

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESSA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2024
6:00 p.m.**

AGENDA

Members of the public wishing to attend can do so by attending in person to the Council Chambers in the Administration Centre located at 5786 County Road 21, Utopia.

1. OPENING OF MEETING BY THE MAYOR

The Township of Essa acknowledges that we are situated on land within the area of Treaty 18, also known as the Lake Simcoe-Nottawasaga Treaty, signed on October 17, 1818 between the Government of Upper Canada and the Anishinaabe Indigenous peoples. The Anishinaabe include the Ojibwe, Odawa and Pottawatomi Nations collectively known as the Three Fires Confederacy. We are dedicated to honouring Indigenous history and culture and committed to moving forward in the spirit of reconciliation and respect with all First Nation, Metis and Inuit People.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

3. DELEGATIONS / PRESENTATIONS / PUBLIC MEETINGS

p. 1 a. **Public Meeting**
253 Barrie Street (CON 11 N PT LOT 15)
Re: Proposed Temporary Use By-law

p. 3 b. **Public Meeting**
Re: Proposed Amendments to Building Department Fees (Schedule "D" of By-law 2023-01)

STAFF REPORTS

4. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT / BUILDING

5. PARKS AND RECREATION / COMMUNITY SERVICES

6. FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

7. PUBLIC WORKS

8. FINANCE

9. CLERKS / BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT / IT

10. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER (C.A.O.)

- p. 5 a. Staff Report CAO028-24 submitted by the Chief Administrative Officer,
re: NVCA – Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Recommendation: **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Staff Report CAO028-24 be received;
and

THAT Council authorize Staff to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the NVCA for a one (1) year period to commence January 1, 2025, and shall continue for an additional one-year period(s) subject to written approval by both parties; and **THAT** a By-law be brought forward at a future meeting to authorize execution of said MOU.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

12. ADJOURNMENT

Recommendation: **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** this meeting of Committee of the Whole of the Township of Essa adjourn at _____pm., to meet again on the 18th day of December, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.



Corporation of the Township of Essa
 5786 Simcoe County Road #21
 Utopia, Essa Township, Ontario
 L0M 1T0

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING pursuant to the PLANNING ACT
concerning
A TEMPORARY USE BY-LAW (Z3-24)
 (253 Barrie Street, Thornton, CON 11 N PT LOT 15)

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Essa will hold a **Public Meeting on Wednesday the 4th Day of December 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** at the Township of Essa Administration Centre, 5786 County Road No. 21, located three (3) kilometres east of Baxter, to consider a Zoning By-law Amendment under the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13.

THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING is to review an application for a Temporary Use By-law at the property known municipally as 253 Barrie Street. The subject property is zoned Residential, Low Density, Detached (R1) and does not allow for Commercial Uses. The applicant is requesting permission to temporarily use the existing single-family dwelling as a real estate office.

ANY PERSON may attend the meeting and make representation or present submissions respecting these matters. If a person or public body that files an appeal of a decision of the Township of Essa in respect of the proposed Amendment(s) does not make oral submissions at the public meeting or make written submissions to the Township of Essa before the proposal is approved or refused, the Ontario Land Tribunal may dismiss all or part of the appeal.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION relating to the Temporary Use By-law is available for inspection during regular office hours at the Township of Essa Administration Centre, Planning or through email correspondence directed to Owen Curnew, Development Planner. at ocurnew@essatownship.on.ca

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Township of Essa in respect of the proposed Amendment(s), you must make a written request to the Clerk, Township of Essa, Administration Centre, 5786 County Road #21, Utopia, ON, L0M 1T0 (llehr@essatownship.on.ca).

DATED at the Township of Essa this 13th day of November 2024.

Yours truly,

Owen Curnew
 Development Planner
 Township of Essa

3a

Subject Property:





**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
RE: AMENDMENT TO FEES & CHARGES BY-LAW 2013-28
(Schedule "D" – Building Department Fees)**

TAKE NOTICE THAT a Public Meeting has been scheduled to take place on December 4, 2024 at approximately 6:00 pm at the Township of Essa Administration Centre located at 5786 County Road 21, Utopia. The purpose of the Public Meeting is for consideration of amending Schedule "D" of By-law 2023-01 specific to Building Department Fees.

