



**Grand River Conservation Authority
Agenda - General Meeting**

Friday, April 28, 2023

Immediately following the meeting of the Source Protection Authority

Hybrid Meeting of the General Membership

GRCA Administration Centre

Zoom Virtual Meeting

Pages

1. Call to Order

2. Certification of Quorum

3. Chair's Remarks

4. Review of Agenda

THAT the agenda for the General Membership Meeting be approved as circulated.

5. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

6. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

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THAT the minutes of the General Membership Meeting of March 24, 2023 be approved as circulated.

7. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

8. Hearing of Delegations

9. Presentations

10. Correspondence

THAT Correspondence from Jan W. Jansen and Nicole Doro regarding protecting Ontario wetlands be received as information.

a. Jan W. Jansen re: Wetlands Protection

10

b. Nicole Doro re: Wetlands Protection 11

11. 1st and 2nd Reading of By-Laws

12. Reports:

a. GM-04-23-38 - General Insurance Renewal - 2023-2024 12

THAT Report Number GM-04-23-38 – General Insurance Renewal – 2023-2024 be received as information.

b. GM-04-23-34 - Revised Joint GRCA/GRCF Donor Naming Policy 16

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority approve the revised Joint GRCA-GRCF Naming Policy.

c. GM-04-23-31 - Cash and Investment Status 23

THAT Report Number GM-04-23-31 Cash and Investment Status – March 2023 be received as information.

d. GM-04-23-39 - Financial Summary 25

THAT the Financial Summary for the period ending March 31, 2023 be approved.

e. GM-04-23-34 - Provincial Offences Act Officer Designation - Section 29 (Conservation Areas) 29

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority appoint Rhonda Card and Avery Jenks as Provincial Offences Act Officers to enforce Section 29 of the Conservation Authorities Act.

f. GM-04-23-37 - Provincial Offences Act Officer Designations - Section 28 (Planning Services) 30

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority appoint Nicholas Stasiak and Tyler Slaght as Provincial Offences Officers to enforce Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act.

g. GM-04-23-32 - Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines Regulation (Quarterly Permits) 31

THAT Report Number GM-04-23-32 - Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation be received as information.

h. GM-04-23-36 - April 2023 Flood Event 33

THAT Report Number GM-04-23-36 – April 2023 Flood Event be received as information.

i. GM-04-23-33 - Current Watershed Conditions 41

THAT Report Number GM-04-23-33 – Current Watershed Conditions as of April 15, 2023 be received as information.

13. Committee of the Whole

14. General Business

15. 3rd Reading of By-Laws

16. Other Business

17. Closed Meeting

THAT the General Membership enter a closed meeting in accordance with the *Municipal Act section 239(2)* for the following purpose(s): proposed or pending acquisition or disposition, security of property, and labour relations or employee negotiations.

a. Property Disposition - Township of Mapleton

b. Security of Property - Verbal Update

c. Labour relations or employee negotiations

d. Minutes of the previous closed session

18. Next Meetings

19. Adjourn



Grand River Conservation Authority Minutes - General Membership Meeting

Date: March 24, 2023
Time: 9:30 am
Location: Hybrid Meeting of the General Membership

Members Present Bruce Banbury, Christine Billings, Gino Caputo, John Challinor II, Brian Coleman, Doug Craig, Kevin Davis, Mike Devine, Jim Erb, Susan Foxtan, Guy Gardhouse, Gord Greavette, Daniel Lawrence, Dave Miller, Natasha Salonen, Sandy Shantz, Rob Shirton, Jerry Smith, Shawn Watters, Chris White, Kari Williams, Pam Wolf

Regrets Ken Yee Chew, Lisa Hern, Colleen James, Alex Wilson

Staff Samantha Lawson, Karen Armstrong, Beth Brown, Krista Bunn, Brandon Heyer, Janet Ivey, Lisa Keys, Katelyn Lynch, Sonja Radoja, Lisa Stocco, Pam Walther-Mabee, Mark Anderson, John Brum, Melissa Larion, Mark McKinnon, Eowyn Spencer, Vahid Taleban

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. Certification of Quorum

The Secretary-Treasurer certified quorum with more than half of the Members present. A total of 22 Members attended the meeting.

3. Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed the Members and made the following remarks:

- The annual stocking of brown trout in the Grand and Conestogo Rivers is planned for May 1st through 4th, dates are dependent on the Provincial hatchery and weather outlook. At this event, volunteers release fish in various reaches of the rivers, helping to spread them out into suitable habitats.
- The 10th Annual Brantford Community Tree Planting will be held at Brant Conservation Area on Sunday, April 23. Brantford residents, friends, and families, are invited to help plant 1,000 native trees and shrubs. If any Board

members would like more information about either of these events, please reach out to E.Spencer.

S.Foxton joined the meeting at 9:33 a.m.

4. Review of Agenda

23-44

Moved By John Challinor II

Seconded By Jerry Smith

THAT the agenda for the General Membership Meeting be approved as circulated.

Carried

5. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

K.Davis declared a conflict with item 17.1 on the closed agenda and noted that he has no pecuniary interest in the matter. He advised that he would leave the room for any discussion and abstain from voting.

6. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

23-45

Moved By Christine Billings

Seconded By Shawn Watters

THAT the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on February 24, 2023 be approved as circulated.

Carried

7. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

N.Salonen joined the meeting at 9:34 a.m.

8. Hearing of Delegations

There were no Delegations.

9. Presentations

There were no Presentations.

10. Correspondence

10.1 Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry response to MPP Ted Arnott re: Bill 23

- D.Lawrence inquired about receiving more details on the full impact of Bill 23 on the GRCA. S.Lawson noted that staff are working with member municipalities. Additionally, staff continue to work through requirements under the previous regulatory changes, and that finalized regulations are expected to be released by the Province in the Spring. Information will be provided to the Board at that time.

10.2 Don McLean, Marie Covert, and Ellen Tolmie re: Wetlands Protection

23-46

Moved By Susan Foxtton

Seconded By Gord Greavette

THAT Correspondence from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to the office of MPP Ted Arnott related to Bill 23, and from Don McLean, Marie Covert, and Ellen Tolmie regarding protecting Ontario wetlands be received as information

Carried

11. 1st and 2nd Reading of By-Laws

None.

12. Reports:

12.1 Minutes of the Ad-Act Conservation Authorities Act Committee - March 13, 2023

- There were no comments or questions regarding the Minutes.

23-47

Moved By John Challinor II

Seconded By Brian Coleman

THAT the Minutes of the Ad-hoc Conservation Authorities Act Committee held on March 13, 2023 be received as information.

Carried

12.2 GM-03-23-25 - Updated Inventory of Programs and Services - Requirement under O.Reg 687/21

- S.Shantz noted that some natural heritage elements remain in the inventory following removal. S.Lawson clarified that the province removed the conservation authorities' natural heritage component only with respect to review of planning applications under the Planning Act. Some elements of natural heritage work remains in terms of managing GRCA properties, and within category 3 programs.
- S.Shantz asked if municipalities can still contact the GRCA for natural heritage advice and S.Lawson confirmed that they can as long as it is not related to a planning matter.

23-48

Moved By Bruce Banbury

Seconded By Susan Foxtton

THAT the updated Inventory of Programs and Services be approved, circulated to all participating Grand River watershed municipalities, posted on the Grand River Conservation Authority website, and submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry in accordance with Ontario Regulation 687/21.

Carried

12.3 GM-03-23-24 - Progress Report #4 - Requirement under O.Reg. 687/21

- There were no comments or questions regarding this report.

23-49

Moved By Shawn Watters

Seconded By Daniel Lawrence

THAT Progress Report #4 be approved, circulated to all participating Grand River watershed municipalities, posted on the Grand River Conservation Authority website, and submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry in accordance with Ontario Regulation 687/21.

Carried

12.4 GM-03-23-23 - Cash and Investment Status

- There were no comments or questions regarding this report.

23-50

Moved By John Challinor II

Seconded By Rob Shirton

THAT Report Number GM-03-23-23 Cash and Investment Status – February 2023 be received as information.

Carried

12.5 GM-03-23-28 - Financial Summary

- K.Davis inquired about the land sale revenue, and specifically what land was sold and which reserve is used for land sales. S.Lawson advised that this land sale pertains to a large property in Kitchener and confirmed that the revenue goes to the Land Sale Reserve, which has permitted uses as outlined in provincial guidelines. Staff are determining capacity and resource requirements for capital projects to utilize some of the reserve funds.

23-51

Moved By Susan Foxton

Seconded By Brian Coleman

THAT the Financial Summary for the period ending February 28, 2023 be approved.

Carried

12.6 GM-03-23-26 - Janitorial and Sanitation Supply Request for Proposal

- In response to a question, P.Walther-Mabee confirmed that Staples Professional holds the current contract for janitorial and sanitation supplies.

23-52

Moved By Pam Wolf

Seconded By Brian Coleman

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority award the contract for Janitorial and Sanitation Supplies to Staples Professional for a term of three years with the option for an additional two years starting April 1, 2023.

Carried

12.7 GM-03-23-27 - Conestogo Pheasant Club Pilot Project

- The Chair provided a brief history of the process of developing this agreement, noting that pheasant hunting operated by GRCA staff was previously cancelled at Conestogo Lake. Staff were able to negotiate with a third party to carry on the program through an alternate delivery model.
- Following questions from the Board, S.Lawson confirmed that there are two lease arrangements on the property. One is for snowmobiling, and the other is now with the pheasant club. K.Davis thanked staff for taking an innovative approach to finding a suitable solution.
- D.Miller asked about the agreement and termination clauses, and P.Walther-Mabee confirmed that the agreement was negotiated to end in 2026 to allow time to assess the arrangement, and it includes a termination clause. As the contract for the arrangement is an operational matter, a copy has not been included in the agenda package. D.Miller noted that he will abstain from the vote on this matter since he hasn't seen the agreement.

23-53

Moved By Jerry Smith

Seconded By Mike Devine

THAT Report Number GM-02-23-27 Conestogo Pheasant Club Update be received as information;

AND THAT the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to sign the agreement with Conestogo Pheasant Club and the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters on behalf of the Grand River Conservation Authority.

Carried

12.8 GM-03-23-22 - Permit Application 148/23 - Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines Regulation

- M.Larion provided a presentation to highlight a development permit application that requires board approval. The permit does not meet specific GRCA policies that allow approval at the staff level, however it does meet the criteria for a permit that can be presented to the General Membership for their consideration.
- Staff are recommending approval of this permit and the presentation provided a detailed overview of the project, which includes removal and remediation of a wetland, and the creation of a new wetland in an alternate area of the parcel. Considerations for this project include the elevated concentration of contaminants, ecological and human health risks, municipal support for the project, maintained hydrologic function, and voluntary wetland creation.

- Board members discussed the application and asked a number of questions about types of contaminants, location of the wetland, and development regulations.
- M.Larion confirmed that this land is not GRCA property. It is a regulated area as a wetland which is why a permit is required for removal of the wetland. The proposed future use of this land is for housing. The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks has jurisdiction over contamination and site clean-up issues.

23-54

Moved By Brian Coleman

Seconded By Susan Foxtan

THAT Grand River Conservation Authority Permit Application #148/23 be approved.

Carried

12.9 GM-03-23-21 - Grand River Watershed Report Card

- J.Ivey provided a presentation on the watershed report card, noting that the report highlights an overall assessment of groundwater quality, surface water quality, forest, and wetland conditions throughout the watershed.
- The presentation highlighted high and low points in watershed basins and areas of ground and surface water quality, and demonstrated work the GRCA has completed and programs that continue to improve the overall health of the watershed and the river.
- Current programs and efforts include regulation of development near wetlands, landowner grants such as the Rural Water Quality Program, Drinking Water Source Protection, education and events, and monitoring watershed conditions. To continue positive improvement, the GRCA will continue to collaborate with the Water Managers Group on the water management plan; support municipal implementation of wastewater, storm water, water supply master plans and drinking water source protection; and deliver category 2 programs and services, including wastewater optimization, water quality monitoring, conservation services, watershed science and reporting, and collaborative planning. These programs are key to protecting watershed health, and benefit all municipalities by improving local and downstream water conditions.
- K.Davis inquired about where nitrates and chlorides come from. J.Ivey advised that chloride typically comes from road salting and water softener salt, and nitrates can be naturally occurring and are also found in fertilizer and treated effluent.
- K.Davis asked if staff have any tips for urban municipalities and J.Ivey noted that municipalities in the watershed have been investing in upgrades to their Wastewater Treatment Plants and another way to help is through investment in stewardship in rural areas as well to help the agricultural community.

- S.Shantz shared concern about tree cover and J.Ivey advised that the GRCA has a tree planting program to help subsidize tree planting on private lands.
- J. Challinor indicated that municipalities should consider implementing a road salt management program like the one at the County of Wellington.
- D.Miller said that it is cheaper to prevent than to treat. In the County of Brant, he sat on the Rural Water Quality Program Committee for years and all municipalities are welcome to participate in a similar program.

23-55

Moved By Bruce Banbury

Seconded By Doug Craig

THAT Report Number GM-03-23-21 – Watershed Report Card be received as information.

Carried

12.10 GM-03-23-30 - Grand River Watershed Flood Notification System

- C.White observed that the system seems to be working well based on the communication test map.

23-56

Moved By Brian Coleman

Seconded By Christine Billings

THAT Report Number GM-03-23-30 – Grand River Watershed Flood Warning System be received as information.

Carried

12.11 GM-03-23-29 - Current Watershed Conditions

- R.Shirton inquired about snowpack and precipitation in relation to current reservoir capacity. V.Taleban confirmed the reservoirs are currently in a filling cycle and capacity is being managed.

23-57

Moved By Gord Greavette

Seconded By John Challinor II

THAT Report Number GM-03-23-29 – Current Watershed Conditions as of March 15, 2023 be received as information.

Carried

13. Committee of the Whole

Not required.

14. General Business

There was no General Business.

15. 3rd Reading of By-Laws

None.

16. Other Business

There was no Other Business.

