



# **HIGHLIGHTS**

of the NVCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS  
No. 04/14 – Apr. 25, 2014

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## ***Updated Terms of Reference for Agricultural Advisory Committee***

The Board of Directors approved a revised terms of reference for NVCA's Agricultural Advisory Committee. Struck in 2013, the twelve-member committee identifies common areas of interest and/or concern with between NVCA and the agricultural community. Members of the committee also provide input and recommendations to NVCA programs from the broader agricultural community.

## ***2013 Audited Financial Statements Available***

The NVCA Board approved the 2013 draft audited financial statements. As reported in the February Highlights, NVCA ended 2013 with a surplus of accumulated funds. Total revenues in 2013 were \$4,053,666, just slightly below annual expenses of \$4,067,982. To view the full financial statement, visit [www.nvca.on.ca/Pages/PlansFinancials.aspx](http://www.nvca.on.ca/Pages/PlansFinancials.aspx).

## ***Simcoe County Tree Planting Program Continues in 2014***

The Board received information on the renewal of the annual Simcoe County Tree Planning partnership agreement between the NVCA, Simcoe County, the Lake Simcoe Regional Conservation Authority and the Dufferin Simcoe Land Stewardship Network Inc. This partnership sees tree planting funds provided by the County's forest management revenue to the three partner organizations. Since 2001, the program has helped to plant a total of 203,000 trees in the Nottawasaga Valley.

## ***Spring Flood 2014 Update***

Board members heard an update on the 2014 spring flood. NVCA staff issued a number of flood watches and warnings in April to reflect forecasted water levels and flows resulting from snow melt and weather conditions. While information continues to be gathered on the effects of the flood on property owners in the watershed, it appears property damage was minimal despite the record-high flows recorded on some area watercourses. Staff recognized the commitment from emergency service providers and public works staff at watershed municipalities as being critical to ensuring the safety of people and property in areas experiencing flooding.

NVCA staff are continuing to monitor stream flow conditions as the spring freshet winds down. Water in area streams and rivers is still running fast, high and cold, and residents are reminded to stay away from all area waterways.

## ***NVCA Launches Updated Website***

Staff introduced the updated NVCA website—[www.nvca.on.ca](http://www.nvca.on.ca)—to members of the Board. The new site features a clean, contemporary look, improved accessibility for visitors with disabilities and improved site navigation. It also scales to adjust for visitors using tablet and smart phones. Of particular interest is the NVCA’s interactive property mapping system, launched in 2013, that allows users to see if their property is regulated by the NVCA.

## ***Funding opportunities through the Lake Simcoe/South-Eastern Georgian Bay Clean-Up Fund***

Staff from Environment Canada spoke to the Board on the next round of funding available under the Lake Simcoe/South-Eastern Georgian Bay Clean-Up Fund.

This \$29 million fund supports community-based projects that reduce phosphorous from urban and rural sources, restore and enhance wildlife and aquatic habitats, and increase scientific understanding of the watershed. Programs such as the Nottawasaga Watershed Improvement Program, N-WIP (stream rehabilitation), and the Healthy Waters Program (landowner technical assistance and financial support) are among the NVCA programs benefitting from Clean-Up Fund support.

Environment Canada will offer another funding round in the fall of this year. In particular they are looking for “boots on the ground” projects that put scientific research into action. Municipalities and community groups encouraged to apply. For more information visit [www.ec.gc.ca/lakesimcoe-georgianbay.com](http://www.ec.gc.ca/lakesimcoe-georgianbay.com).

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### ***For more information:***

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For the full meeting agenda including documents and reports, visit the NVCA website at [www.nvca.on.ca/about/boardofdirectors](http://www.nvca.on.ca/about/boardofdirectors).

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### ***Future meetings & events:***

May 3 – Black Ash Creek Community Tree Planting (Collingwood)

May 10 – Beasley Creek Community Tree Planting (Shelburne)

May 10 – NVCA’s 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Tree Sale (Tiffin Centre for Conservation, Utopia and Nordic Centre, Wasaga Beach)

May 23 – NVCA Board of Directors Meeting (Tiffin Centre for Conservation, Utopia)