



MUNICIPALITY OF MORRIS-TURNBERRY

COUNCIL AGENDA

Tuesday, May 5, 2026, 7:30 pm

The Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry will meet in Council Chambers in regular session on May 5, 2026, at 7:30 pm.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Disclosure of recording equipment.

2.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

*Moved by ~
Seconded by ~*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby adopts the agenda for the meeting of May 5, 2026, as presented.

~

3.0 DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST / POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST

4.0 MINUTES

*Moved by ~
Seconded by ~*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby adopts the April 21, 2026, Council Meeting Minutes as written.

~

5.0 ACCOUNTS

*Moved by ~
Seconded by ~*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby approves payment of the list of accounts as presented.

~

6.0 PUBLIC MEETINGS AND DEPUTATIONS

None.

7.0 STAFF REPORTS

7.1 PLANNING

7.1.1 Bill 98, Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act, 2026 - Proposed Planning Changes

A report prepared by Victor Kloeze, Senior Planner & Denise Van Amersfoort, Manager of Planning has in this regard for the information of Council.

8.0 BUSINESS**8.1 MAITLAND VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY AGREEMENT RENEWAL**

A request to renew the Municipality's agreement with the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority for programs and services is included for consideration. MVCA General Manager and Secretary Treasurer Phil Beard will be in attendance to present the agreement to Council.

*Moved by ~
Seconded by ~*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby directs staff to return a by-law authorizing the execution of the draft program and service agreement between the municipality and the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority to the next meeting for consideration.

~

8.2 BLUEVALE COMMUNITY COMMITTEE REQUESTS

A letter has been received from the Bluevale Community Committee requesting certain improvements to Pioneer Park and the operations of the hall, and is included for the consideration of Council. Members of the Committee will be in attendance to address Council and speak to the projects. Staff request direction from Council.

8.3 BELGRAVE PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE LETTER OF SUPPORT REQUEST.

A request for a letter of support to accompany an application to the Enhancing Access to Spaces for Everyone grant program. Staff request direction from Council.

9.0 COUNCIL REPORTS

Kevin Freiburger

Jamie McCallum

Sharen Zinn

Jodi Snell

Jamie Heffer

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE, MINUTES, ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

10.1 Correspondence – Pride Month Flag Request – Huron Perth Public Health

10.2 Correspondence – Pride Month Flag Request – Huron County Pride

10.3 Minutes – MVCA Board – March 18, 2026

10.4 Board meeting highlights – AMDSB – April 28, 2026

10.5 Press release – MVCA Concerns re amalgamation – April 23, 2026

10.6 Outstanding Action Items

11.0 ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA**12.0 BY-LAWS AND AGREEMENTS**

None.

13.0 CLOSED SESSION

None.

14.0 CONFIRMING BY-LAW

*Moved by ~
Seconded by ~*

THAT leave be given to introduce By-Law 27-2026, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry meeting of Council held on May 5, 2026, and that it now be read severally a first, second, and third time, and finally passed.

~

15.0 ADJOURNMENT

*Moved by ~
Seconded by ~*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry does now adjourn at ____ pm.

~

NEXT MEETINGS:

Regular Meeting of Council – Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 7:30 pm
Regular Meeting of Council – Tuesday, June 2, 2026, 7:30 pm



MUNICIPALITY OF MORRIS-TURNBERRY

COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, April 21, 2026, 7:30 pm

The Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry met in Council Chambers in regular session on April 21, 2026, at 7:30 pm.

Council in Attendance

Mayor Jamie Heffer
Deputy Mayor Kevin Freiburger
Councillor Jamie McCallum
Councillor Sharen Zinn
Councillor Jodi Snell

Staff in Attendance

Trevor Hallam	CAO/Clerk
Sarah Kurtz	Planner, County of Huron
Mike Alcock	Director of Public Works

Others in Attendance

Denny Scott	The Wingham Advance Times
Bob Montgomery	The Citizen

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Heffer called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Mayor Heffer noted that the members of the press in attendance would be recording the meeting for the purpose of writing articles.

2.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion 74-2026

*Moved by Sharen Zinn
Seconded by Jamie McCallum*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby adopts the agenda for the meeting of April 21, 2026, as presented.

Carried.

3.0 DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST / POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

4.0 MINUTES

Motion 75-2026

*Moved by Jamie McCallum
Seconded by Jodi Snell*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby adopts the April 7, 2026, Council Meeting Minutes as written.

Carried.

5.0 ACCOUNTS

Motion 76-2026

*Moved by Kevin Freiburger
Seconded by Jodi Snell*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby approves payment of the list of accounts as presented.

Carried.

6.0 PUBLIC MEETINGS AND DEPUTATIONS

6.1 ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT PUBLIC MEETING

Z03-2026 Zoning By-Law Amendment

Motion 77-2026

*Moved by Sharen Zinn
Seconded by Jamie McCallum*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby Adjourns their regular meeting of Council, to be reconvened following a Public Meeting to consider Zoning By-Law Amendment MTu Z03-2026.

Carried.

PUBLIC MEETING – ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

6.1.1 Call to Order

Mayor Heffer called the public meeting to order at 7:31pm.

6.1.2 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

None.

6.1.3 Purpose

The purpose of this zoning by-law amendment (File No. Z03-2026) is to amend the zoning on a portion of the lands at Plan 410 Lot 84 Part Queen St; and RP 22R5477 Part 4 (125 Maitland Street) from the existing VR1 (Village Residential – Low Density) Zone to create a new special VR1 zone to permit an existing accessory structure in the absence of a main use and to request relief from the maximum floor size for accessory structures from 90 square metres to 140 square metres.

6.1.4 Comments

1. Planner’s Report

Ms. Kurtz presented her report.

2. Applicant and/or Agent Comments

The applicant was not in attendance.

3. Others

There were no comments from others in attendance.

4. Council’s Questions and/or Comments

There were no questions or comments from Council.

6.1.5 Recommendation of the Huron County Planner

It was recommended that Zoning By-law Amendment Z03-2026 be approved.

6.1.6 Close public meeting

Motion 78-2026

*Moved by Kevin Freiburger
Seconded by Sharen Zinn*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby closes the Public Meeting to consider Zoning By-Law Amendment MTu Z03-2026 and reconvenes its regular meeting of Council.

Carried.

6.1.7 Consideration of Zoning By-Law Amendment MTu Z03-2026

Motion 79-2026

*Moved by Jamie McCallum
Seconded by Kevin Freiburger*

THAT leave be given to introduce By-Law 23-2026, being a by-law to amend by-law 45-2014 of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry, and that it now be read severally a first, second, and third time, and finally passed.

Carried.

6.1.8 Effect of Public and Agency Comments

No public comments were received on this application so there was no effect on the decision. Agency comments were received in support of the application, the effect of which resulted in a decision to approve the application.

Mayor Heffer noted that this was Ms. Kurtz's last meeting and thanked her for her work during her time working with the municipality.

7.0 STAFF REPORTS

7.1 PUBLIC WORKS

7.1.1 Operations Update

Director of Public Works Mike Alcock presented a report for the information of Council in this regard.

7.2 TREASURER

7.2.1 2025 Cash In-Lieu of Parkland

A report prepared by Treasurer Sean Brophy was provided for the information of Council.

7.2.2 2025 Investments

A report prepared by Treasurer Sean Brophy was provided for the information of Council.

7.3 CLERK

7.3.1 2026 Municipal election Procedures and policies

A report prepared by Deputy Clerk Kim Johnston was provided for the information of Council.

8.0 BUSINESS

8.1 DRAFT ENCROACHMENT BY-LAW

CAO/Clerk Trevor Hallam presented a report to Council in this regard.

Councillor Snell asked for clarification as to whether the by-law covered recreational or other uses as well. Mr. Hallam explained that being written as a general prohibition, that was the intent, and that effect will be confirmed during the legal review.

Motion 80-2026

*Moved by Kevin Freiburger
Seconded by Jodi Snell*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby directs staff to return the draft Encroachment By-Law for consideration following a legal review.

Carried.

9.0 COUNCIL REPORTS

Kevin Freiburger

No report.

Jamie McCallum

April 20th, attended a meeting of the Belmore Arena Board.

Sharen Zinn

Attended a meeting of the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority Board.

Jodi Snell

April 17th, attended a funding announcement at the Listowel Wingham Family Health Team.

Jamie Heffer

April 20th, attended the 100th anniversary celebration for Pioneer.

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE, MINUTES, ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- 10.1 Correspondence – Buy Ontario Directive – Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- 10.2 Notice of Information Sessions – Changes to Floodplain Mapping - MVCA
- 10.3 Minutes – Bluevale Community Committee - April 1
- 10.4 Monthly Report – Belgrave Water – March 2026
- 10.5 Monthly Report – Huron East Fire – March 2026
- 10.6 Monthly Report – North Huron Fire – March 2026
- 10.7 Resolution – OCIF Extension – Municipality of Shuniah
- 10.8 Outstanding Action Items

Motion 81-2026

*Moved by Jamie McCallum
Seconded by Sharen Zinn*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby supports and endorses the resolution of the Municipality of Shuniah calling on the provincial government to extend and improve the OCIF.

Carried.

Councillor McCallum asked for clarification regarding the province's Buy Ontario mandate, which was provided by Mr. Hallam.

11.0 ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA

None.

12.0 BY-LAWS AND AGREEMENTS

- 12.1 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GRANT TRANSFER PAYMENT AGREEMENT

Motion 82-2026

*Moved by Jamie McCallum
Seconded by Sharen Zinn*

THAT leave be given to introduce By-Law 24-2026, being a by-law to execute and affix the Corporate Seal to a transfer agreement between the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry and His Majesty the King in right of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response, and that it now be read severally a first, second, and third time, and finally passed.

Carried.

12.2 ELECTION SIGN BY-LAW

Motion 83-2026

*Moved by Kevin Freiburger
Seconded by Jamie McCallum*

THAT leave be given to introduce By-Law 25-2026, being a by-law to manage and regulate the use and erection of Elections Signs and campaign advertisements including third party advertising within the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry, and that it now be read severally a first, second, and third time, and finally passed.

Carried.

13.0 **CLOSED SESSION**

13.1 Enter closed session.

Motion 84-2026

*Moved by Jamie McCallum
Seconded by Kevin Freiburger*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry enter a closed session at 7:58 p.m., with the CAO/Clerk remaining in attendance, for the purpose of discussing confidential matters pursuant to the following sections of the Municipal Act:

- a) Section 239 (2) (c) regarding a potential acquisition or disposition of land;*

Carried.

13.2 Return to open session.

Motion 85-2026

*Moved by Sharen Zinn
Seconded by Jodi Snell*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry rise from a closed session at 8:40 p.m.

Carried.

13.3 Report and Action from Closed Session.

Council received one report regarding an offer to sell land to the municipality and one report regarding a request to purchase land from the municipality and gave staff direction accordingly.

14.0 CONFIRMING BY-LAW

Motion 86-2026

*Moved by Jamie McCallum
Seconded by Kevin Freiburger*

THAT leave be given to introduce By-Law 26-2026, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry meeting of Council held on April 21, 2026, and that it now be read severally a first, second, and third time, and finally passed.

Carried.

15.0 ADJOURNMENT

Motion 87-2026

*Moved by Sharen Zinn
Seconded by Jamie McCallum*

THAT the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry does now adjourn at 8:41pm.

