



**TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON
HYBRID COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16TH, 2025 - 5:00 P.M.**

Council meetings are recorded and will be available on the Township website under Quick Links – Council Agendas and Minutes within 5 business days of the Council meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89313141173?pwd=EsxqgWHw2b0yN5EDAHKCwyVeUJzBYp.1>

Meeting ID: 893 1314 1173

Passcode: 929638

One tap mobile

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AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Land Acknowledgement Statement**

We will begin the meeting by sharing the Land Acknowledgement Statement:

We would like to begin by acknowledging that Melancthon Township recognizes the ancestral lands and treaty territories of the Tionontati (Petun/Wyandot(te)), Haudenosaunee (Six Nations), and Anishinaabe Peoples. The Township of Melancthon resides within the lands named under the Haldimand Deed of 1784 and the Lake Simcoe-Nottawasaga Treaty (Treaty 18).

These territories upon which we live and learn, are steeped in rich Indigenous history and traditions. It is with this statement that we declare to honour and respect the past and present connection of Indigenous peoples with this land, its waterways and resources.

- 3. Announcements**
- 4. Additions/Deletions/Approval of Agenda**
- 5. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof**
- 6. Approval of Draft Minutes – October 2nd, 2025**
- 7. Business Arising from Minutes**

- 8. Point of Privilege or Personal Privilege**
- 9. Public Question Period** (Please visit our website under Agendas and Minutes for information on Public Question Period)
- 10. Public Works**
 1. 2025-2026 Winter Operations Plan
 2. Other
- 11. Planning**
 1. Other
- 12. Climate Change Initiatives**
- 13. Dufferin OPP Detachment Board – Melancthon, Mono, Mulmur**
- 14. County Council Update**
- 15. Correspondence**

Board, Committee & Working Group Minutes

1. Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Board – May 20, 2025
2. Heritage Advisory Committee – September 8, 2025
3. Infrastructure & Emergency Management Committee – September 11, 2025

Items for Information Purposes

1. Dufferin County Resolution Regarding the Challenges of Growth, Tariffs and Economies
2. Letter from the Office of the Solicitor General Regarding the Review of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Cost Recovery Model
3. Dufferin County Media Release – Important Changes Coming to 9-1-1 Medical Call Dispatch in Dufferin County
4. Township of Southgate Resolution Regarding the Consultation on the Future of Community Natural Gas Expansion
5. Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority September 2025 Board Meeting Highlights
6. Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Media Release - NCVA's 2026 Proposes Leaner and More Efficient Budget
7. Letter from the Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks Regarding the Transition of the Blue Box System to a Producer Responsibility Organization
8. Ministry of Environment – Notification of Application for Permit to Take Water at 437159 4th Line, Melancthon – Strada Aggregates Inc.

16. General Business

1. Notice of Intent to Pass By-law
 1. By-law to Authorize the Execution of an Agreement Between the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon and Strada Aggregates Inc./ Strada Financial Inc. – Cost Recovery Agreement
2. New/Other Business/Addition(s)
 1. Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority – Draft 2026 Business Plan and Budget Booklet
 2. Proclamation – November is Woman Abuse Prevention Month & November 25th is International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
 3. Report from Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer – Request for Financial Assistance: Ice Storm March 28th, 2025

4. Remuneration for Meetings that are not Board or Committee Meetings (Deputy Mayor McLean)
 5. Recognition of a Heroic Act on October 5, 2025 (Councillor Moore)
3. Unfinished Business
 1. Six Nations Political Liaison Meeting – November 24, 2025
4. Reports/Updates from Members of Council & Administrative Staff

17. Delegations

1. 5:30 p.m. – Larry Taman and Jim Funston on behalf of Melancthon Against Quarries – Presentation to Council (please refer to Delegation Request Form in the Agenda package)

18. Closed Session

19. Third Reading of By-laws

20. Notice of Motion

21. Confirmation By-law

22. Adjournment and Date of Next Meeting – Thursday, November 6th, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.



MULMUR-MELANCTHON FIRE BOARD MINUTES

May 20, 2025

Present: Bill Neilson, Chair – Melancthon Township
Kim Lyon, Vice Chair – Mulmur Township
Earl Hawkins – Mulmur Township
Ralph Moore – Melancthon Township
Mathew Waterfield – Fire Chief
Roseann Knechtel – Secretary

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

We begin this meeting by acknowledging that we are meeting upon the traditional Indigenous lands of the Tionontati (Petun) and Treaty 18 territory of the Anishinaabe peoples. We recognize and deeply appreciate their historic connection to this place and we also recognize the contributions Indigenous peoples have made, both in shaping and strengthening our community, province and country as a whole.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Moore and Seconded by Hawkins

That the agenda be approved.

Carried.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Moore

That the minutes of March 25, 2025 be approved.

Carried.

5. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest - None

6. Administration

6.1 Levels of Service Discussion

Members discussed current levels of service and technical training deadlines in 2028. Members acknowledged current discussions at the County Chief level to consider specialization of various Dufferin departments. Costs for specialization would include additional training of approximately 40-60 hours per firefighter, plus maintenance training and equipment. Chief Waterfield noted, that if a department did not have the

required training to complete a rescue, that the department would contract that service, or enter into agreement with a neighbouring department.

6.2 General Fire Chief Update

Chief Waterfield advised that the department has received 42 calls to date in 2025. The department has had 1 resignation and is currently sitting at 22 firefighters and 5 vacancies. Recruitment remains ongoing.

The generator at the fire hall experienced issues during the ice storm and is currently being repaired.

7.0 Information Items

7.1 Accounts

7.2 1st Quarter Financial Report

7.3 2024 Standard Incident Report Filing

Chief Waterfield advised the standard incident report was filed in January. Resubmission of the report is unavailable as the report has already been filed. The department is currently in discussions to correct the issue.

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Moore

That the Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Board received the accounts as information.

Carried.

8.0 Items for Future Meetings

8.1 2024 Annual Report

9.0 Adjournment

Moved by Lyon and Seconded by Hawkins

That we do now adjourn at 7:57 p.m. to meet again on September 16, 2025 at 5:00 p.m., or at the call of the Chair.

Carried.

Chair

Secretary

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

MINUTES OF THE HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE- SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

The Township of Melancthon Heritage Advisory Committee held an electronic meeting on September, 8, 2025 at 6:30 pm. The following members were present: Chair Kristine Pedicone, Members Janet Burke, James McLean and David Thwaites.

1. **Call to Order-** Chair Pedicone called the meeting to order and confirmed that the meeting was being recorded and would be posted to the Township website.
2. **Land Acknowledgement-** Chair Pedicone shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.
3. **Agenda-** Moved by James McLean, seconded by Janet Burke- that the Agenda be approved as circulated. Carried.
4. **Minutes of August 11, 2025-** Moved by James McLean, seconded by Janet Burke- that the Minutes of the Heritage Advisory Committee held on August 11, 2025 be approved as circulated. Carried.
5. **Business Arising-** none
6. **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest/Conflict of Interest-** none
7. **General Business;**
 - A. New- none
 - B. Unfinished Business-
 1. One Room Schoolhouse Project- Member McLean reported that member McIntish was reviewing the draft. Once reviewed and after any final editing, Member McLean is to seek to have the "Book" posted to the Township website with the cooperation and assistance of Township staff. Member Thwaites has volunteered to assist staff with whatever is required to facilitate the Heritage project posting. The intention will be, on receiving confirmation of the posting to the website to promote/advise of the project on Township facebook/mail chimp.
 2. Photos of Section Schools – Chair Pedicone reported that municipal staff is coordinating the hanging of the Section School photos at the Township office.
 3. Military War Veterans Project- Member Thwaites shared the plan to have Phase One of the Project being the Melancthon War Vets Who Paid the Ultimate Sacrifice, the project having been previously circulated, posted to the Township website in coordination with municipal staff. The posting once done would be promoted in the same manner as the Schoolhouse project, namely the Township facebook and mail chimp. Member Thwaites will coordinate with Township staff whatever is needed to facilitate. It is further intended to have the names of all the Melancthon vets who paid the ultimate sacrifice read at the Remembrance Day Service, not just those named on the Hornings Mills Memorial. It is further intended, as an initial step, for the Remembrance Day service to coordinate with the Hall Board the posting of four of the stories, Member McLean will coordinate, for the availability of members of the public. The Committee will review thereafter ongoing plans.

As for Phase Two of the Project, Member Thwaites advised that he is prepared to continue to try access and share the stories of the WW1 veterans from Melancthon but the ability to write the stories of those from WW2 and thereafter is limited by the lack of access to the Military Personnel records and the corresponding War Diaries.

4. Cenotaph/Memorial- Member McLean raised the prospect of having the Memorial in Hornings Mills relocated to the site of the Hornings Mills Park with a more Melancthon inclusive site erected. As this is a matter for Council to provide direction, the Committee has endorsed the recommendation that Member Mclean seek the direction and endorsement of Council on the matters of the site relocation, the scope of the project and funding options. Member Mclean will report and advise. Member Thwaites has offered to facilitate queries and research on options and costing, etc, if that will assist Township staff.
5. Future Projects- with the completion of the Schoolhouse project and Phase One of the War Veterans project there was discussion about future projects. Several possibilities were raised including the Role of Water in the History of Melancthon, the Social History of "Pioneer Melancthon" and a project on the Reeves and Mayors of Melancthon. Further discussion will be had at the next meeting to endorse a project(s).
8. **Recommendations to Council-** per Item 7.4 Member McLean to seek the advice and direction of Council.
9. **Public Question Period-** none
10. **Confirmation Motion-** Moved by James McLean, seconded by Janet Burke- be it resolved that all actions of the Members and officers of the Heritage Advisory Committee with respect to every matter addressed and /or adopted by the Board on the above date be hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed; and each motion, resolution and other actions taken by the Board members and Officers at the meeting held on the above date are hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed.
11. **Adjournment-** Moved, carried, that the Meeting be adjourned to Tuesday October 14, 2025 at 6:15 pm or at the call of the Chair.

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

The Township of Melancthon Infrastructure and Emergency Management Committee held a meeting on September 11th, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. The following members were present: James McLean, and Darren White. Also present were: Craig Micks, Public Works Superintendent, and Kaitlin Dinnick, Infrastructure and Emergency Management Committee Secretary and Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer. Ruth Plowright was absent.

Call to Order

Chair McLean called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

Land Acknowledgement

Chair McLean shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

Additions/Deletions/Approval of Agenda

Addition

Email from Taylor Scherer regarding 2nd Line SW and 260 Sideroad Intersection (Deferred from Council)

Moved by White, Seconded by McLean, that the agenda be approved as amended. Carried.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest or Conflict of Interest

None.

Approval of Draft Minutes

Moved by McLean, Seconded by White, that the minutes of the Infrastructure and Emergency Management Committee Meeting held on August 14th, 2025, be approved as circulated. Carried.

Business Arising from Minutes

None.

Correspondence Items

None.

General Business

1. Update from Public Works Superintendent

Craig Micks, Public Works Superintendent advised that the roads are being graded again in preparation for winter, and the gravel work on the no-winter-maintenance roads has been completed. He noted that work on tree damage from the ice storm will resume next week and all of the Mennonite signs have been installed, with a few additional signs ordered as they ran out. Craig also reported that a new Public Works Employee started on Monday and they are working at taking some equipment to the Shelburne Fall Fair for this weekend. Chair McLean asked how the equipment is running, and Craig confirmed that everything is running well.

2. Update on Capital Project (260 Sideroad)

Craig advised that the project has been delayed slightly to coordinate with the Bretton Estates work; however, crews are currently working on ditching. Mayor White asked about posting updates on Facebook and Municipal 511 to inform the public.

3. Update on Proposed Riverview Park

Staff provided information from the insurance company regarding the park being next to the river. Staff were directed to check on whether we have an actual survey for the property.

4. Update on Horning's Mills Proposed Paved Shoulders

Staff advised that a recommendation report is going to next council meeting for further discussion.

5. Discussion on Park Structures and Infrastructure Needs

Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer, advised that there are currently no federal or provincial grants available. She noted that some community grants are available, most of which are matching grants. Additional grant information may become available in late fall. The report is to be referred to Council for further discussion.

6. Discussion on Horning's Mills Hall Infrastructure Needs

Craig advised that he had contacted three companies for quotes to install heat cables on the roof of Horning's Mills Hall and has only received one quote to date. The Committee reviewed the quote and is recommending that Council proceed with it so the work can be completed this year.

Recommendation

The Infrastructure and Emergency Management Committee recommends to Council that we hire 519 Contracting to install heat cables on the roof of the Horning's Mills Hall before winter for a cost of \$2,853.25 inclusive of HST.

7. Other/Additions

Email from Taylor Scherer regarding 2nd Line SW and 260 Sideroad Intersection (Deferred from Council)

This item was referred back from Council for further discussion. It was recommended to order larger stop signs and relocate the "Stop Ahead" sign for better visibility. Staff will also look into installing flashing lights on top of the stop signs. Craig advised that he has spoken with Cox Construction regarding rumble strips and is waiting for a response, but will obtain pricing. Council is to be notified once the new signs have been installed, and the rumble strip quote should be brought forward to Council as soon as it is available for discussion.

Chair McLean – County Council Meeting

Chair McLean advised that a report regarding the Road Network Rationalization Plan will be discussed tonight at the County Council Meeting with a recommended transfer date of June 1, 2026. As part of the transfer, three bridges will be downloaded to Melancthon Township. The Committee discussed Red Bridge as it is considered a safety hazard and cannot be downloaded in its current state; the County will either need to provide funds for its removal or remove it prior to the transfer. It was suggested that the Township request that the bridge be temporarily removed from the agreement and consider reaching out to Southgate regarding this matter.

Recommendations to Council

Outlined above.

Public Question Period

None.

Confirmation Motion

Moved by White, Seconded by McLean, that all actions of the Members and Officers of the Infrastructure and Emergency Management Committee with respect to every matter addressed and/or adopted by the Board on the above date be hereby adopted, ratified, and confirmed; and each motion, resolution and other actions taken by the Board members and Officers at the meeting held on the above date are hereby adopted, ratified, and confirmed. Carried.

Adjournment

10:06 a.m. - **Moved by McLean, Seconded by White**, that we adjourn this Infrastructure and Emergency Management Committee meeting to meet again on Monday October 6th, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. or at the call of the Chair. Carried.

CHAIR

SECRETARY



September 29, 2025

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa ON K1A 0A2

Honourable Carney:

Dufferin County Council has been observing how the federal, provincial and municipal governments have handled the challenges of growth, tariffs and economies.

Recently, Dufferin County hosted Dr. Bryan Gibson at one of its economic seminars. Dr. Gibson shared that rural Canada with 17% of the population, approximately 6 million people, generates 30% of Canada's GDP. This wealth created by the rural communities is used to support infrastructure, health care and education in our cities.

