# The Corporation of the Township of McKellar

# Procedural By-Law 2023-09





#### The Corporation of the Township of McKellar

#### By-Law No 2023-09

#### Being a By-law to establish rules governing the proceedings of Council, the calling of Meetings and the conduct of Members, Staff and the Public

SHORT TITLE – This By-law may be cited as the "Procedural By-law" or the "Rules of Procedure".

**WHEREAS** the *Municipal Act*, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, section 238, requires that every municipality shall pass a procedure by-law for governing the calling, place and proceedings of meetings; and

**WHEREAS** Council deems it expedient to establish rules and procedures to facilitate the efficient and effective transaction of the business and to protect the rights and privileges of its members;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council for the Corporation of the Township of McKellar hereby enacts as follows:

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#### 1. **DEFINITIONS**

#### **1.1** Ad-Hoc Committee

"Ad-Hoc Committee" means a Committee to advise Council on a specific issue or project. An Ad-Hoc Committee shall be governed by clear terms of reference, set out in a Resolution or By-law, that includes language indicating that the Committee exists at the discretion of Council and that it may be dissolved once Council determines that its mandate has been fulfilled.

#### 1.2 Agenda

"Agenda" means the list of business to be conducted at a Meeting.

#### 1.3 Chair

"Chair" means the person presiding at a Meeting.

#### 1.4 Clerk

"Clerk" means the person appointed by the Municipality pursuant to Section 228 of the *Municipal Act*, and shall also mean the Clerk Administrator of the Municipality.

#### 1.5 Committee

"Committee" means any advisory or other committee, sub-committee, ad-hoc committee, or similar entity composed of members of Council alone or together with members of another Council or the public, but does not include the Committee of the Whole nor a Committee of Council.

#### **1.6** Committee of Council

"Committee of Council" means a committee, board or other body established by Council with terms of reference and appointments approved by Council such as the Township of McKellar Historical Committee and the Township of McKellar Recreation Committee.

#### **1.7** Committee of the Whole

"Committee of the Whole" means a committee whose members are all the members of Council and exists as a forum designed to informally discuss chosen items outlined on an Agenda prepared for that purpose with Recommendation(s) to Council authority.

#### 1.8 Consent Agenda

"Consent Agenda" means a list of items of a routine nature that do not require substantial discussion or debate at a Council meeting. Items of the Consent Agenda may be considered in a single Resolution.

#### 1.9 Council

"Council means the elected Members of the Municipal Council of the Township of McKellar.

#### 1.10 Council Package

"Council Package" means a copy of the Agenda, Reports and all other information that Members require and/or request prior to a meeting.

#### 1.11 Closed Meeting

"Closed Meeting" means a Meeting of Council or Committee that is not open to the public pursuant to Section 239 of the *Municipal Act* or other legislation.

#### 1.12 Declared Emergency

"Declared Emergency" means during any period where an emergency has been declared to exist in all or in part of the Municipality under Section 4 or 7.0.1 of the *Emergency* 



*Management and Civil Protection Act.* <u>Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act,</u> <u>R.S.O. 1990, c. E.9 (ontario.ca)</u>

#### 1.13 Delegation/Deputation

"Delegation" or "Deputation" means an address to the Committee of the Whole or to Council by one or more persons who are not members of Council or Township Staff and who are speaking to action items on the Council Agenda and shall be limited to ten (10) minutes.

#### 1.14 Deputy Mayor

"Deputy Mayor" means a Member of Council appointed, in accordance with the Municipality's policies, to act in place of the Mayor when the Mayor is absent, is unable to act or refuses to act.

#### 1.15 Electronic Means

"Electronic Means" means telephone, video or audio conferencing or other interactive method whereby Members, Staff and the Public are able to hear the Member(s) participating by electronic means and the Member(s) participating by electronic means are able to hear other Members, Staff and the Public.

#### 1.16 Electronic Meeting

"Electronic Meeting" means a Meeting where any Member is not physically present but participates via electronic means of communication. The Member participating electronically can vote in open session.

#### 1.17 Emergency Meeting

"Emergency Meeting" means a Meeting, held without written Notice where there is insufficient time to provide Notice of a Special Meeting, to deal with an Urgent Matter confronting the Municipality.

#### 1.18 Head of Council

"Head of Council" means the Mayor or, in the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor of the Municipality.

#### 1.19 In Camera

"In Camera" means a closed session of Council or a Committee of Council not open to the public.

#### 1.20 Local Board

"Local Board" means a Local Board as defined in the *Municipal Act*, and shall include the Public Utilities Commission, Police Services Board, Health Services Board and Public Library Board.

#### 1.21 Meeting

"Meeting" means any regular, special or other Meeting of Council, a Local Board or a Committee where a Quorum of Members is present, and Members discuss or otherwise deal with any matter in a way that materially advances the business or decision-making of the Council, Local Board or Committee as stated in Section 238 of the *Municipal Act*. A meeting of a Committee of Council is also defined as such.

#### 1.22 Member

"Member" means a Member of Council, Local Board or Committee or Committee of Council.

#### 1.23 Motion

"Motion" means a written question verbally moved and seconded by two members, presented at a Meeting, read by the Chair or Clerk/Secretary subject to debate and



voting by Council or a Committee or a Committee of Council. When a Motion is voted upon, it becomes a Resolution.

#### 1.24 Motion to Amend

"Motion to Amend" means a Motion to vary the main Motion before Council or a Committee or a Committee of Council.

#### 1.25 Municipal Act

"Municipal Act" means the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. c.25, as amended. Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25 (ontario.ca)

#### 1.26 Municipality

"Municipality" means the Municipal Corporation of the Township of McKellar.

#### **1.27** Notice of Motion

"Notice of Motion" means an advance Notice to Members regarding a matter on which Council will be asked to take a position.

#### 1.28 Officers

"Officers" means a person, such as the Clerk, Treasurer, Chief Building Official, Fire Chief, and Integrity Commissioner, who holds a position of responsibility with definite rights and duties prescribed by statute or By-law.

#### **1.29** Order of Business

"Order of Business" means the sequence of business to be introduced and considered at a Meeting.

#### **1.30 Point of Procedure**

"Point of Procedure" means a verbal statement made by a Member to the Chair when the Member believes there has been a contravention of the rules laid out in the Procedural By-law.

#### **1.31 Point of Privilege**

"Point of Privilege" means a concern about the honour, dignity, character, rights or professionalism of the Mayor, other Members of Council or members of Staff.

#### 1.32 Presentation

"Presentation" means a person or group (including a Member, Staff, or Public) who provided information to Council or Committee.

#### **1.33** Presiding Officer

"Presiding Officer" means the Head of Council unless otherwise appointed in accordance with the provisions of this By-law or the Chair at a Committee meeting.

#### 1.34 Quorum

"Quorum" means a majority of the total number of Members of Council or Committee or Committee of Council.

#### 1.34 Recess

"Recess" means an intermission or break within a meeting that does not end the Meeting, and after which proceedings are immediately resumed at the point where they were interrupted.

#### 1.35 Recorded Vote

"Recorded Vote" means a vote in Council or Committee or Committee of Council where the names of the Members and the position of each in favour or against a Motion are recorded in the Minutes.



#### 1.36 Regular Meeting

"Regular Meeting" means a scheduled Meeting held at regular intervals in accordance with an approved schedule of Meetings.

#### 1.37 Report – Staff/Committee/Council

"Report" means a written or other Report from the Clerk-Administrator, Department Heads, Staff, Member of Council or Committee which is approved to be placed on the Agenda by the Clerk-Administrator. The Report must deal with subject matter that is relevant for Council discussion and will exclude comments on general and recurring events throughout the Township.

#### 1.38 Resolution

"Resolution" means a Motion that has been resolved by Council or Committee or Committee of Council.

#### **1.39** Special Meeting

"Special Meeting" means a Meeting that is called for a specific time and for a specific purpose to deal with an important matter that has arisen between Regular Meetings.

#### **1.40** Substantive Motion

"Substantive Motion" means a self-contained proposal not incidental to any proceeding and may be referred to as the "main motion" or the "principal motion." It is amendable and it is drafted in such a way so as to be capable of expressing a decision of Council. It excludes the following motions:

- (i) to extend time of the meeting
- (ii) to move the previous question
- (iii) to refer
- (iv) to amend
- (v) to lay on the table
- (vi) to postpone indefinitely or to a specific day
- (vii) to adjourn
- **1.41 Unfinished Business** "Unfinished Business" means matters listed in the Agenda which have not been dealt with in their entirety at a previous Meeting.
- **1.42** Urgent "Urgent" means, for the purpose of calling an Emergency Meeting, a matter that is occurring or imminent, and if not brought forward immediately, could result in or cause:
  - (i) immediate danger to life, health or safety of individuals;
  - (ii) immediate damage to property;
  - (iii) immediate interruption of the essential services provided by the Municipality;
  - (iv) immediate and significant loss of revenue by the Municipality;
  - (v) immediate legal issue and/or
  - (vi) immediate prejudice to the Municipality.

#### 2 GENERAL MEETING RULES

#### 2.1 Rules – to be observed at all times

The rules contained in this By-law shall be observed in all Meetings of Council and with relevant adjustments in every Committee Meeting and Committee of Council Meeting. Any Municipal rules or regulations in existence to the contrary are hereby repealed.



#### 2.2 Suspending Procedural By-law

This By-law may be suspended, except for those rules or regulations set out by legislation, with the consent of at least a quorum of the Members of Council or Committee and may be suspended before, during or after a Meeting.

#### 2.3 Mayor

The Mayor shall act as the Chair for all Council Meetings. The Mayor may delegate his authority to Chair any Meeting.

#### 2.4 Absence of Mayor

In the absence of the Mayor or if the Mayor is unable to act or if the Mayor refuses to act or if the office is vacant, the Deputy Mayor shall carry out the Mayor's duties and shall have all the rights, powers and authority of the Head of the Council.

#### 2.5 Absence of Deputy Mayor

If both the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor are unable to act or refuse to act as Chair for a Meeting, Council shall appoint an Acting Mayor from amongst its membership who shall have all the rights, powers and authority of the Chair for the purposes of that Meeting. The Clerk shall call the Meeting to Order.

#### 2.6 Meeting Location

Unless otherwise authorized by a majority vote of Council, all Meetings of Council shall be held in the Municipal Complex located at 701 Highway 124, McKellar, Ontario.

#### 2.7 Clerk

A Clerk or Deputy Clerk must be present at all Council Meetings or other Meetings where there is a quorum of Council and business is conducted.

#### 2.8 Quorum

Quorum must be present at all Meetings.

If Quorum is not present fifteen (15) minutes after the time appointed for the Meeting, the Meeting will be automatically adjourned until the next Regular Meeting or a Special Meeting is called to deal with matters intended to be dealt with at the adjourned Meeting.

The Clerk shall record the names of the Members present at the fifteen (15) minutes time limit, will include those names in the Minutes for the adjourned Meeting and will include those Minutes in the Agenda for the next Meeting.

If at any time during a Meeting there is not Quorum, the Meeting shall automatically be recessed until there is Quorum.

Quorum is required for every Meeting and shall be a majority of the whole Members, except when a majority of Members have disclosed a conflict of interest to a matter in accordance with the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* <u>Municipal Conflict of Interest Act</u>, <u>R.S.O. 1990, c. M.50 (ontario.ca)</u> wherein the remaining number of Members present shall be deemed to constitute a Quorum, provided that such number is not fewer than two (2).

# 2.9 Electronic Meetings – (applies only if Electronic Meetings are permitted by a majority Resolution of Council and if equipment is functioning properly)

A. Members may participate in Meetings by Electronic Means subject to the following:

(a) To participate in a Meeting by Electronic Means, the Member shall notify the Clerk at least twenty-four (24) hours before the Meeting;



- (b) Council may set by Resolution for a specific period of time and providing rationale, terms of Electronic Participation in Meetings of Council, Local Boards or Committees of either of them, or Committee of Council permitting:
  - (i) electronic participation counting towards Quorum;
  - (ii) electronic participant voting; and
  - (iii) electronic participant in a meeting closed to the public.
- (c) Council may hold a Special Meeting for the purpose of passing a Resolution as described in Section 2.9(b); any Member participating electronically in such a Special Meeting may be counted in determining whether or not a Quorum of Members is present at any time during the meeting, and is permitted to vote.
- **B.** The following practices will be followed when a Member(s) participates in a Meeting by Electronic Means:
- (a) Each Member participating in a meeting by Electronic Means shall be available at least fifteen (15) minutes before the beginning of the Meeting to assist Staff in establishing the electronic connection.
- (b) Each Member participating by Electronic Means will mute the electronic device when not speaking;
- (c) The Chair will canvas Members participating by Electronic Means about their intention to speak to a matter on the floor and will notify each Member when it is time for the Member to speak;
- (d) After putting a Motion to vote, each Member participating by Electronic Means will be required to identify how the Member wishes to vote;
- (e) Each Member participating by Electronic Means shall inform the Chair about the Member's intentions to leave the Meeting whether on a temporary or permanent basis;
- (f) Members participating by Electronic Means will be deemed to have left the Meeting when they are no longer electronically connected to the Meeting;
- (g) Where a loss of connection, or any connection issues impede the ability of a Member to participate in the Meeting in real time, the Meeting will continue, as long as Quorum is maintained;
- (h) Where connection is lost and Quorum cannot be maintained, the Chair may recess the Meeting for up to fifteen (15) minutes to regain Quorum. If Quorum is not achieved after fifteen (15) minutes, the Meeting is adjourned.
- (i) Where connection is lost and no public participation is possible, including inperson attendance, the Meeting shall be recessed until connection is restored. If no connection is restored within fifteen (15) minutes, the Meeting shall be adjourned immediately with any Agenda items not yet discussed added to the Agenda for the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting.

#### 2.10 Minutes

Minutes of all Meetings will be recorded without note or comment and shall include only those Resolutions which are moved and seconded.

Minutes of all Meetings of Council or Local Board or Committee of either of them or Committee of Council shall record:

- (i) the place, date and time of the meeting;
- (ii) the name of the Presiding Officer, Members present, and Staff present;
- (iii) the adoption, correction and amending of Minutes of the previous Meeting(s);
- (iv) the names of visitors appearing before Council;
- (v) the time the Members arrive late and leave early;
- (vi) the Resolutions and By-laws passed, defeated, or deferred by Council;
- (vii) any Recorded Votes;
- (viii) any declared Conflict of Interest



The Clerk shall ensure that the Minutes of any preceding Meetings are available no later than five (5) business days after each Meeting. Minutes shall be posted on the Municipal website <u>Welcome to the Township of McKellar - Township Of McKellar</u> and will also be available in hard copy at the Municipal Office.

A copy of the Minutes will be sent to all residents who request such and who provide an e-mail address once the Minutes have been posted to the website.

Minutes of previous Meetings that have been circulated to Members at least twenty-four (24) hours before the Regular Meeting shall be considered for adoption without reading; in all other cases, the Members shall read the Minutes at the Meeting, prior to commencement of the Meeting.

#### 2.11 Audio Recording

The Council may make or provide for the audio recording of Council Meetings, except those meetings or part of Meetings identified as a Closed Meeting pursuant to the *Municipal Act* <u>Municipal Act</u>, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25 (ontario.ca) whether such sessions are in Council Chambers or another location, at whatever level and type of recording is available and as Council determines to be appropriate.

Where Council has made or provided for the audio recording of proceedings of Council, the Clerk or designate shall make such audio recording available to the public as an audio link on the Municipal website.

The Clerk or designate shall post the audio recordings on the Municipal website within five (5) business days after the Council Meeting, and after the Minutes have been posted.

The official record of the proceedings of Council are the text-based Minutes as approved by Council. Audio recordings of Council proceedings are recorded as a convenience and courtesy only and do not constitute an official record.

Signage shall be posted in the Council Chambers advising Council Members, Staff, deputations, presenters and the Public that the Council Meeting proceedings are being recorded and will be made available on the Municipal website. The Township assumes no liability for the recorded comments of the Public which may be construed as false, defamatory or slanderous in nature.

The audio recordings of Council proceedings by anyone other than the Municipality are prohibited, with the exception of Metroland Media (Parry Sound North Star). Audio or video interviews of a Member can be conducted after the Meeting has been adjourned, if so permitted.

#### 2.12 Arriving Late/Leaving Early

If a Member arrives after a Meeting has started or leaves before the end of the Meeting, the Clerk will record in the Minutes the time of arrival/departure. If a Member needs to leave before the end of a Meeting, that Member must inform the Chair and be excused. The best practice is to advise the Chair at the beginning of the Meeting that the Member needs to leave before the end of the Meeting.

#### 2.13 Staff Attendance

Staff have a statutory duty to provide advice to Council. As such, particularly Officers and Department Heads, they are expected to attend Council Meetings and to provide advice on a regular basis. Staff and Officers shall attend Meetings of Council when required by the Clerk/Administrator and/or a majority resolution of Council.



#### **2.14 Declarations of Conflicts of Interest**

When a Member has a pecuniary and/or personal interest and disclosed that interest in accordance with Section 5 of the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, <u>Municipal Conflict of Interest Act</u>, <u>R.S.O. 1990</u>, c. <u>M.50 (ontario.ca)</u> the Member will:

- (a) leave the Council Meeting while the issue is considered; and
- (b) take no steps to influence the decision in any way, either prior to, during or after the Meeting, even if the Member did not attend the Meeting where the matter was discussed.
- (c) declare the conflict at the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting if the Member was absent for the Meeting at which the issue was discussed.

Members will, at all times, comply with their statutory obligations pursuant to the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*. <u>Municipal Conflict of Interest Act</u>, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.50 (ontario.ca)

#### 2.15 Motions

#### 2.15.1 Motions and Debate

- (a) A Motion shall not be considered or recognized as a Resolution to be recorded in the Minutes unless it is seconded.
- (b) Any Member may require the Motion under debate to be read at any time during the debate, but not so as to interrupt a Member while speaking.
- (c) When a Motion is under debate, no other Motion may be made, except a Motion to:
  - (i) amend a Motion;
  - (ii) refer Motion to a Council Committee or administration for a Report back to Council;
  - (iii) postpone a Motion to a fixed date;
  - (iv) request that a Motion be put to a Vote;
  - (v) extend the time for a Council Meeting; or
  - (vi) adjourn the Meeting.
- (d) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this By-law, the Member who moved a Motion after a Motion is under debate, may, with the majority consent of Council:
  - (i) on the Member's own initiative while the Member is speaking on the same; or
  - (ii) when requested by another Member speaking on the Motion; change the wording of the Motion, or agree to a change proposed by another Member, if the alteration does not change the intention of the Motion.
- (e) Any Motions allowed under subsection 2.2.1 shall be considered in the order in which they were moved.

All proposed Amendments to Resolutions shall be in writing and shall be dealt with in the order presented to Council/Committee/Committee of Council and shall not propose a question in direct opposition to the Resolution before Council/Committee/Committee of Council.

No Amendments shall be made to the following Motions:

- (i) a Motion to adjourn; and
- (ii) a Motion to defer to a fixed date, except as to the date; and
- (iii) a Motion requesting that a Motion be put to a Vote.

#### 2.15.2 Dividing Arising

- (a) When a particular matter is before Council, a Motion arising on the same matter is permitted provided:
  - (i) the proposed Motion is related to and rises from the item which has just been considered.



- (ii) the proposed Motion does not alter in a significant way the principle embodied in the original Motion; and
- (iii) the proposed Motion is made before the consideration of any other item of business at the Meeting.

#### 2.15.3 Request that Motion be put to Vote

- (a) If a Motion requesting that a Motion be put to a Vote is passed by Council, the original Motion shall immediately be put to a Vote of Council without any amendment or debate.
- (b) If a Motion requesting that a Motion be put to a Vote is not passed by Council, the original question may be amended or debated.

#### 2.15.4 Motion to Adjourn

- (a) A Member may move a Motion to Adjourn a Meeting at any time, except when:
  (i) another Member is in possession of the floor;
  - (ii) a call for a Recorded Vote has been made;
  - (iii) the Members are voting;
  - (iv) Council is considering a Motion requesting that a Motion be put to a Vote; or
  - (v) A previous Motion to Adjourn has been defeated and no other intermediate proceeding has taken place.
- (b) A Motion to Adjourn shall be decided without debate.

#### 2.15.5 Consent Agenda

- (a) The Consent Agenda portion of a Meeting is moved, seconded and voted upon without debate as one item regardless of the number of reports included.
- (b) If a Member wishes to debate an item included in the Consent Agenda, a request to remove the item from the Consent Agenda must be made before the Chair calls the question, and the item shall be removed from the Consent Agenda without further debate or vote.
- (c) Any items so removed shall be addressed immediately following the approval of the Consent Agenda.

#### 2.15.6 Motion to Move to a Closed Meeting

- (a) The Motion to move to a Closed Meeting must:
  - (i) be in accordance with Section 239 of the *Municipal Act*, 2001;
  - (ii) include titles or subject of the item(s) to be discussed; and
  - (iii) include the reason for the Council Meeting to be held in a Closed Meeting.
- (b) No By-law or Resolution shall be passed during a Closed Meeting.

#### 2.15.7 Withdrawal of Motions

(a) The Mover and Seconder of a Motion may withdraw the Motion at any time prior to a Vote being taken or prior to the Motion being Amended.

#### 2.15.8 Motion to Reconsider

- (a) A Motion to Reconsider shall apply to Resolutions only, and shall not apply to By-laws passed by Council.
- (b) A Motion to Reconsider is in order whether the original Motion was passed or defeated.
- (c) A Motion to Reconsider must be moved by a Member who voted with the prevailing side of the original Motion.
- (d) When a Motion is defeated on a tied vote, the prevailing side is those who voted against the Motion.
- (e) A Motion to Reconsider may be seconded by any Member regardless of how the Member voted on the original Motion.



- (f) A Motion to Reconsider is debateable only if the Motion being considered is debateable.
- (g) A Motion to Reconsider cannot be amended.
- (h) A Motion to Reconsider shall require a majority vote of the Members.
- (i) If a Motion to Reconsider is adopted, the original Motion is immediately placed before Council to be reconsidered.
- (j) Once a Vote on a Motion to be Reconsidered has been taken, there shall be no further Motion to Reconsider the Resolution.

#### 2.15.9 Motion to Rescind

- (a) A Motion to Rescind shall apply to Resolutions only, and shall not apply to Bylaws passed by Council.
- (b) A Motion to Rescind is in order only when the original Motion passed. No Motion to rescind is necessary when the original Motion was defeated.
- (c) A Motion to Rescind may be made at any time following the Council Meeting at which the original Motion was voted on regardless of the time that has elapsed since the original Vote was taken.
- (d) A Motion to Rescind may be moved and seconded by any Council Member regardless of how they voted on the original Motion.
- (e) A Motion to Rescind is debateable.
- (f) A Motion to Rescind shall, in all cases, require a majority vote of all Council Members to pass.
- (g) A Motion cannot be rescinded:
  - (i) when the making or calling up of a Motion to Reconsider is in order;
  - (ii) when action on the Motion has been carried out in a way that cannot be undone; or
  - (iii) when a resignation has been accepted or actions electing or expelling a person from membership or office have been taken.

