



SOUTH NATION
CONSERVATION
DE LA NATION SUD

Watershed Advisory Committee

Meeting Agenda

Date: June 25th, 2024

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Location: Watershed Room, SNC

Address: 38 Victoria Street, Finch, ON K0C 1K0



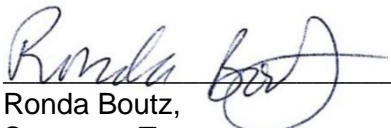


Watershed Advisory Committee

Meeting Agenda

June 25th, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

1. Traditional Land Acknowledgement and Traditional Opening: John
2. Chair's Remarks
3. Approval of Agenda (Supplemental Agenda)
4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest
5. Staff Update PowerPoint
6. Request for Approval: Approval of Watershed Advisory Committee meeting minutes of April 17th, 2024 3-8
7. New Business:
 - a. Update: Grants Sub-Committee Meeting of June 17th, 2024: Ronda 9
 - b. Watershed Strategies
 - i. Draft Table of Contents: Ronda/John 10-13
 - ii. Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy – Summary of Existing Knowledge: Claire 14-15
 - iii. Conservation Area Land Inventory: Pat 16
 - c. Watershed Environmental Priorities Exercise: John 17
8. Supplemental Agenda (if any)
9. Community Engagement: Roundtable
10. Dates of Upcoming Meetings:
 - a. Watershed Advisory Committee
 - September 24th, 2024 at 1:00 pm, at SNC Office
 - November 26th, 2024 at 1:00 pm, at SNC Office
 - b. Grants Sub-Committee
 - June 17th, 2024 at 9:00 am, at SNC Office
 - September 16th, 2024 at 9:00 am, at SNC Office (TBC)
 - November 18th, 2024 at 9:00 am, at SNC Office
11. Correspondence (if any)
12. Adjournment



Ronda Boutz,
Secretary-Treasurer.

/rb



WATERSHED ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting No. 01/24
 Wednesday, April 17th, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.

Watershed Room, SNC



-
- Present:**
- Bill Smirle, SNC Board of Directors, Committee Chair
 - Jackie Kelly-Pemberton, Member at Large, Committee Vice Chair
 - Matt Alkerton, Member at Large
 - Sarah Burger, Member at Large
 - Steve Densham, SNC Chair, ex-officio
 - Emilie DeRochie, St. Lawrence River Institute
 - Jordan Graham, Member at Large
 - Larissa Holman, Ottawa River Keeper
 - Murray Inch, Volunteer of Oak Valley Pioneer Park
 - Alain Jaquemet, Member at Large
 - Erica Louttit, Miitig Healing Lodge
 - Glenn Mackey, ALUS - Ontario East
 - Pamela O'Donnell, Member at Large
 - Louis Prevost, United Counties of Prescott & Russell
 - Tara Redpath, City of Ottawa
 - Jean Saint-Pierre, Bois  Est
 - Cindy Saucier, Member at Large
 - Fred Schueler, Fragile Inheritance Natural History
 - Erika Sheridan, Member at Large
 - Fran ois St. Amour, SNC Board of Directors
 - Adrian Wynands, SNC Vice Chair, ex-officio
 - Peter Young, United Counties of SDG
- Regrets:**
- Greg Faaren, St. Lawrence Parks Commission
 - Dave Grant, Leeds and Grenville Municipalities
 - Dorothy Hamilton, Ontario Woodlot Association – SDG Chapter
 - Genevieve Lajoie, SNC Board of Directors
 - Kayla Sunday, Mohawks of Akwesasne
- Staff Present:**
- Carl Bickerdike, Chief Administrative Officer
 - Ronda Boutz, Secretary-Treasurer
 - Michelle Cavanagh, Team Lead, Special Projects
 - Claire Lemay, Senior Planner
 - Alison McDonald, Managing Director, Approvals
 - John Mesman, Managing Director, Property, Conservation Lands and Community Outreach



REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: ELECTION OF COMMITTEE VICE CHAIR

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-003/24

Moved by: Jackie Kelly-Pemberton
 Seconded by: François St. Amour

RESOLVED THAT:

The Committee Members adhere to the Administrative By-Law 16.3 '*All elections shall be in accordance with the Procedures for Election of Officers*' for the election of a Committee Vice Chair.