In response to the tariff issues, it seems that much attention and financial support has been shared with the automotive industry, while little attention has been given to the impacts of tariffs on the agricultural community. For example, Canada's yearly canola production is a \$48 billion industry, with \$5 billion of annual sales to China. In retaliation for the Canadian tariff on Chinese manufactured electric vehicles, China imposed 100% tariffs on Canadian canola oil and meat in March 2025, with an additional 76% on canola seed in August 2025. Only this past week has the Federal government reached out to the farmers to find a solution with new incentives for the canola industry.

Recently, the leader of Canada's opposition Pierre Poilievre, criticized the Foreign Workers program, suggesting that it needed to be cancelled. Temporary Foreign Workers are vital to many of Dufferin County's farms. The program provides the labour needed to plant and harvest crops, operate processing plants and offer other services. It is impossible to find local workers with the necessary skill set willing to provide the manual labour for many of our agricultural related activities. In previous years, Dufferin-Caledon MP Kyle Seebach has visited several Dufferin area farms to discuss how respected and essential foreign workers are to farm operations.

Effective provincial policies can reduce farmland fragmentation and limit new home construction to areas within urban or settlement boundaries. Consultation should occur before many other provincial initiatives are imposed.

At the local level, traffic stowing obstacles can be hazardous to our farmers and to their equipment. Settlement areas may use traffic bollards or other calming devices that can force farmers to take lengthy detours to move equipment from field to field, impacting productivity and creating additional financial burdens. Other control measures within settlement areas such as multiple traffic tights, unreasonably low speed limits, and speed bumps add to driver frustration, pushing the traffic to the surrounding rural roads where active agricultural operations exist, increasing risk for farmers, livestock and equipment movement.

Municipal decisions that deal with planning, site alteration, storm water management, noise and weed control, can impact the agricultural industry and normal farm practices.

Urban partners may feel that agriculture is not relevant to them, however the opposite is true. Farmland protection happens within urban boundaries and urban centres should be part of the solution. The pathway to resilience in this economy is to find ways to support each other through partnerships, consultations and collaboration.

On September 25, 2025, Dufferin County Council unanimously passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS agriculture is a critically important industry in our community;

WHEREAS the Dufferin Federation of Agriculture has expressed concerns that policy makers are not aware of the every day issues facing the agricultural community;

WHEREAS the Federal, Provincial and municipal governments are not adequately consulting the agriculture industry when developing policies;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council request all levels of government increase consultation with the agricultural industry;

AND THAT presentation opportunities be given to agriculture industry representatives at conferences, such as Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), and Ontario Professional Planners Institute (OPPI), to provide a forum to share every day issues facing the industry;



AND THAT this motion be circulated to the Federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, the Provincial Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, AMO, ROMA, OPPI and the local Dufferin municipalities.

Council urges the Federal government, Provincial government and all municipalities to take action to consult with the agricultural community immediately and regularly.

Thank you,

Michelle Dunne

Michelle Dunne
Clerk

Cc Premier Doug Ford
Minister of Agriculture, Agri-food and Rural Economic Development
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness
MPP Honourable Sylvia Jones
MP Honourable Kyle Seeback
AMO
ROMA
OPPI
Dufferin Federation of Agriculture
Ontario Federation of Agriculture
Dufferin Municipalities



Solicitor General

Office of the Solicitor General

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132-2025-3641

By email

September 26, 2025

Dear Heads of Council and Chief Administrative Officers of OPP-Policed Municipalities:

The Ministry of the Solicitor General has undertaken a review of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) cost recovery model. I would like to extend my gratitude for your participation and input into this process.

I am writing to inform you that because of the review, regulatory amendments have been made to Ontario Regulation 413/23: Amount Payable by Municipalities for Policing from Ontario Provincial Police under the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*. These amendments are in effect and will inform the 2026 annual billing statement to be issued shortly.

Firstly, an 11 per cent cap is established on the increase in policing costs owed by municipalities for the 2026 calendar year when compared to 2025, excluding the costs related to any service enhancements.

Secondly, a new discounts table will be established in regulation and will apply to the 2026 billing year and going forward. This new discount table introduces a lower eligibility threshold to receive a discount. Municipalities will now receive calls for service and overtime discounts when they are three or more standard deviations from the average calls for service weighted time to property count ratio, rather than the current regulatory threshold of five standard deviations.

The amendments have been approved by Cabinet and have been filed with the Registrar of Regulations. They will be accessed publicly online through the [e-Laws page](#) – and will be available here within the next few business days.

The preparation of 2026 annual billing statements is underway and statements are targeted for release in November 2025.

As we undertook this review, we heard loud and clear that greater clarity, predictability and stability in the OPP cost recovery model, and associated billing statements, is critical to municipalities as annual budget processes are undertaken. These amendments were contemplated, and ultimately decided upon, based on those concerns and the direct feedback that we heard from OPP-policed municipalities.

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Should you have any questions about the regulatory updates, please reach out to solgeninput@ontario.ca.

Please direct any questions about your annual billing statements to the Crime Prevention and Community Support Bureau at opp.municipalpolicing@opp.ca.

Thank you again for your partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael S. Kerzner", with a stylized flourish at the end.

The Honourable Michael S. Kerzner
Solicitor General

c: Mario Di Tommaso, O.O.M.
Deputy Solicitor General, Community Safety
Ministry of the Solicitor General

Thomas Carrique, C.O.M.
Commissioner, Ontario Provincial Police



Media Release

County of Dufferin
W. & M. Edelbrock Centre
30 Centre Street, Orangeville, ON L9W 2X1

For Immediate Release: September 29, 2025

Important changes coming to 9-1-1 medical call dispatch in Dufferin County

Beginning in December 2025, the Province of Ontario is changing how 9-1-1 medical calls are dispatched in Dufferin County with the Medical Priority Dispatch System (MPDS).

The new MPDS will help ensure that medical help gets to those who need it faster in the community, so that Dufferin Paramedic Service (DCPS) has the best chance at saving you or someone you love during a critical health emergency.

What you need to know

Starting in December, when someone calls 9-1-1 in Dufferin requiring paramedic services, dispatchers will ask more detailed questions to better understand how serious an emergency is. Callers are asked to please stay calm and provide as much information as possible.

The MPDS will help prioritize life-threatening situations, meaning those in urgent need will get help faster.

If a situation is non-life-threatening, there may be a longer wait for paramedic assistance. This is because paramedics are focused on saving lives. Dispatchers will continue to monitor the situation and may call back to check in. If the condition worsens, those experiencing an emergency should call 9-1-1 again immediately.

All calls remain important to DCPS and those who require care will still receive it based on urgency. Sometimes, this might mean a longer wait for paramedic care. DCPS will prioritize emergencies like:

- Stroke
- Heart attack
- Severe allergic reaction
- Difficulty breathing
- Major trauma

DCPS will still respond as quickly as possible to issues like:

- Broken bones without bleeding
- Sprains
- Flu like symptoms

Learn more about MPDS and what it means for the Dufferin community [here](#).

About the MPDS

The expansion of the MPDS is part of the Ontario government's [Your Health plan](#), to ensure that paramedic services provide the right care at the right time, while easing pressures on emergency departments.

Currently, most Central Ambulance Communications Centres (CACCs) in the province rely on a dispatching protocol known as Dispatch Priority Card Index (DPCI). With DPCI, low priority calls for ambulance services are often over-prioritized, depleting communities of valuable paramedic resources.

The MPDS is designed to help Emergency Medical Dispatchers understand a patient's level of urgency and triage them accordingly. The system allows Central Ambulance Communication Centres to match available paramedic resources with a patient's condition – ensuring that the right paramedic resources are appropriately dispatched and patients with life-threatening conditions receive care immediately. It optimizes paramedic resources, prioritizes the most urgent 9-1-1 calls and ensures the right care at the right time for people living in the region.

The MPDS is currently being used in the Toronto, Niagara, Kenora, Thunder Bay, Ottawa, Renfrew, Peel, Halton, Simcoe, York and Kingston regions.

ABOUT DCPS

Dufferin County Paramedic Service is responsible for providing 24-hour emergency pre-hospital care and transportation for the County of Dufferin.

The dedicated team of front-line paramedics provide the highest level of evidence-based care available, serving a growing population of over 66,000 residents and the many visitors that come to Dufferin County. Services DCPS provides include Advanced Life Support, the Community Paramedic Program and Public Access Defibrillator Program.

Quotes

"At Dufferin County Paramedic Service, our goal is to always get the right help to the right people at the right time. The new Medical Priority Dispatch System will support this goal by making sure that the most serious emergencies are handled first in our community. Residents are reminded to stay calm when calling 9-1-1, always provide as much information as possible and if your condition changes, call 9-1-1 again immediately.

- Gary Staples, Chief, Dufferin County Paramedic Service

"Our government is rolling out the Medical Priority Dispatch System in Dufferin County to ensure the right emergency services are sent to the right place, at the right time. By investing in this world-class technology, we are protecting communities in Dufferin County and beyond with state-of-the-art emergency care."

- Sylvia Jones, MPP for Dufferin-Caledon

MEDIA CONTACT:

Megan Ball, Manager of Communications

mball@dufferincounty.ca

Township of Southgate
Administration Office
185667 Grey County Road 9, RR 1
Dundalk, ON N0C 1B0



Phone: 519-923-2110
Toll Free: 1-888-560-6607
Fax: 519-923-9262
Web: www.southgate.ca

September 19, 2025

Re: Consultation on the Future of Community Natural Gas Expansion

Please be advised that at the September 17, 2025, regular Council meeting, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Southgate, approved the following:

No. 2025-440

Moved By Deputy Mayor Dobreen

Seconded By Councillor Singh Soares


Be it resolved that Staff Report CAO2025-023 be received for information; and
That Council supports the Ministry's consultation on the Future of Community Natural Gas Expansion (NGEP Phase 3) and endorses access to natural gas as an option to other energy solutions to advance Southgate's housing, employment lands, and economic development objectives; and

That Council direct staff to submit comments to ERO 0250923 reflecting Southgate's priorities, including: priority application types, alignment with Official Plan/Secondary Plans, sites and corridors where gas access would enable development (housing/employment lands); and

That Council direct staff to forwards this resolution to MPP Paul Vickers, the Minister of Energy and Mines, the Ontario Energy Board, AMO, and neighbouring municipalities.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at (519) 923-2110.

Sincerely,


Jim Ellis, CAO
Township of Southgate

Encl:
Natural Gas Expansion Letter of Support

cc:
Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines
MPP Paul Vickers
Ontario Energy Board
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Neighbouring Municipalities

Township of Southgate
Administration Office
185667 Grey County Road 9, RR 1
Dundalk, ON N0C 1B0



Phone: 519-923-2110
Toll Free: 1-888-560-6607
Fax: 519-923-9262
Web: www.southgate.ca

September 19, 2025

Re: ERO 025-0923 – Consultation on the Future of Community Natural Gas Expansion

Dear Ministry of Energy and Mines,


On behalf of the Township of Southgate, we welcome the opportunity to contribute to the Ministry of Energy and Mines' consultation on the future of community natural gas expansion. As Ontario continues to grow, reliable, secure, and diversified energy solutions are essential to ensuring overall community prosperity. The Township of Southgate is committed to advancing local growth while ensuring access to the energy infrastructure needed to meet evolving community needs.

We commend the Ontario government for its leadership in pursuing an integrated energy planning approach that balances reliability, sustainability, and affordability. In doing so, we believe the province is taking meaningful steps to ensure communities have the energy choice and flexibility they need to thrive. Natural gas continues to play a critical role in Ontario's energy system, providing reliable energy to homes, businesses, and industries, supporting housing and employment land development, and helping communities attract investment and enable economic growth. Expanding access to natural gas will equip municipalities with the tools to meet local development targets, and plan, and maintain long-term energy security and resilience.

Investing in Phase 3 of the Natural Gas Expansion Program (NGEP) represents an important opportunity to better align infrastructure planning with local development goals. Where Phase 1 and 2 projects have already been delivered, we have seen first-hand how expanded energy access can help advance municipal priorities, unlock new growth potential, and enhance community resilience. We also encourage the Ministry to consider implementation barriers, including on-the-ground-challenges, timelines, approvals, and infrastructure coordination, to ensure that Phase 3 is delivered efficiently and effectively.

We support a Phase 3 approach that prioritizes community growth, energy reliability, and customer choice, while enabling municipalities to align energy planning with local priorities. We appreciate the Ministry's continued engagement on these important issues and thank you for considering our perspectives as part of this consultation process.

Sincerely,


Jim Ellis, CAO
Township of Southgate



NVCA September 2025 Board Meeting Highlights

Next Meeting: October 26, 2025, held virtually

For the full meeting agenda, including documents and reports, visit [NVCA's website](#).

Revisions to the Procedures for the Implementation of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and Associated Regulations

NVCA's Board of Directors have approved the updates to Procedures for the Implementation of the *Conservation Authorities Act* (CA Act) and Associated Regulations.

This document is a procedural manual to aid landowners, developers, consultants and other stakeholders who are interested in obtaining CA Act approvals from NVCA. This document also assists staff in meeting NVCA's permitting responsibilities under Section 28.1 of the CA Act.

Updates to the procedures include:

- Improvements to the application process - including administrative review and fee reconsideration
- An updated list of exemptions from requiring a permit
- New enforcement protocols for unauthorized works

NVCA held a 30-day consultation in June 2025 regarding the procedures and received comments from two municipalities and one county. NVCA staff reviewed these comments and implemented changes where applicable.

Pretty River Dike Safety Review Recommendations

In 2023, NVCA retained a consultant to complete Phase 1 of a two-phase Dike Safety Review for the Pretty River Dike in Collingwood.

The inspection included a visual inspection and topographic survey to assess the condition of the flood control infrastructure.

The Pretty River Dike system was generally observed to be in fair condition. The consultant observed significant tree growth across most of the earth embankments, moderate to severe erosion in a few areas, and missing rock protection in some areas.

Phase 2 of the Dike Safety Review will involve a geotechnical field investigation and engineering modelling/analysis and provide further direction on the prioritization of tree removal based on risk to the structure's stability. This phase of the study is included in NVCA's 2026 budget and work plan.

Recommendations from Phases 1 and 2 of the Dike Safety Review will inform the development of a dike remediation plan.

Administrative Bylaws Update

Currently, the per diem rate for NVCA's board members is established at the outset of each four-year term and remains fixed for the duration of that term.

The Board of Directors approved per diems to be increased each year by the same cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) percentage applied to staff compensation. This approach ensures consistency, reflects inflationary impacts, and maintains the fairness and relevance of Board member remuneration over time.

The Board of Directors also approved board meeting minutes to be signed by the Chair and CAO to maintain appropriate oversight and accountability.

AI Safe Usage Policy incorporated into employee handbook

NVCA has inserted the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Safe Usage Policy into the Employee Handbook.

NVCA employees are permitted to utilize AI tools while performing their work duties. When using an AI tool, NVCA staff must consider the quality and data security of sensitive, personal data. In certain situations, it is important and required by law to disclose that AI tools were used to ensure transparency, build trust, and comply with ethical or legal standards.

NVCA Asset Management Plan

NVCA's Board of Directors approved NVCA's updated Asset Management Plan.