Following a review of Building Department fees, the Township is proposing to amend Building Department fees under Section 7(b) of the *Building Code Act*. The effect will be as follows:

Building Fees - Schedule "D" of By-law 2023-01			
Name of Existing Fee or Proposed New Fee:	Current Fee (N/A for new fee)	Proposed Fee:	
1.	Minimum Permit Fee (unless otherwise designated by Flat rates)		
1.1	Minimum Building Permit Fee	\$125.00	\$150.00
1.2	Group C – Residential, Housing Etc.	\$150.00	\$175.00
2.	Tents and Temporary Structures (Not including Fire Department Inspection Fees)		
2.1	Tents (each)	\$125.00	\$175.00
2.6	Portable Classrooms	\$150.00	\$175.00
3.	Group A, Assembly Uses		
3.1	New, Additions	\$1.35/sq ft	\$1.50/sq ft
4.	Group B, Institutional Uses		
4.1	New, Additions	\$1.35/sq ft	\$1.50/sq ft
6.	Group D, Business and Personal Services		
6.1	New, Additions	\$1.35/sq ft	\$1.40/sq ft
6.2	Alterations/Repairs etc.	\$.50	\$1.00
7.	Group E, Mercantile Uses		
7.1	New, Additions	\$1.35/sq ft	\$1.40/sq ft
7.2	Alterations/Repairs etc.	\$.50	\$1.00
8	Group F – Industrial Uses		
8.1	New, Additions	\$1.00/sq ft	\$1.25/sq ft
8.2	Alterations/Repairs etc.	\$.50	\$1.00
8.3	Gas Stations	\$.80	\$1.00
8.4	Repair Garage	\$.80	\$1.00
8.5	Accessory Structures	\$.80	\$1.00

3b

Name of Existing Fee or Proposed New Fee:	Current Fee (N/A for new fee)	Proposed Fee:	
11.	Additional Fees for Private Sewage Systems		
11.1	Septic System Installation	\$650.00	\$700.00
11.2	Septic Tank Replacement Only	\$250.00	\$300.00
11.5	Verification of Compliance by Qualified 3 rd Party	\$150.00	\$150.00
12.	Stand Alone Works		
12.19	New Addition Fire Suppression Tank	N/A	\$200.00
13.	Plumbing		
13.5	Lot Grading Review	N/A	\$300.00
13.7	Backwater /Backflow	N/A	\$100-1000
15	Special Services		
15.5	Building Compliance Letter	\$100.00	\$150.00
15.6	Building Compliance Letter – Rush	\$150.00	\$180.00

Any person may attend this public meeting or make written or verbal representation in support of or in opposition to the proposed amendment to the by-law. Please note that any written representations will need to be received by the Clerk no later than Noon on Tuesday December 3, 2024

For further information regarding the Public Meeting or the proposed amendment to the by-law, please contact Lisa Lehr, Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk at 705-424-9917 extension 117 or by email at lehr@essatownship.on.ca

Dated at the Township of Essa this 21st day of November 2024.

Lisa Lehr, CMO
Clerk / Manager of Legislative Services



TOWNSHIP OF ESSA STAFF REPORT

STAFF REPORT NO.: CAO028-24
DATE: December 4, 2024
TO: Committee of the Whole
FROM: Michael Mikael, P.Eng, Chief Administrative Officer
SUBJECT: NVCA – Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

RECOMMENDATION

That Staff Report CAO028-24 be received; and

That Council enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the NVCA for a one (1) year period to commence January 1, 2025 and shall continue for additional one-year period(s) subject to written approval by both parties.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of an MOU is to outline and define roles and responsibilities. Clear roles will help to reinforce expectations and eliminate unknown factors. That is, the NVCA is requesting the municipality to enter into an MOU to clearly specify expectations and roles which stem from existing provincial legislation.

Essa's current MOU with the NVCA expires on December 31, 2024, which was for a one (1) year term with no renewal clause. The renewal MOU provided by the NVCA is for a one (1) year term and shall continue for additional one-year period(s) subject to written approval by both parties (unless otherwise terminated in accordance with the terms of the MOU).

