

matter in writing no later than noon, five (5) business days before the meeting, and will provide the CAO/Clerk with the required information in the standard form provided hereto at Schedule C.

9. Individuals or Bodies wishing to have a matter placed on a Council meeting agenda will complete Delegation Request Form and submit it to the CAO/Clerk for consideration.
10. The CAO or Mayor may decline to add items and/or Reports to an Agenda. Reasons to decline include, but are not limited to the following:
 - a. More time is required to prepare Staff Reports for Council.
 - b. The Delegation Request Form was not submitted in time for the next meeting.
 - c. The Delegation Request Form is incomplete.
 - d. The subject matter of the Delegation is outside of the jurisdiction of Council.
 - e. The subject matter is with respect to a matter that should be discussed in a Closed Meeting.
 - f. The Meeting Agenda is already too lengthy.
 - g. The subject matter is set to be discussed on another Agenda.
 - h. The issue is frivolous or vexatious.
 - i. Council has previously considered or decided the issue and a Delegation has appeared before Council with respect to the same issue;
 - j. Council previously indicated that it will not hear further from this Delegation; or
 - k. The issue should be referred to the CAO for action.

6.2 Closed Meeting Agenda

1. In the event the Clerk receives items for a Closed Meeting Agenda, they shall be placed on the Closed Meeting Agenda and provided to Council in a separate confidential Council Package.

6.3 Adjournment

1. A Motion to adjourn does not need a seconding Member.
2. A Motion to adjourn a Meeting will be considered at any time except the following:
 - a. When another Member has been recognized by the Chair and is speaking on a matter, or
 - b. During the taking of a vote.
3. If a Motion to adjourn is defeated, the moving Member may not bring another Motion to adjourn until the Agenda is completed.

6.4 Curfew

Meetings shall be automatically adjourned after 4 Hours, unless otherwise determined by Resolution passed by a majority of the Members present.

6.5 Amendment

Any provision contained in this By-Law may be repealed, amended or varied and additions may be made to this By-Law by a majority vote, provided that no Motion for that purpose may be considered unless notice thereof has been given in accordance with the Municipality's Notice By-Law.

6.6 Mandatory Review

This By-Law shall have a mandatory review in one year following the date of approval and thereafter, once per term of Council.

Schedules to the Procedural By-Law

A. Meeting Agendas-Composition

B. Staff Reports to Council

C. Council Member Request for Item Added to Agenda Form

Schedule A

Meeting Agendas

The Clerk shall prepare the Agendas with the Orders of the Day for all meetings consisting of the following:

Council Meeting Agendas – Composition

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Declarations of Pecuniary or Conflict of Interest
4. Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes
5. Delegations or Presentations to Council
6. Consent Agenda for Information Purposes
7. Business Arising from Previous Council Meetings
8. Administrative Matters
9. Agencies, Boards Committee Reports & Minutes
10. Closed Meeting (if applicable)
11. Return to Open Session of Council (if applicable)
12. Confirmatory By-Law
13. Adjournment

Note: Subject to amendments as necessary including Special and Emergency meetings.

Committee of the Whole Meeting Agendas – Composition

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Declarations of Pecuniary or Conflict of Interest
4. Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes
5. Business Arising from Previous Council Meetings
6. Reports/Discussion Items
9. Closed Meeting (if applicable)
10. Return to Open Session (if applicable)
11. Adjournment

Standing or Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting Agendas – Composition

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest
4. Approval of Previous Minutes
5. Delegations / Presentations (if applicable)
6. Business Arising from Previous Meetings
7. New Business
8. Closed Session (if applicable)
9. Return to Open Session (if applicable)
10. Motions for Recommendations to Council
11. Adjournment

Schedule B – Reports

Reports to Council (by Members of Staff)

Reports must be submitted on all matters in which Council is required to decide and as may be required to provide information to Council.

Reports submitted to Council in which the matter requires Council to make a decision shall contain the following headings:

Date of the Report

Author of the Report

Purpose – High level summary explaining the reason the report is being drafted.

Background – Provide details about the circumstances, historical reports, parties who were consulted, references etc. – reference documents may be attached

Legal Authority – Explain the legal authority that Council has to act on the matter (this may not be required in all reports)

Analysis -Provide a detailed analysis of the information as may be required and outline options considered; include a high-level summary explaining how the recommendation was arrived at.