This plan guides the purchase, use, maintenance, and disposal of every asset NVCA needs to conduct business and reduce NVCA's liability. It also defines the use of assets to streamline productivity and delivery with minimal loss of capital.

This annual update reviews NVCA's assets to ensure that there is adequate funding for any major repairs or replacements.

2026 Draft Business Plan and Budget

NVCA staff are pleased to present the 2026 Draft Business Plan and Budget as a single, integrated document, streamlining the format from previous years, where the documents were presented separately.

NVCA's 2026 draft budget totals \$7,841,981, reflecting a year-over-year increase of \$180,372.37, including a \$101,307.36 increase in municipal levy.

This corresponds to \$17.36 per resident, slightly up from \$17.09 in 2025, and \$15.31 in 2024.

NVCA staff undertook a rigorous review of its programs and services as part of the budget development process. This helped ensure the organization is leaner and more efficient, and remains responsive to the environmental, economic and social sustainability of the Nottawasaga Watershed.

NVCA reduced discretionary Category 3 charges by 31%, and by holding our overall operating levy increase to approximately 2.8 per cent as committed, with no elimination of services.

[Download NVCA's Draft Business Plan and Budget here](#)

Upcoming Events

TD Tree Days – Wasaga Beach: Sports Park

Join NVCA and TD to plant trees in the Wasaga Beach Sports Park

Date: October 18, 2025 from 9 am – 12 pm

Location: 1888 Klondike Park Road, Wasaga Beach, ON

TD Tree Days – Creemore: Carruthers Park

Join NVCA and TD to plant trees in Carruthers Park

Date: October 18, 2025 from 9 am – 12 pm

Location: Carruthers Park, 3464 County Road 42, Avening, ON

PA Day Camp Tiffin

Adopted from our traditional summer camp program, this special edition of Camp Tiffin encourages outdoor exploration, guided excursions in the forest fueled by student interest.

Dates: October 24 & November 14, 2025

Location: Tiffin Centre for Conservation
8195 8th Line, Utopia ON



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NVCA's 2026 proposes leaner and more efficient budget

UTOPIA, Ontario (September 30, 2025) – Today, the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority released its 2026 Draft Business Plan & Budget. The document reflects NVCA's renewed commitment of strong financial management of public funds, transparent oversight and stewardship of the natural environment.

As part of the budget development process, NVCA staff undertook a rigorous review of NVCA's programs and services. This helped ensure the organization is leaner and more efficient, and remains responsive to the environmental, economic and social sustainability of the Nottawasaga Watershed.

NVCA's draft 2026 Business Plan & Budget protects fair and competitive wages for staff, invests in responsible asset management and prioritizes NVCA's vital role in managing floods and supporting the resilience of our watershed.

"The Nottawasaga Watershed is facing growing pressures from urban expansion and climate change," said Jennifer Vincent, CAO of NVCA. "To support the needs of our municipalities and direction from the Province, NVCA balances development with protecting communities from the impacts of flooding and erosion. Our work in restoring local ecosystems to ensure long term resilience across the watershed, and by connecting people with nature, we are supporting physical and mental health."

NVCA's 2026 draft budget totals \$7.8 million, reflecting a modest increase of \$180,372.37, which includes a \$101,307.36 increase in municipal levy shared proportionality across eighteen member municipalities.

"From the outset, the Board has been clear that this balanced budget must be responsive to the needs of our member municipalities," said Jonathan Scott, NVCA Chair. "We have delivered on that direction with a careful review, reducing or holding flat 21 of 27 expense line items, and by recategorizing programs and services, which reduced discretionary Category 3 charges by 31%. As a result, our overall operating levy increase is less than 3 per cent as committed, with no elimination of services."

Approximately 53% of NVCA's total funding is supported through municipal levy, while the remaining revenue sources include grants, private contributions and self-generated funds, which this draft budget prudently expands through the dedicated work of staff.

[Download NVCA's 2026 Draft Business Plan and Budget here.](#)

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About NVCA: The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority is a public agency dedicated to the preservation of a healthy environment through specialized programs to protect, conserve and enhance our water, wetlands, forests and lands.

Media contact: Maria Leung, Senior Communications Specialist at 705-424-1479 ext.254, mleung@nvca.on.ca

Denise Holmes

From: Minister, MECP (MECP) <Minister.MECP@ontario.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, October 1, 2025 12:09 PM
Subject: Letter from the Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks / lettre de l'honorable Todd McCarthy, ministre de l'Environnement, de la Protection de la nature et des Parcs

Good morning,

As you know, Ontario is transitioning the blue box system from municipal control to a producer-run model where Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs) will be running a province-wide blue box collection system. This will save municipalities over \$171 million annually and the transition will be complete in 2026.

I am writing today to confirm that, under the Blue Box Regulation, PROs are not, and have never been, responsible for collecting blue box waste from industrial, commercial, and institutional (IC&I) sources. In addition, PROs have indicated that, beginning in 2026, they will not voluntarily continue to offer this service to municipalities who are willing to pay for it as they have been doing for some small IC&I locations during the transition.

As PROs have been communicating since 2023, this means that municipalities will need to continue to work with their small IC&I establishments to identify the best path forward for collection in their communities. It is the ministry's understanding that many municipalities have already started this work to be ready for January 1, 2026.

This is not the outcome I had hoped for when I wrote PROs on June 4, 2025, to ask them to prepare an offer of service that would continue small IC&I collection at municipal cost. I had heard from municipalities and PROs that PROs could leverage the province-wide blue box collection system to offer a cost-effective option for municipalities to consider.

Unfortunately, on September 19, 2025, PROs indicated that they would not be able to fulfill my initial direction. They identified operational, infrastructure, and financial challenges to providing small IC&I collection that would make it impractical and unaffordable for most municipalities and potentially disruptive for the residential collection run by PROs.

While I remain disappointed that the design of the proposal does not support broader curbside collection, leaving a gap in service across municipalities, I am pleased that PROs have agreed to work with communities that rely on depots for blue box collection to facilitate small IC&I collection. They are proposing to allow for comingling of residential and small IC&I blue box in shared depot containers. This means that municipalities will not have to plan and pay for separate depot containers for small IC&I blue box waste, which would add cost and burden. Under the PROs' proposed approach, PROs will be responsible for hauling and recycling the estimated share of collected recyclables from residential sources, and municipalities will be responsible for hauling and recycling the estimated share from small IC&I establishments.

I am very disappointed that PROs were not able to deliver an offer for small IC&I collection. However, I also recognize that the vast majority of businesses in Ontario arrange their own recycling collection through private contracts, or through an arrangement with their municipalities. While PROs will not be

making municipalities an offer for small IC&I collection, these private sector solutions are still available to municipalities. If municipalities are not going to offer this service to businesses, proactive communication will be needed to inform individual businesses and business associations of the need to organize recycling independently.

My government is committed to the best possible blue box system for both producers and municipalities. To this end, we will be considering improvements to the system over the coming year. As this occurs, we will be looking into how any changes to the Blue Box Regulation could leverage the producer-run system and support our communities, small businesses, and institutions to cost-effectively maintain blue box services.

My ministry will be in touch with further information over the coming months as we move forward on this initiative. In the meantime, if you have questions about the PROs' offer to facilitate small IC&I collection in depot communities, please contact info@circularmaterials.ca.

Thank you for your continued support of the transition to producer responsibility. This transition will improve the amount of material recycled in Ontario and save money for municipalities.

Todd McCarthy
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Bonjour,

Comme vous le savez, l'Ontario effectue la transition du système des boîtes bleues, en passant d'un contrôle municipal à un modèle exécuté par les producteurs dans lequel les organismes assumant les responsabilités d'un producteur exploiteront un système de collecte des matériaux destinés aux boîtes bleues à l'échelle de la province. Ce transfert de responsabilités permettra aux municipalités d'économiser annuellement plus de 171 millions et cette transition sera achevée en 2026.

Je vous écris aujourd'hui afin de clarifier et de confirmer qu'en vertu du règlement sur la boîte bleue, les organismes assumant les responsabilités d'un producteur ne sont pas responsables, et ne l'ont jamais été, de la collecte de déchets destinés à la boîte bleue issus de sources industrielles, commerciales et institutionnelles (ICI). De plus, ces organismes ont indiqué qu'à partir de 2026, ils ne continueront plus volontairement à offrir ce service aux municipalités qui sont prêtes à payer pour ce service comme elles le font pour de petits établissements des secteurs ICI pendant la transition.

Comme les organismes assumant les responsabilités d'un producteur l'indiquent depuis 2023, cela signifie que les municipalités devront continuer à collaborer avec leurs petits établissements ICI pour déterminer la meilleure voie à suivre pour la collecte dans leurs collectivités. Le ministère croit savoir que de nombreuses municipalités ont déjà commencé ce travail pour être prêtes le 1^{er} janvier 2026.

Ce n'était pas le résultat que j'espérais lorsque j'ai écrit aux organismes assumant les responsabilités d'un producteur, le 4 juin 2025, pour leur demander de préparer une offre de services qui permettrait de poursuivre les petites collectes pour les secteurs ICI aux frais des municipalités. Les municipalités et ces organismes m'ont indiqué que les organismes assumant les responsabilités d'un producteur pourraient tirer parti du système de collecte des matériaux destinés aux boîtes bleues à l'échelle de la province pour offrir une option rentable aux municipalités.

Malheureusement, le 19 septembre 2025, ces organismes ont indiqué qu'ils ne seraient pas en mesure de répondre à mon orientation initiale. Ils ont ciblé des problèmes d'infrastructures, d'ordre financier et d'ordre opérationnel limitant leur capacité à fournir de petites collectes de matériaux ICI, les rendant impossibles à réaliser et inabordables pour la plupart des municipalités. De plus, ces difficultés risquaient de créer d'éventuelles interruptions dans la collecte résidentielle exécutée par ces organismes.

Malgré ma déception sur la conception de la proposition qui ne prend pas en charge une collecte plus large sur le trottoir, laissant ainsi une lacune de service dans les municipalités; je suis ravi de constater l'engagement d'un travail collaboratif des organismes assumant les responsabilités d'un producteur avec les collectivités qui comptent sur les dépôts pour la collecte des boîtes bleues, afin de faciliter les petites collectes de déchets ICI. Ces organismes proposent de permettre le regroupement des boîtes bleues résidentielles et ICI dans des conteneurs de dépôts partagés. Cela permettra aux municipalités de ne pas avoir à planifier et à payer pour des conteneurs de dépôts séparés pour les petits déchets ICI destinés aux boîtes bleues et ainsi d'empêcher l'augmentation de leurs coûts et de leurs frais généraux. Selon l'approche proposée par ces organismes, ceux-ci seront responsables du transport et du recyclage pour la partie estimée des sources résidentielles collectées et les municipalités pour la partie estimée des sources ICI collectées de petits établissements.

Je suis très déçu que les organismes assumant les responsabilités d'un producteur n'aient pas été en mesure d'accomplir une offre de collecte des déchets ICI issus des petits établissements. Cependant, je reconnais également que la grande majorité des entreprises en Ontario organisent leur propre collecte de recyclage par le biais de contrats privés ou d'ententes avec leur municipalité. Bien que ces organismes n'offrent pas aux municipalités une petite collecte sélective de déchets ICI, les solutions du secteur privé sont toujours disponibles pour les municipalités. Si les municipalités n'offrent pas ce service aux entreprises, elles devront le communiquer de manière proactive afin que les entreprises individuelles et les associations commerciales puissent organiser le recyclage de manière indépendante.

Mon gouvernement s'est engagé à fournir le meilleur système de boîtes bleues possible aux producteurs et aux municipalités. À cette fin, nous envisagerons d'améliorer ce système au cours de la prochaine année. Au fur et à mesure du processus, nous examinerons quelles sont les modifications adéquates à apporter au règlement sur la boîte bleue pour tirer parti du système exploité par les producteurs et aider nos collectivités, nos petites entreprises et nos institutions à maintenir les services de collecte des boîtes bleues de manière rentable.

Mon ministère vous informera au cours des prochains mois, au fur et à mesure que nous progressons dans cette initiative. En attendant, si vous avez des questions sur l'offre des organismes assumant les responsabilités d'un producteur pour faciliter les petites collectes de matériaux recyclables issus de sources industrielles, commerciales et institutionnelles dans les dépôts des collectivités, veuillez communiquer à info@circularmaterials.ca.

Nous vous remercions de votre soutien continu de la transition vers la responsabilité des producteurs. Elle permettra d'augmenter la quantité de matériaux recyclés en Ontario et fera économiser de l'argent aux municipalités.

Todd McCarthy
Ministre de l'Environnement, de la Protection de la nature et des Parcs

Denise Holmes

From: Sarah Culshaw
Sent: Monday, October 6, 2025 11:15 AM
To: Denise Holmes
Subject: FW: Notification of Application for Permit to Take Water

From: ajay.persaud@ontario.ca <ajay.persaud@ontario.ca>
Sent: Monday, October 6, 2025 9:56 AM
To: info@dufferincounty.ca; clerk@dufferincounty.ca; Sarah Culshaw <sculshaw@melancthontownship.ca>; planning@nvca.on.ca
Cc: ajay.persaud@ontario.ca
Subject: Notification of Application for Permit to Take Water

This E-mail message has been sent to you as a result of the requirements of Ontario's new Water Taking and Transfer Regulation (O.Reg 387/04). The regulation requires that the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change notify municipalities and conservation authorities of applications for Permits to Take Water to withdraw water from locations within their jurisdiction.

You may examine the wording of the new Regulation online at the following web site:

http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/regs/english/elaws_regs_040387_e.htm

Notification of Application for Permit to Take Water

Ministry Reference Number:
4235-DL5A93

Applicant:

Strada Aggregates Inc.
30 Floral Pky
Vaughan, Ontario
L4K 4R1

Location of Water Taking(s):
437159 Line 4
NA
Lot 11 and 12, Concession 3
Melancthon Township, County of Dufferin

Ministry of the Environment Region:
West Central

Description:

This proposal is for an amendment to Permit To Take Water 3210-AKRL9C for aggregate washing purposes. Water will be taken from one (1) pond. Details of the water taking are as follows:

Permit type - Amendment

Source Name: Wash Pond

Purpose: Aggregate Washing

Maximum rate per minute (Litres): 6,000

Maximum number of hours of taking per day: 11

Maximum volume per day (Litres): 5,000,000

Maximum number of days of taking per year: 365

Earliest calendar date of taking (mm/dd): January 1st

Latest calendar date of taking (mm/dd): December 31st

Period of taking: 10 years

There are 3 categories of a Permit to Take Water:

- Category 1: water takings are anticipated to have a lower risk of causing an unacceptable environmental impact/interference
- Category 2: water takings are anticipated to having a higher potential of causing unacceptable environmental impact or interference
- Category 3: water takings are anticipated to have the highest potential of causing unacceptable environmental impact or interference

The proposed water taking qualifies as a Category 3 permit.