COMMENTS AND CONSIDERATIONS

The NVCA has canvassed all 18 of its watershed municipalities to offer an opportunity to participate in a MOU wherein municipalities would benefit from enhanced services since the province has spelled out that municipalities are not mandated to enter into MOUs nor pay for additional services beyond what is considered as a core service.

The NVCA is encouraging all of its 18 member municipalities to pay for enhanced Category Two and Three programs and services. The cost of the enhancements would be \$26,583.50 in 2025 (approximately 10.7% increase from 2024) and is likely to increase in future years.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Enhanced category Two & Three will cost the municipality \$26,583.50 in 2025.

Manager of Finance Approval: _____

SUMMARY/OPTIONS

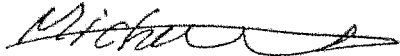
Council may:

- 1. Take no further action.
- 2. Enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the NVCA for a one (1) year period to commence January 1, 2025, with one-year additional period(s) subject to written approval by both parties
- 3. Other as Council may deem appropriate.

CONCLUSION

Option #2 is recommended.

Respectfully submitted:



Michael Mikael, P.Eng
CAO

Attachments:
Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

enter into this MOU with the NVCA for the delivery of programs and services;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the terms of this Agreement and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. The Authority agrees to provide to the Municipality the services outlined in the Inventory of Services and Programs attached hereto as Schedule "A".
2. The Municipality agrees to be charged a levy for such category 3 services in accordance with the levy stated in approved budget.
3. The Authority will not add to or delete from the services or programs funded through the levy without first consulting with the Municipality. Any such change would require an amendment to this Agreement agreed to by all parties.
4. The parties will maintain the current annual approval process for increasing the levy and budget (i.e. weighted vote based upon current value assessment in the watershed for approval of the levy).
5. The Municipality will continue to support the current Inventory of Services and Programs throughout the period of this Agreement.
6. This Agreement shall commence on January 1st, 2025 and will be for a Term of One (1) Year aligning with the calendar year. Thereafter, this agreement shall continue for additional one-year periods subject to written approval by both parties (each a "Renewal Term").
7. NVCA and the Municipality will strive to facilitate open and timely communication at all levels.
8. Unless otherwise provided for within the Act, if a dispute arises between the parties, including in respect of the content or interpretation of this MOU, and which has not been resolved within sixty (60) days, the mediator to be appointed by a judge of a Superior Court, for resolution via non-binding mediation conducted pursuant to the National Mediation Rules of the ADR.
9. Should either party wish to terminate the MOU earlier than the full Term, then notice to the other party must be provided, in writing, at least thirty (30) days before the termination date. There shall not be an adjustment in fees subsequent to an early termination.
10. The Municipality and NVCA will continue to work together to identify opportunities for further collaboration to the benefit of both parties and ensure efficiency, transparency and accountability in the use of public sector

resources.

11. This MOU shall be made available to the public in accordance with the Act and any applicable regulations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have entered into this MOU as of the Effective Date.

**NOTTAWASAGA VALLEY
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

Per: _____

Name: Doug Hevenor

Title: Chief Administrative Officer

Per: _____

Name: Gail Little

Title: Chair of NVCA

ESSA TOWNSHIP

Per: _____

Name:

Title:

Per: _____

Name:

Title:

**Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority Inventory of Programs and Services
Approved by Board of Directors: February 25, 2022**

CATEGORY 1

Natural Hazard Management Program

Program Description: Conservation Authorities (CAs) are the lead provincial agencies on Natural Hazard issues. The goal is to protect life and property from flooding and erosion. This watershed-wide, comprehensive program includes development applications and permits, municipal plan input and review, environmental planning and policy, flood forecast and warning, flood and erosion control infrastructure, technical studies, ice management, education, and public awareness.