#### 2.15.10 Motion to Defer (Postpone)

- (a) Where a majority of all Members decide to defer a Motion to a fixed date, the Motion cannot be considered by Council until the fixed date.
- (b) Notwithstanding subsection 2.15.10(a), Council may consider a Deferred Motion before the fixed date if a majority of all Members agree that the Motion may be considered before that date.
- (c) The only Amendment allowed to a Motion to Defer to a fixed date is to change the date.

#### 2.15.11 Motion to Refer

- (a) A Motion to refer a matter shall not be amended or debated except with respect to the conditions of the referral or the time required to carry out the review.
- (b) A Member making a referral Motion generally should include in the Motion:(i) the terms on which the Motion is being referred; and
  - (ii) the time when the matter is to be returned.

#### 2.16 Conduct

Members are required to follow the Municipality's Code of Conduct during all Meetings. <u>By-law-2019-06-Code-of-Conduct-Policy.pdf (mckellar.ca)</u>

No Member shall:

- (a) Speak disrespectfully to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, a Member, any Staff, or any Member of the Public;
- (b) Engage in private conversation while in the Council Chambers in such a manner as to interrupt the proceedings of Council;
- (c) Speak on any subject other than the subject in debate;
- (d) Speak in open Council about matters discussed in a Closed Meeting until authorized by Council;



- (e) Interrupt a Member who is speaking by speaking out, or making noise or disturbance, except to raise a procedural question; nor
- (f) Disobey the procedural rules.

At a Meeting, no person shall:

- (a) Speak disrespectfully to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, a Member, any Staff, or any Member of the Public;
- (b) Use offensive words;
- (c) Disobey the procedural rules;
- (d) Leave a seat while a Vote is being taken and until the results of the Vote are declared;
- (e) Make any disruptive noise or disturbance;
- (f) Enter the Meeting while a Vote is being taken;
- (g) Walk between a Member who is speaking to the Chair; nor
- (h) Display signs or placards, applaud, nor engage in conversation or any other behaviour, which may disrupt debate.

Electronic Devices must be silenced during a Meeting and must not be used to disrupt a Meeting.

No person shall speak aloud at a Meeting or address Members without first receiving permission from the Chair or a majority vote of Council Members.

All remarks shall be addressed to the Chair. Members of the Public will not routinely be recognized and permitted to speak during debate. Members of the Public may not be recognized unless:

- (a) Consent is given by the majority of Council; and
- (b) The Member(s) of the Public are speaking to an item on the Agenda.

Any Person who contravenes any of the rules in this By-law is guilty of misconduct and, after an initial warning, may be removed from the Meeting by the Chair or a majority vote of Council Members.

#### 2.17 Questions During Debate

A Member may, through the Chair, ask a question arising out of or request an explanation of the previous speaker's remarks.

A Member may, through the Chair, ask questions during the discussion on any item on the Agenda and ask questions on the item to any Staff of the Municipality in attendance at the Meeting.

Any Member may, at any time during the debate, request that a Motion under discussion be read by the Chair. A Member may not interrupt another Member while that Member is speaking.

#### 2.18 Points of Procedure

When a Member believes there is a violation of this By-law, the Member shall state that the Member wishes to raise a Point of Procedure. Once recognized by the Chair, the Member shall raise the Point of Procedure. A Point of Procedure can be raised only during the Meeting.

Upon raising the Point of Procedure, a Member shall explain the violation of the rules and the Chair shall rule upon the Point of Procedure.

Once the Point of Procedure has been dealt with immediately, the debate shall resume, unless the ruling has changed this procedure.



Any Member may appeal a ruling of the Chair by announcing the Member's appeal to the Members of Council. An appeal must be made immediately following the Chair's ruling. If the appeal is not made immediately, the Chair's ruling shall be final.

Upon appeal, the Member shall state the reasons for the appeal. The Chair may then indicate why the appeal should be rejected.

Without debate on the appeal, the Members, apart from the Member making the appeal and the Chair, shall vote on the appeal.

If the appeal is upheld by the majority of the voting Members, the Chair shall change the earlier ruling accordingly; if the appeal is rejected, then the ruling stands.

No Member shall disobey the rules of Council or a decision of the Mayor, Chair or Council on questions of Order of Procedure or an interpretation of the rules of Council.

Where a person (including a Member) has been warned about misconduct and has continued the conduct, the Chair, or the Chair's designate if the Chair is the person warned about misconduct, may expel the person from the Meeting. If such person refuses to leave, the Chair may recess or adjourn the Meeting without any Motion to do so until such time as the person has left the Meeting room.

If the person engaging in misconduct is a Member and the Member apologizes, the Member, by vote of the majority of Council, may be permitted to retake a seat at the table.

#### 2.19 Voting – General

Once the Vote is called by the Chair, no Member shall speak to any issue, ask any question or present any other Motion until the Vote has been taken.

Voting shall be by way of a "show of hands" in favour or against, except when a Recorded Vote is requested. A Recorded Vote is also required if any or all Members are attending electronically.

A Member may request a Recorded Vote on any Motion. Such request may be made before, during or after the Vote. When a Recorded Vote is requested, the Clerk shall call each Member's name in alphabetical order and request and record their Vote on the Motion. Notwithstanding the alphabetical calling of names, the Chair shall Vote last in a Recorded Vote. After the completion of a Recorded Vote, the Clerk shall announce the result. If a Member present at a Meeting fails to or refuses to vote, that Member's vote will be counted as a Vote against the Motion.

If a Member abstains from a Vote, this will be recorded as an abstention and the Vote will not be recorded as a vote against the Motion.

The Chair shall announce the results of the Vote once the Vote is completed.

If, during a non-recorded Vote, a Member disagrees with the Chair's statement of results of the Vote, the Member may object immediately to the Chair's declaration and require a Recorded Vote be taken.

If there is a tie Vote, the Motion is defeated.

Except as otherwise provided, every Member of Council/Committee/Committee of Council shall have one open Vote. The Presiding Officer may not move or second any Motion, but must Vote on a Motion.



#### 2.20 Corrections

A Motion containing a minor or typographical error may be corrected on the request of the mover and seconder and the correction shall be made in writing on the face of the Motion and initialed by the mover and seconder.

#### 2.21 Amendments

The following rules shall apply to Amendments to Motions:

- (a) A "Motion Amendment" is a change to the statement(s) in the Motion;
- (b) An "Amendment to an Amendment" is a change to the proposed Motion Amendment;
- (c) Only one amendment (whether a Motion Amendment or an Amendment to an Amendment) can be presented at one time;
- (d) The order of Voting shall be:
  - (i) An Amendment to an Amendment shall be voted upon;
  - (ii) A Motion Amendment shall be voted upon next; and
  - (iii)the Motion, if and as amended, shall finally be voted upon.

An Amendment which is simply a rejection of the Motion will not be permitted.

#### 2.22 Voting – Reconsideration

When a Motion has been decided, any Member who voted with the majority may move for the Motion to be reconsidered. The reconsidering of the Motion shall be called the "Motion to Reconsider". Members who were not in the majority cannot move for a Motion to Reconsider.

Before a Motion to Reconsider is heard, the Motion to Reconsider must be added to the Agenda. The Motion to Reconsider shall be added to the Agenda only upon Council's approval.

The process whereby a Motion to Reconsider is added to the Agenda is set out as below:

- (a) A Member who voted in the majority shall move for the Motion to Reconsider to be added to the Agenda.
- (b) The Chair shall ask the Member to affirm that the Member voted with the majority.
- (c) The Chair shall hold a Vote whereby the Members shall vote on whether to allow the Motion to Reconsider to be added to the Agenda.
- (d) When the Member is moving to have the Motion to Reconsider added to the Agenda of the same Meeting as that at which the Motion was originally voted on, the majority of Members must agree to add the Motion to Reconsider to the Agenda.
- (e) Where the Member is moving to have the Motion to Reconsider added to the Agenda of a Meeting other than that at which the Motion was originally voted on, a majority of Members must agree to add the Motion to Reconsider to the Agenda.
- (f) Once the Motion to Reconsider is added to an Agenda, the Motion to Reconsider follows the same process as all other Motions.
- (g) A Motion to Reconsider of any decided matter shall not operate to stop an action that has been initiated on the decided matter.
- (h) Debate on a Motion to add a Motion to Reconsider to the Agenda must be confined to reasons for or against reconsidering the Motion.
- (i) No Committee/Committee of Council shall reconsider any question decided by Council during the current term nor consider any other matter which could involve a decision inconsistent with such Council decision, unless specifically authorized by Council.



#### 2.23 Voting – By-laws

Every proposed By-law shall be introduced upon Motion by a Member of Council.

Every By-law shall be given three (3) readings prior to being passed by Council. A Bylaw may be read three (3) times at the same meeting unless otherwise provided by Statute or by Council. If any Member objects to the third reading being given, a majority vote of all Members is necessary to proceed with the reading.

Every By-law read before Council shall be recorded by the Clerk and upon third reading shall be signed by the Presiding Officer and the Clerk and the Corporate Seal shall be added as soon as possible thereafter.

A By-law shall be passed only at a Regular Council Meeting (or a reconvened Regular Meeting that had been properly adjourned to a specific time) or a Special Meeting that, when called, cites the consideration and passing of the By-law as one of its purposes.

- 2.24 Voting Electronic Meetings (applies only if Electronic Meetings are permitted by a majority Resolution of Council and if equipment is functioning properly)
  - (a) All Votes will be Recorded Votes in the event of any Council Member participating in an electronic meeting by teleconference only.
  - (b) A 'show of hands' vote may be used, at the Clerk's discretion, if all Council Members are participating by audio and video and can be seen by each other.

#### **3 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### 3.1 Head of Council (*Municipal Act*, sec. 225)

It is the role of the Head of Council to:

- (a) Act as Chief Executive Officer of the Municipality;
- (b) Preside over Council Meetings so its business can be carried out efficiently and effectively;
- (c) Provide leadership to Council;
- (d) Provide information and recommendations to Council with respect to the role of Council, described in clauses 224(d) and (d.1) of the *Municipal Act*;
- (e) Represent the Municipality at official functions;
- (f) Uphold and promote the purposes of the Municipality;
- (g) Promote Public involvement in the Municipality's activities;
- (h) Act as the representative of the Municipality both within and outside the Municipality, and promote the Municipality locally, nationally and internationally;
- (i) Participate in and foster activities that enhance the economic, social and environmental well-being of the Municipality and its residents; and
- (j) Carry out the duties of the Head of Council under the *Municipal Act* or any other Act.

Note: The Head of Council shall not act unilaterally but shall represent Council/Committee, declaring its will and obeying its decisions as indicated by Resolution of Council even if the Head of Council does not necessarily concur with its decisions.

#### 3.2 Chair

It is the role of the Chair to:

- (a) Open all Meetings by calling the Meetings to order;
- (b) Address the business listed on the Agenda;
- (c) Receive and have read to Council all Motions presented by Members;
- (d) Put to a Vote all Motions which are moved and seconded, and announce the result of the vote including the number in favour of and the number against;
- (e) Decline to put Motions to a Vote which breach the Procedural By-law or other legislation;



- (f) Enforce, by setting an example, on all occasions, order, polite conduct and decorum among all present at a Meeting;
- (g) Provide information to Members on any significant matters relating to the business of the Municipality;
- (h) Authenticate by signature all By-laws, Resolutions and Minutes;
- (i) Rule on any Points of Procedure raised by Members;
- (j) Maintain order, and, where it is not possible to maintain order, adjourn Meetings to a time to be named by the Head of Council or a majority Vote of Council without any Motion being put forward; and
- (k) Call for Adjournment of the Meeting when business is concluded.

#### 3.3 Deputy Head of Council (Municipal Act, sec. 242)

In the event that the Head of Council is absent from the Municipality or refuses to act or if the Office is vacant, the Deputy Head of Council shall act in the Head of Council's absence and shall have all the rights, powers and authority as the Head of Council with respect to the role of presiding at Meetings.

If the Deputy Head of Council is unable to act in the place and stead of the Head of Council and Quorum is present at a Meeting, the Clerk shall call the Meeting to order and another Councillor shall be appointed by a majority vote of Council to act as the presiding official with all the rights, powers and authority as the Head of Council with respect to the role of presiding at Meetings and shall preside over the Meeting.

#### 3.4 Council (*Municipal Act*, sec. 224)

It is the role of Council to:

- (a) Represent the Public and to consider the well-being and interests of the Municipality;
- (b) Develop and evaluate policies and programs of the Municipality;
- (c) Determine which services the Municipality provides;
- (d) Ensure that administrative policies, practices and procedures are in place to implement the decisions of Council;
- (e) Ensure the accountability and transparency of the operations of the Municipality, including the activities of the Senior Management of the Municipality;
- (f) Maintain the financial integrity of the Municipality; and
- (g) Carry out the duties of Council under the Municipal Act or under any other Act.

#### 3.5 Clerk (Municipal Act, sec. 228)

It is the duty of the Clerk to:

- (a) Record, without note or comment, all Resolutions, Decisions and other proceedings of Council;
- (b) If required by any Member present at a Vote, record the name and vote of every Member voting on any matter or question;
- (c) Keep the originals or copies of all By-laws and of all Minutes of the proceedings of Council;
- (d) Perform the duties required under the *Municipal Act* or under any other Act;
- (e) Prepare and circulate Council Packages to all Members in a timely manner; and
- (f) Perform such other duties as are assigned by the Municipality.

The Clerk, where appropriate, may delegate, in writing, the duties of the Clerk to another person, other than a Member of Council, in accordance with Section 228(4) of the *Municipal Act*.

#### 3.6 Deputy-Clerk (*Municipal Act*, sec. 228(2))

The Municipality may appoint Deputy-Clerks who have all the powers and duties of the Clerk under this and any other Act.

A Clerk or Deputy-Clerk is not required to be an employee of the Municipality. (*Municipal Act*, sec. 228(3)).



#### 3.7 Staff (Municipal Act, sec. 227)

- It is the role of the Officers and Employees of the Municipality to:
- (a) Implement Council's decisions and establish administrative practices and procedures to carry out Council's decisions;
- (b) Undertake research and provide advice to Council on the policies and programs of the Municipality; and
- (c) Carry out other duties required under the *Municipal Act* or any Act and other duties assigned by the Municipality.

#### **3.8** Members of the Public

- It is the role of Members of the Public to:
- (a) Attend Meetings which are open to the Public;
- (b) Follow the rules of order, polite conduct and decorum;
- (c) Provide input and information to Council only at Meetings or portions of Meetings specifically designed for public engagement and in a manner dictated by Council (e.g. in writing, in person, electronically, etc.)

#### 4 MEETINGS

#### 4.1 First Meeting

At the first Meeting, the Clerk shall administer the Declarations of Office and oaths of allegiance, and distribute a copy of the Code of Conduct and the Procedural By-law to all Members of Council.

No business shall be conducted at the first Meeting until the Declarations of Office and oaths of allegiance have been administered to all Members and a copy of the Code of Conduct and the Procedural By-law have been distributed to each Member.

#### 4.2 Regular Meetings

#### 4.2.1 Time

Regular Meetings shall be held on the first and third Tuesday of each calendar month at 6:30 p.m. local time, except for January when Regular Meetings shall be held on the second and fourth Tuesday. Notice of Regular Meetings of Council shall be posted on the Township website.

#### 4.2.2 Election Year

Following a regular election, Council shall meet only as is deemed necessary by the Head of Council and the Clerk, or a majority vote of Council, until the new term of Council takes effect.

#### 4.3 Special Meetings

#### 4.3.1 Special Meetings

A Special Meeting is a Meeting that is called for a specific time and for a specific purpose to deal with an important matter that must be dealt with before the next Regular Meeting.

The only business to be dealt with at a Special Meeting is that which is listed in the Notice of Meeting.

#### 4.3.2 Calling of Special Meetings

The Head of Council may, at any time, summon a Special Meeting by providing Notice of the Meeting to Members at least twenty-four (24) hours before the Meeting.

Upon receipt of a petition from the majority of Council, the Clerk shall summon a Special Meeting providing a Notice of Meeting to Members at least twenty-four (24) hours before the Special Meeting.



#### 4.3.3 Nature of Special Meetings

Special Meetings may be open or closed, depending on the business of the Special Meeting, as provided in the *Municipal Act*.

#### 4.4 Public Meetings

- **4.4.1** Public Meetings will be held on a matter where directed by Council, Municipal By-law or statute. Statutory Public Meetings shall be undertaken in accordance with the governing statute or as otherwise directed by law.
- **4.4.2** The purpose of a Public Meeting is to hear input from the Public on a particular matter. Accordingly, Members shall not enter into debate or discussion of the matter during the Public Meeting.
- **4.4.3** One spokesperson is allowed per organization.

**4.4.4** Each person/organization is limited to five (5) minutes to speak. Additional consideration can be given a person(s)/organization(s) at the discretion of the Chair or a majority Vote of Council.

**4.4.5** Each person/organization is entitled to ask one (1) question or provide one (1) comment and one (1) subsequent question or comment.

**4.4.6** All persons speaking at a Public Meeting will be asked to provide their names and organizations (if applicable) prior to providing comments. All such persons will also be invited to provide their names, addresses and email addresses in writing in order that future notice of the matter may be provided.

**4.4.7** Where the Public Meeting is held as part of a Council Meeting, the Minutes of the Council Meeting shall include the Minutes of the Public Meeting.

#### 4.5 Emergency Meetings

- **4.5.1** An Emergency Meeting may be called by the Head of Council and/or the Clerk, without written Notice, to deal with an Urgent Matter.
- **4.5.2** The Clerk will attempt to notify all Members and the appropriate Staff about the Emergency Meeting in the most expedient manner available and as soon as possible. The Clerk shall advertise the Emergency Meeting to the public.
- **4.5.3** Only business dealing directly with the Urgent Matter shall be dealt with at the Emergency Meeting.
- **4.5.4** Quorum is still required at an Emergency Meeting.
- **4.5.5** These provisions shall apply with necessary modifications, to Local Boards and Committees and Committees of Council.

#### 4.6 Closed Meetings/Sessions

- **4.6.1** A Closed Meeting is a Meeting, or a portion of a Meeting, that is not open to the Public.
- **4.6.2** No Member, Officer or employee shall disclose the subject matter or deliberation of a Closed Meeting unless expressly authorized to do so by Council, Local Board, Committee or Committee of Council.

**4.6.3** Prior to moving to the Closed Meeting/Session for one or more of the reasons listed in Section 239 of the *Municipal Act*, the Council, Local Board,



Committee or Committee of Council shall pass a Resolution in Open Session stating:

- (a) The fact that Council, Local Board, Committee or Committee of Council is convening into a Closed Meeting/Session;
- (b) The fact of the holding of the Closed Meeting/Session, the general nature of its subject matter and the subsection under which it is to be closed; and
- (c) If closed under Section 239(3.1), the Resolution must also note that it is closed under the subsection.

#### 4.6.4 Permissive Closed Meetings

A Meeting may be closed where the matter to be discussed is, as contemplated in Section 239(2) of the *Municipal Act*, as follows:

- (a) The security of the property of the Municipality or Local Board;
- (b) Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including Municipal or Local Board employees;
- (c) A proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of land by the Municipality or Local Board;
- (d) Labour relations or employee negotiations;
- (e) Litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the Municipality or Local Board;
- (f) Advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;
- (g) A matter in respect of which a Council, Local Board, Committee or other body may hold a Closed Meeting under another Act;
- (h) Information explicitly supplied in confidence to the Municipality or Local Board by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown Agency or any of them;
- (i) A trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the Municipality or Local Board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons, or organizations;
- (j) A trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial or financial information that belongs to the Municipality or Local Board and has monetary value or potential monetary value; or
- (k) A position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the Municipality or Local Board.

A Meeting may be closed if the Meeting is held for the purpose of educating or training the Members and at the Meeting no Member discusses or otherwise deals with any matter in a way that materially advances the business or decision-making of the Council, Local Board or Committee.

#### 4.6.5 Mandatory Closed Meetings

A Meeting must be closed if the subject matter being considered is, as detailed in Section 239(3) of the *Municipal Act*, as follows:

(a) A request under the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, if the Council, Local Board, Committee or other body is the head of an institution for the purposes of the Act;
 Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.56 (ontario.ca)



(b) An ongoing investigation respecting a Municipality, a Local Board or a municipally controlled corporation by the Ombudsman appointed under the *Ombudsman Act*, <u>Ombudsman Act</u>, <u>R.S.O. 1990, c. O.6 (ontario.ca)</u>

and Ombudsman referred to in Subsection 223.13(1) of the *Municipal Act*, or the Investigator referred to in Subsection 239.2(1) of the *Municipal Act*. <u>Municipal Act</u>, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25 (ontario.ca)

A Meeting must be closed if the subject matter being considered is a harassment complaint or investigation, pursuant to the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.

#### 4.7 Cancelled Meetings

- **4.7.1** A Meeting shall be cancelled by the Head of Council, in consultation with the Clerk, in the following instances:
  - (a) Quorum cannot be achieved;
  - (b) Council Resolution;
  - (c) In the event of an unforeseen, significant event; or
  - (d) The meeting is no longer required.
- **4.7.2** For the purposes of Section 4.7.1(c); an unforeseen, significant event includes but is not limited to the following:
  - (a) Safety concern for participants in the Meeting, including Members and Members of the Public (e.g. snow storm, closing of highways);
  - (b) Loss of heat/electricity or water;
  - (c) Clerk/Deputy Clerk's inability to attend;
  - (d) A state of emergency;
  - (e) Electronic connection is lost when no in-person attendance is permitted;
  - (f) The inability of a required participant to attend; and/or
  - (g) The Meeting becomes redundant.
- **4.7.3** The Clerk will attempt to notify all Members and the appropriate Staff about the cancelled Meeting in the most expedient manner available and as soon as possible. The Clerk shall make a reasonable effort to advertise to the Public that the Meeting has been cancelled.