Permit type:

Amendment of Permit Number 3210-AKRL9C

Length of Taking:

10 years

Table A

Source Information and Water Taking Amount Applied For

| | Source Name / Description: | Source: Type: | Taking Specific Purpose: | Taking Major Category: | Max. Taken per Minute (litres): | Max. Num. of Hrs Taken per Day: | Max. Taken per Day (litres): | Max. Num. of Days Taken per Year: | Zone/ Easting/ Northing: |
|---|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | Wash Pond | Pond | Aggregate Washing | Industrial | 6,000 | 11 | 5,000,000 | 365 | 17 561618 4886971 |
| | | Dugout | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | Total Taking: | 5,000,000 | | |

Comments should be directed to the following Contact Person:

Ajay Persaud
Ministry of the Environment

This E-mail message has been sent to you as a result of the requirements of Ontario Regulation 387/04. It is the responsibility of the municipality or Conservation Authority to determine the appropriate staff person to whom this notification should be forwarded. If you wish to have subsequent notification sent to a different person within your organization, please respond to this E-mail message with an alternate E-mail address and contact name. It is the responsibility of the municipality or conservation authority to ensure that any changes to the alternate E-mail address are reported to the Ministry.

Please note that any comments, concerns, or questions must be received by the Ministry within 30 days of the date of this message.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

BY-LAW NUMBER _____ - 2025

**BEING A BY-LAW TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF AN
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
MELANCTHON AND STRADA AGGREGATES INC./STRADA
FINANCIAL INC.**

WHEREAS it is deemed expedient that the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon and Strada Aggregates Inc./Strada Financial Inc. enter into a Cost Recovery Agreement pertaining to an Application for approval necessary to develop a quarry on lands described as Part of the West Half of Lots 11 to 14, Concession 3 OS

**NOW THEREFORE THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON BY
THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL THEREOF ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:**

- 1. THAT the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the agreement, in the same form or substantially the same form, as attached hereto as Schedule "A" to this by-law.

BY-LAW READ A FIRST AND SECOND TIME THIS 16TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2025.

BY-LAW READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED THIS 16TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2025.

MAYOR

CLERK

**COST RECOVERY AGREEMENT
(the "Agreement")**

This Agreement made this day of , 2025

BETWEEN:

**STRADA AGGREGATES INC.
STRADA FINANCIAL INC.**

(hereinafter collectively referred to as "the Applicant")

- and -

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

(hereinafter referred to as "the Corporation")

WHEREAS the Applicant has made an application (the "Application") to the Corporation for approval necessary to develop a quarry on the lands described in Schedule "A" (the "Lands").

AND WHEREAS the Applicant is the owner of the Lands;

AND WHEREAS the Application is supported by a number of technical studies;

AND WHEREAS staff do not have the specialized expertise necessary to review all of the studies filed in support of the Application;

AND WHEREAS it is necessary for the Corporation to retain one or more outside consultants and/or counsel to review and advise on the technical and legal aspects of the Application in order to enable the Council of the Corporation to make an informed decision on the Application;

AND WHEREAS the scale and complexity of the Application and supporting studies are such that the application fees and deposit prescribed by the Corporation's By-law Number 15-2023 are not sufficient to provide for an appropriate review;

NOW THEREFORE in consideration of the sum of \$2 paid to the Corporation by the Applicant and in further consideration of the Corporation reviewing such application and incurring costs in so doing (the sufficiency of which is acknowledged by the Applicant), the parties agree as follows:

1. This Agreement shall not be construed as the Corporation's acceptance or approval of the Application.
2. The obligations of the Applicant which are set out in this Agreement shall be joint and several obligations of both Strada Aggregates Inc. and Strada Financial Inc.
3. The Corporation agrees to review the Application and may retain such planning, engineering, environmental, legal and/or other consultants as are deemed necessary by the Corporation, in its sole discretion, to thoroughly evaluate the Application.

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4. The Applicant shall reimburse the Corporation for all costs incurred in relation to the Application by the Corporation, including but not limited to fees paid to its Solicitor (on a full indemnity basis) to a maximum of \$3,000.00 (three thousand dollars) and other consultants retained pursuant to this agreement, as well as its administrative costs in respect of the Application, including interest on arrears if incurred as the result of delay in payment by the Applicant. For greater certainty, it is agreed that the Applicant's obligation to reimburse the Corporation for fees paid to its Solicitor shall be limited to those fees incurred to support the processing of the Application. Should the application be approved, any legal fees incurred for the drafting of any required development agreement between the Applicant and the Township will be dealt with separately, pursuant to the Township's Tariff of Fees for Planning Matters By-law 15-2023.
5. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 6, the Applicant shall be entitled to the provision of final reports submitted by any consultants retained by the Corporation pursuant to this agreement but not to drafts, or to communications which are privileged. The Applicant acknowledges that with respect to legal consultants, all advice and communications for the purpose of obtaining and/or providing advice shall be subject to solicitor-client privilege and shall not be disclosed to the Applicant, except as directed by Council.
6. The obligations of the Applicant under this agreement are conditional upon the Applicant having been provided and approved (acting reasonably) all peer review contracts the Corporation has or will hereafter arranged. It is acknowledged and agreed that the Township has provided cost estimates for each of its peer reviewers, which total approximately \$146,000.00 + HST and that the Applicant has approved these estimates, as well as the total amount. The Corporation hereby notifies the Applicant that it intends to retain the Corporation's Solicitor to provide legal services relating to the preparation and execution of and agreements or other documents required in connection with the Application.
7. The Applicant shall, at the time of executing this Agreement, and further upon being notified by the Corporation from time to time, deposit funds with the Corporation to cover the Corporation's expenses incurred pursuant to this agreement, including without limitation all consulting fees, disbursements, legal fees, staff time and administrative time and expenses. Any funds deposited hereunder shall be in the form of cash, certified cheque or bank draft. The initial deposit required to be paid to the Corporation shall be \$150,000.00 (the "Deposit"). The Corporation is entitled to pay expenses as they come due from the Deposit, and when the amount of the Deposit held by the Corporation is less than \$35,000.00 at any time, and from time to time, within 30 days of written notice from the Corporation, the Applicant shall deposit such further additional amount as may be required to replenish the amount of the Deposit to at least \$50,000.00, failing which the Applicant shall be in default. In default of such deposits being made, the Corporation may refuse to continue to process the application, refuse to execute any agreement required as a condition of development approval or take such legal action against the Applicant as it deems necessary for recovery of any expense that has not been reimbursed by the Applicant as required by this agreement.
8. For greater certainty, the requirements of this agreement are in addition to any applicable application fees payable to the Corporation at the time that the Application is filed in accordance with By-law 15-2023.

GCH

9. Upon approval (including completion of any required development agreement(s)), refusal, or withdrawal of the Application, the Corporation shall prepare and submit a final statement of account to the Applicant, including copies of all invoices submitted to it by its consultants. Surplus funds held by the Corporation shall be returned to the Applicant within sixty (60) days of such approval, refusal or withdrawal. Surplus funds shall not be returned to any mortgagee or subsequent owner of the Property referred to in the Application except on the written direction of the Applicant or pursuant to a Court Order. In the event of a shortfall, the Applicant shall pay the amount of such shortfall forthwith upon demand.
10. This Agreement shall not stand in lieu of or prejudice the rights of the Corporation to require such further and other agreements permitted by provincial or federal legislation in respect of any application that the Corporation may deem necessary.
11. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties to date with respect to the payment of the Corporation's costs for professional planning, engineering, legal and other services required for consideration of the Application. Any subsequent agreement which includes a provision relating to costs incurred by the Corporation shall be deemed to be supplementary to this Agreement and shall not supersede this Agreement.
12. This Agreement shall be effective from the earlier of the date of this Agreement and the date the Application was submitted to the Corporation.
13. The persons signing this Agreement on behalf of the parties warrant that each person who signs this Agreement is authorized to represent that party and to bind it in this Agreement.
14. This Agreement shall enure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties and their respective successors and assigns.
15. Should any provision or any part of any provision of this Agreement be declared null, void or inoperative, the remainder of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect and shall be interpreted as a complete entity.
16. The Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the Province of Ontario.
17. Any notice required pursuant to this Agreement shall be in writing and delivered personally, by confirmed facsimile transmission ("fax") or sent by registered mail to the following address:

Applicant(s): Strada Aggregates Inc. and Strada Financial Inc.
 30 Floral Parkway
 Concord, ON
 L4K 4K1
 Fax: 905-669-2296
 Attn: Grant Horan

The Corporation: The Corporation of the Township of Melancthon
 157101 Highway 10
 Melancthon, ON

GCH

L9V 2E6
 Fax: 519-925-1110
 Attn: CAO or Clerk

Or to such addresses either of the Parties may indicate in writing to the other. Any notice given in accordance with this shall be deemed to have been received:

- i) Upon delivery if delivered personally;
- ii) At the time of transmission if sent by fax or email between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. EST, or, if sent before or after such times, on the next business day; or
- iii) On the fifth day after posting, if sent by registered mail, provided that if such day is a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, on the next business day thereafter.

IN WITNESS THEREOF the parties hereto have duly executed this agreement as of the date so indicated below.

 Witness

 Date:

**THE CORPORATION OF THE
 TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON**

Per: _____
 Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk
 I have authority to bind the Corporation

Per: _____
 Darren White, Mayor
 I have authority to bind the Corporation

STRADA AGGREGATES INC.

Per: *Grant Horan*

Grant Horan, Controller
 I have authority to bind the Corporation

STRADA FINANCIAL INC.

Per: *Grant Horan*

Grant Horan, Controller
 I have authority to bind the Corporation

GC17

SCHEDULE "A"

Legal Description of Lands

The Lands are legally described as follows:

West Half of Lots 11 to 14, Concession 3 O.S.



Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority

Township of Melancthon
157101 Highway 10 ON L9V 2E6

October 1, 2025

Dear Mayor and Council of Township of Melancthon:

I am pleased to provide you with the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) Draft 2026 Business Plan and Budget booklet ([here](#) and attached) which was approved for circulation and input at the September 26, 2025, NVCA Board meeting. I invite your feedback by November 28, 2025.

NVCA's 2026 draft budget totals \$7.8 million, reflecting a 2.8% (or \$101,307.36) increase in municipal operational levy apportioned across our 18 municipalities with your apportionment outlined below. NVCA's draft 2026 Business Plan and Budget aligns with Section 21 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and O. Reg. 686/21 and reflects our commitment to responsible financial management, transparent oversight, and responsible stewardship. It prioritizes flood management, natural heritage protection, education, recreation, and climate resilience while recognizing population growth and hazard mitigation challenges. The plan invests in responsible asset management and fair, competitive wages for our dedicated staff. By leveraging grants, user fees, partnerships, and revenue-generating activities, we maximize the value of every municipal dollar and ensure long-term sustainability.

At the direction of the NVCA Board, and as part of responsible fiscal management and stewardship, NVCA has made changes to how programs and services are classified under Categories 1 and 3. These changes are a result of a thorough review and strategic reclassification with no elimination of services. Core stewardship and restoration work, such as floodplain reconnection and erosion mitigation, have been reclassified from Category 3 to Category 1, where they more appropriately reflect the direction of O. Reg. 686/21. The outcome is a 31% reduction in Category 3 charges and a very modest increase to Category 1. We continue to deliver programmes like forestry and environmental education in Category 3 which don't directly support flood and erosion hazard mitigation.

Wages remain our largest expense at 82% of the consolidated budget. Even with a projected decrease of \$9,000 in 2026 due to a reduction in FTEs, costs have risen 4.1% per-employee. You will also notice several revenue shifts including a \$132,500 increase in provincial grants for stewardship, a \$67,000 drop in federal contributions, and gains from private grants, education programs, Tiffin Centre operations, and investment income. Unfortunately, planning revenue is expected to continue to decline due to market slowdown and a provincial fee freeze. To offset planning revenue impacts, NVCA is investing in technology upgrades, expanded online services, enhanced staff training, and strategic initiatives like the Priority Lands Framework. This approach ensures service continuity and long-term watershed resilience, with no elimination of services.

The Township of Melancthon's proposed 2026 operational levy contribution is \$17,363.83. The capital asset levy will be \$990.76. This represents a total of \$18,354.59 contribution for 2026.

Below is how it is broken down into the Category 1 and Categories 2 & 3:

Category 1 Operational Levy - \$16,217.28

Categories 2 & 3 Operational Levy - \$1,146.56

Category 1 Asset Levy - \$844.97

Categories 2 & 3 Asset Levy - \$145.79

Please contact Kerry Jenkins at 705-424-1479 ext. 272 or kjenkins@nvca.on.ca if your council would like to schedule a deputation or a meeting with staff to discuss this draft budget.

With careful financial planning, expert operational management, strong governance, and a clear focus on efficiency, NVCA is well-positioned to deliver its mandate with integrity. I am confident this Business Plan and Budget reflect both NVCA's responsibility to its member municipalities and to the residents of the watershed.

Thank you for your Municipality's support of NVCA's Category 1 and 3 programs.

Yours truly,

**Jennifer
Vincent**

Digitally signed by
Jennifer Vincent
Date: 2025.10.01
13:54:39 -04'00'

Jennifer Vincent
Chief Administration Officer

Copies: Denise Holmes, Clerk
Mayor Darren White, NVCA Board Member
Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer Finance



2026 DRAFT BUSINESS PLAN AND BUDGET

VISION

A sustainable watershed that is resilient to the effects of climate change, urban growth and other stressors and provides for safe, healthy and prosperous people and communities.

MISSION

Working together to deliver innovative, integrated watershed management that is responsive to the environmental, economic and social sustainability of the Nottawasaga Watershed.

WHAT WE VALUE

An abundance of clean water, clean air and fertile soils that provide for healthy people and ecosystems.

Natural heritage systems and the ecosystem services they provide, particularly as they support resilience to the effects of a changing climate.

Quality recreational opportunities that our hills, forests, meadows, wetlands, waterways and coastline provide for residents and tourists alike.

Distinctive landforms and waterways including the Georgian Bay coastline, Niagara Escarpment, Minesing Wetlands and others that give our watershed a unique sense of place.

A wealth of resources within the capacity of our watershed to provide for thriving communities, successful economies and sustainable agriculture, now and in the future.

Message from our Chair

I am pleased to present the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA)'s 2026 Business Plan and Budget. This document reflects our strong commitment to prudent financial management, transparent oversight, and responsible stewardship of both the natural environment and the public funds entrusted to us.

From the outset, the Board has been clear that this balanced budget must be responsive to the needs of our member municipalities. We have delivered on that direction by significantly reducing "Category 3" costs, as requested, and by holding our overall operating levy increase to approximately 3 per cent, as we committed. These results were achieved not by deferring our responsibilities, but by undertaking a rigorous review process with our new CAO, senior staff, and the Board Chair and Vice-Chair to ensure NVCA is operating as a leaner, more efficient organization.

At the same time, this Business Plan and Budget safeguards what our communities value most – a safe, healthy and prosperous watershed. It protects fair and competitive wages for our dedicated staff; invests in responsible asset management; continues our award-winning environmental education programmes; and prioritizes NVCA's vital role in managing floods, protecting natural heritage, and supporting the resilience of our watershed in the face of growth and climate change. Through grants, user fees, strong partnerships and our own revenue-generating activities, we continue to leverage all financial resources to ensure the highest possible value for every municipal dollar.

