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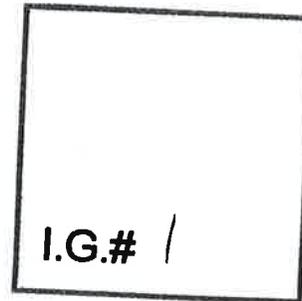
COUNTY OF WELLINGTON Township of Puslinch

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
GARY A. COUSINS, M.C.I.P., DIRECTOR  
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ADMINISTRATION CENTRE  
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GUELPH, ONTARIO  
N1H 3T9

July 21, 2014

Mayor Dennis Lever and Puslinch Council  
Township of Puslinch  
7404 Wellington Road 34  
RR # 3 Aberfoyle, ON N1H 6H9



Dear Mayor Lever and Puslinch Council:

I am writing Wellington Councillors to invite them to join us in celebrating the tenth anniversary of our Green Legacy Programme.

To date, we have seen over 1,500,000 trees planted and thousands of students involved with growing trees. Our local municipalities have been strong partners in promoting tree planting, and we thank you. The Green Legacy Committee felt it important to recognize this milestone.

We have purchased a small bronze plaque for each of Wellington's municipalities (photo attached). This could be mounted inside your municipal office or outside. We can also provide a larger potted tree from our nursery, if you would like a ceremonial tree planting. A member of the Green Legacy Committee would be glad to attend a ceremony, and say a few words if you would like.

We leave it up to you to determine how you want to celebrate our accomplishments. September or early October might be suitable times. Please let me know how you would like to participate and how we can assist.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Mark Van Patter'.

Mark Van Patter, RPP, MCIP [519.837.2600 x 2080]  
Chair, Green Legacy

C: Councillor Don McKay, County Ward 7



**THE GREEN LEGACY**

**EST. 2003**

**CELEBRATING 10 YEARS**

**OVER 1.5 MILLION TREES PLANTED**



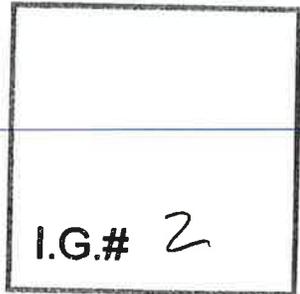
Ontario  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

**ERNIE HARDEMAN, M.P.P.**

Oxford

July 17, 2014

Dennis Lever, Mayor  
Township of Puslinch  
7404 Wellington Road 34, RR 3 (Aberfoyle)  
Guelph, ON N1H 6H9



Queen's Park Office:  
Room 413, Legislative Bldg.  
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Tel. (416) 325-1239  
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Constituency Office:  
12 Perry Street  
Woodstock, Ontario  
N4S 3C2

Tel. (519) 537-5222  
Fax (519) 537-3577

Dear Dennis,

I'm writing to let you know that I was recently appointed official opposition critic for Municipal Affairs and Housing.

I hope to have the opportunity to meet with you in the near future to hear your views on the relationship between municipalities and the province, any challenges your municipality is facing, and your thoughts on steps needed to strengthen Ontario's municipalities.

As you may know, I served as Councillor, Mayor and Warden in Oxford before being elected as MPP. During my time in municipal politics, I was also on the board of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, as well as, chair of ROMA and the Warden's Association of Ontario.

I am also writing to invite you to join the Ontario PC Caucus at our reception during the upcoming AMO conference. The reception will be in the West Ballroom of the London Hilton and will take place on Monday August 18 starting at 8:00 p.m.

As usual, the PC Caucus will also be holding meetings with municipal representatives during the conference. If you would like to arrange a delegation during the conference, please contact me at [ernie.hardeman@pc.ola.org](mailto:ernie.hardeman@pc.ola.org) or by fax at (416) 325-1259.

I look forward to working with you. If I can be of assistance please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ernie Hardeman, MPP Oxford  
PC Critic for Municipal Affairs and Housing





Legislative and Planning Services  
Office of the Regional Clerk  
1151 Bronte Road  
Oakville ON L6M 3L1  
Email: [RegionalClerk@halton.ca](mailto:RegionalClerk@halton.ca)



**VIA EMAIL**

July 11, 2014

The Honourable Michael Chong, MP, Wellington-Halton Hills  
The Honourable Lisa Raitt, MP Halton  
Mike Wallace, MP, Burlington  
Terence Young, MP, Oakville  
Eleanor McMahon, MPP, Burlington  
Indira Naidoo-Harris, MPP, Halton  
The Honourable Kevin Flynn, MPP, Oakville  
Ted Arnott, MPP, Wellington-Halton Hills  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Pat Vanini  
All Ontario Municipalities

CLERK'S DEPARTMENT	
TO	
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For Your Information	
Council Agenda	✓ Aug 13/14
File	

Please be advised that at its meeting held, Wednesday, July 09, 2014 the Council of the Regional Municipality of Halton adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION: Protection of Public Participation Act, 2014 (Bill 83)**

**WHEREAS** Bill 83, Protection of Public Participation Act, 2014, being “An Statutory Powers of Procedure Act in order to protect expression on matters of public interest” (hereinafter “Bill 83”), was introduced into the Provincial Legislature in June 2013;

**WHEREAS** Bill 83 was introduced by the government out of concern that Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPP), being lawsuits brought before the court by one party against another party or individual as a tactic for silencing or intimidating the other party, are having a chilling effect on public participation on contentious matters of public interest in Ontario;

**WHEREAS** Bill 83 is intended to protect persons from being subjected to legal proceedings that would stifle their ability to speak out on public issues or promote, in the public interest, action by the public or any level of government;

**WHEREAS** the ability to engage in public participation forums is the foundation of a democratic society;

**WHEREAS** there exist a number of high profile environmental issues in the Regional Municipality of Halton that are of public interest and that have generated a great deal of debate in the community;

**WHEREAS** Regional Council is of the opinion that public participation in matters of public interest ought to be encouraged and not discouraged through tactics such as strategic lawsuits against public participation;

**WHEREAS** provision is made in Bill 83 to amend the Courts of Justice Act for such SLAPP legal proceedings to be dismissed at an early stage and for defendants subjected to such proceedings to be indemnified for incurred costs in such proceedings with the potential for additional damages to be awarded in appropriate circumstances;

**WHEREAS** provision is made in Bill 83 to amend the Libel and Slander Act to state that any qualified privilege that applies in respect of an oral or written communication on a matter of public interest between two or more persons who have a direct interest in the matter applies regardless of whether the communication is witnessed or reported on by media representatives or other persons;

**WHEREAS** provision is made in Bill 83 to amend the Statutory Powers Procedure Act to provide that submissions for a costs order in a proceeding must be made in writing, unless the tribunal determines that to do so is likely to cause a party to the proceeding significant prejudice;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of The Regional Municipality of Halton advise the newly elected Premier of the Province of Ontario, the Honorable Kathleen Wynne, Halton MP's and MPP's, party leaders and all Ontario municipalities of its support for the Protection of Public Participation Act, 2014 and request that Bill 83 be re-introduced forthwith in the Legislature;

**THAT** the Regional Chair be requested to meet with Halton's newly elected Members of Provincial Parliament to encourage the Province to reintroduce the anti-SLAPP legislation; and

**THAT** the Association of Municipalities of Ontario be requested to support this resolution.

As per the above resolution, please accept this correspondence for your information and consideration.

If you have any questions please contact Ms. Karyn Bennett, Regional Clerk & Director of Council Services.

Sincerely,



Kathy Kiehl  
Deputy Clerk and Supervisor of  
Council & Committee Services

c. Karyn Bennett, Regional Clerk & Director of Council Services



# GRAND Actions

The Grand River watershed newsletter



July/August 2014 • Volume 19, Number 4

## What's Inside:

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### Cover photo

A GRCA staff member takes down an ash tree at Puslinch Tract last July. This was the first place where the emerald ash borer was found in the Grand River watershed.

Photo by Kevin Tupman



# Do ash trees have a future in the Grand?

By Janet Baine  
GRCA Communications Specialist

When it comes to the future of ash trees in the Grand River watershed, the news is grim.

There are only two options for ash trees and the GRCA is doing both of these — arranging to take infested ash trees down before they become a hazard to people and property and treating a few healthy ash trees with a bioinsecticide to keep them alive. Both options are costly.

“Unless we see a significant surprise on the part of nature, virtually all untreated ash trees over a couple of centimetres in diameter will be gone in 10 to 15 years. In some locations, such as at the head office in Cambridge, it will be even sooner — seven to 10 years,” says Ron Wu-Winter, the GRCA forester.

The ash are being attacked by the emerald ash borer (EAB) beetle, which has been dubbed a

beautiful killer. The EAB was first found in Ontario in 2002 and was first noticed in the Grand River watershed at Puslinch Tract, just east of Cambridge in 2010. These were the first ash trees that fell victim to the Eurasian insect. Other ash trees within the watershed were so weakened last winter that they came down during the ice storm and wind storms.



Cousin of the lilac and olive tree, the majestic ash trees were a popular replacement for the elm trees that had been devastated by Dutch elm disease, beginning in the 1960s.

The attack on the local ash trees is already well underway in many locations within the Grand River watershed — an area the size of Prince Edward Island. The GRCA owns a lot of land and as a result has lots of ash trees to contend with.





Forests with more than 30 percent ash face a serious threat to their overall structure and function once the ash are infested. Fortunately, there are not many of these kinds of forests within the Grand River, and they are not large. Most forests will survive the loss of these trees.

### The magic of neem

Another bit of good news is that healthy ash trees that are examined by a forester and found to be free of EAB can be treated with an bioinsecticide. The neem tree from India (the name is derived from the Sanskrit "Nimba" meaning "bestower of good health") has turned out to be a crucial weapon in Canada's battle against the ash borer.

In India, neem is regarded as a miracle plant. Everything from toothbrushes to painkillers is made from parts of this tree. The neem tree's seeds are the source of azadirachtin, a natural insecticide, which is used in TreeAzin – the product developed in Canada to combat EAB.