# **4.8 Electronic Meetings During a Declared Emergency (applies only if Electronic Meetings are permitted by a majority Resolution of Council and if equipment is functioning properly)**

- **4.8.1** A Regular Meeting, Special Meeting or Closed Meeting of Council or Committee may be conducted by an Electronic Meeting during a Declared Emergency, in accordance with this Section and any Emergency Electronic Meeting Protocol, as developed and amended as necessary by the Clerk.
- **4.8.2** Members participating in an Electronic Meeting shall be counted for the purposes of Quorum at the commencement and at any point in time during the Meeting, and shall be entitled to Vote through a Vote recorded by the Clerk, as if they were attending the Meeting in person.
- **4.8.3** Council may set by Resolution for a specific period of time and providing rationale, terms of electronic participation in Meetings of Council, Local Boards or Committees of either of them permitting:
  - (i) electronic participation counting towards Quorum;
  - (ii) electronic participant voting; and
  - (iii) electronic participant in a Meeting closed to the Public.



**4.8.4** Council may hold a Special Meeting for the purpose of passing a Resolution as described in section 4.8.3; any Member participating electronically in such a Special Meeting may be counted in determining whether or not Quorum of Members is present at any time during the Meeting, and be permitted to Vote.

#### **5** NOTICE OF MEETINGS

#### 5.1 Annual Schedule of Meetings

- **5.1.1** The Clerk shall, by November 30<sup>th</sup> of each calendar year, submit a schedule of the upcoming Regular Council Meetings for consideration and adoption by Council. Upon approval by Council, the schedule will be posted to the Municipal website.
- **5.1.2** The Clerk shall post on the Municipal website Notice of all Meetings. The posting will constitute Notice to the Public of the Meeting.
- **5.1.3** The Clerk may amend the schedule from time to time with the direction of Council to reflect scheduling conflicts and holidays. The Clerk's amendments shall be circulated to all Members and will be posted on the Municipal website as soon as possible after the amendments are made.
- **5.1.4** The Clerk shall give at minimum twenty-four (24) hours' notice to the Public of all Special Council Meetings and Committee Meetings.
- **5.1.5** Where a statute or the Notice By-law requires, Notice will be published in accordance with the statute/By-law. The Notice will be posted on the Municipal website.
- **5.1.6** Nothing in this Procedural By-law prevents the Clerk from using more comprehensive methods of Notice or providing for a longer Notice period.
- **5.1.7** Lack of receipt of Notice or failure to comply with the provisions of this Procedural By-law shall not invalidate the Meeting or any decision of Council or the Local Board or the Committee made at the Meeting.

#### 6 AGENDA

#### 6.1 Agenda

- **6**.1.1 It shall be the duty of the Clerk to prepare the Agenda of all Meetings. Where there is a dispute about including or excluding an item from the Agenda, the Clerk's decision shall be final.
- **6.1.2** All Council Agendas shall be prepared by the Clerk in writing and shall be in accordance with the attached Schedule "B".
- **6.1.3** The Council Meeting shall consider the items to be dealt with in accordance with the order that is set out in the Agenda unless otherwise decided by Resolution of the majority of the Members present at the Meeting.
- **6.1.4** Items on the Agenda, but not dealt with at the Meeting, will be placed on the next Regular Meeting Agenda under "Unfinished Business" unless sent to a subsequent Meeting by Resolution of the majority of Members present.
- **6.1.5** If a Member wishes to add an item that is not otherwise on the Agenda, when Council is considering the Meeting Agenda, the Member shall advise Council of the item and the Member shall require a majority Vote to have the item considered.



- **6.1.6** All items to be included on the Agenda will be provided to the Clerk by Members, Staff and the Public no later than 1:00 p.m. on the Tuesday of the week prior to the Meeting.
- **6.1.7** Reports to Council shall be in the standard form set out in Schedule "C", as amended.
- **6.1.8** Members wishing to have a matter placed on the Agenda will provide the Clerk with a completed form provided hereto as Schedule "D", as amended.
- **6.1.9** Individuals or Bodies wishing to have a matter placed on the Agenda, as a presentation or delegation, will provide the Clerk with a completed form as shown in Schedule "E", as amended from time to time, no later than 1:00 p.m. on the Tuesday of the week prior to the Meeting at which they wish to be heard.

#### Deputations

**6.1.9.(a)**Deputations will be limited to ten (10) minutes in length per speaker and to avoid repetition, any deputation on behalf of any group, shall be made by no more than two (2) representatives. Notwithstanding this, Council may extend the time of the deputation upon a majority vote in the affirmative.

Emergency Deputation requests will be received by the Head of Council and may be heard at the leave of a majority of Council.

At any given Council Meeting, a maximum of three (3) ten (10) minute deputations will be scheduled unless determined otherwise by a majority vote of Council.

Upon completion of comments to Council by a deputation, any discourse between Members of Council and the deputation shall be limited to Members asking questions for clarification and obtaining additional, relevant information only. Members shall not enter into debate with the person respecting the deputation.

The Head of Council and/or the majority of Council Members may curtail a deputation for disorder or any other breach of this By-law. Once the ruling is made that the deputation is concluded, the person or persons appearing shall withdraw. Failure to withdraw or to engage in behaviour that is inappropriate can result in the Council requesting the person(s) to vacate the Municipal building. Failure to vacate the building when requested may result in the Head of Council and/or the majority of Council suspending the Meeting until order is restored. If necessary, a majority vote of Council may direct the Clerk to seek appropriate assistance from police for this purpose.

Subsequent deputations on the same topic by the same person, or groups, may be accepted providing there is time and will be limited to the submission of new information only.

No deputation may be scheduled for a Closed Session, nor shall a deputation be permitted regarding any specific personnel matter where an individual may be identified.

Members of the Public attending a Council, Local Board, Committee or Committee of Council Meeting shall respect the decorum of Council and refrain from public outburst; shouting or behaviour intended to disrupt the debate, discussion and/or general proceedings of the Council. The Chair and/or a majority



of Members of Council may request that a member of the Public vacate the Municipal building if that person's behaviour is deemed to be disruptive to the business at hand. The Chair and/or a majority of Members of Council may suspend the Meeting until order is restored.

#### Notice to Deputations and to the Public:

Deputations and the Public are advised that Council, Local Board, Committee and Committee of Council Meetings are open to the Public and that there is no legal protection or other privilege in relation to any statement that is made in this forum. This means that anything said might be subject to the normal laws of defamation. Any behaviour or conduct that is disruptive to the Public Meeting can result in other charges being brought against said persons.

Consequently, care should be taken in how addresses are made.

Any person who reads from a prepared statement during a deputation to Council may provide a copy of said document to the Clerk at the conclusion of the deputation for the Municipality's records.

Any written messages, memorials and/or enquiries before Council for consideration may be referred, at the discretion of the majority of Council, to a Committee of Council and/or Staff for response thereto. All responses will be approved by the majority of Council before dissemination.

Petitions shall be signed by the subscribers and presented to Council by any appointed representative who has knowledge of the information stated therein.

Every petition, communication and deputation shall be delivered to the Clerk on or before 1:00 p.m. on the Tuesday of the week prior to the regularly scheduled Council Meeting the following week.

- **6.1.10** The Clerk 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 by the deadline;
  - (c) The Delegation Request Form is incomplete;
  - (d) The subject matter of the Delegation is outside the jurisdiction of Council;
  - (e) The subject matter is with respect to a matter that should be discussed in 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 has been or is to be considered by the Committee of Adjustment;
  - (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 appropriate Department for action.

#### 6.1.11 Correspondence

All correspondence requiring the direction of Council or Committee shall: (a) be legibly written or printed;

- (b) include contact information for at least one person; and
- (c) be field with the Clerk for inclusion on a Meeting Agenda.

Personal information, other than contact information, disclosed in correspondence will become part of the Public Record, including the name of the author.



Correspondence may be withheld from an Agenda if it is considered to be inappropriate or offensive in nature.

#### 6.1.12 Consent Agenda

A portion of the Agenda, titled "Consent Agenda," may consist of items that do not require separate discussion, including, but not limited to:

- (a) Routine Staff reports;
- (b) Minutes for receipt; and
- (c) Generic correspondence sent to numerous Municipalities.

All of the items listed on the Consent Agenda shall be subject of one Motion, unless a Member requests that any item(s) in the Consent Motion be discussed and voted upon separately.

#### 6.1.13 Council Packages

Council Packages will be provided to Members no later than 4:30 p.m. on the Thursday prior to the Meeting.

#### 6.1.14 Agenda Availability

The Agenda will be made available to the Public, no later than 1:00 p.m. on the Friday prior to the Meeting. The Clerk shall post the Agenda on the Municipal website no later than 1:00 p.m. on the Friday prior to the Meeting.

**6.1.15** The Agenda will be sent to all residents who provide an email address no later than the Friday prior to the Meeting.

#### 6.2 Other Meeting Agenda

**6.2.1** The Clerk shall prepare an Agenda, with supporting material, for meetings other than Regular Meetings in accordance with the business to be addressed.

#### 6.3 Question/Comment Period

- **6.3.1** (a) The Question/Comment Period will take place during Regular Meetings and Special Meetings as determined by Council and be limited to a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes, at the discretion of a majority vote of Council, and all questions from the Public will be related to Agenda listed items with each questioner limited to five (5) minutes.
  - (b) When called upon by the Chair, the questioner will self identify by name and the organization represented, if applicable, and address the question to the Chair.
  - (c) One spokesperson is allowed per organization or group.
  - (d) Each person/organization asking a question is entitled to one (1) question and one (1) supplementary question or comment.
  - (e) Questions/Comments will be answered with a brief response from the Chair and/or Member of Council. The Chair and Council reserve the right to defer any question if they are not able to answer it at the Meeting.
  - (f) Questions/Comments shall be made in respect of matters within Council's purview and jurisdiction only, while everyone maintains decorum in keeping with the following four (4) principles:
    - (i) Treatment of every person with dignity, understanding and respect;
    - (ii) Behaviour that is not discriminatory;
    - (iii) Actions free of slander, harassment or bullying; and
    - (iv) Protection of privacy.
  - (g) The Chair may terminate the Question/Comment Period at any time the Chair deems it necessary, subject to a majority vote of Council.



#### 6.4 Closed Meeting Agenda

**6.4.1** In the event the Clerk receives items for a Closed Meeting Agenda, they shall be placed on the Closed Meeting Agenda and the Council Package shall be provided to Members at least three (3) business days prior to the scheduled Closed Meeting.

#### 6.5 Adjournment

- **6.5.1** A Motion to Adjourn 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.
- **6.5.2** If a Motion to Adjourn is defeated, the moving Member may not bring another Motion to Adjourn until the Agenda is completed or until a majority of Council by Resolution agrees to adjourn the Meeting.

#### 6.6 Curfew

Meetings shall be adjourned automatically at 11:00 p.m. local time, unless otherwise determined by Resolution passed by a majority of the Members of Council.

#### 6.7 Amendment

**6.7.1** 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

#### 6.8 Mandatory Review

**6.8.1** This By-law shall have a mandatory review in two (2) years following the date of approval.

#### 6.9 Points Not Provided For

**6.9.1** Any points of procedure not governed by this By-law shall be governed by the rules of parliamentary procedure of the Canadian House of Commons and/or Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition.

#### 6.10 Repeal – Enactment

- **6.10.1** That By-law No. 2021-28, as amended, is hereby repealed.
- 6.10.2 This By-law comes into force and takes effect on the date of enactment.

READ a FIRST and SECOND time this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023

Mayor, David Moore

Clerk, Ina Watkinson

READ a THIRD time and PASSED in OPEN COUNCIL this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_, 2023

Mayor, David Moore

Clerk, Ina Watkinson



### **SCHEDULES TO THE BY-LAW**

- Schedule "A" Conflict of Interest Declaration
- Schedule "B" Agenda
- Schedule "C" Reports Form
- Schedule "D" Member Request for Item to be Added to the Agenda
- Schedule "E" Request for Delegation



### SCHEDULE "A"

### McKellar Township Council Member's Conflict of Interest Declaration

Pursuant to Subsection 5.1, of the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*, R.S.O. 1990 <u>Municipal Conflict</u> of Interest Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.50 (ontario.ca) Council Members must complete this form. At a meeting at which a member discloses an interest under section 5, or as soon as possible afterwards, the member shall file a written statement of the interest and its general nature with the clerk of the municipality or the secretary of the committee or local board, as the case may be. 2017, c. 10, Sched. 3, s. 4.

#### **Declaration:**

		, declare a conflict of interest in item		
(Print Full Name)				
on the				
(Agenda Item #)	(Date of Council Meeting)			
I am making this declaration because (	General Nature o	of the Conflict of Interest):		
I confirm that I will not vote on the ma respect of the matter, and I will not at meeting to influence the voting on any	tempt in any way	ke part in discussion on any question in whether before, during or after the		
Signature		Date		
Clerk's Acknowledgement:				
Received on	by			
(Date)		(Print Name)		

Signature of Clerk or Designate



### SCHEDULE "B"

### Township of McKellar AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Declarations of Pecuniary and/or Personal Interest and General Nature Thereof
- 4. Adoption of Agenda
- 5. Closed Session
- 6. Call to Order open session
- 7. Acknowledgement
- 8. Roll Call
- 9. Declarations of Pecuniary and/or Personal Interest and General Nature Thereof
- 10. Public Meeting
- 11. Delegations and Presentations
- 12. Committee of the Whole
- 13. Motion to Review a Previous Motion
- 14. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)
- 15. Planning Matters
- 16. Committee/Board Minutes with recommendations for approval
- 17. Staff Reports with recommendations for approval
- 18. Mayor's Report
- 19. Correspondence for consideration
- 20. Motion and Notice of Motion
- 21. By-laws
- 22. Unfinished Business
- 23. New Business
- 24. Public Notices, Announcements, Inquiries and Reports by Council Members
- 25. Consent Agenda Correspondence
- 26. Question/Comment Period (related to items on Agenda)
- 27. Confirming By-law
- 28. Adjournment



### SCHEDULE "C"

Township of McKellar Report to Council

Prepared for:

Agenda Date:

Department:

Report No.:

Subject:

Recommendation:

Background:

Financial Analysis/Discussion:

**Policies Affecting Proposal:** 

**Conclusion:** 

**Respectfully submitted by:** 

Attachments:



### SCHEDULE "D"

	Counc	wnship of McKellar uncil Member's Request for Item to ded to the Agenda		
Member's Name:				
Meeting Date:				
Subject Matter:				
Draft Resolution Attached:		Yes		_No
Attachments:				
Signature			Date	
Clerk's Acknowledgement				
Received on(Date)	by		(Print	Name)
Signature of Clerk or Design	ate			



### SCHEDULE "E"

#### Township of McKellar Request for Delegation/Deputation before Council

Pursuant to By-law No. 2023-\_\_\_\_, any person wishing to make a deputation before Council shall submit a request in writing to the Clerk no later than 1:00 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to the meeting the following week at which they wish to be heard. The written request shall be a detailed written submission that clearly outlines the matter that the deputation wishes to present to Council including the nature of the business to be discussed and the person(s) named to make the deputation. The detailed written submission, together with this form, shall be circulated with the Council Agenda. Please note that Deputations are limited to ten (10) minutes in length.

#### PLEASE PRINT

Name of Person to Appear:				
Address:				
Phone: Home	Cell	Business		
Name of person requesting appearance: (if different from the person preparing the	request)			
Phone: Home	Cell	Business		
Name of Group or Person(s) being represented (if applicable)				
Meeting Date requested to appear before Council				
Subject Matter of Deputation:				
Detailed written submission must be attached or submitted to the Clerk (by 1:00 p.m. the Tuesday of the week prior to the Council Meeting).				
Signature:	Date:			



### **SCHEDULE "E" continued**

Reminder: A signed detailed written submission must be provided to the Clerk's Office by 1:00 p.m. on the Tuesday of the week prior to the meeting the following week. Failure to provide a signed detailed written submission by the Tuesday of the week prior to the Council Meeting will result in the deputation not being placed on Council's Agenda.

Decorum dictates respect for all opinions and individuals are reminded there is zero tolerance for coarse language and inappropriate behaviour. By submitting this Form, you have indicated agreement with this requirement.

Signage shall be posted in the Council Chambers advising deputations, presenters and the Public that the Meeting proceedings are being audio recorded and will be made available on the municipal website. The Township assumes no liability for the recorded comments of the public that may be construed as false, defamatory or slanderous in nature.

Personal Information on this form is collected under the legal authority of the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c25, as amended. The information is collected and maintained for the purpose of creating a record that is available to the general public pursuant to Section 27 of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. <u>Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act</u>, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.56 (ontario.ca)

#### Correspondence to Council:

Be advised that Council and Committee meeting agendas, Minutes and correspondence are public documents and are published on the Township of McKellar website. When corresponding with the Township of McKellar, please be aware that personal correspondence or delegation materials (together with names, addresses, email addresses and phone numbers) may be included on the Council or Committee or Committee of Council meeting agenda and subsequently appear on the corporate website.

If you feel there is a compelling reason that your correspondence to Council should not be included on the agenda and released to the public, please notify the Clerk's office.

**NNT**A

City Clerk's Office

Secretariat Sylwia Przezdziecki Council Secretariat Support City Hall, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, West 100 Queen Street West Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2 John D. Elvidge City Clerk

Tel: 416-392-7032 Fax: 416-392-2980 e-mail: Sylwia.Przezdziecki@toronto.ca web: www.toronto.ca

In reply please quote: Ref.: 22-CC1.2

November 25, 2022

#### MUNICIPALITIES IN ONTARIO

#### Subject: New Business Item 1.2 Update on Bill 23 - More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 (Ward All)

RECEIVED

DEC - 2 2022

City Council on November 23 and 24, 2022, adopted this Item, as amended, and in so doing has:

1. Requested the Province of Ontario to extend the commenting period on Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 to at least January 31, 2023 to enable time for consultation, consideration of alternative options and thorough analysis of both short and long-term impacts.

2. Requested the Province of Ontario to:

a. not proceed with any changes that reduce municipal development charges, community benefit charges or parkland dedication, including:

i. removing housing services from development charges;

ii. retroactively phasing in development charges over a 5 year period on top of City Council's previously adopted two-year phase-in that was mutually agreed upon with the development industry;

iii. discounting rates for purpose built rental units;

iv. adding new exemptions;

v. introducing caps to the development charges determined date and instalments interest rates;

vi. extending the development charges historic service level caps from 10 to 15 years;

v. removing growth studies and land acquisition costs from development charges recovery; and

vi. reducing caps to parkland dedication by-laws;

b. instead of the above-noted changes, create a provincial incentive program provided directly to developers or homeowners through targeted grants, rebate and other financial incentive programs; and
c. alternatively, create a municipal compensation fund to compensate municipalities for the impacts of Bill 23 on municipal growth funding revenues.

3. Requested the Province of Ontario to amend Bill 23 to preserve the City's Green standard, Rental Replacement Policy, parkland provisions, community benefits charges and Development Charges to facilitate responsible growth.

4. Requested the Province of Ontario to amend Bill 23 to preserve Toronto's ability to require a green development standards checklist (Toronto Green Standard) for a complete planning application.

5. Requested the Province of Ontario to amend the Planning Act to enable the implementation of Inclusionary Zoning across the City and incorporate definitions of affordable housing that respond to low and moderate household income.

6. Requested the Province of Ontario to amend the definition of "Affordable Housing" to follow the City of Toronto's "Official Plan Amendment 558 - Updating the Definitions of Affordable Rental and Ownership Housing", as approved by City Council on November 9, 2021.

7. Requested the Province of Ontario to enact a Regulation to permit the use of conditional zoning, pursuant to Section 113 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006.

8. Requested the Province of Ontario to delay the implementation of refunds for development applications in light of the significant changes to the Planning regulations and internal City processes regarding development.

9. Requested the Provincial government to provide funding and funding tools to the City, matching the amount of revenue lost through development charges, community benefits charges, and Section 42 of the Planning Act in Bill 23 to ensure the services needed to facilitate responsible growth continue to be delivered.

10. Requested the Province of Ontario to rescind the proposed changes to the Greenbelt to protect environmental features that support biodiversity, natural spaces, recreation trails, agricultural land, and watersheds that sustain all residents of the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area.

11. Requested the Province of Ontario to retain the existing roles and responsibilities of the regional conservation authorities.

12. Requested the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to change the effective date of the Refund of Fees for official plan amendments, zoning by-laws and site plan control applications contained in Bill 109, from January 1, 2023 to July 1, 2023.

13. Requested the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to postpone enacting regulations under Schedule 4 of Bill 23, which would grant the Minister authority to impose limits and conditions on municipalities' regulation of demolition or conversion of rental units, until such time as there has been focused consultations with municipalities as part of the development of Minister's regulations to ensure municipalities can continue to require replacement rental housing and support impacted tenants.

14. Requested the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, through a majority vote, to withdraw Bill 23.

Yours truly,

for City Clerk

S. Przezdziecki/mm

Attachment

- Sent to: Premier, Province of Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Province of Ontario Leader of the Official Opposition, Province of Ontario President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario Executive Director, Association of Municipalities of Ontario Ontario MPPs Ontario Municipalities
- c. City Manager



## **City Council**

#### New Business - Meeting 1

CC1.2	ACTION	Amended	Ward: All
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#### Update on Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022

#### **City Council Decision**

City Council on November 23 and 24, 2022, adopted the following:

1. City Council request the Province of Ontario to extend the commenting period on Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 to at least January 31, 2023 to enable time for consultation, consideration of alternative options and thorough analysis of both short and long-term impacts.

2. City Council request the Province of Ontario to:

a. not proceed with any changes that reduce municipal development charges, community benefit charges or parkland dedication, including:

i. removing housing services from development charges;

ii. retroactively phasing in development charges over a 5 year period on top of City Council's previously adopted two-year phase-in that was mutually agreed upon with the development industry;

iii. discounting rates for purpose built rental units;

iv. adding new exemptions;

v. introducing caps to the development charges determined date and instalments interest rates;

vi. extending the development charges historic service level caps from 10 to 15 years;

v. removing growth studies and land acquisition costs from development charges recovery; and

vi. reducing caps to parkland dedication by-laws;

b. instead of the above-noted changes, create a provincial incentive program provided directly to developers or homeowners through targeted grants, rebate and other financial incentive programs; and

c. alternatively, create a municipal compensation fund to compensate municipalities for the impacts of Bill 23 on municipal growth funding revenues.

3. City Council request the Province of Ontario to amend Bill 23 to preserve the City's Green standard, Rental Replacement Policy, parkland provisions, community benefits charges and Development Charges to facilitate responsible growth.

4. City Council request the Province of Ontario to amend Bill 23 to preserve Toronto's ability to require a green development standards checklist (Toronto Green Standard) for a complete planning application.

5. City Council request the Province of Ontario to amend the Planning Act to enable the implementation of Inclusionary Zoning across the City and incorporate definitions of affordable housing that respond to low and moderate household income.

6. City Council request the Province of Ontario to amend the definition of "Affordable Housing" to follow the City of Toronto's "Official Plan Amendment 558 - Updating the Definitions of Affordable Rental and Ownership Housing", as approved by City Council on November 9, 2021.