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NEXT MEETINGS:

Regular Meeting of Council – Tuesday, May 5, 2026, 7:30 pm
Regular Meeting of Council – Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 7:30 pm

Mayor, Jamie Heffer

Clerk, Trevor Hallam

**Municipality of Morris-Turnberry
Account List for**

May 5 2026

General

Bell Canada	Morris Office	499.91
Bell Canada	Emergency Lines	130.79
Bell Mobility	Cell Phone	25.07
Huron Clean	Office Cleaning	411.68
Orkin Canada	Pest Control	145.21
Data Fix	Election Management System	1,638.50
Grant Haven Management Inc	Election Advertisements	768.40
Midwestern Newspapers Corp	Election Advertisements	1,118.70
Township of North Huron	March Fire Calls	940.06
Bluevale Community Committee	April Hall Rentals	420.00
Property Owner	Return Tax Overpayment	736.45
Minister of Finance	Policing - March	43,249.00
Infrastructure Ontario	Belgrave Water Debenture Payment	29,721.46
Minister of Finance	EHT - April 2026	908.23
WSIB	WSIB - April 2026	1,297.60
Payroll		
April 22 2026	Payroll	24,332.26
	Expenses	247.32
Council Pay	Payroll - May 6 2026	3,856.62
	Receiver General	400.32

General Total 110,847.58

Building Department

Bell Mobility	Cell Phone	280.96
Minister of Finance	EHT - April 2026	175.90
WSIB	WSIB - April 2026	284.14
Payroll		
April 22 2026	Payroll	5,399.46
	Expenses	-

Building Department Total 6,140.46

Property Standards

Property Standards Total -

Drainage

Hydro One	Hopper Pump	966.20
Headway Engineering	Latronica Municipal Drain	8,454.66

Drainage Total 9,420.86

Parks & Cemeteries

Parks & Cemeteries Total -

Belgrave Water

Bell Canada	Belgrave Water	177.05
Veolia Water	March Operations	6,517.91
Pannabecker Holdings Inc	Haul Waste Water	1,186.50
Municipality of Brockton	Dispose Waste Water	2,877.38

Belgrave Water Total 10,758.84

Landfill

Bell Mobility	Cell Phone	8.91
Robert's Equipment	Tractor Repair	2,471.12
Midwest Co-Op Belgrave	Fence Repair	62.12

Landfill Total 2,542.15

Roads

Bell Canada	Morris Shop	249.95
Bell Canada	Turnberry Shop	130.78
Bell Mobility	Cell Phones	59.05
Enbridge	Turnberry Shop	340.83
HuronTel	Internet & Website Hosting	66.56
Steffens Auto Supply	Shop Supplies	5.18
Robert's Equipment	Maintenance for 23-16 Lawnmower	260.72
Viking Cives	Parts for 19-06 & 16-05 Tandems	308.68
Joe Kerr Ltd	Parts for 19-06 Tandem	135.42
Neils Repair Service	Maintenance for 20-20 Pickup	110.33
MRC Systems Inc.	Radio for 26-23 Grader	773.49
Huron County Road Supervisors Assoc	Annual Membership	795.00
Blackburn Media Inc	Radio Tower Rental	1,017.00
Minister of Finance	EHT - April 2026	998.29
WSIB	WSIB - April 2026	1,612.63

Payroll

April 22 2026	Payroll	28,296.99
	Expenses	-

Roads Total 35,160.90

Account Total 174,870.79

Approved By Council:

May 5 2026

Mayor - Jamie Heffer

Treasurer- Sean Brophy



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

57 Napier Street, Goderich, Ontario N7A 1W2 CANADA

Phone: 519.524.8394 Ext. 3 Fax: 519.524.5677 Toll Free: 1.888.524.8394 Ext. 3

www.huroncounty.ca

To: Mayor and Members of Morris-Turnberry Council
From: Victor Kloeze, Senior Planner & Denise Van Amersfoort, Manager of Planning
Date: April 28, 2026

Re: Bill 98, Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act, 2026 - Proposed Planning Changes

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry receive the report by Victor Kloeze, Senior Planner and Denise Van Amersfoort, Manager of Planning dated April 28, 2026, titled Bill 98, Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act, 2026, for information.

Background

The Province has introduced Bill 98, Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act, 2026 which includes changes to the Building Code Act, Planning Act, Municipal Act and City of Toronto Act. The proposed legislation reflects a continued focus on modernizing Ontario's planning framework, reducing complexity, improving consistency across municipalities and enabling faster, more predictable approvals to help get more homes built and infrastructure delivered.

Bill 98 received first reading on March 30, 2026. The commenting period for the corresponding Regulations for the changes to the Planning Act was open until May 14, 2026 on the Environmental Registry of Ontario.

In addition to Bill 98, the Province has introduced proposals for a series of changes to the planning framework in Ontario; a summary of the changes and related ERO postings is included in Appendix 1 to this report.

COMMENTS

This report focuses on the proposed changes to the Planning Act and the corresponding Regulation and provides an overview of the changes most relevant in Huron County.

Contents of an Official Plan

Under Bill 98, all Official Plans in Ontario are required to follow the "new official plan framework" which includes prescribed chapters, sections and schedules and limits which land use designations can be used.

The County of Huron provided comments on proposed changes to Official Plan structures in November of 2025, noting that the Official Plans in Huron County are designed to provide flexible and streamlined land use planning direction which effectively implements the Provincial direction in our rural and small urban areas and responds efficiently to development.

Local Official Plans maintain standardized land use designations presently. The proposed list was prepared in consultation with the Ontario Professional Planners Institute and includes many of the same

designations used presently (eg. Mixed-Use Areas, Parks and Open Space, Natural Environment, Prime Agricultural Areas, Shoreline Areas, etc). There will be shifts required to accommodate the new list of designations including, for example, from 'Industrial' to 'Employment Areas' and 'Major Facilities' and from 'Residential' to 'Neighbourhoods' (which will include residential, small scale commercial and institutional uses).

The main impact will be the staff time required to rewrite the ten (10) Official Plans and prepare new schedules (mapping). As proposed by the Province, all local Official Plans will be required to adopt the standardized Provincial framework by January 1, 2029. With reduced staffing levels in the Department as a result of budget decisions, this may require the hiring of consultants to complete this work in the required timeframe.

Upper Tier Official Plans and Secondary Plans

In addition to the changes to the official plan framework, the Province continues to consult on additional changes for upper tier Official Plans, such as the County Official Plan, and Secondary Plans. Proposed modifications include limiting duplication between upper tier and lower tier Official Plans, identifying when Secondary Plans can be used and separating Secondary Plans from the primary Official Plan so they would exist as a standalone document.

It is recommended that Council provide feedback that while Secondary Plans have not been widely used within Huron in recent years, they are an excellent and flexible planning tool for guiding change in defined areas. Secondary plans being prepared in accordance with Planning Act standards would remove the duplication of integrating the Secondary Plan direction into the local Official Plan.

In terms of upper tier plans, the recommended feedback is that upper tier Official Plans do not require land use designations to be effective in providing high level, regional direction. The County of Huron Official Plan is a higher order policy document which is limited in length (45 pages) and detail but provides critical, overarching policy direction to ensure consistent interpretation and application of Provincial direction within Huron County. Huron was the first County in Ontario to have an Official Plan (approved in 1973); the County OP has never been subject to a privately initiated Official Plan Amendment and Huron's OP has never contained land use designations over its' 50-year implementation. Maintaining land use designations in the local municipal Official Plans rather than at the County level avoids duplication and is a long standing approach that has been proven to be efficient and effective and should be allowed to continue.

Should Huron be forced to include land use designations in the County Official Plan, there would need to be further discussions with partner municipalities to develop an approach that would be more efficient and practical than maintaining two tiers of designations.

Projection Methodology

Population and employment forecasts are important tools for planning authorities to plan communities. As required under Provincial Planning Statement, 2024, planning authorities must base population projections on Ministry of Finance forecasts with modifications, as appropriate. The proposed changes are an update to the 1995 Projection Methodology Guidance, including the Land Needs Assessment methodology.

For Huron, Land Needs Assessments are important exercises, undertaken at the time of local Official Plan Five Year Reviews and may result in changes to settlement area boundaries. Flexibility to adapt Land Needs Assessments to rural contexts is important moving forward. In terms of employment lands, the

County last completed an Employment Lands Study in 2015 with Watson & Associates Economists; this study requires updating to meet the direction in the 2024 PPS and proposed methodology for forecasting employment areas.

Complete Application Requirements - Prescribed Professionals

Continuing from Bill 17 (Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025), the Province is seeking input on identified additional 'prescribed professions' for the purpose of a complete application. To date, professional engineers have been deemed to be 'prescribed' which means that municipalities are required to accept studies for the purposes of a complete application prior to any peer review.

In Huron, technical studies are often received from the following professional designations: Ontario Land Surveyor, Architect, Licensed Technologists, Licensed Archaeologist, Landscape Architect, Registered Professional Planner, Professional Geoscientist, Professional Hydrologist, and Professional Geomorphologist. It is recommended that this list be provided to the Province as comments with the notation that the County supports engagement with Indigenous Nations as a mandatory requirement for the Provincial Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists.

For the purpose of this change, it is noted that a municipality may still choose to peer review a study from a prescribed professional after the application is deemed complete; in this instance, municipal Councils will continue to be subject to the decision-making time limitations under the Planning Act.

Complete Application Requirements – List of Studies

The Province is proposing to create more clarity and predictability regarding complete applications requirements across Ontario. Currently, municipalities determine which studies are required to support development applications.

Feedback is sought on a proposed list which includes two types of studies and when they could be required: core studies and contingent studies. Core studies are those that could always be required and address fundamental planning matters such as environmental impacts, servicing capacity, transportation impacts and public health and safety. Contingent studies could only be required when a specific on-site or surrounding condition exists such as lands near an airport, rail corridor, significant natural hazards, or on-site environment features.

For Core Studies, the following are included: Environmental Impact Study, Environmental Impact Assessment, Functional Servicing Report, Geotechnical Report, Hydrogeological Report, Planning Justification Report, and Transportation Impact Study.

Contingent Studies include: Aeronautical Report, Aggregate/Mineral/Petroleum Impact Assessment, Agricultural Impact Assessment, Air Quality/Odour Study, Arborist Report, Archaeological Assessment, Contaminant Management Plan, Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment, Economic Viability Assessment, Electromagnetic Field Management Plan, Financial Impact Analysis, Human-made Hazard Impact Study, Impact Assessment for Waste Disposal Sites and Former Landfills, Lakeshore Capacity Assessment/Water Quality Impact Assessment, Land Use Compatibility Study, Minimum Distance Separation Formulae, Natural Hazard Impact Study, Noise/Vibration Study, Rail Safety and Risk Mitigation Report, Servicing Options Report, Wildland Fire Assessment, and Wind Study.

In terms of the impact for Huron, the County's complete application requirements are very similar to the lists proposed by the Province. If approved, studies which will need to be removed from the County and local Official Plans include: urban design review, residential market justification study, Section 59 Notices

under the Ontario Clean Water Act, snow storage plan, shadow study, lighting study and public consultation strategy.

Minimum Lot Size for Urban Residential Land

Bill 98 introduces a regulation-making authority to allow the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to set a minimum lot size on parcels of urban residential land, outside the Greenbelt Area. A parcel of urban residential land is defined as a parcel within a settlement area that is zoned for residential use and is fully serviced by public water and wastewater.

On-going consultation proposes to set the minimum residential lot size at 175 square metres (1884 square feet). A municipality would not be able to deny a lot creation application for a lot of this size, even if it does not conform to the minimum frontage or depth requirements.

The proposed lot size is considerably smaller than the average lot size in established, fully serviced neighbourhoods across Huron. Huron eliminated minimum lot depth requirements for fully serviced areas as part of the Housing Friendly Review, relying on lot frontage and area to inform lot sizes. For context, in Goderich, the minimum lot size is currently 450 square metres for a single detached dwelling and 190 square metres for the interior unit of a rowhouse (no side yards). For a lot size of 175 square metres, with forty percent coverage, the maximum building footprint would be 754 square feet.

In Huron, the impact will be to ensure that smaller lot sizes (and thereby increased density of established areas) are appropriately serviced with stormwater management infrastructure. It is recommended that Council provide comment that continued funding for infrastructure upgrades will be required to facilitate this new lot size in established neighbourhoods.

Parkland Dedication

The Province is consulting on a proposal to prescribe criteria for developer-identified parkland and related implementation matters for the conveyance of parkland as part of the development proposal. The criteria include lands which are accessible, visible and comfortable to facilitate public use and in particular, must be accessible and readily visible from the public realm and must be of a size and shape capable of servicing park or public recreation purposes. Ineligible lands include those which are contaminated or contain human-made or natural hazards.

The proposed criteria align well with current practice across the County. Lands within and adjacent to natural heritage features are eligible on the condition that a park would not interfere with or compromise the natural area; this is positive from staff's perspective as it enables the creation of urban forest environments, similar to Maitland Woods in Goderich.