17. Closed Meeting

G.Caputo exited the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

K.Davis left the room during the closed session for item 17.1 and returned following the discussion.

23-58

Moved By John Challinor II

Seconded By Susan Foxtan

THAT the General Membership enter a closed meeting in accordance with the *Municipal Act section 239(2)* for the following purpose(s): proposed or pending acquisition or disposition, and labour relations or employee negotiations.

Carried

23-60

Moved By John Challinor II

Seconded By Kevin Davis

THAT the General Membership reconvene in open session.

Carried

17.1 Property Disposition - City of Brantford

K.Davis abstained from voting on this item.

23-61

Moved By John Challinor II

Seconded By Bruce Banbury

IN ORDER TO FURTHER THE OBJECTS of the Grand River Conservation Authority by assisting a member municipality in improving municipal servicing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Grand River Conservation Authority convey an easement over lands described as Part of Lot 11, Eagles Nest Tract, in the City of Brantford, to be more particularly described on a Reference Plan to be deposited, for the purposes of a utility access road, for the nominal consideration of \$2.00.

Carried

17.2 Labour Relations or Employee Negotiations

Resolution 23-59 was passed in closed session in accordance with the *Municipal Act s.239(6)*.

18. Next Meetings

- Source Protection Authority - Friday, April 28 at 9:30 a.m. (Hybrid)
- General Membership - Immediately following Source Protection Authority meeting

19. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

23-62

Moved By Bruce Banbury

Seconded By Brian Coleman

THAT the General Membership Meeting be adjourned.

Carried

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer

From: janwillem.jansen
To: Jaime.Tellier@conservationhamilton.ca; Tamara.Chipperfield@cvc.ca; gbivol@npca.ca; [Eowyn.Spencer; admin@hrca.on.ca](mailto:Eowyn.Spencer@admin@hrca.on.ca)
Subject: Wetlands under threat; call for action
Date: Thursday, April 13, 2023 8:14:21 AM

Dear CA board member,

As you are no doubt aware, wetlands are complex integrated systems and are natural assets of very high ecological but economical value. They moderate peak flow on a large scale, thereby preventing downstream flooding; they absorb and store massive amounts of carbon and they are a natural habitat that is vital for preserving biodiversity.

Ontario's Bill 23 not only takes individual wetlands out of these systems to allow urban sprawl but also affects the Ontario Wetland Evaluation System (OWES) by removing from its requirements the criterium of complexity, that of local significance as well as that of endangered species; and furthermore by removing the oversight of Conservation Authorities as well as provincial ministerial oversight, leaving essential decisions about the protection of our remaining wetlands in the hands of individual evaluating experts hired by landowners and developers.

The federal government has a key role in this, because it has the lead on climate action and COP15; because OWES had its origin in a Federal-Ontario project; fish and endangered species habitat as well as indigenous rights and reconciliation fall under federal jurisdiction and in extreme weather the federal government may have to shoulder the financial burden of flooding.

As a concerned member of the public and regular user of Conservation Authorities, I ask you to please use your knowledge and expertise to contact and influence the Federal Government to intervene where Bill 23 threatens Ontario's wetlands. Please use all means possible to quickly protect wildlife and woodlots which will be destroyed under Bill 23 and its total disregard for the value of wetlands and the Greenbelt.

Thank you for your attention.

Jan W. jansen


Sent from my iPad

From: [Nicole Doro](#)
To: Jaime.Tellier@conservationhamilton.ca; Tamara.Chipperfield@cvc.ca; gbivol@npca.ca; [Eowyn Spencer](#); admin@hrca.on.ca
Subject: Request for Intervention in Bill 23
Date: Sunday, April 9, 2023 2:57:38 PM

Hello,

I have lived and worked in Ontario my whole life, and now reside here with my 1 year old son. I am very concerned about providing a liveable future for my young child in Ontario.

We regularly attend our local Conservation Authorities to observe all of the natural beauty surrounding and support us. I am writing you to ask you to please use every skill and contact available to you to contact and influence the Federal Government to intervene where Bill 23 threatens Ontario's wetlands. Since at risk species and fisheries fall under federal jurisdiction, please use all means possible to quickly protect wildlife and woodlots which will be destroyed under Bill 23 and its total disregard for the value of wetlands and the Greenbelt.

Thank you very much for your time and service,

Nicole Doro
Hamilton, Ontario

Grand River Conservation Authority

Report number: GM-04-23-38

Date: April 28, 2023

To: Members of the Grand River Conservation Authority

Subject: General Insurance Renewal – 2023-2024

Recommendation:

THAT Report Number GM-04-23-38 – General Insurance Renewal – 2023-2024 be received as information.

Summary:

The Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) obtains general insurance as part of a group consisting of 34 Conservation Authorities and Conservation Ontario. The policies run from April 1 to March 31. The policy terms, renewals, loss reviews, and other administrative matters are overseen by the Conservation Ontario General Insurance and Benefits Committee (Insurance Committee), which consists of 10 senior staff from Conservation Authorities (including GRCA) and the General Manager of Conservation Ontario. This Committee reports to Conservation Ontario Council and, in addition to carrying out a number of ongoing risk management activities, the committee reviews and approves renewal terms annually.

The Insurance Committee met with Marsh in March to review the proposed coverage and premiums for 2023-2024, and the committee approved the April 1, 2023 renewal as recommended by Marsh. A summary of GRCA's 2023-2024 premiums is included below. In total, GRCA's insurance premiums will increase by \$29,108, or 4.7%, with total premiums for the policy period of \$645,615.

Report:

Background

The Insurance Committee was formed in 1986 on the basis that obtaining coverage through a group rather than individually provides better value, allows sharing of administration costs and risk management experience/expertise, as well as helping to offset the impact of significant claims that may arise at one Authority. The GRCA was one of the founding members of the group.

Marsh is the current insurance broker and, since being appointed in 2014, they have negotiated many favourable renewals. Marsh provides ongoing service to all Conservation Authorities and staff at the GRCA have found significant value in their practical expertise on risk management matters, and assistance with claims management.

2023-2024 Renewal

Market conditions created tough negotiations for insurance renewals in recent years. Since 2019, the insurance market has been considered a hard market due to record-breaking years of global catastrophes, increased frequency and severity of natural disasters, and a continuing and escalating litigious environment. It is also important to note that the risk profile for Conservation Authorities does reflect high susceptibility to weather-related, vandalism, and fire damage claims. In addition to increased insurance premiums, many insurers have also restricted coverage, or reduced available limits as additional methods to control their exposure.

A list of the current insurance policies, with carriers noted, and a brief summary of the coverage provided is attached as Appendix A.

Risk Management Program

Another service that Marsh provides to the Conservation Ontario group is a risk management program. This program provides significant value to the Conservation Authorities. This team conducts risk assessments to determine the largest drivers of losses to help Conservation Authorities make informed operational decisions and prioritize risk management spending and they develop guidance documents on a variety of risk management topics relevant to Conservation Authorities.

The Marsh risk management team has performed on-site assessments at several GRCA properties to identify site-specific risks and challenges in order to make recommendations for improvements to mitigate and reduce risks.

Financial Implications:

Since the policies are purchased at a group level, a number of formulas are used to allocate the premiums to the 34 Conservation Authorities in the group. The formulas are designed to measure the relative risk exposures at the individual Conservation Authorities. Due to changes in the reported numbers in the statistics used (revenue, hectares of owned and managed land, number of permit and planning files, number of Conservation Area visitors, Nature Centre classes, etc.), the portion allocated to an individual Conservation Authority will vary year-over-year.

In total, the GRCA's insurance premiums will increase by \$29,108 or 4.7% in the 2023-2024 term over the 2022-2023 rates. This includes increases to insurance premiums, increases in property and asset values, and other exposures. Details of the cost changes in the policies are as follows:

<u>POLICY</u>	<u>2022-2023</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Commercial General Liability (CGL)	\$174,331	\$181,891	\$7,560	4.3%
Umbrella Liability	\$41,365	\$47,602	\$6,237	15.1%
Property	\$231,988	\$241,124	\$9,136	3.9%
Errors and Omissions	\$98,457	\$103,938	\$5,481	5.6%
Directors and Officers' Liability	\$10,572	\$6,461	(\$4,111)	-38.9%
Automobile	\$46,647	\$50,165	\$3,518	7.5%
Equipment Breakdown	\$6,609*	\$7,047	\$438	6.6%
Crime	\$878	\$878	\$0	0.0%
Cyber	\$5,660	\$6,509	\$849	15.0%
Total Premium with Group	\$616,507	\$645,615	\$29,108	4.7%

*This amount was reported as \$7,263 in Report GM-04-22-40 and was subsequently reduced by Marsh during the reconciliation process. The billing in 2022 reflected the adjusted amount of \$6,609.

In addition to the insurance premiums referenced above, there is a brokerage fee of \$31,618, which is a 5% increase over 2022 and the first increase in brokerage fees in 10 years, and tax on most lines of insurance (excluding automobile).

The 2023 budget for insurance expenses is \$825,000. The forecast insurance expense (calendar year) will be decreased by \$105,000 to \$720,000 as a result of the premiums which came into effect on April 1, 2023 (partial year impact in 2023). A forecast adjustment will be brought to the Board when the invoice is received, and the allocation assessment has been completed.

Other Department Considerations:

All departments provide input to the renewal documents to ensure adequate coverage for all of GRCA's properties and activities.

Prepared by:

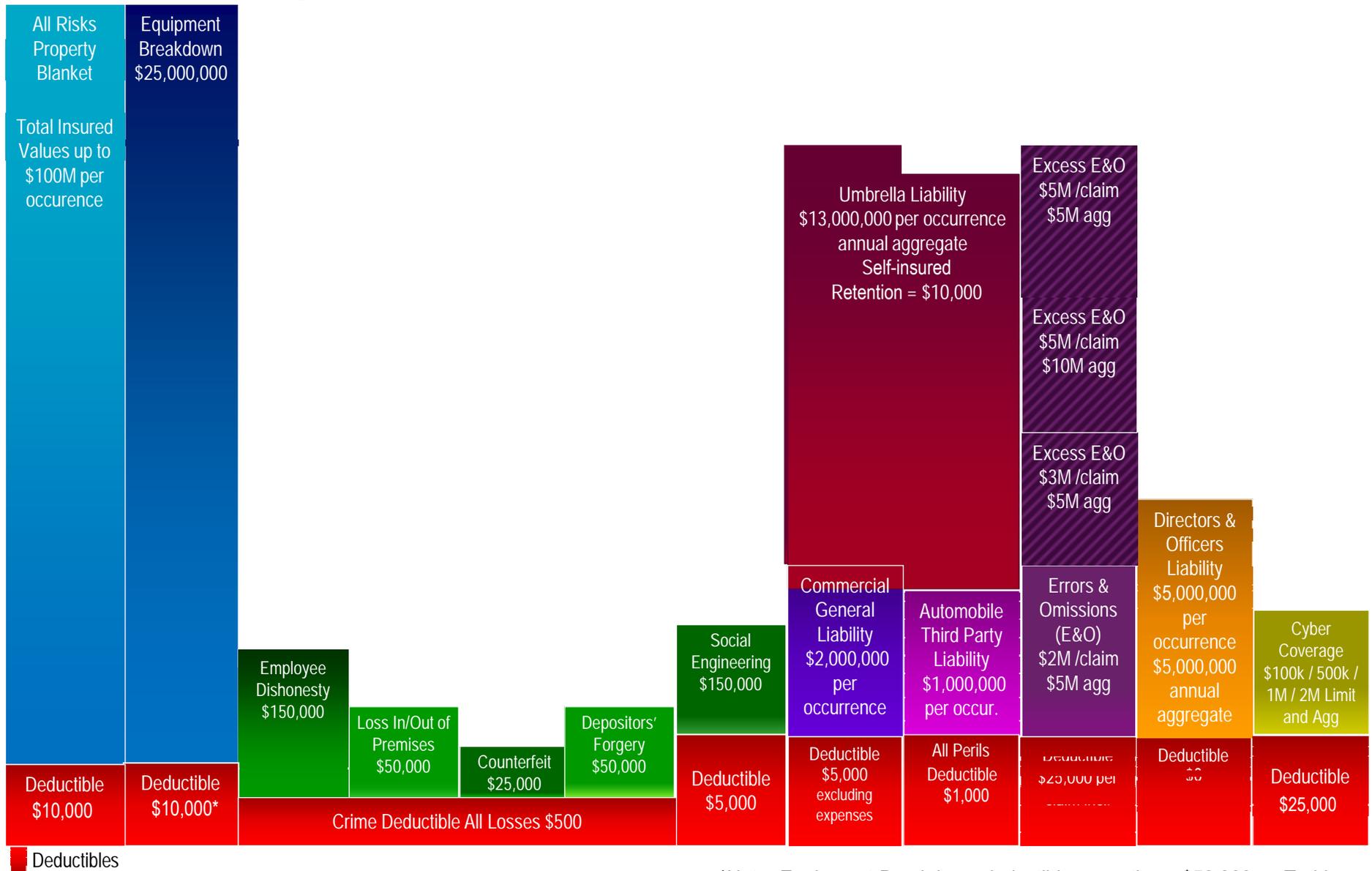
Karen Armstrong
Deputy CAO, Secretary-Treasurer

Approved by:

Samantha Lawson
Chief Administrative Officer

Program Structure

GRCA Coverage Overview



*Note: Equipment Breakdown deductible exception - \$50,000 on Turbines

Grand River Conservation Authority

Report number: GM-04-23-35

Date: April 28, 2023

To: Members of the Grand River Conservation Authority

Subject: Revised Joint GRCA-GRCF Naming Policy

Recommendation:

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority approve the revised Joint GRCA-GRCF Naming Policy.

Summary:

Not Applicable.

Report:

The Grand River Conservation Foundation (GRCF) raises funds for GRCA projects. Some of these projects include opportunities for assets to be named in recognition of a financial contribution, or as a way to honour someone for their contribution to the GRCA and/or the GRCF.

