



SOUTH NATION
CONSERVATION
DE LA NATION SUD

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Board of Directors

Supplemental Agenda

Date: February 20th, 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

February 20th, 2025, 9:00 a.m.

1. New Business

- a. Request for Approval: Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund: Pat 3-4
- b. Request for Approval: Woodlot Storm Recovery Expenditures: Pat 5-6

Carl Bickerdike,
Chief Administrative Officer.

/rb



To: Board of Directors
From: Pat Piitz, Team Lead Property
Date: February 15th, 2025
Subject: Request for Approval: Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund

RECOMMENDATION:

The Board of Directors approve entering into an agreement with the federal government and other partners as required for Year 1 (2024-2025) funding for land acquisition, at a total of approximately \$1,026,300.

DISCUSSION:

The Board of Directors approved a funding application to Environment & Climate Change Canada (ECCC) under the Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund – 2024 Intake, in partnership with Conservation Ontario in December 2024 (BD-211/24). A 3-year proposal (2024-2027) for \$6,036,000 was submitted for land acquisition.

ECCC has considered SNC request for Year 1 (2024-2025) and approved \$1,026,300 under an alternate funding stream. The funding provides cost-recovery on several recent and pending acquisitions (listed below). All Year 1 transactions must be completed by March 31, 2025.

Property I.D.	Municipality	Board Resolution	Status (dates refer to closings)
SNC 182	North Dundas*	BD-230/23	July 23, 2024
SNC 183	North Glengarry*	BD-036/24	July 19, 2024
SNC 186	Edwardsburgh/Cardinal*	BD-065/24	February 21, 2025
SNC 187	North Grenville	BD-105/24	January 8, 2025
SNC 188	Augusta*	BD-229/24	January 24, 2025
SNC 189	Nation*	BD-202/24	In Progress
SNC190	Edwardsburgh/Cardinal	BD-229/24	In Progress

* Denotes Ecological Gift

ECCC is still considering the request for an additional \$4,965,00 under the 2024 Intake for Year 2 (2025-2026) and Year 3 (2026-2027). This funding, subject to Board approval is for future land acquisition and proposed restoration projects. A decision is expected soon.

Previous funding from the Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund was administered through an agreement with Conservation Ontario. It is unknown at this time who will be administering the alternate funding stream. SNC will enter into an agreement with the federal government or another third-party partner to be determined.



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FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

Compliance with Budget: Land securement is included in the 2025 SNC Budget under Property Management: Conservation Lands as a capital expense at pages 22 and 23. The Federal funding is additional to the approved 2025 SNC Budget.

SNC Policy Adherence: Land transactions require approval of the Board of Directors as per SNC's Administrative By-laws and clause 21(1)(c) of the *Conservation Authorities Act*. Clause 21(1)(n) of the *Conservation Authorities Act* enables SNC to collaborate and enter into agreements with organizations for the purpose of accomplishing its objects.

Programs and Services Category: Category 3 – Watershed (Other) Programs: Conservation Land Securement.

Pat Piitz,
Team Lead Property.

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To: Board of Directors
From: Pat Piitz, Team Lead Property
Date: February 18th, 2025
Subject: Request for Approval: Woodlot Storm Recovery Expenditures

RECOMMENDATION:

The Board of Directors approve an increase in undertaking and disbursement of funds for the Woodlot Storm Recovery Program to an upset limit of \$575,000 for 2025; and

FURTHER THAT: The Board of Directors delegate authority to the Chief Administrative Officer to approve eligible expenditures above \$25,000.

DISCUSSION:

South Nation Conservation (SNC) is delivering the Woodlot Recovery Program with funding secured from Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) through the 2 Billion Tree Program; the United Counties of Prescott and Russell (UCPR); and the City of Ottawa.

As scheduled, the agreement with UCPR has been completed as of December 31, 2024. The UCPR funding enabled SNC to expedite storm cleanup and site preparation ahead of schedule allowing for increased tree planting in 2025. The project target of planting 200,000 trees by 2028 will be exceeded in Fall 2025 with the planting of 220,000 seedlings this year.

Under the 2 Billion Tree Program overseen by Natural Resources Canada (NRCan), SNC had a \$550,000 five-year contract to meet the targets mentioned above. Under the existing contract, NRCan has tentatively approved a project budget amendment, subject to final authorization by the Assistant Deputy Minister NRCan, which will re-allocate funds to meet the current project schedule and provide funding to plant an additional 190,000 seedling by the project end date in 2028. The revised budget is shown below:

Fiscal Year	Project Activities	Contribution
2023-2024	Project Start-up; Initial Landowner Engagement	\$77,500
2024-2025	Planted 57,567 seedlings; Prepared 151 ha for planting	\$670,000
2025-2026	Plant 162,950 seedlings	\$375,000
2026-2027	Plant 85,000	\$325,000
2027-2028	Plant 85,000	\$325,000
Total		\$1,772,500



The recovery work is not complete with additional landowners yet to be serviced. Staff estimate an additional 190,000 trees can be planted on storm affected areas. Under the existing 2 Billion Trees Program agreement, NRCan will provide an additional \$650,000 to plant 190,000 seedlings. However, the additional funding under the 2 Billion Trees Program is dependent on securing matching partner funds. With the approval of the Board, staff will seek partner funding to match the additional 2 Billion Trees Program funding.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:

Compliance with Budget: The Woodlot Storm Recovery Program was included in the 2025 SNC Budget based on the original project schedule. The current budget forecast is \$575,000 and matching funds are secured to December 31, 2025 (UCPR, Ottawa, landowner contributions, and in-kind contributions).

SNC Policy Adherence: Expenditures adhere to the SNC Purchasing Policy.

Programs and Services Category: Category 3 – Watershed (Other): Private Landowner Stewardship



Pat Piitz,
Team Lead Property.