CARRIED

Bill Smirle, Committee Chair, declared the Vice Chair position of the Watershed Advisory Committee vacant, according to SNC's Administrative By-laws.

First call for nominations for Watershed Advisory Committee Vice Chair:

Moved by: Glenn Mackey

Jackie Kelly-Pemberton be nominated for the position of Vice Chair of the Watershed Advisory Committee.

Jackie Kelly-Pemberton accepted the nomination for Vice Chair, Watershed Advisory Committee.

Second call for nominations: None

Third call for nominations: None

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-004/23

Moved by: Glenn Mackey
 Seconded by: Jordan Graham

RESOLVED THAT:

Nominations be closed for the position of Vice Chair for the Watershed Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-005/23

Moved by: Erika Sheridan
 Seconded by: Jordan Graham

RESOLVED THAT:

That for the term of 2024-2025, and until the first meeting of the Watershed Advisory Committee in 2026:



- i. Jackie Kelly-Pemberton be elected as Vice-Chair of the Watershed Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: GRANTS SUB-COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-006/24

Moved by: Erika Sheridan
Seconded by: Louis Prevost

RESOLVED THAT:

The Committee appoint the following six members to a Grants Sub-Committee with a term ending at the first meeting of the Committee in 2025:

- i. Tara Redpath, City of Ottawa;
- ii. Brendan Jacobs, Ottawa Rural Clean Water Program;
- iii. Glenn Mackey, ALUS-Ontario East;
- iv. Jordan Graham, Member at Large;
- v. Alain Jaquemet, Member at Large; and
- vi. Pam O'Donnell, Member at Large.

FURTHER THAT:

The Committee Vice-Chair be appointed as Chair of the Grants Sub-Committee.

CARRIED

Fred Schueler joined the meeting at 10:08 a.m.

PRESENTATION: SOUTH NATION CONSERVATION: AN OVERVIEW

Ronda Boutz, Secretary-Treasurer, and John Mesman, Managing Director, Property, Conservation Lands and Community Outreach, provided a presentation to the Committee outlining the history of conservation authorities, programs and services of South Nation Conservation (SNC), and recent changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

PRESENTATION: SOUTH NATION WATERSHED REPORT CARD

Michelle Cavanagh, Team Lead, Special Projects, provided a presentation summarizing the State of the Nation report, SNC's watershed report card which provides a summary of watershed conditions for forest cover, water resources, and wetlands.



UPDATE: WATERSHED BASED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-007/24

Moved by: Jackie Kelly-Pemberton
Seconded by: Tara Redpath

RESOLVED THAT:

The Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file the update on the Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy.

CARRIED

UPDATE: CONSERVATION AREAS STRATEGY

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-008/24

Moved by: Emily DeRochie
Seconded by: Larissa Holman

RESOLVED THAT:

The Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file an update on the Conservation Areas Strategy.

CARRIED

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: 2024 COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

RESOLUTION NO. BD-009/24

Moved by: Glenn Mackey
Seconded by: Pam O'Donnel

RESOLVED THAT:

The Watershed Advisory Committee approves the 2024 Committee meeting schedule with the following amended dates and times:

Watershed Advisory Committee

- Tuesday, June 25th, 2024 @ 1:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, September 24th, 2024 @ 1:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 26th, 2024 @ 1:00 p.m.

CARRIED

SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA

None.



DATES OF UPCOMING MEETINGS

- a. Watershed Advisory Committee
- Tuesday, June 25th, 2024 @ 1:00 p.m.
 - Tuesday, September 24th, 2024 @ 1:00 p.m.
 - Tuesday, November 26th, 2024 @ 1:00 p.m.
- b. Grants Sub-Committee
- June 17th, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., at SNC Office
 - September 16th, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., at SNC Office
 - November 18th, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., at SNC Office

REVIEW: MEETING ALLOWANCE PROCEDURES:

Ronda Boutz reviewed meeting allowance procedures and required paperwork for Committee members claiming per diem and/or mileage.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION NO. BD-010/24

Moved by: Alain Jaquemet

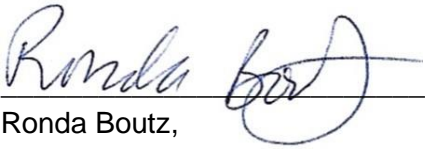
RESOLVED THAT:

The Watershed Advisory Committee meeting of April 17th, 2024 be adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

CARRIED

Bill Smirl,
Committee Chair.