The GRCF and the GRCA currently have a joint Donor Naming Opportunities Policy which addresses principles related to philanthropic naming of GRCA sites and facilities. The policy was originally developed in May 2008 and has been revised a few times since then. The current version, approved in June 2019, is attached for reference as Appendix B.

The proposed revised policy, which is attached as Appendix A, was drafted by legal counsel that specializes in charity and not-for-profit law and it has been modified to fit the current needs of the GRCA and the GRCF.

In addition to providing greater clarity around scope, agreement terms, and overall structure for the administration of naming opportunities, the updated version identifies that the GRCA Board has the final approval for granting naming rights and revocation of naming rights, if applicable. The current version identifies both boards approval in these processes, but given that the assets are owned by the GRCA, the final decision will now be made by the GRCA Board.

The GRCF Board of Directors approved the revised policy at a meeting held on March 29, 2023.

Financial Implications:

Not applicable

Other Department Considerations:

The Grand River Conservation Foundation will continue to work with GRCA staff to implement this policy.

Prepared by:

Karen Armstrong
Deputy CAO, Secretary-Treasurer

Approved by:

Samantha Lawson
Chief Administrative Officer



NAMING POLICY
GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION FOUNDATION
GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

INTRODUCTION

1. Purpose and Principles of Policy

- (a) The Grand River Conservation Foundation (“GRCF”) welcomes the opportunity to name existing and proposed tangible and non-tangible assets of the Grand River Conservation Authority (“GRCA”) to honour persons, benefactors, donors, members of staff and others, who have rendered outstanding service to the GRCA or the GRCF, or have made exceptional contributions to the community.
- (b) The process and standards governing decisions on naming assets will be clearly established and transparent for the following reasons:
 - (i) The number of GRCA assets available for naming is limited while the number of people who could be honoured this way is much higher. Each naming decision must be weighed very carefully.
 - (ii) Names may be attached to a particular asset for the life of the asset or on limited occasions in perpetuity, thereby forming a long relationship between the GRCA and the GRCF and the person so named.
 - (iii) It is necessary for the GRCF to promote consistency in the tributes paid by the GRCA and the GRCF to its supporters;

2. Jurisdiction/Scope

- (a) This policy applies to the naming of all of the GRCA’s assets, whether existing or proposed, in accordance with established processes and procedures.
- (b) Assets of the GRCA that can be named include tangible assets and non-tangible assets of the GRCA.
- (c) Tangible assets of the GRCA include:
 - (i) buildings, and parts thereof (such as rooms, entrances, foyers, offices, galleries, etc.);
 - (ii) collections of books, art, archives, art and other documentary and/or cultural materials;
 - (iii) equipment;
 - (iv) properties, open spaces, recreational spaces, gardens, roads, fields, trails, or sections of trails, etc.;
 - (v) other natural features or physical improvements; and
 - (vi) medallions or plaques.
- (d) Non-tangible assets of the GRCA include:
 - (i) awards, lectureships, fellowships, scholarships, bursaries;
 - (ii) events (e.g., lectures, lecture series, symposia, conferences, etc.);
 - (iii) prizes and other awards to recognize outstanding achievements by members of the GRCF community (such as for research, for service); and
 - (iv) research
- (e) Naming, renaming and termination or revocation of naming shall be in accordance with established processes and procedures and shall be undertaken only after sufficient due diligence by the GRCA and the GRCF. This includes consultation with the appropriate departmental and administrative leadership.

POLICY**3. General Principles**

All naming of GRCA assets must conform to the following principles:

- (a) Each naming shall enhance the mission and priorities of the GRCA while preserving the GRCA and GRCF's integrity and autonomy.
- (b) Naming opportunities may be assigned for a living person, in memory of a person or after a family, foundation, association, business, corporation, community group or a third party who must be of sound reputation.
- (c) No naming opportunity should be approved if it is likely to have a negative impact on the image or reputation of the GRCA or the GRCF, could jeopardize the GRCF's registered charitable status or relationship with the donor community, creates a real or perceived conflict of interest, and/or cause offense or upset to the greater community.
- (d) Naming may be for a defined and limited period of time. No commitment to a naming shall extend beyond the useful life of an asset or existence of the asset named. The naming of capital assets "in perpetuity" should be avoided.
- (e) Naming shall comply with the standards for each level of naming opportunity or particular assets as specified from time to time by the GRCF.
- (f) All naming rights shall be documented in a naming agreement (or as part of the applicable gift/sponsorship agreement) containing terms and conditions satisfactory to the GRCF and the GRCA.
- (g) No commitment (verbal or written) shall be made by a member of the GRCF community to any person for the naming of any asset without the prior written approval of the Executive Director of the GRCF and the Chief Administrative Officer of the GRCA.
- (h) Proposals for naming shall be dealt with in strict confidence by all involved in the process until the naming is publicly announced by the GRCA and the GRCF.
- (i) Naming of GRCA assets involving pledges, gifts, or sponsorship to the GRCF shall be in accordance with GRCF policies and procedures, including its Gift Acceptance Policy.

a. Naming Involving Gifts/Sponsorship – Minimum Contribution Required

- (a) The value of a naming opportunity of a specific space should be determined by its size, location, and the activity taking place within the space. The value of a program, project, unit or centre should be determined by the number of users, the importance of the initiative to the GRCF, and public profile of the program. Appropriate comparators will be used as benchmarks to ensure the valuation of the naming opportunities reflects these factors. Gifts shall be received and processed in accordance with the GRCF's Gift Acceptance Policy.
- (b) For recognition by naming, it will be expected that the donor and/or other donor wishing to honour a benefactor, will provide all or a substantial part of the cost of the asset being named. "Substantial" means either a significant majority of the cost or a contribution which, while not being a significant majority, is regarded as central to the completion of the asset. Such recognition will generally take effect once the donor has fulfilled an agreed portion of their commitment.
- (c) A naming right may be revoked if the donor fails to make pledge payments in accordance with the Gift Agreement, and does not plan with the GRCF to modify the pledge schedule. In general naming rights shall not be granted unless the donor has completed their gift or has provided at least 80% of their pledge.

b. Naming to Honour An Individual Where No Gift Is Involved Must Adhere To The Following Standards

- (a) A proposed honouree must have achieved distinction in one or more of the following ways:

- (i) While serving the GRCA or the GRCF in an important administrative capacity, the individual rendered distinguished service that warrants recognition of the exceptional contributions this individual made to the welfare of the GRCA or the GRCF.
- (ii) The individual contributed in a truly exceptional way to the welfare of the GRCA or the GRCF or has achieved a unique distinction that warrants recognition.
- (b) A naming proposal may be made to honour an individual at any time. Proposals for naming of GRCA assets to honour current members of the GRCA or the GRCF Boards will be considered only in exceptional circumstances.

c. Approval

- (a) All proposals for any naming shall be recommended by the Finance and Administration Committee of the GRCF to the GRCF Board of Directors, and the GRCA General Membership who shall have final decision-making authority on these matters. Where the GRCF Board of Directors and the GRCA General Membership approves a proposed naming, then the parties will work together to draft an appropriate form of gift agreement with the donor, together with legal counsel for both the GRCF and GRCA.
- (b) All naming rights agreements must comply with the following:
 - (i) All naming rights shall be documented in a naming rights agreement (or as part of the applicable gift/sponsorship agreement) containing terms and conditions satisfactory to the GRCF and the GRCA.
 - (ii) At a minimum, naming rights agreement (or gift/sponsorship agreement as applicable) shall contain appropriate terms and conditions, including the following:
 - (1) A description of the contractual relationship, specifying the exact nature of the agreement;
 - (2) The term of the agreement;
 - (3) Renewal options, if permitted;
 - (4) The value of the consideration and, in the case of in-kind contributions, the method of assessment;
 - (5) The payment schedule;
 - (6) Rights and benefits;
 - (7) Release, indemnification and early termination clauses as appropriate and as approved;
 - (8) Insurance clauses;
 - (9) Confidentiality terms;
 - (10) A statement that all parties are aware of, and agree to comply with, the provisions of this Policy.
 - (iii) Copies of all naming rights agreements are to be retained for audit purposes in accordance with the normal retention policies of GRCF and GRCA.

d. Plaques and Signs Recognizing Naming

All style or presentation of any naming (signage, plaques, etc.) will be determined by the GRCA in consultation with the GRCF and the donor.

e. Naming and Renaming of GRCA Assets

- (a) A naming will normally be for the useful life of an asset. No commitment to a naming shall extend beyond the useful life of an asset or existence of the asset named.
- (b) In general, when permanent named recognition has been extended for a gift received, it is intended to be honoured for the useful life of the asset. In the event of changed circumstances (e.g., a program no longer exists), the GRCF reserves the right to

determine the form which such permanence may take, generally in consultation with the donor or their authorized representative(s) where appropriate.

- (c) Where a naming is for a limited period of time, the GRCF reserves the right to rename the asset on the expiration of that time, or to renew the support of the donor. When a named asset ceases to exist or will be developed for another use, appropriate recognition of earlier donors and honourees will be considered.
- (d) Should changed circumstances lead to the denaming or renaming of an asset, and provided that the GRCF has in good faith fulfilled its original commitment to the donor, the GRCF will be in no way obligated to return any portion of a charitably receipted gift to the donor.
- (e) Where a building or part thereof has been named "in perpetuity," the GRCF will continue to use the name so long as the building or part thereof remains in use and serves its original function. When the use of a building or part thereof is changed such that it must be demolished, substantially renovated, or rebuilt, the GRCF may retain the use of the name, name a comparable building or part thereof, or discontinue the use of the name. Where it is proposed that the use of the name not be maintained, the discontinuation will require the approval of the GRCF Board of Directors.
- (f) A proposal to rename an asset or to add a second name shall adhere to the same procedures and criteria for naming as outlined in this Policy.
- (g) When an asset is proposed for renaming, reasonable efforts will be made to inform the original donor or honouree in advance. If a donor or honouree is deceased, reasonable efforts will be made to inform the next generation of family members or business owners in advance of the renaming.

f. Revocation of Naming

The GRCA reserves the right to revoke a naming in the sole discretion of the GRCA General Membership where, in the opinion of the GRCA General Membership, it would be in the best interests of the GRCF and the GRCA for the GRCA to revoke the naming or the retention of the name would be prejudicial to the GRCF and the GRCA. Requests to revoke a naming must be sent to the Chief Administrative Officer of the GRCA and the Executive Director of the GRCF for consideration and will then be referred to the GRCA General Membership for a decision. The GRCF Board of Directors will be advised of any decision concerning the revocation of naming by the GRCA General Membership.

g. Records

- (a) The GRCF shall keep a complete record of all naming agreements and related documents.
- (b) The GRCA shall be responsible for maintaining and updating an inventory of named assets which will be shared with the GRCF. It will maintain a central registry of all named gift opportunities. This will be reviewed and updated from time to time based on market conditions, institutional fundraising priorities, and comparisons with other institutions.

REVIEW OF POLICY

4. Annual Review of Policy

- (a) The Finance and Administration Committee of the GRCF shall use its best efforts to review this Policy each year in order to determine whether or not it continues to comply with all applicable laws.
- (b) Any changes recommended by the GRCF Finance and Administration Committee will be brought forward to the GRCF and the GRCA Boards for review and approval.



DONOR NAMING OPPORTUNITIES POLICY

1. Introduction:

The Grand River Conservation Foundation (GRCF) is a registered charity which accepts current and deferred gifts (pledges or planned gifts) in accordance with the Gift Acceptance Policy.

Naming opportunities can be a significant incentive to attracting large-scale gifts. Many of the GRCA projects for which the GRCF raises funds may be advanced significantly by named recognition opportunities.

2. Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Provide guidelines for consideration and approval of naming opportunities of potential GRCA sites and facilities; and
- Ensure consistency in recognition and communication once naming opportunities are approved.

3. Policy:

- Named donations from individuals, corporations or foundations may be accepted by the GRCF in accordance with the Gift Acceptance Policy.
- The GRCA and the GRCF have the right to refuse any naming that involves potentially sensitive issues or carries with it potential liability to either party. A named gift will not be accepted if it is deemed to create a conflict of interest, real or perceived.
- The specific wording of the naming will be subject to agreement by all three parties, the GRCA, the GRCF and the donor.
- A gift will be eligible for a naming opportunity if it is received in cash, in the form of securities or through a donation in kind of a product or good which is required within a project and therefore represents direct budget relief. In some cases, named funds may be created through a planned gift. Donations of services are not eligible for naming.
- The GRCA General Membership and the GRCF Board of Directors reserves the right to withdraw named recognition if the source of donation is determined to be questionable or if the donor has demonstrated conduct that could negatively affect the reputation of the GRCA or the GRCF.
- The duration of the naming will be approved at the time of the gift.

For Existing GRCA Facilities or Properties:

- Naming opportunities on existing GRCA facilities or areas may be offered in recognition of largescale gifts that support improved capital facilities and/or maintenance costs at that facility or property. Facilities and properties vary in size and thus the value of a naming

opportunity will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Examples of larger-scale naming opportunities at a Conservation Area or Nature Centre would include:

- Pool
 - Campground
 - Playground
 - Boardwalk
 - Nature Centre building
 - Nature Centre classroom and/or auditorium
- Other naming opportunities could include:
 - Picnic shelter
 - Observation Tower
 - Dock
 - Overlook along a trail
Trail (with cost depending on length)
 - Donors who commit to multi-year partnerships related to the establishment of Memorial Areas and/or Groves on GRCA property may be offered the opportunity to name that area..

For New GRCA Facilities or Properties:

- Naming opportunities for new GRCA facilities or properties may be offered to encourage large-scale gifts that enable the facility or property to be established.
- A naming opportunity for a stand-alone project (for example, an outdoor classroom) may be available for a donor that contributes 75% or more of the cost of that project.
- Where appropriate, multiple naming opportunities may be available for a given facility – for example, a new Nature Centre may include naming opportunities for both the entire building and rooms within it.