7. City Council request the Province of Ontario to enact a Regulation to permit the use of conditional zoning, pursuant to Section 113 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006.

8. City Council request the Province of Ontario to delay the implementation of refunds for development applications in light of the significant changes to the Planning regulations and internal City processes regarding development.

9. City Council request the Provincial government to provide funding and funding tools to the City, matching the amount of revenue lost through development charges, community benefits charges, and Section 42 of the Planning Act in Bill 23 to ensure the services needed to facilitate responsible growth continue to be delivered.

10. City Council request the Province of Ontario to rescind the proposed changes to the Greenbelt to protect environmental features that support biodiversity, natural spaces, recreation trails, agricultural land, and watersheds that sustain all residents of the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area.

11. City Council request the Province of Ontario to retain the existing roles and responsibilities of the regional conservation authorities.

12. City Council request the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to change the effective date of the Refund of Fees for official plan amendments, zoning by-laws and site plan control applications contained in Bill 109, from January 1, 2023 to July 1, 2023.

13. City Council request the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to postpone enacting regulations under Schedule 4 of Bill 23, which would grant the Minister authority to impose limits and conditions on municipalities' regulation of demolition or conversion of rental units, until such time as there has been focused consultations with municipalities as part of the development of Minister's regulations to ensure municipalities can continue to require replacement rental housing and support impacted tenants.

14. City Council request the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, through a majority vote, to withdraw Bill 23.

15. City Council direct the City Manager make public the impacts of Bill 23 on specific capital projects which will not proceed in each Provincial and Federal Riding.

16. City Council direct the City Solicitor and the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning to report to the Planning and Housing Committee on guiding policies to assist City Council in gauging planning importance when considering requests that City Council initiate a Toronto Local Appeal Body appeal.

17. City Council request the City Solicitor and the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning to report to the Planning and Housing Committee with a legal strategy to challenge the Province of Ontario's potential removal of Section 111 of the City of Toronto Act, and explore alternate means to protect rental units from demolition and conversion.

18. City Council direct the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning to commence a public information campaign to inform all City residents of the impacts of Bill 23 and the changes to neighbourhoods, prevailing built forms, housing, civic engagement, the greenbelt, climate change, affordable housing, rental protection, community infrastructure, parks, heritage and cost of living that it may bring about.

19. City Council forward this item to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Leader of the Official Opposition, all Ontario Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Ontario municipalities for their consideration.

#### Summary

On October 25, 2022 the Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, introduced Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 in the Ontario Legislature.

Bill 23 proposes extensive changes to the policy-led planning and development system under which municipalities in Ontario work. Details and preliminary analysis of the implications of Bill 23 were shared with the Mayor and City Councillors on November 3, 2022 (see Attachment 1).

Bill 23 passed 2nd Reading on October 31, 2022 and was referred to the Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure and Cultural Policy (Standing Committee) for review. The Standing Committee has held two days of public hearings to date (November 8, 2022 in Markham and November 9, 2022 in Brampton), and is scheduled to hear two more on November 16 and 17, 2022 in Toronto.

The Chief Planner, along with supporting staff, is scheduled to depute to the Standing Committee at 1:00 pm on Thursday, November 17, 2022. A livestream of the public hearing will be made available on the Ontario Legislative Assembly website at this link: <u>https://www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/video/committees-room-no-1</u>.

Staff are also preparing written comments for submission to the Standing Committee.

The Standing Committee is scheduled to conduct a clause-by-clause review of Bill 23 on Monday, November 21, 2022, during which amendments to the bill may be proposed, considered and voted upon.

Staff will provide a supplementary report outlining City staff's submission to the Standing Committee and the Environmental Registry of Ontario posting regarding Bill 23 and the results from the Standing Committee's consideration of the bill in advance of the November 24, 2022 meeting of City Council.

#### **Background Information (City Council)**

(November 16, 2022) Report from the City Manager and the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning on Update on Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 (CC1.2) (https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/bgrd/backgroundfile-230055.pdf) (November 3, 2022) Attachment 1 - Interim City Manager's FYI Briefing Note to Mayor and Members of Council - Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 (https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/bgrd/backgroundfile-230056.pdf) (November 22, 2022) Supplementary report from the Interim City Manager, the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, and the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning on City Staff Comments on Proposed Bill 23 - More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 (CC1.2a) (https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/bgrd/backgroundfile-230130.pdf) Attachment 1 - City of Toronto Comments on Proposed Bill 23 (submitted to the Environmental Registry of Ontario and Ontario Regulatory Registry November 22, 2022) (https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/bgrd/backgroundfile-230131.pdf) Attachment 2 - Chief Planner Presentation Notes to the Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure and Cultural Policy (November 17, 2022) (https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/bgrd/backgroundfile-230132.pdf)

#### **Communications (City Council)**

(November 21, 2022) Letter from Geoff Kettel and Cathie Macdonald, Co-Chairs, Federation of North Toronto Residents' Associations (FoNTRA) (CC.Supp) (https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/comm/communicationfile-156534.pdf) (November 22, 2022) Letter from Andria Babbington, President, Toronto and York Region Labour Council (CC.New) (https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/comm/communicationfile-156573.pdf) (November 23, 2022) Letter from Jason Ash, Chair, Leaside Towers Tenants Association (CC.New) (https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/comm/communicationfile-156570.pdf) (November 22, 2022) Letter from Les Veszlenyi and Angela Barnes, Co-Chairs, Mimico Lakeshore Community Network (CC.New) (https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/comm/communicationfile-156571.pdf) (November 22, 2022) Letter from Maureen Kapral, President, Lytton Park Residents' Organization (CC.New) (https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/comm/communicationfile-156572.pdf) (November 24, 2022) Letter from Walied Khogali, Regent Park Neighbourhood Association (CC.New) (https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/comm/communicationfile-156578.pdf) (November 24, 2022) Letter from Henry Wiercinski, Vice President, Annex Residents' Association and Sue Dexter, Board, Harbord Village Resident's Association (CC.New) (https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/comm/communicationfile-156579.pdf) (November 24, 2022) Letter from Jin Huh, Executive Director, Social Planning Toronto (CC.New) (https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/comm/communicationfile-156581.pdf)

(November 24, 2022) Letter from Mike Mattos, President, Judith Hayes, Vice President, and Rick Ciccarelli, Executive Board Associate, Mount Dennis Community Association (CC.New) (https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2023/cc/comm/communicationfile-156542.pdf)

Item 25.2



Branch 394 Magnetawan-Dunchurch Royal Canadian Legion Branch 394 Magnetawan 2130 Balsam Road, Dunchurch, Ontario P0A 1G0

25 November, 2022

Township of McKellar 701 Highway 124 PO Box 69 McKellar, Ontario P0G 1C0

Attention: Mayor Peter Hopkins

Thank you for your generous donation to the Branch Poppy Fund. The monies collected are used for assisting veterans with personal emergencies and medical equipment.

Just a note: traffic for the Branch should be addressed to the President.

Kelvin J Hill Kelvin J Hill

Kelvin J Hill Poppy Chair

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Office of the Minister

777 Bay Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor Toronto ON M7A 2J3 Tel.: 416 585-7000 Ministère des Affaires municipales et du Logement

Bureau du ministre



777, rue Bay, 17<sup>e</sup> étage Toronto (Ontario) M7A 2J3 Tél. : 416 585-7000

234-2022-6136

December 22, 2022

Dear Head of Council:

Ontario's housing supply crisis is a problem which has been decades in the making. It will take both short-term strategies and long-term commitment from all levels of government, the private sector, and not-for-profits to drive change. Each entity will have to do their part to be part of the solution.

To help support this important priority, I am pleased to provide you with an update on recent legislative and regulatory changes our government has made to help get 1.5 million homes built over the next 10 years.

#### Bill 109, the More Homes for Everyone Act, 2022

Bill 109, the More Homes for Everyone Act, 2022, was introduced on March 30, 2022 and received Royal Assent on April 14, 2022.

As part of the government's More Homes for Everyone Plan, Schedule 5 of Bill 109 made changes to the Planning Act. Consequential changes were also made to the City of Toronto Act, 2006.

Most of the Planning Act changes are now in effect except for the zoning and site plan control fee refund provisions, which are due to come into force on January 1, 2023. However, I am committed to bringing forward legislation to delay the effective date of the fee refund changes from January 1, 2023 to July 1, 2023. These legislative changes would be introduced in the new year.

In the event that any fee refunds become due to applicants before these legislative changes are made, municipalities might consider not issuing refunds in the interim given my express commitment to introduce legislation that, if passed, would retroactively cancel the requirement.

You can find more information about Bill 109 on the Environmental Registry of Ontario (<u>019-5284</u>), and the Ontario Legislative Assembly <u>website</u>.

#### Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster, 2022

Bill 23, the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022, was introduced on October 25, 2022, and received Royal Assent on November 28, 2022.

To support More Homes Built Faster: Ontario's Housing Supply Action Plan: 2022– 2023, Schedule 9 of Bill 23 made changes to the Planning Act. Schedule 1 of Bill 23 also made similar changes to the City of Toronto Act, 2006 related to site plan provisions. Schedule 3 of Bill 23 made changes to the Development Charges Act.

The planning-related and municipal development-related charges changes came into force on November 28, 2022, except for provisions related to removal of planning responsibilities from certain upper-tier municipalities, certain provisions related to parkland dedication, and exemptions from municipal development-related charges for affordable and attainable housing, which will come into force on a day in the future to be named by proclamation. Provisions related to Conservation Authorities will take effect January 1, 2023.

Bill 23 also made changes to legislation led by other ministries. Please see Appendix A for an overview of the effective dates of the Bill 23 changes by schedule.

You can find more information about Bill 23 on the Environmental Registry of Ontario (<u>019-6163</u>), and the Ontario Legislative Assembly <u>website</u>.

# Bill 3, the Strong Mayors, Building Homes Act, 2022 and Bill 39, the Better Municipal Governance Act, 2022

Bill 3, the Strong Mayors, Building Homes Act, 2022, was introduced on August 10, 2022, and received Royal Assent on September 8, 2022. Bill 3 and associated regulations (<u>O. Reg. 529/22</u> and <u>O. Reg. 530/22</u>) came into force on November 23, 2022.

Bill 39, the Better Municipal Governance Act, 2022, was introduced on November 16, 2022, and received Royal Assent on December 8, 2022. Bill 39, amendments to associated regulations (<u>O. Reg. 581/22</u> and <u>O. Reg. 583/22</u>), and additional regulations to prescribe provincial priorities (<u>O. Reg. 580/22</u> and <u>O. Reg. 582/22</u>) came into force on December 20, 2022. Additional details can be found in Appendix B and on the Ontario Legislative Assembly's website (<u>Bill 3</u> and <u>Bill 39</u>).

Sincerely,

Black

Steve Clark Minister

c: Chief Administrative Officer

# Appendix A

### Effective Dates for Bill 23, the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022

Schedule	Effective Date
Schedule 1: City of	All of the changes in Schedule 1 (City of Toronto Act) came into force
Toronto Act, 2006	on the day the bill received Royal Assent.
	Note: The legislative changes to the City of Toronto Act include amendments that give the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing authority to make regulations imposing limits and conditions on how municipalities can regulate the demolition and conversion of residential rental properties of six units or more. No regulations have been made at this time.
Schedule 2:	Changes in Schedule 2 (Conservation Authorities Act) came into force
Conservation Authorities Act	<ul> <li>the day the bill received Royal Assent, except for:</li> <li>On January 1, sections related to streamlining disposition of lands for CAs comes into force which would allow CAs to sell or lease land without Minister's approval provided they follow rules around public consultation and notifications.</li> <li>Also on January 1, sections that enable the Minister's ability to issue</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>direction to freeze fees and ability to scope CA commenting on development applications and land use planning policies through regulation, would come into force but only have effect when the Minister issues direction on fees or if a regulation prescribing Act under which CA commenting roles is restricted is made.</li> <li>Changes related to CA permitting (including removal of "conservation of land" and "pollution", adding "unstable soil and bedrock", regulation making powers to exempt development from a CA permit where it has been authorized under the Planning Act, etc.) take effect on a later date (upon proclamation) once a new regulation under Section 28 of the CA Act is in effect. MNRF continues to consult on that regulation through the Environmental Registry (#019-2927).</li> </ul>
Schedule 3: Development Charges Act, 1997	All of the changes in Schedule 3 (Development Charges Act) came into force on the day the bill received Royal Assent, with the exception of provisions relating to development charge exemptions for affordable and attainable housing units, which would take effect upon proclamation.
Schedule 4: Municipal Act, 2001	All of the changes in Schedule 4 (Municipal Act) came into force on the day the bill received Royal Assent.
	Note: The legislative changes to the Municipal Act give the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing authority to make regulations imposing limits and conditions on how municipalities can regulate the demolition and conversion of residential rental properties of six units or more. No regulations have been made at this time.
Schedule 5: New Home Construction Licensing Act, 2017	Many of the amendments in Schedule 5 (New Home Construction Licensing Act) came into force on the day the bill received Royal Assent.
	The amendments regarding the maximum fine that a court may impose for a subsequent conviction, as well as most of the amendments related

Schedule	Effective Date
	to administrative penalties, will come into force on February 1, 2023.
Schedule 6:	Most of the amendments to the Ontario Heritage Act (OHA) made
Ontario Heritage	through the bill will be proclaimed into force on January 1, 2023. These
Act	include:
	• The new authorities under Part III.1 of the Act that relate to the Standards and Guidelines for Conservation of Provincial Heritage Properties.
	<ul> <li>Most of the changes to procedures related to municipal registers, including the process and requirements around inclusion of non-designated properties on the municipal registers. However, the requirement for municipalities to make their municipal registers available on a publicly accessible website will not come into force until July 1, 2023 to provide municipalities with time to ensure compliance.</li> <li>Limiting the ability to issue a Notice of Intention to Designate a</li> </ul>
	property subject to a prescribed event to only those properties included on a municipal register.
	<ul> <li>The authority to prescribe criteria for determining cultural heritage value or interest for the purposes of including non-designated properties on the municipal register and designating a Heritage Conservation District (HCD).</li> </ul>
	• The authority to set out processes to amend and repeal HCD bylaw in regulation. Note, the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism will consult on the development of these processes to be set out in regulation in 2023.
	Regulatory amendments to O.Reg. 9/06: Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest will also come into force on January 1, 2023. These changes establish that non-designated properties included on a register must meet one or more of the criteria outlined in the regulation, and that individual properties and HCDs must meet two or more of the criteria included in the regulation in order to be designated. The regulation also includes transitionary provisions to address matters underway at the time of the changes coming into force.
	The outstanding amendments to the OHA made through Bill 108, the More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019, will also be proclaimed into force on January 1, 2023. The amendments speak specifically to the demolition or removal of an attribute that is not a building or structure within an HCD.
	Regulatory amendments to O.Reg. 358/21: General will come into force on January 1, 2023. These amendments include consequential housekeeping amendments and transition provisions related to the above legislative amendments coming into force.
	Bill 23 included some minor housekeeping amendments to the OHA that came into force upon Royal Assent. These included repealing the alternative definition of "alter".
Schedule 7:	The changes in Schedule 7 (More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022) will
Ontario Land Tribunal Act, 2001	come into force on proclamation.

Schedule	Effective Date
Schedule 8: Ontario Underground Infrastructure Notification System Act, 2012	The changes in Schedule 8 (Ontario Underground Infrastructure Notification System Act, 2012) came into force on the day the bill received Royal Assent.
Schedule 9: Planning Act	<ul> <li>The changes in Schedule 9 (Planning Act) all came into force on the day the bill received Royal Assent, with the following exceptions:</li> <li>provisions related to removal of planning responsibilities from certain upper-tier municipalities, which would come into force on a day to be named by proclamation.</li> <li>provisions related to the exemption of community benefits charge and parkland dedication requirements for affordable and attainable housing units</li> <li>provisions related encumbered land to be conveyed to municipalities by developers for park or other recreational purposes</li> <li>provisions related to Conservation Authorities (linked to the changes in Schedule 2) will take effect January 1, 2023</li> </ul>
Schedule 10: Supporting Growth and Housing in York and Durham Regions Act, 2022	<ul> <li>Except as otherwise provided, the Act set out in Schedule 10 came into force on the day bill received Royal Assent.</li> <li>Sections 7 to 10, subsection 11 (5) and section 14 come into force on a day to be named by proclamation of the Lieutenant Governor. Once in force, these sections will require a prescribed municipality to develop, construct, and operate the Lake Simcoe phosphorus reduction project and allow the Ontario Clean Water Agency to undertake some or all of that project if ordered to do so by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. The project will also be exempt from the Environmental Assessment Act.</li> <li>Subsection 85 (1) comes into force on the later of the day subsection 44 (1) of this Act comes into force and the day section 2 of Schedule 5 to the Accelerating Access to Justice Act, 2021 comes into force. Subsection 85 (1) makes consequential changes to the Act arising out of changes to the Expropriations Act in respect of alternative hearings processes.</li> <li>Subsection 85 (2) comes into force on the later of the day section 61 of this Act comes into force and the day section 42 of Schedule 4 to the Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act, 2019 comes into force. Subsection 85 (2) makes consequential changes to the Act arising out of the Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act, 2019 consistent with other Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks legislation. The change would allow a person undertaking an inspection to obtain the assistance of the local police force rather than the Ontario Provincial Police Force.</li> </ul>

## Appendix B

#### Bill 3, the Strong Mayors, Building Homes Act, 2022 and Bill 39, the Better Municipal Governance Act, 2022

As a result of Bills 3 and 39, changes were made to the Municipal Act, 2001, City of Toronto Act, 2006 and the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, and regulations were established to give the mayors in Toronto and Ottawa strong mayor powers to help advance shared provincial-municipal priorities, including building new homes. These powers include:

- Choosing to appoint the municipality's chief administrative officer,
- Hiring certain municipal department heads, and establish and re-organize departments,
- Creating committees of council, assigning their functions and appointing the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of committees of council, and
- Proposing the municipal budget, subject to council amendments and a head of council veto and council override process.

The mayors of Toronto and Ottawa can also use strong mayor powers related to provincial priorities. These include:

- Vetoing certain by-laws if the mayor is of the opinion that all or part of the by-law could potentially interfere with a provincial priority,
- Bringing forward matters for council consideration if the mayor is of the opinion that considering the matter could potentially advance a provincial priority, and
- Proposing certain municipal by-laws if the mayor is of the opinion that the proposed bylaw could potentially advance a provincial priority. Council can pass these by-laws if more than one-third of council members vote in favour.

The provincial priorities for the purposes of strong mayor powers are prescribed in O. Reg. 580/22 and O. Reg. 582/22 and they are:

- 1. Building 1.5 million new residential units by December 31, 2031.
- 2. Constructing and maintaining infrastructure to support housing, including, transit, roads, utilities, and servicing.



P.O. Box 382 North Bay, ON P1B 8H5 705.497.5555 Ext. 507 kim@nearnorthcrimestoppers.com

December 23, 2022

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

Every January, **Crime Stoppers Month** is recognized around the world for the organization's impact on its communities. This year's theme is *Stand Up, Stand Together*!

Near North Crime Stoppers (NNCS), which serves the Districts of Nipissing and Parry Sound is a non-profit program that enhances community safety across the region. Despite all the modern technology available to law enforcement agencies, one of the most cost-effective and successful methods to prevent or solve crime is when someone anonymously reports a TIP to Crime Stoppers through the TIPLINE or the website. We do not subscribe to any call tracing technology, so tips remain confidential and are passed on to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

To date, NNCS has received over 20,800 calls from tipsters, contributing to the arrest of 1,772 individuals. Over \$4.3 million in property and cash has been recovered, and over \$57 million in drugs destined for our communities have been seized because of Crime Stoppers valuable information.

The success of Crime Stoppers rests heavily on community engagement through awareness and support of many partners, with municipalities being key stakeholders. Recognizing and supporting Crime Stoppers helps municipalities to support their local *Community Safety and Well Being Plans* plan.

We are asking your council to **pass a resolution recognizing January as Crime Stoppers Month in 2023**, and post/share messaging on your social media sites and electronic boards in your community. You can keep an eye on <a href="https://www.facebook.com/NearNorthCrimeStoppers">https://www.facebook.com/NearNorthCrimeStoppers</a>, our website <a href="https://nearnorthcrimestoppers.com">https://nearnorthcrimestoppers.com</a>, CTV channels, and The Moose radio for new TV and Radio commercials promoting our program.

If your council agrees to "*Stand Up, Stand Together*" and proclaim January as Crime Stoppers month, please contact us so that we can recognize your municipality on our social media platforms. If you would like to learn more about our program, we would be happy to provide or present information upon request. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

CC:

Brandon Fenton Chair Mary Houghton Executive Secretary teacherportable4@hotmail.com 705.724.2952

Mark Allen, Jean Lemieux, Kim Jones, Mary Houghton - Crime Stoppers Month Organizing Committee



Item 25.5



2 West Carling Bay Road, Nobel ON P0G 1G0 Email: mtaylor@carling.ca Phone: 705-342-5856 Fax: 705-342-9527

December 16, 2022

RE: Creation of Ontario Provincial Police Detachment Boards

At the Regular meeting of Council for the Township of Carling held December 13, 2022, Council passed the following resolution as part of the consent agenda:

22-104

Moved by Councillor Cook Seconded by Councillor Kelly

WHEREAS the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 calls for the end of Community Policing Advisory Committees (CAPCs) and the creation of the Ontario Provincial (OPP) Police Detachment Boards;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of the Solicitor General has asked municipalities and First Nations within a detachment area to work together to determine the composition of their board and the manner in which they will submit their proposal to the Ministry;

AND WHEREAS members of the previous West Parry Sound District CPAC have indicated interest in establishing a Board of Representatives of CPAC Municipalities and First Nations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council for the Township of Carling hereby support the submission by CPAC representatives to the Province of Ontario and the Ontario Provincial Police Detachment Board representing the seven (7) West Parry Sound Municipalities and Henvey Inlet First Nation;

AND FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Municipalities within the West Parry Sound District and Henvey Inlet First Nation.

Carried

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 705-342-5856 ext. 9181 or mtaylor@carling.ca

Sincerely

Maetin Sh

Mackenzie Taylor Deputy Clerk

CC.

Town of Parry Sound Township of the Archipelago Township of Seguin Township of McKellar Municipality of McDougall Municipality of Whitestone Henvey Inlet First Nation

# **Aquatic Environment Report**

Manitouwabing Lake

**Author** Georgian Bay Mnidoo Gamii Biosphere

November 2022

**Prepared For** 

Township of McKellar & Manitouwabing Lake Community Association





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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this environment report prepared by the Georgian Bay Mnidoo Gamii Biosphere for the Township of McKellar and Manitouwabing Lake Community Association (MLCA) is to provide residents and cottagers with one report summarizing water quality and fish community monitoring data for Manitouwabing Lake. In addition, the report provides recommendations for further monitoring as well as possible stewardship activities. The report is divided into three sections to reflect this purpose – water quality, fish communities, and recommendations.

