



THE TORONTO AND REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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Friday, May 23, 2008

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THE TORONTO AND REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MEETING OF THE AUTHORITY #4/08
May 23, 2008

The Authority Meeting #4/08, was held in the Theatres, Black Creek Pioneer Village, on Friday, May 23, 2008. The Chair Gerri Lynn O'Connor, called the meeting to order at 9:44 a.m..

PRESENT

Eve Adams	Member
David Barrow	Member
Laurie Bruce	Member
Glenn De Baeremaeker	Member
Bill Fisch	Member
Rob Ford	Member
Lois Griffin	Member
Suzan Hall	Member
Jack Heath	Member
Colleen Jordan	Member
Bonnie Littley	Member
Reenga Mathivanan	Member
Peter Milczyn	Member
Gerri Lynn O'Connor	Chair
Linda Pabst	Member
John Parker	Member
John Sprovieri	Member
Richard Whitehead	Member

ABSENT

Paul Ainslie	Member
Maria Augimeri	Vice Chair
Bryan Bertie	Member
Gay Cowbourne	Member
Grant Gibson	Member
Glenn Mason	Member
Ron Moeser	Member
Anthony Perruzza	Member
Maja Prentice	Member
Gino Rosati	Member

RES.#A103/08 - MINUTES

Moved by: Linda Pabst
Seconded by: Suzan Hall

THAT the Minutes of Meeting #3/08, held on April 25, 2008, be approved.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS

- (a) A delegation by Liz White, Director, Animal Alliance of Canada and Spokesperson, Cormorant Defenders International, speaking in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.
- (b) A delegation by Julie Woodyer, Cormorants Defenders International, speaking in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.
- (c) A delegation by Maureen Flynn, Richmond Hill, speaking in regard to Correspondence 6.10 and item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.
- (d) A delegation by Paul Scott and Cathryn MacFarlane, Board Members, Aquatic Park Sailing Club, speaking in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.
- (e) A delegation by Susan Krajnc, Toronto, speaking in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.
- (f) A delegation by Simon Luisi, Toronto, speaking in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.
- (g) A delegation by Ainslie Willock, Canadians for Snow Geese, speaking in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.
- (h) A delegation by Harvey Rotenberg, Toronto, speaking in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.
- (i) A delegation for Vickie Janetos, Member, Wildlife Rehab Network, but read by Maureen Flynn, in regard to Correspondence 6.12 and item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.
- (j) A delegation by Rob Laidlaw, CBiol, MIBiol, Director, Zoocheck Canada Inc., speaking in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.

RES.#A104/08 - DELEGATIONS

Moved by: Suzan Hall
Seconded by: David Barrow

THAT above-noted delegations (a) - (j) be heard and received.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS

- (a) A presentation by John Waller, Director, Long Range and Strategic Planning, Integrated Growth Management Unit, York Region, in regard to item 7.1 - Towards Sustainability in York Region.
- (b) A presentation by Gord MacPherson, Manager, Restoration and Environmental Monitoring Projects, TRCA, in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.

RES.#A105/08 - PRESENTATIONS

Moved by: Bill Fisch
Seconded by: Laurie Bruce

THAT above-noted presentation (a) be heard and received.

CARRIED

RES.#A106/08 - PRESENTATIONS

Moved by: Suzan Hall
Seconded by: David Barrow

THAT above-noted presentation (b) be heard and received.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) A letter dated May 1, 2008 from Councillor Jennifer O'Connell, City of Pickering, in regard to Great Waterfront Trail Adventure.
- (b) An email dated May 11, 2008 from Mr. Wayne Cox, Toronto, in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.
- (c) An email dated May 11, 2008 from Mr. Chuck Wightman in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.

- (d) An email dated May 12, 2008 from Mr. G. Turner, Toronto, in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.
- (e) An email dated May 12, 2008 from Mr. James Pirhonen in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.
- (f) An email dated May 12, 2008 from Ian Goulbourne, Toronto, in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.
- (g) An email dated May 14, 2008 from Barbi Lazarus, in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.
- (h) An email dated May 14, 2008 from Mary Seguin, in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.
- (i) An email dated May 14, 2008 from Dr. Carol Bigwood, Toronto, in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.
- (j) A letter dated May 16, 2008 from Maureen Flynn, Richmond Hill, in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.
- (k) A letter dated May 16, 2008 from D. Turner and L. Mauro, in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park. The same letter was submitted on May 19, 2008 from Theresa Hyatt, North York and on May 22, 2008 from Narmin Nasser, Richmond Hill.
- (l) An email dated May 19, 2008 from Jean Iron and Ron Pittaway, Past Editors, Ontario Field Ornithologists, in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.
- (m) A letter dated May 20, 2008 from AnnaMaria Valastro, Campaigner, Peaceful Parks Coalition, in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.
- (n) An email dated May 14, 2008 from Katharyn Rouse, in regard to item 7.2 - Management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.

RES.#A107/08 - CORRESPONDENCE

Moved by: David Barrow
 Seconded by: Bonnie Littley

THAT the Chair respond to above-noted correspondence (a).

CARRIED

RES.#A108/08 - CORRESPONDENCE

Moved by: Suzan Hall
Seconded by: David Barrow

THAT above-noted correspondence (b) - (n) be received.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE (A)



COUNCILLORS' OFFICE
Direct: 905.420.4605
Facsimile: 905.420.6064

Pickering Civic Complex
One The Esplanade
Pickering, ON L1V 6K7
cityofpickering.com

Jennifer O'Connell
City Councillor – Ward 1

May 1, 2008

Chair and Board Members
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
5 Shoreham Drive
Downsview, ON M3N 1S4

Re: Great Waterfront Trail Adventure (GWTA)

As Chair of the Pickering Waterfront Coordinating Committee and GWTA Organizing Committee, I am very pleased that TRCA has committed to being a partner with the City of Pickering for the Great Waterfront Trail Adventure event. Specifically, I am pleased to know that the renovations and construction of the washrooms located within the Petticoat Creek Conservation Park will be completed before the GWTA visits Durham on July 6, 2008.

We understand that the repair to the pavilion is not slated for completion until September 2008. As you are aware, the pavilion is in poor condition and is a serious safety concern. TRCA Board members are reminded that this is a major event that will receive provincial and national coverage, with over 200 riders participating. The City of Pickering is committed to ensuring a safe and pleasant GWTA and we look forward to TRCA's cooperation to avoid any potential embarrassment or safety liabilities. Due to the safety concerns, we are asking the Board to direct staff to ensure that both the washroom and pavilion renovations/repairs are completed prior to July 6, 2008.

The GWTA Organizing Committee has determined a detailed work plan to ascertain that any outstanding matters are completed well in advance of the event. We would like the City of Pickering, the Waterfront Coordinating Committee and our community partners to provide our guests with the best possible experience while visiting our community. Therefore, we require any information on all outstanding matters, to ensure our work plan is appropriately updated and all matters are addressed accordingly.

As with all of our community partners who are working with the City of Pickering on this event, we hope to have representation from TRCA at our next organizing meeting. Board members are also welcome to attend our future meetings and site visits. If you are interested, I will provide you with these dates. In addition, I would ask the Board to assign a staff person who can provide regular status updates to my staff in between meetings.

Thank you for your continuing commitment to work with the City of Pickering to make sure that the Great Waterfront Trail Adventure is a huge success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JOConnell', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jennifer O'Connell
City Councillor – Ward 1

Copy: Mayor Ryan
Members of Council
Chief Administrative Officer
Waterfront Coordinating Committee Members

City Tel: 905.420.4609

Fax: 905.420.6064
Residence Fax: 905.420.0802
Email: joconnell@city.pickering.on.ca

Residence Tel: 905.420.2282

CORRESPONDENCE (B)

"Wayne Cox"

05/11/2008 09:00 AM

Please respond to "Wayne Cox"

To <kstranks@trca.on.ca>
cc <mayor_miller@toronto.ca>
Subject bird control

I support the bird control program proposed by the city.
There are far too many cormorants and canada geese creating environmental and pollution problems !

Wayne Cox
Toronto

CORRESPONDENCE (C)

"Chuck Wightman"

05/11/2008 02:33 PM

To <mayor_miller@toronto.ca>,
<councillor_fletcher@toronto.ca>, <info@trca.on.ca>
cc
Subject Cormorant Cull

Dear Mr. Miller and Ms Fletcher,

I am writing you with regard to the proposed cull of the Leslie Spit's coromorant population. Having just visited the Spit a few weeks ago, the vast migratory population was indeed one of the great draws to what while still undergoing rehabilitation is a somewhat bleak corner of the city.

While the birds may be a burden to the trees in that specific area, the same could be argued of the beaver population, and the loss or reduction of either population would be a tragedy. Both will be forced by nature to limit their populations and the presence of both adds a fascinating element to the Spit.

The Spit covers quite a broad area and thus I would suggest there is plenty of space for everyone. The birds have not moved to other forested areas on the Spit, so perhaps they recognize the limits to their population.

The money required for a cull could be far better spent expediting the regeneration of the rest of the Spit landscape.

Regards,
Chuck Wightman

CORRESPONDENCE (D)

"9thermidor"

05/12/2008 02:08 PM

To <info@trca.on.ca>
cc <miller@toronto.ca>
Subject Killing of Cormorants

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

To whom it may concern: May 12, 2008

I am strongly opposed to the proposed killing of all birds and their eggs at Tommy Thompson Park. I know this has been going on for awhile (Canada geese and ring -billed gulls) and now you want to add cormorants.

Where does it end?

Humans created the conditions where these birds can flourish and because they are so adaptable they are to be killed.

Is this a one time kill or will you need to continue doing this for years?

What a stupid idea.

Mr. G. Turner
Toronto

CORRESPONDENCE (E)

"James Pirhonen"

05/12/2008 04:05 PM

To <mayor_miller@toronto.ca>
cc <info@trca.on.ca>, <lettertoed@thestar.ca>
Subject Cormorants on the spit

Mayor Miller,

Please do not be swayed by such a small minority of people trying to protect to cormorants. They make the TRCA sound like barbarians that are out to kill live birds. In no way has the TRCA said they will kill live birds. The do wish to disturb their habitat and encourage diversification. The Leslie Street Spit is currently being destroyed by the over population of the birds. They are starting to spread out through the city, and no doubt they will begin to have a dramatic effect on the "forest city", which might need to be renamed "Dead Wood City" once those birds are done.

I feel it was absolutely foolish of you to announce a "cormorant day". If you feel that there isn't any problem, I challenge you to take your family and have a picnic at the end of the spit. We keep loosing the memory that the Leslie Spit is a land fill, not a natural area. Natural areas are more diversified and capable of sustaining these bird colonies. Although they make the argument about the food supply, that argument doesn't take into account the fact that the majority of the birds feeding from such a large area are concentrated in such a small area. At best, the spit is a very fragile area, with weak trees that cannot tolerate the stress imposed by these birds.

I fully support the actions of the TRCA and plead that you do not interfere with their actions. They are well trained scientists, not uneducation activists.

Sincerely;

James Pirhonen

CORRESPONDENCE (F)

>>> "ian" 5/12/2008 10:04 PM >>>

Hello Mr. Miller

I would like to know where the may 23rd meeting is taking place to discuss the possible cormorant cull on the spit, and if its open to the public.

Having seen the devastation these birds do to our trees and park areas and the millions of dollars we loose in stocked fish I personally, as a resident of Toronto, hope that you and your council take the advise from the MNR and conservation officers and take a stand against these birds and agree to a cull.

I look forward to hearing back from you

Yours truly

Ian Goulbourne
Toronto,

CORRESPONDENCE (G)

"Barbi Lazarus"

05/14/2008 04:19 PM

To "Kathy Stranks" <KStranks@trca.on.ca>
cc
Subject RE: Cormorants on the Leslie Street Spit-for
distribution to Board members

Dear TRCA Board Members,

I am writing because I am concerned to hear of the TRCA's plans to move forward with egg oiling of double crested cormorants without releasing the details of the plan to the public for comment. As I attended the public consultation in April regarding the management of cormorants, and am aware that the public and stakeholders were actively engaged and eager to participate and comment on such measures, I feel it is unethical and undemocratic for the TRCA to move forward with an egg oiling project without releasing the details to the public.

I care about this issue deeply and would like be able to participate in any decision made regarding this issue. The public and stakeholders spoke at the public consultation, with the majority opposed to cormorant management, including egg oiling, on the Leslie Street Spit.

I sincerely hope the board will take into consideration the comments made at the consultation, and not push forward a project without further public input on the details of the plan.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Barbi Lazarus

CORRESPONDENCE (H)

"Mary Seguin"

05/14/2008 10:49 AM

To <kstranks@trca.on.ca>
cc
Subject cormorants

ATTENTION: Kathy Stranks

Dear Kathy,

I feel strongly that the public should be aware of the decision to lethally control nesting cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park. This attempt to "back door" this important issue is not acceptable as we live in Canada and freedom of speech is relevant.

M Seguin

CORRESPONDENCE (I)

Carol Bigwood <>
05/14/2008 07:58 AM

To
kstranks@trca.on.ca
cc
Subject

Brian Denney
Chair and Chief Administrative Officer
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
5 Shoreham Drive
Downsview, Ontario M3N 1S4

Dear Mr. Denney,

I am requesting that the Executive Board of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority delay any decision on egg oiling until the details of the project are made public. Why are you making such an important decision without the community knowing ?

As a resident of Toronto island I have watched these birds over the past decades. What harm are they doing? Fishermen can't safely eat the fish in this lake. You shouldn't think you can control nature in this way. Cormorants are beautiful birds. They have nested on the same trees for decades. I want to participate in any decision to lethally control nesting cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.

Sincerely,
Dr. C. Bigwood
Toronto, Ont.

CORRESPONDENCE (J)

May 16, 2008

Mr. Brian Denney
Chair and Chief Administrative Officer
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
5 Shoreham Drive
Downsview, ON M3N 1S4

Dear Mr. Denney:

I am writing to express my deep concern about the plans of the T.R.C.A. to initiate a "research" experiment by oiling the eggs of some of the Double-crested Cormorants nesting at Tommy Thompson Park.

The public meeting that was held on April 3rd with regard to this issue gave the message to the Authority, loud, clear, and unequivocally, that the oiling, harassment, establishment of decoys, or any other human interference on the Peninsulas A, B, and C were both unacceptable and inhumane throughout the months of their presence on the peninsulas. There was strong consensus on this at the public meeting.

On Peninsula D, moving the bird banding station to the end of the peninsula, the presence of people along its edge through NARROW paths which would not disrupt migratory bird visitation by inviting in cowbirds, and the planting of vegetation not conducive to cormorant use was recommended. There were many other suggestions, as well, humanely and creatively offered, to celebrate the birds on Peninsulas A, B, and C, while discouraging their movement to Peninsula D. These should be what T.R.C.A. acts on. This would be democracy at work.

Cormorants are OUR NATIVE MIGRATORY BIRDS, and deserve to be left alone to nest and thrive throughout the summer in preparation for their hazardous fall migration. I trust you are aware that they are harassed and shot during the migrations through the U.S., and that they are being harassed and shot in other locations in Ontario. How can Toronto as a bird-friendly city consider actions against our native birds?

With your extensive knowledge of natural processes, I'm sure you are aware that, often, in nature, what seems to be an ending is really just a new beginning. When the egg of a butterfly hatches, and then, after a short life, the pupa begins to spin its cocoon, it would appear that the pupa is spinning its death bed. Instead, a transformation occurs, and the result is very much a rebirth. Cormorants are similar agents of change. Their guano, so appreciated by nurseries, fertilizes the soil so significantly that new and more lush species of vegetation will be able to grow. And, clearly, cormorants do not remain in one location forever. They move on to new locations, once again beginning the process of renewal.

I sat at the edge of Peninsula D last week, after reading then U.N. report which painted a bleak picture of worldwide bird survival statistics, and watched the beautiful black and brown birds sitting on their nests, taking a small sliver of dead grass to their nest, flying calmly and cooperatively among the geese, ducks, songbirds, gulls, swans, herons and egrets. They were beautiful in line and colour against the beautiful blue sky, and so, also, were the leafless trees which held their future. Why did no tours demonstrate this on International Migratory Bird Day, as was recommended at the public meeting?

You are no doubt aware that Tommy Thompson Park came into being, not naturally, but through the restorative capacity of nature. One needs only look at the invasive species in our Great Lakes to know what human interference does.

I submit that there are not too many cormorants. There are too many people who want to control the natural processes of every segment of land for their own purposes, regardless of the inhumanity of their actions or the long-term damage they will do. Although it is evident that nature always balances its ecosystems effectively over time, and people do not, the T.R.C.A. does not appear to trust it to do so.

Cormorants have an important and long-term enhance role in ecosystem development, and they are currently serving as aids in our invasive fish specie concerns. There are definitely too many invasive species of fish, which, as you are no doubt aware, form the basis of the cormorant diet. Instead of controlling their numbers through inhumane human intervention, we should be grateful for their contribution to the man-made imbalance already damaging the Great Lakes system, and willing to teach our citizens that in nature, there are no “bad animals”; that all animals play an important part in ecosystem change and development, and that the cormorants play an important and natural part in these processes. Tours which point to their beauty within their natural habitat would also be an important, and currently undeveloped teaching tool.

The public will not be fooled by the “limited oiling” and use of the word “research” in the T.R.C.A. plans to oil and water the eggs of a group of unlucky, selected cormorants this year. They will view it as a breach of the trust that the public forum provided. They will view T.R.C.A. as untrustworthy, and rightfully so, if it chooses to act to disturb the nests or birds throughout their time in Tommy Thompson Park.

It is abundantly clear to many, I suspect, that this will serve as a catalyst to a much more aggressive plan next year, and in the years to come. As you know, this kind of action is unsuccessful in accomplishing anything unless it is repeated year after year. So the plan will be to repeat this trauma and miscarriage of justice on our migratory birds indefinitely. I don't want one tax dollar of mine to go to this horrific plan.

I have learned that the T.R.C.A. has much experience with the practice of oiling eggs. There is no need whatsoever for research on egg oiling.

T.R.C.A. has an opportunity, here, to model appropriate, humane acceptance of wilderness and its dwellers by allowing nature to do what only it can do: balance its ecosystem without interference. It has an opportunity, as well, to follow true democracy, and honour the wishes of the majority of its Advisory Committee and of the public as evidenced in the public meeting. And it has, as well, the opportunity to use this as a teaching tool to celebrate the natural

processes of change, and the beauty of all those who participate in the natural flows and changes of ecosystems.

Double-crested Cormorants are our migratory birds. They are a beautiful part of the natural ecosystem of the Great Lakes. Leave them alone!!

Sincerely,

Maureen Flynn, B. A., B. Ed., M. Ed.