Communal Water and Wastewater Systems

Amendments are proposed to the Municipal Act, 2001, and Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002, to enable regulations that set out requirements for municipal consent of non-municipal communal drinking water and wastewater systems (public utility) and to require municipalities to consent if requirements are met.

Municipalities, while required to provide consent, would be able to require certain conditions be met, including the requirement to enter into an agreement or impose limits if necessary to ensure the safe, sustainable operation of the utility. For local municipalities, both fiscal and operational capacity is required to support and/or take on these systems.

In Huron, there are limited communal systems as there are 15 fully serviced settlement areas, an additional 9 settlement areas with municipal water, and a large section of the shoreline serviced by municipal water. Communal systems can be considered at the time of development.

Electric Vehicle Equipment in Private Parking Lots

Bill 98 prohibits zoning bylaws from requiring electric vehicle supply equipment in connection with parking facilities.

In Huron, several private companies have opted to provide electric vehicle charging stations within their parking facilities including Tim Hortons (Exeter), The Old Mill, Cowbell Brewing, McGavin Farm Supply, Deer Park Lodge, White Squirrel Golf Club, etc. Based on the proposed amendments, this will continue on a voluntary, market-based approach rather than as a zoning requirement.

Site Plan Control

The Province is consulting on the utility of Site Plan Control as a land use planning function as there is concern that the process, which is intended to be limited to a 60-day review period, is leading to delayed approvals and increased costs.

To date, the Province has made numerous changes to the Site Plan Control function including changes in Bills 60, 17, 185, 23 and 109. Changes include removal of municipal ability to apply site plan control to residential buildings with less than 11 units, removal of ability to regulate external design, removal of the ability to require a pre-consultation meeting, removal of ability to require building standards that exceed Ontario Building Code, and required delegated approval to staff.

Current proposed reforms include: removing the tool entirely, limiting the number of resubmissions, scoping the review process to a standard checklist of functional aspects of a site, requiring a municipal arbitration process for applications that have exceeded the 60-day timeline, and establishing different processes for larger and more complex developments from less complex.

For Huron, site plan control is most commonly used for new commercial and industrial development and for larger residential developments (greater than 10 units). The County developed a Site Plan Servicing Guide with input from local municipal staff, municipal engineers and the representatives of the development community to create consistency, shared understanding and predictability in the site plan process. This Guide also distinguishes between ‘major’ and ‘minor’ site plan review processes which helps to expedite less complex site reviews. Local municipal staff prioritize attendance at preconsultation meetings to provide consistent and integrated responses early in the review process and a cloud-based application portal (CloudPermit) is used to ensure re-submissions are reviewed in an efficient and coordinated manner.

Within Huron, the most complex site plans of recent, include on-farm events facilities and specifically, the ability to meet Ontario Fire Code requirements. Residential site plan approvals have been very efficient – for example, a new apartment building in Clinton was approved within 2 months of submission and the municipality received a letter of thanks from the developer.

It is recommended that Council provide feedback to the consultation indicating that Site Plan Control is a critical tool for municipalities in reviewing new development. Many rural municipalities do not have enhanced building bylaws and thus the site plan control process is the only mechanism for addressing stormwater management. The process in Huron has been thoughtfully designed and is implemented efficiently.

Site Plan Control - Prohibition on Mandatory Municipal Enhanced Development Standards and Green Building Standards

Bill 98 removes municipal authority to require Enhanced Development Standards at the lot level outside of buildings that are not required for health or safety. For example, permeable pavement cannot be required but stormwater management can continue to be required as it is a safety feature. The changes clarify that green building standards are voluntary.

This is not anticipated to have a significant impact in Huron; staff will implement this change by directing the removal of landscape plan, lighting plan, and waste/recycling facilities as site plan requirements.

Removing Authority for Consent Conditions

This change involved a proposed regulation which would have the effect of removing Council's authority to require certain measures as conditions of land division approval.

Enhanced development standards (eg. permeable surfaces, vegetative landscaping, infiltration measures, tree planting standards, etc) vary amongst Ontario municipalities. This proposed change would limit mandatory requirements at the lot level (outside of buildings) to those required for health, safety, accessibility of protection of adjoining lands (eg. stormwater management).

In Huron, enhanced development standards have not been implemented readily. Some examples would be tree planting plans as a condition of Plan of Subdivision approvals, and re-planting plans to compensate for the removal of trees at the time of consent. It is recommended that County Council submit comments clarifying that tree planting requirements for the purpose of shade is a health and safety consideration as shade is essential in mitigating heat-related illnesses, supporting comfortable public spaces and supporting climate resilience in urban areas.

Electronic Submission of Information under Planning Act

This change would remove the requirement for information to include original and/or certified copies and would allow required notices to be submitted electronically to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

This change will support the goal of streamlining and expediting review of land use planning matters. Continued shift to electronic notification is supported.

NEXT STEPS

The Planning and Development Department will continue to monitor for implementing regulations relating to multiple, recent bills and provide information to Council.

Others Consulted

Planners

Sandra Weber, Director

'Original signed by'

Victor Kloeze, Planner

'Original signed by'

Denise Van Amersfoort, Manager of Planning

Appendix 1: Table of Related Environmental Registry of Ontario Postings

Posting	Summary	Comments Due
026-300	Consultation on all aspects of Bill 98	April 29, 2026
Standardized Official Plans		
025-1099	Summary of proposal in Bill 98 with proposed structure for all official plans	N/A
026-315	Consultation on possible changes that could relate to specific requirements for secondary plans and Site and Areas Specific Policies (SASPs)	April 29, 2026
Communal Servicing		
026-0302	Consultation on potential regulations to set out requirements for municipal consent of non-municipal communal drinking water and wastewater systems and to require municipalities to consent if requirements are met	April 29, 2026
Projection Methodology		
026-0304	Consultation on proposed update to the Projection Methodology Guideline	April 29, 2026
Complete Applications		
026-314	Consultation on potential regulation to add additional professions as “prescribed” for complete application requirements	May 14, 2026
026-313	Consultation on proposed regulation to provide a comprehensive list of studies that may be required as part of a complete application	May 14, 2026
Minimum Lot Sizes		
026-0311	Consultation on proposed regulation to establish a minimum lot size in serviced urban residential areas at 175 m2	May 14, 2026
Site Plans		
26-310	Consultation on “bold and transformational” changes to site plan control, possibly including eliminating site plan approvals	May 14, 2026
General		
026-309	Consultation on proposed regulation removing authority to require, as a condition of land division approvals, mandatory enhanced development standards at the lot level (outside of buildings), that are not specifically required for health, safety, accessibility or protection of adjoining lands (e.g., stormwater management)	May 14, 2026
026-0305	Consultation on proposal to facilitate electronic submission of information as part of the <i>Planning Act</i> process electronically	May 14, 2026



April 29, 2026

Dear Mayor Heffer and Council

RE: Renewal of Programs and Services Agreement-2026-2030

On June 30th, 2022, MVCA entered into a program and services agreement with its member municipalities. This agreement outlined all the programs and services that MVCA planned to provide for the years 2022-2026. This agreement will expire on June 16, 2026.

Even though the Province is proceeding with the amalgamation of conservation authorities, we are still required to have agreements with our member municipalities regarding the services and programs that are needed in the local watersheds under MVCA's area of jurisdiction. The Province has stated that existing services and programs agreements will be honoured by the new regional conservation authority.

Renewal of the agreement is one way to help ensure that the needs of the watersheds in Maitland Conservation's area of jurisdiction will continue to receive the watershed programs and services that are needed for the next four years.

MVCA would like to renew the current agreement with our member municipalities prior to June 16, 2026.

The only change that we have made to the existing agreement is to replace the term "levy" with "cost apportionment" to be compliant with changes to the Conservation Authorities Act. There are two changes to our services and programs. MVCA no longer provides camping at Wawanosh Campground due to the flood risk on this property and we will no longer be delivering the Huron Clean Water Project after December 31st, 2026 as this project is ending.

A copy of the draft agreement and schedule of services and programs is attached to this letter. We would appreciate the opportunity to review the list of programs and services that we plan to provide over the next four years with council.

Sincerely;

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ed McGugan".

Ed McGugan
Chair

AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES

THIS AGREEMENT dated this 17th day of June 2026.

BETWEEN:

THE MAITLAND VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
(hereinafter called “Authority”)

OF THE FIRST PART

– and –

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HURON, THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MAPLETON, THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MINTO, THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GODERICH, THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF HURON EAST, THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF WEST PERTH, THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH PERTH, THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HURON KINLOSS, THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH BRUCE, THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MORRIS TURNBERRY, THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF CENTRAL HURON, THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOWICK, THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ASHFIELD-COLBORNE-WAWANOSH; MUNICIPALITY OF WELLINGTON NORTH; MUNICIPALITY OF PERTH EAST
(Hereinafter called the “Members”)

OF THE SECOND PART

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ontario Regulation 686/21 Conservation Authorities are authorized to charge a levy to their members for delivery of mandatory services under the Regulation;

AND WHEREAS pursuant to Ontario Regulation 687/21 Conservation Authorities are required to enter into an agreement to levy members for services provided to Members other than mandatory services;

AND WHEREAS the Conservation Authority is prepared to provide certain non-mandatory services to its Members;

AND WHEREAS the Members wish to avail themselves of these services and to pay the amount levied for the services;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the terms of this Agreement and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. The Authority agrees to provide to the Members the services outlined in the Inventory of Services and Programs attached hereto as Schedule “A”.
2. The Members agree to be charged a **cost apportionment** for such services in accordance with the cost apportionment stated in Schedule “A” to be apportioned among the Members.
3. The Authority will not add to or delete from the services or programs funded through the **cost apportionment** without first consulting with the Members. Any such change would require an amendment to this Agreement agreed to by all parties.
4. The parties will maintain the current annual approval process for increasing the **cost apportionment** and budget (i.e. weighted vote based upon current value assessment in the watershed for approval of the cost apportionment).
5. The Members will continue to support the current Inventory of Services and Programs throughout the period of this Agreement.

6. This Agreement will be for a Term of four (4) years commencing on the date of the signature by the last of the parties.
7. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts and by the parties hereto by separate counterparts, each of which when so executed and delivered shall be an original but such counterparts together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

SIGNED SEALED AND DELIVERED THIS 17th DAY OF JUNE 2026.

THE MAITLAND VALLEY CONSERVATION
AUTHORITY

Per:

Chair

Per:

General Manager Secretary Treasurer –

I/we have the authority to bind the Corporation

Category 1: Mandatory Services: Risk of Natural Hazards: Flood and Erosion Safety Services

a) Preparedness

- i) Flood and erosion risk emergency response planning with municipalities
- ii) Flood and erosion risk mapping updates
- iii) Administration of Development, Interference, Alteration Regulation in flood prone, shoreline, river valleys, dynamic beaches, wetlands, and watercourses
- iv) Plan input and review support to municipalities regarding natural hazard policies and development applications.

b) Monitoring

- i) Year-round monitoring and data acquisition for river levels, snowpack, precipitation, and runoff potential
- ii) Maintenance of all rainfall and streamflow monitoring equipment
- iii) Development and maintenance of flood forecasting software and hardware
- iv) Monitoring bluff collapse, gully, and toe erosion along the Lake Huon shoreline

c) Flood and Erosion Control Infrastructure: (Listowel Flood Control Structures, Goderich Bluffs Stabilization Project and McGuffin Gully Erosion Control Project)

- i) Annual inspections
- ii) Annual minor maintenance
- iii) Major maintenance planning in conjunction with the municipalities of Goderich & North Perth.

d) Response

- i) Provide flood and or erosion warnings and updates to municipalities regarding flood and or erosion events

Required Services: Ontario Regulation 686/21

Identification of Additional & or Enhanced Services to Meet Regulatory Requirements

1. Managing the risk posed by natural hazards within their jurisdiction, including flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches, hazardous sites, hazardous lands, low water, or drought conditions. This program or service shall be designed to:

Develop an awareness of areas important for the management of natural hazards (e.g., wetlands, rivers or streams, shoreline areas, unstable soils, etc.)