# Water Quality

Volunteers on Manitouwabing Lake participate in the Lake Partner Program (LPP) and the MLCA and McKellar Township recently initiated a benthic monitoring program (Figure 1).



Figure 1. Active and recently active monitoring sites on Manitouwabing Lake.

The LPP collects data about phosphorus, water clarity, and calcium from volunteers. The simple tests for total phosphorus (TP) and water clarity provide a strong basis for assessing the health of the ecosystem, and whether TP is too high or too low.

Monitoring TP is very important as phosphorus is the nutrient that controls plant growth (including algae) in lakes. Measuring TP year after year is necessary to detect long-term changes in water quality that may be due to impacts of shoreline development, climate change, and other stressors.

A high-level summary of current Manitouwabing Lake LPP results is presented in Table 1. It is important to note that updates to information gathered through the LPP are limited. Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the LPP received and analysed a greatly reduced number of water samples in 2020 and 2021. Updated information for 2020 is presented where it is available, and 2021 data have not yet been released to the public.

	Site ID 8	Site ID 9	Site ID 13	Site ID 18	Site ID 19	Site ID 23
TP average	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	10.9 µg/L	n/a
TP trend	Decreasing	Decreasing	Decreasing	Decreasing	n/a	n/a
Trophic	Mesotrophic	Mesotrophic	Mesotrophic	Mesotrophic	Mesotrophic	Mesotrophic
status						
Clarity	2.3 m	1.5 m	2.0 m	2.2 m	3.3 m	1.4 m
Calcium	3.6 mg/L	4.2 mg/L	3.0 mg/L	4.1 mg/L	3.0 mg/L	4.2 mg/L

Table 1. Overview of Manitouwabing Lake LPP sampling results (Station 2973).

Note: Clarity and calcium are reported as averages. TP is reported as an average for lakes with three to five years of data. Trends are reported for lakes with more than five years of data. Trophic status is described in terms of three broad categories – oligotrophic, mesotrophic, and eutrophic. TP concentrations between 10-20  $\mu$ g/L indicate a mesotrophic or moderately enriched environment.

Benthic monitoring was initiated in 2020 in four locations throughout the lake following the Ontario Benthos Biomonitoring Network protocol. Benthic macroinvertebrates, or benthos, are small aquatic organisms (e.g., insects, crustaceans, worms) that spend all or part of their lifecycle living at the bottom of the lake. Some benthos can only be found in waterbodies with very good water quality, while others can tolerate poor water quality (Figure 2).

Benthic monitoring is a type of biological monitoring that uses an "effect-based approach" to provide information about how an ecosystem has responded to a stress. This complements water chemistry monitoring (e.g., TP, pH, dissolved oxygen) which looks at water quality from a "stressor-based approach", providing information about an ecosystem's exposure to stress. Together these approaches offer a more complete picture of aquatic ecosystem health (i.e., the lake's exposure to stress and associated ecological response).

Benthic monitoring results for all four sites on Lake Manitouwabing were analyzed, given that there are now three years of data collected. Currently all four sites are considered 'typical'

when compared to other lakes in the region. This means that the benthic community in the lake is typical for what we would expect to find in this region.

Highly pollution tolerant - most likely to be found in poor, fair, and good quality water





Semi-pollution tolerant - most likely to be found in fair and good quality water



Pollution sensitive - most likely to be found in good quality water





Figure 2. Benthic macroinvertebrates found in Manitouwabing Lake and their pollution sensitivities.

A thorough review of existing water quality data for Manitouwabing Lake was conducted by Bev Clark and published in 2018. The report indicates that TP concentrations throughout the lake are very similar among monitoring sites and between years. There is no clear evidence of increasing TP concentrations over time. The lake is at the lower end of the mesotrophic range (10-20  $\mu$ g/L), meaning that it will share characteristics more like oligotrophic lakes. In

addition, the lake is highly influenced by its watershed. This means that water in the lake will have water quality characteristics similar to the water coming in from the various sources, such as Manitouwabing River.

# **Fish Communities**

Manitouwabing Lake is home to a variety of fish species. Table 2 provides a high-level overview of the fish communities in the lake.

Major fish species	Largemouth bass (introduced), smallmouth bass (introduced), walleye
	(introduced), black crappie (introduced), northern pike (introduced)
Other fish species	Lake whitefish, creek chub, brown bullhead, yellow perch, bluntnose
	minnow, eastern blacknose dace, cisco, pumpkinseed, rock bass,
	common carp, white sucker
Lake trout	Not designated
management	
Current stocking	None
Historic stocking	Walleye (1938, 1950-2010), smallmouth bass (1941, 1950-1966)
Contaminants	Northern pike, walleye, black crappie
(species tested)	

Table 2. Summary of Manitouwabing Lake fish communities and their management (see link)

The most recent surveys conducted on Manitouwabing Lake were part of a Nearshore Community Index Netting (NSCIN) project undertaken in 2014 and 2015. Findings from the project suggest that the fish community of Manitouwabing Lake has changed significantly since the next most recent survey in 2004 (Figure 3). Since 2004, black crappie were illegally introduced to the lake and have become a major component of the fish community. Brown bullhead declined in abundance from the peak seen in 2004. Largemouth bass catch rates have increased steadily over the successive surveys although they still comprise a small portion of the catch. Catch rates of the other species did not display any major changes. Based on the 2014-2015 NSCIN project, further walleye stocking is not advised and the lake should instead be managed as a natural walleye lake.

Fish consumption advisories for Manitouwabing Lake are determined by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks. Fish are exposed to, and absorb, contaminants in the water in a variety of ways (e.g., consuming contaminated food) and pass those contaminants on to humans when consumed. In Manitouwabing Lake, mercury is the contaminant of concern. Table 3 summarizes the Manitouwabing Lake fish consumption advisories.



Figure 3. Catch rate (number/net) of major game fish species from 6' trap nets in Manitouwabing Lake, by year (Scholten, 2020).

Species	General Population	Sensitive Population*
Black	• max 32 meals/month of fish 20-25cm	max 12 meals/month of fish 20-25cm
crappie <sup>1</sup>	<ul> <li>max 12 meals/month of fish 25-30cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 25-30cm</li> </ul>
Northern	<ul> <li>max 16 meals/month of fish 30-35cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>max 8 meals/month of fish 30-35cm</li> </ul>
pike <sup>1</sup>	<ul> <li>max 16 meals/month of fish 35-40cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>max 8 meals/month of fish 35-40cm</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>max 16 meals/month of fish 40-45cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 40-45cm</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>max 12 meals/month of fish 45-50cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 45-50cm</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>max 8 meals/month of fish 50-55cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 50-55cm</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>max 8 meals/month of fish 55-60cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 55-60cm</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>max 8 meals/month of fish 60-65cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>no meals of fish 60-65cm</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 65-70cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>no meals of fish 65-70cm</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 70-75cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>no meals of fish 70-75cm</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish &gt;75cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>no meals of fish &gt;75cm</li> </ul>
Walleye <sup>1</sup>	<ul> <li>max 8 meals/month of fish 25-30cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 25-30cm</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>max 8 meals/month of fish 30-35cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>no meals of fish 30-35cm</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 35-40cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>no meals of fish 35-40cm</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 40-45cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>no meals of fish 40-45cm</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 45-50cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>no meals of fish 45-50cm</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>max 2 meals/month of fish 50-55cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>no meals of fish 50-55cm</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>max 2 meals/month of fish 55-60cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>no meals of fish 55-60cm</li> </ul>
	• max 2 meals/month of fish 60-65cm	<ul> <li>no meals of fish 60-65cm</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>max 0 meals/month of fish 65-70cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>no meals of fish 65-70cm</li> </ul>

Table O. Field			for Monitor		
Table 3. Fish	consumption	auvisories	Ior ivianitot	iwaping la	ke (see <u>link</u> ).

\* Women of child-bearing age and children under 15; <sup>1</sup> Mercury

# Recommendations

Based on results from LPP sampling, benthic monitoring, Clark's (2018) water quality report, and the most recent fish community survey, several recommendations are made in this report.

## Water Quality

- 1. Continue LPP sampling at several sites. Preference should be given to sites that are spread throughout the lake and that have the longest datasets. Suggested sites are Station 2973, Site IDs 8, 9, 13, and 18.
- 2. Continue with annual benthic monitoring. With lakes in the region facing many threats (e.g., climate change, biodiversity loss, development, pollution), benthic communities act as a barometer of ecological change and impacts. Continuing to monitor the benthic community in Manitouwabing Lake will allow for trends to be tracked over time and the observation of any notable shifts (statistically significant changes) that would be cause for further investigation and potentially require remedial actions.
- 3. Conduct late summer monitoring of dissolved oxygen in the deepest location and in isolated bays where depths are greater than 7-8m (see map on page 11 of Clark (2018) report).
- 4. Focus bacteria monitoring on beaches as per the province's Beach Management Guidance Document.
- 5. Should the MLCA wish to continue with bacteria monitoring elsewhere, it should happen in the framework of a scientific investigation focused on testing specific hypotheses on potential sources of contamination through a focused sampling program.
- 6. Start keeping long-term records of water temperature.

## **Fish Communities**

- 1. Anglers should familiarize themselves with the <u>new regulations</u> for the sale and possession of live bait in Ontario. Highlights include:
  - A valid fishing license is required to catch your own live baitfish, leeches, crayfish, and northern leopard frogs.
  - There are specific fish species that can and cannot be used as bait in Ontario.
  - Bait can only be caught in your home Bait Management Zone (BMZ) and cannot leave your BMZ.
  - Baitfish and leeches you catch cannot be sold unless you are a licensed dealer.

- If you fish outside your home BMZ, you must buy your baitfish and leeches locally, keep a receipt, and use or dispose of your bait within two weeks of the purchase date.
- 2. Anglers should use the app <u>MyCatch</u> by Angler's Atlas to log fishing trips and share fishing data confidentially with biologists.

## Stewardship Activities

- 1. Encourage Manitouwabing Lake property owners to maintain and/or restore natural shorelines. GBB's Life on the Bay Stewardship Guide and Planting for Pollinators guide are helpful resources for property owners interested in native plants and naturalization. Native plants can be sourced from the MLCA <u>Native Plant Seedling Sale</u> and the annual GBB Native Plant Fundraiser (check the GBB <u>events page</u> in the spring).
- 2. Property owners interested in minimizing their ecological footprint can utilize GBB's <u>Life on</u> <u>the Bay Stewardship Guide</u>.
- 3. There are many <u>citizen science programs</u> for interested cottagers and residents to get involved in (e.g., invasive species reporting, IceWatch, FrogWatch, Canadian Lakes Loon Survey).

# INTRODUCTION

Manitouwabing Lake is situated within the Williams Treaty of 1923 and the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850 (Ministry of Indigenous Affairs, 2022) in the traditional territory of Wasauksing First Nation and Shawanaga First Nation (Figure 4).



Figure 4. Signatories to the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850 and Williams Treaty of 1923.

Manitouwabing Lake is located almost entirely within the geographic and municipal township of McKellar (Figure 5). It is one of the largest lakes in the Parry Sound area, measuring roughly 1,200 hectares in size (Scholten, 2020). The lake collects water from a fairly large watershed through numerous inflows including the Manitouwabing River, and outflows at the south end of the lake (Clark, 2018). Lake water level is regulated by a dam located on the outflow at Hurdville which has raised the water by approximately 2.5m from its natural level (Scholten, 2020). The dam is owned and operated by Parry Sound Generation Corporation for the purpose of hydroelectric power generation downstream at Parry Sound (McIntrye, 2005).



Figure 5. Manitouwabing Lake and surrounding area of McKellar.

The lake has a maximum depth of 33.6m (110ft), a mean depth of 5.6m (18.4ft) (McIntyre, 2005), and a flushing rate of 2.8 times per year (Clark, 2018). A diverse cool/warm water fish community is supported by the lake, dominated by northern pike, smallmouth and largemouth bass, black crappie, and walleye (Scholten, 2020).

Manitouwabing Lake is the site of six resorts and over one thousand private residences (MLCA, 2019). Public access to the lake is possible from several boat launches as well as public docks.

# WATER QUALITY

# Overview

Volunteers on Manitouwabing Lake participate in the Lake Partner Program (LPP) run by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP). Additionally, benthic monitoring is conducted by GBB at four sites on the lake as of 2020 (Figure 6). All past and present LPP data for Manitouwabing Lake can be found in Appendix A.



Figure 6. Active and recently active monitoring sites on Manitouwabing Lake. Sampling years are listed under site codes.

# Lake Partner Program

The LPP is an Ontario-wide, publicly funded, free program that collects data about phosphorus, water clarity, calcium, and temperature from volunteers. The simple tests for total phosphorus (TP) and water clarity provide a strong basis for assessing the health of the ecosystem, and whether TP is too high or too low.

Monitoring TP is very important as phosphorus is the nutrient that controls plant growth (including algae) in lakes. Measuring TP year after year is necessary to detect long-term changes in water quality that may be due to impacts of shoreline development, climate change, and other stressors. Inland lakes require TP data to help assess background concentrations relative to present day concentrations. Data collected by volunteers are analyzed by the Dorset Environmental Science Centre (DESC) which makes all data <u>available online</u>.

### Methods

As a general rule, only one representative sampling location is required for each lake even in large convoluted lakes with multiple arms. In the event that there are compelling reasons to believe that water quality in different areas of the lake would be influenced differently by rivers or development for example, or there are local observed differences or perceived problems, more sites might be recommended. Generally speaking, if the watershed influences are similar across a lake, the water quality will be similar as well.

Spring total phosphorus sampling (following LPP protocols) is sufficient for most locations in the region, as there are few areas that experience fall algal blooms. Additionally, Secchi disc water clarity measurements are taken each month at the same location as the TP samples. The black-and-white Secchi disc is lowered into the water until it is at the absolute limit of being visible. This depth is the Secchi depth of visibility, which is directly related to water clarity and can be used as a simple and effective monitoring tool for determining the effects of human activities on water clarity and, indirectly, on the nutrient content in the water.

The materials needed to take the water samples and conduct water clarity measurements are sent to volunteers by the province. Instructions are included in this package, additionally, training videos are available online. Samples are returned (postage paid) to DESC for analysis and Secchi observation sheets are mailed to DESC in November.

## Interpreting Results

### Water Clarity

In general, water clarity, as measured by Secchi depth, tends to be higher in large bodies of water like the open areas of Georgian Bay and in bays with good water circulation. Water clarity tends to diminish (smaller Secchi depth values) in enclosed bays, near wetlands or

sources of organic material, and in lakes or areas that have higher nutrient levels either from natural or anthropogenic sources.

Secchi depth values should be compared over several years to assess whether there are water clarity trends for a particular area. Where more than one year of water clarity data exists for a sampling location, Secchi depth in metres is graphed and an average depth is given.

### Calcium

Calcium is a nutrient that is required by all living organisms. Some organisms, including those that make up the lower food web, use calcium in the water to form their calcium-rich body coverings. The lower food web forms the foundation of a healthy food web. Prey fish and juvenile predatory fish (piscivores) rely on the lower food web as a main source of food for growth, and predators depend on plentiful prey for their growth – if the lower food web is in poor condition, in time higher levels of the food web will respond and reflect that condition. These organisms of the lower food web, like Daphnia, mollusks, clams, amphipods, and crayfish, are very sensitive to declining calcium levels.

Calcium concentrations have been shown to be decreasing in Canadian Shield lakes in response to depleted watershed stores of calcium caused by logging and decades of acid loading associated with acid rain. Combined with lower food availability and warmer temperatures predicted as part of a changing climate, this decrease represents an important stressor for many aquatic species.

Calcium concentrations should be considered over the long term to identify trends.

### Total Phosphorus

As phosphorus is the nutrient that controls the growth of plants (e.g., algae) in the aquatic environment, TP concentrations are used to interpret nutrient status. The nutrient status of an aquatic environment is typically described in terms of three broad categories – oligotrophic, mesotrophic, and eutrophic (Figure 7). TP concentrations below 10  $\mu$ g/L indicate an oligotrophic or unproductive environment. Aquatic environments with TP concentrations ranging between 10 and 20  $\mu$ g/L are termed mesotrophic and are moderately enriched. Finally, TP concentrations over 20  $\mu$ g/L indicate a eutrophic aquatic environment in which persistent, nuisance algal blooms are possible.



Figure 7. A lake's trophic status is determined by its total phosphorus concentration. Oligotrophic lakes have TP levels less than 10  $\mu$ g/L; mesotrophic lakes have TP concentrations ranging between 10 and 20  $\mu$ g/L; and eutrophic lakes have TP concentrations over 20  $\mu$ g/L.

The Interim Provincial Water Quality Objective (PWQO) for TP in lakes is 20 µg/L. This measure is intended to serve as a warning for, and to prevent, conditions that could result in the nuisance growth of algae. Results in this report are used to characterize trophic condition and assess TP trends (e.g., upward, downward). When interpreting data, the MECP cautions that although only three years of data are required to establish a reliable, long-term average to measure current nutrient status, a longer data set is required to examine trends. Some aquatic environments exhibit relatively large differences in TP between years, highlighting the need for long-term data collection to distinguish between natural variation and true anomalies.

Average TP is calculated for sampling locations with between three and five years of data, as well as, locations with five or more years of data for which there is no apparent trend. For sampling locations with five or more years of TP data and for which there is an apparent trend, a trend line is shown on the TP graph and average is not calculated. Visible outliers are removed for the purpose of determining whether a trend exists.

The LPP database (available <u>here</u>) contains TP data from over one thousand sampling locations across Ontario. Readers may find the database useful in understanding how Manitouwabing Lake TP concentrations compare to other waterbodies across the province.

It is important to note that LPP TP data are presented as two samples (TP1 and TP2) plus an average for each sampling date. TP1 and TP2 are duplicate TP concentrations which help to verify confidence in the results and provide a contingency against one sample being lost due to breakage during shipment or laboratory accidents. If there are major differences between TP1 and TP2, it is likely that one of the two samples was contaminated, for example by zooplankton or other debris. In this section, only averages are presented and in cases where

there is a major difference between TP1 and TP2, averages are not included to avoid erroneous interpretations. TP1, TP2, and average TP are all reported in Appendix A.

### Results

All sites sampled on Manitouwabing Lake through the LPP have TP concentrations indicating mesotrophic conditions. This means the lake is moderately enriched with TP concentrations ranging from 10 to 20  $\mu$ g/L.

Station 2973, Site ID 8				
Description: West of Maplewood	<ul> <li>Average TP: 11.41 μg/L</li> </ul>			
Data collector: LPP volunteer	Trend: n/a			
Trophic status: mesotrophic	Average Secchi depth: 2.3 m			
	Visible outliers: none			



Figure 8. Lake Partner Program data for water clarity, calcium, and total phosphorus at Station 2973, Site 8.

Station 2973, Site ID 9				
Description: E of Longhorn, Hardle's Cr	Average TP: n/a			
Data collector: LPP volunteer	Trend: decreasing			
Trophic status: mesotrophic	Average Secchi depth: 1.5 m			
	Visible outliers: none			



**Figure 9.** Lake Partner Program data for water clarity, calcium, and total phosphorus at Station 2973, Site 9. Note: two TP data points are given in the LPP database for 2018.

Station 2973, Site ID 13	
Description: Jones Bay	Average TP: n/a
Data collector: LPP volunteer	Trend: decreasing
Trophic status: mesotrophic	Average Secchi depth: 2.0 m
	Visible outliers: none



Figure 10. Lake Partner Program data for water clarity, calcium, and total phosphorus at Station 2973, Site 13.

Station 2973, Site ID 18	
Description: McKellar Bay	Average TP: n/a
Data collector: LPP volunteer	Trend: decreasing
Trophic status: mesotrophic	Average Secchi depth: 2.2 m
	Visible outliers: none



Figure 11. Lake Partner Program data for water clarity, calcium, and total phosphorus at Station 2973, Site 18.

Station 2973, Site ID 19					
Description: McKellar Bay, near dock	<ul> <li>Average TP: 10.9 μg/L</li> </ul>				
Data collector: LPP volunteer	• Trend: n/a				
Trophic status: mesotrophic	Average Secchi depth: 3.3 m				
	Visible outliers: none				



Figure 12. Lake Partner Program data for water clarity, calcium, and total phosphorus at Station 2973, Site 19.

Station	Site ID	Description	Data Collector	2020 Average TP	2020 Secchi depth	2020 Calcium
2973	23	East of Hurdville	LPP volunteer	11.2 μg/L	1.4	4.2

### Recommendations

Continue LPP sampling annually. Prioritize locations that have a long, continuous history of sampling or areas with notable water quality concerns. Suggested sites are Station 2973, Site IDs 8, 9, 13, and 18.

# **Benthic Monitoring**

Different types of water quality monitoring provide water managers with complementary information. Most people are familiar with the idea of looking at water quality from a "stressor-based approach". This includes monitoring water chemistry parameters like pH, dissolved oxygen, total phosphorus, and others. Stressor-based monitoring approaches provide important information about an ecosystem's exposure to stress, but they leave unanswered questions about the significance (or effect) of that stress.

Biological monitoring uses an "effect-based approach" to provide information about how ecosystems have responded to a stress, for example by looking at fish communities or benthic
macroinvertebrates. However, effect-based approaches leave unanswered questions about what stresses are being responded to. Therefore, these approaches (chemical and biological monitoring) are complementary and together provide a complete picture of aquatic ecosystem health (i.e., the lake's exposure to stress and associated ecological response).

For example, volunteers on Manitouwabing Lake monitor phosphorus levels which provide a measure of exposure to stress (e.g., impacts from: humans, climate change, invasive species). These measures could be phosphorus levels going up, going down, or staying the same (as shown by the trend lines on the LPP data charts). But what is the impact from these trends on the ecosystem? By adding benthic monitoring, we can start to see if and how the ecosystem is reacting to a stressor.

Over the last three decades, the use of biological monitoring in Ontario has increased dramatically. Researchers, water managers, and the larger scientific community are recognizing the ability of biological monitoring to reflect the impacts of stressors on aquatic ecosystems including the effects of non-point-source and episodic pollution, habitat changes, and the cumulative effects of multiple stressors. Accordingly, the use of biotic changes to evaluate ecosystem condition and water management performance has grown in relevance and legitimacy – to the point that legal and regulatory frameworks in many countries now require information on biological condition. Ontario's Water Resources Act (R.S.O 1990, C. 040) and Environmental Protection Act (R.S.O. 1990, C. E19), for example, define impairment and adverse impact in clearly biological terms.