CORRESPONDENCE (K)

May 16, 2008

ATTN:
Brian Denney
Chair and Chief Administrative Officer
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
5 Shoreham Drive
Downsview, Ontario M3N 1S4

(c/o Kathy Stranks, Manager TRCA)
kstranks@trca.on.ca

Dear Mr. Denney,

RE: EGG OILING OF NESTING CORMORANTS - TORONTO

It appears that the TRCA, along with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, and Parks Canada intend to proceed in actively killing nesting cormorants throughout the birds' migration route.

We object to this project at Tommy Thompson Park which we understand will occur on peninsula A, an area of the Leslie Spit under the jurisdiction of the McGuinty government and managed by the TRCA.

Without first revealing the methodology, rationale and validity of this egg oiling project, how can the whole project be properly reviewed and its merits assessed by all concerned?

Despite the public opposition, and your own advisers rejection of such control measures being taken against nesting cormorants at the Leslie Spit, the TRCA and Ministry of Natural Resources seem determined to achieve this objective, anyway.

Therefore, we respectfully request that the Executive Board of the TRCA delay any further decisions on this Egg Oiling of Nesting Cormorants in Toronto until all details of this project are made public and democratically voted upon.

As conservationists and longtime residents of Toronto, we care deeply about this issue and wish to participate fully in any controls being taken against the nesting cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park, particularly since Mayor Miller has promised to make all political issues transparent, and was elected to office based on that promise to its citizens.

Although we were unable to attend the last Executive meeting in April with respect to this unresolved issue, we would like to know all relevant details of the next meeting, which we expect to be advertised and open to the general public.

Thank you for both your consideration and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

D. Turner

and

L. Mauro

CORRESPONDENCE (L)

Jean Iron <>
05/19/2008 10:21 AM

To kstranks@trca.on.ca
cc mayor_miller@toronto.ca
Subject Cormorant Cull by TRCA

Dear Kathy Stranks,

We are opposed to the cull of cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park because it is ecologically unnecessary. The cull stopped at Presqu'ile Provincial Park because of bad press for the park and Ministry of Natural Resources. Parks Canada is now experiencing the same problems at Middle Island on Lake Erie and the reputation of Point Pelee National Park will suffer. Cormorant culls are dividing the goodwill of conservationists, and they are consuming valuable staff time and the limited funding for conservation. The TRCA is losing our respect and support.

Sincerely,

Jean Iron and Ron Pittaway
Past Editors of Ontario Field Ornithologists

CORRESPONDENCE (M)



Tuesday May 20, 2008

Brian Denney
Chair and Chief Administrative Officer
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
5 Shoreham Drive
Downsview, ON M3N 1S4

Re: Management of nesting Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park

Dear Board Members,

It has been impossible to receive details of the proposed egg oiling project from both the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and Gail Fraser of York University. Both parties have worked diligently to ensure that members of the public that campaign to protect colonial waterbirds did not, and do not, have the details of what exactly is being proposed as it relates to the colonial waterbird colony at the Leslie Spit.

Please find attached email correspondence attempting to get clarification of the proposed egg oiling project and other current egg oiling project across the Greater Toronto Area.

It appears as if the City of Toronto is lethally controlling ALL colonial waterbirds through egg destruction including egg oiling except for Caspian Terns and Black-crowned Night Herons. Every single bird, except the two mentioned above, are being killed across Toronto. Only today, I received the number of Ring-billed Gull eggs that have been destroyed to maintain the desired population. According to the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority over 100,000 Ring-billed Gull eggs have been destroyed since the program began, and the program continues every year.

These projects go forward with NO public consultation or knowledge, and have been for years. There has been no recent public review of the Ring-billed Gull program and the Authority as recent as February 2008 approved continued egg

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destruction of Canada Geese because the birds cause 'severe aesthetic impairment'.

I am shocked to learn that the City of Toronto is killing – widespread – across the entire waterfront thousands of Canada Geese because of aesthetics.

The proposed egg oiling project is not designed to answer questions about the impacts of egg oiling. Egg oiling has been widely utilized for decades to kill unwanted birds, including by the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. It is a control method applied precisely because its effects are well understood.

The stress egg oiling inflicts on adult nesting birds is not measured as precisely as the effectiveness of hatchling suppression, but if the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority simply wanted to learn more on the effectiveness or 'humaneness' of egg oiling on nesting birds, then why not study the impacts on adult birds that are already targeted for egg destruction such as Canada Geese. If it is 'humaneness' that is motivating the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, than 'humaneness' should be applied to all colonial waterbirds and not just cormorants. If this project is a feasibility study for a wide-spread egg oiling project, then it should be presented that way.

Please find attached two reports, partially funded by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and produced by the Peaceful Parks Coalition on the impacts of egg oiling on adult nesting Double-crested Cormorants.

We found:

Double-crested Cormorants are dedicated parents and will not leave their nests during incubation. The effects of egg oiling on nesting adults can result in incubation behaviour being extended up to two extra weeks. Average incubation period is 3.5 weeks. While sitting on their nests, adults do not feed, do not drink, and are susceptible to exposure. It interferes with natural reproductive instincts, and causes disturbances similar to that of harassment.

Egg oiling is a lethal method of population control because it aims to reduce the overall bird population. The objectives are equivalent to that of shooting but the results are achieved over a longer time period. The application of mineral oil on eggs suffocates the embryo inside, and fools the adult bird into believing their eggs are still alive. This keeps the adult sitting on its clutch and discourages re-nesting. (Cormorants will attempt to produce a second clutch if their first clutch fails. Nesting behaviour continues until summer days begin to wane - a natural marker for nesting birds that signals the end of the nesting season). Egg oiling controls bird populations by suppressing the production of hatchlings compounded by natural mortality of adults.

The effects of egg oiling are well established and there is ample of research to review without an additional study.

With the details released by the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, we question the merits of the proposed project. For example, the sample size is too small to realistically measure disturbance levels to a colony and other colonial waterbirds. A sample size of only 60 treated nests can easily be selected from the perimeter of a colony without ever entering it, therefore limiting disturbance to only the outer edge. A realistic oiling project would require moving through an entire colony, causing widespread disturbance.

It is a poorly designed, ad hoc project. Please see attached email from Gail Fraser.

Tommy Thompson Park has evolved into one of the greatest urban wilderness areas in North America, and boasts the largest colonial waterbird colony in the Great Lakes basin. This colony is home to the largest concentration of both nesting Double-crested Cormorants and Black-crowned Night Herons.

This dynamic colony of colonial waterbirds exists in spite of the dry waste landfill still in operation at the bottom of the 'spit'. Many visitors to Tommy Thompson Park consider this colony a great gift, and proof of Nature's perseverance to reclaim and repair areas of neglect. The people of Toronto are proud of the Leslie Spit.

Yet the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority are presenting here today their intention to control the expansion of the waterbird colony by limiting the number of nesting Double-crested Cormorants.

Double-crested Cormorant colonies are typical of other colonial waterbird colonies found throughout the world. The large dense colonies during nesting periods serve as a natural barrier against predators that feast on cormorant eggs and chicks. These predators include other colonial birds such as Black-crowned Night Herons. Populations are self-regulating once colonies become too dense. This basic ecological principle is true for all species.

The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority works closely with other jurisdictions that actively promote the shooting of cormorants throughout the bird's nesting habitat and migration route. Partnerships between the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are investigating more efficient methods to kill cormorants on their 'flyway', leaving no place safe for these birds anywhere.

Tommy Thompson Park has become a safe refuge for these birds.

We believe it is this partnership that is motivating the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority to push for cormorant management. There simply cannot be a population source anywhere on the Great Lakes for Double-crested Cormorants otherwise culling programs in other jurisdictions will not be as effective. In other words, the cormorant population must be controlled basin-wide.

The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority publicly states its mandate for the park is to respect the influences of natural forces in shaping the area's biodiversity, yet the TRCA is currently considering lethal control of cormorants through egg oiling.

It would be difficult to defend the integrity of such a mandate if the action is to selectively prohibit the natural evolution of a native species deemed unwanted by city officials.

Double-crested Cormorants are beautiful birds that move energy throughout the terrestrial and aquatic ecological system of the Great Lakes. Their large dense colonies are both inspiring and humbling to witness.

We are asking the Authority to reject any proposal that seeks to control the Double-crested Cormorant colony at Tommy Thompson Park.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Valastro". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and a long, sweeping tail.

AnnaMaria Valastro
Campaigner
Peaceful Parks Coalition

CORRESPONDENCE (N)

"Kathie Rouse" <>

05/14/2008 09:42 PM

To <info@trca.on.ca>

cc

Subject Cormorant cull

As sent to David Miller.

A cull of cormorants can't happen soon enough. If you are familiar with the destruction of Coote's Paradise in Hamilton or, in Eastern Ontario, the Quinte area, you will be even firmer in your stand to oil eggs, and destroy these birds(not just the nests) in any way possible. To encourage them to move on will only pass the devastation caused by this vile species on to another lakeside area. They have no other enemy to keep them in check. The parks are made unusable by geese, ducks and their unpleasant by-products and now the trees along the lakefront will be destroyed by the cormorant's guano and the smell of the same is truly offensive. This is NOT the lakefront that you are trying to promote! Lake Ontario itself is finally coming back to a healthy balance. The cormorants will soon unbalance it. The fact that they can dive so deep (forty-five feet) and eat four to five times their weight in fish daily, they will deplete the feeder fish to the larger salmon and lake trout etc. The balance is destroyed, and the fishing industry and pleasure fishing industry which is already suffering, will be further damaged. Please Mr. Miller, do whatever you can to eliminate this scourge. It may not be the popular move with some but ask the people who use the parks for pleasure how much they wish the geese were gone! And now cormorants?! Sincerely, Katharyn

Katharyn Rouse

SECTION I - ITEMS FOR AUTHORITY ACTION

RES.#A109/08 - TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY IN YORK REGION

Support for York Region's Sustainability Strategy and alignment of Toronto and Region Conservation Authority projects and programs.

Moved by: Bill Fisch
Seconded by: Laurie Bruce

THAT York Region be congratulated for developing Towards Sustainability in York Region and for the early implementation action that has already been apparent;

THAT Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) staff be directed to assist and support York Region in their efforts toward implementation the sustainability strategy;

THAT TRCA staff be directed to participate in various monitoring and sustainability forums or workshops, including the Towards Sustainability in York Region Advisory Group if continued as part of the Strategy implementation;

THAT TRCA encourage York Region to continue and expand their support for The Living City Campus at Kortright and its role in providing demonstrations of sustainable technologies, information and education programs for York Region residents, businesses and stakeholders;

THAT TRCA work closely with the the Region and area municipalities on intensification projects, such as Vaughan Corporate Centre, to demonstrate a variety of greening and sustainability measures including natural heritage systems, green buildings, stormwater management, flood remediation, community energy and transit integration;

AND FURTHER THAT TRCA and York Region officials meet to determine further areas of collaboration toward achieving the sustainability strategy.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

At Authority Meeting #9/07, held on November 30, 2007, Resolution #A286/07 was approved, in part, as follows:

...AND FURTHER THAT the Regional Municipality of York be requested to make a presentation to the Authority once their sustainability strategy is finalized.

In late 2007 York Region Council approved their sustainability strategy – *Towards Sustainability in York Region* after consultation with an advisory group and stakeholders within the region. TRCA's Chief Administrative Officer participated on the Towards Sustainability in York Region Advisory Group formed to advise on better integration of environment, development and infrastructure. TRCA staff has also provided comments to the Region through attendance at various forums as they advanced the strategy. In addition, staff has been working with the Region on a number of other initiatives that contribute to this Strategy. These other initiatives include:

- Regional Official Plan update;
- Infrastructure Master Plans Update;
- The Greening Strategy and Land Securement Initiatives;
- The State of the Environment Report 2005;
- Natural Heritage Discussion Paper.

The purpose of the York Region sustainability strategy is to provide a long-term framework for making smarter decisions about growth management and all municipal responsibilities that better integrate the economy, environment and community.

The plan outlined a number of guiding principles for implementation and theme areas with specific action as follows:

Guiding principals for Implementation

Principle 1: Provide a long-term perspective on sustainability.

Principle 2: Evaluate using the triple bottom-line elements of environment, economy and community.

Principle 3: Create a culture of continuous improvement, minimizing impact, maximizing innovation and increasing resiliency.

Principle 4: Identify specific short-term achievable actions that contribute towards a sustainability legacy.

Principle 5: Set targets, monitor and report progress.

Principle 6: Foster partnerships and public engagement.

Principle 7: Create a spirit of stewardship, shared responsibility and collaboration.

Principle 8: Raise the level of sustainability awareness through education, dialogue and reassessment.

Principle 9: Promote sustainable lifestyles and re-evaluation of our consumption and expectations.

Theme Areas

- I. Corporate Culture of Sustainability
- II. Healthy Communities
- III. Economic Vitality
- IV. Sustainable Natural Environment
- V. Education, Engagement and Partnerships
- VI. Sustainability Implementation and Monitoring

A variety of actions accompany each theme area.

Opportunities for Collaboration

The sustainability strategy is intended to provide an integrated, innovative and long-term view for the future of York Region. In this way, decisions can be evaluated that strengthen the environment, economy and communities. TRCA supports the direction and elements of the strategy. It will be key to guiding the growth planning that York Region is also engaged in and in mitigating the effects of climate change. It is important that the Region and its partners take co-ordinated action on climate change, as recently initiated at the Climate Change in York Region workshop.

The themes are discussed further below, highlighting opportunities and areas of alignment between the Region and TRCA projects and programs.

Theme – Corporate Culture of Sustainability

The Region has a number of action items under the Theme of Corporate Culture of Sustainability around corporate practice for:

- green procurement;
- education of staff and council;
- full cost and life cycle accounting;
- greening of corporate facilities;
- emissions reductions of harmful pollutants; and
- establish a Regional Office of Sustainability.

TRCA, with the Region's help, is working to position The Living City Campus at Kortright as a knowledge and demonstration centre where technology, green building forms and expertise will be housed and available to municipalities, academics, private sector interests and the general public. The initiative proposed here compliments the needs of the Region and will provide a centrally located hub for one stop shopping on sustainability and climate change.

Theme – Healthy Communities

The Region has a number of action items under the Theme of Healthy Communities including:

- changes to community design;
- integration of growth, infrastructure and natural heritage system plans;
- promotion of transit, cycling and walking;
- affordable housing;
- recognition for culture and heritage of the area;
- provision of human services in pace with development;
- incentives for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) projects;
- holding a Sustainable Greenfield workshop.

Projected growth in the Region provides opportunities for community planning that incorporates sustainability measures. The Sustainable Greenfield workshop, Best Practises for New Communities publication and future workshops, as well as the results of the Sustainable Technologies Evaluation Program (STEP) will all contribute to change in how communities are planned and designed.

One of the largest and most complex intensification projects in the Region is the Vaughan Corporate Centre. Here, there is an opportunity to profile a variety of intensification issues including green buildings, transportation systems, storm water management, natural heritage, flood remediation and community energy. With new guidance from the Region to assist the planning processes currently underway in the City of Vaughan there is a great opportunity for collaboration to acheive a model intensification project, showcasing new and emerging technologies.

Access to the outdoors is important for providing nature based recreation opportunities, including trails and nature appreciation that contribute to healthy communities in many ways. Conservation authorities operate conservation areas and education field centres within the Region that provides such opportunities. TRCA is developing the Oak Ridges Corridor Park in the heart of Richmond Hill and the Rouge Park North/Little Rouge Corridor Park in Markham.

Theme – Economic Vitality

The Region has a number of action items under the Theme of Economic Vitality including:

- Canadian work opportunities for the new immigrant work force;
- sustainable business directory of companies;
- engaging the business community in energy and water conservation;
- initiating a greening technology centre of excellence;
- support for local foods and near urban agriculture;
- expansion of local tourism opportunities.

TRCA has a number of existing programs that address the action items outlined above. These include the Professional Access and Integration Enhancement program (PAIE) that TRCA is an undertaking with the Province of Ontario and the federal government to provide opportunities for internationally-trained professionals to gain Canadian work experience and professional certification. The Region is a participant in the Career Bridge program.

TRCA's Community Transformation Program carries out a number of sector-based programs to drive energy and water conservation, including Greening Retail, Greening Health Care, Sustainable Schools and Mayors' Megawatt Challenge.

As noted for corporate culture theme, TRCA is developing The Living City Campus at Kortright which is already becoming a greening technology centre of excellence. With the partners already lined up and demonstrations of technology and green building forms in place, TRCA welcomes an expanded role by the Region in helping to implement the master plan for the Campus.

The Region already supports the Sustainable Technologies Evaluation Program (STEP) which assesses the performance of various water and energy related technologies.

Theme – Sustainable Natural Environment

The Region has a number of action items under the Theme of Sustainable Natural Environment including:

- identification of a natural heritage system for York Region;
- investigating community energy planning techniques and energy efficient systems;
- working to improve the quality and quantity of stormwater;
- protection for surface and ground waters;
- green building strategy.

TRCA has been working with the Region to develop the natural heritage system and watershed plans that outline the extent of action required to manage growth and its effects on the environment. The Authority will be working closely with the Region to advance Implementation of the recommendations coming out of the watershed plans.

Stormwater remains a significant issue for the quality and quantity of water in the Region. Support for the innovative approaches is already provided by the Region for the STEP program but the Region should also consider support for specific stormwater retrofit studies and implementation projects as they are essential to the protection of surface and groundwater and local infrastructure.

Theme - Education, Engagement and Partnerships

The Region has a number of action items under the Theme of Education, Engagement and Partnerships including:

- education of residents, schools, businesses;
- sustainability website;
- reconstitution of the advisory group;
- incorporate sustainability into the curriculum of York Region school boards;
- continued work with conservation authorities on greening, climate change and intensification.

Through the TRCA education and stewardship programs and field centres, a number of projects to provide environmental curriculum (e.g. EcoSchools) and outreach activities, particularly around communicating climate change action for residents, are already available. The York Region Public School Board is a partner at the Lake St George Field Centre, and TRCA and York Region already partner to deliver the York Children's Water Festival which can shift to incorporate more sustainable lifestyle messaging.

