

## Conservation Halton Board Meeting Minutes

Conservation Halton

February 15, 2024, at 1:00 PM EST

@ 2596 Britannia Road, Burlington, ON L7P 0G3

### 1. Roll Call

#### Members Present

Sameera Ali  
Sara Bailey  
Rob Burton  
Allan Elgar  
Jane Fogal  
Chantal Garneau  
Dave Gittings  
Sammy Ijaz  
Gordon Krantz  
Marianne Meed Ward  
Rory Nisan  
Gerry Smallegange (Chair)  
Shawna Stolte  
Alvin Tedjo

#### Absent

Cameron Kroetsch  
Sue McFadden  
Alex Wilson  
Maureen Wilson

#### Absent with Regrets

Cathy Duddeck (Vice Chair)  
Kristina Tesser Derksen

#### Staff Present

Hassaan Basit, President & CEO/Secretary-Treasurer  
Garner Beckett, Executive Director, Conservation Halton Foundation  
Adriana Birza, Senior Advisor, Office of the President & CEO  
Craig Machan, Director, Parks & Operations  
Kellie McCormack, Director, Planning & Regulations  
Marnie Piggot, Director, Finance  
Plezzie Ramirez, Director, Human Resources  
Barb Veale, Senior Director, Watershed Management & Climate Change  
Mark Vytvytskyy, Chief Operating Officer  
Justin Wei, Senior Manager, Finance  
Kim Barrett, Senior Specialist, Research & Sustainability, Ecology  
Leah Smith, Policy and Special Initiatives Lead, Planning & Regulations  
Robyn Koutrouliotis, Admin. Assistant, Office of the President & CEO

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

### 2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There were **no disclosures of pecuniary interest.**

### 3. Acceptance of Agenda

CH 01 01

Moved by: Allan Elgar  
Seconded by: Chantal Garneau

THAT the Agenda **be accepted as distributed.**

*Carried*

### 4. CEO Verbal Update

The President & CEO provided an update on various areas of the organization.

#### **Financial**

##### *Grants*

From Q4 2023 to present, Conservation Halton (CH) has received \$655,580 in grants. Staff is awaiting decisions on an additional \$903,000 in outstanding grants.

##### *Crawford Lake Visitor Centre*

CH received a \$2.4 million grant from the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) for the Crawford Lake Visitor Centre project.

##### *Glen Eden*

Glen Eden opened on January 5, 2024, with over 20,000 visits to date, despite mild weather conditions.

#### **Risk Mitigation**

##### *Risk Mitigation Update for Employee Safety and Compliance*

Adjustments have been made to the Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Committee by adding new functional areas for risk identification and mitigation.

##### *Glen Eden Risk Assessment*

A risk assessment conducted by BrokerLink, the insurance provider for Glen Eden, identified the park as the highest-ranking ski resort in its portfolio that includes almost all Canadian ski hills.

#### **People**

##### *2024 Momentum Action Planning*

Momentum Action Planning for 2024 is complete.

##### *Staff Awards*

The President & CEO thanked Board members Gordon Krantz and Kristina Tesser Derksen for attending the recent CH staff awards event. More than 150 nominations were submitted for nine (9) award categories.

## **Parks**

### *Maple Season*

Maple Season will run from March 2, 2024, through April 7, 2024.

### *Tap-a-Tree Event*

During Maple Season, staff hosts a special Tap-a-Tree event at Mountsberg Conservation Area for CH Board members and local dignitaries. The event is a great opportunity to learn about one of CH's most popular family programs and celebrate the start of Maple Season. The event will include a sugarbush tour with the CH education team, taking part in a tree-tapping demonstration, sampling different kinds of maple syrup, a wagon ride, a Connected Campaign announcement, and a pancake lunch. A formal invitation will be circulated shortly.

### *Winterlit*

The Winterlit event is now complete and, despite the mild weather, hosted over five thousand (5000) guests.

## **CEO Office**

### *CH Board Representation for City of Hamilton*

The Chair and staff representatives met with the CH Board appointees for the City of Hamilton (the City) to address meeting schedule conflicts. There are no City Council or committee meeting conflicts with the October 31, 2024, CH Board meeting. The City representatives have been offered the option to attend all 2024 CH Board meetings virtually. The June 2024 Board meeting has been moved to Friday, June 21 to further accommodate the schedule of Hamilton Councillors appointed to the CH Board. Board member Alex Wilson will attend CH Governance & Risk Committee meetings as his schedule permits. Hamilton members have not attended any CH events since their appointment in 2022. The June and October meetings should work with their schedules and discussions can be had at the Board prior to finalizing the 2025 meeting schedule later this year.