Understand risks associated with natural hazards and how they will change as the climate warms

Manage risks associated with natural hazards

Promote public awareness of natural hazards

- MVCA will develop a more comprehensive communications, education, and outreach program with a focus on municipalities
 - MVCA will identify where we can find the expertise needed to develop a better understanding of the impact of climate change on natural hazards and low water or drought conditions in the watershed.
2. Ice management services (preventative or remedial) as appropriate and as supported by MVCA's ice management plan.
 3. Infrastructure: Operation, maintenance & repair of Flood and Erosion Control Structures:
 - MVCA will assist the Municipality of North Perth to maintain the Listowel Flood Control Works and the Town of Goderich to maintain the Goderich Bluffs in accordance with the maintenance and management plan for each structure.
 4. Review of applications and issuance of permits under section 28 and 28.0.1 of the Conservation Authorities Act, including associated enforcement activities
 - MVCA will continue to identify ways to streamline and improve its processes for reviewing permit applications.

Category 1: Mandatory Services: Conservation Areas:

Conservation Areas Services:

Includes the management, development, and protection of significant natural resource lands, features, and infrastructure on authority owned property. MVCA has 28 conservation areas with a land area of 4,600 acres (1,862 hectares).

Service Components:

a) Management & Development of Authority Lands

- Improve health, resiliency and demonstrate good resource management on 28 Conservation areas ranging from day-use parklands, wetlands, and forest tracts
- i) Lands and Infrastructure - inspections, maintenance, and enforcement
 - Identification and removal of hazards to reduce liability
 - Maintain essential infrastructure and dispose of surplus items
 - Manage public use that is compatible with the land and enforcement of regulations.
- ii) Water Control Structures - inspections, maintenance, and operations
 - Operation of recreational dams following Provincial and Federal regulatory requirements
 - Develop and monitor funding agreements with municipalities where dams are located for maintenance and major repairs
- iii) Forest Management
 - Implement activities identified in managed forest plans to improve forest health including harvesting, tree planting and monitoring of woodlots.
 - Management of invasive species and monitoring for disease and pests
- iv) Administration
 - Development of policies and procedures for conservation area use

b) Land Acquisition:

- i) Review land donations or purchases for conservation purposes
 - Identify benefits and concerns for potential land acquisitions for members' direction.

c) Leasing & Agreements on Authority Lands

- i) Review agreements that are compatible with the land use
- ii) Monitoring of agreements

Required Services: Ontario Regulation 686/21

Identification of Additional & or Enhanced Services to Meet Regulatory Requirements

1. Programs and services to ensure that the authority performs its duties, functions, and responsibilities to administer regulations made under section 29 of the Conservation Authorities Act.
 - Enforcement of Regulation 688/21: Rules of conduct in conservation areas. Enhanced enforcement and control measures are required to limit trespassing of unauthorized vehicles on conservation area lands.

Category 1: Watershed Monitoring & Reporting	Required Services: Ontario Regulation 686/21
Services & Programs: Category 1: Mandatory Program	Identification of Additional & or Enhanced Services to Meet Regulatory Requirements
Monitoring and Reporting i) Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network ii) Groundwater - Monitoring Network	Collection of surface and ground water samples to meet the requirement of the Provincial water quality monitoring network and the groundwater quality network.

<p>Drinking Water Source Protection: Category 1 Mandatory Service</p>	<p>Additional Regulatory Requirements: Ontario Regulation 686/21</p>
<p>Services</p> <p>a) Governance - Leadership:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maitland Source Protection Authority; Source Protection Committee; Joint Management Committee • Maintenance of local source protection program, including issues management <p>b) Communications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the local source protection program <p>c) Program Implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing support of local source protection program • Implementation of Source Protection Plan policies where applicable • Review of local applications / planning proposals / decisions in vulnerable areas to ensure source protection is considered <p>d) Technical Support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the preparation of amendments to the local assessment report and source protection plan to incorporate regulatory changes as well as technical assessment completed for new and expanding drinking water systems 	<p>Province currently reviewing the recommendations made by the Auditor General to expand the program to include non-municipal sources of drinking water.</p>

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Issuance of confirmation notices to system owners under the Clean Water Act O. Reg. 287/07, as required, for new or altered drinking water systems.• Review technical information received regarding changes to the landscape, such as new transport pathways in Well Head Protection Area and Intake Protection Zone, to determine if assessment reports or source protection plans should be revised. | |
|--|--|

Note: This program is funded by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Category 1: Mandatory Services:	Required Services: Ontario Regulation 686/21
Corporate Services:	Identification of Additional and or Enhanced Services to Meet Regulatory Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Governance & Leadership Responsibilities (MVCA-MSPA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Setting Priorities and Policies ii) Financial Planning and Monitoring iii) Services and Project Development iv) Conservation Ontario Council and Committees v) Reporting to Member Municipalities b) Administration / Human Resources / Equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Human Resources Planning and Administration ii) Workspace and Equipment Management iii) Records Retention and Management iv) Compliance with Legislation related to Employment, Health & Safety, Accessibility etc. c) Financial Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Bookkeeping, Investments, Banking, Financial Planning ii) Tangible Capital Asset Management iii) Management of Financial Agreements with External Funders d) Communications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Communications strategy development and implementation e) Information Technology and Geographic Information System <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Provide IT and GIS support 	No additional requirements.

f) Vehicles, Equipment and Infrastructure

- i) Provide and Maintain vehicles and equipment
- ii) Maintain buildings and related infrastructure

Category 2: Huron Clean Water Project	Agreement: County of Huron-MVCA-ABCA
County of Huron	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Watershed Stewardship extension staff from ABCA and MVCA deliver this project on behalf of the County of Huron: - assist landowners in the County of Huron to apply for funding for eligible stewardship projects - assist landowners with applications for funding - present the projects to the review committee for approval - review projects upon completion 	<p>The County of Huron has retained the services of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority and the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority to deliver this project. Agreement between the County of Huron and ABCA & MVCA signed: May 4, 2016</p> <p>This project is scheduled to end on December 31, 2026.</p>

Category 3: Watershed Stewardship Extension, Forestry and Watershed Health Assessment Services

Provide stewardship services to watershed landowners and municipalities that will:

- a) Help improve the health and resiliency of rivers, soil, and forests.
- b) Help keep soil and nutrients on the land and out of watercourses

2. Restoration of Natural Areas:

- Projects include floodplains, river valleys, riparian areas, forests and wetlands
- Technical support for landowners
- Support with funding applications
- Coordination of planting projects is funded by a user fee to cover the cost of this service.
- Purchase trees and shrubs in bulk for municipalities and residents is funded by a user fee to cover the cost of this service.
- Benefits include:
 - Increases natural areas on the landscape
 - Improves water quality
 - Climate change resilience

3. Soil & Water Conservation:

- Rural Storm Water Management and cover crops
- Technical support for landowners
- Support with funding applications
- Benefits: reduces soil erosion and improves soil health for agricultural production

4. Watershed Stewardship Programs and Projects:

- Delivery of rural water quality programs for Huron and Wellington Counties
- Leverage other funding to support our extension work
- Develop proposals and necessary partnerships to secure funding
- Key examples are Healthy Lake Huron and Middle Maitland Restoration Project

5. Watershed Health Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting:

- Monitor and report on the health of forests and watercourses.
- Used to help focus our extension services and conservation area management.
- Used to determine extent and type of stewardship work needed in the watershed
- This information is required to support the need for funding for stewardship projects when applying to Provincial and Federal Agencies

Category 3: Falls Reserve Campground Service

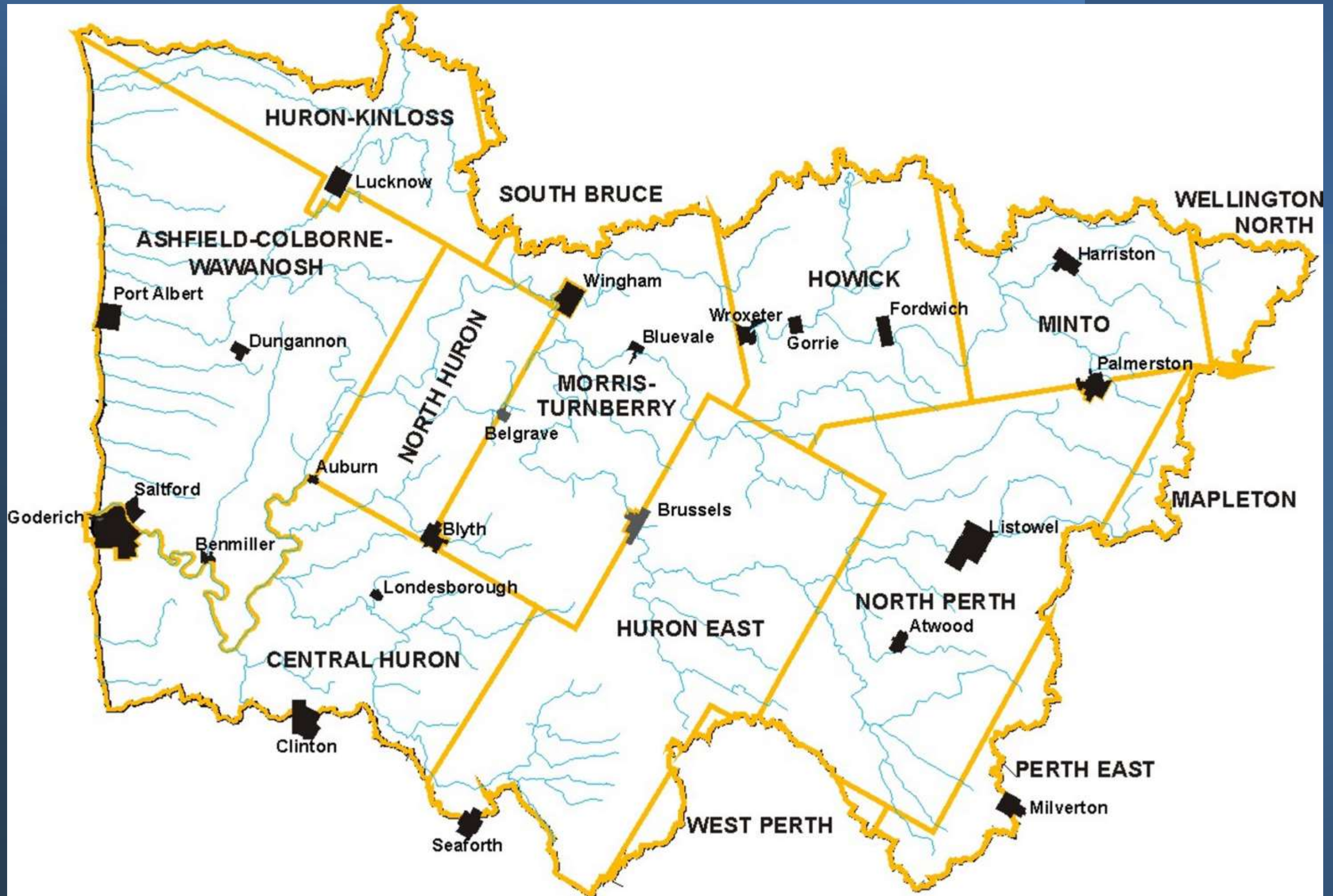
- MVCA provides overnight and seasonal camping at the Falls Reserve Conservation Area
- The campground is funded through user fees.
- The conservation area is also funded by user fees charged for day use of the area.
- The revenue raised is used to fund the operations of the campground.
- Any surplus revenue is used to fund infrastructure upgrades and major maintenance to equipment and facilities.

