



# Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority

## HIGHLIGHTS

of the NVCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - No. 08/13 – Oct.25, 2013

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### **2014 BUDGET TARGET SET**

The NVCA Board of Directors approved a 2014 levy increase target of 3.25%, to adjust for growth (1.92%) and inflation (1.33%). Staff were directed to bring a draft budget reflecting this target to the November Board meeting for consideration.

### **NVCA TO COMMISSION THIRD-PARTY EFFICIENCY AUDIT**

An ad hoc committee was struck to oversee the commissioning of a third-party audit. In a recorded vote, the majority of members were in favour of conducting an audit in order to optimize on the NVCA's efficiencies and funding opportunities.

The committee consists of five board members: Mel Coutanche of Oro-Medonte, Gail Ardiel of the Blue Mountains, Arif Khan of Barrie, Past Chair Walter Benotto of Shelburne and Chair Nina Bifulchi of Wasaga Beach.

The committee will develop a terms-of-reference document outlining the scope of the audit and present it to the Board at a future meeting. They will also put together a Request for Proposals (RFP) for an auditor and oversee the RFP process.

### **NEW DRAFT FEE POLICY TO BE POSTED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Planning and Development Fee Schedule Ad Hoc Committee will seek public input on a revised draft policy to charge Planning fees. The draft policy, including the proposed 2013 Fee Schedule, will be placed on the NVCA website for 21 days for public comment, and then staff will bring the draft policy and any comments received to the November Board meeting for further consideration.

The ad hoc committee is comprised of eight members of the NVCA's Board of Directors along with the Director of Planning and the CAO/Secretary-Treasurer. They have been working since early in the year to review the existing policy and fee schedule in consultation with key stakeholders, and to develop recommendations for revising the fee schedule.

### **BOARD HEARS DEPUTATION FROM BILD**

Representatives of the Building Industry and Land Development (BILD) Association made a deputation to the Board of Directors regarding suggestions for incorporation into the draft Policy to Charge Fees. These comments, along with those from the public and other organizations, will be taken into consideration in the development of the final policy.

**PHOSPHOROUS MANAGEMENT PROJECTS TO RECEIVE FEDERAL FUNDING**

NVCA staff will participate in two projects to be funded by Environment Canada through the Lake Simcoe/South-Eastern Georgian Bay Clean-Up Fund. In January of 2013, Environment Canada announced a \$24 million, five-year extension to this fund, and the NVCA made several project proposals.

The first approved project will involve creating a computer modeling tool that will help the development industry to reduce the amount of phosphorous entering watercourses via urban stormwater. The project will include delivering a training seminar to municipalities and local engineering consulting firms on using the tool.

The second approved project is a collaboration between several agencies, led by the Holland Marsh Growers Association. It is designed to evaluate on-farm wastewater treatment technologies to decrease phosphorous contribution to surface water. The NVCA will provide support to this project including staff expertise, monitoring data and equipment.

The NVCA also submitted a letter of intent for a project to develop a Nottawasaga River Phosphorous Management Strategy. This letter was accepted by Environment Canada, giving NVCA staff the go-ahead to submit a full project proposal. The Board voted to support the proposal submission and, if it is approved for funding, to review the project with staff in detail and provide further direction.

**AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FORMED**

An Agricultural Advisory Committee is to be formed with representation from the agricultural community throughout the NVCA watershed jurisdiction. The move is in support of the NVCA's newly drafted five-year strategic plan, as well as requests from members of the agricultural community for increased communications with the Conservation Authority.

An NVCA Board Member Agricultural Ad Hoc Committee will be formed to assist staff with the development of a terms-of-reference document for the Advisory Committee, covering details including meeting frequency, procedural rules and membership.

**DEVELOPMENT APPROVED ON MILL ST., ANGUS**

The Board supported staff's approval of an application from the Georgian International Land Corporation to develop a commercial lot at 305 Mill Street in Angus, providing the developer meets a list of conditions regarding such aspects as floodproofing and stormwater management. The development is to include the construction of seven buildings and associated parking.

**LOCAL ENGINEERING FIRM SEEKS PARTNERSHIP WITH NVCA**

The Board of Directors heard a deputation from Greenland International Consulting Engineers regarding partnership opportunities with the NVCA. Greenland has developed several watershed analytical tools and provides expertise in areas including low-impact development and watershed science.

For the full agenda including documents and reports, please visit our website:

<http://nvca.on.ca/meetings/BoardofDirectors/Agendas/>

**Future meetings and events:**

Board Meeting 9/13 – Nov. 29, 2013  
Board Meeting 10/13 – Dec. 13, 2013

**For more information, please contact:**

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