4. Implementation:

- Naming opportunities related to GRCA facilities or properties will be subject to approval of both the GRCF Board as per the terms of the Gift Acceptance Policy and the GRCA General Membership.
- Naming opportunities will be formalized with a signed agreement between the GRCA, the GRCF and the donor in accordance with this policy and the Gift Acceptance Policy.
- Namings will be implemented when 80% of a donation is received. The GRCA General Membership and the GRCF Board will reserve the right to amend this rule in certain cases, including deferred gifts committed prior to the adoption of this Policy. If a donor has not concluded their pledge payments within three years of the planned donation schedule, the GRCA General Membership and the GRCF Board reserve the right to withdraw the naming.
- Once named, the named facility or property will be referred to as such (ie “The Toyota Trail”) both verbally and in writing.
- Naming opportunities for GRCF scholarships and funds created through a planned gift, will be approved by the GRCF Board only.

Grand River Conservation Authority

Report number: GM-04-23-31

Date: April 28, 2023

To: Members of the Grand River Conservation Authority

Subject: Cash and Investment Status – March 2023

Recommendation:

THAT Report Number GM-04-23-31 Cash and Investment Status – March 2023 be received as information.

Summary:

The cash position including Notes Receivable of the Grand River Conservation Authority as at March 31, 2023 was \$57,336,212 with outstanding cheques written in the amount of \$318,153.

Report:

See attached.

Financial Implications:

Interest rates, etc. are shown on the report.

Other Department Considerations:

Not applicable.

Prepared by:

Carol Anne Johnston
Senior Accountant

Approved by:

Karen Armstrong
Deputy CAO/Secretary Treasurer

Sonja Radoja
Manager of Corporate Services

**Grand River Conservation Authority
Cash and Investments Status Report
March 31, 2023**

BANK ACCOUNTS	Location	Type	Amount	Interest Rate
	CIBC	Current Account	9,550,873	4.90%
	RBC	Current Account	94,609	nil
	Wood Gundy	Current Account	0	nil
	CIBC - SPP Holding	Current Account	610,556	4.90%
	TOTAL CASH - CURRENT ACCOUNT		10,256,038	

INVESTMENTS	Date Invested	Location	Type	Amount	Face Value Interest Rate	Yield Rate	Date of Maturity	2023 Total Interest Earned/ Accrued
		CIBC Renaissance	High Interest Savings Account	2,516,466	4.05%	4.05%	not applicable	88,530
		One Investment Savings	High Interest Savings Account	4,470,015	4.965%	4.965%	not applicable	220,955
	October 23, 2019	Cdn Western Bank	Bond	2,010,000	2.800%	2.78%	September 6, 2024	55,625
	December 23, 2019	Laurentian Bank	Bond	3,821,000	3.450%	2.57%	June 27, 2023	48,406
	January 16, 2020	Cdn Western Bank	Bond	3,000,000	2.597%	2.45%	September 6, 2024	73,383
	September 15, 2021	Cdn Western Bank	Bond	1,500,000	2.597%	1.21%	September 6, 2024	18,537
	September 23, 2021	Province of Ontario	Bond	2,300,000	1.230%	1.23%	December 2, 2026	27,156
	September 23, 2021	ManuLife Financial	Bond	2,000,000	2.237%	1.34%	May 12, 2030	37,326
	December 8, 2021	Province of B.C.	Bond	2,050,356	1.180%	1.18%	December 18, 2023	22,978
	June 29, 2022	TD Bank	Bond	4,008,000	3.005%	3.54%	May 30, 2023	57,788
	December 14, 2022	Royal Bank	Bond	2,000,000	2.333%	4.87%	December 5, 2023	87,901
	December 14, 2022	National Bank	Bond	4,054,000	2.983%	4.84%	March 4, 2024	190,857
	December 14, 2022	CIBC	Bond	4,100,000	3.300%	4.36%	May 26, 2025	174,281
	December 14, 2022	Bank of Montreal	Bond	4,096,000	2.700%	4.59%	September 11, 2024	182,053
	February 7, 2023	CIBC	GIC (cashable after 90 days)	5,154,337	3.800%	3.80%	February 7, 2024	175,473
		TOTAL INVESTMENTS		47,080,174				\$1,461,250

TOTAL CASH AND INVESTMENTS **\$57,336,212**

* Reserve Balance at December 31st, 2022 33,621,402

Investment By Institution

	<u>% of Total Portfolio</u>
TD Bank	9%
C.I.B.C.	25%
Royal Bank	4%
Bank of Montreal	9%
National Bank	9%
Cdn Western Bank	14%
Laurentian	8%
ManuLife Financial Bank	4%
One Investment Program	10%
Province of B.C.	4%
Province of Ontario	5%
	<u>100%</u>

* Reserve balances are reviewed annually by the Board in November.

Grand River Conservation Authority

Report number: GM-04-23-39

Date: April 28, 2023

To: Members of the Grand River Conservation Authority

Subject: Financial Summary for the Period Ending March 31, 2023

Recommendation:

THAT the Financial Summary for the period ending March 31, 2023 be approved.

Summary:

The Financial Statements include the 2023 *actual* year-to-date income and expenditures. The budget approved at the February 24, 2023 General Meeting is included in the *Budget* column. The *Current Forecast* column indicates an estimate of income and expenditures for the whole year. At this time a net result of NIL at year-end is anticipated.

Report:

The Financial Statements for the period ending March 31, 2023 are attached.

- A. Self-Generated Revenue increased by \$30,000
 - Conservation Lands timber revenue increased by \$30,000
- B. Funding to Reserves increased by \$30,000
 - Transfer to the Forestry reserve increased by \$30,000 related to revenue from timber sales

Financial Implications:

The activity summarized will result in a NIL surplus at December 31, 2023.

Other Department Considerations:

The management committee and appropriate supervisory staff receive monthly financial reports and advise the finance department of applicable forecast adjustments.

Prepared by:

Kayleigh Keighan
Financial Controller

Approved by:

Karen Armstrong
Deputy CAO/Secretary Treasurer

**GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING March 31, 2023**

SCHEDULE		Actual 2022	Budget 2023	Actual YTD	Previous Forecast	Current Forecast	Forecast Change
REVENUE							
Municipal							
General Municipal Levy (Operating)	various	11,580,000	12,018,000	4,006,000	12,018,000	12,018,000	-
General Municipal Levy (Capital)	various	950,000	950,000	316,667	950,000	950,000	-
Special Municipal Levy	various	99,593	130,000	-	130,000	130,000	-
Other	various	536,972	825,000	789,323	825,000	825,000	-
		13,166,565	13,923,000	5,111,990	13,923,000	13,923,000	-
Government Grants							
NDMNRF Transfer Payments	various	449,688	449,688	-	449,688	449,688	-
Source Protection Program-Provincial	various	569,995	640,000	94,178	640,000	640,000	-
Other Provincial	various	688,888	982,500	982,938	982,500	982,500	-
Federal	various	431,024	190,000	195,010	190,000	190,000	-
		2,139,595	2,262,188	1,272,126	2,262,188	2,262,188	-
Self Generated							
User Fees and Sales							
<i>Enquiries and Permits</i>	4	591,330	590,000	168,043	590,000	590,000	-
<i>Plan Input and Review</i>	4	598,852	554,000	220,888	554,000	554,000	-
<i>Consulting</i>	4	-	-	3,726	-	-	-
<i>Nursery and Woodlot Management</i>	5	636,389	415,000	342,513	415,000	445,000	30,000
<i>Conservation Lands Income</i>	10	65,050	71,000	1,271	71,000	71,000	-
<i>Conservation Areas User Fees</i>	13	11,232,460	10,000,000	1,241,927	10,000,000	10,000,000	-
<i>Nature Centres and Camps</i>	8	519,747	-	223,788	-	-	-
<i>Merchandising and Sales</i>	8	872	-	-	-	-	-
Property Rentals	11	2,910,172	3,006,000	1,121,781	3,006,000	3,006,000	-
Hydro Generation	12	589,334	580,000	83,985	580,000	580,000	-
Land Sales	10	15,196,404	-	-	-	-	-
Grand River Conservation Foundation	various	435,141	527,000	-	527,000	527,000	-
Donations	various	23,473	635,000	41,935	635,000	635,000	-
Landowner Contributions	5	163,602	180,000	158,407	180,000	180,000	-
Investment Income	14	866,001	1,350,000	268,301	1,350,000	1,350,000	-
Miscellaneous Income	various	27,822	35,000	2,797	35,000	35,000	-
Total Self-Generated Revenue		33,856,649	17,943,000	3,879,362	17,943,000	17,973,000	30,000
TOTAL REVENUE		49,162,809	34,128,188	10,263,478	34,128,188	34,158,188	30,000

**GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING March 31, 2023**

SCHEDULE	Actual 2022	Budget 2023	Actual YTD	Previous Forecast	Current Forecast	Forecast Change	
EXPENSES							
OPERATING							
Water Resources Planning & Environment	1	1,979,753	2,373,900	315,318	2,373,900	2,373,900	-
Flood Forecasting and Warning	2	774,798	923,000	158,483	923,000	923,000	-
Water Control Structures	3	1,667,314	1,944,200	320,618	1,944,200	1,944,200	-
Resource Planning	4	2,229,262	2,574,200	381,611	2,574,200	2,574,200	-
Forestry & Conservation Land Property Taxe:	5	1,327,936	1,402,500	147,721	1,402,500	1,402,500	-
Conservation Services	6	449,256	605,700	54,320	605,700	605,700	-
Communications & Foundation	7	406,064	597,500	108,474	597,500	597,500	-
Environmental Education	8	817,034	810,100	198,256	810,100	810,100	-
Corporate Services	9	4,048,436	3,890,790	726,591	3,890,790	3,890,790	-
Conservation Lands	10	2,100,710	2,613,600	407,660	2,613,600	2,613,600	-
Property Rentals	11	1,257,435	1,665,200	181,786	1,665,200	1,665,200	-
Hydro Production	12	250,261	95,500	15,140	95,500	95,500	-
Conservation Areas	13	8,144,188	8,500,000	492,044	8,500,000	8,500,000	-
Miscellaneous	14	19,233	-	16,384	-	-	-
Information Systems	16	1,171,003	1,557,000	333,494	1,557,000	1,557,000	-
Motor Pool	16	1,001,110	939,000	159,833	939,000	939,000	-
Less: Internal Charges (IS & MP)	16	(2,172,113)	(2,496,000)	(493,327)	(2,496,000)	(2,496,000)	-
Total OPERATING Expenses		25,471,680	27,996,190	3,524,406	27,996,190	27,996,190	-
CAPITAL							
Water Resources Planning & Environment	1	56,922	110,000	11,433	110,000	110,000	-
Flood Forecasting and Warning	2	188,310	190,000	721	190,000	190,000	-
Water Control Structures	3	1,347,653	1,500,000	298,396	1,500,000	1,500,000	-
Nature Centres	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
Conservation Areas	13	934,152	2,000,000	795,137	2,000,000	2,000,000	-
Corporate Services	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Information Systems	16	154,773	170,000	299	170,000	170,000	-
Motor Pool	16	615,925	850,000	338,486	850,000	850,000	-
Less: Internal Charges (IS & MP)	16	(390,588)	(241,000)	491,656	(241,000)	(241,000)	-
Total Capital Expenses		2,907,147	4,579,000	1,936,128	4,579,000	4,579,000	-
SPECIAL							
Water Resources Planning & Environment	1	127,969	210,000	28,197	210,000	210,000	-
Flood Forecasting and Warning	2	341,735	90,000	3,183	90,000	90,000	-
Forestry	5	52,653	100,000	1,939	100,000	100,000	-
Conservation Services	6	757,372	1,090,000	441,431	1,090,000	1,090,000	-
Environmental Education	8	26,600	500,000	-	500,000	500,000	-
Conservation Land Purchases/Land Sale Exp	10	17,660	-	3,637	-	-	-
Conservation Lands	10	229,921	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	14	27,323	35,000	-	35,000	35,000	-
Source Protection Program	15	569,995	640,000	94,178	640,000	640,000	-
Total SPECIAL PROJECTS Expenses		2,151,228	2,665,000	572,565	2,665,000	2,665,000	-
Total Expenses		30,530,055	35,240,190	6,033,099	35,240,190	35,240,190	-
Gross Surplus		18,632,754	(1,112,002)	4,230,379	(1,112,002)	(1,082,002)	30,000
Prior Year Surplus Carryforward		567,177	562,502	-	562,502	562,502	-
Net Funding FROM/(TO) Reserves		(18,637,430)	549,500	-	549,500	519,500	(30,000)
NET SURPLUS		562,502	-	4,230,379	(0)	(0)	-

**GRAND RIVER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
FINANCIAL SUMMARY - FORECAST**

General Membership - April 28, 2023

FORECAST - FEBRUARY 28, 2023 - NET RESULT **\$467,000**

CHANGES - MARCH 2023

Sch 10 Conservation Lands	\$30,000	Timber Revenue increase	\$0
	(\$30,000)	Transfer to Forestry Reserve increase	

FORECAST - MARCH 31, 2023 - NET RESULT **\$467,000**

Grand River Conservation Authority

Report number: GM-04-23-34

Date: April 28, 2022

To: Members of the Grand River Conservation Authority

Subject: Provincial Offences Act Officer Designation – Section 29 Conservation Areas

Recommendation:

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority appoint Rhonda Card and Avery Jenks as Provincial Offences Act Officers to enforce Section 29 of the Conservation Authorities Act.

Summary:

Not applicable

Report:

The Conservation Authorities Act, section 29 authorizes the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) to make regulations applicable to lands owned by the GRCA. R.R.O. 1990, Regulation 106 authorizes GRCA to appoint staff members as Provincial Offences Act Officers (POA) to enforce the Act and regulations.

The role of the GRCA enforcement program adapts its focus to meet the current challenges facing the organization. Grand River Conservation Areas provide recreational day use opportunities and camping options, while passive land properties offer use of GRCA's natural habitat. A greater number of users results in an increased number of enforcement challenges such as alcohol use, vandalism, off-leash dogs and trespassing.