Benthic macroinvertebrates (or benthos) are small aquatic organisms (including insects, crustaceans, worms, and mollusks). The term benthic macroinvertebrate can be broken down to better understand the nature of these organisms. Benthic macroinvertebrates spend all or part of their life cycle living at the bottom of the lake (benthic), they are quite small but can generally still be seen with the naked eye (macro), and they lack a backbone (invertebrate).

These animals are well suited as indicators of water and sediment quality as they spend most or all of their lives (1-3 years) in constant contact with the benthic environment in a specific area. Furthermore, they are relatively easy and inexpensive to sample, and have varying tolerances to disturbances and pollution.

A healthy lake will support high richness (the number of species) and abundance (the number of individuals). If a lake has low species richness and mainly pollution-tolerant species, the lake could be impaired. Figure 13 highlights common taxa found in lakes throughout the Parry

Sound-Muskoka District, including Manitouwabing Lake, and their varying pollution sensitivities.

Highly pollution tolerant - most likely to be found in poor, fair, and good quality water





Semi-pollution tolerant - most likely to be found in fair and good quality water



Pollution sensitive - most likely to be found in good quality water





Figure 13. Benthic macroinvertebrates found in Manitouwabing Lake and their pollution sensitivities.

It is important to note that an aquatic ecosystem with pollution tolerant species is not necessarily a cause for concern. If pollution sensitive species are also present in the same area, this indicates that the water quality must be good enough for the pollution sensitive species to thrive, along with those that are less sensitive. When an aquatic ecosystem hosts pollution tolerant species with no evidence of pollution sensitive species, this could indicate a need for further investigation into potential water quality issues.

Changes in the benthic community of a lake (e.g., changes in the types of organisms, abundance) can indicate changes in the lake ecosystem (e.g., improvements in water quality, habitat alteration, introduction of invasive species).

Finally, benthic macroinvertebrates are an important part of the food web of a lake. Certain benthic macroinvertebrates are an important food source for a variety of fish species, while others play a key role in decomposing organic matter.

The objectives of the Manitouwabing Lake benthic monitoring program are to:

- Determine the ecological condition of Manitouwabing Lake;
- Compare Manitouwabing Lake to similar lakes in the Parry Sound-Muskoka District; and
- Compare sites within Manitouwabing Lake.

## Methods

Certified GBB staff conduct benthic macroinvertebrate sampling on behalf of the Township of McKellar and MLCA using the standardized Ontario Benthos Biomonitoring Network (OBBN) protocol for lakes. For each of the four sites, three shallow, nearshore areas representative of the lake are selected as test sites (referred to as "lake segments" in the protocol) and sampled each year using the travelling kick-and-sweep. The individual doing the sampling disturbs the bottom of the lake in transects from 1m depth to the water's edge for approximately 10 minutes. Using a net, the dislodged material is collected and placed in a bucket. These samples are then processed to count and identify the different types of benthos in the sample (video available here). There are 27 different groups of benthos that are searched for, ranging in sensitivity to water pollutants and water quality.

## Interpreting Results

Manitouwabing Lake has had benthic macroinvertebrate sampling conducted each year since 2020. The objective of the benthic monitoring is to characterize the benthic community of the lake and compare it to lakes in the Parry Sound-Muskoka District to determine whether the benthic community in Manitouwabing Lake is considered typical of what would be expected for a lake in this region.

The District Municipality of Muskoka has been working with lake associations to conduct benthic monitoring throughout the district since 2004. This rich Muskoka dataset, combined with additional benthic data for lakes in south-central Ontario from the Dorset Environmental Science Centre and from Jones et al. (2007), provides the basis needed for regional comparisons among lakes.

As detailed in the <u>2018 Muskoka Watershed Report Card Background Report</u>, the Muskoka Watershed Council (MWC) reports on lake benthic communities in terms of the percentage of pollution-sensitive taxa found. Specifically, the pollution-sensitive taxa include larval mayflies (*Ephemeroptera*), dragonflies and damselflies (*Odonata*), and caddisflies (*Trichoptera*), collectively referred to as EOT. These taxa are very sensitive to pollution and habitat alterations, meaning that their numbers will be highest in healthy lakes and lowest in unhealthy or disturbed lakes. The average %EOT for a lake is compared to the normal range for %EOT in lakes in the region. In other words, this monitoring seeks to answer the question, does the %EOT for the lake of interest fall within the normal range of what would be expected for a lake in the region?

The normal range for %EOT in lakes in the region was determined by MWC for the Muskoka Watershed Report Card by "randomly selecting one data point from each lake sampled between 2012 and 2017 and characterizing the distribution of values observed among these lakes" (MWC, 2018, p. 46). The resulting range of %EOT values is shown in Figure 14 and is used for analysis in this report.

Following the methodology used by MWC (2018), the average %EOT was calculated for each of the four sites on Manitouwabing Lake using data collected between 2020 and 2022. The average %EOT for each lake was then compared to the normal range (Figure 14) to determine whether the lake is considered typical, atypical, or extremely atypical. These categories are defined by MWC (2018) as follows:

- **Typical**: %EOT is between the 10th and 90th percentile. These lakes resemble the majority of lakes in the region, and therefore are comprised of typical percentages of EOT species.
- **Atypical**: %EOT is between either the 5th and 10th percentile or the 90th and 95th percentile. These lakes are outside of the normal range of the majority of lakes in the region. The percentages of EOT species may be slightly higher or lower compared to the majority of lakes in the region.

• Extremely Atypical: %EOT is less than the 5th percentile or greater than the 95th percentile. These lakes do not represent the majority of lakes in the region in terms of the percentages of EOT species. These lakes may have very high or very low percentages of EOT species compared to the majority of lakes in the region.

If a lake is considered atypical or extremely atypical, additional monitoring may be necessary to determine a cause.



Typical Range of EOT values, 113 Random Lakes

**Figure 14.** Range of %EOT values of sampled lakes in the region from 2012 to 2017. Typical is shown in green which is between the 10th and 90th percentile (%EOT between 0.55 and 20.99). Atypical is shown in orange which is between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> percentile (%EOT between 0.3 and 0.54) and 90<sup>th</sup> and 95<sup>th</sup> percentile (%EOT between 22.1 and 28.01). Extremely atypical is shown in red which is less than the 5<sup>th</sup> percentile (%EOT less than 0.29) or greater than the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile (%EOT greater than 31.5).

## Results

Four sites (three lake segments each) were sampled in Manitouwabing Lake from 2020-2022 (Figure 15). Benthic monitoring data for all sites are available in Appendix B.



Figure 15. Benthic sampling locations on Manitouwabing Lake.

#### Site 1 – Manitouwabing Lake

As shown in Figure 16, the %EOT for site 1 on Manitouwabing Lake falls within the normal range of what is expected for lakes in the region.



**Figure 16.** Manitouwabing Lake site 1 average %EOT (dashed purple line) and standard deviation (solid purple line) sampled from 3 lake segments over 3 years (n=9) fall within the "typical" category (green area) on the typical %EOT range plot (based on 113 sampled lakes). This indicates that the benthic community for site 1 is typical of what would be expected for a lake in this region.

#### Site 2 – Manitouwabing Lake

As shown in Figure 17, the %EOT for site 2 on Manitouwabing Lake falls within the normal range of what is expected for lakes in the region.



**Figure 17**. Manitouwabing Lake site 2 average %EOT (dashed purple line) and standard deviation (solid purple line) sampled from 3 lake segments over 3 years (n=9) fall within the "typical" category (green area) on the typical %EOT range plot (based on 113 sampled lakes). This indicates that the benthic community for site 2 is typical of what would be expected for a lake in this region.

#### Site 3 – Manitouwabing Lake

As shown in Figure 18, the %EOT for site 3 on Manitouwabing Lake falls within the normal range of what is expected for lakes in the region.



**Figure 18.** Manitouwabing Lake site 3 average %EOT (dashed purple line) and standard deviation (solid purple line) sampled from 3 lake segments over 3 years (n=9) fall within the "typical" category (green area) on the typical %EOT range plot (based on 113 sampled lakes). This indicates that the benthic community for site 3 is typical of what would be expected for a lake in this region.

#### Site 4 – Manitouwabing Lake

As shown in Figure 19, the %EOT for site 4 on Manitouwabing Lake falls within the normal range of what is expected for lakes in the region.



**Figure 19.** Manitouwabing Lake site 4 average %EOT (dashed purple line) and standard deviation (solid purple line) sampled from 3 lake segments over 3 years (n=9) fall within the "typical" category (green area) on the typical %EOT range plot (based on 113 sampled lakes). This indicates that the benthic community for site 4 is typical of what would be expected for a lake in this region.

## Recommendations

With lakes in the region facing many threats (e.g., climate change, biodiversity loss, development, pollution), benthic communities act as a barometer of ecological change and impacts. Continuing to monitor the benthic community in Manitouwabing Lake will allow for trends to be tracked over time and the observation of any notable shifts (statistically significant changes) that would be cause for further investigation and potentially require remedial actions.

## Manitouwabing Lake State of the Basin Review 2018

Bev Clark, Aquatic Scientist, was hired by the MLCA to conduct a thorough review of existing Manitouwabing Lake water quality data and provide recommendations for future water quality monitoring activities. Clark's report was published in 2018 and is available on the MLCA's website. The key conclusion and recommendations from the report are provided in full below (complete report available in Appendix C).

The following conclusions were drawn in Clark's (2018) report:

- The bottom line with respect to phosphorus is that concentrations are similar throughout the lake and consistent between years.
- The phosphorus values indicate a lake that is highly influenced by its watershed with no sign of deterioration in water quality (with respect to phosphorus) over the years.
- Manitouwabing Lake's mesotrophic status is not likely the result of human activity in the watershed but rather the result of export of dissolved organic carbon (DOC) from wetlands. Most of the 11.5 µg/L TP in Manitouwabing Lake has its origins as DOC in the watershed's wetland complexes.
- DOC concentrations throughout the lake are relatively similar (4.2-6.0 mg/L) with slightly more tea stained water in the south east areas of the lake. This relatively narrow range in DOC values throughout the lake indicates similar wetland conditions throughout the different subwatersheds.
- Manitouwabing Lake is not expected to support algal blooms.
- Bacteria data are difficult to interpret. There are conclusions that can be drawn by examination of the data, but there are also many aspects of bacteria in lake water that cannot be deduced from these data. Generally, the Manitouwabing Lake bacteria data show that about 5% of the samples are over 100 counts which is the guideline for recreational use. This indicates that the water is swimmable in most areas 95% of the time.

## Recommendations

The following recommendations are made in Clark's (2018) report:

- 1. Several central locations (LPP Site #11, 1 and 3) and possibly one new location near the outflow be monitored by LPP volunteers with an effort to maintain a long-term monitoring record. Some of these sites may or may not be currently sampled. Long-term monitoring records are important to assess the effect of external drivers on the nutrient status of the lake.
- 2. The efforts used to collect bacteria data could be directed at other issues such as:
  - Education towards aspects of nearshore (shoreline) management.
  - Useful inventories such as areas where aquatic plants grow to assess whether the extent of plant beds are changing.
  - Long-term records of water levels and/or temperature.
- 3. Late summer monitoring of dissolved oxygen in the deepest location and in isolated bays where the depths are greater than 7-8m (see page 11 of Clark (2018) report for a map) may provide additional information to address the potential for algal blooms. After areas are identified as having the oxygen depleted at the bottom (with measured oxygen profiles) in year one, there can be samples taken 1 meter from the bottom in subsequent years to assess whether or not there are elevated phosphorus concentrations in the bottom water.
- 4. All efforts should be made to ensure that invasive species do notenter the watershed. There are many organizations that provide guidance on invading species, e.g. The Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations. <u>https://foca.on.ca/aquatic-invasive-species-program/</u>

Additional years of LPP results have become available since Clark's report was published in 2018. These additional data are included in Appendix A along with all historical LPP data for Manitouwabing Lake.

# FISH COMMUNITIES

## Overview

Table 4 provides a high-level overview of the fish communities in Manitouwabing Lake.

Major fish species	Largemouth bass (introduced), smallmouth bass (introduced), walleye (introduced), black crappie (introduced), northern pike (introduced)
Other fish species	Lake whitefish, creek chub, brown bullhead, yellow perch,
	bluntnose minnow, eastern blacknose dace, cisco,
	pumpkinseed, rock bass, common carp, white sucker
Lake trout management	Not designated
Current stocking	None
Historic stocking	Walleye (1938, 1950-2010), smallmouth bass (1941, 1950-
	1966)
Contaminants (species	Northern pike, walleye, black crappie
tested)	

 Table 4. Summary of Manitouwabing Lake fish communities and their management (see link)

The first documentation of a Ministry-led fish community study on Manitouwabing Lake is from 1959. A cursory survey documented the presence of walleye, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, yellow perch, lake whitefish, and common carp. Northern pike, however, were not found to be present at that time. A historical note on the Ministry's lake file indicates that northern pike were introduced to the lake via unauthorized introduction in the 1960s. Interestingly, Manitouwabing Lake is the only lake known to contain common carp in the Parry Sound area. Another unreferenced historical note on the Manitouwabing Lake file states that carp were introduced to the lake at the turn of the century (1900) or earlier. Stocking of walleye began in 1938 and in 1941 for smallmouth bass (McIntrye, 2005).

During a 1974 Aquatic Habitat Inventory Survey, northern pike were documented in the lake for the first time. At this time walleye, smallmouth bass, and brown bullhead were all captured in low numbers. On the other hand, northern pike, common white sucker, rock bass, yellow perch, and cisco were captured in high numbers (OMNR, 1974).

In 1982 a trap net and gill net survey was conducted on Manitouwabing Lake to assess the health of the fish population. Results of the survey indicated a well-balanced fish community

with good recruitment, although productivity appeared low and there were indications of overexploitation of game fish (McIntyre, 1983). When this survey was repeated in 1988, the results showed a drastic change to a coarse fish dominated community (i.e., dominated by fish other than game fish) (Sober, 1989). The brown bullhead population saw a dramatic increase between these two surveys. Weight and number of fish caught in 1988 were much higher than in 1982, attributable primarily to the growing brown bullhead population. Walleye, northern pike, and smallmouth bass populations were essentially unchanged.

Intensive creel surveys were conducted in the summer of 1983 and the winter of 1984. Together these surveys revealed high fishing pressure on Manitouwabing Lake and modest harvest of game fish (MacMillan, 1985a; 1985b). Fishing effort exceeded 30 rod hours per hectare with fishing for northern pike described as very good, but only fair for walleye and smallmouth bass. Comparing this information to volunteer creel data pooled from 1973-1979, it appears that fishing quality has not changed much on the lake over time.

In an effort to rebuild walleye stocks and promote natural rehabilitation in Manitouwabing Lake, several habitat enhancement projects were carried out over the decades. Details on some of these efforts are quite sparse. For example, in a note on the lake file in 1985, a walleye spawning bed enhancement project at Broadbent Rapids is mentioned (MNRF, 2010). A separate note added in 1988 states that spawning bed rehabilitation work was completed below the Hurdville Dam (limestone rock placement and sand removal) and spawning bed rubble was cleaned at Squaw Rapids on Middle River (MNRF, 2010). No other details are provided.

In addition to spawning bed enhancement work, lake-specific fishing regulations were changed in 1998. The walleye daily catch limit was reduced to two fish per day and a maximum size catch limit of 35.6 cm (14") was imposed (this regulation was later revoked in 2008). Furthermore, in 2000, the Manitou-Seguin Game and Fish Club commenced rehabilitative stocking of walleye fry, in partnership with the MNRF. In 2000 and 2001 alone, over 638,000 walleye fry were stocked at various sites in Manitouwabing Lake (McIntyre, 2000; 2001).

An End of Spring Trapnet (ESTN) survey was conducted in 2004, shortly after walleye stocking began. The purpose of the survey was three-fold. First, to assess the status of the nearshore fish community, particularly the walleye population. Second, to evaluate the impact of previous walleye fry stocking, and third, to evaluate the impact of regulations for walleye implemented in 1998. ESTN surveys use live capture, 6' trap nets set overnight for approximately 24 hours.

A total of 30 net sets were completed from May 17-June 10 resulting in the capture of 2,820 fish weighing over 1,400 kg. As summarized by McIntyre (2005), productivity was found to be exceptionally high, but over 70% of the catch weight was comprised of brown bullhead (Figure 20). Abundance indices for walleye, smallmouth bass, and largemouth bass were somewhat low relative to provincial and Parry Sound area lakes. These figures were similar to those observed on the lake in the 1980s (Figure 21). Northern pike abundance was slightly higher than the provincial and Parry Sound average and similar to abundance measured in the 1980s. Other nearshore species including yellow perch, rock bass, and pumpkinseed were caught in very low abundance.



Figure 20. Catch composition for the 2004 ESTN survey on Manitouwabing Lake (McIntyre, 2005).



Figure 21. Catch composition by species for the 1982, 1988, and 2004 trapnet surveys on Manitouwabing Lake (McIntyre, 2005).

## Nearshore Community Index Netting Project (2004 & 2005)

Manitouwabing Lake was most recently surveyed by the MNRF in 2014 and 2015 Figure 22). A Nearshore Community Index Netting (NSCIN) project was conducted over the two years. The purpose of the survey was to obtain information on the composition of the fish community and the abundance and population of primary game fish species (Scholten, 2020).

NSCIN surveys use live capture, 6' trap nets set overnight for approximately 24 hours. Netting is conducted in late summer from August 1 until the surface temperature cools to 13°C. Net set locations are typically randomly selected, however in this case the same sites used in the 2004 ESTN (McIntyre, 2005) were used again. Captured fish are enumerated by species and major game fish species are sampled in greater detail including length, weight, and the collection of calcified structures for age determination.

A total of 16 net sets were completed from September 8-13, 2014 and 15 net sets completed from September 28-October 2, 2015. Most of the results presented in the NSCIN report are reported by combining results from both years.

By both number and weight, brown bullhead was the most abundant species (average 16.4/net, 7.4kg/net). Of the large game fish, smallmouth bass were the most abundant by number and weight (3.0/net, 2.0kg/net). Northern pike (0.8/net, 1.1kg/net), largemouth bass (1.0/net, 0.8kg/net), and walleye (1.1/net, 1.6kg/net) were all caught at similar rates but varied more in their total weights due to differences in average size of each species. Black crappie were the most numerous game fish overall (4.9/net), but accounted for less weight (1.2kg/net). Finally, white sucker, rock bass, and pumpkinseed made up the remainder of the catch (Figure 23). Table 5 presents a summary of size and age ranges for each game fish species as well as an indication of growth rate.



Figure 22. Manitouwabing Lake trap net set locations, NSCIN 2014-2015.



Figure 23. Catch summary by number (wide bars, left vertical axis) and weight (narrow bars, right vertical axis) for Manitouwabing Lake NSCIN 2014-2015 (Scholten, 2020).

	Walleye	Northern pike	Smallmouth	Largemouth	Black crappie
			bass	bass	
Min fork length (mm)	249	337	160	180	115
Max fork length (mm)	672	840	444	431	315
Mean fork length (mm)	487	559	325	347	232
Min age (years)	2	1	1	1	1
Max age (years)	19	8	12	9	5
Mean age (years)	7.7	4.3	6.1	3.1	2.7
Growth rate	Above	Below	Above	Above	Above
	average	average	average	average*	average

Table 5. Summary of game fish species' lengths, ages, and growth rates (Scholten, 2020).

\* The observed growth rate of largemouth bass was very rapid; above maximum values observed elsewhere in the province.

The 2014-2015 NSCIN report (Scholten, 2020) summarizes that overall, catch composition and abundance of the major game fish species caught were similar to previous surveys, other than the appearance of black crappie (Figure 24). While black crappie had been reported to occur in the lake previously, they did not occur when the last MNRF survey was conducted in 2004. Since being illegally introduced to the lake, back crappie have become a major component of the fish community as evidenced by the fact that they were the second most commonly caught species by number. Several species previously documented were not



caught during the 2014-2015 sampling including yellow perch, lake whitefish, cisco, and common carp.

Figure 24. Catch rate (number/net) of major game fish species from 6' trap nets in Manitouwabing Lake, by year (Scholten, 2020).

The overall catch rates of northern pike and walleye in 2014-2015 were somewhat lower than in the past. Smallmouth bass, on the other hand, had a higher catch rate than observed in 1988 and 2004, but not to the point of concluding that a long-term trend has occurred. Largemouth bass catch rate has increased with each successive survey reflecting a real long-term increase in abundance. Brown bullhead catch has shown the greatest variation over surveys; none were caught in 6' trap nets in 1982, extremely large numbers were caught in 1988 and 2004, and a decrease occurred in 2014-2015 (Figure 25). Scholten (2020) states that the implications of changing bullhead abundance on other members of the fish community is unclear but that a real decline in abundance more recently may ease competitive interactions with other species.



Figure 25. Mean and median catch of brown bullhead from 6' trap nets in Manitouwabing Lake, by year (Scholten, 2020).

Based on the findings from the 2014-2015 NSCIN project, it was determined that Manitouwabing Lake should be "managed as a natural Walleye lake and supplemental stocking should not be done" (Scholten, 2020, p. 15). Provincial guidelines recommend that stocking of a species not occur when a viable self-sustaining population is present (OMNR, 2002). Furthermore, the report recommends that "no lake-specific management actions take place at this time" (Scholten, 2020, p. 15).

## **Consumption Advisories**

Consumption advisories or restrictions on fish are commonplace across jurisdictions in North America. Fish are exposed to, and absorb, contaminants in the water in a variety of ways (e.g., consuming contaminated food, absorption from the water as it passes over their gills). Contaminants found in fish can come from local sources, as well as sources from thousands of kilometers away (e.g., airborne contaminants that end up in the water via rain or snowfall). Examples of contaminants that are known to be transported long distances include mercury, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and toxaphene.

Based on species, size, and location, certain fish are more or less suitable to eat than others. Smaller fish tend to be less contaminated than larger fish of the same species. In the Great Lakes, leaner fish (e.g., bass, pike, walleye, perch, panfish) tend to have much lower contaminants than fatty species like trout and salmon. In inland lakes, top-predatory fish such as pike and walleye generally have greater contaminants than panfish or whitefish. Advisories provide consumption advice for the general population and sensitive populations. The sensitive population includes women of child-bearing age (women who intend to become pregnant or are pregnant) and children younger than 15 years of age. These groups are considered sensitive because pregnant women and nursing mothers can affect the health or their baby through a diet elevated in contaminants, and young children are affected by contaminants at lower levels than the general population.