"TreeAzin kills EAB larvae and also reduces EAB fertility and egg viability when EAB females feed on the tree's foliage,

providing up to two years of protection. TreeAzin is effective at protecting trees without causing damage to passing wildlife or pets, nearby plants or gardens, pollinators including bees, or people. It is one of the few tools we have to protect healthy ash trees from EAB where they are injected – one by one," according to Trees Canada.

TreeAzin is a systemic insecticide that can be injected directly into the base of the ash tree at several locations. Ash trees need to be treated with injections every two years for at least eight to 10 years in order to keep them alive.

Treatment is only suitable for the trees that are still healthy, are structurally sound and showing little to no signs of decline due to the insect.

### 200 lucky ash trees

Among his many other responsibility, Wu-Winter is searching out 200 healthy ash trees at locations across the watershed to inject

them with TreeAzin. In the ash tree lottery, these are the winners.

The GRCA's goal for this program is to save the unique genetic material in local trees. Another goal is to keep ash trees for their aesthetic value and the unique services that they provide, such as providing shade on a beach. Keeping these trees alive will

allow future generations to see what an ash tree looks like.

The trees that are being selected by Wu-Winter are usually within parks or near recreational areas. Not all 200 trees have been selected yet, but the plan is to have them all selected and injected this

summer.

In addition, cottagers at Belwood and Conestogo lakes can have the ash trees on their property assessed. If they are found to be healthy, the cottager can cover the cost of the TreeAzin product, while the GRCA will cover the cost of the equipment and labour related to the injections.

"There is a feeling of urgency to doing this, because we need to start injecting these

**"There is a feeling of urgency to doing this, because we need to start injecting these trees before they start to decline."**

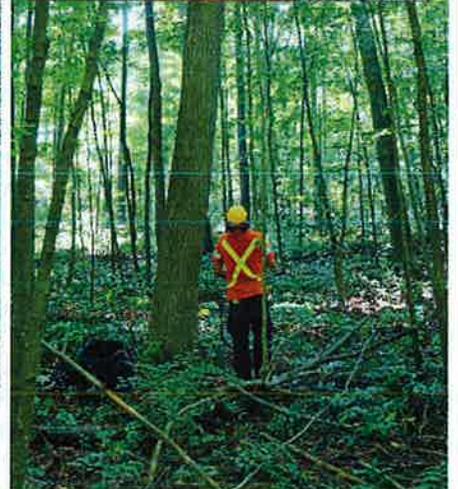
**-Ron Wu-Winter**



Photos by Kevin Tupman



A tree can be injected with a bioinsecticide around its trunk every two years. Ron Wu-Winter is selecting 200 ash trees on GRCA land to treat in this way.





## HERITAGE RIVER

# 20 years of recreation

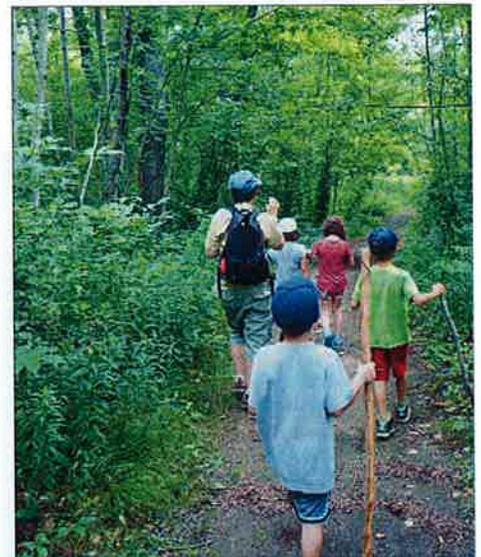
By Janet Baine  
GRCA Communications Specialist

There has been a stellar increase in visitors to the river's edge over the 20 years since the Grand River system became recognized as a Canadian Heritage River.

Without a doubt, the increase in visitors was already well underway in 1994. The tide had already shifted from the 1950s, when parents warned their children not to go near the local waterways because water carried disease and people tended to dump their garbage near the water.

The designation of the Grand River and its tributaries was based on the excellence of river-based recreational opportunities provided by the river systems. Those opportunities are being recognized and tapped into even more today than they were in 1994. Increased recreational use of the river is a visible reminder of its recreational value in communities up and down the watershed.

National recognition helped bring



Out for a hike at Apps' Mill Nature Centre.

trees before they start to decline. If we do it too late, then the success rate won't be as high," Wu-Winter says.

Any trees that are not injected will need to be taken down. While the GRCA staff have been bogged down by tree removal in the wake of the ice storm last December, they are just at the beginning phase of removing infested ash trees. The removal program will accelerate, taking more time and resources in coming years.

"Both options are expensive. We are treating 200 trees, so the bulk of the work is going to be hazard tree removal. The quantity of trees being treated is a token compared to the overall number of ash trees, but it is important for genetic preservation, and keeping the heritage of the ash tree."

The cost of treatment to the GRCA is \$15,000 each year just for the TreeAzin. This is a significant cost to keeping ash within the watershed, but the cost of removal can be high for large trees.

In some cases, especially in urban areas, it makes economic sense to treat a tree because the cost of removing a large tree close to a building is expensive. It can actually be cheaper to treat a tree for 10 years than to remove it.

If you have ash trees you want to protect or think your trees might already be infested with emerald ash borer, contact an arborist who has been certified by the International Society of Arboriculture to have them

treated with this extract.

### Buy local, burn local

EAB is the most recent in a series of species-specific attacks on trees that has resulted from invasive bugs inadvertently arriving in North America from afar.

Local trees have little or no resistance to these foreign invaders and the results can be devastating. This has been the case with Dutch elm disease, beech bark disease and pine shoot beetle. All of these diseases were brought into North America from other parts of the world and then spread as wood moved from place to place.

Now some American states have laws that prevent people from moving firewood more than 50 or 100 miles.

When you buy wood for camping, please get firewood locally — and burn it onsite. A campfire helps make trips to the great outdoors memorable, but firewood can also destroy the natural treasures that make camping and other outdoor activities enjoyable.

In fact, firewood infested with an insect or disease that is moved to a further location creates a "hot spot" — much like in a forest fire. Once started, it spreads the pest and its damage to the environment much farther.

While EAB is established in many parts of the Grand River watershed, signs of it haven't been found at other locations, so take care and buy and burn wood locally.



attention, funding and volunteers to improve the recreational features of the local waterways, but it has also brought a few new challenges.

Companies, like fishing and canoeing outfitters, have sprouted up throughout the watershed. In promoting their own businesses, they have also been promoting the Grand River locally, nationally and internationally. Many have been donating funds and staff time for river projects. Municipalities and tourism organizations have been promoting recreational activities in the Grand.

### Nature close to home

Nature close to home is part of the localization movement. Just as people want to eat local food, there is a noticeable increase in “staycations” and mini-holidays close to home. Rather than sitting on Highway 400 to head north for a weekend getaway, people realize they can also have an outdoor experience on the water or trails close to home. For those who are less experienced with outdoor recreation or families with young children, it is good to be closer to home.

An increasing awareness of the health benefits of getting outside regularly for both mind and body is another reason why river recreation has increased over the past 20

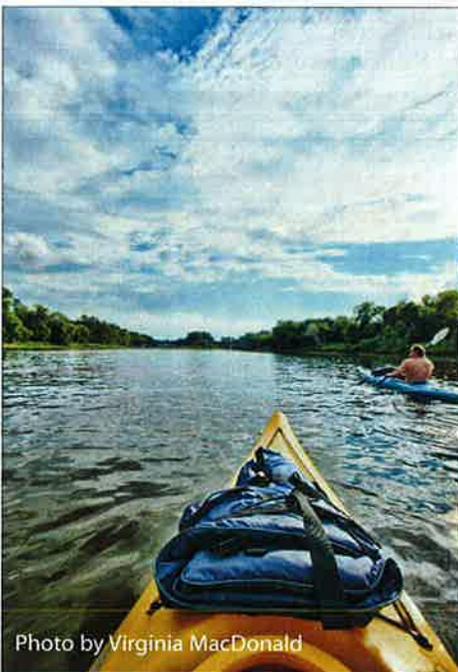


Photo by Virginia MacDonald

Kayaking on the Grand River in Brant County.



The beach at Shades' Mills Park is a great place to enjoy a summer day. If you would like to know about beaches that are open, check the Newsroom on [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca).

years. As the world gets busier and more connected, people need to go to a riverside trail or look out onto a reservoir to come back to the moment and find themselves again.

Fishing, canoeing, hiking, cycling and camping have long been favourite outdoor activities and all of these seems to be on the increase. Active transportation groups are engaging people while outdoor businesses and clubs are thriving. Kayaking is more popular and stand-up paddling (SUP) is a new and growing pursuit. Local river trips and hiking has eventually led many local resident to develop the skills and stamina for extended wilderness or hiking trips in Canada's north and abroad.

Volunteer groups like Friends of the Grand River have done an incredible amount of work to bring about these changes by improving river access points. Hiking organizations and municipalities ensure there are hundreds of kilometres of trails within the Grand River — so many, in fact, that there is no comprehensive hiking trail map for the watershed, although there are a few trail books.

At the same time, interest in “citizen science” activities, such as bird, butterfly and turtle monitoring, native plant cultivation and weather watching are also on the rise. For example, teams of volunteers watch the bald eagle nests in communities along the Grand River, because these majestic birds are back and raising their young by the river. Certainly these activities are really helpful to scientists and river managers to help determine the ecological health and improvements that can be made to the natural heritage system.

Municipalities such as the City of Guelph

and Brantford have Parks and Recreation master plans that incorporate river recreation in their communities, but there is no overall river recreation master plan for the watershed.

Conflicts can arise. Last July, the County of Brant sought a solution to increasing visitors to a park in Paris due to outfitters who brought buses with paddlers to paddle the Grand. The municipality implemented permit fees for outfitters to launch boats from county-owned river access points. Signs are now posted at river access points to say that any commercial use of the site requires a permit. This was a way to alleviate complaints from nearby residents.