Recommendation – Based on the professional advice of the author after considering all the facts. Include a high level summary explaining how the recommendation was arrived at.

Staff reports must be signed off by both the staff and CAO.

Information Reports shall include:

The author's name

Date the report was authored

The Topic

The Information

The Relevance of the Information for Council

Schedule C – Member Request for Item to be added to the Agenda (Standard Forms)

From time to time a Member may request an item be added to the Agenda.

The standard acceptable form is:

1. Name of Member
2. Date of Meeting the Member wishes the item to be added
3. Topic/Name to appear on the Agenda
4. Purpose of bringing the matter before Council
5. Proposed Resolution

Items shall be submitted in writing or email to the CAO-by the appointed time established for such submissions.



THE MUNICIPALITY OF CALVIN

REPORT TO COUNCIL

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Non-Eligible (Institutional, Commercial and Industrial) Recycling Post-Transition
Author: Ann Carr, Public Works Superintendent
Date: November 25, 2025
Report No.: PWS-2025-24

Purpose:

To provide Council with the options considering Institutional, Commercial and Industrial recycling known as IC&I or "Non-Eligible Sources", post transition of the Extended Producer Responsibility Regulations. The Province of Ontario has mandated that Municipalities are not permitted to collect Non-Eligible Source recyclable material with residential collection.

Background/Financials:

Ontario's new Blue Box Regulation (O. Reg 391/21) stipulates that producers must collect blue box materials from residences, facilities (i.e. multi-residential buildings, specific long term health care facilities, retirement homes). The regulation does not specify that producers must collect blue box materials from any other properties (e.g. businesses). As a result, producers have determined that they are not obligated to collect non-eligible properties after post transition (2026 and onwards.) These locations are referred to as non-eligible sources, or Institutional, Commercial and Industrial, (IC&I).

Examples of Non-eligible Sources (IC&I):

Small Business	Churches	Non-for-profit organizations	Campgrounds/Trailer Parks
Factories	Manufacturing Facilities	Municipal Buildings	Parks/Open Spaces
Stores	Libraries	Office Buildings	Non-Resident (Lauder)

Eligible Sources



Non-Eligible Sources



How does the Provincial changes to recycling effect our Municipality:

The Municipality is now unable to collect recycling from the above mentioned "Non-Eligible" sources in the same containers as residential collection.

Options for Managing Non-Eligible Source Material:

Option 1-Accept material only from Eligible Sources at the depot (residential use only).

It is the responsibility of the municipality to provide proof through documentation such as a municipal by-law, written confirmation from senior staff, or an excerpt from a Waste Planning Document along with site photos to demonstrate



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that the depot location only accepts material from Eligible Sources.

This option is fully supported financially by the Province of Ontario. The province pays for the bins, hauling of the material, processing fees as well as fuel surcharges. The province also compensates the municipality for 75% of one staff member's wage to work at the depot.

This option will require "Non-Eligible" sources to be responsible for their own recycling. They would need to hire a contractor to place a bin on their property and have it hauled to a facility to be recycled at their own cost. "Non-Eligible" sources will not be permitted to place recycling material in the current bin located at the landfill.

Advantages:

No cost to the municipality

Residential recycling streamlined provincially

Disadvantages:

No longer a place to dispose of "Non-Eligible" recyclables

Recyclable material entering the landfill

By-Law 2024-46 "Being a By-Law to Establish and Maintain a System of Disposal of Garbage and Other Refuse" would need to provide provisions to ensure adherence to the By-Law and the Provisions set out by the province of Ontario regarding recycling.

No place for Lauder Township to dispose of materials

Non-Eligible entities fiscally responsible for managing recyclable materials

Option 2-Accept material from Non-Eligible Sources and handle it separately from the material collection from Eligible Sources.

It is the responsibility of the municipality to collect material from Non-Eligible Sources in separate, clearly marked containers. Site attendants must direct all "Non-Eligible" Source visitors to the containers set up for this purpose. Materials from Non-Eligible Sources are the responsibility of the community to administer a recycling program as well as the financial cost for the program.

It is the responsibility of the eligible community to provide proof through documentation such as depot training documents, municipal by-laws, written confirmation from senior staff along with site photos to demonstrate that material from Eligible Sources is handled separately from material from Non-Eligible Sources. Further, this option assumes that the eligible community will arrange for the transportation and processing of the non-eligible materials directly. If the municipality provides the separated depot for Non-Eligible Sources, it will also have the financial burden to accommodate. It is difficult to fully understand the financial implications of this option as it is unknown how much more recycling is placed at the depot outside of the residential collection.