Park Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents and Park Operations Technicians are typically designated as POA officers to enforce the Conservation Authorities Act and the Trespass to Property Act. Both Rhonda Card, Superintendent at Byng Island Conservation Area and Avery Jenks, Park Operations Technician at Conestogo Lake Conservation Areas, have completed Provincial Offences Act training and have become recently employed by GRCA.

Based upon their enforcement training and prior work experience, these staff members meet the GRCA requirements for appointment and criteria established by the Regulatory Compliance Committee of Conservation Ontario, to be designated as Provincial Offences Act Officers.

Financial Implications:

Not applicable

Other Department Considerations:

Not applicable

Prepared by:

Pam Walther-Mabee
Manager of Conservation
Area Operations

Approved by:

Lisa Keys
Director of Land Management

Grand River Conservation Authority

Report number: GM-04-23-37

Date: April 28, 2023

To: Members of the Grand River Conservation Authority

Subject: Provincial Offences Act Officer Appointments Section 28

Recommendation:

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority appoint Nicholas Stasiak and Tyler Slaght as Provincial Offences Officers to enforce Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act.

Summary:

Not applicable.

Report:

The Conservation Authorities Act, Section 28, enables the appointment of officers for the purposes of enforcing any regulation made under Section 28 of the Act and Ontario Regulation 150/06 enables the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) to appoint staff members as Provincial Offences Act Officers (POA) to enforce Ontario Regulation 150/06 (Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses regulation).

As a Provincial Offences Act Officer, Nicholas Stasiak and Tyler Slaght will be responsible for inspections, investigations and enforcement of the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses regulation, Ontario Regulation 150/06.

Nicholas Stasiak is a Regulations Officer and Tyler Slaght is a Supervisor of Resource Planning at the GRCA. Both Nicholas and Tyler have been employed as a Regulations Officer at other Conservation Authorities. They have both completed the Conservation Authority Compliance Training – Level 1 Foundations course. Tyler has also completed the Conservation Authority Compliance Training - Level 2 course.

Based upon their enforcement training and prior work experience, these staff members meet the GRCA requirements for appointment and criteria established by the Regulatory Compliance Committee of Conservation Ontario to be designated as Provincial Offences Act Officers.

Financial Implications:

Not applicable.

Other Department Considerations:

Not applicable.

Prepared by:

Melissa Larion
Supervisor of Resource Planning

Approved by:

Samantha Lawson
Chief Administrative Officer

Beth Brown
Manager of Engineering and
Planning Services

Grand River Conservation Authority

Report number: GM-04-23-32

Date: April 28, 2023

To: Members of the Grand River Conservation Authority

Subject: Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation

Recommendation:

THAT Report Number GM-04-23-32 – Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation be received as information.

Summary:

To provide the General Membership of the Grand River Conservation Authority with a quarterly summary of permits approved and issued by staff which conform to current Grand River Conservation Authority policies for the Administration of Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation Ontario Regulation 150/06.

Report:

Permit Report for January, February, and March 2023

Municipality	Total
City of Brantford	4
City of Cambridge	7
City of Guelph	1
City of Hamilton	12
City of Kitchener	5
City of Waterloo	6
County of Brant	15
Haldimand County	17
Town of Erin	2
Town of Grand Valley	3
Town of Milton	1
Township of Blandford-Blenheim	1
Township of Centre Wellington	15
Township of Guelph/Eramosa	9
Township of Mapleton	8
Township of Melancthon	3

Municipality	Total
Township of North Dumfries	6
Township of Perth East	2
Township of Puslinch	9
Township of Southgate	1
Township of Wellesley	4
Township of Wellington North	1
Township of Wilmot	13
Township of Woolwich	10
Total Permits	155

Financial Implications:

Not Applicable.

Other Department Considerations:

Not Applicable.

Prepared by:

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Approved by:

Samantha Lawson
Chief Administrative Officer

Beth Brown
Manager of Engineering and
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Grand River Conservation Authority

Report number: GM-03-23-36

Date: March 24, 2023

To: Members of the Grand River Conservation Authority

Subject: April 2023 Flood Event

Recommendation:

THAT Report Number GM-04-23-36 – April 2023 Flood Event be received as information.

Summary

This report provides a detailed overview of the March 31 to April 2, 2023 weather event that resulted in minor flooding in a few communities in the Grand River Watershed.

A strong low-pressure system moved into the region on early hours of Friday, March 31 which resulted in 30 to 50 millimetres of rain throughout the Grand River watershed. Thunderstorms overnight resulted in periods of intense rainfall. The watershed received an additional 10 to 20 millimetres of rain through the day on Saturday. In addition to the rainfall, increased temperatures during this period resulted in a watershed wide snowmelt which consequently contributed to the loss of snowpack in most areas of the watershed. Runoff associated with this event resulted in minor flooding in several communities across the watershed including West Montrose, Drayton, New Hamburg, Ayr, and some low-lying areas in the lower part of the watershed. A brief Lake Erie surge event also accompanied this flood on April 1. GRCA's major reservoirs were used to reduce downstream flooding, reducing river flows downstream of these reservoirs by 20 to 60 percent.

Report

A strong weather system, originating in the southern United States, brought rain and warm temperatures to southern Ontario on Friday March 31, 2023. This event continued through the weekend before moving out of the watershed on April 2. Due to the three large snow storm events the watershed received in late February and March, the accumulated snowpack was significant, specifically upstream of Shand Dam as presented in Figure 1. The warm temperatures and rain resulted in melting of much of the remaining snowpack during this event. In addition to this snowmelt, the entire watershed received between 30 to 65 millimetres of rainfall with the highest volumes, in excess of 60 millimetres, falling in the lower-central portion of the watershed near Paris and the lower portion of the Nith River. Figure 2 presents a map of the rainfall totals across the watershed. Peak temperatures between 8 to 15 degrees were recorded across the watershed, as presented in Figure 3. It should be noted that the system brought some freezing rain in the early hours of Friday morning, which resulted in underestimation of rainfall measurement by rain gauges, specifically in the upper portion of the watershed.

The GRCA relies heavily on external weather information to forecast river flow conditions during events like this. Weather forecasts prior to this event featured a great deal of uncertainty around whether the watershed would be impacted by strong thunderstorms, which would lead to excessive rainfall in localized areas. That uncertainty continued

even as the event was unfolding across the watershed. Temperatures remained above freezing and precipitation fell mainly as rain in across the watershed.

In addition to flooding based on snowmelt and rainfall, a Lake Erie Surge was also forecasted by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) to occur on Saturday April 1, during late hours of the afternoon and early evening, resulting in Zone 1 Flooding along Lake Erie Shoreline. Fortunately, the observed lake levels did not reach flooding thresholds and peaked at 175.33 metres while Zone 1 flooding threshold is 175.50 metres.

Flood Warnings issued during flood

A total of 6 Flood Warnings were issued from April 1 to April 3 :

Flood Message Number 1 - Issued Saturday, April 1 , 2023 at 8:45 AM

Flood Message Number 2 - Issued Saturday, April 1 , 2023 at 10:30 AM

Flood Message Number 3 - Issued Saturday, April 1 , 2023 at 2:15 PM

Flood Message Number 4 - Issued Saturday, April 1 , 2023 at 4:30 PM

Flood Message Number 5 – Issued Monday, April 3 , 2023 at 3:30 PM

Flood Message Number 1 – High Lake Erie Level, Issued Saturday, April 1 , 2023 at 12:00 PM

Flood Warnings were issued by email, automated voice phone call, personal phone calls to specific flood co-ordinators in affected areas, posted to the GRCA website, GRCA social media feeds, and issued directly to the media. Flood message Number 5 was a flood warning termination message. A flood watch message was included with message Number 5 reminding residents of the risks around our local waterways as river flows would remain much higher than normal through the week following the event.

Role of GRCA website

The GRCA website played an important role delivering information to the public and emergency responders. During the period of March 31 and April 3, pages were viewed more than 71,000 times. This compares to 33,000 page views for the same period in previous week. Website statistics from the recent event are presented by Figure 4, which shows page view data over a 4-day period with the y-axis of the chart presenting the number of page views per hour.

Resultant flooding and flood reduction provided by major dams

Table 1 presents a summary of observed flows and natural flows that would result without the flood mitigation effect of the reservoirs.

Table 1: Peak river flows at selected locations during event

Location	Water Course	Natural Flow (m ³ /s)	Regulated Flow (m ³ /s)	Flood Frequency		Flow Reduction %
				Natural (yr)	Regulated (yr)	
Legatt-Grand Valley	Grand River	106	--	< 2yr		
Marsville	Grand River	136	--	< 2yr		
Shand Dam	Grand River	150	91	2 to 5 yr		39%
Elora	Grand River	150	91	2 to 5 yr	< 2yr	39%
Irvine Salem	Irvine River	68	--	< 2yr		
West Montrose	Grand River	227	170	< 2yr	< 2yr	25%
Bridgeport	Grand River	446	341	< 2yr	< 2yr	24%
Doon	Grand River	450	357	< 2yr	< 2yr	21%
Galt	Grand River	539	409	< 2yr	< 2yr	24%
Paris	Grand River	539	409	< 2yr	< 2yr	24%
Brantford	Grand River	714	567	< 2yr	< 2yr	21%
Caledonia	Grand River	797	688	< 2yr	2 to 5 yr	14%
York	Grand River	797	688	< 2yr	2 to 5 yr	14%
Above Drayton	Conestogo River	158	--	2 to 5 yr		
Drayton	Conestogo River	140	--	2 to 5 yr		
Moorefield	Moorefield Creek	27	--	< 2yr		
Conestogo Dam	Conestogo River	188	139	< 2yr		
Glen Allan	Conestogo River	188	139	< 2yr	2 to 5 yr	26%
St. Jacobs	Conestogo River	182	140	< 2yr	< 2yr	23%
Floradale	Canagagigue Creek	43	--		2 to 5 yr	
Woolwich Dam	Canagagigue Creek	46	20		2 to 5 yr	56%
Below Elmira	Canagagigue Creek	59	34		2 to 5 yr	42%
Armstrong Mills	Speed River	27	--	< 2yr		
Guelph Dam	Speed River	56	21	< 2yr		62%
Victoria Rd Gauge	Speed River	56	21	< 2yr	2 to 5 yr	62%
Eramosa River	Eramosa River	14	--	< 2yr		
Speed River Edinburgh	Speed River	77	41	< 2yr	< 2yr	47%
Speed River Beaverville	Speed River	108	52	2 to 5 yr	< 2yr	52%
Speed River Preston	Speed River	108	52	2 to 5 yr	< 2yr	52%
Nithburg	Nith River	95	--	< 2yr		
New Hamburg	Nith River	146	--	< 2yr		
Ayr	Nith River	156	--	< 2yr		
Canning	Nith River	150	--	< 2yr		
Whitemans Creek	Whitemans Creek	48	--	2 to 5 yr		
McKenzie Creek	McKenzie Creek	24	--	2 to 5 yr		
Note: Regulated Flow is with reservoir regulation						
Natural Flow is without reservoir regulation						

Results presented in Table 1 indicate that the reservoirs were successful in reducing the peak flows and consequent flooding across the watershed for a range of 20 to 60 percent. The combination of the snowmelt and rainfall resulted in the headwater community of Drayton to experience minor flooding with observed peak flows reaching the lower portion of Flood Warning Zone 1 for this community. Flooding in the upper portion of the Grand River was limited to the community of West Montrose where observed peak flows reached Flood Warning Zone 1.

Flows in the Conestogo River downstream of Conestogo Dam resulted in the need to close the low-level bridge upstream of St. Jacobs. The storage provided by the reservoirs resulted in a 25 percent flow reduction along the Grand River downstream of the confluence with the Conestogo River (Bridgeport); without the mitigating effect of the

reservoirs a few properties along Golf Course Road in the Village of Conestogo would have experienced some flooding.

Through the City of Cambridge, the municipal flood coordinator was advised to close the Black Bridge Road and walking trails in low-lying areas near the Speed River.

River flows through the City of Brantford peaked at 570 cubic metres per second, resulting in low-lying walking trails to be flooded. Gilkison Street in Brantford was not flooded. Minor flooding was experienced in the Grand River through Six Nations, Brant County and York, including Onondaga side roads around Six Nations and Grand Sports Road in York.

Some minor flooding was also experienced along the lower portion of the Nith River with flooding occurring in Flood Warning Zone 1 in the communities of New Hamburg and Ayr.

GRCA's major reservoirs were used to reduce downstream flooding on the Grand, Conestogo and Speed Rivers. The Nith River flow is unregulated as there are no upstream reservoirs to help mitigate flooding on this river system. Prior to this event, reservoir levels were at their spring operating level when a small portion of the reservoir storage is available for flood attenuation. Highest flood reductions occurred through the City of Guelph where the Guelph Dam reduced flows by approximately 62 percent. Along the Grand River, flow reductions were in the 20 to 40 percent range.

Staffing of Flood Operations Centre

Beyond regular working hours, the Flood Operations staff at GRCA were actively operating through the weekend. A Duty Officer remained on-call throughout the duration of the event for after-hours emergency calls. A Senior Operator was available continuously during the event. Engineering and Communications staff monitored conditions and responded to public enquiries and media calls through the weekend.

Lessons learned and actions initiated

This particular flood event was relatively difficult to forecast given the uncertainty in the type of precipitation associated with the system, potential convective rainfall systems which resulted in thunder storms and severe rainfall over short periods of time, and also the uncertainties associated with snow melt.

The rain gauge network that provides rainfall data to the GRCA worked well however freezing conditions in a few locations affected the quality of data received. The ability to fortify our rain gauge network with devices better suited for mixed precipitation events will be investigated.

The GRCA began subscribing to the Hydromaster forecast system in 2020. This service provides a 3-hour Nowcast based on tracking the movement of weather systems via Radar and provides GRCA staff with direct warnings, as well as a long term hourly precipitation forecast. This service was particularly useful during this event as it provided both short-term and long-term rainfall forecast and assisted in providing an indication of the location where cellular thunderstorms would result in significant amount of rainfall over a short period of time.

Financial implications:

Not applicable. If requests that have budget implications result from the recent flood, these requests will be dealt with as budget forecast adjustments or as separate board reports brought back to the board.