In partnership with the Toronto City Summit Alliance (TCSA) and Evergreen Foundation, TRCA has a request for funding before the Province to support various greening initiatives, including a web portal to identify and promote prioritized best practices, to help galvanize region-wide community action, and to show the GTA's performance against a series of key environmental metrics. The site will link to and build on the strengths and unique features of TRCA, Evergreen, the TCSA and other web resources, including the many local nongovernmental organizations working on environmental issues such as alternative transportation, downspout disconnection, energy home audits, and those being developed by the Greater Toronto Chapter of the Canada Green Building Council, World Green Building Council and the Sustainable Technologies Evaluation Program.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

- Meet with Region staff to determine where TRCA can assist in the implementation of the strategy.
- Identify funding requirements in 2009-2013 budget submission to assist in implementing some of the actions upon identification of areas of alignment with York Region staff. Opportunities have been identified for contribution to or expansion of existing programs including those for community transformation, STEP, stormwater management retrofits, sustainable community planning and design, The Living City Campus as a centre for sustainability and climate change response, sustainability webportal, watershed plan implementation and delivering access to outdoor recreation, education and expansion of recreation or tourism opportunities within the public land base.

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Participation in the York Region sustainability process is supported through the operating budget. York Region has supported the retrofit of the Kortright Centre for the past 3 years from Capital projects. Staff will be working with York Region to align TRCA's 5 year (2009-2013) budget ask with the directions emerging from the various regional initiatives, including the sustainability strategy and climate change initiatives.

Report prepared by: Deborah Martin-Downs, extension 5706

Email: dmartin-downs@trca.on.ca

For Information contact: Brian Denney, 416-667-6290;

Deborah Martin-Downs, extension 5706

Email: bdenney@trca.on.ca; dmartin-downs@trca.on.ca

Date: May 13, 2008

RES.#A110/08 - MANAGEMENT OF DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANTS AT TOMMY THOMPSON PARK

Management concerns regarding Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.

Moved by: David Barrow

Seconded by: Linda Pabst

THAT staff be directed to continue to work with the cormorant advisory group to assist Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) in addressing management concerns regarding colonial waterbirds at Tommy Thompson Park (TTP);

THAT staff be directed to work with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Canadian Wildlife Service and any other required regulatory agency to seek approval for the 2008 management strategy for colonial waterbirds at TTP;

THAT staff be directed to implement the proposed management strategy for 2008;

That staff be directed to continue to actively participate in local, regional and binational committees/working groups addressing the management and protection of colonial waterbirds;

AND FURTHER THAT staff report back to the Authority next year regarding the management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.

AMENDMENT #1

Moved by: Lois Griffin

Seconded by: Glenn De Baeremaeker

THAT the third paragraph of the main motion be replaced with the following:

THAT staff be directed to implement the proposed management strategy for 2008, with the exception of egg oiling;

AMENDMENT #2

Moved by: Glenn De Baeremaeker
Seconded by: Lois Griffin

THAT the following be added to the end of above-noted Amendment #1:

and post-breeding deterrence on Peninsula C;

AMENDMENT #1 WAS NOT CARRIED

AMENDMENT #2 WAS NOT CARRIED

THE MAIN MOTION, UNAMENDED, WAS CARRIED

BACKGROUND

In 1959, the Toronto Harbour Commissioners (now known as the Toronto Port Authority) began construction of a spit of land at the base of Leslie Street in the City of Toronto. From 1959 until present day, a combination of lakefilling and dredging activities has created the current configuration of Tommy Thompson Park. TTP extends 5 kilometres into Lake Ontario and occupies an area of approximately 260 hectares of combined land and water.

Tommy Thompson Park has evolved into a significant feature along the shore of Lake Ontario. It is home to diverse bird, fish, reptile, amphibian, mammal and vegetation communities, which has resulted in TTP being formally designated as a Globally Significant Important Bird Area (IBA) and an Environmentally Significant Area (ESA #120). The international IBA designation demonstrates the significance of TTP both nationally and globally. As an ESA, TTP is recognized as supporting an unusually high diversity of biological communities.

Double-crested Cormorants (DCCO) populations in the Great Lakes declined dramatically in the 1960 and '70s, primarily because of toxic contaminants, such as DDT, which caused thinning of eggshells and other health problems, leading to reproductive failure. Due to new regulations, increased enforcement and public awareness, toxic contaminants were significantly reduced by the 1980s, and cormorant populations have made a dramatic and successful recovery.

Double-crested Cormorants began colonizing Tommy Thompson Park in 1990, when six nests were built in cottonwood trees at the end of Peninsula B. By 2007, there were 7,240 nesting pairs, representing a population of about 28,235 individuals including chicks, on Peninsulas A, B and C (Figure 1).

The DCCO colony at TTP has now become the largest known colony of cormorants on the Great Lakes, and represents 32% of the total population nesting in the Lake Ontario basin. The colonies of Double-crested Cormorants and other waterbirds, including Black-crowned Night-Herons (BCNH), Ring-billed Gulls and Common Terns, are one of the reasons it is celebrated an important ecological site of global significance.

In 1992, the master plan and Environmental Assessment for TTP was completed, providing direction for the development of the park. The goals of the master plan are:

- to conserve and manage the natural resources and environmentally significant areas;
- to provide a unique, water-oriented open space which will assist in meeting regional needs;
- to develop public awareness regarding the significance of the Lake Ontario waterfront and Tommy Thompson Park.

Tommy Thompson Park has also become a unique place for a variety of human activities, attracting well over 250,000 visitors a year. These visitors only access the park on weekends and holidays, and represent a very broad range of activities and interests including birdwatchers, naturalists, cyclists, in-line skaters, pleasure walkers, joggers, researchers and students.

In 1990 TRCA staff initiated a detailed monitoring program to track DCCO growth and expansion, impacts on vegetation cover and the dynamic interactions on other colonial bird nesting species. Staff has used this data and knowledge as the foundation for: participation in a binational Great Lakes Area Working Group on Colonial Waterbirds (GLAWGCW), presentations at international conferences, and working with the scientific and research community. The data collected since the early 1990s has been recognized by other agencies/institutions as one of most complete and comprehensive data sets on DCCO on the Great Lakes.

Some of the key conclusions of the research are:

- Cormorant nesting has resulted in the loss or degradation of about 24% of the forest habitat available at TTP.
- Peninsula A is now devoid of forest cover.
- Peninsula B has lost all the trees at the tip and most of the remaining trees are in poor health and expected to die within the next few years.
- Tree health is rapidly declining on Peninsula C.
- Average annual population increase was about 19% between 1998 and 2007.
- The expansion of DCCOs has displaced BCNHs from their primary nesting areas into marginal areas which are prone to disturbance by park users.
- Based on the rapid growth of the cormorant colony since 1990, it is expected that, if no management measures are undertaken, the population will continue to grow and cormorants will move into new areas to nest such as Peninsula D.

TRCA celebrates the presence of cormorants at TTP and values their contribution to the biodiversity of the park. However, concerns have been raised about the impacts of cormorants on tree health and biodiversity at TTP. To address these concerns, and to ensure the objectives of the master plan are addressed, TRCA embarked on a process to involve stakeholders and the public in assessing the need for management and developing a strategy for cormorants at TTP.

The goal of the process is to achieve a balance between the continued existence of a healthy, thriving cormorant colony and the other ecological, educational, scientific and recreational values of Tommy Thompson Park.

The objectives are:

- a) Increase public knowledge, awareness and appreciation of colonial waterbirds.
- b) Deter cormorants from nesting on Peninsula D.
- c) Limit further loss of tree canopy on the peninsulas beyond the existing cormorant colonies.
- d) Continue research on colonial waterbirds in an urban wilderness context.

A cormorant advisory group of stakeholders and experts, including conservationists, academics and interest groups from across the spectrum was established to provide advice and input. The advisory group met on January 24, February 19 and April 23, 2008. Members of the advisory group include:

TRCA

Restoration Services

Federal/Provincial

Canadian Wildlife Service
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
Toronto Port Authority
Transport Canada

City of Toronto

Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Academia

University of Toronto
York University

Interest Groups / Stakeholders

Aquatic Park Sailing Club
Cormorant Defenders International:
 Animal Alliance of Canada
 Canadians for Snow Geese
 Earthroots
 Zoocheck Canada
Friends of the Spit
Ontario Nature

Toronto Island Residents
Toronto Ornithological Club.

The following organizations are not members of the cormorant advisory group, but have been provided with all of the advisory group communications:

- City of Toronto Public Health;
- Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests (LEAF);
- Outer Harbour Sailing Federation;
- Ontario Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA).

Discussions with the cormorant advisory group have been extremely valuable, resulting in:

- Better understanding of the range of values that TTP represents to different stakeholders.
- Improved understanding of the significance and values associated with waterbird colonies.
- Development and refinement of the goal and objectives.
- General agreement that some form of management is necessary, providing that the methods are humane to cormorants and do not affect other wildlife at TTP.
- Refinement of proposed management techniques for use on each of the four peninsulas.
- Advice on consultation with the public.

Most members of the advisory group agreed that action should be taken to contain the spread of the cormorant colonies. There was general support for most of the 2008 management program proposed by TRCA. Advisory group members agreed that pre-nesting deterrence, post-breeding deterrence, enhanced ground-nesting and habitat restoration are all appropriate techniques, as long as the methods are humane to cormorants and do not affect other wildlife.

Some advisory group members do not support the proposed research on egg-oiling. They believe that:

- egg oiling does not effectively control population growth;
- egg oiling of ground nests will encourage increased tree nesting;
- egg oiling will have harmful effects on cormorant behaviour and health;
- egg oiling may have adverse effects on other colonial nesting bird species;
- research is not needed because there is enough information already about effects of egg oiling;

The proposed egg-oiling research is specifically designed to address these perceived concerns.

A web-page devoted to cormorants at TTP was launched on March 3, 2008 at <http://www.trca.on.ca/cormorants>. It includes background information on cormorants at TTP, advisory group meeting notes, the public meeting presentation and report, and links to relevant resources.

The public meeting on April 3, 2008 was attended by approximately 80 participants, comprised mainly of members of stakeholder groups. Participants were invited to discuss the goal, objectives, potential methods and application of the methods in discussions at ten round-tables facilitated by TRCA staff. TRCA also received 42 individual comments from public meeting attendees as well as individuals who were not able to attend. A report from the public meeting was prepared and posted on the TRCA website. The report summarizes the individual opinions and round table discussions. Participants expressed support for the consultative, transparent process that TRCA is undertaking. There was considerable support for the overall goal, but also some concern that “balance” can be interpreted in different ways. Most people endorsed the objectives to increase public knowledge, awareness and appreciation of colonial waterbirds and to continue research. There was considerable support for deterring cormorants from nesting on Peninsula D, if the least intrusive methods are used. There was a range of opinions

on whether to limit further loss of tree canopy on the other peninsulas, and on methods to accomplish this. Overall recommendations regarding the methods were to ensure the humane treatment of cormorants and avoid disturbance of other species. There were some misunderstandings concerning the purpose and effects of some of the methods and it was noted that egg oiling had the least amount of support.

In order to solicit more input from the public about the cormorant colonies at TTP, staff prepared a fact sheet and comment sheet for participants at the Spring Bird Festival which was held on May 10, 2008. Park users had the opportunity to view the cormorant colonies and learn more about cormorants at TTP from TRCA staff. Visitors had the opportunity to express their views via a survey and comment sheet. The survey was given to 25 people who had just taken a tour of the Peninsula C colony or who had listened to staff interpret the TTP colony. Every person surveyed supported the overall goal of the strategy. When asked if they supported management of the cormorant colony at TTP, 75% did agree with management while 25% did not agree. Of all the people surveyed, 12.5% supported management only if egg oiling was not used. A number of participants expressed the importance of education about the situation; one person even indicated that this process had changed their opinion in favour of management.

TRCA has a long standing commitment to colonial waterbird research and management at TTP. Since 1984 TRCA, under permit of the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) and the Ministry of Natural Resources, has engaged in a Ring-billed Gull management program at TTP. The program was initiated in consultation, and under direction of the provincial and federal agencies, as well as local municipal and interested stakeholders. The program was initiated to address concerns including:

- airport flight safety hazards;
- economic damage to agricultural industry;
- outdoor nuisance management issues;
- displacement of other significant species such as Common and Caspian Terns;
- vegetation growth impairments;
- water quality concerns.

The goal of the Ring-billed Gull program is to restrict gull nesting and breeding to the western peninsulas, and maintain a gull population of an approximate maximum of 50,000 nesting pairs. Management techniques include the use of deterrents, vegetation management, enclosure creation and egg oiling. The program has been successful at addressing the concerns regarding the impacts of the Ring-billed Gull colonies, and the population has been maintained at approximately 30,000 nesting pairs.

TRCA also uses egg oiling as a management technique for Canada Geese and Mute Swans. The Canada Goose Management Program addresses problems caused by geese and Mute Swans in urban settings such as: fouling of public lands, water quality impairment, safety concerns when driving or flying and aggressiveness towards humans during breeding, nesting and brood season. Mute Swans are an introduced species that often disrupt or displace native marsh birds and cause a decline in marsh vegetation due to their voracious appetite. This program uses a variety of techniques to discourage Canada Geese from waterfront parks and utilizes egg oiling as part of a strategy to limit reproduction. Under permit from CWS over 2096 Canada Goose nests containing 8,892 eggs have been treated and 149 Mute Swan nests containing 847 eggs have been treated since the start of the program in 1998.

The DCCO colony at TTP is one of the only colonies on the Great Lakes that is not, or has not, been actively managed at some time. To date the TRCA has not engaged in population control of cormorants at TTP.

RATIONALE

An extremely high level of concern has been expressed regarding DCCO populations and their management. Concerns have been raised from both sides of the issue, on the one hand calling for management, and on the other hand for protection of the birds and their nesting colonies. TRCA has an obligation to manage Tommy Thompson Park as directed by the Master Plan for Tommy Thompson Park as approved under the Environmental Assessment Act. To meet the intent of the Master Plan, TRCA staff feel that there is a strong rationale for undertaking a strategic approach to the management of Double-crested Cormorants at Tommy Thompson Park.

Since November 2007, TRCA has involved stakeholders and the public in assessing the need for management and developing a strategy for cormorants at TTP. Generally, throughout the process there has been agreement that some form of management is necessary and appropriate, providing that the methods are humane to cormorants and do not affect other wildlife. Consensus was reached among advisory group members, and the public on a number of matters, however the use of egg oiling as a management technique continues to raise concerns.

Egg oiling is a common management tool used on cormorant colonies throughout North America, however there are no published studies which examine the behavioral responses of cormorants on the nest after egg oiling takes place. The proposed research project by York University (see below) has been designed to specifically address potential behavioral responses to a management scenario that includes egg oiling. The results of this study will provide valuable information about the appropriateness of egg oiling as a technique to assist in achieving the goal and objectives of Double-crested Cormorant management at Tommy Thompson Park.

The TRCA staff has therefore developed the following strategic approach to the management of cormorants at TTP for the 2008 season.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

Goal and Objectives

The goal of the management strategy is to achieve a balance between the continued existence of a healthy, thriving cormorant colony and the other ecological, educational, scientific and recreational values of Tommy Thompson Park. The specific objectives of the strategy are to:

- a) Increase public knowledge, awareness and appreciation of colonial waterbirds.
- b) Deter cormorants from nesting on Peninsula D.
- c) Limit further loss of tree canopy on the peninsulas beyond the existing cormorant colonies
- d) Continue research on colonial waterbirds in an urban wilderness context.

Increasing Public Knowledge, Awareness and Appreciation

TRCA will seek all opportunities to increase public awareness and appreciation of Double-crested cormorants and other colonial waterbirds at TTP. A varied approach will be used including, but not limited to:

- Public meetings
- TRCA website
- Annual Spring Bird Festival (May 10, 2008)
- Development of interpretive signage
- Improving opportunities to view colonial waterbirds, including cormorants using viewing blinds and platforms
- Conducting tours with schools and interest groups
- Presenting information at conferences and forums
- Participation in working groups on colonial waterbirds.

Information signs at strategic locations that request people to refrain from entering the colonial waterbird colonies during the nesting season are already in place to discourage the public from disturbing the bird colonies. Additional interpretive signs will be installed to educate park visitors on colonial waterbirds and their habitats. Researcher disturbance associated with TRCA and partner research programs will be controlled to reduce overall disruption.

Proposed 2008 Strategic Approach

TRCA proposes to utilize a variety of techniques in an integrated adaptive management approach to achieve the goals and objectives for the 2008 strategy. The following matrix (Table 1) outlines the techniques and strategies at specific locations of the site, and helps to provide insight regarding the relationships between the different techniques. Management techniques do not include lethal culling. Egg oiling will not be undertaken for management purposes in 2008, however a research project to assess any impacts of oiling on adult birds is proposed.

The TTP cormorant colony currently occupies three of the four forested peninsulas of the park comprising three cormorant sub-colonies (Figure 1). Peninsulas A and B are considered Cormorant Conservation Zones where cormorant nesting and roosting is encouraged and enhanced. Efforts in 2008 will focus on enhancing ground nesting opportunities for the 2009 season, habitat restoration to delineate and buffer the colonies, providing safe loafing areas for 2008, and promoting research.

Peninsula C is the most recently colonized area and also contains the largest cormorant sub-colony and the largest Black-crowned Night-Heron population at TTP. The 2008 strategic approach on Peninsula C will focus on post-breeding deterrents to reduce stress on the trees, habitat restoration to delineate and buffer the colonies and continued research on raccoon predation on cormorant and night-heron nests. Peninsula D is the only forested peninsula not occupied by colonial waterbird species. Management efforts in 2008 will focus on habitat restoration and on deterring cormorants from nesting and loafing on Peninsula D.

TABLE 1. Strategic Approach Matrix for 2008

Method	Peninsula A	Peninsula B	Peninsula C	Peninsula D
Pre-nesting Deterrents				*
Post-Breeding Deterrents			*	*
Enhanced Ground Nesting	*	*		
Egg Oiling Research		*		
Habitat Restoration	*	*	*	*

Pre-nesting deterrents

A variety of humane deterrence methods that minimize disturbance to other wildlife will be utilized to discourage cormorants from nesting on Peninsula D. The techniques utilized will be employed on an increasing scale of activity, with preference given to the least intrusive means needed. The scale would follow the following order:

- i) Human presence for recreation, research and education purposes
- ii) Active harassment of birds by people
- iii) Predator decoys and scarecrows
- iv) Inactive nest removal
- v) Noise bangers and other auditory techniques.

Increased activity associated with Peninsula D trail improvements, Tommy Thompson Park Bird Research Station activities, and staff presence is favoured over the other techniques. However, if presence alone does not deter nesting activities, deterrence would progress to active techniques including whistling, arm waving, running and shouting. Activity could be increased to carrying three meter poles to move low tree branches, and tap on trees. Poles would not contact any cormorants or nests. If nesting attempts persist, then artificial predators including owls, raccoons, hawks, and scarecrows will be placed in the trees in and near the nesting locations.

