key messages regarding conservation authority fees (Correspondence, page 45). These can be used at the ROMA Conference, or in discussion with local MPPs,

2. Regulation detailing new Minister’s Permit and Review powers under the *Conservation Authorities Act*

A new regulation (Ontario Regulation 474/24: Minister's Reviews under Sections 28.1 and 28.1.2 of the Act and Minister's Orders under Section 28.1.1 of the Act) has been made specifying the circumstances under which the Minister of Natural Resources (“Minister”) may issue an order to make a permitting decision in place of a conservation authority or undertake a review of a conservation authority permitting decision.

The following changes were made to the Regulation based on the feedback received during the ERO posting:

- The list of matters of provincial interests was expanded broaden the definition of



- provincial interest
- Requests made to the Minister for the use of the Minister's permit power must provide confirmation of local endorsement of the proposed activity such as a letter from the affected municipality or a municipal resolution
- Requests for a Minister's review may choose to provide confirmation of local endorsement

3. Conservation Authority Agricultural Sector Representative

Under subsection 14(4) of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, the Minister can appoint an agricultural representative (Ag reps) to a conservation authority's membership to increase local agricultural sector perspectives in conservation authority operations. Ag reps take into consideration both the interests of the sector and municipality they represent, as well as the overall authority and its purpose. The role is comparable to other municipally appointed members but with some limits on voting rights when it comes to budgetary concerns or changing the structure of the conservation authority.

On January 7th, 2025, the Ministry of Natural Resources posted advertisements for Ag reps to be appointed to 10 conservation authorities, including South Nation Conservation (SNC). Applications will be accepted until February 3rd, 2025.

Meeting expenses and per diem for the Ag reps will be covered by the Province at their set rates.

A copy of the Ministry's email notification is attached for the Board's information.

SNC has reached out to local agricultural organisations to encourage a good pool of applicants.

Carl Bickerdike,
Chief Administrative Officer.

Attachments:

- Email regarding The Ministry of Natural Resources appointment of Agricultural Representatives to Conservation Authority Boards.

Conservation Authority Agricultural Sector Representative – Advertisements Posted

From Dungavell, John (MNR) <John.Dungavell@ontario.ca>

Date Tue 1/7/2025 7:13 AM

To tbyrne@erca.org <tbyrne@erca.org>; slawson@grandriver.ca <slawson@grandriver.ca>; r.baldwin@lsrca.on.ca <r.baldwin@lsrca.on.ca>; jmaxwell@lprca.on.ca <jmaxwell@lprca.on.ca>; mark.peacock@ltvca.ca <mark.peacock@ltvca.ca>; Leilani Lee-Yates <llee-yates@npca.ca>; bmcnevin@quinteconservation.ca <bmcnevin@quinteconservation.ca>; sommer.casgrain-robertson@rvca.ca <sommer.casgrain-robertson@rvca.ca>; Carl Bickerdike <cbickerdike@nation.on.ca>; annett@thamesriver.on.ca <annett@thamesriver.on.ca>

Cc Holder, Julia (MNR) <Julia.Holder@ontario.ca>; acoleman@conservationontario.ca <acoleman@conservationontario.ca>; Bonnie Fox <BFox@conservationontario.ca>; Bertrand, James (MNR) <James.Bertrand@ontario.ca>; McLeod, Alex (MNR) <Alex.McLeod@ontario.ca>; Keyes, Jennifer (MNR) <jennifer.keyes@ontario.ca>

External email - if you don't know or can't confirm the identity of the sender, please exercise caution and do not open links or attachments.

Dear General Managers/Chief Administrative Officers,

I hope you and your staff had a wonderful holiday season.

I am writing to the 10 of you today to inform you that the Minister of Natural Resources has decided to pursue additional appointments of agricultural sector representatives (ag reps), and your conservation authority has been identified as a potential recipient.

Under subsection 14(4) of the *Conservation Authorities Act*, the Minister can appoint an ag rep to a conservation authority's membership to increase local agricultural sector perspectives in conservation authority operations. Ag reps take into consideration both the interests of the sector and municipality they represent, as well as the overall authority and its purpose. The role is comparable to other municipally-appointed members but with some limits on voting rights when it comes to budgetary concerns or changing the structure of the conservation authority.

The Ministry has posted 10 job advertisements to the Ontario Public Appointments Secretariat [website](#) to appoint an agricultural sector representative to each of your conservation authority's memberships. These postings are open until **February 3, 2025** for applications to be submitted.

We encourage you to share these postings locally and invite any individuals from your local agricultural sectors who may be interested and meet the qualifications listed in the advertisement to apply.

Please feel free to let us know if you have any questions about these postings.

Thanks,

john

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John Dungavell

Manager, Conservation Authorities and Natural Hazards | Policy Division

Ministry of Natural Resources | Ontario Public Service

705-749-3880 | john.dungavell@ontario.ca



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To: Board of Directors
From: Marieh Rajaie, Water Resources Specialist, Engineering
Date: January 9th, 2025
Subject: Update: 2024 Technical Reviews

RECOMMENDATION:

The Board of Directors receive and file the 2024 Technical Reviews update as of December 2024.

DISCUSSION:

South Nation Conservation (“SNC”) Engineering Team reviews technical reports to support development applications under the *Planning Act* and permit applications under the *Conservation Authorities Act*. Costs are recovered from applicants according to the annual Board of Directors approved fee schedule.

The following table is a summary of technical reviews completed by SNC’s Engineering Team in 2024.

Review Type	# Reports/Files Received	# of Reviews Completed
Development Applications		
Stormwater Management Ponds	52	63
Geotechnical and geomorphology reports, as well as landslide files	12	20
Permit Applications		
Watercourse alteration, bridge removal and replacement, shoreline erosion protection, culvert installation and replacement, dock and deck installation, slope stability assessment, pipeline installation, septic installation, stormwater management pond outlets, construction of new buildings, place and removal of fills	145	220
Total	209	303

Staff will continue to track applications and associated timelines to ensure timely reviews. A monthly update on technical reviews received and completed will be provided to the Board of Directors for their information.

Programs & Services Category: Category 1 – Mandatory: Provincially delegated review of natural hazards under the *Planning Act* and related memorandum of understanding.

Marieh Rajaie

Marieh Rajaie,
 Water Resources Specialist, Engineering