Estimated Cost per bin (will require 2 bins one for mixed containers and one for fiber):

Processing Fee \$140.00

Dump and Return Fee \$401.97

Fuel Surcharge \$110.54

Monthly bin rental \$100.00



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Assumptions:

Circular Materials Ontario used the assumption that 5% of recycling received was from “Non-Eligible” sources when reimbursing during the transition. Using 5% from the tonnage of material that was recycled in 2023, (last full year for being responsible for all recycling materials) the bins would need to be emptied every 9 months.

Currently the municipality has agreements in place with “Non-eligible” sources for the use of the landfill, Samuel Champlain Park, The Ecology Center, Kiosk Park and Columbia Forestry. These entities, through the agreements, are not permitted to recycle, and never have been permitted to recycle at the depot located at the landfill. Therefore, the remaining “Non-Eligible” sources would affect 5 small properties. Out of the 5 properties 3 properties have residential units attached to the “Non-Eligible” source which would permit the recycling material from the residential units to be collected. The other properties are owned by the Municipality.

The unorganized Township of Lauder will not be permitted to use the recycling depot.

This does not include an assumption for future “Non-Eligible” development.

Total Estimated Cost to run a separate collection facility: \$3751.05/year for 5 properties.

Advantages

Less risk recycling material entering the landfill

Disadvantages

Residents pay for commercial recycling for 5 properties benefit

Administrative burden to collect costs

Attendant required to determine who recycles where

By-Law 2024-46 “Being a By-Law to Establish and Maintain a System of Disposal of Garbage and Other Refuse” would need to provide provisions to ensure adherence to the By-Law and the Provisions set out by the province of Ontario regarding recycling.

When speaking with attendants if the entities recycled the answer was no, they did not use the recycling centre, however, recyclable material is being placed in the landfill instead. Currently this method is not preventing recyclable materials from entering the landfill. Stronger agreements are required to ensure recycling materials are not entering the landfill and once again, By-Law 2024-46 needs to be updated with provisions to enforce adherence to prevent the landfill being used for recyclable materials.

Other Considerations:

1. If the municipality does not offer an alternative to providing a recycling depot, then the municipality must strengthen the by-law for the landfill to not permit recyclable material to enter the landfill, including the ability for staff to monitor what is entering the landfill and the ability to refuse recyclables co-mingled with household/commercial waste.
2. Notice will need to be given to the “Non-Eligible” sources, before January 01st so that they may prepare to deal with recyclable material being picked up by a contractor and being hauled to another facility for processing.
3. Current agreements will require additional provisions for enforcement to meet the required Provincial mandates.



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Option 2

1. If the municipality sets up a separate recycling collection, will the municipality ask the residents of Calvin to pay for the operations of the facility through taxation, or will a charge be applied directly to the user? Either through invoicing or pay per use? This would need to be a consideration and potentially additional administrative burden including the ability for the collection of the fees.
2. The municipality agreements with most of the "Non-Eligible" within the community was never permitted to place recyclables into the recycling depot.
3. The municipality has very few properties that this would benefit from placing the additional bins at the landfill for the purpose of "Non-Eligible" use, however we need to also consider growth.
4. If Council decides on this option, would it be offered to all "non-eligible" sources, including those who hold agreements and are currently not able to recycle as well as the residents of Lauder Township?
5. How would the municipality collect from Lauder residents who use the "non-eligible" depot, and would Kiosk Park be included?

Due to the factors associated with this report the following recommendations are available for the decision of Council:

A: From Whom amongst the non-eligible sources do we accept recyclable material. CHOOSE ONE

Recommendation 1:

Do not accept recyclable materials from Any Non-Eligible Sources.

Recommendation 2:

Accept recyclables from all Non-Eligible Sources including Kiosk Provincial Park and Lauder Residents Provide at the cost of Calvin Taxpayers.

Recommendation 3:

Accept recyclables from Non-Eligible Sources that are situated in Calvin at the cost of Calvin Taxpayers.

Recommendation 4:

Accept recyclables from all Non-Eligible Sources including Kiosk Provincial Park and Lauder Residents charge a user fee, based on the current fee schedule by-law.

Recommendation 5:

Accept recyclables from all non-eligible sources situated in Calvin and charge a user fee, based on the current user fee by-law.