If nesting attempts still persist additional sections may be added to the poles, increasing their length and actively used to remove newly placed nesting material. Poles will not be used on nests where eggs are present, or where cormorants refuse to leave the nest, and will not be come into contact with any cormorants. Noise bangers are the least preferred technique for pre-nesting deterrents, however staff believe that noise bangers will not be needed as pre-nesting deterrents in 2008.

After the nesting season has ended and fledgling cormorants are feeding independently, post-breeding deterrents will be employed on the tip of Peninsula C and Peninsula D to reduce the effects of cormorant loafing (or resting) on trees. Deterrents will not be used on Peninsula's A and B. Displaced Cormorants will be encouraged to loaf on the Conservation Zones of Peninsulas A and B. To help achieve this, disturbance to Peninsulas A and B will be minimized and closely monitored by TRCA staff. Since these areas already support cormorant colonies, and field data indicates large loafing areas are currently available, staff believe cormorants will readily use these peninsulas for post-breeding loafing.

A variety of deterrence methods will be utilized that are humane for cormorants and minimize disturbance to other wildlife. The techniques utilized will be employed on an increasing scale of activity, with preference given to the least intrusive means needed. The scale will follow the following order:

- i) Human presence for recreation, research and education purposes
- ii) Active harassment of birds by people
- iii) Predator decoys and scarecrows
- iv) Noise bangers and other auditory techniques.

Human presence is the most favoured technique, however, if presence alone does not deter loafing activities, deterrence would progress to active techniques as stated above in the techniques for pre-nesting deterrents. In all cases deterrents would be humane and minimize the impact to other wildlife.

If loafing still persists, deterrence methods will progress to the use of auditory techniques. Noise bangers are the least preferred technique for post-breeding deterrents and if needed will be used sparingly and with caution in a consistent manner. Staff will monitor the effectiveness of the auditory techniques, as well as their effects on other species and will discontinue use if undesirable effects are documented.

Enhanced ground nesting

In addition to encouraging post-breeding loafing on Peninsulas A and B, these areas will also receive enhanced ground nesting for the 2009 breeding season. The strategic approach includes enhancement of ground nesting opportunities through the placement of woody nest material, as well as the creation of artificially constructed nesting areas. Further ground nest enhancements may also include the use of cormorant decoys and auditory breeding calls to attract cormorants to the ground nesting area. Predator exclosures may also be created to ensure ground nesting success in certain areas until the establishment of the ground nesting colony. Work will be completed during the fall and winter of 2008 to increase the ground nesting cormorant population in 2009.

Egg oiling

An experimental egg oiling research project will be undertaken by Dr. Gail Fraser from the Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University. The research will be carried out in partnership with TRCA, and with approval of the Ministry of Natural Resources, Canadian Wildlife Service and the York University Animal Care Committee. There are three primary objectives of this study, the first is to examine if egg oiling causes immediate nest desertion by ground nesting cormorants. The second is to examine the effects of oiling on the nesting behaviours of adults. The third is to quantify the impacts of all disturbances, including investigator disturbance, on ground nesting cormorants. An additional objective is to examine the effects of banding adults captured on the nest, on nest attendance and behaviours.

The research project will adopt a conservative approach to limit negative impacts to the Double-crested Cormorant colonies at TTP. Daedol 50 NF mineral oil will be the oiling substance. This oil, approved by the Food and Drug Administration, breaks down quite rapidly, and is the most commonly used oil for the management of cormorants, Ring-billed Gulls, and Canada Geese. A treatment of 30 nests will be oiled, and compared to 30 nests that will be sprayed with water, and to a control group of 30 nests that will not be manipulated in the experiment. Detailed behavioral responses will be documented, quantified, and tracked throughout the breeding season. The research will also include a review of all other projects where oiling has been utilized as a management technique.

Habitat restoration

Habitat restoration activities will occur in areas of the peninsulas that are not currently occupied by colonial nesting waterbirds. The base of the peninsulas, and areas within the peninsulas that are not occupied by colonial birds, will be restored using site appropriate vegetation and soil amendments where necessary. Vegetation quadrats will be planted with a variety of species and monitored to assess the efficacy of the restoration and improve future endeavours. Habitat restoration and enhancement activities will also help delineate the extent of the current cormorant colonies and buffer the colonies from disturbance. Targeted improvements also include the addition of native shrubs along the Embayment B shoreline to encourage Black-crowned Night-Heron nesting. Plantings of willow fascines and appropriate shrubs will occur along portions of the shoreline provide additional shoreline stability. Habitat restoration activities will occur in fall 2008 and early spring 2009, so the bird colonies are not disturbed.

Monitoring, Research, and Reporting

Annual nest census data for cormorants, night-herons and other colonial waterbirds will be undertaken in late May using a combination of staff and volunteers. As in past years, the census will identify the nesting populations of cormorants and other waterbirds, as well as their spatial nesting distribution within the peninsulas at Tommy Thompson Park. Some members of the Advisory Group expressed an interest in observing the annual monitoring program and TRCA staff will facilitate visits to the colony during monitoring activities.

Annual tree health surveys will be undertaken in late August/early September to document changes in the health and condition of nest trees within the three peninsulas at TTP.

A summary report of all components of the strategic approach will be completed and circulated to all regulatory agencies and the advisory group, and will be posted for public review upon completion of the 2008 season. This report will outline all approaches employed in the 2008 season including the methods used, their relative effectiveness, results of the egg oiling research, and the results of the annual monitoring program. This information will provide a basis for the development of the 2009 strategy using an integrated adaptive management approach.

The next meeting of the cormorant advisory group will be held in fall 2008, after the completion of the 2008 summary report. This meeting will provide an opportunity to review the results of the 2008 season and discuss whether any changes are needed for 2009. The public will also be informed and consulted before the 2009 season.

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Funds are available in the Tommy Thompson Park Interim Management account 210-19 and the Tommy Thompson Park Double Crested Cormorant Account 210-25 in the approved 2008 budget.

Report prepared by: Ralph Toningner, extension 5366; Karen McDonald, extension 5248

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Date: May, 2008

Attachments: 1

Attachment 1

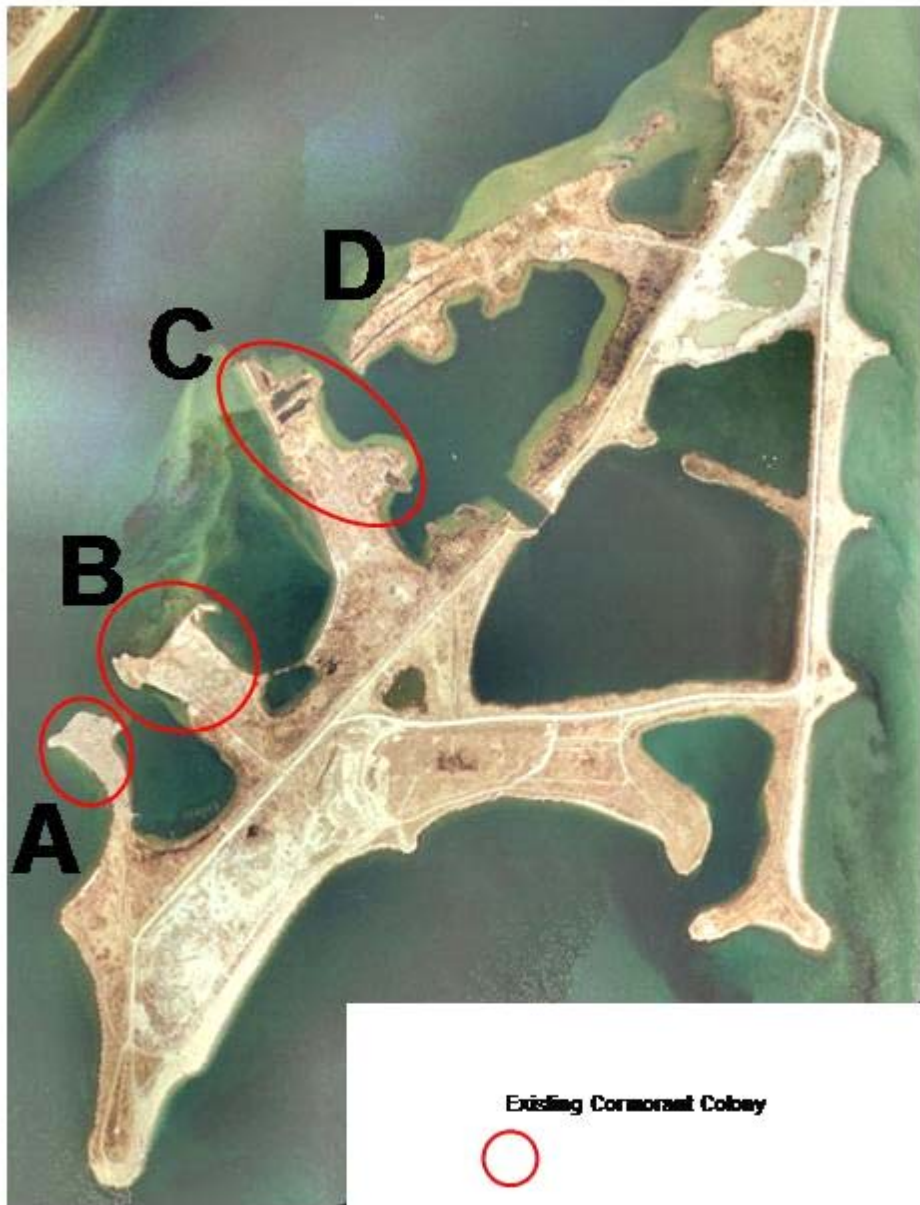


Figure 1. TTP Peninsulas and Cormorant Colonies

RES.#A111/08 - GIBRALTAR POINT EROSION CONTROL PROJECT

Direction to proceed with detailed design.

Moved by: Bonnie Littley
Seconded by: Linda Pabst

WHEREAS the City of Toronto and Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) have recognized the need to restore and protect the Gibraltar Point area of the Toronto Islands;

AND WHEREAS the Class Environmental Assessment for the Gibraltar Point Erosion Control Project is complete;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the preferred solution as determined through the Class Environmental Assessment for the Gibraltar Point Erosion Control Project be endorsed by TRCA;

THAT staff be directed to request additional funding estimated at \$450,000 from the City of Toronto to complete the detailed modeling, analysis and design process (valued at \$500,000);

THAT upon completion of the detailed design process, staff prepare a request for project funding for submission to the City of Toronto to fund implementation, ongoing monitoring, and maintenance of the project as part of the 2010 - 2014 Capital Budget process;

AND FURTHER THAT the City of Toronto staff be so advised.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

Erosion has been documented at Gibraltar Point since 1879. In 1972, significant storm damage prompted the first of several studies recommending various long-term remedial solutions. Despite these recommendations, no major remedial actions were financially supported. Attempts were made rather to protect the Gibraltar Point shoreline with gabion baskets and rubble. These attempts had short-term success as they failed to address the large-scale coastal processes affecting the site.

A severe storm event in February 2004 caused significant damage to an existing washroom building and associated infrastructure, prompting the City of Toronto to request the assistance of TRCA. Toronto and Region Conservation Authority responded by immediately securing the shoreline adjacent to the washroom with rip rap as a temporary protective measure and then proceeded to seek Authority approval to undertake emergency shoreline protection and design a more long-term solution. At Authority Meeting #6/04, held on June 25, 2004, Resolution #A194/04 was approved as follows:

THAT staff be directed to proceed with the emergency shoreline protection works at Gibraltar Point, Toronto Islands as part of the "City of Toronto Valley and Shoreline Regeneration Project, 2002 - 2006", at a total cost not to exceed \$100,000;

AND FURTHER THAT the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) in conjunction with the City of Toronto commence a design study including required Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) to develop a more permanent solution to stabilizing the shoreline.

Following the placement of emergency shoreline protection in the immediate vicinity of the washroom building, TRCA initiated the Gibraltar Point Erosion Control Project under the Class Environmental Assessment for Remedial Flood and Erosion Control Projects (2002). As part of the Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) process, TRCA retained Shoreplan Engineering to complete a coastal analysis to determine the regional processes around Gibraltar Point and assist with the development of alternative long-term solutions to the shoreline erosion. Results of Shoreplan's investigations determined that although erosion and deposition are occurring at various locations between the Western Gap and Gibraltar Point, there is an overall net loss of sand resulting in ongoing shoreline erosion. A comparison of hydrographic survey data shows a lowering of the lakebed in the nearshore area around Gibraltar Point, which is consistent with the undermining and eventual failure of previous local shoreline protection works. Furthermore, Shoreplan's findings indicated that over the next 100 years, a substantial loss of highly valuable recreational and ecological land is projected, ultimately resulting in the breaching of the Islands from Lake Ontario to the Inner Lagoons (see Figure 1). In light of this information, a range of solutions were developed which recognized these processes and the limitations associated with each.

To assist with the evaluation of the alternative options and provide input into the planning and design process, a Community Liaison Committee (CLC) was formed. Composed of technical staff, stakeholders, provincial agency staff, community activists and interested members of the public, the CLC became an integral part of the Class EA process. Through a series of CLC meetings, the range of solutions developed by Shoreplan were considered, ranging from traditional solutions such as breakwaters to more innovative approaches such as sand augmentation. In addition to providing feedback on technical and economic considerations, the members provided great insight into the importance of preserving the adjacent sand dunes, woodlots and beaches. It became evident early in the process that any solution would have to address the need to preserve the entire island landform.

The preferred concept is a sand management plan that recognizes that some level of offshore protection may be required to ensure that the project is technically and economically feasible. The main purposes of the sand management plan are to provide a level of shoreline protection and to maintain the natural dynamic backshore processes that require a continuous supply of sand. Without a sand management plan, the existing dunes and beaches along the western facing shore will eventually degrade.

RATIONALE

The primary focus of the project is to implement a long-term and sustainable solution that halts erosion at Gibraltar Point to protect existing infrastructure. In addition to the washroom building, at risk infrastructure includes the intake lines to the Toronto Island Filtration Plant, and a water main that provides the only potable water supply to the Island Yacht Club and Island Airport, as well as the main supply for fire suppression. Other valued public assets within the affected area include recreational beaches, Gibraltar Centre for the Arts, the historic Gibraltar Point Light House, waterfront green space and unique habitats.

To ensure that the quality of the unique Island dune community and recreational beaches found at Gibraltar Point and Hanlan's Point can be preserved, a sand management plan is necessary. Ongoing placement of sand along the beach and nearshore of Gibraltar Point will manage shoreline erosion, while preserving the dynamic nature of the shoreline. The sand will be moved by wind and wave action towards the Western Gap, feeding the beaches and dunes as it goes. The sand deposited offshore will then be dredged and placed back at Gibraltar Point, allowing the process to continue.

Based on the sediment transport analyses carried out to date it is anticipated that the desired sand supply could be up to 20,000 m³ per year. The majority of that sand will be produced from a backpassing operation, which will involve removing sand from the depositional area (offshore of Hanlan's Point Beach and the Western Gap) and relocating it updrift of Gibraltar Point in the vicinity of Centre Island Beach. It may also be economically feasible to utilize sand generated from local dredging operations that regularly occur, such as at Ashbridge's Bay, Western Gap and Eastern Channel. Any sand that is placed at Gibraltar Point must meet Ministry of Environment (MOE) guidelines for open water disposal.

The detailed design process will determine the annual sand requirements that produce the most efficient design, while achieving the project objective of managing erosion and preserving the dynamic nature of the shoreline. It has been determined that offshore protection will reduce the volume and frequency of sand that is required to be placed updrift of Gibraltar Point (e.g. more protection, less sand) as part of the sand management plan. As such, the detailed design process will utilize a physical model and/or computer model to examine a number of offshore protection options, in conjunction with different volumes of sand supply.

Five possible options for implementing the preferred alternative will be modeled. A typical representation of the offshore protection options that will be explored, is shown in Figure 2. Three of these options will include different breakwater lengths and cross-sections (see Figures 3 and 4) in conjunction with varying levels of sand management. The fourth option will investigate a segmented emergent breakwater with little to no sand management and the fifth option will investigate a sand management plan without offshore protection. The main purpose for considering these options is to test the cost sensitivity of different levels of sand management and to determine the possible environmental affects.

The modeling will also help to determine the exact dimensions and spacing of the breakwaters. An overall length of 930 m for the offshore protection was selected as a reasonable approximation of the longest length likely to be required in order to produce conservative cost estimates. It is possible however, that the modeling could show that a longer length of breakwater may be more effective.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

The Environmental Study Report for the Gibraltar Point Erosion Control Project was made available to the public for comment on February 16, 2008, as advertised by TRCA in the Toronto Star. The project was granted approval under the Class EA process, on March 17, 2008. Working in partnership with Toronto Water, TRCA will work to secure the funding required to proceed with the detailed design phase through the City of Toronto.

Pending the approval of funding, TRCA will update site information by undertaking bathymetric surveys, and sediment sampling and calculating morphologic changes. TRCA will then initiate the detailed design process by forming a joint project planning committee with City of Toronto. The project planning committee will involve staff from Ministry of Natural Resources, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, as well as experts to provide advice regarding dune ecology. This committee will help develop a vision for an adaptive management strategy that manages erosion, while preserving the dynamic nature of the shoreline.

Predictive modeling based on current site condition information will then be used to test each shoreline management option to determine which best meets the project objectives. Once the most appropriate shoreline management option is selected, further modeling will be undertaken to refine the concept. Engineered drawings, specifications and cost estimates will be prepared based on these results.

The final component of the adaptive management strategy will include the preparation of a shoreline monitoring plan. As per the adaptive management approach, the monitoring plan will establish methodologies that will be used to evaluate the performance of the implemented components of the shoreline plan and inform future works.

FINANCIAL DETAILS

The cost of the detailed design process is estimated at \$500,000 including a 15% contingency. Included in this cost estimate is \$45,000 to undertake further fieldwork and site analysis, \$400,000 to complete physical and numerical modeling, and \$55,000 for design drawings and specifications, reporting, and project management. Funding in the order of \$50,000 is available through the City of Toronto Valley and Shoreline Regeneration Project for 2008 and will be administered under Account No. 151-01. This funding will enable TRCA to undertake the fieldwork component of the detailed design process in 2008. An additional \$450,000 in funding will be required to complete the adaptive management strategy, modeling, detailed designs and specifications.

The modeling that will be undertaken during the detailed design process will examine a number of offshore protection options, in conjunction with different levels of sand management to determine the most sustainable solution to the erosion problem. Current project estimates indicate that the up-front implementation costs to construct offshore protection could range from \$4.7 million to \$15.1 million, while the annual operating cost to fund the sand management component of the project could be in the range of \$115,000 to \$575,000. These estimates include contingency and are based on 2008 construction rates.