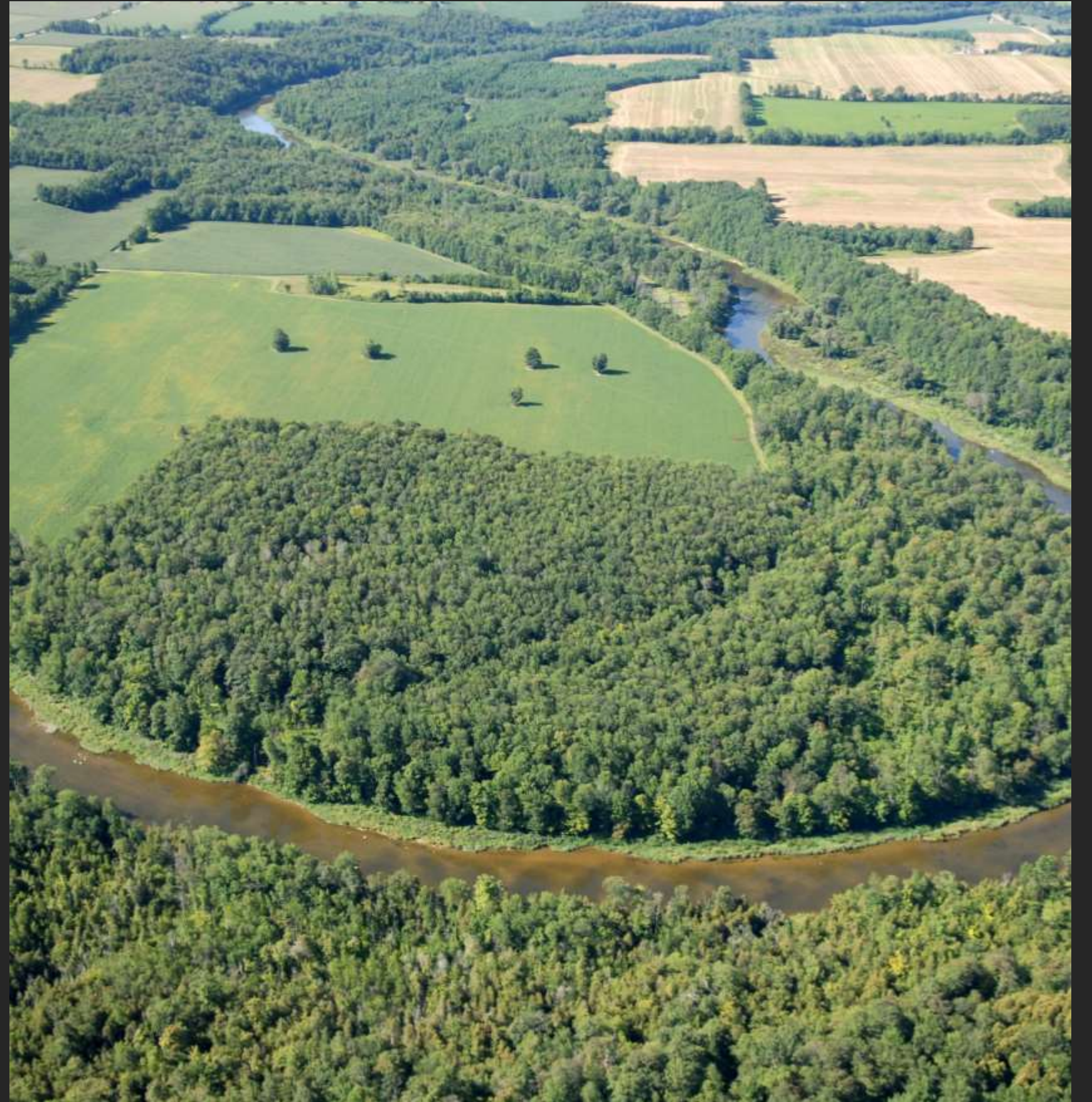
-

Services and Programs



Maitland
CONSERVATION





An aerial photograph of a rural landscape. The scene is dominated by rolling hills and fields. In the foreground, there are large, flat fields, some of which are brown, suggesting they have been harvested. A road or path runs across the lower left. In the middle ground, there is a dense forest with trees showing autumn colors in shades of green, yellow, and brown. A small pond or stream is visible within the forest. To the right, a larger body of water, possibly a river or a large pond, winds through the landscape. The background shows more fields and distant hills under a clear sky. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and scenic.

Vision

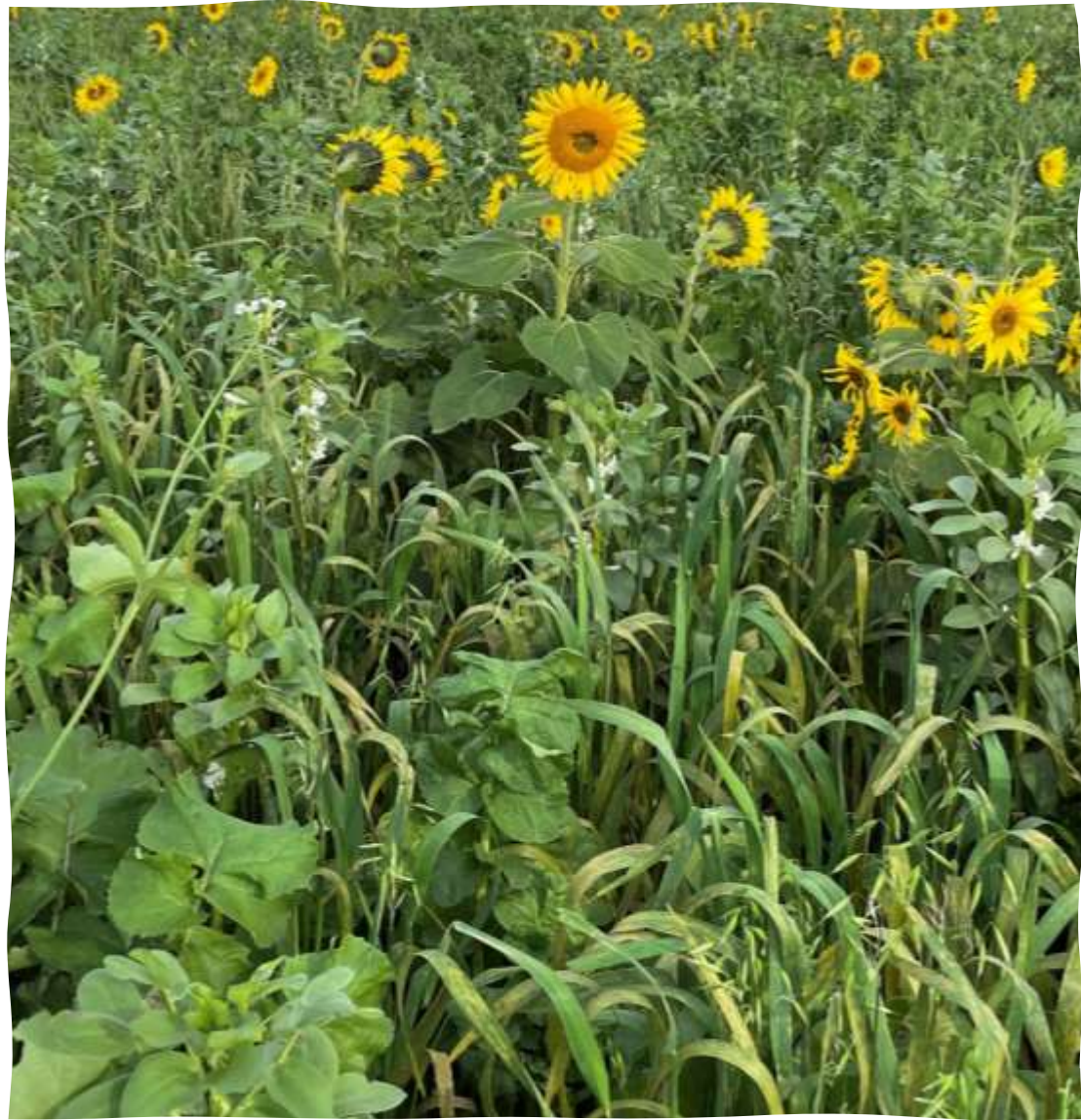
We are working for a healthy environment



Watershed Health Assessment Forests, Rivers and Streams

Watershed Stewardship Services





Key Stewardship Systems

Huron & Wellington Clean Water Programs



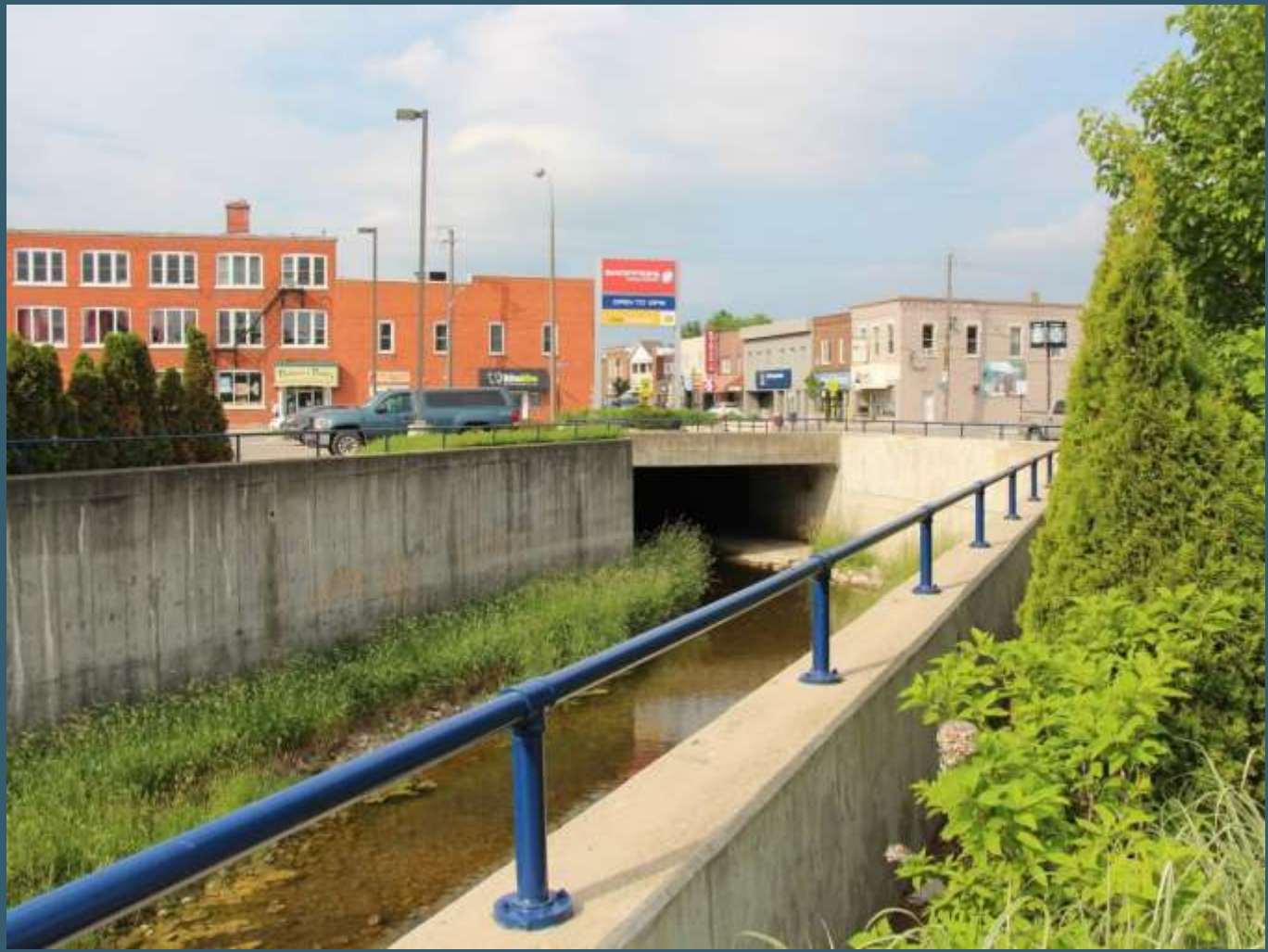
An aerial photograph of a rural landscape. A large, dark blue lake is the central focus, surrounded by dense forests with vibrant autumn foliage in shades of green, yellow, orange, and red. The lake has several small islands and peninsulas. In the background, there are rolling hills with patches of green grass, brown harvested fields, and a few farm buildings with red roofs. The overall scene is a mix of natural beauty and agricultural land.