### *June CH Board Meeting/Board Tour*

The June Board meeting/Board Tour has been moved to Friday, June 21, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

## **5. Presentations**

- 5.1. Restoration of Sixteen Mile Creek (Bill Grierson, Landowner)

## **6. Consent Items**

- 6.1. Approval of DRAFT November 23, 2023, Conservation Halton Board Meeting Minutes
- 6.2. Purchasing Activity – October 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023 (CHB 01 24 01)
- 6.3. Status of Conservation Halton's Regulatory, Spill Flood Hazard, and Land Use Planning Policy Reviews (CHB 01 24 02)
- 6.4. Permits & Letters of Permission issued under Ontario Regulation 162/06 from October 1 to December 31, 2023 (Q4 2023) (CHB 01 24 03)
- 6.5. Reid Road Reservoir Quarry Update (CHB 01 24 04)

- 6.6. Advancing Natural Asset Management Practices in the Grindstone Creek Watershed (CHB 01 24 05)

## 7. Action Items

- 7.1. Proposed reconstruction and expansion of a two-storey dwelling within 7.5 metres of the floodplain associated with Lower Wedgewood Creek, 466 Drummond Road, Town of Oakville (CHB 01 24 06)

**CH 01 02** Moved by: Dave Gittings  
Seconded by: Sammy Ijaz

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **approves the issuance of a permit for the reconstruction and expansion of a two-storey dwelling within 7.5 metres of the floodplain associated with Lower Wedgewood Creek, 466 Drummond Road, Town of Oakville (CH File No. RAPP-9058)**;

And

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **receives the staff report entitled “Proposed reconstruction and expansion of a two-storey dwelling within 7.5 metres of the floodplain associated with Lower Wedgewood Creek, 466 Drummond Road, Town of Oakville (CH File No. RAPP-9058)”**.

*Carried*

- 7.2. Regulatory Allowance Policy Update (CHB 01 24 07)

Leah Smith, Policy and Special Initiatives Lead, Planning & Regulations, provided an overview of the draft regulatory allowance policies for public release and engagement.

The Board inquired about the feasibility of creating a standalone consulting business unit. Staff noted developers and municipal partners have shown interest in contracting consulting services from CH and provided a brief overview of legal considerations. Staff will bring a report to a future Board meeting.

The Board discussed the potential implications of the proposed *Get It Done Act* on the regulatory allowance policy.

**CH 01 03** Moved by: Rory Nisan  
Seconded by: Sameera Ali

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **endorses the draft policies for public release and engagement, as presented in the staff report entitled “Regulatory Allowance Policy Update”**;

And

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **receives the staff report entitled “Regulatory Allowance Policy Update”**.

*Carried*

- 7.3. Updated Conservation Halton Technical Submission Guidelines (CHB 01 24 08)

**CH 01 04** Moved by: Chantal Garneau

Seconded by: Marianne Meed Ward

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **approves the updated versions of the technical submission guidelines entitled “Conservation Halton Guidelines for Landscaping and Rehabilitation Plans, 2024”, “Conservation Halton Guidelines for Stormwater Management Engineering Submissions, 2024”, and “Conservation Halton Guidelines for Slope Stability Assessments for Valleys, 2024”;**

And

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **receives for information the staff report entitled “Updated Conservation Halton Technical Submission Guidelines, 2024”.**

*Carried*

7.4. Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy Workplan, Timeline, and Status Update (CHB 01 24 09)

**CH 01 05** Moved by: Dave Gittings  
Seconded by: Rob Burton

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **receives for information the staff report entitled, “Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy Workplan, Timeline, and Status Update”;**

And

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **approves the proposed 2024 workplan and timeline for developing the Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy.**

*Carried*

7.5. Watershed Climate Change Vulnerability and Risk Assessment (CHB 01 24 10)

**CH 01 06** Moved by: Alvin Tedjo  
Seconded by: Gordon Krantz

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **receives for information the staff report entitled “Watershed Climate Change Vulnerability and Risk Assessment”;**

And

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **endorses the recommendations included in the report entitled “Watershed Climate Change Vulnerability and Risk Assessment”.**

*Carried*

## **8. Other Business**

8.1 Request to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry for an exemption on the terms of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Conservation Halton Board

**CH 01 07** Moved by: Rob Burton  
Seconded by: Marianne Meed Ward

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **requests the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) to grant an exemption to subsection 17(1.3) and (1.2) of the**

**Conservation Authorities Act (CAA) pursuant to the Minister's authority under clauses 17(1.3) (a) and (b) for the chair and vice-chair positions in 2024 and 2025.**

**9. In Camera**

**CH 01 08**

Moved by: Jane Fogal  
Seconded by: Shawna Stolte

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **move In Camera.**

**Carried**

- 9.1. Legal Matter (CHB 01 24 11)
- 9.2. Legal Matter (CHB 01 24 12)
- 9.3. Personnel Matter (CHB 01 24 13)
- 9.4. Legal Matter (CHB 01 24 14)
- 9.5. Legal Matter (CHB 01 24 15)

**CH 01 09**

Moved by: Sara Bailey  
Seconded by: Sammy Ijaz

THAT the Conservation Halton Board **reconvene in public forum.**

**Carried**

**10. Adjournment**

**CH 01 10**

Moved by: Sara Bailey

THAT the Conservation Halton Board meeting **be adjourned at 2:48 p.m.**

**Carried**

Signed by:

Hassaan Basit, President & CEO/Secretary-Treasurer

Date:

April 18, 2024