Program/Service and Subservices	Description	Category Rationale
Section 28.1 Permit Administration and compliance activities	Respond to property inquiries. Reviewing and processing of permit applications and associated technical reports under O.Reg., 172/06, site inspections to confirm compliance, communication with applicants, agents, consultants, and legal representatives.	CA Act Reg. 686/21 s.8
Municipal Plan Input and Review	<p>Provide technical input and advice to municipalities on circulated municipal land use planning applications (Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments, Subdivisions, Consents, Minor Variances).</p> <p>Provide input into municipal land-use planning documents (OP, Comprehensive ZB, Secondary plans) related to natural hazards, on behalf of Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), delegated to CAs in 1995 and as outlined the 2001 MOU between MNRF, Ministry Municipal Affairs and Housing and Conservation Ontario.</p> <p>Provide input into the review and approval processes under other applicable law, with comments principally related to natural hazards, wetlands, watercourses, and Sec. 28 permit requirements.</p>	CA Act O. Reg. 686/21 s.6/7
Flood & Low Water Forecasting and Warning	Daily data collection and monitoring of weather forecasts, provincial and local water level forecasts, watershed conditions, snow course, flood event forecasting, flood warning, communications and response and equipment maintenance. Annual meeting with municipal flood emergency coordinator.	CA Act 21.1 O. Reg. 686/21 Sec 2 Sec 3

Program/Service and Subservices	Description	Category Rationale
	<p>Low water conditions monitoring and analysis.</p> <p>Technical and administrative support to the Water Response Team representing major water users and decision makers, who recommend drought response actions.</p> <p>Data collection, mapping, data sets, watershed photography. Development and use of systems to collect and store data and to provide spatial geographical representations of data.</p>	
Flood and Erosion Control Infrastructure Operation and Management	Flood and erosion control infrastructure operations. (routine activities related to the operation of the structures). Includes five flood control projects and 13 erosion control projects that are annually inspected, and routine maintenance work completed.	CA Act 21.1 O. Reg. 686/21 Sec 2 Sec 5
Flood and Erosion Control Infrastructure Major Maintenance	Routine and preventative maintenance on flood and erosion control structures as required. Projects are eligible for the Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) funding from the province.	CA Act 21.1 O. Reg. 686/21 Sec 5
Ice Management Services	Preventative measures associated with the control of ice in areas where there is a chronic problem occurring annually, where there is an increase in the risk to life and property and where there is a method to reduce the possible adverse effects of the ice. The Ice Management Plan is being updated.	CA Act 21.1 O. Reg. 686/21 Sec 4
Technical Studies and Policy Review	Studies and projects to inform natural hazards management programs including floodplain management, watershed hydrology, regulations areas mapping update, flood forecasting system assessment, floodplain policy, Georgian Bay shoreline management. These projects often last one to two years and are distributed over time as human resources and funding is available.	CA Act 21.1 O. Reg. 686/21 Sec 1
Natural Hazards Communications, Outreach and Education	Promoting public awareness of natural hazards including flooding, drought, and erosion. Public events, materials. Social media services. Media relations.	CA Act 21.1 O. Reg. 686/21 Sec 1(2)(3)

Provincial Water Quality & Quantity Monitoring

Program Description: The NVCA, in partnership with Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Parks (MECP), has established long term sites to monitor surface and ground water conditions.

Program/Service and Subservices	Description	Category Rationale
Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network (PWQMN)	A long-standing (50+ year) CA/MECP partnership for stream water quality monitoring at nine sites. CA takes water samples and MECP does lab analysis and data management. Information is used for watershed report cards and stewardship project prioritization.	CA Act 21.1.1 O. Reg. 686/21 12 (1) 2
Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network (PGMN)	A long-standing CA/MECP partnership for groundwater level and quality monitoring at 16 stations. Costs include equipment, data collection, analysis, data management and reporting. MECP funded network installation and continues to fund equipment replacements. Data collected supports flood forecast and warning, low water response, and water quality monitoring.	CA Act 21.1.1 O. Reg. 686/21 12 (1) 1

Drinking Water Source Protection

Program Description: The protection of municipal drinking water supplies in the NVCA through the development and implementation of the Source Protection Plans.

Program/Service and Subservices	Description	Category Rationale
Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP)	Source Protection Area/Region, technical support, Source Protections Committee support, Source Protection Authority reports and meetings. Activities required by the Clean Water Act and regulations.	CA Act 21.1.1 O.Reg. 686/21 Sec. 13

Natural Heritage

Program Description: The NVCA completes natural heritage monitoring, delineation of natural heritage systems, data analysis and wetland regulation mapping to support municipalities, other NVCA departments and inter-agency and NGO partnerships.