As per the adaptive management approach, implementation of the shoreline plan will occur incrementally in response to the results of the ongoing monitoring plan. The first phase of implementation is expected to involve major in water works that would be completed over a period of two to three years, commencing as early as 2010. This work would be followed by a period of ongoing monitoring and analysis. Future phases of work would be undertaken based on the monitoring results.

Following completion of the detailed design process, TRCA staff will prepare a detailed estimate of the cost to implement, maintain and monitor the project based on a five-year timeframe. This information will form the basis of a request for special project funding from the City of Toronto. TRCA will also explore other funding opportunities, including a potential partnership with the Province of Ontario to implement the project.

Report prepared by: Laura Stephenson, extension 5296
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Date: March 12, 2008
Attachments: 1

Attachment 1

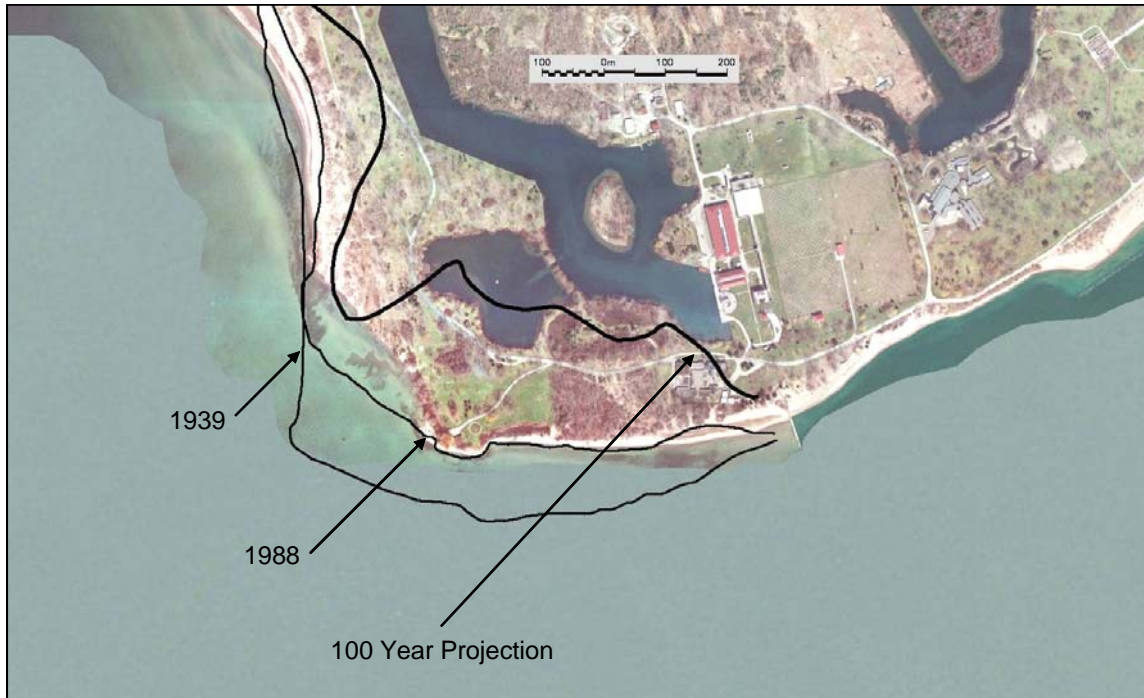


Figure 1 Prediction of shoreline recession after 100 years, based on recession rates between 1939 and 1988. *Source: Shoreplan Engineering Limited, Community Dec. 2004.*



Figure 2. Representation of the offshore protection to be explored during the detailed design process, showing emergent breakwaters connected by an underwater sill in plan view. *Source: Shoreplan Engineering Limited, 2007.*

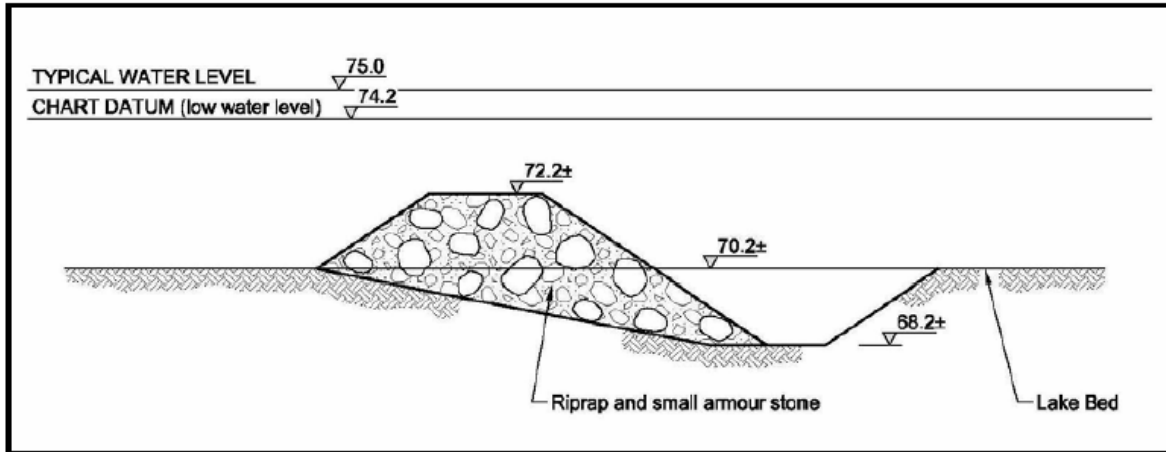


Figure 3. Typical sill cross-section. *Source: Shoreplan Engineering Limited, 2007.*

Figure 3 shows a typical cross-section for the sill. It has a maximum crest elevation of 2 m below chart datum so that it does not interfere with small craft navigation. The lakeward toe of the sill would be constructed down to a depth of 6 m below chart datum to allow for future dncutting of the lakebed profile as previously discussed. It is anticipated that the toe area would be excavated with a hydraulic dredge. Toe excavation and sill stone placement would occur in tandem with the stone placement following closely behind the dredging. This would allow the toe trench to be artificially backfilled with dredged sand rather than native sand from the lakebed in front of the sill. The landward toe of the sill would be constructed on the existing lakebed. The sill consists of randomly placed rip rap and small armourstone.

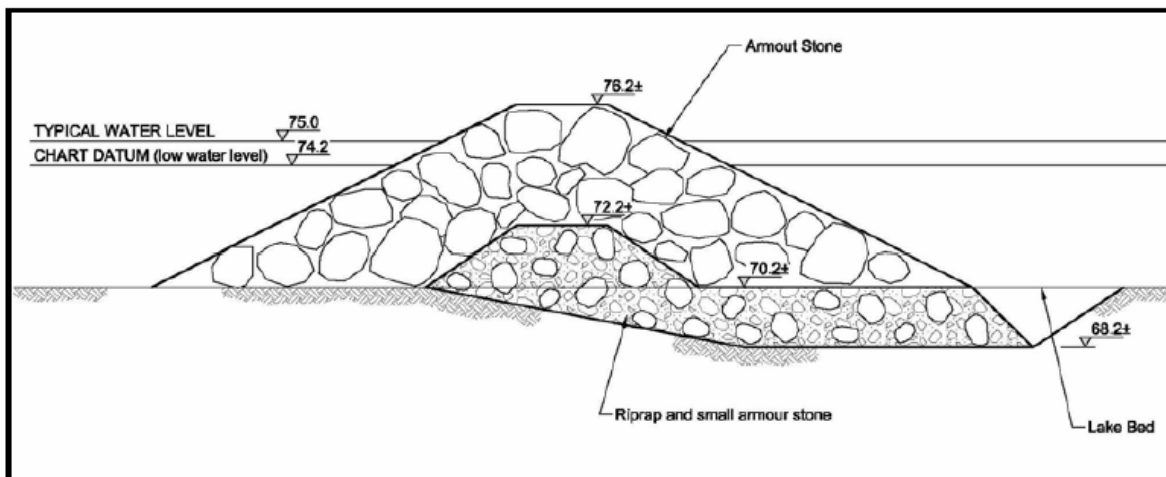


Figure 4. Typical breakwater cross-section. *Source: Shoreplan Engineering Limited, 2007.*

Figure 4 shows a typical breakwater cross-section. The breakwaters would be constructed by placing armourstone on top of a modified sill cross-section. The sill cross-section is modified by extending the toe approximately 8 m lakeward to provide a stable base for the armour. The crest of the breakwater is about 2 m above chart datum, which is above the 100-year water level described previously.

RES.#A112/08 -

GREENLANDS ACQUISITION PROJECT FOR 2006-2010

Guildwood Parkway Erosion Control Project. Amendment to Authority Resolution #A178/07 relating to the acquisition of property rights on the Lake Ontario shoreline, City of Toronto, in the Scarborough Community Council Area, to facilitate the construction of Guildwood Parkway Erosion Control Project.

Moved by: Colleen Jordan
Seconded by: Suzan Hall

THAT the Parcel 'D' section of Authority Resolution #A178/07, approved at Authority Meeting #7/07, held on September 28, 2007, be amended to read as follows:

Parcel 'D'

THAT TRCA acquire a temporary working easement for access on the southerly 10 metres of lands owned by Le Chau Ly being Part of Lot 7, Registered Plan 2413, City of Toronto (formerly City of Scarborough) and municipal known as 483 Guildwood Parkway;

THAT the term of the temporary easement be 18 months commencing October 1, 2007;

THAT the rent be \$15,000 plus vendor's legal fees.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

At Authority Meeting #7/07, held on September 28, 2007, Resolution #A178/07 was approved as follows:

THAT the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) acquire the following property rights to facilitate the construction of the Guildwood Parkway Erosion Control Project:

Parcel 'A'

THAT TRCA acquire a temporary working easement for access on the southerly 10 metres of lands owned by Lois Code being Part of Lot 4, Registered Plan 2413, City of Toronto (formerly City of Scarborough) and municipal known as 469 Guildwood Parkway;

THAT the term of the temporary easement be 18 months commencing October 1, 2007;

THAT the rent be \$15,000 plus \$1,000 on account of the vendor's legal fees.

Parcel 'B'

THAT TRCA acquire a temporary working easement for access on the southerly 10 metres of lands owned by Roy and Denise Wright being Part of Lot 5, Registered Plan 2413, City of Toronto (formerly City of Scarborough) and municipal known as 471 Guildwood Parkway;

THAT the term of the temporary easement be 18 months commencing October 1, 2007;

THAT the rent be \$15,000 plus \$1,000 on account of the vendor's legal fees.

Parcel 'C'

THAT a parcel of land containing 0.049 hectares (0.121 acres) being Part of Lot 6, Registered Plan 2413, designated as Part 8 on Plan 64R-11988, City of Toronto (formerly City of Scarborough) and municipal known as 477 Guildwood Parkway be purchased from Linda Ambos;

THAT the purchase price be \$2.00 plus vendor's reasonable legal costs.

Parcel 'D'

THAT an easement for access containing 0.033 hectares (0.082 acres) being Part of Lot 7, Registered Plan 2413, designated as Part 2 on Plan 64R-11988, City of Toronto (formerly City of Scarborough) and municipal known as 483 Guildwood Parkway be purchased from Le Chau LY;

THAT the purchase price be \$2.00 plus vendor's reasonable legal costs.

THAT TRCA receive conveyance of the land free from encumbrance, subject to existing service easements;

THAT the firm of Gardiner Roberts LLP, Barristers & Solicitors, be instructed to complete the transactions at the earliest possible date. All reasonable expenses incurred incidental to the closing for land transfer tax, legal costs and disbursements are to be paid;

AND FURTHER THAT the appropriate TRCA officials be authorized and directed to execute all necessary documentation required.

The Guildwood Parkway Erosion Control Project was originally developed in 1987 to provide protection for twenty-three (23) residential dwellings along the Scarborough Bluffs. Due to unresolved property issues, protective works were not completed along the entire length of the Guildwood Parkway sector. Currently, 600 metres (m) of the most westerly portion of the Guildwood Parkway sector is provided with shoreline protection in the form of an armourstone revetment, constructed as part of the original Guildwood Parkway Erosion Control Project.

Phase 2 of the project was initiated in 2004 to complete shoreline stabilization and erosion control works for the remaining nine (9) properties not protected in the first phase. The proposed remedial works will provide protection for 170 m of shoreline, from the end of the existing revetment to below 483 Guildwood Parkway, just west of Morningside Avenue.

At the time the original report and recommendation was prepared for Authority Meeting #7/07 on September 28, 2007, it appeared that the owner of 483 Guildwood, Mr. Ly, was willing to provide access at nominal consideration. After the agreements for temporary access were finalized with the owners of 469 and 471 Guildwood Parkway, Mr. Ly indicated that he was not willing to provide access to his property for \$2.00. After extensive negotiations, Mr. Ly has agreed to the same arrangement as the owners of 469 and 471 Guildwood Parkway.

RATIONALE

The subject property is required for the construction of the Guildwood Parkway Erosion Control Project.

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Funds for the costs related to this purchase are available in the Guildwood Parkway Erosion Control Project, through the City of Toronto capital budget.

Report prepared by: Mike Fenning, extension 5223

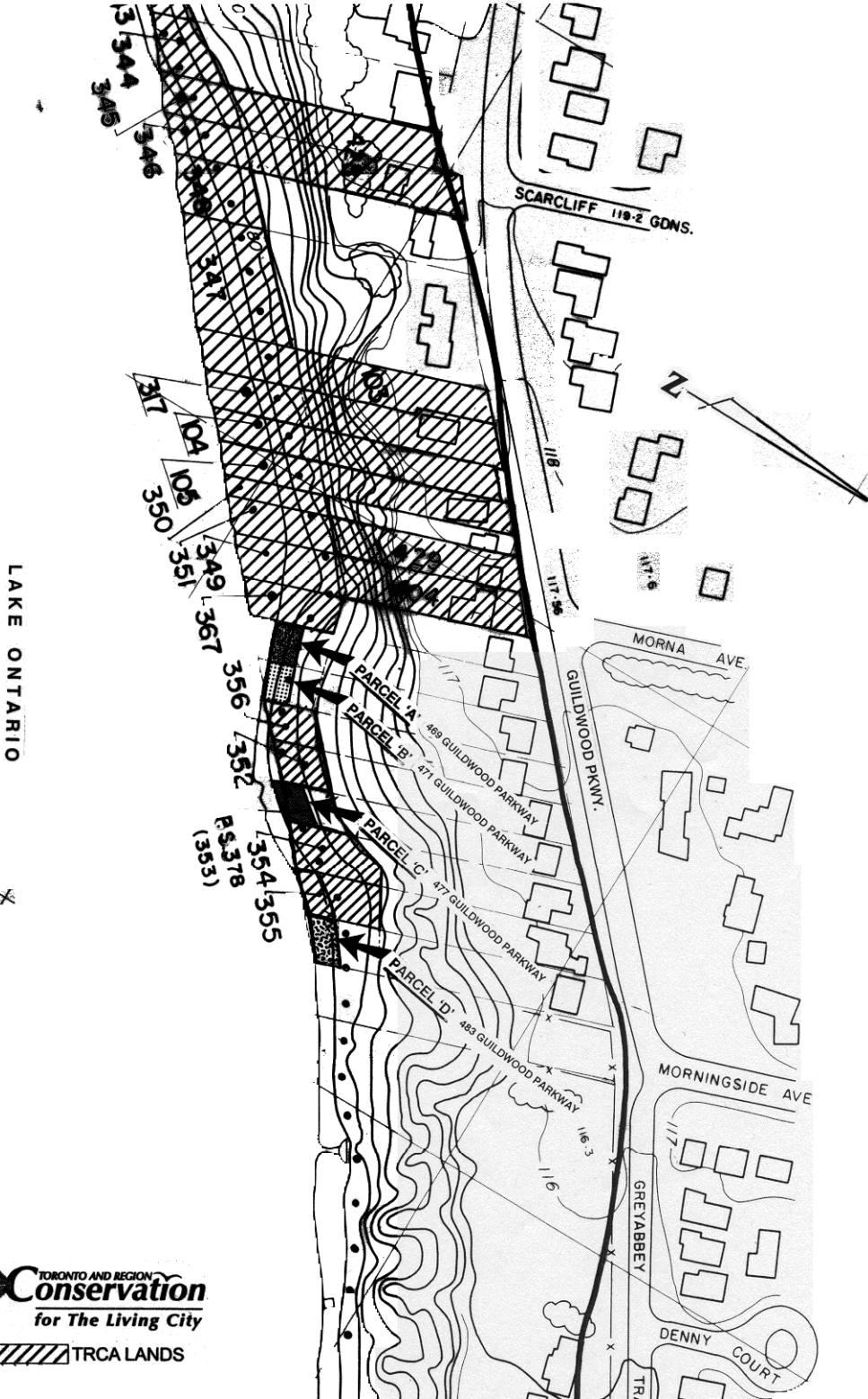
Email: mfenning@trca.on.ca

For Information contact: Mike Fenning, extension 5223 or Ron Dewell, extension 5245

Emails: mfenning@trca.on.ca or rdewell@trca.on.ca

Date: May 13, 2008

Attachments: 1



RES.#A113/08 -

REQUEST TO LEASE TRCA-OWNED LAND

ICL Management Inc.

City of Pickering, CFN 40583. Proposal to lease approximately 0.08 hectares (0.2 acre) of Toronto and Region Conservation Authority-owned land located on the east and west sides of 509 Bella Vista Drive, City of Pickering, for a 5 year period for landscaping purposes.

Moved by: Bonnie Littley

Seconded by: Lois Griffin

WHEREAS the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) is in receipt of a request from ICL Management Inc. to enter into a lease arrangement for lands located on the east and west sides of 509 Bella Vista Drive, City of Pickering;

WHEREAS it is in the opinion of TRCA that it is in the best interests of TRCA in furthering its objectives, as set out in Section 20 of the Conservation Authorities Act, to cooperate with ICL Management Inc. in this instance;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT TRCA enter into a lease of approximately 0.08 hectares (0.2 acres), more or less, of land with ICL Management Inc. for landscaping purposes, said land being Part of Lots 24, 26 and 27, Registered Plan 233, City of Pickering, Regional Municipality of Durham;

THAT the lease arrangement with ICL Management Inc. be premised on the following:

- (i) the term of the lease will be 5 years with one 5 year renewal subject to the approval of TRCA;**
- (ii) the rental rate is to be \$1,000 for the 5 year period payable in advance;**
- (iii) ICL Management Inc. shall be solely responsible for all costs associated with the installation, maintenance and repair of the landscaping;**
- (iv) ICL Management Inc. shall be solely responsible for payment of all realty taxes levied against the property;**
- (v) any other terms and conditions deemed appropriate by TRCA's solicitor.**

AND FURTHER THAT the appropriate TRCA officials be authorized and directed to take whatever action may be required to give effect thereto, including the obtaining of necessary approvals and the execution of any documents.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

TRCA is in receipt of a request from the owner of 509 Bella Vista Drive to lease a small parcel of TRCA-owned land located on the west and east sides of his property to use for landscaping purposes. The landscaping will consist of trees and shrubs. ICL Management Inc. will be responsible for the installation and maintenance of the landscaping work. The landscape plan has been prepared to the satisfaction of TRCA staff.