In the late '90s, recreation groups applied for a grant to create a recreation master plan for the Grand River watershed but that bid was unsuccessful.

“There has been no one to take the lead on it, so there are still the same issues now as in 1994, except the recreational areas near the river are busier now,” explains Barbara Veale, who led the Heritage River designation.

“There are more trails and access points, so the issues around use of the river are still there, but I think that each recreational provider or municipality is dealing with it independently, rather than through a recreation master plan.”

### River recreation surveys

DSS Management Consultants Inc., on behalf of Environment Canada, is carrying out surveys to learn more about recreational activities along the Grand River. Recreational river users can participate in these surveys on boating, fishing and swimming at [www.grandriver.ca.newsroom.news.cfm](http://www.grandriver.ca.newsroom.news.cfm).

## LOOK WHO'S TAKING ACTION

### Craig Campbell an eco-hero

A member of the Kitchener-Waterloo Field Naturalists was among the recipients of the conservation awards given out by Ontario Nature last month.

Craig Campbell, a member of the Kitchener-Waterloo Field Naturalists, received the W.W.H. Gunn Conservation Award for demonstrating outstanding personal service and a strong commitment to conservation.

Campbell has devoted his working life to the study of Ontario's natural heritage, and has played a major role in documenting the occurrence of many endangered species. Most notably, he was instrumental in the Regional Municipality of Waterloo's adoption of environmental planning and the identification of Environmentally Sensitive Areas. In addition, Craig has contributed to countless citizen science initiatives including censuses, surveys and atlases.



Photo by Brett Woodman

Craig Campbell



Photo by Kevin Turman

Tires frozen in place last fall at Shade's Mills reservoir are not yet removed because of the wet spring kept water levels high. However, all tires will soon be removed.

## A tiresome sight at reservoirs

It is a puzzling sight for a summertime paddler or shore explorer to spot a few dozen tires just below the surface of the water in a GRCA reservoir.

During the 1980s, tires were placed in the large reservoirs as fish habitat. In fact, tires were put in large bodies of water around the globe to create an artificial reef that could become home to aquatic life. GRCA ecologist Robert Messier said the tires in the reservoirs worked — he helped put them in place and later went snorkeling, where he saw the fish using them. They transformed the featureless bottom of the reservoirs by creating crevices and places for fish to live and breed.

But times have changed and the tires are now being removed.

"In the 1980s there was no tire recycling industry, so we had to repurpose, to find an alternative use for old tires. This was one of them. Now, the tire recycling industry is strong, there are so many products that can come out of used tires," Messier explained. The tires were placed in Belwood Lake, Conestogo Lake at Shade's Mills and a small area of Guelph Lake.

"We learned that tires are not suited for reservoirs, where water levels change and the

tires are exposed to more severe climatic conditions. The hardware to hold them down deteriorated and they have started spreading out to become less and less effective," he said. Volunteers such as the Kitchener Bass Masters have been a huge help by removing the tires when conditions allow. This is done during the fall when water levels are low, but the tires have not yet frozen in place. Soon they will all be gone.

"We're looking for another natural solution to create habitat that would be compatible with overall use of the reservoirs, so recreational users don't have any problems with them and the material doesn't come loose and clog up the dam," Messier said.



Tires as seen from the water last summer.



Photo by Kevin Tupinan



Photo by Kellie Superina

Oven birds (left) and scarlet tanagers (right) are two species of birds that could be more frequent visitors to the area around Conestogo Lake thanks to tree planting on former farmland next to the park. About 70,000 trees will be planted over the next two years to increase habitat for many birds, plants and animals.

## New forests will grow on former farm fields

By **Dave Schultz**  
GRCA Communications Manager

**N**ew forests are rising on old farm fields in Mapleton Township in an effort to improve water quality in streams feeding Conestogo Lake reservoir.

About 70,000 trees are being planted this year and next on two parcels of land totalling 40 hectares (100 acres) on the north side of the reservoir.

The GRCA is planting a variety of species that are native to the area, including spruce, tamarack, white pine, bur oak, silver maple and cottonwood.

In addition to the new forests, the GRCA will also do some reshaping of the landscape to create some seasonal wetlands that will also help improve water quality and provide additional habitat.

As the trees grow in coming years, the areas will quickly become home to a variety of animals, such as deer and wild turkeys. Later, as the forests mature, it's expected that several bird species including scarlet tanagers, ovenbirds and great horned owls will take up residence.

A 12-hectare parcel near Wellington Road 10 and Concession Road Five has been planted this year. The second parcel of 28 hectares is near Concession Road 5 and Sideroad 15. About 18 hectares has been

planted this year and the rest will be planted in 2015. The land was acquired by the GRCA when it built the reservoir in the 1950s. It has been leased to farmers since then.

These two parcels of land were prone to erosion which sent a lot of sediment down the streams into the reservoir, explained Ron Wu-Winter, watershed forester with the GRCA. In addition, the sediment also carried nutrients – phosphorous and nitrates – which are found in manure and commercial fertilizers. The nutrients would spur algae and plant growth in the reservoir, resulting in lower water quality.

The northwestern part of the Grand River watershed contains some of the best farmland in Ontario. As a result, the forest cover is some of the lowest in the watershed. Forest cover is estimated at 15 per cent or less. A healthy watershed should have forest cover of about 30 per cent.

Trees help raise water quality in several ways. They soak up nutrients in the soil, so reduce the volume that runs off the surface into a watercourse. Trees along a stream shade it, keeping it cooler in summer which is good for some coldwater fish species.

The total cost of the project is about \$150,000. About \$50,000 was contributed by the Grand River Conservation Foundation. It is also supported by the Trees Ontario

Foundation which is contributing \$65,000.

### Tree Facts

- Across the entire watershed, the GRCA is planting about 400,000 trees this year, including 95,000 on its own land and 300,000 in partnership with private land owners.
- The GRCA operates a nursery near Burford, in Brant County, where it grows more than 150,000 trees a years from 60 different species.
- Since it was created in 1934, the GRCA has planted more than 27 million trees on both private land and its own land.
- The Grand River watershed was 85 per cent forest 200 years ago. However, tree cover dropped to just five per cent by 1900 as land was cleared for farming and urban areas. Today, the tree cover has rebounded to about 19 per cent. Environment Canada suggests a healthy watershed needs a tree cover of about 30 per cent.
- To learn more about the GRCA's tree planting program, go to the Tree Planting section of the GRCA website at [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca). The GRCA helps private landowners develop planting plans, plant the trees and find grants to offset costs.



The Belwood Lake Cottage Association, an organization representing around 300 cottage owners on Belwood Lake, donated two benches. The donation was made through the Grand River Conservation Foundation. From left are Craig Bolton, GRCA superintendent of property, Sam Lawson, GRCA manager of property, Jane Mitchell, chair of the GRCA, cottage association president Keith McKee and vice-president John Hamilton.

## Many updates in 2015 at Apps' Mill Nature Centre

Apps' Mill Nature Centre in Brant County will get a major upgrade next year thanks to donations made through the Grand River Conservation Foundation.

SC Johnson, a long-term partner of the GRCF and strong supporter of GRCA outdoor education programs, has taken a leadership role on the renovations with a \$100,000 donation. This will support upgrades to classroom and outdoor learning spaces as well as improved accessibility to the centre. SC Johnson is a Brantford company and a former recipient of an Honour Roll Award from the GRCA.

"Since 1917, SC Johnson has been a proud corporate citizen of Brantford and has remained committed to helping make life better for the environment, families and children" said Ana Dominguez, vice president and general manager, SC Johnson Canada. "We believe that by making this donation to the Grand River Conservation Foundation we will continue our long-standing support of environmental education

### FOUNDATION

for the children in our community."

The nature centre was constructed in 1980 thanks to a major donation from SC Johnson. The official opening was October, 1981.

About 5,000 students visit Apps' Mill each year from both public and separate schools. They attend many curriculum-based programs to learn about nature during the school year and camp programs take place when school is not in session.

To help increase the opportunities the centre is able to provide to visitors, the Walton Group of Companies has also made a contribution that will create an outdoor classroom as well as provide a new all-terrain wheelchair that will make the entire property accessible to those with limited mobility. Joel Doherty, senior planning and development manager believes that these new features will allow visitors the chance to

develop an even greater appreciation for the outdoor space around Apps' Mill. "There are so many incredible places to explore on this property, we wanted to be sure that as many visitors as possible have the chance to experience them," said Doherty.

Improvements that are being undertaken include an elevator, exterior landscaping such as the outdoor classroom, ramps, better storage, fully accessible washrooms and classroom upgrades.

"Over the years our donors have helped the GRCA to do a lot of smaller projects, such as trail work, constructing a bridge and restoring Rest Acres Creek," said Sara Wilbur, executive director of the GRCF. "But it is time for a big facelift for the nature centre due to wear and tear with all the visitors it receives. Thanks to the generosity of many donors, we are expecting the work to be carried out next year."

So far about \$250,000 has been raised of the \$300,000 that is needed.

If you would like to contribute to this or any other project supported by the GRCF, please contact Sara Wilbur at 519-621-2763, ext. 2272.

## New appointments to Foundation board

Two new directors were appointed to the Grand River Conservation Foundation in June — Wayne Fyffe of Paris and James den Ouden of Kitchener.



den Ouden



Fyffe

At the same annual general meeting, Brantford resident Joy O'Donnell was elected as chair while Doug Brock from Waterloo became the past chair.

The Foundation's 2013 Annual Report was approved and tells the stories of individuals and organizations that support the Foundation. It is posted on [www.grcf.ca](http://www.grcf.ca) and printed copies are also available.

Founded in 1965, the GRCF channels donations from individuals, foundations, groups and businesses to Grand River Conservation Authority projects. More than \$10 million has been raised so far.