Conservation Areas



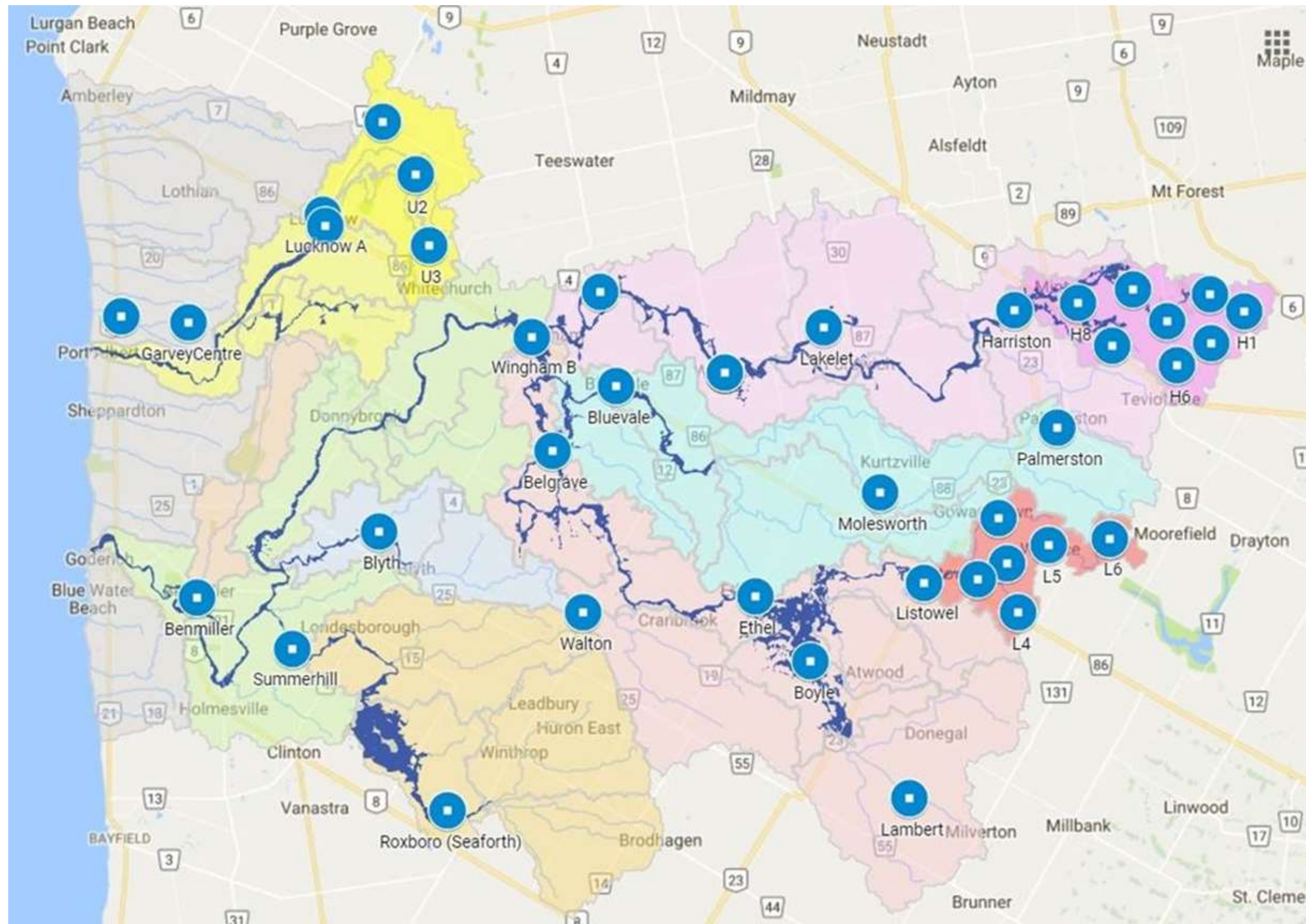


Falls Reserve Conservation Area

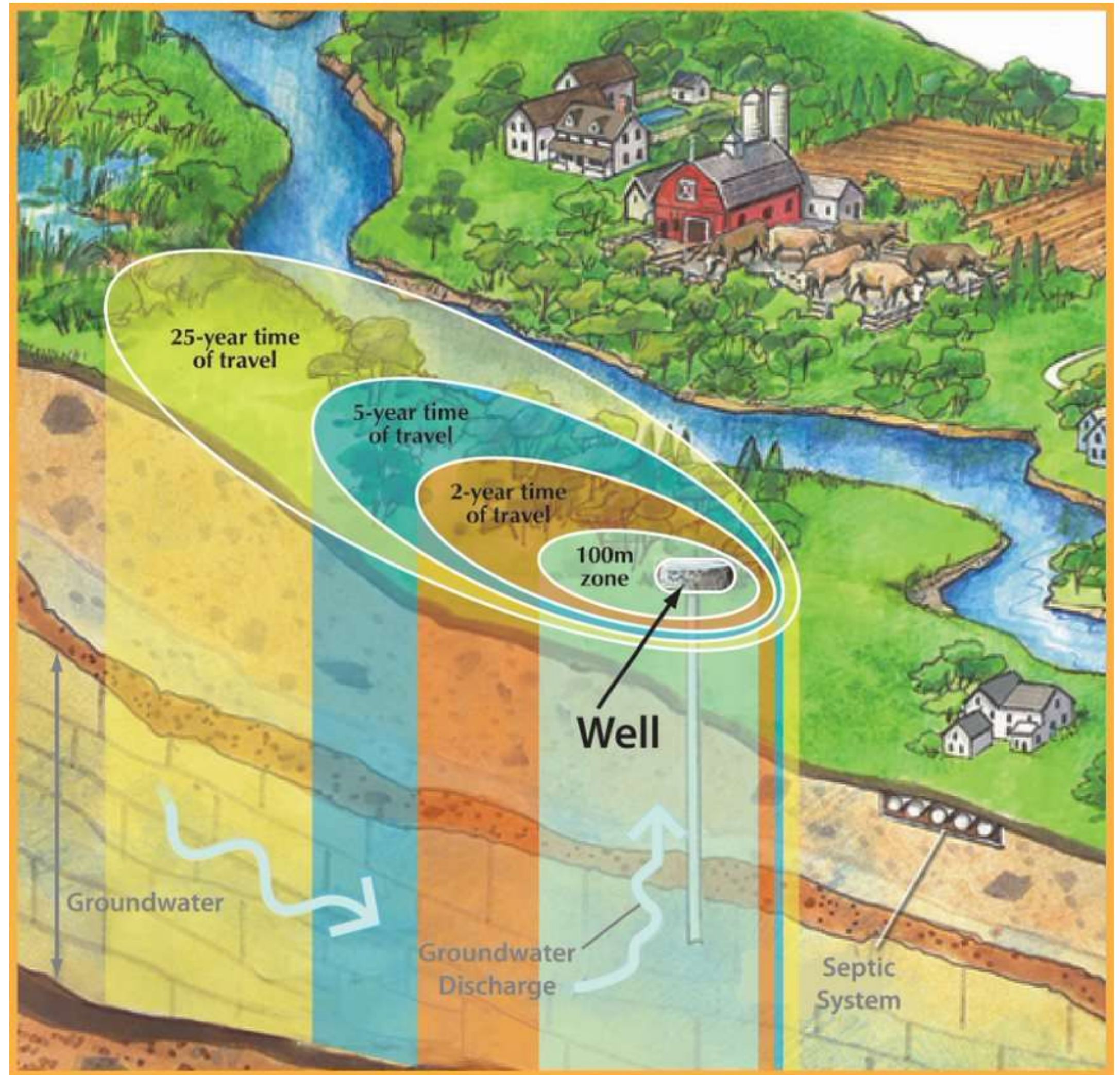


Natural Hazards Services

Flood Monitoring System



Drinking Water Source Protection





MOU Review and Approval



Maitland
CONSERVATION

April 30, 2026

Bluevale Community Committee
Bluevale Ontario
N0G 1G0

Trevor Hallam
Morris Turnberry Township

Dear Trevor,

We are writing to request 3 items that we would like the council to review for improvements to the Ballpark

1. Catering Liquor License-

We would like to get a liquor license that would be a catering license. This would enable us to be able to use the license at the park as well as at the hall. As of now we are doing 12-15 events at a cost of \$150.00 per event. We feel that this would allow for more flexibility for events that are short notice. Celebrations of life as well as other rentals. We feel this would also stop people from bringing in their own alcohol to events as well as having more control with the liquor consumption. Other communities have gone this route, Wroxeter and Belgrave. We realize that we would need to have storage areas built at the hall to accommodate the leftover liquor. The Committee would be willing to look after the cost for storage.

2. Pavilion-

We would like to build a new pavilion at the park. Presently all money raised at the park is going to pay for tent rentals. The existing pavilion is 50 plus years old, it is still in good shape but is not in a location that is always useful. The Committee would be willing to fundraise to help with the expense of building the pavilion.

3. Well-

We would also like a well at the park. This would really be great for when events are down at the park. This would assist greatly when handling food for events. Washing hands and dishes and clean up. The Committee can fundraise for this as well.

If you would be able to take this to council, the Bluevale Community Committee would greatly appreciate it.

Sincerely,
The Bluevale Community Committee



BELGRAVE PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE
BUILDERS OF FUN FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

Honorable Major and members of council,

I am writing to request a letter of your support for our EASE (Enhancing Access to Spaces for Everyone) grant application. The Belgrave community playground project aims to create a safe, inclusive, and engaging outdoor space for children and families in our area.

Access to quality recreational spaces is essential for children’s physical health, social development, and overall well-being. Currently, our community lacks a modern, accessible playground where children of all abilities can play, explore, and connect. This project seeks to address that need by developing a thoughtfully designed playground that promotes active play, creativity, and inclusion.

The proposed playground will include:

- Safe, age-appropriate play structures
- Accessible equipment to accommodate people of varying abilities
- Seating and shaded areas
- Durable, environmentally conscious materials

Beyond serving as a recreational space, the playground will act as a community hub—bringing families together, fostering social connections, and enhancing the overall quality of life in our area.

We are seeking grant funding to help cover the costs of equipment, installation, and site preparation. Your support for this grant application, would play a vital role in making this project a reality and ensuring that local families have a safe and welcoming place to gather for years to come.

We are extremely thankful for the funds you already have committed and for your continuous support to help us make the Belgrave playground project move forward.

Thank you for considering this request. I would be happy to provide additional details or discuss the project further at your convenience.

Sincerely,
Jonathan Van Camp,
Belgrave Playground Committee, Belgrave Arena Board,
vancamp.jon@gmail.com
519-357-8259

April 20, 2026

Re: Pride Flag Raising Request

Dear Mayor and Council,

June 1 marks the beginning of Pride Month across Canada – a time to celebrate the history, resilience, and diversity of 2SLGBTQIA+ (Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, and more) communities.

Throughout the summer months (June to September), Pride events bring people together to celebrate identity and community, and to acknowledge the need for continued advocacy in the ongoing fight for inclusion and equity. In June, organizations and institutions, including Canada’s Parliament, raise the Pride flag as a visible statement of solidarity with the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. While flying the Pride flag is just one part of a broader commitment to equity, it remains a meaningful, internationally recognized symbol of support. It tells 2SLGBTQIA+ residents, families, and visitors they are welcome, seen, and valued.

Huron Perth Public Health (HPPH) recognizes that 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals continue to face health inequities, often rooted in stigma and discrimination. As identified in the 2025 report titled *Discrimination and Community Integration Experienced by 2SLGBTQ+ in Perth-Huron*, making Pride symbols visible within organizations and community spaces is a key recommendation for how municipal government workers can better support 2SLGBTQIA+ communities. Public displays of support, such as flying the Pride flag, are powerful steps toward building safer, healthier communities. In alignment with our Board of Health-approved organizational commemoration policy, HPPH raises the Intersex-Inclusive Pride flag annually as one expression of our ongoing commitment to equity and inclusion.