Other department considerations:

Not applicable

Prepared by:

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Approved by:

Samantha Lawson
Chief Administrative Officer

Figure 1: Snow Survey Results for the Grand River Watershed on April 3, 2023

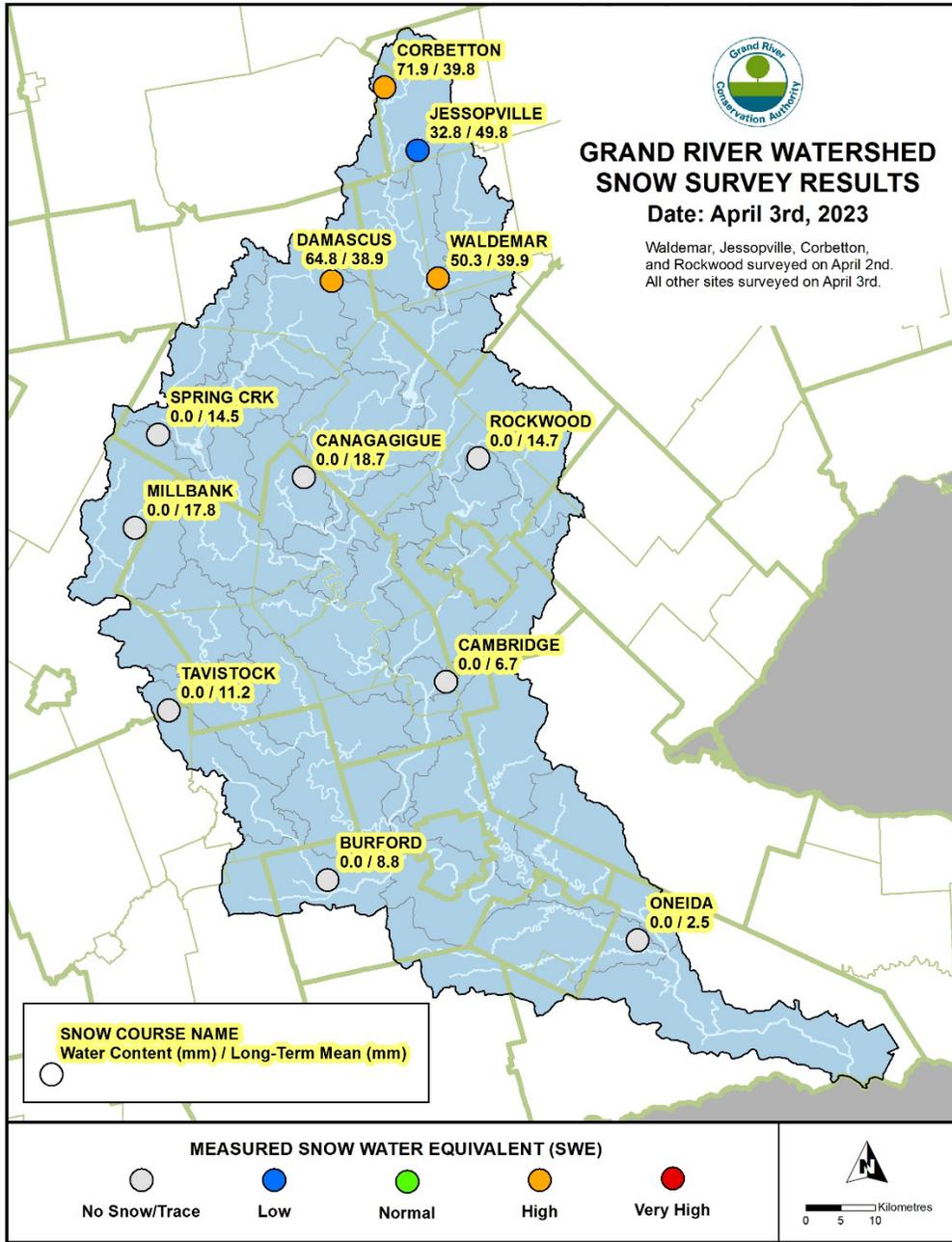


Figure 2 Watershed Rainfall Map for March 31-April 2 2023 Event

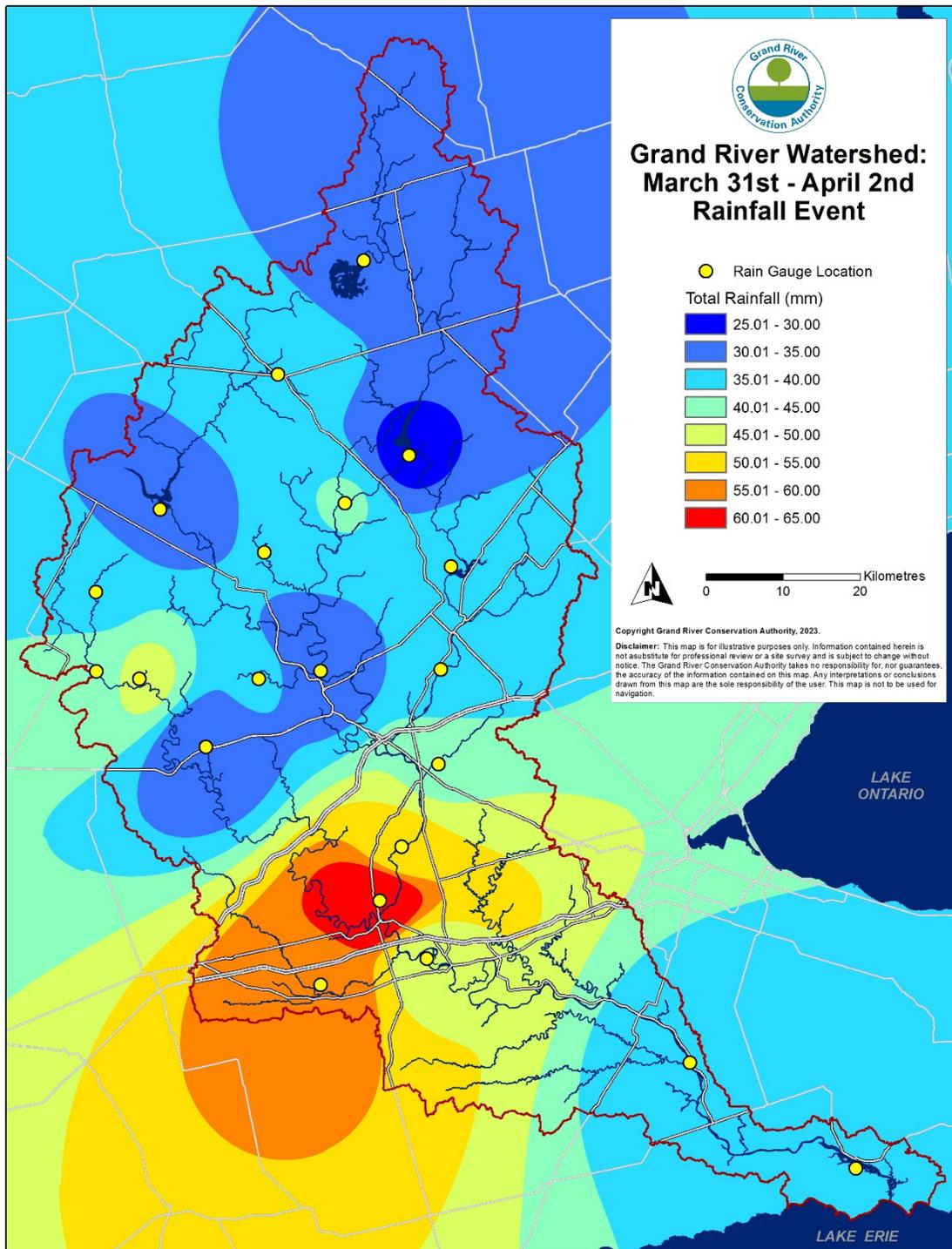


Figure 3 Temperature across the watershed during the March 31 – April 2 Flood Event

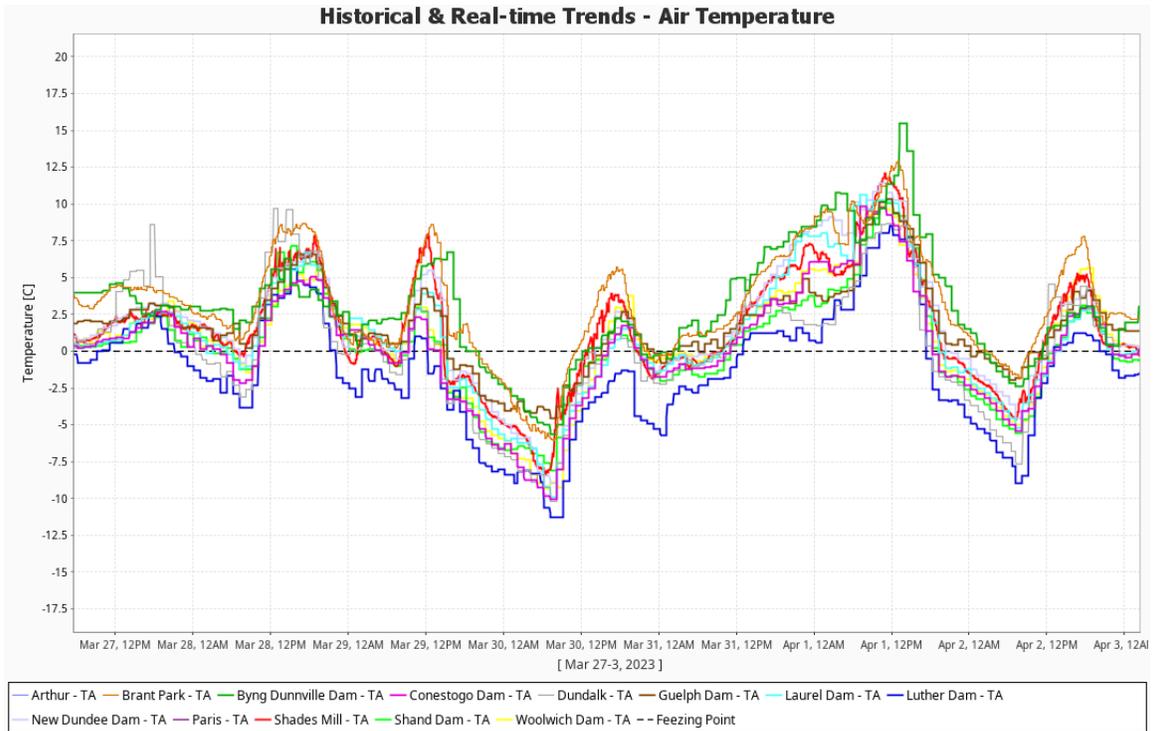
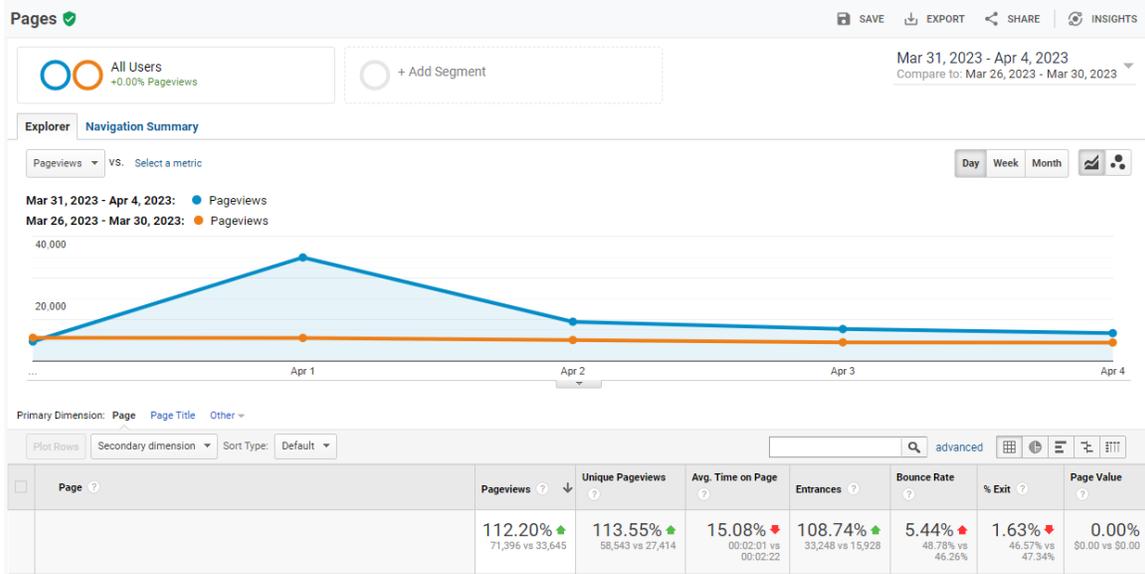


Figure 4 GRCA Website Statistics During March 31 – April 2 Flood Event



Grand River Conservation Authority

Report number: GM-04-23-33

Date: April 28, 2023

To: Members of the Grand River Conservation Authority

Subject: Current Watershed Conditions as of April 15, 2023

Recommendation:

THAT Report Number GM-04-23-33 – Current Watershed Conditions as of April 15, 2023 be received as information.

Summary:

March was a wet and slightly warmer than usual month. The month started with temperature swings and two major snow storms which reformed the lost snowpack to conditions that were near or above the long-term average in most parts of the watershed. Warmer temperatures were observed during mid to late March into April.

Two major snow storms in early March and warm temperatures and rainfall observed in the second half of March and early April resulted in a widespread snowmelt and runoff across the watershed in early April. The available storage in reservoirs was used to mitigate the impact from snowmelt and rainfall generated runoff. On Friday March 31, and Saturday April 1, a combination of 30 to 60 millimeters of rainfall and snowmelt resulted in minor flooding for low-lying areas in communities of Drayton, West Montrose, New Hamburg and Ayr.

With respect to low water conditions, the short-term and mid-term precipitation patterns have recovered when compared to long-term normal, however, review of the groundwater conditions indicates that groundwater levels have yet to recover and still remain low. As such, the watershed is still in a Level 1 Low Water Condition.