## THE GRAND CALENDAR

### Movies under the stars at Shade's Mills Park, Cambridge every Friday Night

Every Friday at nightfall (weather permitting) there is a family movie at Shades Mills Park and these continue until Sept. 5. Check the Newsroom on the GRCA website to find out which movies are playing and the start times.

### Trees and Trout Workshop, Cambridge, Aug. 13

Paddock Farms, 4232 Wellington Road 35, Cambridge

This workshop will help property owners from across the watershed learn what they can do on their land to help improve fish habitat in nearby waterways by planting trees, shrubs and native plants. It takes place at 7 p.m. and is free. RSVP before Aug. 11 to at the GRCA 1-866-900-4722 ext. 2262 or [mhenderson@grandriver.ca](mailto:mhenderson@grandriver.ca).

### Youth Outdoors Day, Luther Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Sept. 13.

A fun-filled day of outdoor activities that is free to all youth ages 9 to 16 and is limited to the first 200 who register in advance. They may have the opportunity to build bird houses, band birds, try a bow and arrow or fly fishing, use a dip net or learn about camping. Registration is free and can be done online at [www.youthoutdoorsday.com](http://www.youthoutdoorsday.com).

### Grand River Spey Clave, Brant Park, Saturday, Oct. 4 & 5

The Spey Clave website has details,

including biographies of the instructors for this annual event that teaches techniques for spey fishing. Around 250 participants are expected at this event, which started in 2007 and was moved to Brant Park in 2013. If the river conditions are safe, there will be lots of opportunities for on-stream testing of spey equipment. Top instructors from around the world have attended and shown their skills in Traditional, Skagit and Scandinavian Spey techniques on the banks of the Grand River.

[www.grandriverspey.ca](http://www.grandriverspey.ca)

### Run for the Toad, Pinehurst Lake Park, Saturday Oct. 4

Runners and walkers representing many provinces and states participate in this event, which is Canada's biggest trail event. The 25 and 50 km trail races sell out before the event starts. Refer to the website [www.runforthetoad.com](http://www.runforthetoad.com) for more information.

### Bats are Fun, Shade's Mills Park, Aug. 16

Let's debunk the myths and mysteries surrounding bats, starting at 7:30 p.m.

During this program, kids and parents will play bat and moth (a sensory skill game), build a bat kite and, as darkness descends, embark upon a bat detection hike. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Meet at the boat launch parking lot.

Note: GRCA events are listed in the calendar section at [www.grandriver.ca](http://www.grandriver.ca).

Summer is a great time to get a close look at some of the creatures that live in the watershed, such as Ontario's only insect-eating snake, the grass snake or they blanding's turtle with its yellow underside. Please look out for baby snappers at the end of the summer.

## About Grand Actions:

*This newsletter is produced bi-monthly by the Grand River Conservation Authority.*

### More information:

Current and back issues as well as complete subscription information is available online at [www.grandriver.ca/GrandActions](http://www.grandriver.ca/GrandActions).

### Submission deadlines:

The 15th of February, April, June, August, October and December. Submissions may be edited for length or style. Photos and event information is also welcome. We do our best to publish items, but we are not able to guarantee publication.

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*Wellington County Municipal Economic Development Group*

I.G.# 5

Minutes  
WWCFDC Boardroom,  
July 8, 2014  
9:30 a.m.

**Present:**

John Brennan (Town of Erin), George Bridge (Mayor, Town of Minto), Crystal Ellis (Mapleton Township), Alex Goss (LIP), Kathryn Ironmonger (CAO, Town of Erin), Karen Landry (Township of Puslinch), Carolyn O'Donnell (County of Wellington), Jana Reichert (County of Wellington), Patricia Rutter (Township of Centre Wellington), Jane Shaw (WWCFDC), Carol Simpson (WFPB), Dale Small (Township of Wellington North), Stephen Morris (OMAF), Belinda Wick-Graham (Town of Minto), Chris White (Warden, County of Wellington), Kim Wingrove (CAO, Township of Guelph/Eramosa)

**Regrets:**

Rose Austin (Saugeen Economic Development), Mary Belfour (MEDTE/MRI), Brad Dixon (GRCA), Andy Lennox (WFA), April Marshall (Township of Wellington North), Kirk McElwain (Township of Centre Wellington), Don McKay (Councillor, County of Wellington), Andrea Ravensdale (County of Wellington), Doug Reddick (MEDTE/MRI), Scott Williams (GWBECC), Scott Wilson (County of Wellington)

**1. Approval of Agenda**

Motion to approve agenda as written.

**Moved by Dale Small, seconded by Jana Reichert.**

**Carried**

**2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest**

None declared.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held May 6, 2014 as written.

**Moved by Belinda Wick-Graham, seconded by John Brennan.**

**Carried**

#### **4. Presentation – Workforce Planning Board**

Large municipalities are posting jobs internally which then relates to job sites having difficulty attracting higher job rated opportunities to promote to the community. It has been recognized that posting jobs is not frequently completed by a company and therefore the job is not being filled by talented, skilled individuals. The Economic Development Strategy, Workforce Strategy and BR+E all show Wellington's municipalities could see value in working on workforce attraction and job matching projects. An analysis on the priorities provided from the WFPB and County reports will be the focus of the next meeting.

#### **5. Roundtable/Other Business**

##### **Centre Wellington:**

- An antenna is being installed on the Fergus water tower for wireless services.
- Art in the Yard will be held the weekend of July 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Doors Open was a success again this year with approximately 2000 people attending.
- Working on the action plan and application for the BR&E to submit by the end of August.

##### **County of Wellington:**

- Credit review will be held on July 9<sup>th</sup>. The full report will be shared with the Group at the next meeting.
- "Invest" in Wellington video will be filmed on July 10<sup>th</sup>.
- "Live" in Wellington video will be filmed in August.
- BR&E applications are being submitted. Make sure to submit your application to be included in the "good news stories." The funds of \$25,000 are available to each Municipality from the County, but are not rolled over to the next year. Issues discussed during the BR&E process are being addressed and the connections with communications are being made.
- Manufacturing Day is scheduled for October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The event will be funded by Economic Development offices and the Workforce Planning Board, with WFPB leading the event. Submit your preliminary list of manufacturers to Carolyn.

##### **Erin:**

- Council recently approved an Economic Development Officer.
- Applications will be submitted for funding shortly.
- August 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> is the Erin Optimist Club Annual Rhythm 'n Ribs Fest.

##### **Guelph/Eramosa:**

- Commercial and residential investments are recently coming to the Township office.
- A new agriculture event, Mushroom Fest, may occur in September, more information will follow once details and plans have been confirmed.
- The Group extended their congratulations to Kim on receiving the permanent position of CAO for Guelph-Eramosa Township.

**LIP:**

- Priorities have been set and the process outlined for immigration issues in Wellington County.
- The Employer Tool Kit was shown to the Group. Those interested in one are to contact Alex.

**Mapleton:**

- Currently prioritizing BR&E specific needs. A presentation will be held at the end of July.
- New staff has been approved: Director of Public Works, Building Official.
- Signage report will be presented to council at July's meeting.
- Mapleton Rodeo held July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend was a success.

**Minto:**

- LaunchIt Minto incubator space is being promoted and information about the program can be viewed on the Town of Minto website.
- An invitation from Conestoga College, Guelph campus, was received by LaunchIt.
- BR&E projects and applications are being reviewed and submitted.

**OMAFRA:**

- Since election is now known as Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs.
- Local fund closed on June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- RED fund remains open and is accepting applications.
- The Rural Institute is working on branding youth attractiveness.

**Puslinch:**

- The YMCA camp has started and runs for 3 weeks.
- On July 24<sup>th</sup> the second public meeting regarding Development Charges By-law will be held.

**Wellington North:**

- Fireworks Festival will be held July 18-20<sup>th</sup> weekend in Mount Forest.
- BR&E applications have been submitted for 3 projects.

**Workforce Planning Board:**

- Currently working on: Employer 1 Survey, workforce planning structure in Dufferin.
- Action planning session will be held in September.
- Labour Plan will be held in October.

Next meeting will be held **August 5, 2014** in the WWCFDC Boardroom at 9:30am.

Meeting adjourned at

---

George Bridge, Chair

---

Jane Shaw, Recording Secretary



## Grand River Conservation Authority General Membership Meeting

Friday, June 27, 2014

The following are the minutes of the General Membership Meeting held at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, June 27, 2014 at the Administration Center, Cambridge, Ontario.

**Members Present:**

J. Mitchell, Chair, L. Armstrong, B. Banbury, B. Bell, L. Boyko\*, J. Brennan, B. Coleman, T. Cowan\*, J. d'Ailly, R. Deutschmann, J. Haalboom, R. Kelterborn, M. Laidlaw\*, B. Lee, G. Lorentz, T. Nevills, V. Prendergast, P. Salter, S. Schmitt, W. Stauch\*, G. Wicke

**Members Regrets:**

R. Hillier, J. Jamieson, C. Millar, F. Morison, J. Ross-Zuj

**Staff:**

J. Farwell, K. Murch, D. Bennett, D. Boyd, N. Davy, K. Armstrong, J. Griffin, S. Lawson, S. Radoja, C. Allen, B. Brown, S. Cooke, H. Kovacs, C. Linwood, G. MacMillan, B. Parrott, L. Reinhardt, S. Wilbur

**Also Present:**

M. Hopkins, J. Battler, C. Kego, B. Waller, H. Handy

**1. Call to Order:**

J. Mitchell, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**2. Roll Call and Certification of Quorum – 13 members constitute a quorum (1/2 of members appointed by participating municipalities)**

The Secretary-Treasurer called the roll and certified a quorum with 17 members present. A total of 21 members attended the meeting.