B. Ensuring Compliance -CHOOSE ONE

Recommendation 1.

Provide staff with the tools required to determine whether recyclable material is being placed in the landfill, by implementing clear bag policy as posted on the landfill gate.

Recommendation 2:

Do nothing to ensure that recyclables are not finding their way into the landfill.



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C. Penalty for Non-Compliance -CHOOSE ONE

Recommendation 1: Strengthen By-Law 2024-46 "Being a By-Law to establish and maintain a system of disposal of garbage and other refuse" to include refusal of all future garbage regardless of the type when after first warning recyclables continue to be placed in the landfill.

Recommendation 2: Do not penalize landfill users that place recyclables in the landfill.

Respectfully yours,



Ann Carr
Public Works Superintendent

I concur with this report,



Donna Maitland
CAO, Clerk Treasurer

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



Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin Council Resolution

Date: November 26, 2025

Support for United Counties of Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry Resolution 2025-159- Conservation Authorities

Resolution Number: 2025-354

Moved By: Councillor

Seconded By: Councillor

WHEREAS the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry has requested support from municipalities calling of the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin supports the United Counties of SDG's Resolution 2025-159;

AND FURTHERMORE that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ontario Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Nipissing MPP Vic Fedeli, AMO, ROMA and its originator.

Results:

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of
Resolution No. 2025-XXX passed by the
Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin
on the 25th day of November 2025.

Donna Maitland
CAO/Clerk/Treasurer



United Counties of
Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry

RESOLUTION

MOVED BY Councillor Densham

RESOLUTION NO 2025- 159

SECONDED BY

DATE November 17, 2025

WHEREAS the Conservation Authorities Act (1946) enables municipalities to establish local conservation authorities, and when municipalities choose to form such authorities, they assume responsibility for governance and funding through the appointment of a Board of Directors and the provision of an annual levy to cover expenses;

AND WHEREAS the municipalities within Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry (SDG) established South Nation Conservation (SNC) in 1947 and the Raisin Region Conservation Authority (RRCA) in 1963;

AND WHEREAS local municipalities currently provide between 25% and 50% of total conservation authority funding, while the Province of Ontario provides approximately 3%;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have governed their respective conservation authorities for decades, tailoring programs and services to local watershed needs, maintaining accountable service standards, and ensuring fair and predictable costs for ratepayers;

AND WHEREAS conservation authorities collectively own and manage thousands of acres of land, much of which was donated by local residents and entrusted to conservation authorities as a personal legacy for long-term protection, stewardship, and the public good, with the expectation that such lands would be cared for by locally governed conservation authorities;

AND WHEREAS Bill 68 (Schedule 3) proposes the creation of the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency, a Crown corporation that would assume governance responsibilities and consolidate Ontario's 36 conservation authorities into seven regional authorities, with municipal cost apportionment yet to be defined;

AND WHEREAS the Province already possesses the authority to establish overarching legislation, regulations, and standards through the Conservation Authorities Act and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry calls on the Government of Ontario to maintain local, independent, municipally governed, watershed-based conservation authorities to ensure strong local

representation in decisions related to municipal levies, community-focused service delivery, and the protection and management of conservation lands;

AND FURTHER THAT while the United Counties of SDG supports provincial goals for consistent permit approval processes, shared services, and digital modernization, imposing a new top-down agency structure without strong local accountability and governance risks creating unnecessary cost, red tape, and bureaucracy, thereby undermining efficiency and responsiveness to local community needs;

AND FURTHER THAT the United Counties of SDG supports efforts to balance expertise, capacity, and program delivery across the province, and requests that the Province work collaboratively with municipalities and local conservation authorities to determine the most effective level of strategic consolidation to achieve both provincial and local objectives.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks, to the local MP and MPPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, and all municipalities and Conservation Authorities in Ontario.

☒ CARRIED

☐ DEFEATED

☐ DEFERRED



WARDEN

Recorded Vote:

Councillor Bergeron	_____
Councillor Broad	_____
Councillor Densham	_____
Councillor Fraser	_____
Councillor Guindon	_____
Councillor Landry	_____
Councillor MacDonald	_____
Councillor McDonald	_____
Councillor McGillis	_____
Councillor St. Pierre	_____
Councillor Williams	_____
Warden Lang	_____



8.9

THE MUNICIPALITY OF CALVIN
REPORT TO COUNCIL
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

To: Mayor and Council
Subject: Public Works Superintendent's Report
Author: Ann Carr, Public Works Superintendent
Date: November 25th, 2025
Report No.: PWS-2025-25

Purpose:

To update Council of the operations of the Public Works, Landfill and Recreational Departments.

