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Watershed Advisory Committee

Supplemental Agenda

- Date: November 26th, 2024
- **Time:** 1:00 p.m.
- Location: SNC Watershed Room SNC Office 38 Victoria Street Finch, ON K0C 1K0



Watershed Advisory Committee

Supplemental Agenda

November 26th, 2024, 1:00 p.m.

- 1. New Business
 - a. Draft Watershed Strategies Update to Public Consultation: Erin

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Ronda Boutz, Secretary-Treasurer.

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То:	Watershed Advisory Committee
From:	Erin Thorne, SNC Communications Specialist
Date:	November 25, 2024
Subject:	Draft Watershed Strategies - Update to Public Consultation

RECOMMENDATION:

The Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file the update on the public consultation of the Draft Watershed Strategy and Draft Conservation Lands Strategy.

DISCUSSION:

Public consultation has started to collect feedback of both the Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy (Watershed Strategy) and the Conservation Lands Strategy.

South Nation Conservation (SNC) maintains a dedicated webpage online at <u>www.nation.on.ca/consultations</u> with details on the new strategy documents, along with copies of the draft publications and an online form to submit feedback. Residents are also welcome to use the feedback form to request individual meetings to learn more or to provide input into the strategies.

Six newspaper advertisements and several social media ads have been targeted in November 2024 to share the draft documents and collect feedback. Feedback will be encouraged until December 2nd, 2024.

Comments received to date include:

- Tree planting efforts being undermined by clearcutting activities.
- Balancing land use changes with environmental improvement opportunities.
- Managing and restoring wetland habitat and ensuring connectivity of natural areas.
- Review of hunting and trapping opportunities on SNC land.
- Protection of drinking water supply and groundwater aquifer recharge with the loss of forests and wetlands.
- Improved access and recreational opportunities at Conservation Areas.
- Revenue generation and fundraising needs.



FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

<u>Compliance with Budget</u>: The preparation of the Communications Plan and Public Consultation period of the Watershed Strategies is included in the 2024 Budget under Communications: Media & Communications Products, pages 88-89.

<u>SNC Policy Adherence</u>: Ontario Regulation 686/21 sets the Mandatory Programs and Services which must be delivered by all Ontario Conservation Authorities.

Subsection 12(1)3 of the Regulation requires the preparation of a "watershed-based resource management strategy" in accordance with subsections 12(4) through (9). Subsection 9(1)1 requires the preparation of a "Conservation Areas Strategy", in accordance with Subsection 10(1).

<u>Programs and Services Category:</u> Communications: Media & Communications Products – Category 1.

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Erin Thorne Communications Specialist South Nation Conservation