This June, municipalities throughout Huron and Perth counties, and across the country, will once again raise the Pride flag. We invite you to join us in recognizing Pride Month by raising a Pride flag in your municipality starting June 1, 2026. For more about the history of Pride in Canada and the evolution of the Pride flag, please visit: <http://queerevents.ca/queer-history>

Should you have any questions or require additional details, please don’t hesitate to contact us. Janet Jackson, Public Health Manager, can be reached at 1-888-221-2133 ext. 3744 or by email at jjackson@hpph.ca.

Thank you for your time and your continued commitment to building inclusive communities.

Sincerely,



Dr Miriam Klassen
Medical Officer of Health and CEO



Request to Municipal/County Councils

Raising Pride Flags and Declaring June 2026 as Pride Month

Hello, councilors and staff of Huron County and its municipalities.

On behalf of Huron County Pride, I am writing to you to request the rainbow Pride flag be flown in our communities during the month of June and officially declare the month of June as Pride Month. This is an important step to show your support for the 2SLGBTQIA+ people who live, work, and visit our municipalities. People of all gender and sexual identities contribute to our communities, from arts and culture to agriculture, from local businesses to local service clubs and faith communities.

Raising the Pride flag signals your values to the entire community - that you welcome and celebrate diversity, that you value the contributions of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community who have been historically marginalized, and that you are committed to ensure the community is safe for the most vulnerable.

As you know, the 2SLGBTQIA+ community continues to face oppression. On average, in 2024, two people per day reported a hate crime because of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity nationally. Locally, 62% of the 2SLGBTQ community in Huron and Perth experienced discrimination, according to a 2026 report by United Way Perth-Huron. A quarter of Huron County respondents to the Huron-Perth survey felt they didn't belong in our area and about one in every six who filled out the survey said they don't feel safe in Huron County. [I encourage you to read the report.](#)

The month of June is recognized worldwide as Pride Month, commemorating the Stonewall Riots that took place in New York City on June 28, 1969. Since then, the month has been a time to celebrate the achievements and contributions of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.

Having the municipality raise the Pride flag and declare June as Pride month is just one part of the work we are called to in order to promote equity and safety both in our local and wider communities. This is the work to which Huron County Pride has dedicated itself.

Founded in 2022, Huron County Pride is a volunteer-run organization that provides 2SLGBTQIA+ programming, resources, and education to cultivate a positive community; educate on, and advocate for gender and sexually diverse individuals; and promote inclusion. We have been striving towards this vision with various events, educational opportunities, and community engagement, most notably with our Pride Festivals. The success of these events has shown the



desire for greater 2SLGBTQIA+ support in Huron County from community members of all walks of life – community members who have elected you to represent them.

We recognize that some municipalities have already established a policy to raise the flag and proclaim June as Pride Month every year. We thank those municipalities for their support, and encourage others to take this stand for unity and inclusivity as well.

Should council members wish to discuss further about these requests, we would be happy to. We are also here to support Council members and staff in becoming more 2SLGBTQIA+ inclusive year-round. One such way is with the Proud Community Project, a program developed by Stratford-Perth Pride and that we as Huron County Pride have supported. This two-part training module provides practical and collaborative opportunities for businesses and organizations in our county to become more inclusive and supportive of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us for more information.

I hope you will consider Huron County Pride's request and take action to raise the Pride flag in our community for the month of June and declare June 2026 as Pride Month. Let's learn, work, and celebrate together!

Alex Jebson (he/him)

Chairperson - Huron County Pride

pridehuroncounty@gmail.com

huroncountypride.ca

Membership Meeting #3-2026

March 18, 2026

Members Present: Ed McGugan, Alvin McLellan, Megan Gibson, Matt Duncan, Anita Van Hittersum, Evan Hickey, Ed Podniewicz, Vanessa McMillan, Andrew Fournier, Alison Lobb, Sharen Zinn

Staff Present: Phil Beard, General Manager-Secretary-Treasurer
Jayne Thompson, Communications Coordinator
Stewart Lockie, Conservation Areas Services Coordinator
Michelle Quipp, Executive Assistant
Patrick Huber-Kidby, Supervisor of Planning & Regulations

Others Present: Cory Bilyea, Midwestern News Media
Paul Seebach, Seebach and Company

1. Call to Order

Chair Ed McGugan, welcome everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no pecuniary interests at this time.

3. Minutes

Motion FA #21-26

Moved by: Megan Gibson

Seconded by: Alison Lobb

THAT the minutes from the General Membership Meeting #1-2026 held on January 28, 2026, and Meeting #2-2026 held on February 25, 2026, be approved.
(carried)

4. 2025 Draft Audit, Paul Seebach, Seebach and Company Report #11-2026

Paul Seebach from Seebach and Company, Chartered Professional Accountants, made a presentation and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #22-26

Moved by: Alison Lobb

Seconded by: Matt Duncan

THAT the Auditor’s report for 2025 be approved as presented.

(carried)

5. Provincial Announcement regarding the Consolidation of Conservation Authorities: Report #12-2026

Report #12-2026 was presented and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #23-26

Moved by: Matt Duncan

Seconded by: Alvin McLellan

THAT a draft response for the municipalities and public is to be developed and discussed at the April 15th meeting.

(carried)

6. Business Requiring Direction and or Decision of the Minutes

a) 2026 Work Plan, Budget, and Cost Apportionment: Report #13-2026

Report #13-2026 was presented and the following motions were made:

Motion FA #24-26

Moved by: Vanessa McMillan

Seconded by: Alison Lobb

THAT the cost apportionment increase be approved at \$175,000 for 2026;

AND THAT the cost be apportioned to each municipality in accordance with the 2026 schedule.

(carried)

Chair McGugan called for the Member’s to vote on behalf of their respective Municipality on the levy apportionment as outlined in Report #13. The approval of the work plan and budget requires a motion and a majority of the Members to be approved.

Municipality	Member	Assessment Value (%)	In Favour	Not In Favour	No Comment	Absent
Central Huron	Alison Lobb	9.44	✓			
ACW	Evan Hickey	12.5	✓			
Goderich	Vanessa McMillan	10.63	✓			
Howick	Megan Gibson	4.40	✓			
Huron East	Alvin McLellan	10.26	✓			
Huron Kinloss	Ed McGugan	6.08	✓			
Mapleton	Ed Podniewicz	0.89	✓			
Minto	Ed Podniewicz	7.12	✓			
Morris-Turnberry	Sharen Zinn	5.14	✓			
North Huron	Anita van Hittersum	5.57	✓			

North Perth	Matt Duncan	22.92	✓			
Perth East	Andrew Fournier	1.76	✓			
South Bruce	Ed McGugan	0.07	✓			
Wellington North	Ed Podniewicz	2.76	✓			
West Perth	Andrew Fournier	0.46	✓			

The results of the recorded vote was 100% in favour therefore the following motion was carried:

Motion FA #25-26

Moved by: Megan Gibson

Seconded by: Alvin McLellan

THAT the 2026 Work Plan and Budget be approved as outlined in Report #13-2026.
(carried)

b) Members Work Plan for 2026: Report #14-2025

Report #14-2026 was presented and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #26-26

Moved by: Evan Hickey

Seconded by: Alison Lobb

THAT the work plan for 2026 be adopted as outlined in Report #14-2026.
(carried)

c) Appointment to Committees for 2026: Report #15-2026

Report #15-2026 was presented and the following motions were made:

Motion FA #27-26

Moved by: Alison Lobb

Seconded by: Megan Gibson

THAT Ed McGugan be appointed as the MVCA's delegate to Conservation Ontario;
AND THAT Matt Duncan and Evan Hickey be appointed as alternates.
(carried)

Motion FA #28-26

Moved by: Matt Duncan

Seconded by: Anita Van Hittersum

THAT Vanessa McMillian be appointed to the Board of Directors of the Maitland Conservation Foundation for 2026.
(carried)

Motion FA #29-26

Moved by: Ed Podniewicz

Seconded by: Vanessa McMillan

THAT Alison Lobb be appointed to the John Hindmarsh Environmental Fund Board for 2026.
(carried)

Motion FA #30-26

Moved by: Ed Podniewiz

Seconded by: Megan Gibson

THAT a member will not be appointed to the Personnel Committee for 2026.
(carried)

Motion FA #31-26

Moved by: Alison Lobb

Seconded by: Anita Van Hittersum

THAT Alvin McLellan be appointed as the MVCA's representative to the Huron County Water Protection Steering Committee for 2026.
(carried)

Motion FA #32-26

Moved by: Alison Lobb

Seconded by: Matt Duncan

THAT Ed McGugan be appointed to the Carbon Footprint Initiative Leadership Team for 2026.
(carried)

d) Appointment of Auditor, Solicitor and Bank: Report #16-2026

Report #16-2026 was presented and the following motions were made:

Motion FA #33-26

Moved by: Evan Hickey

Seconded by: Alvin McLellan

THAT the MVCA's banking transactions be handled by the Wingham and Goderich Branches of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce;
AND THAT investments be made at the financial institutions offering the most favourable rate of interest to the maximum of the guaranteed limits set by the Canadian Depository Act.
(carried)

Motion FA #34-26

Moved by: Matt Duncan

Seconded by: Alison Lobb

THAT the Members approve a bank borrowing by-law of \$200,000 for 2026 on revolving credit, at the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, Wingham Branch.
(carried)

Motion FA #35-26

Moved by: Megan Gibson

Seconded by: Alison Lobb

THAT the following solicitors be appointed to handle legal matters of the Conservation Authority for 2026: Darrell N. Hawreliak Professional Corporation, Kitchener and Greg Stewart, Donnelly & Murphy, Goderich.
(carried)

Motion FA #36-26

Moved by: Anita Van Hittersum

Seconded by: Vanessa McMillan

THAT Seebach and Company be appointed as MVCA's auditor for 2026.
(carried)

e) Meeting Schedule for 2026: Report #17-2026

Report #17-2026 was presented and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #37-26

Moved by: Megan Gibson

Seconded by: Matt Duncan

THAT the meeting schedule for 2026 be approved as outlined in Report #17-2026.
(carried)

f) Carbon Footprint Report 2025: Report #18-2026

Report #18-2026 was presented and the following motion was made:

Motion FA #38-26

Moved by: Megan Gibson

Seconded by: Evan Hickey

THAT MVCA's carbon footprint progress report and 2026 strategic actions be approved as outlined in Report # 18-26
(carried)

7. Consent Agenda

The following items were circulated to the Members for their information:

- a) Revenue/Expenditure Report for January & February: Report #19-2026
- b) Agreements Signed: Report #20-2026
- c) Correspondence: Letter to the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks from the Township of Huron Kinloss; Letter from Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks re: Fee Changes

Motion FA #39-26

Moved by: Matt Duncan

Seconded by: Megan Gibson

THAT Report #19-2026 to Report #20-2026 along with the respective motions as outlined in those reports be approved.
(carried)

8. Chair and Member Reports

Ed McGugan thanked MVCA, on behalf of Don Murray Mayor of Huron Kinloss and council, for their actions during the recent flooding event in Lucknow.

9. Adjournment

Next Meeting Date, Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 7:00pm at the Administration Centre in Wroxeter.

Motion FA #40-26

Moved by: Alison Lobb

Seconded by: Megan Gibson

THAT the Members Meeting be adjourned at 8:46 PM.

(carried)



Ed McGugan
Chair

Phil Beard
General Manager / Secretary-Treasurer



Good News

Avon PS Hosts Event: "Celebrating Who We Are"

Chair Michael Bannerman was pleased to share that Avon PS hosted a multicultural event to showcase the diverse heritage of students and families. More than 60 students representing 25 countries shared details through displays that highlighted their culture, food, language, traditional dress and more. This event received recognition in 2025 through the board of trustees' recognition program called iAM Making an Impact and the funds that the organizing team were awarded contributed to making this year's event even more memorable. Learn more and view photos in a recent [Stratford Beacon Herald article](#).

AMDSB Employees Wrap Up Another Successful Campaign to Support the United Way

Vice Chair Patricia Smith shared that she, along with Trustees Nancy Rothwell and Deepika Mishra, Director of Education Graham Shantz and members of the AMDSB United Way Campaign Committee attended the Spirit of Community celebration to showcase organizations who organized employment campaigns. AMDSB staff raised over \$26,000, which was above and beyond last year's contribution. In addition, several teams participated in the "Coldest Night of the Year" fundraiser that supports the local youth shelter "Shelterlink". Way to go!