Public Works:

- Survey for Stewarts Road is on track and will be presented to Council once reviewed.
- Winter Season has begun, plowing and sanding operations.
- Repair to Hackenbrook Bridge has been completed.
- Had a successful meeting with the Public Works departments across the region with the Nipissing Roads Association and Almaguin Roads Association.
- Installed 3 culverts before the freeze up.
- Worked with Jp2g on the visual inspection of roads for the Roads Need Study. Which will be presented to Council at the meeting in December.
- Staff enjoyed vacation time in the bush hunting.

Landfill/Recycling:

- Will be organizing burning the brush pile in conjunction with the Fire Department when more snow is on the ground.
- Prepared report to Council for the purpose of "Non-Eligible" recycling materials.
- Await direction of Council to determine next steps.

Recreation:

- Preparing a float to for the Mattawa Christmas Parade held on December 06th. We welcome Council to be involved with our submission. This year's theme is Country Christmas; we are preparing a float about ice fishing. The beaver will reappear as an angler.
- Deep clean of the Municipal Hall. Preparing the hall and grounds for Holiday festivities.

Asset Management Planning:

- Mirmac continues to guide us on the Provincial requirements and a presentation will be made to the "Committee of the Whole".

Recommendation:

WHEREAS, the Public Works Superintendent has provided a report for Council,
AND THEREFORE, be it resolved that Council accepts the report.

Respectfully yours,


Ann Carr
Public Works Superintendent

I concur with this report,


Donna Maitland
CAO, Clerk Treasurer

9

**AGENCIES
BOARDS
COMMITTEES**

Proposed boundaries for the regional consolidation of Ontario's conservation authorities

ERO (Environmental Registry of Ontario) number	025-1257
Notice type	Policy
Act	Conservation Authorities Act, R.S.O. 1990
Posted by	Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Notice stage	Proposal
Proposal posted	November 7, 2025
Comment period	November 7, 2025 - December 22, 2025 (45 days) Open
Last updated	November 7, 2025

This consultation closes at 11:59 p.m.

on:

December 22, 2025

Proposal summary

Ontario is proposing changes to improve the conservation authority (CA) system to free up resources for front-line service delivery to help protect communities and better align the work of CAs (conservation authorities) with provincial priorities. This proposal seeks feedback on proposed boundaries and criteria for the regional consolidation of Ontario's 36 CAs (conservation authorities).

Proposal details

Background

Ontario's 36 conservation authorities play a vital role in watershed management and protecting communities from natural hazards like floods. Conservation authorities deliver programs and services that further the conservation, restoration, and management of natural resources. The *Conservation Authorities Act* also establishes areas where a permit must be obtained from a conservation authority before a person engages in a

development activity in certain circumstances or interference with a watercourse. Conservation authorities review permit applications and issue permits to builders, municipalities and property owners for development activities such as housing developments, installation of sewage systems in areas affected by risks of natural hazards such as floodplains, shorelines, river and stream valleys, and wetlands. Permitting administered by conservation authorities helps to ensure that development does not happen in unsafe areas and that it does not worsen the impacts of flooding or erosion in surrounding areas.

The current system of 36 separate conservation authorities is fragmented, with each conservation authority following different policies, standards, fees and levels of staffing and technical capabilities. This has led to unpredictable and inconsistent turnaround times for approvals across all conservation authorities, creating uncertainty and delays for builders, landowners and farmers seeking permits, and undermining conservation authorities' ability to protect communities from floods and natural hazards.

Improving Conservation Authorities

On October 31, 2025, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks announced the Government's intention to introduce legislation which, if passed, would amend the *Conservation Authorities Act* to create the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency – a provincial board-governed agency – to provide centralized leadership, efficient governance, strategic direction, and oversight of Ontario's conservation authorities.

Another key action announced by the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and the Chief Conservation Executive is the plan to consolidate the province's 36 conservation authorities into regional conservation authorities that continue to align with watershed boundaries.

These proposed improvements to the conservation authority system would reduce duplicative administrative costs, free-up resources for frontline conservation, and better align conservation authorities' services with provincial priorities on housing, the economy, infrastructure and climate resilience.