With careful financial planning, expert operational management, strong governance and a clear focus on efficiency, NVCA is well-positioned to deliver its mandate with integrity. I am confident this Business Plan and Budget reflect both the responsibility we owe to our member municipalities and the trust placed in us by the residents of the watershed.

Sincerely yours,

Jonathan Scott

Councillor, Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury

Chair, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority



Message from our CAO

As the new Chief Administrative Officer, I'm pleased to present NVCA's 2026 Business Plan and Budget. This marks my first contribution to this important process, and I'm proud of the leadership, insight, and dedication shown by NVCA staff and senior management throughout its development.

This year's planning process was shaped by a strong commitment to deliver high-quality services to our 18 member municipalities and our many partners. Using a new integrated planning tool, staff undertook a thorough review of programs and priorities to ensure we are investing wisely in what matters most – working together to deliver innovative, integrated watershed management that is responsive to the environmental, economic, and social sustainability of the Nottawasaga Watershed.

The Nottawasaga Watershed is a remarkable landscape with over 40% natural cover and a thriving agricultural sector. Yet it faces growing pressures from urban expansion and climate change. NVCA's work helps ensure that development is balanced with natural hazard risk reduction, and that communities are safeguarded from the impacts of flooding and erosion. Our restoration efforts - rivers, streams, wetlands, grasslands and forests – deliver co-benefits to water quantity and quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and long-term resilience across the region.

We also continue to provide environmental education and recreational opportunities that connect people to nature and support physical and mental well-being. These programs, along with our core services, are made possible through a combination of municipal support, grants, user fees, partnerships, and revenue-generating activities – all designed to deliver maximum value for every dollar invested.

With clear direction from the Board of Directors and a talented, committed team, NVCA is well-positioned to deliver its mandate with confidence, relevance, and integrity.

Jennifer Vincent

CAO, NVCA



2025 accomplishments

In 2025, NVCA made meaningful progress in advancing its mission and laying the groundwork for continued success. Through innovation, collaboration, and a renewed focus on service excellence, NVCA delivered impactful results in environmental stewardship, engineering, planning, and community engagement – setting the stage for the priorities outlined in the 2026 Business Plan and Budget.

Operational improvements were a key focus. Enhanced internal processes, increased staffing capacity, and the launch of a new e-permitting platform enabled NVCA to clear a backlog of over 100 planning and permitting applications. These achievements reflect our commitment to a strong culture of client service and collaboration, and position NVCA to continue delivering timely, transparent, and responsive service in 2026.

To support effective, integrated, and informed decision support systems, NVCA updated regulation mapping, modernized its rain gauge network, reviewed its restoration services delivery model, and initiated a watershed-wide study to better understand how rainfall and snowmelt contribute to downstream impacts. These efforts are critical to inform flood forecasting and watershed management strategies, helping reduce the risk of flooding and erosion across our communities.

Following the March ice storm, NVCA's Lands team cleared over 15 km of trails across Nottawasaga Bluffs, Petun and Edenvale Conservation Areas — reinforcing our commitment to safe, accessible natural spaces. In addition, restoration work continued with over 74,000 trees planted, approximately 300 hectares of Phragmites mapped along with targeted removal, and six stream and wetland projects implemented, completed, and monitored.

Community engagement was strengthened through events such as the Spring Tonic Maple Syrup Festival, displays at community events, and the launch of an interactive self-guided tour at the Fort Willow Conservation Area. A new communications strategy will further enhance public understanding and support for NVCA's programs and services in 2026.

Residents and visitors connected with nature through NVCA's conservation areas and environmental education programs. Increased capacity at Camp Tiffin welcomed more children and families, while partnerships with the Simcoe County District School Board and Indigenous community members brought meaningful, land-based teachings into classrooms. Together, these experiences fostered a deeper connection to the watershed and a shared sense of responsibility for its care.

Internally, NVCA continued to invest in its people and culture, reinforcing its aspiration to become an employer of choice in the region, a workplace where staff are empowered to lead, innovate, and grow.

These accomplishments provide a strong foundation from which the 2026 Business Plan and Budget were developed. For more detailed updates, look for NVCA's 2025 Annual Report available in Spring 2026!

Executive Summary

NVCA’s 2026 draft budget totals \$7,841,981, reflecting a year-over-year increase of \$180,372.37, including a \$101,307.36 increase in municipal levy. This budget ensures NVCA has the resources needed to sustainably manage the Nottawasaga Watershed while balancing environmental, social, and economic priorities.

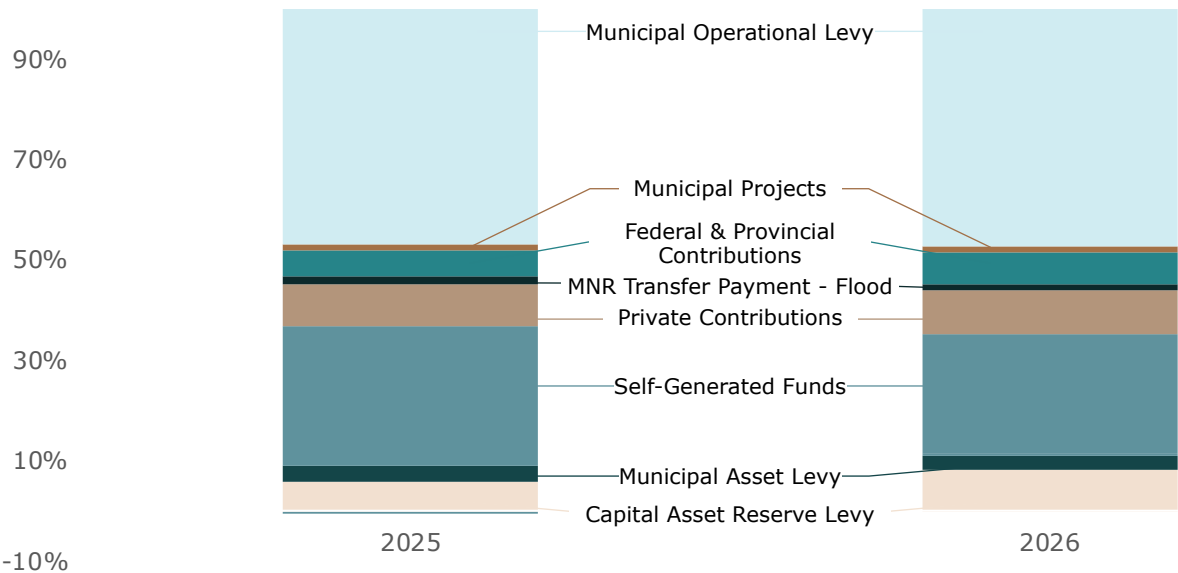
The 2026 Business Plan and Budget was developed through a comprehensive review of programs and priorities to ensure investments deliver maximum value and impact. This review resulted in service delivery efficiencies, better alignment of service categories, increased non-levy revenues, and a significant reduction in Category 3 costs. These changes demonstrate NVCA’s commitment to fiscal responsibility and responsiveness to municipal needs, while continuing to support core services and programs.

NVCA’s Board of Directors leads the formal budget approval process. Staff prepare a draft aligned with strategic, legislative, and municipal priorities. After consultation and revisions, the Board approves the Business Plan and Budget using a weighted vote based on Modified Current Value Assessment (MCVA) apportionment, ensuring alignment with watershed community needs.

The municipal levy represents approximately 53% of total funding, with the remainder sourced from grants, fees, and other revenue streams.



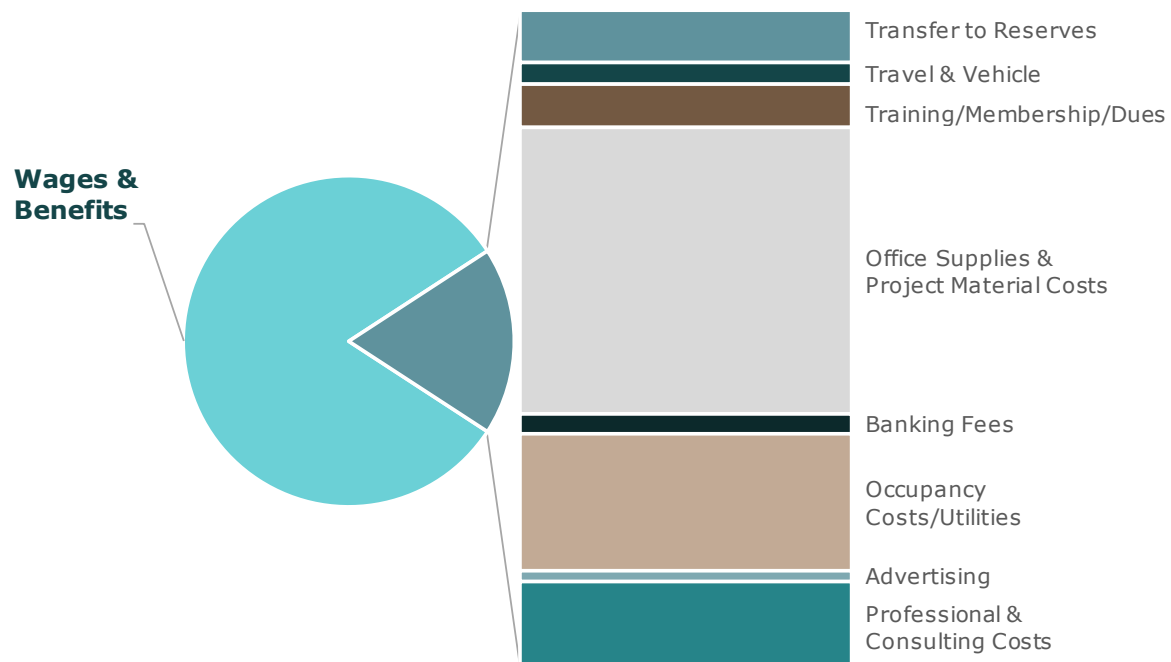
Total NVCA Budget



2026 Operating Budget

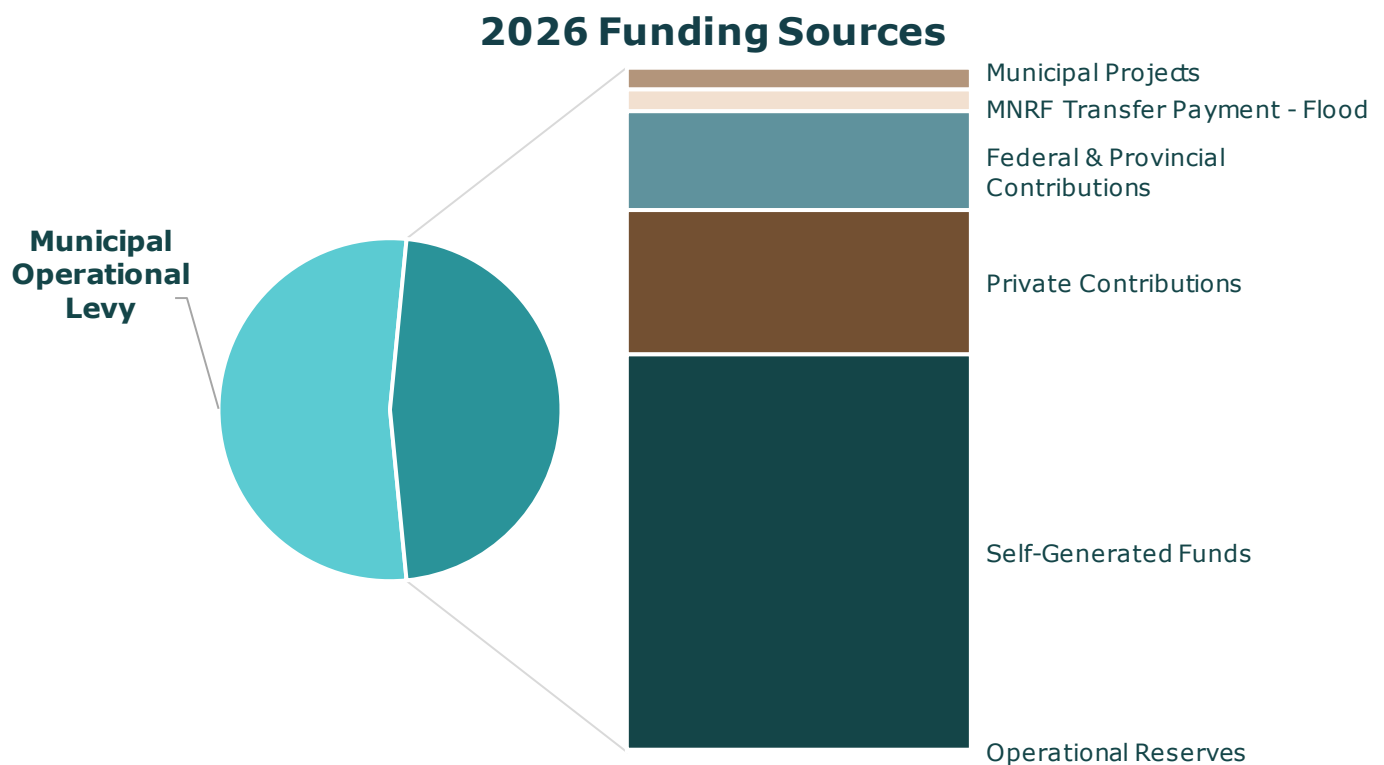
| Operating Budget | 2025 | 2026 | % of 2026 Operating Budget |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| Wages & Benefits | \$5,690,314.17 | \$5,681,268.84 | 82% |
| Transfer to Reserves | \$120,000.00 | \$102,000.00 | 1% |
| Advertising | \$19,100.00 | \$19,100.00 | 0% |
| Travel & Vehicle | \$51,250.00 | \$41,500.00 | 1% |
| Banking Fees | \$38,500.00 | \$38,500.00 | 1% |
| Training/Membership/Dues | \$78,350.00 | \$83,750.00 | 1% |
| Office Supplies & Project Material Costs | \$532,884.46 | \$551,652.16 | 8% |
| Occupancy Costs/Utilities | \$263,060.00 | \$265,410.00 | 4% |
| Professional & Consulting Costs | \$178,750.00 | \$177,000.00 | 3% |