Stratford District SS STEM Club Participates In Waterloo-Wellington Science Fair

Trustee Deepika Mishra highlighted the SDSS STEM Club and their attendance at a local science fair that welcomed over 100 projects. They sent three groups and each returned with a medal. Congratulations!



Little Falls PS Implements Unique Strategy for Grade 1 Students

Superintendent Riley Culhane shared that Little Falls PS staff have been implementing unique strategies to improve student literacy. Grade 1 educators have introduced an engaging kinesthetic strategy to help students move ideas from “brain to paper.” Students use hand and body movements to mimic a rocket ship and then “blast off” to their graphic organizers, supporting a clear transition from thinking, to planning, to organizing, to writing. Students develop a clear “beginning, middle, and ending” through this process and this approach has led to noticeable improvements in students’ written work. Well done!

T.I.D.E Rocket Paragraph Organizer

T **I** **D** **I #2** **D #2** **E**

Part 1: Topic Sentence
Introduce what you are going to talk about.

Part 2: Important Idea

Part 3: Details
Tell me more about it.

Also, and, after, next, then, finally.
Connecting Ideas using Transition Words

Important Idea #2

Details about Idea #2

Part 4: Ending
Restate first sentence adding how it made you feel.

Blast Off to write your paragraph!

Pathways Highlights

Superintendent Paul Langis brought forward a variety of highlights from the Pathways team.

1. **Junk Drawer Races:** three teams received medals in the provincial Junk Drawer Races. This competition is for elementary students and highlights creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. This initiative also builds student confidence and an early awareness of skilled trades and technology pathways.

2. **Skills Ontario:** we have 52 elementary students and 10 secondary students preparing to represent AMDSB at the provincial Skills Ontario Competition in Toronto next week. This is not only a chance to showcase their skills, but also an opportunity to see what future pathways in the trades and technology could look like. In addition, Grade 10 Career Studies students from across the district will attend as part of a field trip, where they will have the opportunity to observe peers in competition and participate in career coaching focused on the skilled trades.
3. **CTMA Donation to LDSS:** the Canadian Tooling & Machining Association (CTMA) has donated two industry-standard lathes as part of its Career-Ready with CTMA initiative (the equipment is worth \$50,000). The program aims to address skilled trades shortages by equipping students with hands-on experience using modern machining tools, while also supporting teacher training in CNC machining and related technologies.



International Education Students Enjoy Field Trip to Toronto

Superintendent Langis also shared that the International Education team recently hosted a field trip to Toronto on the PA day, bringing together 63 students for a memorable experience. Students had the opportunity to visit the CN Tower and explore Little Canada, two iconic destinations that offered a unique glimpse into Canadian culture and landmarks. The day was especially meaningful for our international students, who appreciated the chance to spend time together outside the classroom while experiencing these distinctly Canadian attractions.



Athletics Update

Students across the district have been busy with winter athletics. Below are those that have been reported to Superintendent Langis, if any are missing, please contact the communications team to have them added (communications@ed.amdsb.ca).

Sr Boys Basketball - WOSSAA silver (SHDHS)

Jr Boys Basketball - WOSSAA gold (SDSS), WOSSAA silver (GDCI), WOSSA bronze (SHDHS)

Sr Girls Volleyball - WOSSAA Gold (DCVI)

Jr Girls Volleyball - WOSSAA silver (GDCI & SDSS), WOSSAA Bronze (MDHS)

Girls Curling - WOSSAA gold and OFSAA gold (SDSS)

Swimming - G Bach (MDHS) - Gold in 100m IM, Silver in 100m Fly; A Garniss (FEMSS) - Gold in 50m Para Back, Gold in 50m Para Free

Badminton Mixed Doubles - WOSSAA gold (SDSS), going to OFSAA this week.

AMDSB Students Will be Showcased at Blyth Festival Art Gallery

Trustee Nancy Rothwell shared that beginning Friday May 1, student work will be showcased at the Bainton Gallery. Work will feature media, sculpture, photography, drawing, painting, printmaking and digital illustration. Details in this [CK News Today article](#).

Clinton PS Focuses on Kindness

Superintendent Riley Culhane proudly shared that Ms Hayter's Cornerstones class at Clinton PS wrote a letter to Ms Jeffrey's grade 4/5s because of their amazing amazing school wide kindness projects and charitable actions. This letter expresses the Cornerstones class thanks for this, along with feathers crocheted by the class.



School Showcase

Communications Manager Chera Longston highlighted **St. Marys DCVI**, located in St. Marys (Trustee Sheila Armstrong-Marshall), and serves approximately 130 elementary students (grades 7 and 8) and 375 secondary students (grades 9 to 12). Its feeder school is Little Falls PS. The building opened in 1953 with an addition in 1991, and is led by Principal Petra Goetz and Vice Principal Chris Rawes under the supervision of Superintendent Riley Culhane.

Highlights from DCVI include:

- Youth grants promoting leadership: A number of students received Youth in Action grants from the Perth Huron United Way. One student used her funds to support a leadership class project where she hosted a wellness day for grade 7/8 students. They are also using the funds to welcome guest speaker and [mental health advocate Joel Hilchey](#) who uses humour to promote naming feelings in order to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness.
- Academics and Experiential Learning: DCVI has seen a tremendous increase in OSSLT results going from 88% in 22-23 to 97% in 24-25. Their Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) programs (Manufacturing, Construction and Environmental) host a number of reach ahead and experiential learning opportunities.
- South Africa Learning & Athletics: A group of students travelled to South Africa where they learned about the local eco-system through dung surveys, bird and mammal counts and vegetation surveys. In addition, the Sr Girls Volleyball team qualified for OFSAA and were awarded the "Team Sportsmanship Award" which acknowledges conduct on and off the court.
- Support for Equity: The student senators worked with student council to host a bake sale to raise funds for the Equity fund. With no item costing more than \$2 they made over \$300!



Days of Significance Wrap-Up (April)

Schools celebrated important days throughout the month of April. [This video](#) provides a sampling of these activities!

Student Trustee Update

Student Trustee Julia Havenga reported that schools continue to host bake sales and other events to raise funds for each school's equity (or benevolent) fund. She also highlighted that their mental health social media campaign is set to launch during Children's Mental Health Week on May 4.

Future Board Meetings

Regular Board Meetings are held in person unless otherwise noted. Links to join the Regular Board meetings online will be posted on the [Board Meeting page](#) the day before the meeting.

- Tuesday, May 12, 2026 - Governance and Strategic Planning Committee
- Tuesday, May 26, 2026 at 4:45 p.m. - Regular Session, followed by Committee of the Whole, Closed Session

Future Meetings/Events with Trustee Representation

- Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) – Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. (Microsoft Teams)
- Transportation Steering Committee (HPSTS) – Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.
- Recognition and Service Committee – Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 3:00 p.m.
- Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) – Monday, May 25, 2026 at 8:30 a.m.
- Indigenous Education Advisory Committee (IEAC) - Monday, May 25, 2026 at 4:30 p.m.
- Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) – Wednesday, May 27, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. (Microsoft Teams)
- Audit Committee – Wednesday, June 3, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

MEDIA RELEASE

Maitland Conservation Raises Concerns Over Amalgamation of Conservation Authorities

April 23, 2026

The Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) is expressing significant concerns following the Province's move to consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into nine regional entities.

Maitland Conservation will become part of the new Lake Huron Regional Conservation Authority along with the Ausable Bayfield, Saugeen, Grey Sauble, Nottawasaga and Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authorities.

This new regional Conservation Authority will encompass watersheds that vary greatly in land use, watershed characteristics, population and environmental pressures.

Amalgamation is not likely to reduce costs, increase housing builds, improve the level of customer service in permitting, increase the safety of Ontarians from flood and erosion hazards, or improve local, watershed-based representation for the people who live, work, farm, or visit this beautiful province.

"For the sake of the people of Ontario, please do not amalgamate the Conservation Authorities," commented Ed McGugan, Chair of Maitland Conservation.

"We're calling on the Province to halt this amalgamation plan and commit to improving the unique watershed-based conservation system we all benefit from in this province."

The MVCA membership (comprised of Councillors from lower tier member municipalities), has outlined several specific related to costs, governance and conservation outcomes.

Key Concerns Identified by MVCA

1. Lack of Business Case

MVCA members noted that the Province has not developed a business case demonstrating that the proposed amalgamation will improve watershed health, resilience, or public safety in Ontario.

2. No Evidence of Improved Efficiency or Effectiveness

The Province has provided no evidence to show that consolidating Conservation Authorities into large regional corporations will result in more effective or more efficient service delivery across diverse watersheds.

3. Risks to Natural Hazard Management

Conservation Authorities have been delegated by the Province to regulate development in areas subject to flooding and erosion. These regulations are critical to reducing risks associated with flood damage, social disruption and loss of life.

The MVCA is concerned that larger, regionally governed authorities may weaken the ability to apply local watershed knowledge when managing flood and erosion hazards. Future development must not be directed into areas that are subject to flooding and erosion.

4. Threats to Watershed-Based Conservation

Conservation Authorities were established by the Province at the request of municipalities to restore and protect the health and resilience of natural resources in Ontario's watersheds. Healthy soils, rivers, lakes, wetlands and forests are essential to Ontario's economy and quality of life. It is our responsibility to maintain and enhance local natural resources to build a foundation for future generations.

5. Loss of Local Representation

Under the proposed governance structure, members of regional Conservation Authority boards will be appointed by upper-tier municipalities such as counties or regional governments. A representation-by-population model risks underrepresenting rural Conservation Authorities on regional boards. Rural municipalities will lose an effective voice in local watershed management and decision making.

6. Call for Reinvestment

The MVCA is calling on the Province to reinvest in the existing Conservation Authority model. Conservation Authorities were intended to be a partnership between the Province and local municipalities, guided by the founding principle that conservation efforts are most effective when led by the people who live and work within the watershed.

Moving Forward

The MVCA remains committed to working collaboratively with the Province, member municipalities and partners to protect and enhance the Maitland watershed and the communities it serves. However, the MVCA strongly believes that watershed-based governance, supported by adequate provincial investment, remains the most effective approach to conserving local natural resources and managing natural hazards.

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Contact:

Ed McGugan, Chair

Maitland Conservation

emcgugan@huronkinloss.com

Outstanding Action Items
Open Session

May 5

Meeting Date	Action Item	Action By	Current Status	Next Step
February 17, 2026	Maitland Granite Grant Applications	CAO	Application submitted.	Report to Council with result when known.
April 21 2026	Encroachment By-Law	CAO	Draft sent for legal review.	Return by-law for consideration following review.



CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MORRIS-TURNBERRY

BY-LAW NO. 27-2026

Being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry, for its meeting held on May 5, 2026.

WHEREAS Section 9 of the *Municipal Act 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25* provides that a municipality has the capacity, rights, powers and privileges of a natural person for the purpose of exercising its authority under this or any other Act;

AND WHEREAS Section 5 (3) of the *Municipal Act 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25* provides that a municipal power, including a municipality's capacity, rights, powers and privileges under Section 9, shall be exercised by by-law unless the municipality is specifically authorized to do otherwise;

AND WHEREAS it is deemed expedient that the proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry for the May 5, 2026, meeting be confirmed and adopted by By-law;

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry enacts as follows:

1. The action of the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry at its meeting held on May 5, 2026, in respect of each recommendation contained in the Minutes and each motion and resolution passed and other action taken by the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry at the meeting, is hereby adopted and confirmed as if all such proceedings were expressly embodied in this By-Law; and
2. The Mayor and proper officials of the Corporation of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry hereby authorize and direct all things necessary to give effect to the action of the Council to the Corporation of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry referred to in the preceding section thereof;
3. The Mayor and CAO/Clerk are authorized and directed to execute all documents necessary in that behalf and to affix thereto the Seal of the Corporation.

Read a FIRST and SECOND time, May 5, 2026

Read a THIRD time and FINALLY PASSED, May 5, 2026

Mayor, Jamie Heffer

Clerk, Trevor Hallam