/rb



Ronda Boutz,
Secretary-Treasurer.



To: Watershed Advisory Committee
From: Ronda Boutz, Secretary-Treasurer
Date: June 18th, 2024
Subject: Update: Grants Sub-Committee Meeting of June 17th, 2024

RECOMMENDATION:

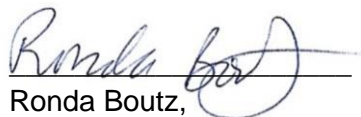
The Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file the Grants Sub-Committee Meeting of June 17th, 2024 update.

DISCUSSION:

The Grants Sub-Committee held their first meeting on June 17th, 2024 to review project applications under the Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program, Ottawa Rural Clean Water Program, and Clean Water Program. This report provides a summary of the meeting.

1. The Grants Sub-Committee approved:
 - Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program Grants:
 - Approved 4 project for grant proposals for a total of \$21,000 in funding
 - Ottawa Rural Clean Water Program Projects:
 - Approved 1 project for \$3,092.92 in grants
 - Deferred 1 project to the September meeting for additional information of the proposed project
 - Clean Water Program Projects:
 - Approved 2024 Clean Water Program Guidelines, Grant Structure and Rating Criteria, all remain status quo from 2023
 - Approved extension of a project completion deadline (septic system) to November 1st, 2024
 - Approved 7 project for \$8,823.22 in grants
 - Placed one project on the 2024 waiting list to be reconsidered at the November meeting if funding is available

2. The Grants Sub-Committee received updates on:
 - Current Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program (EOWRP) grant projects
 - 2024 EOWRP Financial Statement – as of May 31st, 2024
 - Ottawa Rural Clean Water Program overview
 - 2024 Clean Water Program budget



Ronda Boutz,
Secretary-Treasurer.



To: Watershed Advisory Committee
From: Ronda Boutz, Secretary-Treasurer
John Mesman, Managing Director, Property, Conservation Lands,
and Community Outreach
Date: June 18, 2024
Subject: Update: Watershed Strategies – Draft Table of Contents

RECOMMENDATION:

The Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file the update on draft Table of Contents for the Watershed Strategies; and

FURTHER THAT: the Committee provide staff with feedback on these draft Table of Contents.

DISCUSSION:

Section 21.1 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* (the “Act”) and Ontario Regulation 686/21 under this Act requires that each Conservation Authority develop a Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy and Conservation Lands Strategy by December 31, 2024.

The Regulation outlines required components for the strategies, the following is a high-level summary for each strategy:

1. Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy
 - Guiding principles and objectives for Category 1 (Mandatory) programs
 - Summary of existing technical studies, monitoring programs, and other information the Conservation Authority relies on to deliver Category 1 (Mandatory Programs and Services)
 - A review of Category 1 programs and services to document the following:
 - compliance of programs and services with Regulations under the Act
 - identification and analysis of risks that limit effectiveness of program/service delivery
 - actions to address and/or mitigate the identified risks
 - Process for periodic review of the Strategy and stakeholder engagement
 - Requirements to include Category 2 (Municipal Programs) and Category 3 (Other Programs and Services) within the Strategy

Note: South Nation Conservation (SNC) has the necessary requirements in place to include Category 3 (Other Programs and Services) in the Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy.

2. Conservation Lands Strategy
 - Conservation Authority objectives for lands they own/control, including decisions
-



- related to policies on acquisition and disposition of owned/controlled lands
- Identification of the mandatory and non-mandatory programs and services that are provided on land, including how they are funded
 - Establishment of land use categories and development of a land inventory
 - Process for periodic review of the Strategy and stakeholder engagement

While each Conservation Authority can choose their own format and content, Conservation Ontario has developed guiding documents for these strategies to provide some consistency across the Province.

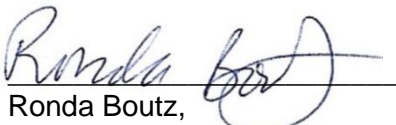
Staff have prepared draft Table of Contents for each strategy based on the Regulation requirements and Conservation Ontario guidance documents. Copies are attached for the Committee's review.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

Compliance with Budget: The preparation of the Strategies is included in the 2024 Budget under Approvals: Projects: Watershed Studies, pages 90-91, and Conservation Lands: Conservation Areas, pages 34-35.