**3. Chair's Remarks:**

J. Mitchell welcomed members, staff and guests and made the following comments:

- On May 25, 2014 J. Mitchell brought greetings to the participants in a canoe trip on the Grand River from Cambridge to Paris that was sponsored by the Grand River Conservation Foundation (GRCF).
- On June 5, 2014 J. Mitchell and J. Farwell attended a Lake Erie Region Source Protection Committee meeting. Agenda topics included an update on the status of various Source Protection Plans and a Lake Erie Water Quality update for Long Point Region Conservation Authority, Region of Waterloo and the City of Guelph.
- The GRCF held its annual General Meeting on June 18, 2014 at which time the 2014 Allan Holmes Scholarship, 2014 SC Johnson Environmental Scholarship and 2014 McEwen Clean Water Prize were announced.
- On June 23, 2014 J. Mitchell and J. Farwell attended a Conservation Ontario meeting. Agenda items included Conservation Ontario's draft comments on the proposed 8<sup>th</sup> Canada-Ontario Agreement on Great Lakes Water Quality and Ecosystem Health and draft comments on the Provincial Fish Strategy for Ontario.
- J. Mitchell congratulated J. Ross-Zuj who was recently re-elected to the Board of Directors for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and re-elected to the position of its Ontario Caucus Chair.
- A copy of the Spring 2014 edition of The Grand was included in the members agenda packages. Major articles related to the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Heritage River designation, the 1974 flood and the Grand River Watershed Water Management Plan.
- J. Mitchell congratulated C. Millar who was inducted into the Cambridge Hall of Fame earlier this month. The Hall of Fame was created for the purpose of honoring people and organizations who through their work and dedication have made the community a better place in which to live.
- J. Mitchell advised the members that L. Reinhardt is retiring from GRCA after almost 30 years. He started his career at GRCA in 1984 as the Administrative Assistant. In 1990 he was appointed Manager of Finance and held that position until 1999. In 1999 he was appointed Chief Accountant.

\*L. Boyko, T. Cowan and M. Laidlaw joined the meeting at 9:35

#### 4. **Review of Agenda:**

J. Mitchell indicated that Report GM-06-14-65 – Off-Leash Dog Issues – Snyder's Flats would be presented following Item 8 – Hearing of Delegations.

Moved by: J. Haalboom

Seconded by: B. Coleman

(Carried)

THAT the agenda for the General Membership Meeting of June 27, 2014 be approved as amended.

**5. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest:**

J. Haalboom declared a pecuniary interest with respect to Permit Application #174/14 – Ariana Haalboom and Brian McInnes as the applicants are members of her family.

**6. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:**

General Membership/Strategic Planning Meeting – May 23, 2014

There were no questions or comments with respect to the minutes of the General Membership/Strategic Planning Meeting of May 23, 2014.

Moved by: L. Armstrong

Seconded by: J. Brennan

(Carried)

THAT the Minutes of the General Membership/Strategic Planning Meeting of May 23, 2014 be approved as circulated.

**7. Business Arising from Previous Minutes:**

None

**8. Hearing of Delegations:**

M. Hopkins introduced himself to the members and said the following:

- He has been walking his dog off-leash at Snyder's Flats on a daily basis for five years.
- "Sanctuary" is a perfect term to describe Snyder's Flats.
- Bechtel Park is only five acres in size, has no water, no shade, no flat walking area and is a small/confined space.
- Kiwanis Park is approximately five acres in size, has no water, it is a one kilometer walk from the parking lot and the park is closed from December to March.
- He considers McLennan Park to be a "dog run".

\*W. Stauch joined the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

- Because he is a realtor he reviewed comparable areas.
- Snyder's Flats is 240 acres in size, has flat paths for walking, has shaded areas, has natural borders so there is no need for fencing, is separated from residential areas, has benches and water.
- Calgary has 150 off-leash parks totaling 3, 400 acres.
- London has five off-leash parks, two of which have water.
- Toronto has two off-leash parks with access to Lake Ontario.
- His MPP has said that the government can alter Regulation 106 to give the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) more power to develop its own policies to bring it in line with Section 29 of the Conservation Authorities Act.

- People have been using Snyder's Flats as an off-leash park for seven to ten years.
- He wants a "site specific change" for Snyder's Flats and he wants to work with GRCA and the province to change the legislation.
- He denied the stigma regarding dogs affecting wildlife because he has not seen it.
- He has spoken with a number of people who have walked their dogs off-leash at Snyder's Flats.

T. Cowan asked if the delegate had visited other off-leash areas outside the Region of Waterloo. The delegate answered that he has been to Calgary. T. Cowan asked the delegate whether he has witnessed any issues with other dogs. The delegate said he has witnessed one issue. T. Cowan asked if people clean up after their dogs. The delegate answered in the affirmative.

J. Battler introduced herself to the members and said the following:

- She is a Waterloo Region resident and her dog is eight years old.
- She has been walking her dog at Snyder's Flats since the dog was a puppy.
- She and her dog have gone to other off-leash areas and her dog has been attacked at every one of them.
- Her dog has never been attacked at Snyder's Flats.
- She has not taken her dog to Snyder's Flats since enforcement has been increased.
- Her dog is a hound dog and it does not chase wildlife.
- She has 300 signatures on a petition and 750 "likes" on Facebook in favour of off-leash dogs at Snyder's Flats.
- She asked the members to reconsider enforcement of the leash laws.

R. Deutschmann asked where the delegate lived. She responded that she lives in Kitchener. R. Deutschmann asked whether the delegate had approached the City about off-leash dog parks. She said that she had but did not get a response. She said her experiences at off-leash parks had not been positive and her dog was attacked at Bechtel Park. R. Deutschmann asked the delegate if she was suggesting this could not happen at Snyder's Flats.

L. Boyko referred to dogs not chasing wildlife and asked if the dogs were using the ponds. The delegate said that dogs were using the pond and they are referred to as "doggy beaches". L. Boyko asked if the delegate received a copy of the staff report. The delegate indicated that she obtained a copy today.

J. Mitchell referred to the number of communications received and said that not all were from people in favour of off-leash dog walking. R. Deutschmann asked why the members did not receive copies of the communications. K. Murch said that any communication that was asked to be directed to the members was so directed. R. Deutschmann said that staff should not limit the members' access to communications

because they should know what the public has to say and they would be better informed members. He said GRCA has to reconsider its policy on the issue of limiting the members' access to communications because all he knew was that there were two people who showed up saying they want the area to be off-leash.

a) GM-06-14-65 Off-Leash Dog Issues – Snyder's Flats

D. Bennett conducted a PowerPoint presentation and said the following:

- The Snyder's Flats property is located west of Bloomingdale in Woolwich Township.
- The property was purchased by GRCA in 1969.
- GRCA entered into an agreement with Preston Sand and Gravel to extract gravel in 1979.
- A partnership to rehabilitate the area for wildlife habitat was formed in 1987.
- There is both warm water and cool water habitat ponds on the property.
- The property is comprised of 238 acres of passive recreation area.
- The rehabilitation included the creation of 42 acres of pond and floodplain habitat.
- More than 42,000 trees and shrubs have been planted on the property.
- The area now displays a wide diversity of fish and wildlife species.
- In 2008 the Kitchener Conestoga Rotary Club donated a portion of the proceeds from its Dream Home Lottery (approximately \$182,000) to create the Snyder's Flats Rotary Forest.
- Another \$25,000 was donated by the Good Foundation.
- A large number of community groups have contributed time and effort to establish the diverse wildlife habitat in the area.
- A controlled burn was undertaken to create a floodplain meadow; grasslands and wildflowers were planted; bird boxes were installed; trails were created and interpretive signage, benches and kiosks were installed.
- Community partners include the Kitchener Conestoga Rotary Club, Trees Ontario, Waterloo Catholic District School Board, Waterloo Region District School Board, Royal Bank of Canada, Township of Woolwich Environmental Enhancement Committee, Region of Waterloo – Environmental Champions Program, C.R.E.W. Geocaching Group and the First Mennonite Church.
- GRCA recently received a complaint from members of the public indicating that off-leash dogs at Snyder's Flats had frightened their young children.
- In response to this complaint it was decided to increase the level of enforcement at Snyder's Flats.
- Prior to starting this enforcement a press release was issued to notify the public that increased enforcement would be taking place.

- The press release and subsequent enforcement activities have generated a large number of communications from the public both in support of and in opposition to the increased enforcement.
- Since the date of the complaint GRCA staff have visited the site on nine occasions and seven charges have been laid for off-leash dogs, three trespass bans were issued and 21 people received warnings for swimming in the ponds.
- Off-leash dogs have the potential to impact wildlife habitat by removal of fisheries habitat through destruction of shoreline vegetation; disturbance of ground nesting birds (i.e. bobolink and eastern meadowlark) and injury to small mammals.
- Off-leash dogs have potential impact on the public because of the potential for uncontrolled dogs to injure a person or another animal; many people have a fear of large animals, especially small children; reduction in the desirability of the area for non-dog walking public.
- There are four municipally operated off-leash dog parks in Waterloo Region and six in Guelph.

T. Cowan said he had a problem with staff concerns regarding wildlife when the property was a gravel pit in 1979. He asked how the members could make a decision without reviewing all of the communications and why Woolwich Township was not informed of the enforcement. He said the Township should have been consulted. D. Bennett said that staff would not normally contact a municipality concerning enforcement. He also said that through the press release and media coverage people should have been aware of the GRCA's intention to enforce the regulation. T. Cowan said that the press release was insufficient and therefore unacceptable.

M. Laidlaw agreed that the members should see all communications regarding this matter and asked that they be sent to the members electronically. K. Murch agreed that this would be done. M. Laidlaw said that she wanted to know whether the communications were heavily in favour of off-leash dogs. She said that GRCA could consider fencing a "good sized" portion of the property with access to water for off-leash dogs and install signage.

R. Deutschmann said that this issue is governed by the Conservation Authorities Act and the members do not have any discretion regarding it. D. Bennett said that while walking off-leash dogs is a prohibited act GRCA could allow it under a permit. R. Deutschmann said Woolwich Township has a by-law with respect to this issue and asked if the Township was changing its by-law. R. Deutschmann asked if the members can supersede the Township by-law. D. Bennett said that he did not know the answer. R. Deutschmann asked if Woolwich Township has an off-leash park. D. Bennett responded in the negative. R. Deutschmann asked whether GRCA has had any claims against it concerning off-leash dogs. K. Murch responded that he did not recall any such claims at Snyder's Flats but there had been incidents at other GRCA properties. R. Deutschmann expressed concern about GRCA's liability should someone be hurt because dogs are off-leash.