The regional conservation authorities would continue to focus on managing natural hazards and watershed health, drawing on decades of local knowledge and partnerships. With better tools and more resources for front-line staff, the

regional conservation authorities would operate with greater consistency and transparency, deliver faster services to municipalities and permit applicants, while ensuring decisions continue to be based on sound science.

Proposal for Regional Consolidation

We are seeking feedback on the proposed boundaries and the criteria applied to inform the proposed boundaries for the regional consolidation of Ontario's conservation authorities. This feedback will help inform the development of further proposed changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act* that may be introduced at a later date.

Ontario's 36 conservation authorities would be consolidated into the following 7 regional conservation authorities. Please see the attached supporting document for maps of the proposed boundaries and additional information on the consolidated regional conservation authorities, and visit the [interactive map \(https://www.ontario.ca/libraries/arcgis-map/static/arcGIS-map-en.html?tableId=5f1e653b8de14dcab5cc90ef69f45cd0\)](https://www.ontario.ca/libraries/arcgis-map/static/arcGIS-map-en.html?tableId=5f1e653b8de14dcab5cc90ef69f45cd0) featuring maps of the seven proposed regional conservation authority boundaries. You can type an address into the search bar to see which regional conservation authority to which it belongs.

- **Lake Erie Regional Conservation Authority** – covers southwestern Ontario watersheds draining into Lake Erie, including the Thames, Grand, and Sydenham systems, supporting agriculture, industry, and shoreline communities. Primarily based on the Northern Lake Erie Secondary Watershed
- **Huron-Superior Regional Conservation Authority** – includes watersheds along Lake Huron's northern shore and the Lake Superior basin, supporting conservation and flood management across vast northern watersheds. Primarily based on the Eastern Lake Huron and southern portion of Eastern Georgian Bay Secondary Watershed and in the north the central portion of Northwestern Lake Superior Secondary Watershed.
- **Western Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority** – extends along the western Lake Ontario shoreline from Niagara through Halton and Peel, encompassing urban and rural watersheds that support the Greater Toronto–Hamilton corridor. Primarily based on the western portion of the Northern Lake Ontario and Niagara River Secondary Watershed.

- **Central Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority** – covers the watersheds from north of Toronto, including parts of York Region, west through Peel Region, east through Durham, and into parts of the Kawarthas, balancing urban growth and agricultural lands while protecting key tributaries to Lake Ontario. Primarily based on the central portion of the Northern Lake Ontario and Niagara River Secondary Watershed.
- **Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority** – Includes watersheds draining to eastern Lake Ontario and the Bay of Quinte, including the Trent and Cataraqui systems, supporting a mix of agricultural, urban, and coastal communities. Primarily based on the eastern portion of the Northern Lake Ontario and Niagara River Secondary Watershed.
- **St. Lawrence Regional Conservation Authority** – Encompasses watersheds flowing into the St. Lawrence River, including the Raisin and South Nation areas, coordinating flood and water management across eastern Ontario. Primarily based on the Upper St. Lawrence, Lower Ottawa River, and southern portion of the Central Ottawa River Secondary Watersheds.
- **Northeastern Ontario Regional Conservation Authority** – Brings together the conservation authorities in the northeast, maintaining coordination across large watershed areas and shared northern infrastructure and ecosystems. Its work focuses on maintaining healthy waterways, protecting natural habitats, and promoting sustainable land and water use across major watershed areas that span parts of Northern Lake Huron, the Abitibi, Missinaibi, Mattagami, Wanipitai, French, and Upper Ottawa River systems.

No changes would be proposed to the overall extent of conservation authority jurisdiction within the province, and under consolidation the new regional conservation authorities would remain independent organizations operating with municipal governance and oversight, in accordance with requirements under the *Conservation Authorities Act*, as administered by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

In addition, the important work that conservation authorities do to protect people and property from the risks of flooding and other natural hazards will not change. The regional conservation authorities would continue to fulfill provincially mandated programs such as drinking water source protection

under the *Clean Water Act*, regulating, development and other activities in areas at risk of natural hazards like flooding and erosion (e.g. (example) floodplains, shorelines, watercourse and wetlands), flood forecasting and warning, and managing their lands and recreational trails so that Ontarians have access to local natural areas and outdoor activities.