SNC Policy Adherence: Ontario Regulation 686/21 sets out the Mandatory Programs and Services which must be delivered by all conservation authorities in Ontario. Subsection 12(1)3 of the Regulation requires all conservation authorities to prepare a "watershed-based resource management strategy" in accordance with subsections 12(4) through (9). Subsection 9(1)1 of the Regulation requires all Conservation Authorities to prepare a "Conservation Areas Strategy" and Subsection 10(1) includes the components of the Strategy.

Programs and Services Category: Category 1 – Mandatory Programs and Services


Ronda Boutz,
Secretary-Treasurer.

For: 
John Mesman,
Managing Director, Property, Conservation
Lands, and Community Outreach.

Attachments: Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy – Table of Contents [Draft]
Conservation Lands Strategy – Table of Contents [Draft]



Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy - Table of Contents [Draft]

Executive Summary

1. Land Acknowledgement
2. Purpose
3. Regulatory Framework
4. Summary of Consultation
5. About South Nation Conservation
6. Watershed Characterization
 - a. Jurisdiction
 - b. Physiographic Region
 - c. Settlement
 - d. Land Use
 - i. Natural Hazards
 - ii. Water Quality
 - iii. Forest Cover
 - iv. Wetlands
7. Guiding Principles
8. Objectives
9. Existing Knowledge
 - a. Strategic Planning
 - b. Monitoring Programs
 - c. Watershed/Subwatershed Plans
 - d. Traditional Knowledge
 - e. Other Information
10. Programs and Services
 - a. Overview
 - i. General Operations
 - b. Natural Hazards
 - c. Approvals
 - d. Watershed Resource Management
 - e. Source Protection
 - f. Conservation Lands
 - i. Conservation Land Securement
 - g. Landowner Stewardship
 - h. Tree Planting
 - i. Clean Water Program
 - j. Habitat Restoration
 - k. Education and Outreach
11. Risk Analysis
 - a. Identified Risks
 - b. Recommended Actions
12. Implementation
 - a. Financial Plan
13. Review and Update



Conservation Lands Strategy – Table of Contents [Draft]

Executive Summary

1. Introduction
2. Strategy Administration
 - a. Applicable Legislation
 - b. Strategy Preparation Details
 - c. Planning Cycle
 - d. Consultation and Indigenous Engagement
3. Property Information
 - a. Property Owner Information
 - b. Conservation Authority Administrative Area
 - c. Location and General Description
 - d. Property Classification
 - e. Property Tax Programs
4. Forest Management Plan
5. Forest Policy
6. Natural Heritage Systems
7. Land Securement Strategy
8. Conservation Areas
9. Conservation Lands
10. Mandatory and Non-Mandatory Programs and Services
11. Education and Recreational Opportunities
12. Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act
13. Sign Strategy
14. Monitoring Plan
15. Volunteer Opportunities
16. Asset Management
17. Goals and Objectives
18. Conclusion



To: Watershed Advisory Committee
From: Claire Lemay, Senior Planner
Date: June 18, 2024
Subject: Update: Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy – Summary of Existing Knowledge

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file the update on the Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy.

BACKGROUND:

Section 21.1 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* (the “Act”) and Ontario Regulation 686/21 under this Act requires that each Conservation Authority develop a Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy by December 31, 2024. A presentation was made to the Committee in April 2024, explaining the requirements and process.

DISCUSSION:

A questionnaire was sent to South Nation Conservation (SNC) staff in all departments to establish the preliminary list of existing knowledge used by each team in delivering their respective programs and services. The list includes a variety of different guidelines, agreements, legislation, documents, standards, data, and tools.

In order to effectively deliver programs and services, SNC staff rely on the following types of information:

- Provincial legislation and guidelines
- Municipal legislation
- Data collected by SNC through monitoring stations
- Data collected for SNC by third parties through contract agreements
- Data collected by other agencies (federal/provincial)
- SNC guidelines, policies, and publications
- Legal agreements and agreements with other governmental agencies
- Externally-developed/maintained software and databases

This information is being compiled and analysed and will be included in the draft Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy. It is clear from the variety of information sources SNC relies on that program and service delivery could be impacted if external sources of data, guidelines, software, or tools are not maintained by external parties.