In terms of advisories for eating fish from Manitouwabing Lake, mercury is the contaminant of concern (Table 6). Specifically, advisories exist for black crappie, northern pike, and walleye due to concerns around mercury. To learn more about fish consumption advisories and how to reduce the risk from contaminants in fish, please visit the <u>MECP website</u> on eating Ontario fish.

Species	General Population	Sensitive Population*
Black crappie <sup>1</sup>	<ul> <li>max 32 meals/month of fish 20-25cm</li> <li>max 12 meals/month of fish 25-30cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>max 12 meals/month of fish 20-25cm</li> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 25-30cm</li> </ul>
Northern pike <sup>1</sup>	<ul> <li>max 16 meals/month of fish 30-35cm</li> <li>max 16 meals/month of fish 35-40cm</li> <li>max 16 meals/month of fish 40-45cm</li> <li>max 12 meals/month of fish 45-50cm</li> <li>max 8 meals/month of fish 50-55cm</li> <li>max 8 meals/month of fish 55-60cm</li> <li>max 8 meals/month of fish 60-65cm</li> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 65-70cm</li> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 70-75cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>max 8 meals/month of fish 30-35cm</li> <li>max 8 meals/month of fish 35-40cm</li> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 40-45cm</li> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 45-50cm</li> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 50-55cm</li> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 55-60cm</li> <li>no meals of fish 60-65cm</li> <li>no meals of fish 65-70cm</li> <li>no meals of fish 70-75cm</li> </ul>
Walleye <sup>1</sup>	<ul> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish &gt;75cm</li> <li>max 8 meals/month of fish 25-30cm</li> <li>max 8 meals/month of fish 30-35cm</li> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 35-40cm</li> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 40-45cm</li> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 45-50cm</li> <li>max 2 meals/month of fish 50-55cm</li> <li>max 2 meals/month of fish 55-60cm</li> <li>max 2 meals/month of fish 60-65cm</li> <li>max 0 meals/month of fish 65-70cm</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>no meals of fish &gt;75cm</li> <li>max 4 meals/month of fish 25-30cm</li> <li>no meals of fish 30-35cm</li> <li>no meals of fish 35-40cm</li> <li>no meals of fish 40-45cm</li> <li>no meals of fish 45-50cm</li> <li>no meals of fish 50-55cm</li> <li>no meals of fish 55-60cm</li> <li>no meals of fish 60-65cm</li> <li>no meals of fish 65-70cm</li> </ul>

Table 6	. Fish	consumption	advisories	for	Manitouwak	oing	Lake	(see <u>li</u>	<u>nk</u> ).
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\* Women of child-bearing age and children under 15; <sup>1</sup> Mercury

## SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

## Water Quality

Continue annual LPP sampling. If capacity is limited, preference should be given to sites that are spread across different areas of the lake and that have the longest datasets. Long-term datasets are important to assess the effect of external drivers on the nutrient status of the lake (Clark, 2018). Suggested sites are Station 2973, Site IDs 8, 9, 13, and 18.

Continue with annual benthic sampling to accurately characterize and track trends in the benthic community in the lake. Lakes in the region are experiencing increasing pressures, such as climate change, invasive species, and development. It is important to continue monitoring water quality even in lakes considered to be healthy so that if/when changes start to occur, those changes are noted and appropriate actions can be taken swiftly (e.g., stewardship actions, enhanced monitoring or studies). Without long-term, continuous monitoring, changes in the benthic community and water quality more broadly may go unnoticed until there is a significant problem.

As described by Clark (2018), late summer monitoring of dissolved oxygen in the deepest location and in isolated bays where the depths are greater than 7-8m (see map on page 11 of Clark (2018) report) may provide additional information to address the potential for algal blooms. After areas are identified as having the oxygen depleted at the bottom (with measured oxygen profiles) in year one, samples can be taken 1m from the bottom in subsequent years to assess whether or not there are elevated phosphorus concentrations in the bottom water.

Bacteria monitoring should be focused on beaches as per the province's Beach Management Guidance Document. Should the MLCA wish to continue with bacteria monitoring elsewhere, it should happen in the framework of a scientific investigation focused on testing specific hypotheses on potential sources of contamination through a focused sampling program.

Long-term records of water temperature are easy for a dedicated volunteer or group of volunteers to collect and can provide very useful information.

## **Fish Communities**

The province of Ontario released <u>new regulations</u> for the sale and possession of live bait in July 2020, anglers should familiarize themselves with these changes to remain in compliance with the new regulations at all times. Highlights include:

- A valid fishing license is required to catch your own live baitfish, leeches, crayfish, and northern leopard frogs.
- There are specific fish species that can and cannot be used as bait in Ontario.
- Bait can only be caught in your home Bait Management Zone (BMZ) and cannot leave your BMZ.
- Baitfish and leeches you catch cannot be sold unless you are a licensed dealer.
- If you fish outside your home BMZ, you must buy your baitfish and leeches locally, keep a receipt, and use or dispose of your bait within two weeks of purchase.

Recreational anglers should use the app <u>MyCatch</u> by Angler's Atlas to log fishing trips and share fishing data confidentially with biologists. Use of the app can help supplement fisheries data between MNRF population surveys.

## **Stewardship Activities**

MLCA should continue to encourage Manitouwabing Lake property owners to maintain and/or restore natural shorelines. GBB's <u>Planting for Pollinators</u> guide offers property owners assistance in choosing plants for their property that are native to eastern Georgian Bay and that help to enhance the property and conserve important natural habitats. Native plants can be sourced from the MLCA <u>Native Plant Seedling Sale</u> and the annual GBB Native Plant Fundraiser (check the GBB <u>events page</u> in the spring).

Property owners interested in decreasing their ecological footprint can also utilize GBB's Life on the Bay Stewardship Guide. The guide covers a range of topics including how to live with wildlife, how to use landscaping to improve water quality, best practices during construction, how to store chemicals and garbage, and many more. The Life on the Bay guide is designed to be used by waterfront property owners on Georgian Bay and inland lakes.

There are many <u>citizen science programs</u> for interested cottagers and residents to get involved in. Examples include invasive species reporting, IceWatch, FrogWatch, Canadian Lakes Loon Survey, and many others.

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# APPENDICES

## Appendix A. Active and Historical Lake LPP Sampling Locations

It is important to note that LPP TP data are presented as two samples (TP1 and TP2) plus an average for each sampling date. TP1 and TP2 are duplicate TP concentrations which help to verify confidence in the results and provide a contingency against one sample being lost due to breakage during shipment or laboratory accidents.

If there are major differences between TP1 and TP2, it is likely that one of the two samples was contaminated, for example by zooplankton or other debris. In this case the data will be 'flagged' in yellow. Use caution when interpreting TP data that has been flagged.

#### Station: 2973 Site ID: 1 Description: Great Bay Data Collector: LPP volunteer

Year	Secchi Depth (m)	TP1 (µg/L)	TP2 (µg/L)	Average TP (µg/L)	Calcium (mg/L)
2002		12.72	13.51	13.12	
2003	2.30	10.21	10.06	10.14	

Station: 2973 Site ID: 3 Description: Longhorn & James Bay Data Collector: LPP volunteer

Year	Secchi Depth (m)	TP1 (µg/L)	TP2 (µg/L)	Average TP (µg/L)	Calcium (mg/L)
2002		24.25	36.58	30.42	
2003		12.40	13.52	12.96	

## Station: 2973 Site ID: 4 Description: McKellar, near dock

Data Collector: LPP volunteer

Year	Secchi Depth (m)	TP1 (µg/L)	TP2 (µg/L)	Average TP (µg/L)	Calcium (mg/L)
2002	2.80	51.10	44.80	47.95	
2003	2.37				
2006	3.13	13.96	12.85	13.41	
2007	3.24	11.54	11.72	11.63	
2008	3.55	10.10	10.26	10.18	3.66
2009	3.30	9.51	9.60	9.56	2.34

#### Station: 2973 Site ID: 6 Description: L Taits Is-Great Bay Data Collector: LPP volunteer

Year	Secchi Depth (m)	TP1 (µg/L)	TP2 (µg/L)	Average TP (µg/L)	Calcium (mg/L)
2002	2.09	18.70	13.33	16.02	
2003	2.14	11.40	12.10	11.75	
2004	2.28	9.20	11.23	10.22	
2005	2.33	10.51	10.87	10.69	
2006	2.48	7.12	6.99	7.06	
2007	2.23				
2008	2.17	24.16	21.47	22.82	3.94
2009	2.34	9.38	8.27	8.83	3.00
2011	2.32	11.00	11.20	11.10	3.74
2012	2.28	7.80	8.20	8.00	3.69
2013	2.67	10.00	10.20	10.10	3.21
2014	2.37	13.80	15.20	14.50	3.58
2015	2.24	9.40	9.40	9.40	3.76

#### Station: 2973 Site ID: 7 Description: N / W Tait's Island Data Collector: LPP volunteer

Year	Secchi Depth (m)	1P1 (µg/L)	TP2 (µg/L)	Average TP (µg/L)	Calcium (mg/L)			
2006	2.69	10.18	12.27	11.23				
2007	2.73	9.20	9.30	9.25				
2008	2.69	12.63	14.34	13.49	3.88			
2009	2.59							

Station: 2973

Site ID: 8

Description: West of Maplewood

Data Collector: LPP volunteer

Year	Secchi Depth	TP1 (µg/L)	TP2 (µg/L)	Average TP (µg/L)	Calcium (mg/L)
	(m)				
2002	2.08	9.70	10.60	10.15	
2003	2.00	13.20	13.40	13.30	
2004	2.60	12.17	11.61	11.89	
2005	2.42	16.50	11.60	14.05	
2006	2.23	10.03	10.44	10.24	
2007	2.53	10.48	9.26	9.87	
2008	1.96	12.96	12.40	12.68	3.66
2009	2.35	11.63	10.75	11.19	
2010	2.41	9.60	10.40	10.00	3.43
2011	2.39	14.00	12.80	13.40	3.87
2012	2.52	7.80	7.60	7.70	3.95
2013	2.45	13.20	16.40	14.80	3.23
2014	2.35	11.60	11.40	11.50	3.64
2015	2.37	9.20	9.60	9.40	3.48
2016	2.63	9.20	8.80	9.00	3.34
2017	2.02	13.80	10.20	12.00	3.56
2018	2.30	14.20	12.00	13.10	3.58
2019	2.33	10.80	11.40	11.10	3.30

Station: 2973 Site ID: 9

 $\label{eq:constraint} \textbf{Description:} \ \textbf{E} \ \textbf{of Longhorn, Hardie's Cr}$ 

Data Collector: LPP volunteer

Year	Secchi Depth (m)	TP1 (µg/L)	TP2 (µg/L)	Average TP (µg/L)	Calcium (mg/L)
2002	1.61				
2005		14.96	14.53	14.75	
2006	1.65				
2007	1.40	14.21	12.75	13.48	
2008	1.35	16.92	15.22	16.07	3.52
2016	1.42	12.60	12.20	12.40	3.66
2017		13.00	11.60	12.30	4.76
2018		11.20	12.20	11.70	4.64
2018		11.80	11.80	11.80	
2019		14.40	13.00	13.70	

#### Station: 2973 Site ID: 10 Description: E end, Bailey's Data Collector: LPP volunteer

Year	Secchi Depth (m)	TP1 (µg/L)	TP2 (µg/L)	Average TP (µg/L)	Calcium (mg/L)
2002	1.36				

Station: 2973 Site ID: 11 Description: N Tait's Is. Data Collector: LPP volunteer

Year	Secchi Depth (m)	TP1 (µg/L)	TP2 (µg/L)	Average TP (µg/L)	Calcium (mg/L)
200	6 2.35	9.16	8.53	8.85	
2012	2 2.63	13.40	12.20	12.80	3.80
201	3 2.80	13.20	11.00	12.10	3.30

## Station: 2973

Site ID: 12

Description: Manitouwabing (golf cs.) Bay

## Data Collector: LPP volunteer

Year	Secchi Depth (m)	TP1 (µg/L)	TP2 (µg/L)	Average TP (µg/L)	Calcium (mg/L)
2006		9.11	9.70	9.41	
2007	2.25	10.98	10.31	10.65	
2009		9.18	9.81	9.50	2.96

Station: 2973 Site ID: 13 Description: Jones Bay Data Collector: LPP volunteer

Year	Secchi Depth (m)	TP1 (µg/L)	TP2 (µg/L)	Average TP (µg/L)	Calcium (mg/L)
2006	()	13.44	12.52	12.98	
2007		13.06	12.21	12.64	
2008	2.34	13.34	12.06	12.70	3.12
2009	1.73	12.74	11.66	12.20	2.44
2011	2.16	13.00	14.80	13.90	
2012		11.20	11.00	11.10	3.34
2013	2.05	12.00	12.00	12.00	2.92
2014	2.02	9.40	9.80	9.60	2.96
2015	1.98	11.00	9.40	10.20	2.42
2016	2.34	8.80	8.80	8.80	3.06
2017		11.80	11.20	11.50	2.86
2018					3.32
2020	1.52	13.20	13.40	13.30	3.9

Station: 2973 Site ID: 18 Description: McKellar Bay Data Collector: LPP volunteer

Year	Secchi Depth (m)	TP1 (µg/L)	TP2 (µg/L)	Average TP (µg/L)	Calcium (mg/L)					
2016	1.44	10.40	10.60	10.50	4.06					
2017		14.00	15.20	14.60	4.02					
2018		9.80	9.40	9.60	3.90					
2019		8.80	9.00	8.90						
2020	3	9.60	9.00	9.30	4.20					

Station: 2973 Site ID: 19 Description: McKellar, near dock Data Collector: LPP volunteer

Year	Secchi Depth (m)	TP1 (µg/L)	TP2 (µg/L)	Average TP (µg/L)	Calcium (mg/L)
201	6 3.32	11.20	10.80	11.00	3.88
20-	7	11.40	11.20	11.30	3.94
201	8	9.00	11.20	10.10	4.00
20-	9	11.80	10.20	11.00	

Station: 2973 Site ID: 20 Description: South of Fire RTE 150 Basin Data Collector: LPP volunteer

Year	Secchi Depth (m)	TP1 (µg/L)	TP2 (µg/L)	Average TP (µg/L)	Calcium (mg/L)
2016		7.80	7.60	7.70	3.28

Station: 2973 Site ID: 21 Description: Moffat Basin, Deep spot Data Collector: LPP volunteer

Year	Secchi Depth (m)	TP1 (µg/L)	TP2 (µg/L)	Average TP (µg/L)	Calcium (mg/L)
2016		12.60	12.80	12.70	3.76

Station: 2973 Site ID: 22 Description: Basin South of Lakeside Dr.

Data Collector: LPP volunteer

Year	Secchi Depth (m)	TP1 (µg/L)	TP2 (µg/L)	Average TP (µg/L)	Calcium (mg/L)
2016	2.61	9.20	10.00	9.60	3.76
2017	2.06	12.60	12.80	12.70	23.10

### Station: 2973 Site ID: 23 Description: East of Hurdville Data Collector: LPP volunteer

Year	Secchi Depth (m)	TP1 (µg/L)	TP2 (µg/L)	Average TP (µg/L)	Calcium (mg/L)
2020	1.43	11.20	11.20	11.20	4.20

## Appendix B. Benthic Sampling Results

Common			2020			2021			2022	
Name	Scientific Name	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
Hydras	Coelenterata	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flatworms	Turbellaria	2	1	10	2	1	7	4	5	2
Roundworms	Nematoda	10	12	7	10	1	12	0	1	7
Aquatic Earthworms	Oligochaeta	2	1	0	6	5	3	1	0	1
Leeches	Hirudinaea	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Sow bugs	Isopoda	2	18	15	6	51	32	14	14	12
Clams	Pelcypoda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Scuds	Amphipoda	27	32	36	51	77	44	49	79	47
Crayfish	Decapoda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Mites	Hydracarina	10	10	5	10	5	8	21	24	26
Mayflies	Ephemeroptera	4	4	9	4	1	8	3	6	8
Dragonflies	Anisoptera	11	4	3	2	2	3	0	2	1
Damselflies	Zygoptera	8	1	0	0	2	5	0	6	0
Stoneflies	Plecoptera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
True Bugs	Hemiptera	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Fishfiles and Alderflies	Megaloptera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Caddisflies	Trichoptera	8	6	4	2	0	2	0	0	1
Aquatic Moths	Lepidoptera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beetles	Coleoptera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Snails and Limpets	Gastropoda	2	0	4	12	2	3	5	1	1
Midges	Chironomidae	12	10	7	5	10	8	4	3	10
Horse and Deer Flies	Tabanidae	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mosquitos	Culicidae	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No-see-ums	Ceratopogonidae	2	2	5	1	4	1	0	1	0
Craneflies	Tipulidae	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blackflies	Simuliidae	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Misc. True Flies	Misc. Diptera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Count		100	101	105	112	163	137	101	146	116
Number of Taxa		13	12	11	13	14	14	8	15	11
Average % EOT			12%							

 Table 7. Manitouwabing Lake Site 1 sampling data (2020-2022).

Common	_		2020		-	2021			2022	
Name	Scientific Name	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
Hydras	Coelenterata	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flatworms	Turbellaria	0	3	0	0	1	2	0	0	1
Roundworms	Nematoda	0	5	7	10	17	10	1	4	2
Aquatic Earthworms	Oligochaeta	0	0	1	0	2	1	1	1	1
Leeches	Hirudinaea	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Sow bugs	Isopoda	19	9	42	56	50	21	29	16	21
Clams	Pelcypoda	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
Scuds	Amphipoda	34	22	21	22	6	42	10	10	28
Crayfish	Decapoda	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Mites	Hydracarina	17	13	2	2	24	5	2	26	30
Mayflies	Ephemeroptera	4	20	7	10	1	6	3	8	3
Dragonflies	Anisoptera	2	4	6	5	6	1	1	4	2
Damselflies	Zygoptera	2	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Stoneflies	Plecoptera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
True Bugs	Hemiptera	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Fishfiles and Alderflies	Megaloptera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Caddisflies	Trichoptera	3	2	2	2	1	3	0	0	1
Aquatic Moths	Lepidoptera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beetles	Coleoptera	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Snails and Limpets	Gastropoda	1	0	2	0	0	1	2	1	3
Midges	Chironomidae	15	14	16	5	6	11	53	29	14
Horse and Deer Flies	Tabanidae	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mosquitos	Culicidae	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No-see-ums	Ceratopogonidae	2	3	5	7	0	4	0	0	0
Craneflies	Tipulidae	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Blackflies	Simuliidae	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Misc. True Flies	Misc. Diptera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Count		100	103	111	121	115	112	103	101	107
Number of Taxa		11	14	11	11	11	17	10	11	12
Average % EOT					-	12%		-		

Table 8	. Manitouwabing	Lake Site 2	sampling data	(2020-2022).

Common			2020		2021 202		2022			
Name	Scientific Name	1	2020	3	1	2021	3	1	2022	3
Hydras	Coelenterata	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flatworms	Turbellaria	4	1	1	5	0	13	1	11	14
Roundworms	Nematoda	19	11	26	7	19	50	4	3	10
Aquatic										
Earthworms	Oligochaeta	5	3	4	2	9	2	2	12	6
Leeches	Hirudinaea	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sow bugs	Isopoda	37	0	2	56	2	8	33	2	5
Clams	Pelcypoda	0	1	2	0	2	1	2	6	4
Scuds	Amphipoda	39	15	36	41	12	21	11	72	8
Crayfish	Decapoda	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Mites	Hydracarina	2	3	8	2	5	1	26	16	41
Mayflies	Ephemeroptera	14	14	20	2	13	5	10	32	7
Dragonflies	Anisoptera	7	4	5	3	2	4	0	5	3
Damselflies	Zygoptera	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stoneflies	Plecoptera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
True Bugs	Hemiptera	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fishfiles and Alderflies	Megaloptera	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Caddisflies	Trichoptera	6	6	22	0	7	8	0	3	5
Aquatic Moths	Lepidoptera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Beetles	Coleoptera	0	0	2	1	0	5	1	3	5
Snails and Limpets	Gastropoda	5	6	2	2	2	1	3	3	2
Midges	Chironomidae	7	57	77	8	27	25	30	85	45
Horse and Deer Flies	Tabanidae	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mosquitos	Culicidae	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No-see-ums	Ceratopogonidae	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	2	4
Craneflies	Tipulidae	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blackflies	Simuliidae	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Misc. True Flies	Misc. Diptera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Count		152	123	209	129	103	146	123	256	159
Number of Taxa		13	13	14	11	13	14	11	15	14
Average % EOT						15%			•	

Table 9.	. Manitouwabing	Lake Site 3	sampling	data	(2020-2022).

Common	-		2020		2021 2022					
Name	Scientific Name	1	2020	3	1	2021	3	1	2022	3
Hydras	Coelenterata	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flatworms	Turbellaria	0	1	5	3	3	3	0	0	0
Roundworms	Nematoda	13	19	17	11	29	39	0	2	0
Aquatic Earthworms	Oligochaeta	1	3	5	1	2	6	0	1	1
Leeches	Hirudinaea	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Sow bugs	Isopoda	14	2	12	50	9	9	30	2	33
Clams	Pelcypoda	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	2
Scuds	Amphipoda	50	35	145	59	41	80	47	55	30
Crayfish	Decapoda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mites	Hydracarina	19	17	36	1	4	11	7	17	5
Mayflies	Ephemeroptera	2	5	7	3	2	3	0	1	0
Dragonflies	Anisoptera	0	1	7	3	1	2	3	0	0
Damselflies	Zygoptera	0	0	5	0	0	2	0	0	0
Stoneflies	Plecoptera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
True Bugs	Hemiptera	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fishfiles and Alderflies	Megaloptera	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Caddisflies	Trichoptera	1	5	4	2	1	0	0	0	1
Aquatic Moths	Lepidoptera	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Beetles	Coleoptera	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	4
Snails and Limpets	Gastropoda	0	1	0	1	5	2	7	11	7
Midges	Chironomidae	8	18	13	14	5	29	3	11	16
Horse and Deer Flies	Tabanidae	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mosquitos	Culicidae	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No-see-ums	Ceratopogonidae	8	2	4	1	2	4	0	1	0
Craneflies	Tipulidae	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blackflies	Simuliidae	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Misc. True Flies	Misc. Diptera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Count		116	110	261	150	107	190	100	101	102
Number of Taxa		9	13	13	13	15	12	8	9	11
Average % EOT						4%				

Table 10. Manitouwabing Lake Site 4 sampling data (2020-2022).	
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Appendix C. Manitouwabing Lake State of the Basin Review 2018

# Manitouwabing Lake State of the Basin Review 2018



Killian

Prepared for: Manitouwabing Lake Community Association By: Clark, October 2018

GEORGIAN BAY MNIDOO GAMII BIOSPHERE

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# Manitouwabing Lake – State of the Basin Review

#### Overview

Manitouwabing Lake is a large important resource in McKellar Township north west of Parry Sound

(Lat, 45.452 Long, 79.904). General Lake characteristics are shown in Table 1.