Regional conservation authorities would continue to provide municipal and other watershed programs and services set out under the *Conservation Authorities Act*, such as tree planting, data collection, restoration and other integrated watershed management activities that enhance the resilience of local watersheds and educate and engage local communities.

The criteria applied for determining the proposed boundaries for regional conservation authorities are:

- maintaining watershed-based jurisdictions – aligning with natural hydrological boundaries to support effective flood and water management, consistent with drinking water Source Protection Areas and Regions
- relationships between conservation authorities and municipalities – reducing administrative duplication and overlap for municipalities and conservation authorities to simplify accountability and strengthen local partnerships
- balancing expertise and capacity across conservation authorities – enhancing technical skills and resources across conservation authorities to improve service and program delivery
- service continuity – ensuring uninterrupted delivery of local conservation authority programs – including flood forecasting and warning, permitting, and source water protection – through and after consolidation

Providing feedback and discussion questions

We welcome your feedback in response to the proposed boundaries and criteria applied to inform the boundaries for the regional consolidation of Ontario's conservation authorities. Comments may be submitted through this posting or by email to ca.office@ontario.ca.

We welcome your feedback to the following discussion questions which are especially relevant to the planning for the future state:

- What do you see as key factors to support a successful transition and outcome of regional conservation authority consolidation?
- What opportunities or benefits may come from a regional conservation authority framework?
- Do you have suggestions for how governance could be structured at the regional conservation authority level, including suggestions around board size, make-up and the municipal representative appointment process?
- Do you have suggestions on how to maintain a transparent and consultative budgeting process across member municipalities within a regional conservation authority?
- How can regional conservation authorities maintain and strengthen relationships with local communities and stakeholders?

Ontario's 36 conservation authorities would be consolidated into the following 7 regional conservation authorities. Please see the attached supporting document for maps of the proposed boundaries and additional information on the consolidated regional conservation authorities, and visit the [interactive map \(https://www.ontario.ca/libraries/arcgis-map/static/arcGIS-map-en.html?tableId=5f1e653b8de14dcab5cc90ef69f45cd0\)](https://www.ontario.ca/libraries/arcgis-map/static/arcGIS-map-en.html?tableId=5f1e653b8de14dcab5cc90ef69f45cd0) featuring maps of the seven proposed regional conservation authority boundaries. You can type an address into the search bar to see which regional conservation authority to which it belongs.

All feedback provided on this policy proposal notice will help to inform the government's decision-making for the boundaries of the regional conservation authorities, and any legislative and regulatory changes under the *Conservation Authorities Act* that may be developed for introduction at a later date to enable consolidation. The public, municipalities, other stakeholders, and Indigenous communities will be consulted further on the details of any future legislative or regulatory changes.

The implementation of the regional consolidation of conservation authorities would be overseen by the provincial board-governed agency that would be created by the first phase of proposed changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act*, if such changes are introduced and passed. This oversight role would include coordinating the transition process with conservation authority, municipal and stakeholder involvement to ensure minimal disruptions for conservation authority staff, stakeholders, member municipalities, and

partners including Indigenous communities. The Ministry will provide further details on timelines, engagement opportunities, and transition supports at a future date.

Supporting materials

Related files

[Supplemental Document_EN.pdf](https://ero.ontario.ca/public/2025-11/Supplemental%20Document_EN.pdf)
(https://ero.ontario.ca/public/2025-11/Supplemental%20Document_EN.pdf)
pdf.(Portable.Document.Format.file) 1.67 MB

Related links

[Conservation Authorities Act](https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90c27)
(<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90c27>)

View materials in person

Some supporting materials may not be available online. If this is the case, you can request to view the materials in person.

Get in touch with the office listed below to find out if materials are available.

MECP Conservation and Source Protection Branch
300 Water Street North tower, 5th floor
Peterborough, ON
K9J 3C7
Canada

Comment

Let us know what you think of our proposal.

Have questions? Get in touch with the contact person below. Please include the ERO (Environmental Registry of Ontario) number for this notice in your email or letter to the contact.

[Read our commenting and privacy policies. \(/page/commenting-privacy\)](/page/commenting-privacy)

Submit by mail

Public Input Coordinator
MECP Conservation and Source
Protection Branch
300 Water Street North tower, 5th
floor
Peterborough, ON
K9J 3C7
Canada

Connect with
JS

Contact

Public Input Coordinator

 ca.office@ontario.ca

**Proposed boundaries for the regional consolidation of
Ontario's conservation authorities – supplemental
document**

Posting closes December 22, 2025, at 11:59pm
Please submit comments via the ERO posting or by email to
ca.office@ontario.ca

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Summary of Proposal

This proposal seeks feedback on proposed boundaries and criteria for the regional consolidation of Ontario's 36 conservation authorities.