J. Haalboom said the legislation gives GRCA the authority to enforce the regulation. She referred to meadow larks and bobolink and said that it was refreshing to see habitat

that supports threatened species. She said that the Grand River is a source of drinking water and GRCA worked hard to convince farmers to keep livestock out of water. She asked whether the ponds feed into the Grand River or are self-contained. D. Bennett said the ponds are designed to flood in spring and are used as fish nurseries. He said the north pond is not connected to the river but the others are.

J. d'Ailly said there are two issues and he understood the impact on wildlife. He wanted information as to whether there could be a compromise where dogs could be able to run. He said the second issue is how to separate a dog free area from a non-dog free area.

J. Brennan said there has been a long history of people using this area without incident. He said a compromise should be explored and stopping off-leash dogs arbitrarily does not make sense to him. He wanted staff to consider use of the area by everyone.

G. Lorentz asked if the members would be dealing with this issue today. J. Mitchell said she would be recommending that another staff report be presented. G. Lorentz said that he had taken his dog to other parks and the municipalities have shirked their responsibilities. He said off-leash dog parks are not GRCA's mandate and GRCA is responsible for wildlife. He then said if off-leash dogs are permitted at Snyder's Flats GRCA would have to open the entire watershed to this activity. He expressed concern for wildlife.

V. Prendergast said the members' comments made sense especially concerning consultation. He said municipalities have to provide off-leash parks and the members should direct staff to go back and consult with municipalities because the issue would be broader than Snyder's Flats. He agreed that off-leash parks are outside of the GRCA's mandate.

\*J. d'Ailly left the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

W. Stauch said he owns a dog and walks it off-leash whenever he can.

J. Mitchell said there are bigger problems on GRCA properties than whether dogs are on a leash. She said Snyder's Flats is a passive area and two staff from Laurel Creek who already have full-time jobs have to go there for enforcement. She said there are various problems such as partying and garbage. She asked if GRCA should turn this activity into a revenue generating opportunity for passive areas. She then said staff resources are being taken from the people who pay to use Laurel Creek. She said she is neutral about off-leash dogs and asked for a staff report. She also agreed that the members should have all communications regarding this issue because it is very contentious.

\* B. Coleman left the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

G. Wicke said he did not see the elevation of the property and noted that the ponds are flooded in spring. He said fences and ice are not compatible and staff should look at whether there is any suitable area to conduct this activity.

B. Lee expressed concern that the members would permit this activity at other properties such as Starkey Hills. He said off-leash parks are a municipal responsibility and the municipalities should deal with the problems that result from them.

L. Armstrong asked how long Snyder's Flats has been leash-free and whether any studies had been done on the effect on wildlife. D. Bennett said he did not know how

long this activity had been going on and the impact on wildlife would be difficult to describe because staff have not done any surveys. L. Armstrong said that he did not think off-leash dogs would have a serious impact on wildlife and staff should do a survey.

M. Laidlaw said that the area has been off-leash for eight or nine years and the wild animals may be used to the dogs. She said dogs do not defecate or urinate in water and do not disturb birds or animals dependent upon the dog. She said the GRCA cannot shift its problems to municipalities. She admitted that she lets her dog off -leash to swim in the Speed River and she does not think the issue will go watershed wide. She said the members can make rules for this particular park and the enforcement is based on a single complaint.

T. Cowan said Woolwich Township hopes to open a dog park this summer and Waterloo Region parks have not been designed well. He said Snyder's Flats is the perfect place for a dog park and GRCA should seek donations from the public. He said letting the Township know about increased enforcement by press release was inadequate. He said GRCA's mandate was not tubing either. He said the area should be revenue generating to be kept clean and staff should review all conservation areas.

T. Nevills said staff should not overplay habitat impacts when dealing with issues. He referred to Luther Marsh and hunting and asked if dogs are off-leash when hunting. He referred to dog trials at Luther Marsh and said the dogs are not leashed. He said Luther Marsh is also being restored for bobolink. He recalled touring Conestogo Lake and being shown grassland habitat but 30 years ago GRCA planted tree breaks to hide the hunters so they could shoot pheasant and deer. He wanted to see a compromise that would serve all of the public.

L. Armstrong referred to parties and asked if the police were called. D. Bennett said that police officers would not enter the property if 30 or 40 people were partying and neither would GRCA staff.

P. Salter asked the members not to make any hasty decisions.

G. Lorentz said that until now Snyder's Flats has been a best kept secret and while it is a paradise for dogs it is also a paradise for children. He said if off-leash dogs are allowed there will be so many animals there will be no habitat.

**Resolution 70-14**

Moved by: V. Prendergast

Seconded by: G. Wicke

(Carried)

THAT Report GM-06-14-65 be received as information.

**9. Presentations:**

None

**10. Correspondence:**

## a) Copies for Members

- i) Correspondence from K. Jean Hughes, Secretary-Treasurer, Grand Valley & District Fire Board to Joe Farwell, P.Eng., CAO, Grand River Conservation Authority dated May 26, 2014 Re: Luther Marsh
- ii) Correspondence from Joe Farwell, P.Eng., Chief Administrative Officer, Grand River Conservation Authority to K. Jean Hughes, Secretary-Treasurer, Grand Valley & District Fire Board dated May 29, 2014 Re: Luther Marsh Wildlife Management Area (Luther Marsh) – Emergency Response Plan
- iii) Email Communication from Penelope Polyzou to Jane Mitchell, Chair, Grand River Conservation Authority dated June 13, 2014 Re: Free-roaming Dogs Not Welcome – June 5

## b) Not copied

None

Moved by: J. Brennan  
 Seconded by: B. Banbury  
 (Carried)

THAT correspondence from K. Jean Hughes, Secretary-Treasurer, Grand Valley & District Fire Board to Joe Farwell, P.Eng., CAO, Grand River Conservation Authority dated May 26, 2014 Re: Luther Marsh; correspondence from Joe Farwell, P.Eng., Chief Administrative Officer, Grand River Conservation Authority to K. Jean Hughes, Secretary-Treasurer, Grand Valley & District Fire Board dated May 29, 2014 Re: Luther Marsh Wildlife Management Area (Luther Marsh) – Emergency Response Plan and the email Communication from Penelope Polyzou to Jane Mitchell, Chair, Grand River Conservation Authority dated June 13, 2014 Re: Free-roaming Dogs Not Welcome – June 5 be received as information.

**11. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of By-Laws:**

None

**12. Presentation of Reports:**a) **GM-06-14-57** Financial Summary for the Period Ending May 31, 2014

There were no questions or comments with respect to this report.

**Resolution 71-14**

Moved by: M. Laidlaw  
 Seconded by: T. Cowan  
 (Carried)

THAT the Financial Summary for the Period Ending May 31, 2014 be approved.

b) **GM-06-14-58** Designation of Provincial Offences Officers

There were no questions or comments with respect to this report.

**Resolution 72-14**

Moved by: L. Boyko

Seconded by: P. Salter

(Carried)

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority designate Andrew Jamieson, Michael Armstrong, Noel Johnson, Jan Willem Laros and Wesley Organ as Provincial Offences Act officers.

c) **GM-06-14-59** Endorsement of the Grand River Watershed Water Management Plan

S. Cooke conducted a PowerPoint presentation entitled "A Plan for the Grand – An Integrated Collaborative Approach for Managing a Shared Water Resource" and indicated the following:

- The Grand River watershed (the watershed) flows from Dundalk to Lake Erie and has four major tributaries including the Speed River, Eramosa River, Nith River and Conestogo River.
- There are 30 wastewater treatment plants in the watershed and most land is actively farmed.
- Critical issues relating to the watershed include population growth, extensive agriculture and climate change.
- The Grand River Watershed Management Plan (the WMP) is a voluntary, joint plan among municipalities, First Nations, GRCA, Ontario ministries and Federal agencies.
- There is enough water now and for the future but there is a need to be diligent in planning for future water needs.
- Water use is sustainable but efficient water use by all sectors is encouraged.
- Reservoir operating strategies provide sufficient flows for environmental, municipal and wastewater needs.
- Although not limited by supply there are areas of constraint or conflict – proactive drought contingency planning will ease the constraint.
- Both point and non-point sources of pollution are important and must be managed.
- A commitment to wastewater treatment upgrades and optimization will improve water quality.
- Non-point sources of pollution will continue to be a challenge – rural water quality and urban stormwater programs will make a difference.
- Future opportunities to improve water quality may be found by removing old dams or modifying their operation.

- Much has been done for effective and efficient flood management – dams and dikes have reduced flood damages by 80%.
- Asset management is imperative – ongoing investments are needed to ensure the sustainability of flood infrastructure.
- The WMP manages water on a watershed basis with a focus on people.
- The WMP has acted as a mechanism to strengthen partnerships.
- Best value solutions promote a healthy economy.
- GRCA staff are asking the members to endorse the updated WMP as a Plan of Best Practices and to continue to support and facilitate the Implementation Committee and the Water Managers Working Group to report on the progress of the implementation of actions outlined in the WMP.

P. Salter and L. Boyko commended S. Cooke with respect to her presentation of the Water Management Plan at the municipal councils that they represent.

G. Wicke noted that only seven dams were shown on the watershed map. He said GRCA has more dams than that. He also said that he was surprised Woolwich Dam and Laurel Creek were shown. S. Cooke said the seven dams shown are identified as water management structures.

**Resolution 73-14**

Moved by: T. Cowan

Seconded by: J. Haalboom

(Carried)

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority members endorse the updated Grand River Watershed Water Management Plan as a Plan of Best Practices;

AND THAT Grand River Conservation Authority agrees to continue to support and facilitate the Implementation Committee and the Water Managers Working Group to report on the progress of implementation of actions outlined in the Plan.

d) **GM-06-14-60** Grand River Conservation Foundation Member Appointments

There were no questions or comments with respect to this report.