2026 Operating Budget



2026 Operational Funding Sources

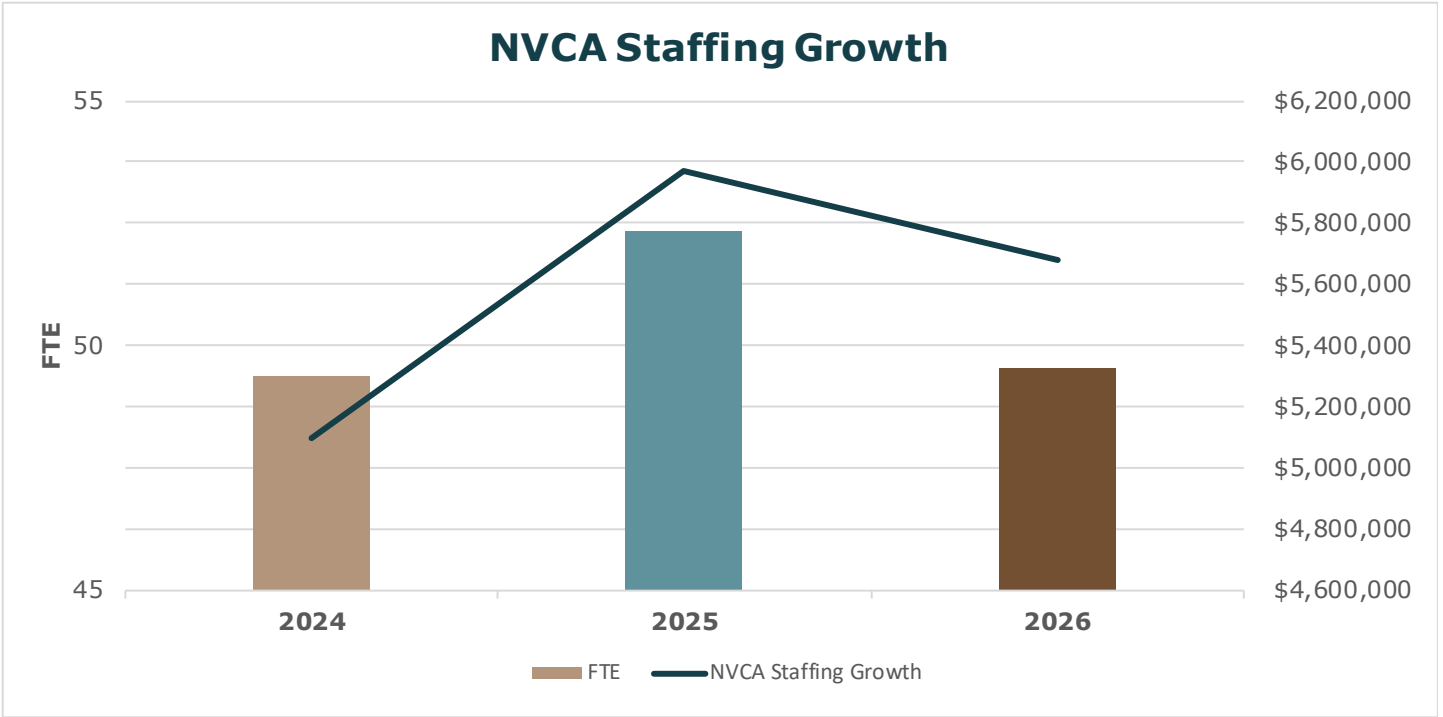
| Funding Sources | 2025 | 2026 | % of 2026 Funding Sources |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Municipal Operational Levy | \$3,585,281.63 | \$3,686,589.00 | 53% |
| Municipal Projects | \$96,050.00 | \$112,715.00 | 2% |
| MNR Transfer Payment - Flood | \$97,307.00 | \$97,307.00 | 1% |
| Federal & Provincial Contributions | \$412,500.00 | \$477,500.00 | 7% |
| Private Contributions | \$666,280.00 | \$686,280.00 | 10% |
| Self-Generated Funds | \$2,124,590.00 | \$1,889,590.00 | 27% |
| Operational Reserves | -\$9,800.00 | \$10,200.00 | 0% |



Staffing changes

In 2024, NVCA operated with approximately 49 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions. To address a backlog in regulation and planning files, in 2025, three FTEs were added. With the backlog now resolved and a forecasted slowdown in housing development for 2026, NVCA has proactively managed staffing levels by holding select vacancies. These positions may be reinstated as planning and permitting revenues increase, ensuring NVCA continues to meet its obligations under the *Conservation Authorities Act*. In addition, operational efficiency is being enhanced through technology upgrades and expanded use of online services. This approach allows the organization to remain agile while maintaining service levels.

While the total FTEs have decreased year-over-year, compensation per employee increased 4.1% for 2026. NVCA will also develop a human resources strategy focused on advancing NVCA as an employer of choice, with an emphasis on early career development and support for seasonal/contract staff and summer students.



2026 Commitments

The 2026 Commitments section outlines NVCA's strategic priorities and planned initiatives that support the delivery of core services and the advancement of watershed health. These commitments reflect NVCA's dedication to good governance, operational transparency, and service excellence.

Developed in alignment with legislative requirements, municipal expectations, and strategic goals, the commitments guide departmental actions across conservation, hazard management, education, and stewardship. They are foundational to NVCA's continued responsiveness to the needs of our watershed communities.





Flooding, Erosion & Stormwater Management



Enhance watershed knowledge to support decision making for the improvement & maintenance of watershed health

Natural Hazards Management

Maintain and enhance the flood forecasting network to provide timely monitoring of weather conditions and river flows to determine if there is a risk of flooding.

Review *Conservation Authorities Act* and *Planning Act* applications as well as technical documents to meet legislated, Conservation Ontario, and municipal timelines.

Post timely flood messages to NVCA's website and issue timely flood messages to municipalities, school boards, emergency response agencies, health units, and other relevant organizations as needed.

All flood structures are in a state of good repair and operated by following NVCA's Flood Structure Safety Review recommendations, NVCA's Natural Hazard Infrastructure Operational Plan, and legislative requirements.

Update NVCA's hydrology model to better understand the amount of rain/snowmelt that different areas contribute to the larger Nottawasaga Watershed, and as funding opportunities permit, update NVCA's hydraulic models to better understand depths of flooding throughout the Nottawasaga Watershed.

Watershed studies, plans, & strategies

Develop five-year and ten-year strategies for New Lowell Conservation Area.

Evaluate Pretty River Dike at Oliver Crescent for public safety and the function of the Pretty River Dike.

Water and land-based stewardship, restoration, & rehabilitation

Engage with landowners to implement wetland focused restoration projects that prioritize wetland offsetting projects.



Promote resiliency & capacity in the face of dynamic conditions within the watershed

Water and land-based stewardship, restoration, & rehabilitation

Establish strategic delivery of stewardship and restoration programs across all watershed municipalities on a five-year rotation.

Implement the Nottawasaga River Restoration Program and phosphorus offsetting projects by securing funding for three restoration projects and planting 7,000 trees with watershed communities.

Implement flooding and erosion focused restoration projects.

Natural Hazards Management

Assist municipal partners in delivering on their infrastructure/assets management programs.

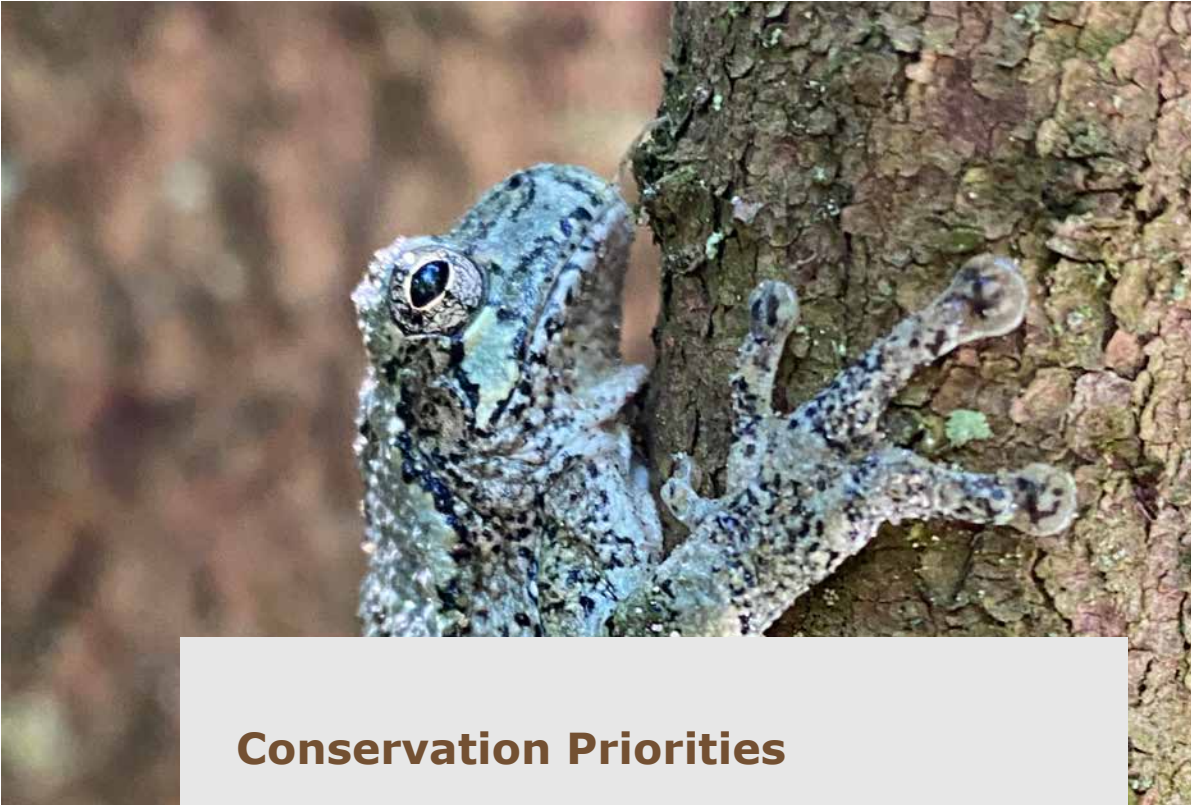


Enhance business excellence through governance & technology, creating a well-managed organization that provides transparency & efficient operations

Natural Hazards Management

Develop a dashboard to improve efficiency, transparency and communication of planning and permit applications.





Conservation Priorities



Enhance watershed knowledge to support decision making for the improvement & maintenance of watershed health

Conservation & Management of Conservation Lands

Draft the Priority Lands Framework for Watershed Health, a strategic roadmap to identify, secure, and restore lands identified as critical to the long-term resilience of the watershed.

Complete initial assessments of the natural environment on NVCA properties.

Natural Hazards Management

Complete all scheduled wetland compensation project monitoring activities.



Promote resiliency & capacity in the face of dynamic conditions within the watershed

Water and land-based stewardship, restoration, & rehabilitation

Reforest approximately 40 hectares of forest by planting 70,000 trees.

Celebrate 3 million trees planted by NVCA's Forestry program.

Watershed studies, plans, & strategies

Develop a Watershed-based Stewardship Strategy to ensure the Nottawasaga Watershed is resilient to future change, and long-term funding model is secured.



Communication, outreach, & education

Inspire conservation through outdoor experiences & education.

Launch animal of the year campaign.

Continue Nature School, Camp Tiffin, school board programming, & external bookings.



Policies & Protocols



Enhance business excellence through governance and technology, creating a well-managed organization that provides transparency and efficient operations

Governance

Prepare the NVCA 2026 – 2030 Strategic Plan.

Develop a human resources strategic plan to advance NVCA as an employer of choice.

Enhance support and collaboration across NVCA departments.

Natural Hazards Management

Complete the update of the Planning and Regulation Guidelines.

Complete the update of the 2013 Natural Hazards Technical Guide and Stormwater Technical Guide.



Enhance watershed knowledge to support decision making for the improvement & maintenance of watershed health

Natural Hazards Management

Review and update NVCA regulation mapping.

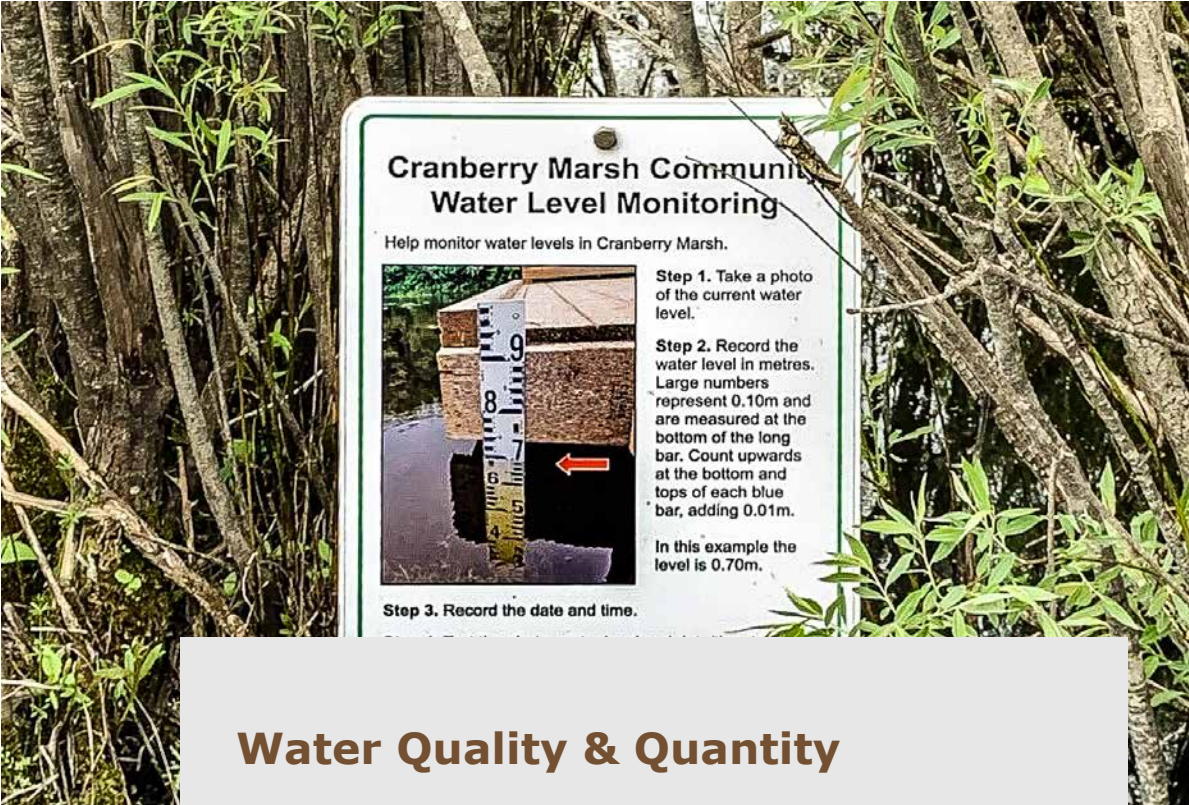
Conservation & Management of Conservation Lands

Develop a framework for property management plans to understand the ecology, threats, recreational and conservation opportunities on NVCA-owned lands.

Become a destination for recreation and increase visitors at key NVCA properties by improving infrastructure at one conservation area per year.

Develop a framework for public engagement to track issues, infrastructure and properties on NVCA lands.

Develop property management plans that balance ecological and recreational priorities to complete at least one property management plan.



Water Quality & Quantity



Enhance business excellence through governance & technology, creating a well-managed organization that provides transparency & efficient operations

Drinking Water Source Protection

Use enhanced GIS technology to aid in the management of significant drinking water threats efficiently.