It is proposed that Ontario's 36 conservation authorities would be consolidated into the following 7 regional conservation authorities:

- Lake Erie Regional Conservation Authority – covers southwestern Ontario watersheds draining into Lake Erie, including the Thames, Grand, and Sydenham systems, supporting agriculture, industry, and shoreline communities. Primarily based on the Northern Lake Erie Secondary Watershed
- Huron-Superior Regional Conservation Authority – includes watersheds along Lake Huron's northern shore and the Lake Superior basin, supporting conservation and flood management across vast northern watersheds. Primarily based on the Eastern Lake Huron and southern portion of Eastern Georgian Bay Secondary Watershed and in the north the central portion of Northwestern Lake Superior Secondary Watershed.
- Western Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority – extends along the western Lake Ontario shoreline from Niagara through Halton and Peel, encompassing urban and rural watersheds that support the Greater Toronto–Hamilton corridor. Primarily based on the western portion of the Northern Lake Ontario and Niagara River Secondary Watershed.
- Central Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority – covers the watersheds from north of Toronto, including parts of York Region, west through Peel Region, east through Durham, and into parts of the Kawarthas, balancing urban growth and agricultural lands while protecting key tributaries to Lake Ontario. Primarily based on the central portion of the Northern Lake Ontario and Niagara River Secondary Watershed.
- Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Conservation Authority – Includes watersheds draining to eastern Lake Ontario and the Bay of Quinte, including the Trent and Cataraqui systems, supporting a mix of agricultural, urban, and coastal communities. Primarily based on the eastern portion of the Northern Lake Ontario and Niagara River Secondary Watershed.
- St. Lawrence Regional Conservation Authority – Encompasses watersheds flowing into the St. Lawrence River, including the Raisin and South Nation areas, coordinating flood and water management across eastern Ontario. Primarily based on the Upper St. Lawrence, Lower Ottawa River, and southern portion of the Central Ottawa River Second Watersheds.
- Northeastern Ontario Regional Conservation Authority – brings together the conservation authorities in the northeast, maintaining coordination across large

watershed areas and shared northern infrastructure and ecosystems. Its work focuses on maintaining healthy waterways, protecting natural habitats, and promoting sustainable land and water use across major watershed areas that span parts of Northern Lake Huron, the Abitibi, Missinaibi, Mattagami, Wanipitai, French, and Upper Ottawa River systems.

No changes are proposed to the overall extent of conservation authority jurisdiction within the province, and under consolidation the new regional conservation authorities would remain independent organizations operating with municipal governance and oversight, in accordance with requirements under the *Conservation Authorities Act*, as administered by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

In addition, the important work that conservation authorities do to protect people and property from the risks of flooding and other natural hazards will not change. The regional conservation authorities would continue to fulfill provincially mandated programs such as drinking water source protection under the *Clean Water Act*, managing development and other activities in areas at risk of natural hazards like flooding and erosion (e.g., floodplains, shorelines, watercourse and wetlands), flood forecasting and warning, and managing their lands and recreational trails so that Ontarians have access to local natural areas and outdoor activities. Regional conservation authorities would continue to provide additional municipal and other watershed programs and services set out under the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

We welcome your feedback in response to the proposed boundaries and criteria applied to inform the proposed boundaries for the regional consolidation of Ontario's conservation authorities. Comments may be submitted through the Environmental Registry posting or by email to ca.office@ontario.ca.

Boundary Criteria

Provided below are criteria applied for determining the proposed boundaries for regional conservation authorities:

- **Maintaining watershed-based jurisdictions** – Aligning with natural hydrological boundaries to support effective flood and water management, consistent with drinking water Source Protection Areas and Regions.
- **Relationships between conservation authorities and municipalities** – Reducing administrative duplication and overlap for municipalities and conservation authorities to simplify accountability and strengthen local partnerships.
- **Balancing expertise and capacity across conservation authorities** – Enhancing technical skills and resources across conservation authorities to improve service and program delivery.
- **Service Continuity** – Ensuring uninterrupted delivery of local conservation authority programs – including flood forecasting and warning, permitting, and source water protection – through and after consolidation.

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