**Resolution 74-14**

Moved by: L. Boyko

Seconded by: W. Stauch

(Carried)

THAT the following new member be appointed to the Grand River Conservation Foundation for a term of three years (renewable for two further three year terms):

- Wayne Fyfe

AND THAT the following new member be appointed to the Grand River Conservation Foundation for a term of two years (renewable for two further three year terms):

- James den Ouden

AND THAT the following members be re-appointed to the Grand River Conservation Foundation for a term of three years (renewable for one further three year term):

- Bob Desautels
- Wayne Knox

AND THAT the following members be re-appointed to the Grand River Conservation Foundation for a term of three years:

- David Hales
- Ian MacNaughton

e) **GM-06-14-61** Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation

M. Laidlaw referred to Permit Application #202/14 – Tony and Lynn Stajcer. She said she thought that there was supposed to be a buffer around a wetland and this project is only one metre away. F. Natolochny said that the driveway is one metre from the wetland and the house is 30 metres from the wetland.

Mr. Laidlaw referred to Permit Applications #214/14 – Rasheed Khalid and #215/14 – William Foote. She asked what the normal processing fee would be. F. Natolochny said that the fee would have been \$380.00 but because the projects were started without permits the applicants were charged \$540.00.

J. Mitchell reminded the members that they would vote with respect to this report to the exclusion of Permit Application #174/14 – Ariana Haalboom and Brian McInnes.

**Resolution 75-14**

Moved by: R. Kelterborn

Seconded by: M. Laidlaw

(Carried)

THAT Report GM-06-14-61 Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation with the exclusion of Permit Application #174/14 – Ariana Haalboom and Brian McInnis be received as information.

J. Mitchell called for the vote relating to Permit Application #174/74 – Ariana Haalboom and Brian McInnes. J. Haalboom refrained from voting

**Resolution 76-14**

Moved by: V. Prendergast

Seconded by: J. Brennan

(Carried)

THAT Report GM-06-14-61 Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation as it relates to Permit Application #174/14 – Ariana Haalboom and Brian McInnis be received as information.

f) **GM-08-14-62** Environmental Assessments

There were no questions or comments with respect to this report.

**Resolution 77-14**

Moved by: L. Armstrong

Seconded by: T. Cowan

(Carried)

THAT Report GM-06-14-62 – Environmental Assessments be received as information.

g) **GM-06-14-63** Cash and Investments Status Report as of May 31, 2014

There were no questions or comments with respect to this report.

**Resolution 78-14**

Moved by: L. Boyko

Seconded by: G. Wicke

(Carried)

THAT Report GM-06-14-63 – Cash and Investments Status Report as of May 31, 2014 be received as information.

h) **GM-06-14-64** Hasan Violation – Part Lot 10, Concession 3, Township of Puslinch

F. Natolochny conducted a PowerPoint presentation indicating that:

- On December 31, 2008 GRCA staff advised Mr. and Mrs. Hasan that the subject property was regulated in response to a purchase inquiry.
- On January 29, 2010 an inquiry of staff was received from Mr. Hasan regarding a proposed building at approximately the same location as the shed that existed on the property.
- In response to this inquiry Mr. Hasan was advised in writing of the regulation, permit requirements and policies.
- On December 9, 2013 GRCA staff were advised that a building had been constructed on the site.
- On December 17, 2013 staff attended on site with Mr. Hason and confirmed that a building had been constructed without the required permit.
- On January 10, 2014 staff issued a violation notice to Mr. and Mrs. Hasan.
- The new structure is within the area regulated by GRCA.
- The building is approximately three to five metres from an on-line pond and five to ten metres from the edge of a wetland.

- The size of the building is 1166 square feet.
- Rural residential accessory structures may be approved up to 1076 square feet.
- Staff have met with Mr. Hasan and his representative and recommended removal or reduction in the size of the structure to conform with the policy to resolve the situation.
- It is the intention of staff to proceed in this matter following the regulations.

W. Stauch said he had a problem with the reference to the structure as a shed because it is a garage that will house restored vehicles.

J. Brennan said charging one and one-half times the fee would make these actions seem inadvertent. He said Mr. Hasan was told twice that he needed a permit and he undertook a flagrant violation. He asked that a strong stance be taken.

J. Mitchell asked what would happen if a charge was laid. F. Natolochny said that staff would swear an information before a Justice of the Peace, Mr. and Mrs. Hasan would be served and the matter would proceed to a Court hearing. He said the Court could issue a remediation order and impose a fine.

G. Wicke noted that Mr. and Mrs. Hason had constructed the building without a GRCA permit. He asked whether they had a permit from the municipality. F. Natalochny answered that it was his understanding that they did not have a municipal permit.

**Resolution 79-14**

Moved by: L. Armstrong

Seconded by: T. Cowan

(Carried)

THAT Report GM-06-14-64 – Hasan Violation – Part Lot 10, Concession 3, Township of Puslinch be received as information.

i) **GM-06-14-66** Apps' Mill Nature Centre Renovations

There were no questions or comments with respect to this report.

**Resolution 80-14**

Moved by: V. Prendergast

Seconded by: S. Schmitt

(Carried)

THAT Report GM-06-14-66 – Apps' Mill Nature Centre Renovations be received as information.

j) **GM-06-14-67** Current Watershed Conditions as of June 24, 2014

D. Boyd indicated the following:

- Until June 24, 2014 precipitation has been below the long term average throughout the watershed.

- Rainfall near the end of the reporting period had greater watershed coverage but was not included in the report because it was not available for analysis when the report was prepared.
- The average air temperature has been approximately one degree above the long term average at the Shand Dam climate station.
- The level of Lake Erie is above the long term average.
- Reservoir levels at Shand, Conestogo, Luther and Guelph Dams are within normal operating range for this time of year.
- Environment Canada forecasts normal temperatures and precipitation for the June to August, 2014 period.

M. Laidlaw referred to Figure 6 in the report and asked if “augmentation” meant adding water. D Boyd responded in the affirmative.

**Resolution 81-14**

Moved by: J. Brennan

Seconded by: M. Laidlaw

(Carried)

THAT Report GM-06-14-67 – Current Watershed Conditions as of June 24, 2014 be received as information.

**13. Committee of the Whole:**

None

**14. General Business:**

**SR-06-14-01** Report of the Special Recognition Committee – Grand River Watershed Awards

There were no questions or comments with respect to this report.

**Resolution 82-14**

Moved by: P. Salter

Seconded by: W. Stauch

(Carried)

THAT Report SR-06-14-01 – Report of the Special Recognition Committee – Grand River Watershed Awards be received as information.

**15. 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading of By-Laws:**

None

**16. Other Business:**

W. Stauch said that a small scale Heritage Workshop is being organized for October 3, 2014 at the Arthur Historical Society. He also said that the 2015 Heritage Day Workshop will be held at the York Lands in Guelph.

G. Wicke commended GRCA staff who contributed to the Spring issue of The Grand.

**17. Closed Meeting: (motion required pursuant to Section 36 of By-Law 1-2013)**

**Resolution 83-14**

Moved by: L. Armstrong

Seconded by: M. Laidlaw

(Carried)

THAT the meeting adjourn into closed session to discuss property and labour relations matters.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 11:50 a.m.

**a) GM-06-14- 68 Amendment to Land Exchange – Parkhill Road West, City of Cambridge (Confidential)**

**Resolution 84-14**

Moved by: V. Prendergast

Seconded by: P. Salter

(Carried)

THAT Res. No. 37-14 - Land Exchange- Parkhill Road West, City of Cambridge, previously adopted, be amended to now read:

IN ORDER to further the objects of the Grand River Conservation Authority by ensuring a continuous land assembly for public access along the Grand River in the City of Cambridge;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority declare surplus and convey to the City of Cambridge those lands legally described as Lots 1A to 7A both inclusive, and 1B to 7B both inclusive and Part of Canal Lot and Part of Victoria Street, Registered Plan 444, formerly in the City of Galt, now in the City of Cambridge and Regional Municipality of Waterloo, more particularly described as Parts 1, 2 ,3 and 4 on Reference Plan 58R-18019, including an easement in the favor of the Grand River Conservation Authority for Parts 1 and 3 of Reference Plan 58R-18019, for the purpose of activities related to flood control and access, for the consideration of \$2.00;

AND THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority accept, in exchange, those lands legally described as ***Part of Lot 14, Plan D-9, City of Cambridge, more particularly described as Parts 21 to 25 on Reference Plan 58R-16766 and; Part of Lot 14, Plan D-9, City of Cambridge, more particularly described as Parts 2, 3, 4, 6 and 11***

*on Reference Plan 67R-1500, save and except Parts 12 and 13 on Reference Plan 58R-12603, Parts 1 and 2 on Reference Plan 67R-1550 and Parts 12 to 14, 21 to 29, 32 to 34, 36, 40, 42 to 49, 53, 54 and 55 on Reference Plan 58R-16766, including an easement in favour of Pearle Hospitality Inc. for Part 10, 23, 24 and 25 on Reference Plan 58R-16766 for the consideration of \$2.00.*

b) **GM-06-14- 69** Report of the Labour Relations Steering Committee (Confidential)

**Resolution 85-14**

Moved by: L. Armstrong

Seconded by: T. Nevills

(Carried)

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority ratifies the Collective Agreement as negotiated with OPSEU Local 259 for the period January 1 to December 31, 2014;

AND THAT the Human Resources Policies be amended to incorporate the applicable changes for non-union staff.