Lake Erie continues to be above the long-term average, but below the levels in 2022. Lake Erie is mostly free of ice.

The long-term forecast over the next three months is for near normal temperatures and slightly above normal precipitation.

Report:

Precipitation

March precipitation was above normal, mostly in the form of snowfall. A significant winter snow storm occurred on March 3 resulting in 20 to 30 centimeters of snowfall across the watershed and another winter storm brought heavy snow on March 10th. The snow survey conducted on March 15th, showed that many of the northern parts of the watershed had a snowpack slightly above or close to the long term average, while the other parts of the watershed had a relatively higher snowpack. Average depth of snow above the large dams ranged between 25 to 35 centimeters by mid-March. By the end of the month, the upper portion of the watershed, specifically areas upstream of Shand Dam, still had a significant snowpack.

Precipitation over the first two weeks of April has been well above normal for the first half of the month, as shown in Table 1. A strong low-pressure system moved into the region on early hours of Friday, March 31, 2023, which resulted in 30 to 50 millimeters of rain throughout the Grand River watershed. Thunderstorms overnight resulted in periods of intense rainfall. The watershed

received an additional 10 to 20 millimeters of rain through the day on Saturday. In addition to the rainfall, increased temperatures during this period resulted in a watershed wide snowmelt, which consequently contributed to the loss of snowpack in most areas of the watershed. Runoff associated with this event resulted in minor flooding in several communities across the watershed, including West Montrose, Drayton, New Hamburg and Ayr. Water levels in these communities reached to level 1 warning zone. Some low-lying areas in the lower part of the watershed also experienced minor flooding.

Trends in precipitation, Table 2, show that over the short term, the watershed is showing signs of recovery from dry conditions in 2022. Over the long term, the precipitation levels appear to be closer to normal averages; however, they are still slightly below the long term average values, specifically for 12 to 18 month periods. In other words, the watershed is still in a precipitation deficit. In particular, over the past 12 months the watershed has averaged only 83 percent of normal precipitation. A prolonged period of at or above normal precipitation is needed for the watershed to recover from the extended dry period in 2022. A visual representation of these trends for the Shand climate station is also provided in Figure 1.

Table 1: Current monthly precipitation for climate stations across the watershed up to April 15, 2023 including the long term average precipitation for half of April.

Climate Station	Current Month Precipitation (millimeters)	Long Term Average Precipitation (millimeters)	Percentage of Long Term Average (%)
Shand	47.7	38.9	123%
Conestogo	55.2	39.7	139%
Guelph	55.2	37.7	146%
Luther	59.0	39.0	151%
Woolwich	51.6	32.7	158%
Laurel	66.2	39.4	168%
Shades	66.9	39.2	171%
Brantford	62.6	33.1	189%

Table 2: Precipitation trends as a percentage (%) of the long-term average over the last 18 months

Climate Station	Last Month	Last 3 Months	Last 6 Months	Last 12 Months	Last 18 Months
Shand	159%	132%	99%	86%	94%
Conestogo	146%	116%	93%	90%	92%
Guelph	148%	127%	97%	84%	93%
Luther	133%	129%	110%	91%	97%
Woolwich	152%	115%	93%	83%	87%
Laurel	137%	117%	90%	73%	83%
Shades	138%	108%	91%	73%	85%
Brantford	211%	167%	106%	88%	98%

Air Temperatures

March was a relatively normal month. The average temperature during the month was approximately 0.6 degrees above the long-term average. At the Shand Dam climate station, daily temperatures ranged between -7 to 3 C with an average daily temperature of -1.6 C.

The first half of April was significantly warmer than March with temperatures peaking to mid to high 20s in parts of the watershed. The average temperatures at the Shand Dam climate station over the first two weeks of April was negative 7.2 degrees. This is approximately 3.9 degrees above the long-term average for the first half of April.

A visual representation of these trends for the Shand climate station is provided in Figure 2.

Lake Erie Water Levels

During March, the average lake level was approximately 0.33 meters above the long-term average. Levels remained elevated during the first half of April and are approximately 0.44 meters above the long-term average. The forecast for Lake Erie is for lake levels to continue to increase over the spring months following regular seasonal patterns. Lake Erie is currently not ice covered and is anticipated to remain ice free. Figure 3 shows the range of water levels that is expected over the next six months as well as the observed water levels over the last three years.

Reservoir Conditions

Runoff from the rainfall and snow melt events in late March and early April has been routed through the reservoirs. With the snowmelt at the end of March and runoff generated by rainfall events on April 1, the Shand, Conestogo and Guelph reservoirs were filled to their normal spring operational targets.

Reservoirs will be used to manage flows during spring rain events over the next couple of months. The amount of flood storage available will be balanced with the amount of runoff expected from precipitation. Year to date reservoir levels and operating rule curves are shown in Figures 4 and 5 for the four largest reservoirs.

Groundwater Resources

Groundwater levels in the Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network and Grand River Conservation Authority monitoring wells across the watershed were analyzed to the end of March 2023, as shown in Figure 6.

Groundwater levels in these networks began reaching all time lows in November 2022 in response to drought conditions experienced throughout most of 2022. Through the winter months of 2023, precipitation was close to the long-term normal range, however groundwater levels still remain impacted by the drought of 2022 into March of 2023. If groundwater levels do not return to approximately their seasonal spring levels as seen in previous years (ie from further lack of precipitation/recharge), the amount of baseflow available to streams may be reduced throughout the summer/fall seasons which in turn can affect flows and stream temperatures.

Long Range Forecast

Environment and Climate Change Canada is forecasting near normal temperatures and slightly above normal precipitation over the next 3 months.

Flood Preparedness and Flood Centre Activities

A watershed Condition Statement was issued on March 24th to notify the watershed residents of potential impacts of the low-pressure system moving through the watershed on March 25th. This event resulted in no flooding and available storage in reservoirs was used to mitigate the resultant runoff. Warm temperatures and 30 to 60 millimeters of rainfall at the end of March and beginning of April resulted in minor flooding in low-lying areas of the watershed including communities of Above Drayton, West Montrose, New Hamburg and Ayr. In Addition, a minor

Lake Erie surge was observed on April 1. A total of 6 messages and a High Lake Erie flood warning message were issued during this event. Details of these events have been provided in a separate report.

Reservoir conditions are being monitored closely and staff continue to hold weekly meetings as part of planning initiatives, dam operations and flood emergency preparedness. Training sessions on the flood program and emergency management are underway for new staff and for staff in new roles.

Financial Implications:

Not applicable

Other Department Considerations:

Not applicable

Prepared by:

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Approved by:

Samantha Lawson
Chief Administrative Officer

Figures:

Figure 1: Shand Dam Monthly Precipitation 2019 to April 15, 2023

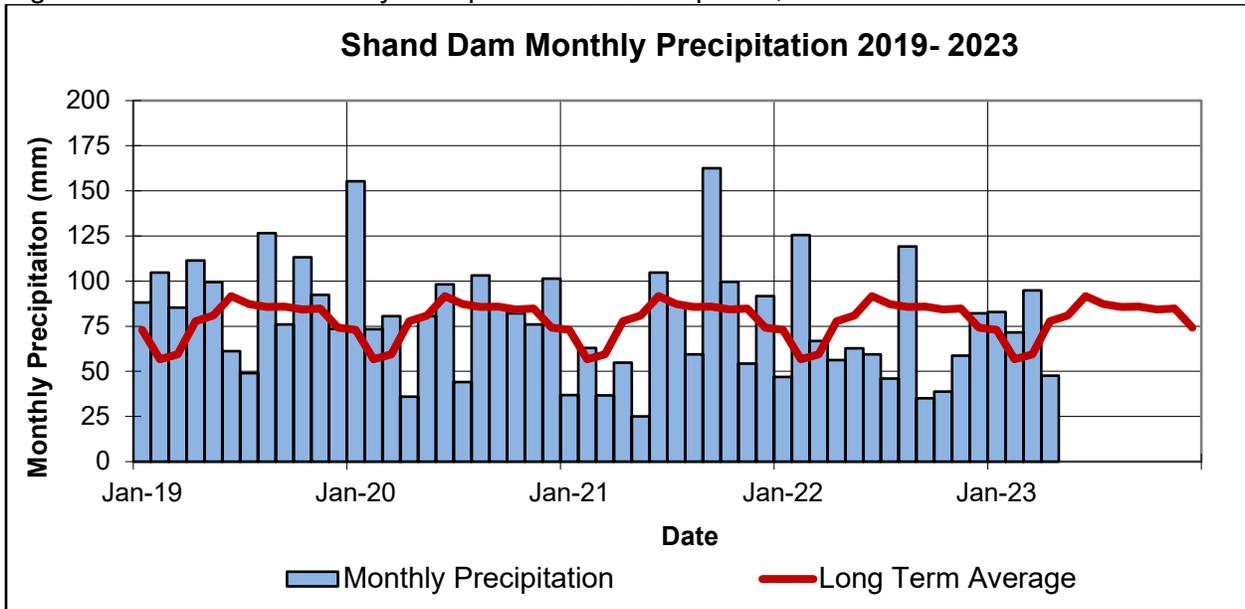


Figure 2: Monthly Average Air Temperatures at Shand Dam from 2019 to April 15, 2023