The following are the key terms of the proposed lease arrangement:

1. Lease Payment: \$1,000 payable in advance.
2. Term: 5 years.
3. Renewals: one 5 year renewal subject to the approval of TRCA.
4. Insurance: ICL Management Inc. will provide liability insurance with \$2,000,000 coverage per occurrence and TRCA is to be shown as a named insured.
5. Realty Taxes: ICL Management Inc. will pay all taxes levied against the property.

RATIONALE

The fragmented public ownership along this reach of valley limits public use opportunities and makes management of these TRCA lands difficult. Staff feel this is an opportunity to partner with an adjacent owner to have TRCA lands restored and managed at no cost.

FINANCIAL DETAILS

The \$1,000 in revenues generated from this lease will be used for TRCA purposes.

Report prepared by: Mike Fenning, extension 5223

Email: mfenning@trca.on.ca

For Information contact: Mike Fenning, extension 5223 or Ron Dewell, extension 5245

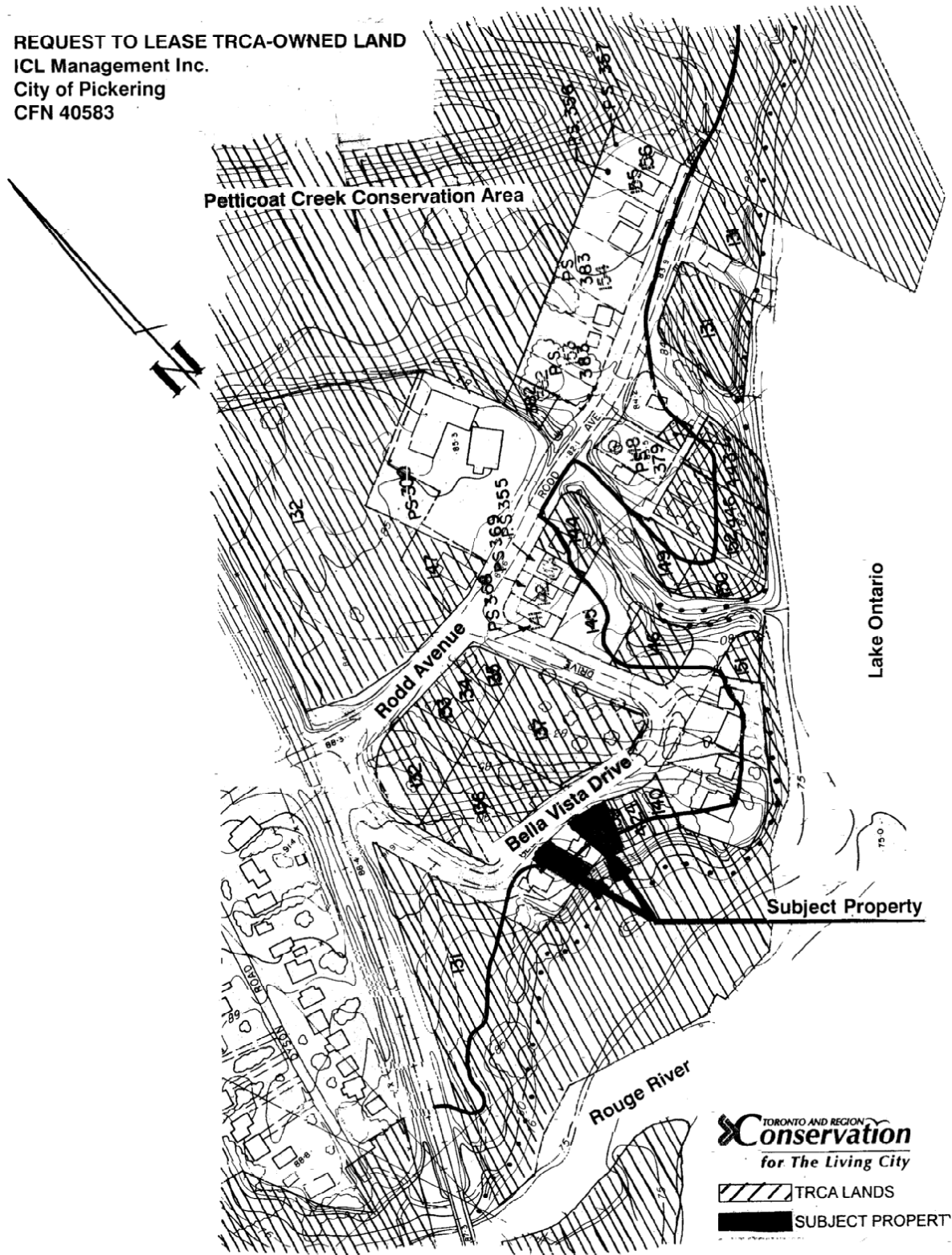
Emails: mfenning@trca.on.ca or rdewell@trca.on.ca

Date: May 13, 2008

Attachments: 1

Attachment 1

REQUEST TO LEASE TRCA-OWNED LAND
ICL Management Inc.
City of Pickering
CFN 40583



RES.#A114/08 -

CANADIAN WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

Role of Sonya Meek as National President, Canadian Water Resources Association (CWRA) and potential opportunities for advancement of Toronto and Region Conservation Authority interests through CWRA activities.

Moved by: Bill Fisch
Seconded by: Lois Griffin

WHEREAS the Canadian Water Resources Association (CWRA) is a non-profit, professional organization promoting effective water management that shares many common interests and objectives with Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA);

WHEREAS TRCA employee Sonya Meek has been serving as CWRA National President since June, 2007;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Authority continue to support Sonya Meek's participation on the National Executive of the Canadian Water Resources Association;

AND FURTHER THAT staff explore further opportunities to work with CWRA to advance initiatives of mutual interest.

AMENDMENT

RES.#A115/08

Moved by: Bill Fisch
Seconded by: Lois Griffin

THAT the following be inserted after the main motion:

AND FURTHER THAT the Authority congratulate Ms. Meek on her election to the position of National President of the Canadian Water Resources Association and she be commended for the initiative and effort required to carry out this role while continuing in her role as Manager, Watershed Planning, TRCA.

THE AMENDMENT WAS CARRIED

THE MAIN MOTION, AS AMENDED, WAS CARRIED

THE RESULTANT MOTION READS AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS the Canadian Water Resources Association (CWRA) is a non-profit, professional organization promoting effective water management that shares many common interests and objectives with Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA);

WHEREAS TRCA employee Sonya Meek has been serving as CWRA National President since June, 2007;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Authority continue to support Sonya Meek's participation on the National Executive of the Canadian Water Resources Association;

THAT staff explore further opportunities to work with CWRA to advance initiatives of mutual interest;

AND FURTHER THAT the Authority congratulate Ms. Meek on her election to the position of National President of the Canadian Water Resources Association and she be commended for the initiative and effort required to carry out this role while continuing in her role as Manager, Watershed Planning, TRCA.

BACKGROUND

CWRA was established over 50 years ago as a non-government, non-profit organization. It now has over 1,400 water management professionals from the private, public and academic sectors across Canada. CWRA promotes 'effective water management' through initiatives that promote awareness and understanding of Canada's water resources. It also provides forums for the exchange of information and opinions relating to water management. CWRA services include the quarterly publication of the *Canadian Water Resources Journal* and *Water News* newsletter, conferences, workshops, position papers, study reports, scholarships, awards, Canadian delivery of Project Water Education for Teachers (Project WET) and various provincial branch activities. The organization is administered by a part-time paid Executive Director and a membership services office who report to a national board of directors.

Sonya Meek, Manager, Watershed Planning at TRCA, was elected to the position of CWRA National President in June, 2007 for the first of a possible two year term. Ms. Meek previously served on the CWRA Ontario Branch Executive and as a Director on the national board for over 10 years. Ms. Meek will stand for re-election as National President for a second one year term in June, 2008. The President's role generally involves guiding and supervising the activities of the organization, board, committees, officers and staff.

TRCA benefits from Ms. Meek's involvement in CWRA in a variety of ways, such as national and international profile for TRCA; networking opportunities afforded through contact with national and international experts in water management and senior federal and provincial government officials; opportunity to advance TRCA objectives; and professional development opportunities for Ms. Meek. Some examples of past CWRA benefits to TRCA include:

- TRCA's Sustainable Technologies Evaluation Program (STEP) was designed with input from a CWRA Ontario Branch hosted workshop in 2002;
- Ms. Meek was influential in establishing a 'sustainability' theme and securing Toronto as the location for the 2006 CWRA national conference, which profiled several papers on TRCA watershed planning initiatives;
- TRCA's The Living City Strategy was showcased in a CWRA commissioned paper evaluating the state of sustainable water management in Canada (2006);
- A presentation on the Rouge watershed planning study has been invited to be part of the CWRA Quebec Branch/National Directors urban streams workshop in February, 2008 in Quebec City, the Integrated Watershed Management workshop in May, 2008 in Toronto and the CWRA Nova Scotia Branch water resources symposium in August, 2008 in Halifax;

- Ms. Meek has been invited to facilitate CWRA participation in workshops and comment on a variety of discussion papers on national and provincial water management issues. This has provided exposure to a breadth of water initiatives and opportunity to influence their strategic directions (e.g. Gordon Water Group's Blueprint for Federal Action on Water, Premier McGuinty's Climate Change Adaptation Summit, Environment Canada's proposal for water availability indicators for Canada and the Pembina Institute's water valuation study for the Canadian Committee of Ministers of the Environment).

Several of CWRA's ongoing initiatives may provide further benefits or partnership opportunities for TRCA:

Promotion of a Canadian National Water Strategy:

The need for a national water strategy is increasingly being recognized by CWRA and other groups across Canada as a means of guiding consistent and coordinated approaches to manage current and emerging threats to Canada's water. CWRA has recommended a procedure for the effective development and implementation of a Canadian National Water Strategy. Analogous to the principles for successful watershed management, CWRA believes the approach should involve participation of all stakeholders, foster endorsement of common goals and objectives while recognizing regional diversity, contain specific implementation plans for priority actions and ensure a mechanism for regular review of progress. There will be a role for TRCA participation in this significant effort, which can provide an opportunity to advance TRCA's interests for action on climate change. Climate change is proving to be a common threat to water management in many regions of Canada and is likely to be a central driver for the development of a Canadian National Water Strategy.

Expanded ability for training partnerships:

CWRA has recently introduced on-line registration services through its membership services office. The availability of this tool could assist TRCA in its interests in delivering an expanded annual program of training workshops and seminars.

Skilled Newcomers Partnership Projects:

CWRA is developing mentorship and other programs aimed at improving involvement of new Canadian water resource professionals in the industry. These programs will facilitate networking among resident water management practitioners and newcomers to Canada. CWRA's mentorship and new Canadian programs were inspired by TRCA's leadership in these areas and may in turn provide TRCA with access to a broadened national network of resources.

Collaboration with Engineers without Borders (EWB):

As CWRA's contribution to the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals for Water, CWRA is exploring a unique partnership whereby it would raise funds to support an EWB volunteer for one year's work on water supply/sanitation projects in Africa. Exchange of information about water management practices is a related goal of this initiative. This may provide an opportunity for TRCA staff to 'give back' and learn of water management issues in a developing nation.

Ms. Meek will continue to share knowledge learned through her participation in CWRA with relevant colleagues at TRCA and will explore additional opportunities for TRCA/CWRA partnerships.

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Prior to Ms. Meek's election to the CWRA National Executive, her previous CWRA involvement was largely completed on her personal time and expense. TRCA has supported her role as National President for the past year up to one day per week of time and approximately \$2,500 per year in expenses. TRCA will continue to support her at this level should she be re-elected to serve a second one-year term. These expenses are associated with travel, accommodation and registration at the annual general meeting (and concurrent national conference) and midterm national directors meeting. Costs vary depending on the Canadian location of those meetings. Often these meetings are associated with technical conferences and workshops, which are of added benefit to her role at TRCA.

After her term as President, Ms. Meek is expected to serve in the capacity of Past President on the Executive Committee for two years. Although her time commitment will be reduced, TRCA will continue to support her annual expenses of approximately \$2,500 per year.

Funds to support these expenses are derived 50% from operating (administration budget for Ecology Division) and 50% from capital watershed planning related projects (in recognition of the profile and technical information exchange CWRA involvement brings to this program).

For Information on CWRA activities contact: Sonya Meek, extension 5253

Email: smeek@trca.on.ca

Date: May 9, 2008

RES.#A116/08 - URBAN GROWTH CENTRES IN THE GREATER GOLDEN HORSESHOE

Proposed Size and Location. Providing comments to the Ministry of Public Infrastructure Renewal and other ministries.

Moved by: Bill Fisch
Seconded by: Glenn De Baeremaeker

THAT the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) commend the Province of Ontario for recognizing and stating that public open spaces such as parks, natural features, natural systems and their linkages are key elements of complete communities envisioned in the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe;

THAT TRCA request the Ministry of Public Infrastructure Renewal to amend their draft technical paper titled "Proposed Size and Location of Urban Growth Centres in the Greater Golden Horseshoe" to address the following issues and recommendations:

THAT growing use and degradation of natural systems from increased population densities and intensification be mitigated by incorporating appropriate open space elements and natural heritage system enhancements into Urban Growth Centres (UGCs) to achieve net environmental gains;

THAT a new guiding principle be added to the UGC technical paper directing that no increase in the level of flood risk due to intensification will be permitted in Special Policy Areas (SPAs) and that existing hazards will be mitigated to the extent possible based on comprehensive studies;

THAT the conflict resolution provision from the Places to Grow Act/Growth Plan stating that the policies of the Growth Plan or Provincial Policy Statement that provide more protection to the natural environment or human health prevail, be added as a disclaimer to all UGC maps;

THAT for UGCs that contain flooding hazards, it be added that the finalization of boundaries is premature until comprehensive flood risk assessment plans have been completed;

THAT all UGC boundaries remain flexible until strategic studies have been undertaken to ensure that required densities can be implemented in a sustainable manner addressing natural heritage enhancements, water, energy and cultural heritage conservation, air quality, waste management and other locally identified constraints and opportunities unique to individual UGCs;

THAT the Ministry of Public Infrastructure Renewal (MPIR) work with municipalities to assist in funding the recommended studies and infrastructure remediation projects to mitigate existing flood hazards and constraints necessary to achieve public safety as intensification of UGCs occurs;

THAT this report be sent to the Ontario Growth Secretariat, MPIR, as TRCA's response to the request for comments;

AND FURTHER THAT TRCA's member municipalities, Conservation Ontario, conservation authorities within the Greater Golden Horseshoe, and the Ministries of Natural Resources and Municipal Affairs and Housing receive a copy of the report sent to MPIR.

AMENDMENT
RES.#A117/08

Moved by: Bill Fisch
Seconded by: Glenn De Baeremaeker

THAT the following replace the sixth and seventh paragraphs of the main motion:

THAT TRCA has concerns about the need for comprehensive review and conceptual development around intensification centres related to flood management, natural systems and open space requirements, as well as sustainable design including water, energy and cultural heritage conservation, air quality and waste management;

THAT development continue in these areas subject to the need for comprehensive study of these issues and that boundaries be confirmed accordingly;

THE AMENDMENT WAS

CARRIED

THE MAIN MOTION, AS AMENDED, WAS

CARRIED

THE RESULTANT MOTION READS AS FOLLOWS:

THAT the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) commend the Province of Ontario for recognizing and stating that public open spaces such as parks, natural features, natural systems and their linkages are key elements of complete communities envisioned in the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe;

THAT TRCA request the Ministry of Public Infrastructure Renewal to amend their draft technical paper titled "Proposed Size and Location of Urban Growth Centres in the Greater Golden Horseshoe" to address the following issues and recommendations:

THAT growing use and degradation of natural systems from increased population densities and intensification be mitigated by incorporating appropriate open space elements and natural heritage system enhancements into Urban Growth Centres (UGC) to achieve net environmental gains;

THAT a new guiding principle be added to the UGC technical paper directing that no increase in the level of flood risk due to intensification will be permitted in Special Policy Areas (SPAs) and that existing hazards will be mitigated to the extent possible based on comprehensive studies;

THAT the conflict resolution provision from the Places to Grow Act/Growth Plan stating that the policies of the Growth Plan or Provincial Policy Statement that provide more protection to the natural environment or human health prevail, be added as a disclaimer to all UGC maps;

THAT TRCA has concerns about the need for comprehensive review and conceptual development around intensification centres related to flood management, natural systems and open space requirements, as well as sustainable design including water, energy and cultural heritage conservation, air quality and waste management;

THAT development continue in these areas subject to the need for comprehensive study of these issues and that boundaries be confirmed accordingly;

THAT the Ministry of Public Infrastructure Renewal (MPIR) work with municipalities to assist in funding the recommended studies and infrastructure remediation projects to mitigate existing flood hazards and constraints necessary to achieve public safety as intensification of UGCs occurs;

THAT this report be sent to the Ontario Growth Secretariat, MPIR, as TRCA's response to the request for comments;

AND FURTHER THAT TRCA's member municipalities, Conservation Ontario, conservation authorities within the Greater Golden Horseshoe, and the Ministries of Natural Resources and Municipal Affairs and Housing receive a copy of the report sent to MPIR.

BACKGROUND

TRCA has provided comments to the Province on an ongoing basis during the development of the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (hereafter 'the Growth Plan'). Reports were brought to the various Authority meetings for approval in September, 2004, April, 2005, January, 2006 and September, 2006. In General, these comments have been in support of the Growth Plan as a means of aspiring to meet the objectives of The Living City objective for Sustainable Communities. Specifically, TRCA has also commented on the need to address and mitigate flood hazards and to ensure local natural heritage systems are protected and enhanced to cope with the increasing use pressures resulting from intensification within the existing urban boundary. This report expands on those previous comments by providing recommendations specific to the proposed size and locations of the ten Urban Growth Centres (UGCs) within TRCA watersheds. The UGCs in the TRCA watersheds as outlined in Attachment 1 include: Downtown Brampton; Markham Centre; Downtown Pickering; Richmond Hill/Langstaff Gateway; Toronto: Downtown; Toronto: Etobicoke City Centre; Toronto: North York Centre; Toronto: Scarborough Centre; Toronto: Yonge-Eglinton Centre; and, Vaughan Corporate Centre.