**18. Next Meetings:**

- General Membership Meeting  
Friday, July 25, 2014 – 9:30 a.m.  
Auditorium/Boardroom, Administration Centre, Cambridge
- General Membership  
Friday, August 22, 2014 – 9:30 a.m.  
Auditorium/Boardroom, Administration Centre, Cambridge

**19. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

**20. Grand River Source Protection Authority Meeting (if required)**

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Chair

Secretary-Treasurer

PLANNING, BUILDING, ENGINEERING  
& ENVIRONMENT

File: 23CDM14506



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I.G.# 7

July 25, 2014

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION

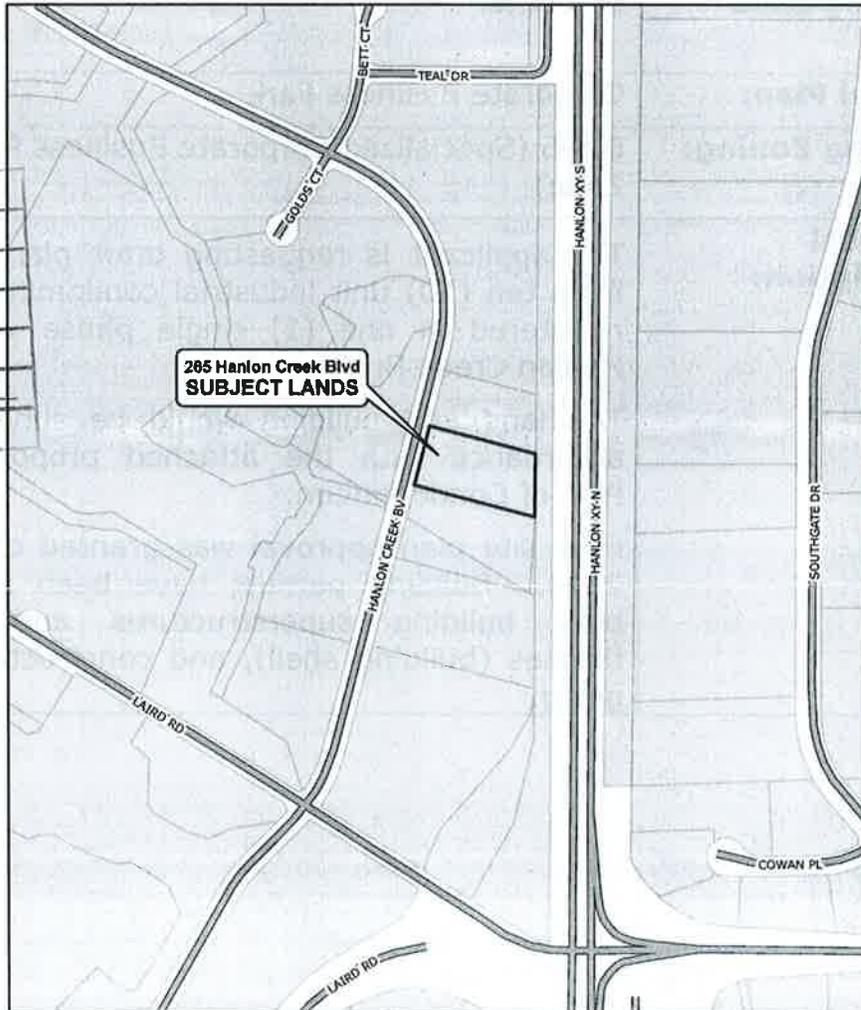
Township of Puslinch

## PROPOSED DRAFT PLAN OF CONDOMINIUM

### SUBJECT LANDS

**265 Hanlon Creek Boulevard:** The subject lands are directly located on the west side of Hanlon Creek Boulevard, north of Laird Road and adjacent to King's Highway 6 (Hanlon Expressway).

CLERK'S DEPARTMENT	
TO	KP-FYI
Copy	
Please Handle	
For Your Information	Aug 13
Council Agenda	Sept 114
File	



**SUBJECT LANDS**  
265 Hanlon Creek Blvd



Produced by the City of Guelph  
Planning, Building, Engineering and Environmental Development Planning  
July 2014

## Notice of Application

File: 23CDM14506

### **PURPOSE AND EFFECT OF APPLICATION**

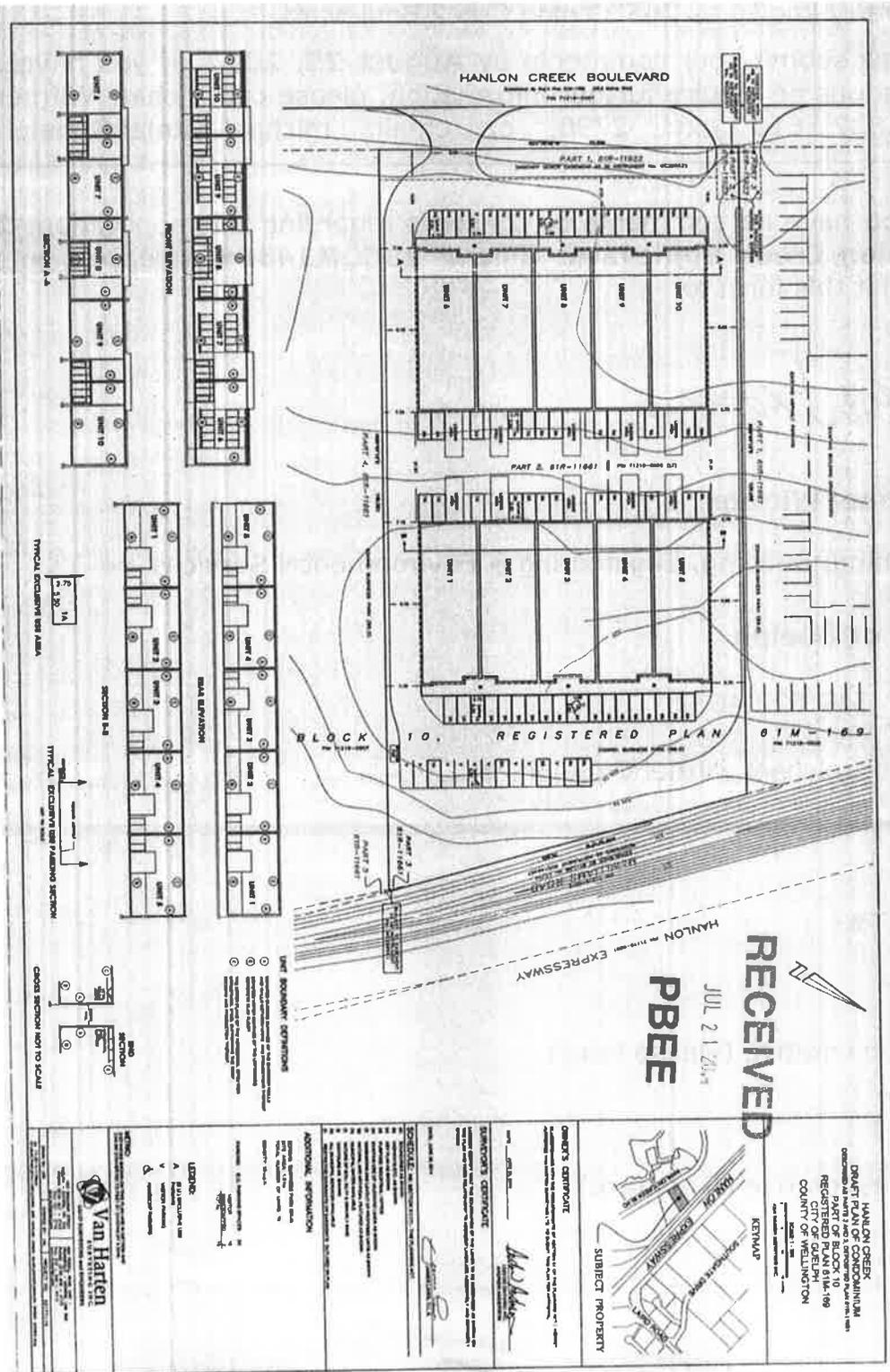
The applicant is requesting draft plan approval for a ten (10) unit industrial condominium to be registered in one (1) single phase.

### **DETAILS OF PROPOSAL**

<b>Applicant:</b>	Andrew Anderson: 1320160 Ontario Inc.
<b>Address:</b>	265 Hanlon Creek Boulevard
<b>Legal Description:</b>	PARTS 2 AND 3 ON 61R11661, PART OF BLOCK 10, PLAN 61M169, CITY OF GUELPH, COUNTY OF WELLINGTON
<b>Property Size:</b>	0.89 hectares
<b>Existing Land Use:</b>	Industrial
<b>Official Plan:</b>	Corporate Business Park
<b>Existing Zoning:</b>	B.5-5 (Specialized Corporate Business Park Zone)
<b>Proposal Description:</b>	<p>The applicant is requesting draft plan approval for a ten (10) unit industrial condominium to be registered in one (1) single phase within the Hanlon Creek Business Park.</p> <p>The land and building would be subdivided in accordance with the attached proposed Draft Plan of Condominium.</p> <p>Final site plan approval was granted on April 7, 2014. Building permits have been issued for both building superstructures and exterior finishes (building shell), and construction is on-going.</p>

**PROPOSED DRAFT PLAN OF CONDOMINIUM (23CDM-14506):**

(NOTE: If you require a larger copy of the Draft Plan of Condominium, please contact Michael Witmer at 519.837.5616 ext: 2790)



**To: Agencies and Departments**

The City of Guelph is initiating the review of the condominium application from Mr. Andrew Anderson/1320160 Ontario Inc. for the property known as 265 Hanlon Creek Boulevard.

Please submit your comments by **August 25, 2014**. If you have any questions or require further information, please call Michael Witmer at 519.837.5616 ext: 2790, or email: michael.witmer@guelph.ca

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If you have no comments or concerns regarding this application, **265 Hanlon Creek Boulevard: (File # 23CDM14506)**, please sign and submit this form to:



**Michael Witmer**

Planning, Building, Engineering & Environmental Services

**City of Guelph**

Fax: 519.822.4632

Email: michael.witmer@guelph.ca

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Agency

Representative (Please Print)

Representative (Signature)

Date