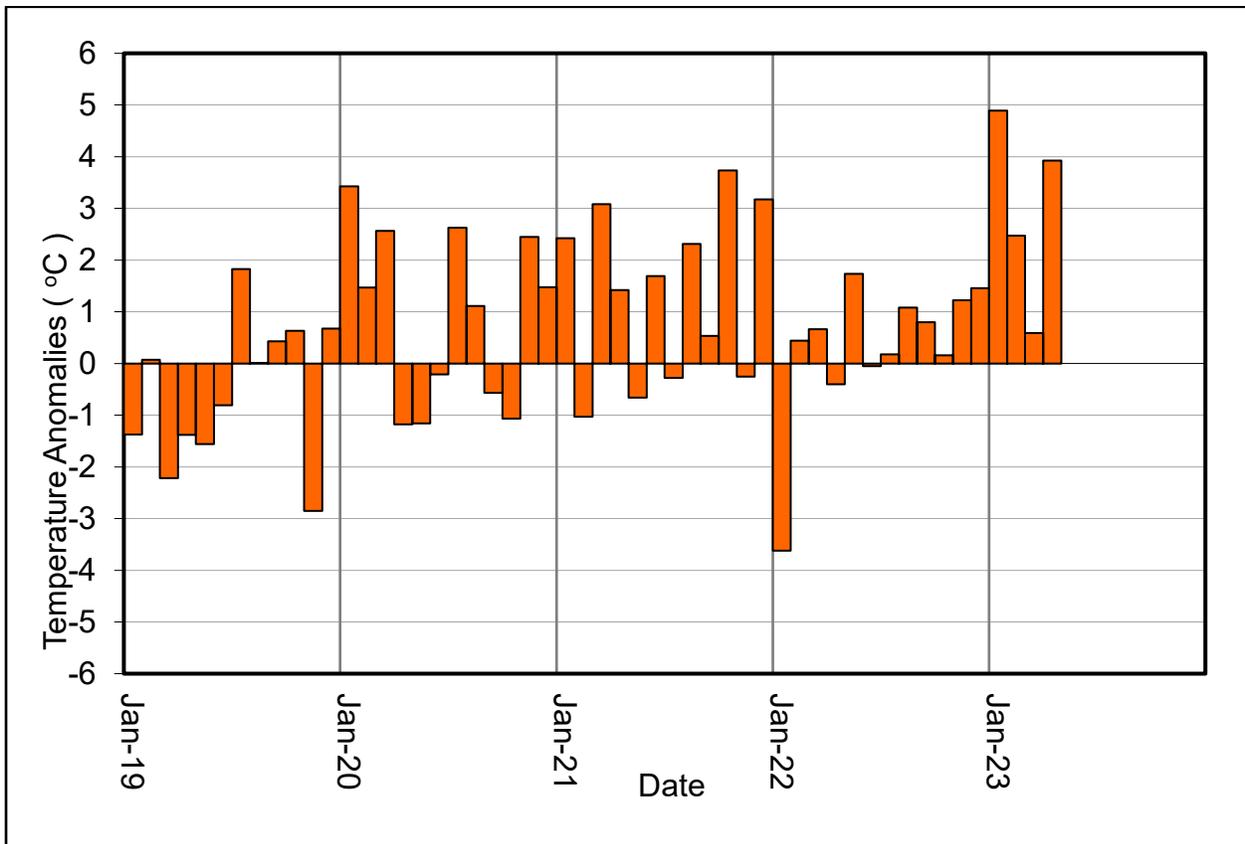


Figure 3: Water levels for Lake Erie at Port Colborne

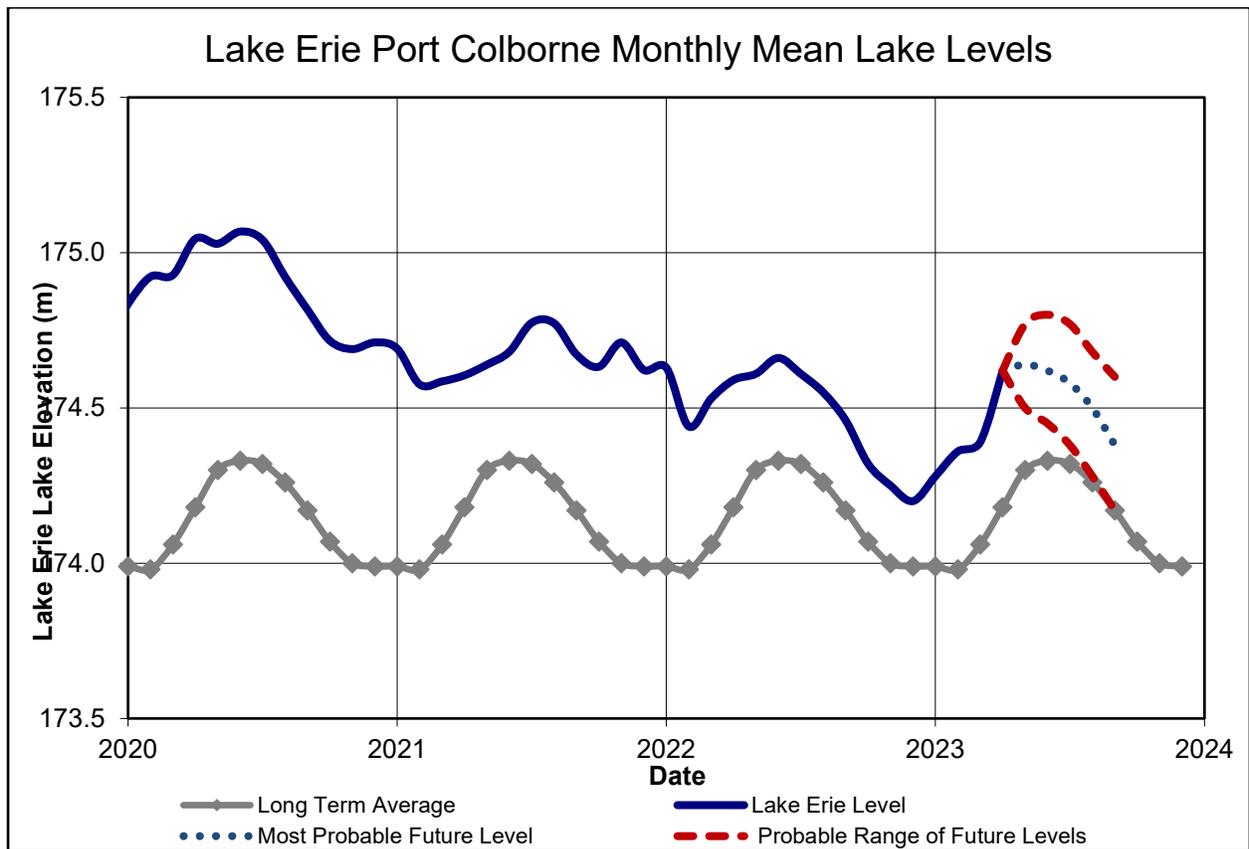


Figure 4: Shand and Conestogo Reservoir Elevation Plots for 2023

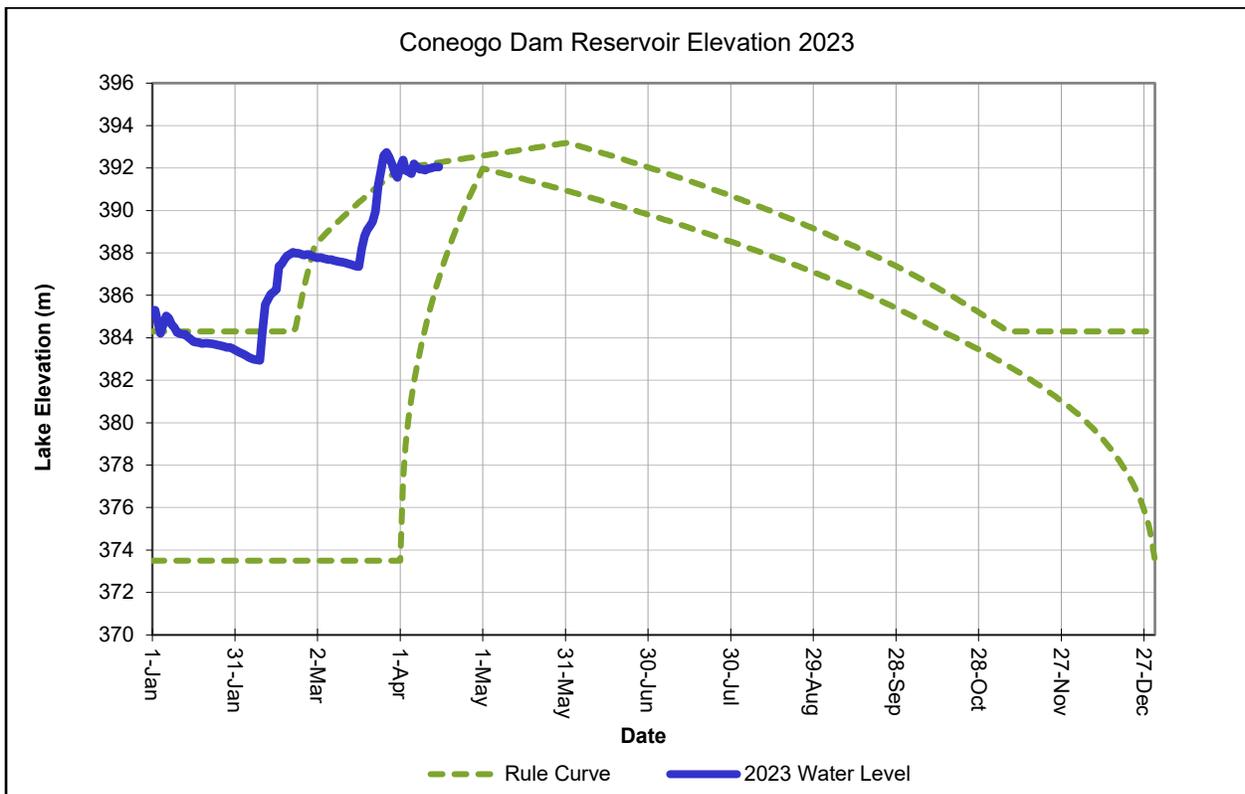
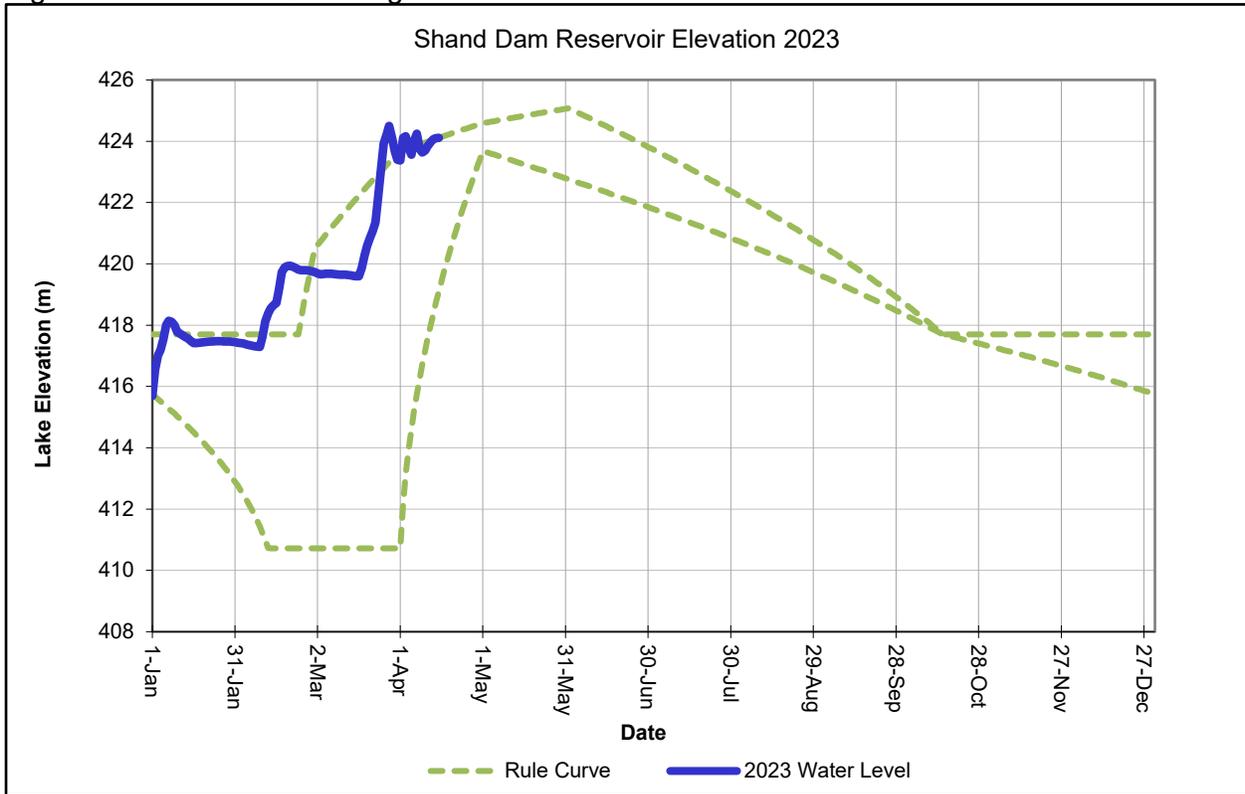


Figure 5: Guelph and Luther Reservoir Elevation Charts for 2023

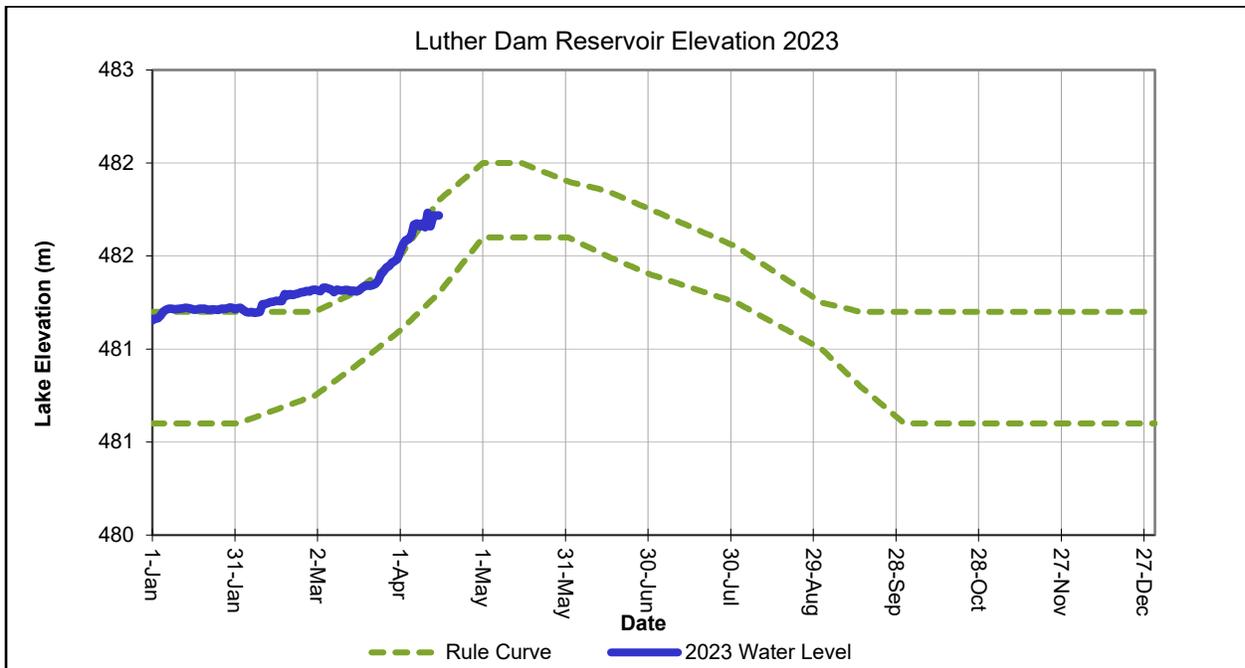
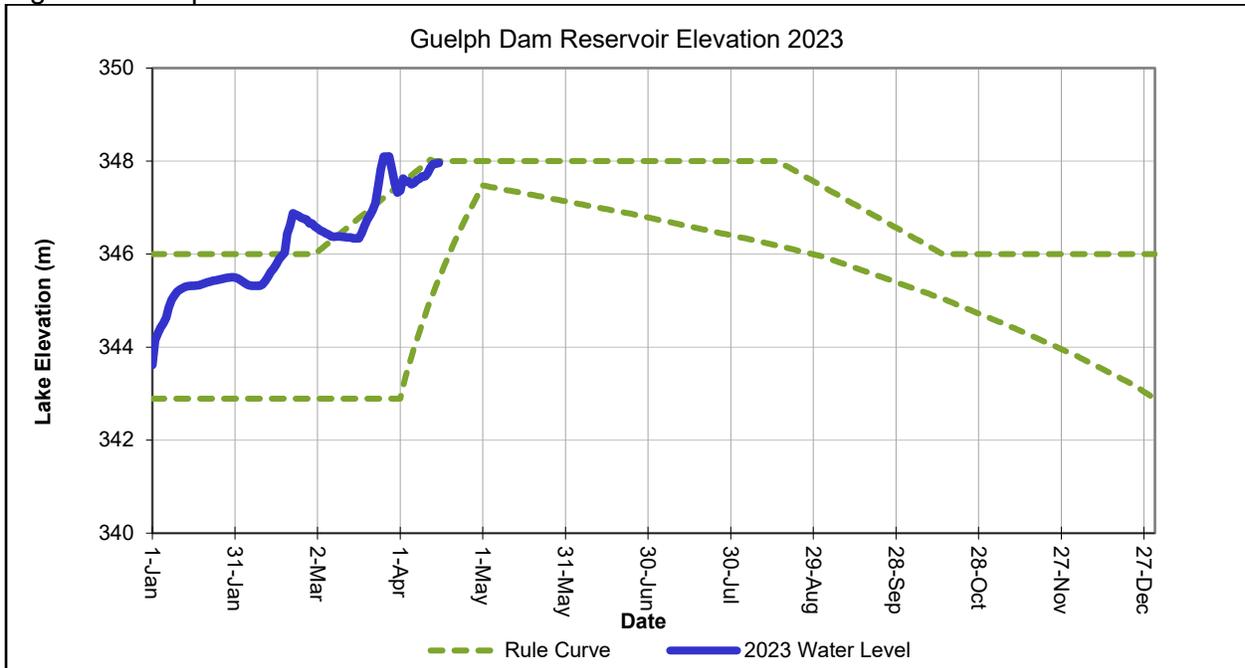


Figure 6: Grandwater Level Conditions by the End of March 2023