The next step in the process is for SNC staff to identify potential risks to efficient program and service delivery and possible actions to be taken to mitigate these risks.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

Compliance with Budget: The preparation of the Strategy is included in the 2024 Budget under Approvals: Projects: Watershed Studies, pages 90-91.



SOUTH NATION
CONSERVATION
DE LA NATION SUD

SNC Policy Adherence: Ontario Regulation 686/21 sets out the Mandatory Programs and Services which must be delivered by all conservation authorities in Ontario. Subsection 12(1)3 of the Regulation requires all conservation authorities to prepare a "watershed-based resource management strategy" in accordance with subsections 12(4) through (9).

Programs and Services Category: Category 1 – Mandatory Programs and Services

Claire Lemay
Senior Planner



To: Watershed Advisory Committee
From: Pat Piitz, Team Lead Property
Date: June 18, 2024
Subject: Update: Conservation Area Land Inventory

RECOMMENDATION:

The Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file the Conservation Area Land Inventory update.

DISCUSSION:

The management of Conservation Authority lands is a Category 1 mandatory program. Ontario Regulation 686/21 requires that each Conservation Authority develop a conservation area strategy for all lands owned or controlled by the authority. To assist in development of a conservation area strategy each Conservation Authority must prepare a land inventory.

A conservation authority working group, led by Conservation Ontario, was established to develop the format for the land inventory to ensure compliance with the legislation and consistent reporting from conservation authorities. South Nation Conservation (SNC) provided input this formatting.

SNC has had a database of its landholdings since the mid-1990's which was developed to manage its property tax portfolio and transition management responsibilities from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to SNC.

Staff were able to transfer much of the existing data from its internal database to the required excel format and are now reviewing, editing and entering any additional or missing data.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

Compliance with Budget: The preparation of the Strategy is included in the 2024 Budget under Conservation Lands: Conservation Areas, pages 34-35.

SNC Policy Adherence: Ontario Regulation 686/21 sets out the Mandatory Programs and Services which must be delivered by all Conservation Authorities in Ontario. Subsection 9(1)3 of the Regulation requires all Conservation Authorities to prepare a land inventory of every parcel of land the authority owns, or controls and Subsection 11(1) identifies the required information to be included in the land inventory.

Programs and Services Category: Category 1 – Mandatory Programs and Services: Conservation Lands Management

Pat Piitz,
Team Lead Property.



To: Watershed Advisory Committee
From: John Mesman, Managing Director, Property, Conservation Lands,
and Community Outreach
Date: June 12, 2024
Subject: Watershed Environmental Priorities Exercise

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file the results received from the Watershed Advisory Committee - Environmental Priorities survey; and

FURTHER THAT: the Committee discussion on environmental priorities be considered in the development of the Watershed Strategies.

DISCUSSION:

South Nation Conservation (SNC) staff have provided the Watershed Advisory Committee with a summary of the two mandated watershed strategies under the *Conservation Authorities Act* (the "Act") and Ontario Regulation 686/21.

A major focus of the strategies is to identify and analyze risks that could affect SNC's ability to delivery programs and services and develop actions to address and/or mitigate these risks. Documenting watershed priorities is a key component to fulfilling this task.

Staff have circulated a pre-meeting survey to the Committee, staff will summarize survey results for discussion at the meeting.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

Compliance with Budget: The preparation of the Strategies is included in the 2024 Budget under Approvals: Projects: Watershed Studies, pages 90-91, and Conservation Lands: Conservation Areas, pages 34-35.

SNC Policy Adherence: Ontario Regulation 686/21 sets out the Mandatory Programs and Services which must be delivered by all conservation authorities in Ontario. Subsection 12(1)3 of the Regulation requires all conservation authorities to prepare a "watershed-based resource management strategy" in accordance with subsections 12(4) through (9). Subsection 9(1)1 of the Regulation requires all Conservation Authorities to prepare a "Conservation Areas Strategy" and Subsection 10(1) includes the components of the Strategy.

Programs and Services Category: Category 1 – Mandatory Programs and Services

John Mesman,
Managing Director, Property, Conservation Lands, and Community Outreach.