Table 1 – General characteristics of Manitouwabing Lake. Data from OMNR and MOECP.

Area	1178 ha
Volume	6597 x 10 <sup>4</sup> m <sup>3</sup>
Max Depth	33 m
Mean depth	5.6 m
Watershed Area	400 km <sup>2</sup>
Clarity (Secchi depth)	2.4 m
Runoff	0.464 m
Trophic status	mesotrophic

Despite its importance, Manitouwabing Lake and other lakes in the area have not been studied in detail or well characterized with respect to many aspects of water quality. Nevertheless, the data that have been collected to this date allow us to conduct a preliminary assessment of the lake and its watershed and then go forward to make recommendations regarding future steps.

#### Watershed Influence

Manitouwabing Lake collects water from a large watershed through numerous inflows including the Manitouwabing River (Figure 1). These inflows mix within the lake and exit through the outflow at the south end of the lake. This outflow winds its way to Parry Sound through the Seguin River and ultimately into Georgian Bay.

A large watershed will increase the flushing rate for a lake and give the lake water quality characteristics that are driven by watershed processes more so than by local influences. Using the data in Table 1 we can calculate that the water in the lake is replaced 2.8 times per year or approximately every 4 months. This replacement rate will be, of course, higher during the spring and lower during drier months. Water quality measured in the lake near major inflows will have characteristics similar to those of the inflow and if the watershed characteristics are similar between inflows then this will lead to similar water quality throughout the lake. This is an important consideration because measured water quality is similar for several key parameters throughout Manitouwabing Lake which would indicate similar watershed characteristics for the major inflows to the lake.



Figure 1 – The Manitouwabing watershed showing several major inflows (black arrows) and the outflow to Georgian Bay (brown arrow).

#### Water Quality

#### **Total Phosphorus**

The most revealing characteristic of Manitouwabing Lake (total phosphorus) has been measured by volunteers through the Ministry of the Environment's Lake Partner Program (LPP). Phosphorus is the element that controls the production of algae and, in fact, most of the other organisms that reside in the lake. Lower phosphorus concentrations indicate lower productivity and are generally typical of dilute, gin clear, lake trout lakes. Higher concentrations are found in more productive lakes with more fish, more weeds and more algae. When concentrations of phosphorus are high enough to exacerbate nuisance algal blooms there can be concerns about water quality as a result of toxins that can be produced by bluegreen algae (cyanobacteria). Blooms of this nature are generally rare in Ontario.

Volunteers participating in the LPP have collected total phosphorus data at numerous locations throughout Manitouwabing Lake (Figure 2). The concentrations observed are very similar from place to place in the lake (Table 1 and Figure 3). This indicates that the watershed has a strong influence on the concentration of phosphorus in the lake (through a high flushing rate) which likely obscures any local influences that may occur within the lakes many embayments.



Figure 2 – Lake Partner Program sample sites in Manitouwabling Lake.

 Table 1 – Mean total phosphorus concentrations at Lake Partner Program sample sites throughout

 Manitouwabing Lake.

Site	Lat.	Long.	Mean TP	Status
1	452845	795344	11.6	
3	452748	795302	13	
4	453020	795512	11.2	
6	452837	795413	11.7	current
7	452901	795538	11.3	
8	452810	795500	11.3	current
9	452822	795244	13.8	current
11	452917	795443	11.2	
12	452856	795253	9.8	
13	452713	795326	11.6	current
18	453008	795455	12.6	current
19	453019	795512	11.2	current
20	452901	795538	7.7	current
21	452932	795504	12.7	current
22	452959	795249	11.2	current
		Mean	11.5	

The lakewide mean total phosphorus concentration is 11.5  $\mu$ g/L. This indicates that Manitouwabing Lake is at the lower end of the mesotrophic range. Lakes that are below 10  $\mu$ g/L are considered to be oligotrophic (clear dilute and unproductive). Mesotrophic lakes (10-20  $\mu$ g/L) are in the middle of this trophic classification and these lakes show considerable variation in productivity between the low end of the scale at 10  $\mu$ g/L and the high end of the scale at 20 ug/L. Lakes over 20  $\mu$ g/L are considered to be eutrophic with more chance of supporting nuisance algal blooms. Lakes at the lower end of the mesotrophic scale like Manitouwabing will share characteristics more like oligotrophic lakes while lakes at the high end of the scale (closer to 20) will begin to share characteristics of eutrophic lakes.



Figure 3 – Mean total phosphorus concentrations in Manitouwabing Lake at the LPP sample sites

The bottom line with respect to phosphorus is that concentrations are similar throughout the lake and consistent between years (Figure 4). Figure 4 shows that phosphorus concentrations have not increased since 2001 and are similar between sample stations (see Appendix). It is important to note that the range in observed values (approx 10-15  $\mu$ g/L) is normal for multiple stations over time. These values indicate a lake that is highly influenced by its watershed with no sign of deterioration over the years in water quality with respect to phosphorus.

Figure 4 – Total phosphorus measured by the Lake Partner Program at the locations and dates shown in Appendix 1. Two points considered to be outliers were eliminated. The one datapoint above 20  $\mu$ g/L is also likely an outlier but duplicate samples were in agreement so the data were retained.



It is important to recognise that human phosphorus inputs to the lake are possible through the operation of failing or inadequate septic systems. It is also possible to add nutrients through the unwise use of shoreline areas that border the lake (riparian areas). Harmful land use practices include the removal of natural shoreline vegetation, proliferation of lawns, use of fertilizers, etc. Education of property owners with respect to these issues can protect the ecosystem integrity of the lake.

Guidance for sustainably living by water is available from many sources.

http://naturecanada.ca/living-by-water/

#### Dissolved Organic Carbon

While Manitouwabing Lake is considered to be a mesotrophic lake we can see that much of this phosphorus has its origins in the watershed and is transported to the lake as Dissolved Organic Carbon (DOC) which originates in wetlands. This is the material that causes tea stained water in lakes. In other words it's mesotrophic status is not likely the result of human activity in the watershed but rather the result of export of DOC from wetlands. Concentrations throughout the lake are relatively similar (4.2-6.0 mg/L) with slightly more tea stained water in the south east areas of the lake. This relatively narrow range in DOC values throughout the lake indicates similar wetland conditions throughout the different subwatersheds.

DOC concentrations measured by the LPP are shown in Table 2. Sample Locations are shown in Figure 5.

LDESC	LP_STN	SITE	DATE	DOC (mg/L)
MANITOUWABING LAKE-18	2973	18	5/18/2018	4.2
MANITOUWABING LAKE-19	2973	19	5/24/2018	4.1
MANITOUWABING-9	2973	9	5/24/2018	4.9
MANITOUWABING-13	2973	13	5/24/2018	6.0
MANITOUWABING LAKE-8	2973	8	5/20/2018	4.4

#### Table 2 – Dissolved organic carbon concentrations measured by the LPP.

Figure 5. DOC concentrations (mg/L) throughout Manitouwabing Lake shown in yellow.



In Figure 6 we can see the relationship between DOC and TP measured by The Ministry of the Environment Conservation and Parks (MOECP) at numerous locations in the nearshore areas of Georgian Bay. The close relationship shows that most of the phosphorus in these areas is associated with DOC. In other words, the phosphorus has its origins in wetlands throughout the watershed.



Figure 6 – The relationship between DOC and phosphorus in nearshore areas of Georgian Bay.

If we consider that Manitouwabing Lake's mean DOC concentration is 4.7 mg/L this corresponds to 11.1  $\mu$ g/L total phosphorus on the graph in Figure 6. This indicates that most of the 11.5  $\mu$ g/L TP in Manitouwabing Lake has is origins as DOC in watershed's wetland complexes.

## Algal Blooms

Algal blooms can occur for several reasons. Most often they are caused by elevated phosphorus concentrations. Blooms are rare below  $10\mu g/L$  and become more likely as concentrations approach 20  $\mu g/L$ . The Provincial Water Quality Objectives recommend maintaining concentrations below 20  $\mu g/L$  to avoid nuisance algal blooms. Blooms can also be exacerbated by aspects of climate change such that they may now occur in areas where they have previously been absent. Finally, a species of algae called *Gloeotrichia* can bloom in low phosphorus lakes because it derives its nutrients from the sediments rather than from the water.

Manitouwabing Lake is not expected to support algal blooms. It is important to note that if you see a cloudy ball of filamentous algae near the bottom of the lake in a nearshore area – this is not an algal bloom. In addition, sometimes when algae die in the main lake they can be blown by the wind and concentrated into nearshore areas and these occurrences are usually not indicative of algal blooms. Algal blooms are usually indicated by large quantities of bright green cells in the water that cover extensive areas (see photo below).

If you think that an algal bloom is occurring the correct response is to call the MOECP Spills Action Centre.

#### Spill Reporting 1-800-268-6060

They will then investigate the bloom and call the Ministry of Health if a bloom is confirmed. They will also sample the bloom to confirm the species and will test for the presence of toxins. There is no reason to test for toxins without first following the steps indicated above.



A severe blue green algal bloom.

## Dissolved Oxygen

In areas where the bottom waters have their oxygen concentrations reduced to below 1mg/L (this is called anoxia) in late summer there can be phosphorus released from the sediments into the bottom waters. In some cases, this phosphorus can be available to support algal blooms in the mixed, warmer surface water. For this reason, there is merit to measuring dissolved oxygen profiles in the lake for those areas that are deep enough to stratify (the process where warm surface water cannot mix with cold bottom water). In most cases the water needs to be about 7-8 m deep or deeper before this can occur. Shallower areas mix completely to the bottom. In stratified areas, the cold bottom water cannot have its oxygen replenished from the surface such that when oxygen is consumed by bacteria the loss of oxygen cannot be reversed until the lake turns over again in the fall. Under these circumstances there may be phosphorus that enters the cold bottom water from the sediments. If this phosphorus ends up being entrained into the warmer surface water in sufficient quantities, it can help to support algal blooms under the right conditions.

Areas in Manitouwabing where this may occur are shown in yellow on the map below and these areas could be assessed with oxygen/temperature profiles on or 14 days either side of Sept 01. Any additional areas that may stratify could be confirmed in the initial years of monitoring.

Map showing the deepest location (green) and isolated bays that are likely to stratify in yellow (from MLCA).



#### Bacteria

Volunteers have been collecting bacteria data in many areas throughout Manitouwabing Lake for several years. The data available on the MLCA website has been summarized in Table 3.

Bacteria data are difficult to interpret. There are conclusions that can be drawn by examination of the data in Table 3, but there are also many aspects of bacteria in lake water that cannot be deduced from these data. Generally, these data show that about 5% of the samples are over 100 counts which is the guideline for recreational use. This indicates that the water is swimmable in most areas 95 % of the time. These results are normal for areas where there are no sewage treatment plants or large stormwater discharges.

What these data cannot tell us is:

- 1. how long the counts were over 100 in a given area,
- 2. the area or extent to which the >100 count result applies, and most importantly,
- 3. the source of the bacteria (human or otherwise).

							Site	į							
Sector		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Sum	%>100
McKellar/grey Owl	# samples	11	8	15	11	9	11	8	8	11	10	1	1	104	
	# 100 or >	1	0	2	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	7	7
McKellar	# samples	36	43	30	42	30	4	2	3		12	1	1	204	
	# 100 or >	2	1	0	4	0	4	0	0		3	0	0	14	7
Middle River	# samples	20	35	31	32	33	20	7	4	4	4	0	0	190	
	# 100 or >	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0			4	2
Maplewood	# samples	40	28	28	26	23	30	25	31	4	1	0	4	240	
	# 100 or >	5	1	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0		1	11	5
Tait's Is	# samples	26	30	20	8	3	0	1	21	26	22	25	28	210	
	# 100 or >	2	2	0	1	0		0	0	1	0	0	1	7	3
Manitou Camp	# samples	29	19	23	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	72	
	# 100 or >	3	0	0					0					3	4
Lona	# samples	28	31	22	26	24	30	42	1	3	0	1	2	210	
	# 100 or >	1	0	1	0	2	1	9	0	0		0	0	14	7
Smith Pine	# samples	22	45	23	27	22	35	28	37	11	12	1	4	267	
	# 100 or >	1	5	0	0	0	4	0	3	1	2	0	0	16	6
Bailey	# samples	33	37	47	31	5	3	5	1	4	2	0	0	168	
	# 100 or >	0	2	4	0	1	0	1	0	0	0			8	5
	Average 5	% a	re 1	.00	or g	rea	ter								

#### Table 3. Number of samples taken at each site with the number of samples over 100 counts.

#### **Invasive Species**

The presence of invasive species is not technically a water quality issue but certain invasive species can cause changes in water quality. Mussels, for example, can cause water clarity to increase. In almost every case the invading species will cause changes to the ecosystem's integrity. It is therefore important to avoid the spread of invasive species where possible.

A complete review of the invasive species present or the potential for invasion by numerous species is not possible within the scope of this review. There are, however, many useful resources that can be used to identify invasive species and cautions that can be applied to limit unwanted invasions.

It is important to remember that some invasions of terrestrial vegetation can also have impacts on aquatic ecosystems.

Further Information:

https://foca.on.ca/aquatic-invasive-species-program/

http://www.invadingspecies.com/

https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/invasive-plants/species/

https://www.ontario.ca/page/stop-spread-invasive-species?\_escaped\_fragment\_=/

## Recommendations

1. Several central locations (LPP Site #11, 1 and 3) and possibly one new location near the outflow be monitored by LPP volunteers with an effort to maintain a long-term monitoring record. Some of these sites may or may not be currently sampled (see Table 1). Long-term monitoring records are important to assess the effect of external drivers on the nutrient status of the lake.

2. The efforts used to collect bacteria data could be directed at other issues such as:

- education towards aspects of nearshore (shoreline) management.
- useful inventories such as areas where aquatic plants grow to assess whether the extent of plant beds are changing.
- long-term records of water levels and/or temperature.

3. Late summer monitoring of dissolved oxygen in the deepest location and in isolated bays where the depths are greater than 7-8m may provide additional information to address the potential for algal blooms. After areas are identified as having the oxygen depleted at the bottom (with measured oxygen profiles) in year 1, there can be samples taken 1 meter from the bottom in subsequent years to assess whether or not there are elevated phosphorus concentrations in the bottom water.

4. All efforts should be made to ensure that invasive species do not enter the watershed. There are may organizations that provide guidance on invading species, e.g. The Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations. https://foca.on.ca/aquatic-invasive-species-program/



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# Appendix

## Manitouwabing Lake – State of the Basin Review 2018

Site	Description	Lat	Long	Date	TP1		Mean	Si	te Mea
1	Creat Day	452045	705244	20 14-1 02		(ug/L)			11.0
1	Great Bay			20-May-02	12.7				11.6
1	Great Bay			31-May-03	10.2	10.1	10.1		
3	Longhorn & James Bay			20-May-02	24.3	36.6			13
3	Longhorn & James Bay			31-May-03	12.4	13.5	13.0		
4	McKellar, near dock	453020	795512	20-May-02	51.1	44.8			11.2
4	McKellar, near dock	453020	795512	20-May-06	14.0	12.9	13.4		
4	McKellar, near dock	453020	795512	08-Jun-07	11.5	11.7	11.6		
4	McKellar, near dock	453020	795512	22-Jun-08	10.1	10.3	10.2		
4	McKellar, near dock	453020	795512	24-May-09	9.5	9.6	9.6		
6	L Taits Is-Great Bay	452837	795413	02-Jun-02	18.7	13.3	16.0		11.7
6	L Taits Is-Great Bay	452837	795413	15-Jun-03	11.4	12.1	11.8		
6	L Taits Is-Great Bay	452837		23-May-04	9.2	11.2	10.2		
6	L Taits Is-Great Bay			23-May-05	10.5	10.9			
6	L Taits Is-Great Bay	452837		24-Jun-06	7.1	7.0	7.1		
6						21.5	22.8		
-	L Taits Is-Great Bay	452837		22-Jun-08	24.2				
6	L Taits Is-Great Bay	452837		18-May-09	9.4	8.3	8.8		
6	L Taits Is-Great Bay	452837		22-May-11	11.0	11.2	11.1		
6	L Taits Is-Great Bay	452837	795413	20-May-12	7.8	8.2	8.0		
6	L Taits Is-Great Bay	452837	795413	19-May-13	10.0	10.2	10.1		
6	L Taits Is-Great Bay	452837	795413	19-May-14	13.8	15.2	14.5		
6	L Taits Is-Great Bay	452837	795413	17-May-15	9.4	9.4	9.4		
7	N / W Tait's Island	452901	795538	20-May-06	10.2	12.3	11.2		11.3
7	N / W Tait's Island	452901	795538	08-Jun-07	9.2	9.3	9.3		
7	N / W Tait's Island			22-Jun-08	12.6	14.3	13.5		
8	West of Maplewood			05-May-02	9.7	10.6	10.2		11.3
8	West of Maplewood			04-May-03	13.2	13.4	13.3		
8	West of Maplewood			08-May-04	12.2	11.6	11.9		
_				07-May-05			14.1		
8	West of Maplewood			,	16.5	11.6			
8	West of Maplewood			14-May-06	10.0	10.4	10.2		
8	West of Maplewood			21-May-07	10.5	9.3	9.9		
8	West of Maplewood			11-May-08	13.0	12.4	12.7		
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	05-May-09	11.6	10.8	11.2		
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	27-May-10	9.6	10.4	10.0		
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	24-Apr-11	14.0	12.8	13.4		
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	22-May-12	7.8	7.6	7.7		
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	01-Jun-13	13.2	16.4	14.8		
8	West of Maplewood	452810	795500	18-May-14	11.6	11.4	11.5		
8	West of Maplewood			05-Jun-15	9.2	9.6	9.4		
8	West of Maplewood			19-May-16	9.2	8.8	9.0		
8	West of Maplewood			23-May-17	13.8	10.2	12.0		
_	E of Longhorn, Hardie's Cr			24-May-05	15.0	14.5	14.7		13.8
9	E of Longhorn, Hardie's Cr			08-Jun-07	14.2	12.8			15.0
9	E of Longhorn, Hardie's Cr			23-May-08	16.9	12.8	16.1		
	E of Longhorn, Hardie's Cr			23-May-16	12.6	12.2	12.4		
9	E of Longhorn, Hardie's Cr			23-May-17	13.0	11.6			
	N Tait's Is.			24-Jun-06	9.2	8.5	8.8		11.2
_	N Tait's Is.			31-May-12	13.4	12.2	12.8		
	N Tait's Is.			26-May-13	13.2	11.0			
12	Manitouwabing(golf cs.)Bay	452856	795253	04-Jun-06	9.1	9.7	9.4		9.8
12	Manitouwabing(golf cs.)Bay	452856	795253	08-Jun-07	11.0	10.3	10.6		
12	Manitouwabing(golf cs.)Bay	452856	795253	23-May-09	9.2	9.8	9.5		
	Jones Bay	452713	795326	21-May-06	13.4	12.5	13.0		11.6
	Jones Bay			, 08-Jun-07	13.1	12.2			
	Jones Bay			23-May-08		12.1			
-				24-May-09		11.7			
13		452713		24-1VIdV-U-9					
	Jones Bay						13.9		
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# Thank You Miigwech

The Georgian Bay Mnidoo Gamii Biosphere (GBB) is an inclusive and dynamic organization that builds capacity for regional sustainability in eastern Georgian Bay.

The GBB is a non-profit registered Canadian charity governed by a Board of Directors.

For more information, please visit: gbbr.ca

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#### Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Office of the Minister

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Bureau du ministre



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234-2022-5422

January 4, 2023

Dear Heads of Council,

I'm pleased to share an update on key initiatives underway at my ministry to help meet our government's goal of building 1.5 million new homes over the next 10 years.

The legislature recently passed our government's *More Homes Built Faster Act*, 2022 which takes bold action to ensure that all communities can grow with a mix of ownership and rental housing types to meet the needs of all Ontarians.

Our government knows that building inspectors play a critical role in ensuring that new homes meet the public safety requirements set out in Ontario's Building Code. However, the capacity of municipal building departments has been impacted by recruitment challenges and the increasing number of building inspectors retiring from the profession. That's why, earlier this year, we took action to help municipalities address labour supply shortages in the building sector by amending the Building Code to provide a new model for municipal building departments to design and administer internship programs for building inspectors.

Effective July 1, 2022, municipal building departments can establish program entry criteria for interns that meet their own local recruitment and enforcement needs. This new internship model supports public safety by continuing to require that a qualified building inspector or Chief Building Official supervises the work of interns. The interns must also pass ministry technical and legal exams before being able to practice independently as building inspectors.

In the coming months, the ministry will develop guidance materials to support municipalities that are interesting in launching local programs to recruit new intern building inspectors. We look forward to working with municipalities to implement local internships.

Additionally, the ministry has engaged a consultant to identify opportunities for enhancements to the qualification program for building practitioners. We are seeking input from the public, including municipalities, building inspectors, designers, septic installers and building professionals not regulated by the ministry. This feedback will help guide future decisions on new approaches to qualification.

For more information and to review the discussion paper, please visit the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) website at <u>https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-6433</u>.

In addition to this ongoing work, the ministry is modernizing the provincial Qualification and Registration Tracking System (QuARTS). QuARTS is used by over 7,000 building practitioners to update their qualification and registration information online and to help the government regulate safety and compliance in the Ontario building industry.

Modernizing QuARTS will create a more efficient and user-friendly system, allowing building officials to spend more time on the important task of reviewing and issuing building permits to support the government's key priority of increasing housing stock.

Finally, the ministry made the 2012 Building Code Compendium freely available in Adobe PDF format through the website (<u>https://www.ontario.ca/page/request-digital-copy-2012-building-code-compendium</u>). Since its launch in March 2022, the ministry has provided free copies to over 5,000 building professionals to reduce barriers and help accelerate the construction of new homes across the province. This initiative has enabled inspectors to access Building Code requirements while performing their work onsite in a more convenient format. Additionally, candidates studying for the ministry's exams are able to access and learn Building Code content in an easy to navigate, user-friendly manner.

As part of the plan to build 1.5 million homes over the next 10 years, the government looks forward to continuing consultations with municipalities, the building industry and the public to investigate further changes to Ontario's Building Code in order to create more housing and support public safety.

If you are interested in learning more about any of the ministry's initiatives related to the transformation of Building Code services in Ontario, please contact us at <u>BuildingTransformation@ontario.ca</u>.

Thank you for your continued partnership as we work together to get more homes built faster for all Ontarians.

Sincerely,

Black

Steve Clark Minister

c: Municipal Clerks