Watershed-scale data collection, management & modelling

Improve the efficiency and security of watershed monitoring data by advancing a watershed monitoring database.

Communication, outreach, & education

Enhance knowledge transmission and translation by initiating development of a watershed monitoring dashboard.



Enhance watershed knowledge to support decision making for the improvement & maintenance of watershed health

Drinking Water Source Protection

Timely completion and acquisition of drinking water permits under the *Clean Water Act*.

Manage significant drinking water threats by completing inspections and Risk Management Plans in accordance with legislative timelines.

Watershed-scale data collection, management & modelling

Deliver monitoring activities as per the Watershed Monitoring Strategy.



Promote resiliency & capacity in the face of dynamic conditions within the watershed

Water and land-based stewardship, restoration, & rehabilitation

Implement NVCA's Healthy Waters programs, monitoring, and services.





Engagement & Education



Enhance watershed knowledge to support decision making for the improvement & maintenance of watershed health

Engage and share information with watershed communities through public engagement booths, website updates, social media and newsletters.

Continue to build NVCA photo and video library



Communication, outreach, & education

Host community engagement opportunities

Inspire conservation through outdoor experiences & education through hosting community engagement opportunities, offering high quality, nature-based rental experiences and becoming a desirable nature-based filming location.

Deliver high quality, curriculum-based programming for local school boards, Tiffin Nature School and Camp Tiffin offerings.



Governance



Enhance business excellence through governance and technology, creating a well-managed organization that provides transparency and efficient operations

Governance

The NVCA Board is supported to effectively and efficiently discharge their responsibilities.

Update NVCA website with relevant, timely, and accurate information about NVCA services and programs.

Deliver the 2026 Business Plan and Budget on time and within budget by applying continuous improvement practices, tracking performance metrics, and fostering collaboration across teams to ensure efficient, accountable service delivery.

Municipal Funding

In 2025, NVCA committed to continued growth, but with a more moderate levy increase following two consecutive years of growth and significant levy increases. Reflecting on this commitment, the 2026 Business Plan and Budget propose a levy increase of \$101,307.36, substantially lower than the \$399,981.36 increase approved for 2025.

NVCA’s 2026 budget supports the costs required to meet legislative obligations, address local environmental needs, and meet municipal and public service standards.

It complies with O. Reg. 402/22 and continues to use the MCVA for general levy apportionment and benefit-based distribution for water and erosion control structures.

NVCA’s Business Plan and Budget framework organizes programs and services into three categories, consistent with Section 21 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and the requirements of O. Reg. 686/21. This structure ensures transparency, accountability, and alignment with provincial legislation and municipal agreements.

2026 Funding Sources for Program Delivery



Category 1

Mandatory programs and services defined in O. Reg. 686/21 that may be funded with municipal levy.

Some of the funding sources for Category 1 programs include:

- Municipal levy
- User fees, such as fees collected through Development Planning & Permits applications
- Drinking Water Source Protection
- Provincial transfer payments for flood forecasting and flood control structure expenses

Category 2

Programs and services delivered at the request of a municipality, with funding under agreement with the benefiting municipality.

To carry out these programs under Categories 2 & 3, NVCA draws revenues from a variety of sources:

- Funded through cost apportionment agreements with participating municipalities
- User fees, such as conservation area admissions, environmental education programs, tree planting, and property rentals, among other sources
- Donations and in-kind contributions
- Program and capital projects
- Provincial and Federal contributions
- Foundations,

Category 3

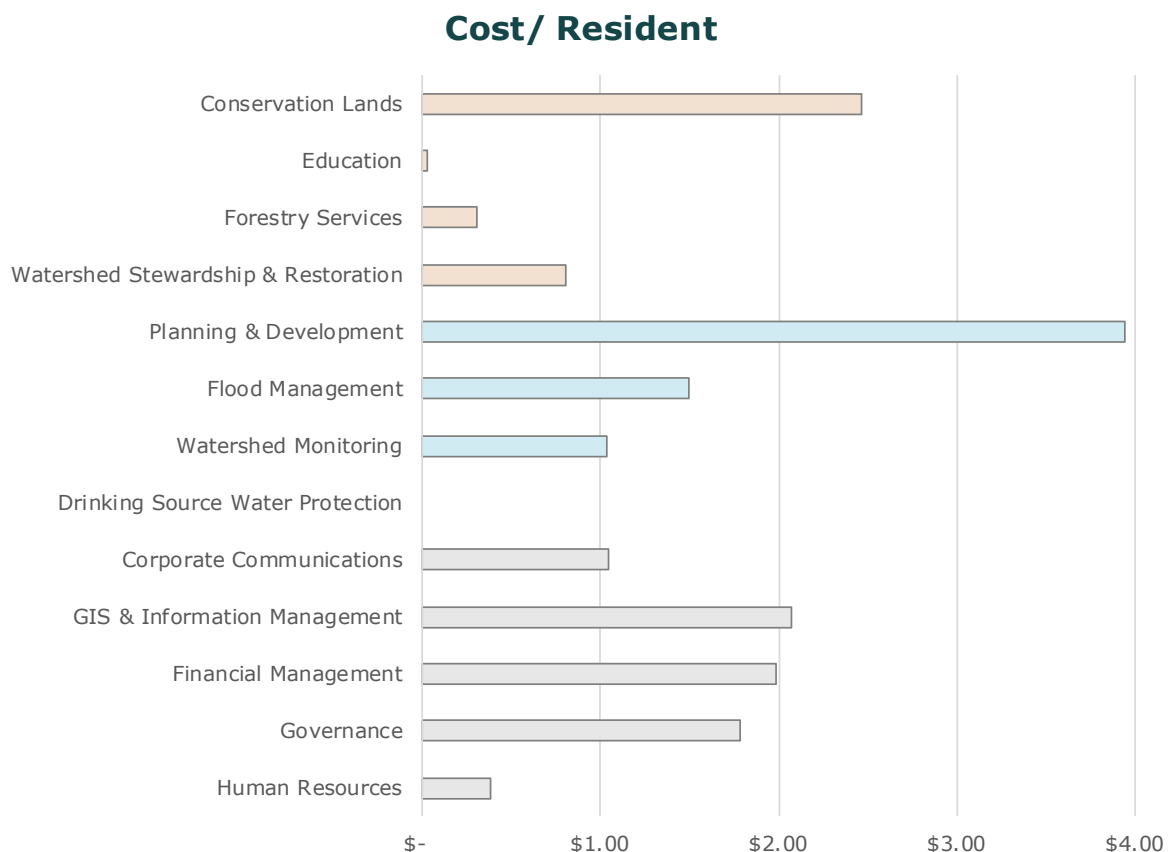
Other programs and services that the Authority determines are advisable to implement within our watershed jurisdiction.

Cost per resident

NVCA's 2026 budget represents an investment of \$17.36 of levy per watershed resident, aligning with the provincial average for conservation authorities. For every dollar contributed through the municipal levy, NVCA delivers an estimated \$34 in value through programs that reduce flood and erosion risks, restore and protect natural areas, and provide hands-on environmental experiences to thousands of students, residents, and families.

This return on investment reflects NVCA's commitment to delivering high-impact, cost-effective programs that benefit watershed residents today and into the future.

| Program Name | Cost/ Resident |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Conservation Lands | \$2.46 |
| Education | \$0.03 |
| Forestry Services | \$0.31 |
| Watershed Stewardship & Restoration | \$0.81 |
| Planning & Development | \$3.94 |
| Flood Management | \$1.50 |
| Watershed Science | \$1.04 |
| Drinking Source Water Protection | \$ - |
| Corporate Communications | \$1.04 |
| GIS & Information Management | \$2.08 |
| Financial Management | \$1.98 |
| Governance | \$1.79 |
| Human Resources | \$0.39 |



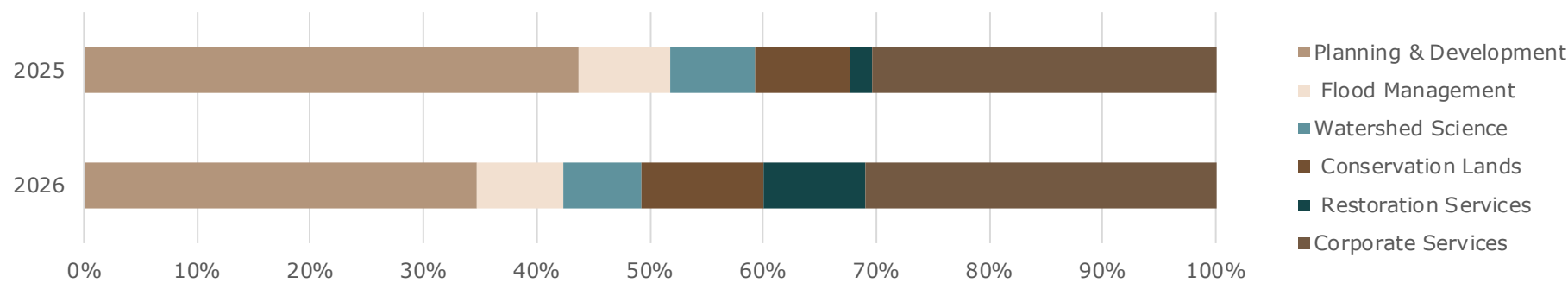
2026 Category 1 Draft Budget

As outlined in NVCA’s Inventory of Programs and Services, Category 1 includes provincially mandated services under the *Conservation Authorities Act* that support watershed management and natural hazard protection. The 2026 operating budget for Category 1 is organized by business units to reflect all associated costs.

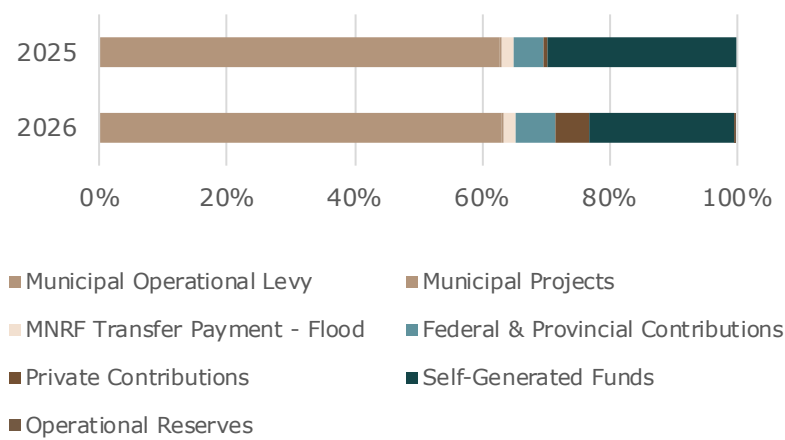
A review of programs led to reclassifying certain restoration services from Category 3 to Category 1, recognizing their direct benefits to hazard mitigation.

Fleet services were also restructured, separating workshop operations and relocating them to the Tiffin Centre cost structure for improved transparency. To support the expanded scope of Category 1, a municipal levy increase of \$218,690.96 is proposed, offset by a \$117,383.60 reduction in Category 3, resulting in a net increase of \$101,307.36. This levy is apportioned among NVCA member municipalities using MCVA percentages provided by the Ministry of Natural Resources.

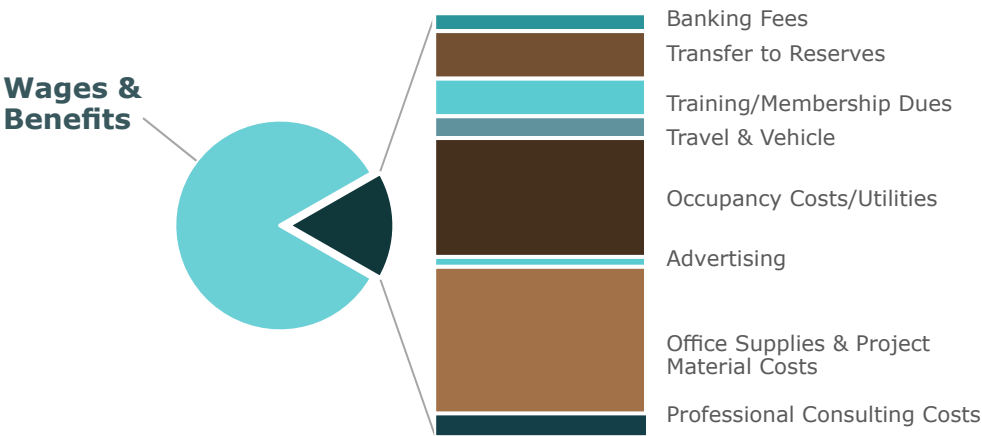
Category 1 Operating Budget by Department



Category 1 Funding Sources



Category 1 Operating Budget



2026 Categories 2 & 3 Draft Budget

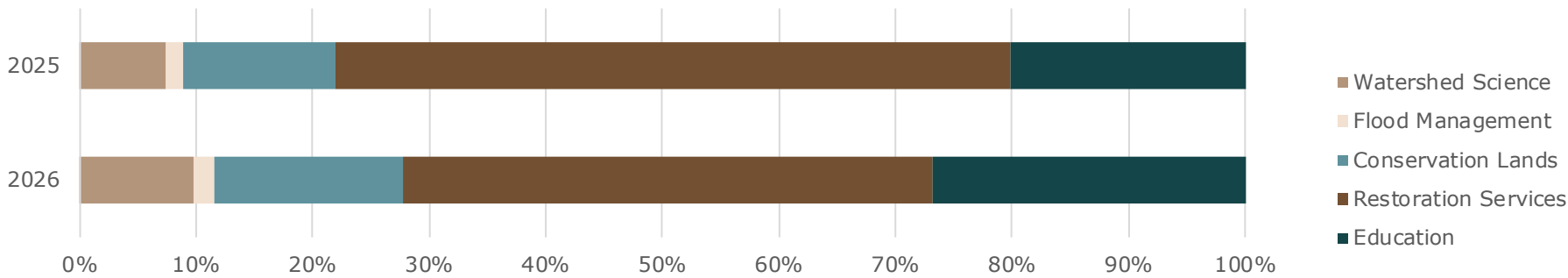
For the 2026 budget, NVCA is reducing municipal levy support for Category 2 and 3 programs by \$117,383.60. This is primarily due to the reclassification of certain restoration services—previously under Category 3—that now fall under Category 1 due to their direct hazard mitigation benefits, as approved by the NVCA Board of Directors.

Like Category 1, this levy is apportioned among member municipalities using MCVA percentages from the Ministry of

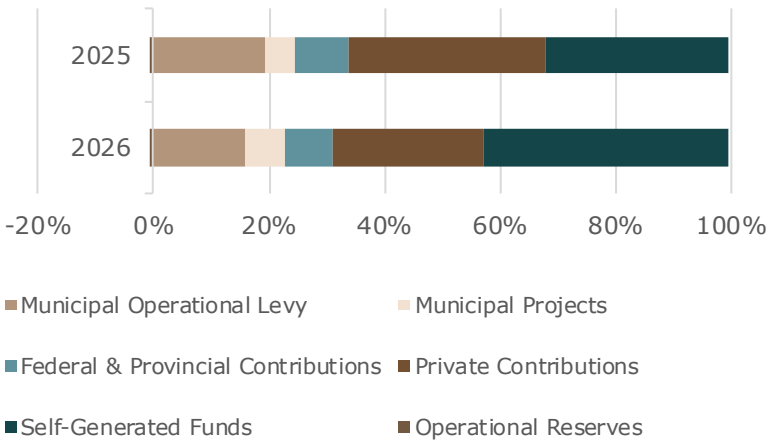
Natural Resources. Categories 2 and 3 generate about 84% of their budgets from external sources. Levy support remains vital to leverage these funds, covering staff hours that qualify as matching contributions and non-billable time.