The current technical paper prepared by the Ontario Growth Secretariat (OGS) and MPIR is titled *Proposed Size and Location of Urban Growth Centres in the Greater Golden Horseshoe*. It contains background information about the Growth Plan, including the rationale and approved policies for intensification as well as new guiding principles for UGCs and maps depicting the proposed size and locations of the UGCs.

RATIONALE

Natural Heritage

A sidebar in *Proposed Size and Location of Urban Growth Centres in the Greater Golden Horseshoe* states that public open spaces such as parks, natural features, natural systems and their linkages are key elements of complete communities envisioned in the Growth Plan. TRCA has previously made this comment to the Province in respect of the multiple benefits provided by natural systems such as maintaining biodiversity, enhancing air quality and human health, providing recreational and educational opportunities, aesthetics and the attenuation of stormwater impacts and urban heat island effects. TRCA commends the Province for recognizing in this document the importance of natural systems to the urban realm.

Intensification of both jobs and residents in the UGCs will lead to increased use of available open space and the potential for overuse and degradation of valleyland parks and natural areas. Opportunities to enhance and increase natural cover and open spaces must also be pursued in planning for redevelopment and/or intensification. Examples of this are currently occurring in at least two UGCs: the Toronto: Downtown UGC is reducing flooding hazards in the lower Don River through landform construction and redevelopment, remediating contaminated soils, creating new public open spaces and re-naturalizing local portions of the river; the Toronto: Scarborough Centre UGC is proposing to reduce flooding hazards by opening up undersized culverts to pass peak flows and remediating adjacent lands to create new parkland, trails and re-naturalization of a parking lot. TRCA recommends that the rising use pressures on natural systems from increasing population and intensification in UGCs be recognized and that opportunities be sought to incorporate appropriate open space elements and natural heritage system enhancements. This would not only achieve net environmental gains but would also help to meet the expanded demand for greenspace by the population influx.

Natural Hazards

Several UGCs, including Downtown Brampton, Markham Centre, Vaughan Corporate Centre, Toronto: Etobicoke City Centre and Richmond Hill/Langstaff Gateway have flood plains within portions of their proposed boundaries. With the exception of the Downtown Brampton UGC, which is designated a Special Policy Area under Section 3.1.3 of the Provincial Policy Statement, these flood vulnerable areas have not been acknowledged. Senior TRCA staff has been holding ongoing meetings with staff of the ministries of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH), Natural Resources (MNR) and Public Infrastructure Renewal over the past year to discuss how flood risks can be addressed in SPA's and hazards mitigated to permit intensification while protecting public health and safety. The UGC technical paper and accompanying maps make only limited and vague reference to the flood hazard risks in the UGCs and do not provide the necessary guidance or notice of the issues that need to be addressed during redevelopment or intensification in the affected UGCs. More specific direction regarding these risks, hazards and their remediation needs to be provided in the documents. Specifically, TRCA recommends that a new 'guiding principle' for the UGCs be added in the technical paper to direct that no increases in the level of flood risk due to intensification will be permitted and that existing hazards be mitigated as much as possible during the redevelopment and/or intensification process.

The Places to Grow Act and the Growth Plan both contain a conflict resolution provision which states that if there is a conflict between the policies of the Growth Plan and the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS), that the policies that provide more protection to the natural environment or human health prevail. This clause is important to counter the argument that has been advanced by some developers and municipalities that the Growth Plan requires intensification at any cost, and overrides any other policies of the PPS. Section 3.0 of the PPS clearly states the provincial interest in protecting public health and safety from unacceptable risks from natural hazards. TRCA recommends that the conflict resolution provision from the Places to Grow Act and the Growth Plan be added to the mapping for the affected UGCs identified above.

Recommended Studies

As noted above, a number of the UGCs within TRCA watersheds contain portions of flood plain within their proposed boundaries. Also noted are the success stories of some UGCs that have already begun a comprehensive planning and analysis that resulted in alleviating flood risks and enhancing the natural environment and social amenities in conjunction with redevelopment and intensification projects. Similar comprehensive analysis and planning should be carried out for the remaining 'at risk' UGCs prior to the boundaries being finalized. This should be done in order to ensure the UGC is of sufficient size and appropriate location to accommodate the required growth and intensification, does not propose intensification in a flood plain (which is contrary to the PPS) and enhances the natural system and open space to create a net environmental gain.

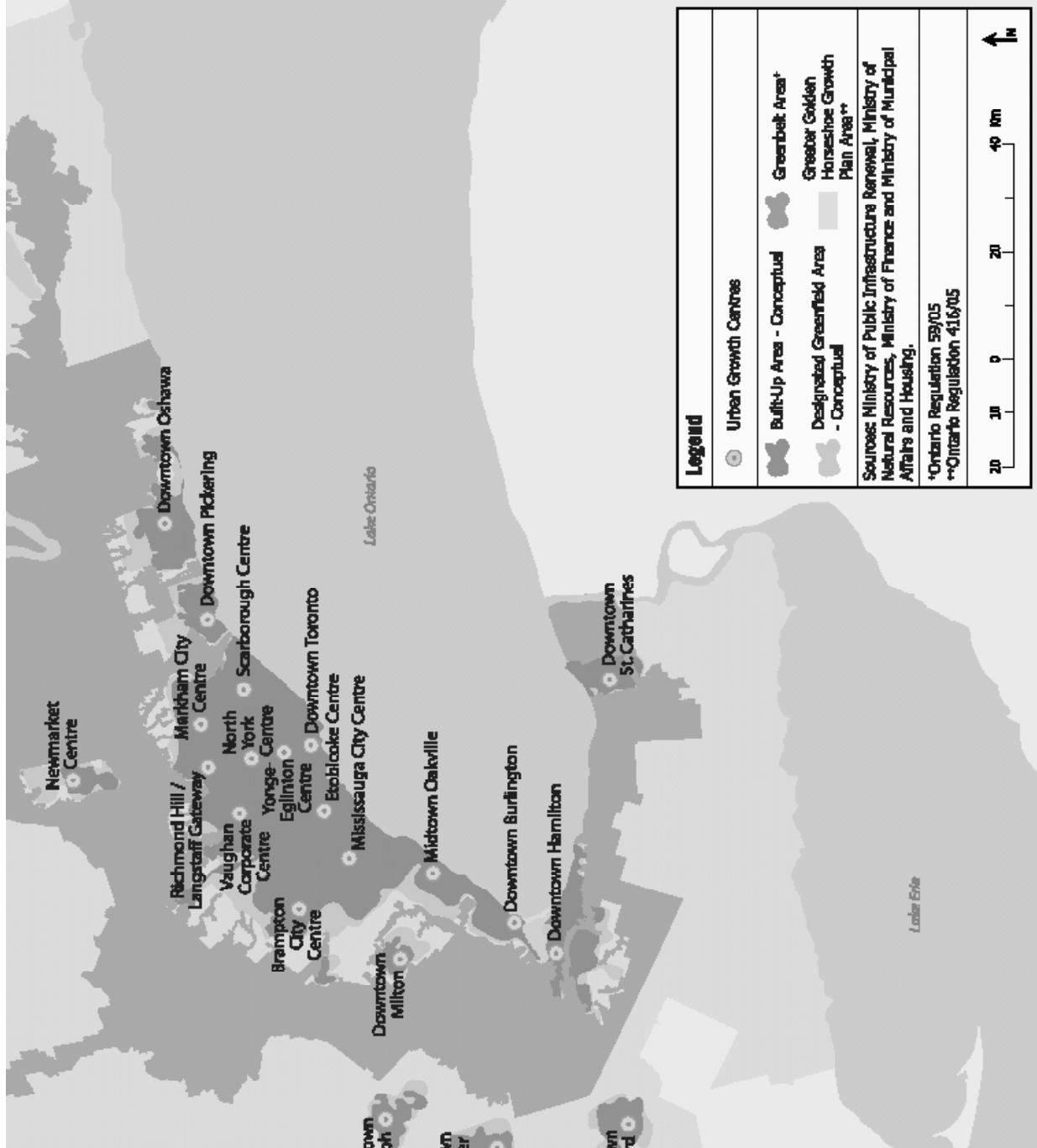
Additionally, the Growth Plan also requires municipal policies and strategies to support a culture of conservation, including water, energy and cultural heritage conservation as well as air quality protection through reduced emissions and ensuring enhanced and integrated waste management systems. In this regard, the proposed boundaries and locations for the UGCs should maintain a degree of flexibility in order to respond to the results of comprehensive strategic planning studies for these areas. In order to implement the strategic vision of the Province for the UGCs of the Greater Golden Horseshoe, the Province should commit to assist in funding these strategic UGC studies prior to the boundaries being finalized. TRCA therefore recommends that finalization of boundaries for the identified UGCs is premature until strategic planning studies, including comprehensive flood risk assessment plans, have been completed. In this way the required densities and intensification can be implemented in a sustainable manner that addresses natural heritage, water, energy and cultural heritage conservation, air quality, waste management and other locally identified constraints and opportunities unique to individual UGCs. This will result in the creation of 'complete communities' as advocated in the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe.

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Report prepared by: David Burnett, extension 5361
Email: dburnett@trca.on.ca
For Information contact: David Burnett, extension 5361
Email: dburnett@trca.on.ca
Date: May 02, 2008
Attachments: 1

Attachment 1

Urban Growth Centres: Ontario Places to Grow
Proposed Growth Plan: November, 2005



RES.#A118/08 -

ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES

The development of Accessibility Guidelines for Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.

Moved by: Eve Adams
Seconded by: Colleen Jordan

THAT Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) develop and implement Accessibility Guidelines for all new and existing public use facilities, policies, practices and methods of public communications;

THAT a current state accessibility audit of TRCA public use facilities, policies, practices and methods of public communications be conducted;

THAT TRCA modify existing public use facilities, policies, practices and methods of communications to become more accessible;

THAT an accessibility committee be established with at least fifty percent (50%) of committee members being persons with a disability, to review current state and make recommendations regarding accessibility of TRCA public use facilities, policies, practices and methods of public communication;

THAT a three year accessibility action plan be developed and reviewed annually;

AND FURTHER THAT partnerships be sought to assist in the implementation of accessibility action plans.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001 (ODA) requires that the Government of Ontario, municipalities, public transportation organizations, school boards, hospitals, colleges and universities identify, prevent and remove barriers to people with disabilities. Furthermore, the Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001 mandates the development of annual accessibility plans for these organizations.

The focus of Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA) is to develop, implement and enforce accessibility standards in order to achieve accessibility for Ontarians with disabilities with respect to goods, services, facilities, accommodation, employment, buildings, structures and premises by 2025 and provide involvement of persons with disabilities in the development of accessibility guidelines. As a result of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, the Accessibility Standards for Customer Service, Ontario Regulation 429/07 has recently been legislated. Ontario Regulation 429/07 establishes accessibility standards for the customer service industry and it applies to organizations that provide goods or services to the public, effective 2010 or 2012. Additionally, under Ontario Regulation 429/07 organizations are legislated to develop accessibility policies, practices and procedures, including training. Furthermore, additional legislation and increased expectations from the Ontario Human Rights Commission in regards to accessibility is anticipated in the near future.

Many individuals, as they age, experience gradual declining powers of vision, hearing, mobility, strength and mental capabilities. An older person may be less able to climb steps, read small print, hear high frequencies, exert themselves physically and remember information. Due to the aging population, it has been estimated that by 2020, twenty percent (20%) of the population of Ontario will have a disability, of this, sixty percent (60%) of disabilities are physical, however mental disorders are anticipated to become a leading cause of disabilities. Current statistics indicate that ten percent (10%) of persons aged 15-64 have disabilities, however the number of individuals aged 65+ living with disabilities increases to forty percent (40%).

Half of the 1.9 million Ontarians with disabilities live in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). In the culturally diverse GTA, accessibility issues can be compounded – “interactions of identity” – unique experiences of immigrants with disabilities, particularly senior immigrants.

RATIONALE

It is the intent of TRCA to draw an expanded and diverse client base to all public use facilities in order to provide outdoor recreation based opportunities to all individuals, including, those with a disability. TRCA also aims to enhance its programs, services and facilities to become fully accessible through the development of Accessibility Guidelines. Given recent legislation, societal standards for accessibility and aging user groups, TRCA aims to be prepared to respond to increasing demand for accessibility guidelines and to provide fully accessible public use facilities, policies, practices and methods of public communication. In addition, TRCA’s municipal funding partners currently prepare an annual accessibility plan and have indicated that they will require the organizations they are supporting financially to respond to recent legislation and create accessibility guidelines.

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Financial impacts as a result of the accessibility guidelines will be integrated into capital and operating budgets.

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

1. Develop accessibility guidelines for all new and existing public use facilities, policies, practices and methods of public communication.
2. Conduct a current state of accessibility audit of TRCA public use facilities, policies, practices and methods of public communication.
3. Modify existing public use facilities, policies, practices and methods of public communications to become more accessible.
4. Develop the terms of reference and establish an accessibility committee
5. Develop and implement a three year action plan that is to be reviewed annually and updated as necessary.
6. Develop partnerships to assist in the implementation of the accessibility action plan

Report prepared by: Brad Clubine, extension 5252

Emails: bclubine@trca.on.ca

For Information contact: Brad Clubine, extension 5252; Derek Edwards, extension 5672

Emails: bclubine@trca.on.ca; dedwards@trca.on.ca

Date: April 15, 2008

RES.#A119/08 - NAMING OF TORONTO AND REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY FACILITY

Heart Lake Outdoor Aquatic Playground Facility, Heart Lake Conservation Authority, City of Brampton, Region of Peel. Request for naming the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority-owned Heart Lake Outdoor Aquatic Playground Facility at the Heart Lake Conservation Area in the City of Brampton, Region of Peel.

Moved by: Jack Heath
Seconded by: Linda Pabst

THAT the Chair and Chief Administrative Officer of Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) be authorized to name the Heart Lake Outdoor Aquatic Playground Facility at Heart Lake Conservation Area.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

It is the intent of TRCA to draw an expanded and diverse client base to Heart Lake Conservation Area in order to increase revenue. It is also the intention of TRCA to pursue the recommendations outlined in the Heart Lake Conservation Area (HLCA) Master Plan in its entirety.

At Authority Meeting #5/06, held on June 23, 2006, Resolution #A133/06 regarding the endorsement of the Heart Lake Conservation Area (HLCA) Master Plan was approved as follows:

THAT the Heart Lake Conservation Area Master Plan, dated June 1, 2006 be approved;

AND FURTHER THAT funding for the implementation of the plan be included in the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) capital budget plan for Peel Region 2007 – 2011.

One of the key recommendations of the HLCA Master Plan is the development of a state of the art outdoor aquatic playground to replace natural swimming in Heart Lake. Heart Lake suffers from algal blooms and has a murky bottom which contributes to a poor swimming experience. In order to support Heart Lake's shoreline naturalization project and restoration to a warm water fishery, swimming is to be discontinued. However, the removal of swimming is to coincide with the installation of the outdoor aquatic playground.

As a result of and in conjunction with the recently endorsed HLCA Master Plan and approved capital budget funding from the Regional Municipality of Peel, staff retained the services of Harrington and Hoyle Landscape Architects for the preparation of the outdoor aquatic playground facility design. Over the last few months staff worked closely with Harrington and Hoyle Landscape Architects to prepare and refine the design and construction drawings required to move forward with the tendering and building permit process.

The outdoor aquatic playground is to be constructed on the lands owned and operated by TRCA as Heart Lake Conservation Area. The design features a state of the art and barrier free 1,300 square metre (m²) wetland theme outdoor aquatic playground. Key design features of the facility include:

- 30+ wetland themed user activated features, aquatic playground elements and shade structures. These elements are necessary to expand upon the existing client base and make the Heart Lake Outdoor Aquatic Playground a destination point.
- 550 person capacity;
- State of the art 10,000 gallon sand filtered closed loop water recycling system. This system filters and reuses water, thus reducing the accumulation of waste water and need for fresh water input.
- Ultraviolet (UV) water sanitation system.
- Wastewater that is generated through operational maintenance which will be distributed through a dispersal system to irrigate surrounding soft landscaping and.
- Energy and water efficient mechanical and washroom facilities, including low flow toilets and faucets, sensor automated lights and energy efficient pumps.

At Authority Meeting #9/03, held on November 28, 2003, the protocol for naming TRCA assets was approved via Resolution #A255/03. According to the protocol, the naming of TRCA assets must follow and contain any or all of the following:

TRCA will follow a consistent process to name or rename TRCA assets including lands, structures and other physical attributes. This process would include:

- Researching the current and suggested names, particularly their historical relevance.
- Engaging in a consultative process with interested stakeholders, including Members of The Conservation Foundation of Greater Toronto, donors, TRCA employees, Authority Members, members of the public, municipal and other non-profit organizations.

All name changes shall be subject to approval of the Authority. Municipalities and other stakeholders will receive information on the naming process including the rationale, the timing of the name change and any research on the history of the name to allow for comment.

The naming of TRCA assets may contain any or all of the following:

- The name of a major individual or corporate/public sector organization, possibly a donor.
- The name of an individual prominent in the environmental or conservation community.
- A relevant historical name associated with the geographic area or community.
- The name of a strategic initiative, a citizen's group or other partnership of TRCA.
- Other names that may have significance for a specific site and area.

Over the past several months staff worked in partnership with the Peel Region Children's Water Festival organizing committee to develop a public naming contest for the Heart Lake Outdoor Aquatic Playground. The naming contest is open to all 70+ grades 2 - 5 classes who participate in the 2008 Peel Region Children's Water Festival. Classes who participate in the Peel Region Children's Water Festival were issued promotional material introducing the wetland theme Outdoor Aquatic Playground naming contest and encouraged to submit one contest entry per class to TRCA staff for review.

Using the approved process and criteria for naming TRCA assets, contest submissions are to be evaluated by the Chair and Chief Administrative Officer based on creativity, uniqueness and appropriateness. A winner is to be selected as the official name of Heart Lake Outdoor Aquatic Playground and will be featured in promotional material and on-site signage. In addition, each student in the class that provides the winning entry will receive a free Conservation Journeys Family Pass valid through July, 2009.

If a suitable name is not submitted via the contest, staff will develop a name for the Heart Lake Outdoor Aquatic Playground in conjunction with the criteria for naming TRCA assets. The recommended name will be decided by the Chair and Chief Administrative Officer's review and subsequent approval.

RATIONALE

Although the typical process for naming TRCA assets requires Authority approval, staffs desire to notify the successful contestant prior to the end of the school year, the need for the design and development of on-site signage and promotional material prior to the official opening of the facility, and the sensitive construction schedule of the project, delegating approval to the Chair and Chief Administrative Officer is requested in order to meet these deadlines.

