

Executive Summary

The Hamilton Region Conservation Authority has five major sub-watersheds within its boundaries. They are the Spencer, Red Hill and Stoney-Battlefield Creeks as well as the Stoney Creek Numbered Watercourses and Urban Hamilton.

As the region's largest environmental management agency, owning, leasing or managing 4,500 hectares (11,000 acres) of environmentally significant land, our watershed covers portions of two municipalities - Township of Puslinch and the City of Hamilton.

Properties owned and managed by the HRCA include 14 Niagara Escarpment properties, 25 waterfalls, an award-winning marina, 2 recreational lakes, 145 kilometres of park and rail trails, 12 significant wetlands, an ecological preserve and an 18,000 year old muskeg bog.

The goals for this coming fiscal year are four in number as follows:

1) Operate on a cash neutral or positive basis. This requires maintaining and growing the two thirds of the funding revenues that come from non-levy sources, primarily the commercial operations at conservation areas and supplemented by the Hamilton Conservation Foundation, corporate and government grants. The expenditure side of the equation is dominated by the cost of salaries, wages and staff expenses; demonstrating the importance of maintaining tight control over the core complement and only supplementing as needed to complete specific projects with seasonal or contract help.

2) Require no greater levy increase than 2%, the percentage which has historically been asked by Hamilton Council. As has been the practice over the past decade, the HRCA will construct its budget to operate within the suggested guidelines provided by the City (2%).

3) Support HRCA's 2019 - 2023 Strategic Plan, as herein described:

Vision - A healthy watershed for everyone

Mission - To lead in the conservation of our watershed and connect people to nature

Strategic Plan - Five areas of strategic priority have been identified. The five being Organizational Excellence, Water Management, Education & Environmental Awareness, Conservation Area Experience and Natural Heritage Conservation. These broad areas of priority will be advanced through the development and implementation of related programs.

4) Execute the requirements of the Conservation Authorities Act. While clarification on the exact interpretation of these requirements is awaited, it will no doubt be within our abilities to accomplish.

Of note, capital and major maintenance expenditures and amortization expenses are not included in this budget as capital is dealt with separately through the City of Hamilton's block funding process and amortization is not included as it is non-cash expense.

BUDGET 2023

CONSOLIDATED HAMILTON REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

<u>Division</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>% Split</u>	<u>Revenue Description</u>
Watershed Management Services	\$ 2,911	\$ 2,211 700		Levy Other Revenues
Conservation Areas Operations	6,004	- 7,397		Levy Other Revenues
Westfield Heritage Village	881	636 245		Levy Other Revenues
Central Support Services	6,140	1,931 2,816		Levy Other Revenues
Total		4,778 11,158	30.0% 70.0%	Levy Other Revenues
	\$ 15,936	\$ 15,936	100.0%	
Budget Surplus		\$ -		

2022 Levy	\$ 4,684
2023 Levy *	4,778
Levy Increase	\$ 94
% Increase	2.0%

* Township of Puslinch will contribute \$30.6 in 2023 (\$30.0 in 2022)

Central Support Services

EXPENSE

Staff	\$ 3,467
Equipment	83
Supplies	107
Utilities	402
Other	2,081
Total	<u>\$ 6,140</u>

REVENUE SOURCES

Municipal levy	\$ 1,931
Equipment rental	1,325
Management fees	500
Other	991
Total	<u>\$ 4,747</u>

Watershed Management Services

EXPENSE

Staffing	\$ 2,585
Contractors	30
Supplies	115
Other	181
Total	<u>\$ 2,911</u>

REVENUE SOURCES

Municipal levy	\$ 2,211
Permits, fees	380
Grants	242
Other	78
Total	<u>\$ 2,911</u>

Conservation Areas

EXPENSE

Staffing	\$ 3,349
Equipment	824
Materials/supplies	451
Utilities	558
Other	822
Total	<u>\$ 6,004</u>

REVENUE SOURCES

Admissions	\$ 3,309
Marina	1,538
Camping	1,929
Other	621
Total	<u>\$ 7,397</u>

Westfield Heritage Village

EXPENSE

Staffing	\$ 558
Promotion	100
Materials/supplies	33
Utilities	60
Other	130
Total	<u>\$ 881</u>

REVENUE SOURCES

Municipal levy	\$ 636
Admissions	72
Events	78
Other	95
Total	<u>\$ 881</u>