For every levy dollar invested in Category 3, NVCA secures approximately \$5.21 in additional funding. These contributions help offset costs and have enabled the reduction in the 2026 Category 3 levy requirement.

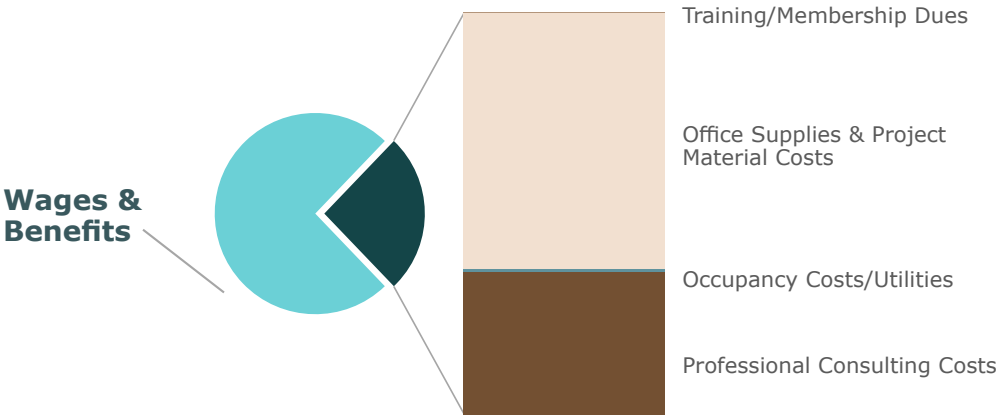
Category 3 Operating Budget by Department



Category 3 Funding Sources



Category 3 Operating Budget



Summary of Municipal Contribution

| Municipality | 2025 MCVA Apportionment Percentage | 2026 MCVA Apportionment Percentage | 2025 Operating Levy | 2026 Draft Operating Levy | \$ Increase |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| | | | \$3,585,281.63 | \$3,686,589.00 | |
| Township of Adjala-Tosorontio | 4.04% | 4.23% | \$144,967.28 | \$156,097.55 | \$11,892.43 |
| Township of Amaranth | 0.22% | 0.22% | \$7,826.67 | \$8,165.79 | \$378.99 |
| City of Barrie | 14.75% | 14.74% | \$528,796.77 | \$543,451.14 | \$17,307.80 |
| Town of The Blue Mountains | 1.47% | 1.49% | \$52,631.93 | \$55,066.58 | \$2,703.51 |
| Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury | 4.28% | 4.27% | \$153,292.30 | \$157,325.19 | \$4,801.03 |
| Clearview Township | 4.93% | 5.00% | \$176,897.80 | \$184,395.81 | \$8,398.34 |
| Town of Collingwood | 10.27% | 10.29% | \$368,186.91 | \$379,361.07 | \$13,026.41 |
| Township of Essa | 6.80% | 6.74% | \$243,627.06 | \$248,490.84 | \$6,077.06 |
| Municipality of Grey Highlands | 0.34% | 0.34% | \$12,017.86 | \$12,361.13 | \$403.62 |
| Town of Innisfil | 7.30% | 7.28% | \$261,851.04 | \$268,483.22 | \$7,943.06 |
| Township of Melancthon | 0.48% | 0.47% | \$17,013.33 | \$17,363.83 | \$429.28 |
| Town of Mono | 3.58% | 3.52% | \$128,496.49 | \$129,594.66 | \$1,730.92 |
| Mulmur Township | 1.59% | 1.56% | \$56,851.81 | \$57,599.27 | \$1,028.69 |
| Town of New Tecumseth | 13.40% | 13.17% | \$480,320.18 | \$485,501.65 | \$7,551.96 |
| Township of Oro-Medonte | 7.36% | 7.26% | \$263,901.83 | \$267,491.52 | \$4,895.74 |
| Town of Shelburne | 2.17% | 2.21% | \$77,951.19 | \$81,576.84 | \$4,023.95 |
| Township of Springwater | 7.76% | 7.82% | \$278,117.47 | \$288,457.16 | \$11,748.10 |
| Town of Wasaga Beach | 9.28% | 9.38% | \$332,527.70 | \$345,809.42 | \$14,970.16 |

Asset Management

The capital asset levy, which funds the Asset Management Plan (AMP), is shared by the municipal partners based on their modified apportionment percentage.

The AMP is based on the annual approval of the asset management plan by the Board of Directors.

Capital Asset Levy

| Municipality | 2026 MCVA Apportionment Percentage | 2026 Asset Levy | Category 1 | Category 3 |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| | | \$234,005.00 | \$194,290.00 | \$39,715.00 |
| Township of Adjala-Tosorontio | 4.23% | \$9,898.41 | \$8,218.47 | \$1,679.94 |
| Township of Amaranth | 0.22% | \$514.81 | \$427.44 | \$87.37 |
| City of Barrie | 14.74% | \$34,492.34 | \$28,638.35 | \$5,853.99 |
| Town of The Blue Mountains | 1.49% | \$3,486.67 | \$2,894.92 | \$591.75 |
| Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury | 4.27% | \$9,992.01 | \$8,296.18 | \$1,695.83 |
| Clearview Township | 5.00% | \$11,700.25 | \$9,714.50 | \$1,985.75 |
| Town of Collingwood | 10.29% | \$24,079.11 | \$19,992.44 | \$4,086.67 |
| Township of Essa | 6.74% | \$15,771.94 | \$13,095.15 | \$2,676.79 |
| Municipality of Grey Highlands | 0.34% | \$795.62 | \$660.59 | \$135.03 |
| Town of Innisfil | 7.28% | \$17,035.56 | \$14,144.31 | \$2,891.25 |
| Township of Melancthon | 0.47% | \$1,099.82 | \$913.16 | \$186.66 |
| Town of Mono | 3.52% | \$8,236.98 | \$6,839.01 | \$1,397.97 |
| Mulmur Township | 1.56% | \$3,650.48 | \$3,030.92 | \$619.55 |
| Town of New Tecumseth | 13.17% | \$30,818.46 | \$25,587.99 | \$5,230.47 |
| Township of Oro-Medonte | 7.26% | \$16,988.76 | \$14,105.45 | \$2,883.31 |
| Town of Shelburne | 2.21% | \$5,171.51 | \$4,293.81 | \$877.70 |
| Township of Springwater | 7.82% | \$18,299.19 | \$15,193.48 | \$3,105.71 |
| Town of Wasaga Beach | 9.38% | \$21,949.67 | \$18,224.40 | \$3,725.27 |

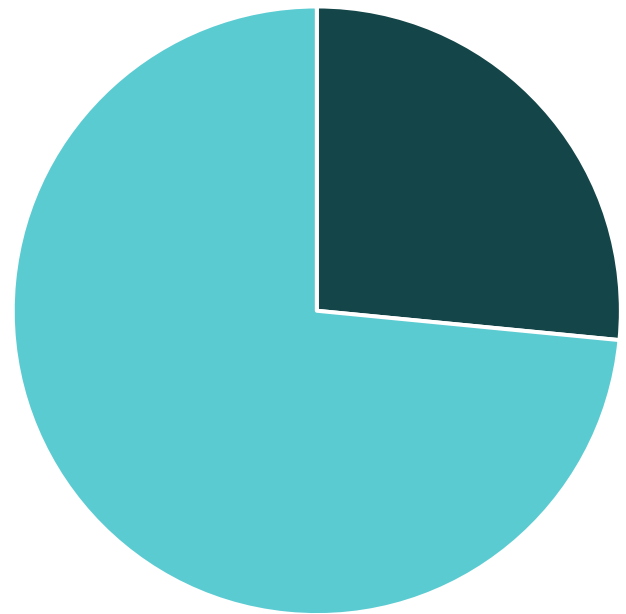
Reserves

These amounts will be put into reserves to help pay for the repair, maintenance and replacement of the assets as identified in the AMP.

Some of the 2026 expenditures as per the AMP:

- Dam safety review for Utopia Dam, urgent repair work to be completed at Tottenham and New Lowell Dams
- Parts replacement on lands, flood and monitoring equipment to extend life, as well as replacement of some end-of-life equipment, specifically some flood loggers & communicators due to cellular upgrade requirements
- Computers, server upgrades and network hardware
- Replacement of two vehicles.

Funding for 2026 Assets



■ Capital Asset Levy ■ Capital Asset Reserves



Looking Ahead to 2026

NVCA's 2026 Business Plan and Budget reflect our ongoing commitment to responsible financial management, strategic planning, and transparent operations. With targeted investments and service enhancements, we continue to protect watershed health and build resilient communities. Guided by our Board of Directors and supported by our municipal partners, NVCA is ready to deliver meaningful results for the people and ecosystems of the Nottawasaga Watershed.





Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority

8195 8th Line, Utopia ON L0M 1T0

T: 705-424-1479 • admin@nvca.on.ca



@nottawasagaca



**The Township of Melancthon
does hereby proclaim**

NOVEMBER 25th as The International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

WHEREAS November is Woman Abuse Prevention Month and November 25th is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women; and

WHEREAS violence is the greatest gender inequality rights issue for women, girls and gender-diverse individuals. Our community is committed to ending femicide and all forms of gender-based violence; and

WHEREAS Femicide rates are on the rise in Ontario, **with over 31 femicides** in Ontario since November 26th, 2024; and

Whereas 37 different cities and towns in Ontario had a femicide occur in their community last year; and

WHEREAS Indigenous, Black, South Asian and South East Asian women and girls continue to experience high rates of violence, including femicide; and

WHEREAS men's violence has taken the lives of women and girls across the lifespan with femicide victims in the 2023/24 femicide list ranging between the ages of 2 months old to 89 years old; and

WHEREAS this month and throughout the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, we acknowledge our community's support of the Wrapped in Courage campaign and commitment to ending gender-based violence; and

WHEREAS there is an urgent need for greater investment and action to end gender-based violence in our community and throughout Ontario by all three levels of Government; and

WHEREAS a Wrapped in Courage Campaign flag will be raised during Woman Abuse Prevention Month in recognition that the courage of a woman alone is not enough, it takes an entire community to end gender-based violence; and

Now, therefore, I, Mayor Darren White, on behalf of the Council of the Township of Melancthon proclaim and declare that November 25th, 2025 shall be known as

“The International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women”

and urge all citizens to recognize this day by taking action to support survivors and becoming part of Ontario wide efforts to end gender-based violence.



**The Corporation of the
TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON**

157101 Highway 10, Melancthon, Ontario, L9V 2E6

STAFF REPORT

TO: Council
FROM: Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer
DATE: October 16th, 2025
SUBJECT: Request for Financial Assistance: Ice Storm – March 28, 2025

Recommendation:

We respectfully request Council to:

1. That Council pass a resolution to formally request financial assistance under the **Municipal Ice Storm Assistance (MISA)** program

Background

On March 28, 2025, the Township of Melancthon was significantly impacted by a severe ice storm that resulted in widespread damage caused by fallen trees and branches. This event created substantial operational challenges, particularly for our Roads Department.

In response, the Roads Department responded promptly and worked diligently to clear debris and ensure the safety of municipal roadways. This required substantial overtime and the use of external contractors to assist with the cleanup efforts. Consequently, the Township has incurred significant unanticipated expenses beyond our approved budget allocations.

In light of these extraordinary costs, staff recommend that Council pass a resolution to formally request financial assistance from the Ontario Government under the **Municipal Ice Storm Assistance (MISA) Program**.

The MISA program is an application-based initiative that provides one-time financial support to eligible municipalities for incremental costs resulting from the March 28, 2025, ice storm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah Culshaw, Treasurer

Reviewed By:

Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk



Corporation of the Township of Melancthon

Moved by

Seconded by Date, 2025

Whereas, the municipality of the Township of Melancthon has eligible costs directly linked to the March 2025 ice storm, the council of the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon hereby requests assistance under the Municipal Ice Storm Assistance program.

Further that Sarah Culshaw – Treasurer is given delegated authority to verify and attest to the accuracy of the attached application package

Denise Holmes

From: Larry Taman [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 1, 2025 10:26 AM
To: Darren White; James McLean; Ruth Plowright; Bill Neilson; Ralph Moore
Cc: Denise Holmes
Subject: Request to Delegate_October 16
Attachments: Delegation_2.jpeg; Delegation_1.jpeg

Dear Mayor White, Deputy Mayor and Councillors.

Please find attached a Request to Delegate on October 16 submitted on behalf of Melancthon Against Quarries.

Please let me know that you have received this in good order.

All the best. Larry Taman

Larry Taman

Canada mobile/WhatsApp/Signal: [REDACTED]

TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON – DELEGATION REQUEST FORM

REQUEST DATE: October 16, 2025

NAME: Larry Taman on behalf of Melancthon Against Quarries – a citizens' coalition in opposition to the Strada Quarry

ADDRESS:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

SIGNATURE:

Purpose of Delegation Request

We plan the following presentation to Council.

We support Council's engagement with surrounding municipalities to build awareness of this application and the issues it presents for the municipal tier.

We support Council's engagement of consultants to address the wide range of risks presented by the proposed blast quarry; we encourage Council to mandate all consultants to adopt a 100% assurance standard.

We support Council's plans for a public information meeting and we will urge the Community to participate in that and future meetings sponsored by Council.

We believe that

- that the people of Melancthon are strongly opposed to the Strada quarry application
- that the people of Melancthon are demanding that their elected officials work with the community to build a strong defence to the proposed below the water table blast quarry with its potentially disastrous effects
- that the request for permission to blast 170 feet below the water table creates incalculable risks to our peaceful enjoyment of our lives and property in Melancthon and in the headwaters area

- that the Province and in particular the Golden Horseshoe have a 38-year supply of gravel already licensed; there is no need for the Strada blast quarry
- that Council should take every step available to it to oppose this application and to encourage concerned and municipalities to do the same; we ask what steps are currently being planned and taken
- that in particular, Council should
 - oppose the Strada rezoning application – we understand that Council has been advised that this is a ‘formality’; it is not a formality to the people who are asking their elected representatives to use all of Council’s powers to address this issue
 - review all of the relevant planning and regulatory instruments to ensure that every possible measure within the Township’s power is taken to deny applications for below the water table blast quarries; this could include all measures touching on areas such as air quality, water supply, fly rock, road safety and environmental protection.
 - Immediately enact an Interim Control by-law to give itself the time to develop the protective measures.

Our delegation will be presented by Larry Taman and Jim Funston on behalf of Melancthon Against Quarries.