The Region of Peel Children's Water Festival has become a staple event at Heart Lake Conservation Area. By engaging both the festival participants and Region of Peel Children's Water Festival organizing committee in this naming contest, TRCA is consistent with the protocol for naming TRCA assets through a consultative process.

FINANCIAL DETAILS

Provision for the production of promotional material and on-site signage for the Heart Lake Outdoor Aquatic Playground has been included in TRCA's Capital Budget account code 422-10.

Report prepared by: Brad Clubine, extension 5252

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For Information contact: Brad Clubine, extension 5252

Email: bclubine@trca.on.ca

Date: May 13, 2008

RES.#A120/08 -

COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGN

Regional Municipality of Peel. Award of selected advertising supplier contracts for a public awareness campaign on the Regional Municipality of Peel's 2008 climate change program.

Moved by: Richard Whitehead
Seconded by: Eve Adams

WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), Credit Valley Conservation Authority (CVC) and the Regional Municipality of Peel have partnered to provide a comprehensive climate change program in Peel Region;

WHEREAS the Regional Municipality of Peel has approved the Peel Climate Change Communications Project to be implemented from July 1 to December 31, 2008 for each of the following contracts, at a total cost of \$150,000 and has provided \$100,000 in funding to TRCA and \$50,000 to CVC for the program;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT IMA Outdoors be awarded the contract to produce and place posters at 11 different GO Train stations in Brampton and Mississauga at a cost not to exceed \$35,000, plus applicable taxes, in 2008;

THAT CBS be awarded the contract to produce and place 3 billboards, within Mississauga and Brampton, at a cost not to exceed \$24,000, plus applicable taxes, in 2008;

THAT CBS be awarded the contract to produce and place transit ads on selected City of Mississauga buses on high volume routes at a cost not to exceed \$24,000, plus applicable taxes;

THAT Street Seen Media be awarded the contract to produce and place transit ads on selected City of Brampton buses on high volume routes at a cost not to exceed \$25,000, plus applicable taxes;

THAT Getty Images be awarded the contract to supply photographic images in the advertising for all campaign materials at a cost not to exceed \$12,000, plus applicable taxes;

THAT the Town of Caledon be awarded the contract to place advertising in the 2008 Recreation Guide at a cost not to exceed \$1,500, plus applicable taxes;

THAT Loon Communications be awarded the contract to produce and place posters for 16 Brampton Community Centres at a cost not to exceed \$4,500, plus applicable taxes;

THAT the City of Mississauga be awarded the contract to place advertising in the Active Guide at a cost not to exceed \$1,800, plus applicable taxes;

AND FURTHER THAT I-Mobile Web be awarded the contract to provide website design and content on a website regarding what the public can do to address climate change in the community at a cost not to exceed \$5,000, plus applicable taxes.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

The Regional Municipality of Peel approved funding to TRCA and CVC in 2008 for various programs in its jurisdiction to address the issue of climate change, including funds for a communication program to be run from July 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008. All three agencies will be recognized on all advertisements as partners in the project.

In the 2008 Environmental Monitor study conducted by McAllister, Canadians were shown to be concerned and aware of climate change, however unaware of the true causes of climate change and what they can do about it. The public awareness campaign in Peel Region has been designed jointly by Peel Region, CVC and TRCA staff to create greater understanding of climate change, what the Region of Peel is doing and what individuals can do in their day-to-day activities to mitigate the impacts. Protection of water and air quantity and quality, access to greenspaces and personal action are some of the key messages.

RATIONALE

To integrate the messaging and the solutions to climate change, the proposed advertisement placement is focusing on transit and high traffic areas in the Region of Peel's jurisdiction. The website for use in the campaign is www.lifeisbetterinpeel.ca, and links to the site will be available from the Peel Region, CVC and TRCA websites.

The vendors have been recommended for the following reasons:

IMA Outdoors:

- GO train stations were selected for ad placement due to high traffic volume and availability during the contract period. GO Transit holds an exclusive contract with IMA Outdoors for advertising so it is a sole source contract.

CBS:

- CBS currently holds a contract with the cities of Mississauga and Brampton to place billboards within the respective municipalities.
- City of Mississauga holds an exclusive contract with CBS for advertisements along Mississauga bus routes.
- Highly reputable company with an existing relationship with the municipalities, so recommending awarding it is a sole source contract.

Street Seen Media:

- City of Brampton holds an exclusive contract with Street Seen Media for advertisements along Brampton bus routes so it is a sole source contract.
- High volume routes available during our contract period.
- Offering reduced rates based on contract period.

Getty Images:

- TRCA staff designed artwork to target the campaign message and after reviewing images on the market determined that some images with rights held by Getty to be the most effective for the advertising material.

Town Of Caledon

- Recreation guide distributed to 19,000 Caledon households.
- Message will reach approximately 57,000 (through libraries, community centres and households).
- Reduced advertising rates.
- Based on large coverage, it is recommended to award the sole source contract.

City Of Mississauga

- Recreation Guide distributed to 185,000 Mississauga households.

- Message will reach approximately 220,000 (through libraries, community centres and households).
- Based on large coverage, it is recommended to award the sole source contract.

Loon Communications

- City of Brampton holds an exclusive contract with Loon Communications for advertising within 16 City of Brampton recreation centres so it is a sole source contract.

I-Mobile Web

- Came in at the lowest quote between I-Mobile and Applinx.
- Existing two year relationship with I-Mobile and TRCA.

Further, the above-noted vendors have been recommended for this campaign as they are able to produce the advertisement at a reduced cost based on the contract for production and placement of the advertisements.

FINANCIAL DETAILS

The Peel Climate Change Communications Campaign is funded entirely by the Region of Peel Climate Change envelope with a budget of \$150,000. The current expenses attributed to this campaign total \$132,800. Additional expenses are not anticipated at this time.

Report prepared by: Adrienne Langston, extension 5201
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Date: May 20, 2008

RES.#A121/08 -

GREENLANDS ACQUISITION PROJECT FOR 2006-2010

Flood Plain and Conservation Component, Etobicoke Creek Watershed Kingdom Covenant International, CFN 40703. Acquisition of a property located at 40 Rakely Court, south of Eglinton Avenue West and east of Dixie Road, City of Toronto, under the "Greenlands Acquisition Project for 2006-2010", Flood Plain and Conservation Component, Etobicoke Creek River watershed.

(Executive Res.#B34/08)

Moved by: Glenn De Baeremaeker
 Seconded by: Bonnie Littley

THAT 0.42 hectares (1.04 acres), more or less, of vacant land being Part of Lot F, on the Etobicoke River (in range with Concession 2 North of Dundas Street) and designated as Parts 1-8 inclusive on Registered Plan 66R-22928, located at 40 Rakely Court (south of Eglinton Avenue West and east of Dixie Road), City of Toronto, be purchased from Kingdom Covenant International;

THAT the purchase price be \$2.00;

THAT Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) receive conveyance of the land free from encumbrance, subject to existing service easements;

THAT the firm of Gardiner Roberts LLP, Barristers & Solicitors, be instructed to complete the transaction at the earliest possible date. All reasonable expenses incurred incidental to the closing for land transfer tax, legal costs, and disbursements are to be paid by TRCA;

AND FURTHER THAT the appropriate TRCA officials be authorized and directed to execute all necessary documentation required.

CARRIED

RES.#A122/08 - GREENLANDS ACQUISITION PROJECT FOR 2006-2010
Flood Plain and Conservation Component, Rouge River Watershed
Ralph and Linda Hollander, CFN 40084. Purchase of property,
municipally known as 1229 Bethesda Road, east of Bayview Avenue, on
the south side of Bethesda Road, in the Town of Richmond Hill, in the
Rouge River watershed.
(Executive Res.#B35/08)

Moved by: Glenn De Baeremaeker
Seconded by: Bonnie Littley

THAT 20.45 hectares (50.54 acres), more or less, consisting of a rectangular shape parcel of land, improved with a two storey stone exterior finished single family residence, triple detached garage and boat house, including a 9 acre kettle lake, said land being Part of Lot 5, Concession 2, Town of Richmond Hill, Regional Municipality of York and municipally known as 1229 Bethesda Road, be purchased from Ralph and Linda Hollander;

THAT the purchase price be \$3,450,000;

THAT acquisition by Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) is conditional on all necessary funding being available from one or more of following sources: Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation, Regional Municipality of York, Town of Richmond Hill, City of Toronto and other potential funding sources;

THAT TRCA receive conveyance of the land required free from encumbrance, subject to existing service easements;

THAT Gardiner, Roberts, Barristers and Solicitors, be instructed to complete the transaction at the earliest possible date. All reasonable expenses incurred incidental to the closing for land transfer tax, legal costs and disbursements are to be paid;

AND FURTHER THAT the appropriate TRCA officials be authorized and directed to execute all necessary documentation required.

CARRIED

RES.#A123/08 -

EXCHANGE OF LANDS

Vicinity of Riverside Drive, Town of Ajax

Marshall Homes

Duffins Creek Watershed, CFN 40709. Receipt of request from Marshall Homes to exchange lands west of Riverside Drive and south of Rossland Road, Town of Ajax, Regional Municipality of Durham.

(Executive Res.#B36/08)

Moved by: Glenn De Baeremaeker
Seconded by: Bonnie Littley

WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) is in receipt of a request from Marshall Homes, the owner of a parcel of land west of Riverside Drive and south of Rossland Road within the Town of Ajax;

WHEREAS it is in the opinion of TRCA that it is in the best interest of TRCA in furthering its objectives, as set out in Section 20 of the Conservation Authorities Act, to proceed with an exchange in this instance;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT TRCA enter into an exchange of lands on the following basis:

- a) **Marshall Homes will convey to TRCA a parcel of land containing 1.169 hectares (2.89 acres) more or less, of vacant land, being Lot 17, Concession 2, Town of Ajax, Regional Municipality of Durham, being Block A on a sketch illustrating the proposed land exchange prepared by J. D. Barnes Limited under Ref. No. 07-25-990-03-A;**
- b) **TRCA will convey to Marshall Homes two parcels of land containing a total area of 0.096 hectares (0.24 acres), more or less, of vacant land, being Lot 17, Concession 2, and Part Block 3, Plan 342, Town of Ajax, Regional Municipality of Durham, being Parcels 1 and 2 on a sketch illustrating the proposed land exchange prepared by J. D. Barnes Limited under Ref. No. 07-25-990-03-A;**
- c) **Marshall Homes is to pay all legal and survey costs;**
- d) **completion of this sale will be subject to any Planning Act approvals that may be required for the severance. Marshall Homes must obtain, at their sole expense, the approval of the Land Division Committee for the Regional Municipality of Durham and any additional approvals which Marshall Homes may desire or the municipality requires;**

- e) any additional conditions as deemed appropriate by the TRCA staff or solicitor;
- f) that the sale be subject to the approval of the Minister of Natural Resources in accordance with Section 21(2) of the Conservation Authorities Act C.27 as amended;

AND FURTHER THAT appropriate TRCA officials be authorized and directed to take whatever action may be required to give effect thereto, including the obtaining of any necessary approvals and the execution of any documents.

CARRIED

RES.#A124/08 - SANITARY SEWER PROJECTS

King Township Area of the Humber River Watershed. Report in response to the letter from Ms. Madeleine McDowell regarding the dewatering processes for the sanitary sewer projects and its affect upon the groundwater table in King Township.
(Executive Res.#B37/08)

Moved by: Glenn De Baeremaeker
Seconded by: Bonnie Littley

WHEREAS Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) understands concerns raised by the Humber Heritage Committee regarding the construction of underground pipes, potential dewatering processes and their possible effects to the natural environment in the King Township area of the Humber River watershed;

WHEREAS the proponent is committed to notify the Coordinator, Environmental Monitoring Review (YDSS), TRCA, if triggers are approached and mitigation measures should be implemented;

WHEREAS TRCA staff will continue to work with the proponent if necessary to avoid and or mitigate negative affects to the environment;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Coordinator, Environmental Monitoring Review (YDSS) continue to be involved in both projects on a regular basis reviewing all future submissions and monitoring information and by interacting with the proponent, contractors and other regulatory agencies' technical staff to ensure that all previous commitments are followed;

AND FURTHER THAT the Coordinator, Environmental Monitoring Review (YDSS) and enforcement staff continue to conduct site visits to the areas under construction to ensure that projects are built according to the plans.

CARRIED

RES.#A125/08 -

MIMICO WATERFRONT LINEAR PARK BOARDWALK

Contract RSD08-08. Award of Contract RSD08-08 for construction of the Mimico Waterfront Linear Park Boardwalk.
(Executive Res.#B38/08)

Moved by: Glenn De Baeremaeker
Seconded by: Bonnie Littley

THAT contract RSD08-08 for construction of the Mimico Waterfront Linear Park Boardwalk be awarded to The Ontario Construction Company Ltd. for the total amount of \$348,955 plus GST, which includes a contingency amount of \$25,000 to be expended as authorized by Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), it being the lowest bid that meets TRCA specifications;

AND FURTHER THAT authorized TRCA officials be directed to take such action as is necessary to implement the contract including signing and execution of documents.

CARRIED

RES.#A126/08 -

LONG TERM OFFICE ACCOMMODATION PROJECT

Needs Analysis and Preliminary Building Evaluation Phase. Report on the needs analysis and preliminary building evaluation phase of the project to meet TRCA long term office accommodation needs.
(Executive Res.#B39/08 & Res.#B40/08)

Moved by: Glenn De Baeremaeker
Seconded by: Bonnie Littley

THAT a Long Term Office Accommodation Working Group consisting of Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) Members representative of the participating municipalities including the Chair, be created to support and guide staff in development and implementation of the Long Term Office Accommodation project;

THAT staff include in the 2009 -2013 capital budget projections funding for the project;

THAT at the Authority meeting on May 23, 2008, members be asked to indicate their interest in serving on the Working Group which will include Chair Gerri Lynn O'Connor, Councillor Ron Moeser and Councillor Maria Augimeri;

AND FURTHER THAT the working group and staff report back to the Executive Committee no later than December 31, 2008.

AMENDMENT

RES.#A127/08

Moved by: Jack Heath
Seconded by: John Sprovieri

THAT the third paragraph of the main motion be amended to read:

THAT the Working Group include Chair Gerri Lynn O'Connor, Councillor Ron Moeser, Councillor Maria Augimeri, Deputy Mayor Jack Heath and Councillor John Sprovieri;

THE AMENDMENT WAS CARRIED

THE MAIN MOTION, AS AMENDED, WAS CARRIED

THE RESULTANT MOTION READS AS FOLLOWS:

THAT a Long Term Office Accommodation Working Group consisting of Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) Members representative of the participating municipalities including the Chair, be created to support and guide staff in development and implementation of the Long Term Office Accommodation project;

THAT staff include in the 2009 -2013 capital budget projections funding for the project;

THAT the Working Group include Chair Gerri Lynn O'Connor, Councillor Ron Moeser, Councillor Maria Augimeri, Deputy Mayor Jack Heath and Councillor John Sprovieri;

AND FURTHER THAT the working group and staff report back to the Executive Committee no later than December 31, 2008.

SECTION II - ITEMS FOR AUTHORITY INFORMATION

RES.#A128/08 - SECTION II - ITEMS FOR AUTHORITY INFORMATION

Moved by: Reenga Mathivanan
Seconded by: Richard Whitehead

THAT Ontario Regulation 166/06 items 9.7.1 - 9.7.93, inclusive, contained in Section II of Executive Committee Minutes #3/08, held on May 9, 2008, be received.

CARRIED

RES.#A129/08 - SECTION II - ITEMS FOR AUTHORITY INFORMATION

Moved by: Richard Whitehead
Seconded by: Suzan Hall

THAT Section II item 9.8 - Millcreek Estates, contained in Executive Committee Minutes #3/08, held on May 9, 2008, be received;

AND FURTHER THAT the Town of Caledon be requested to contact the landowners of record to provide them with the color-coded map of this subdivision which outlines the potential interests of TRCA.

CARRIED

RES.#A130/08 - SECTION II - ITEMS FOR AUTHORITY INFORMATION

Moved by: Reenga Mathivanan
Seconded by: Richard Whitehead

THAT Section II items 9.9 - 9.11, inclusive, contained in Executive Committee Minutes #3/08, held on May 9, 2008, be received.

CARRIED

Section II Items 9.9 - 9.11, Inclusive

ONTARIO REGULATION 166/06 PERMIT RE-ISSUANCE PROTOCOL

(Executive Res.#B47/08)

REGIONAL WATERSHED MONITORING NETWORK

(Executive Res.#B48/08)

OUT OF COUNTRY TRAVEL

(Executive Res.#B49/08)

SECTION IV - ITEMS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE BOARD

RES.#A131/08 - COMPENSATION STUDY

Updated information on Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's compensation levels compared to our partners and stakeholder groups.

Moved by: Bonnie Littley
Seconded by: Colleen Jordan

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the following Resolution #A263/07 approved at Authority Meeting #9/07, held on November 30, 2007, be received and become part of the public record:

THAT the Proposed Salary/Wage Schedule, outlined in Attachment A, be approved for implementation on April 1, 2008, subject to approval of the final 2008 Operating and Capital Budget.

CARRIED

BACKGROUND

At Authority Meeting #9/07, held on November 30, 2007, Resolution #A263/07 was approved in camera as per the Municipal Act, 2001, Section 2.d in that the subject matter considered is labour relations or employee negotiations. Private minutes were retained as a record of this item at the meeting. For transparency, TRCA will report back on in camera items when they can become public so a record of the resolution appears in public minutes.

RATIONALE

The resolution was subject to approval of the 2008 Operating and Capital Budget, which was approved at Authority Meeting #3/08, held on April 25, 2008. As a result of budget approval, the item can be made part of the public record.

Report prepared by: Kathy Stranks, extension 5264
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Date: May 12, 2008

RES.#A132/08 - WATERSHED COMMITTEE MINUTES

Moved by: Bonnie Littley
Seconded by: Colleen Jordan

THAT Section IV items 8.2.1 - 8.2.2, in regard to watershed committee minutes, be received.

CARRIED

Section IV Items - 8.2.1 - 8.2.2
DON WATERSHED REGENERATION COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting #3/08, held on March 27, 2008

HUMBER WATERSHED ALLIANCE
Minutes of Meeting #1/08, held on January 15, 2008.

RES.#A133/08 - SECTION IV - ITEMS FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE BOARD

Moved by: Bonnie Littley
Seconded by: Linda Pabst

THAT Section IV item 9.12 - Lowest Bid Not Accepted, contained in Executive Committee Minutes #3/08, held on May 9, 2008, be received.

CARRIED

TERMINATION

ON MOTION, the meeting terminated at 1:35 p.m., on Friday, May 23, 2008.

Gerri Lynn O'Connor
Chair

Brian Denney
Secretary-Treasurer

/ks