Program/Service and Subservices	Description	Category Rationale
Wetland & Natural Heritage Evaluations	Complete wetland evaluations and natural heritage evaluations of NVCA properties.	CA Act 21.1.1
Wetland Regulation Mapping	Maintain and update NVCA wetland regulation mapping.	CA Act 21.1.1

Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas

Program Description: NVCA owns 5,240 hectares of land which includes conservation areas, management areas, conservation forests, farmland and flood control structures and surrounding land. NVCA property is essential to watershed management, environmental protection, helps implement the Watershed Management Strategy and provides areas for passive recreation.

Program/Service and Subservices	Description	Category Rationale
Section 29 Minister's regulation for Conservation Areas	Undertake Conservation areas regulations enforcement and compliance initiatives within Conservation areas to prevent unlawful activity and protect the Authority from exposure to liability under the <i>Occupiers' Liability Act</i> .	CA Act 21.1(1)(i); 28(1)(d); 28(1)(e); 29(1)
NVCA forests and management areas (not Conservation Areas)	Management and maintenance of CA owned lands. Includes forest management, signage, gates, passive recreation, stewardship/ restoration, carrying costs such as taxes and insurance.	CA Act 21.1(1)(i); 27(1); 29(1)
Conservation Areas	Management and maintenance of 11 conservation areas and over 30km of recreational trails. Includes passive recreation, risk management program, hazard tree management, gates, fencing, signage, brochures, communications, pedestrian bridges, trails, parking lots, picnic tables, pavilions, roadways, stewardship/ restoration, carrying costs such as taxes and insurance.	CA Act 21.1(1)(i); 27(1); 29(1)
Conservation Area Major Maintenance	Major maintenance and capital improvements to support public access, safety, and environmental protection such as parking lots, pedestrian bridges, boardwalks, trails.	CA Act 21.1(1)(i); 25(1); 27(1)
Inventory of Conservation Authority lands	The land inventory will include the following information: location as well as date, method and purpose of acquisition, land use. One time project with updates as properties are acquired or disposed of and details of agreement and/or tax programs (if applicable) (MFTIP, CLTIP).	CA Act 21.1(1)(i)
Strategy for CA owned or controlled lands and management plans	This strategy will include the management and use of CA- owned or controlled properties including guiding principles, objectives, land use, natural heritage, classifications of lands, mapping, identification of programs and services on the lands, public consultation, publish on website. One-Year Project.	CA Act 21.1(1)(i)
Land Acquisition and Disposition Strategy	A policy to guide the acquisition and disposition of land in order to fulfill the objects of the authority. Current Land Securement Strategy runs from 2020 to 2030.	CA Act 21.1(1)(i)

10a

Watershed Stewardship and Restoration (Urban, rural & agricultural)

Program Description: The stewardship and restoration program has three key components: one-on- one technical and financial assistance to watershed landowners, coordination of target river restoration initiatives based on watershed science, and the reforestation program. Projects reduce the risk to life and property from natural hazards, protect water quality and quantity, improve forest conditions, increase biodiversity and make the watersheds more resilient to climate change.

Program/Service and Subservices	Description	Category Rationale
CA owned Land Stewardship Program	Work to mitigate flood and erosion hazards, protect water quality, restore floodplains, reduce nutrient contamination, restore wetlands, manage non-native invasive species, protect groundwater, improve aquatic species at risk habitat and promote climate change mitigation and adaptation on CA owned lands. Coordinate targeted river restoration and fish habitat improvement initiatives using information generated by the Watershed Science department to identify priority sites and restoration techniques.	CA Act 21.1.2 (1)

Enabling Services:

Program Description: Key assistance provided to all departments of the conservation authority, board of directors, member municipalities and the general public to enable the NVCA to operate in an accountable, efficient and effective manner.

Program/Service and Subservices	Description	Category Rationale
Corporate Services	Administrative, human resources, financial, operating and capital costs which are not directly related to the delivery of any specific program or service, but are the overhead and support costs of a conservation authority. Includes health and safety program, overseeing programs and policies.	CA Act 20
Financial Services	Annual budget, accounts payable and receivable, payroll, financial analysis, financial audit, administration of reserves and investments, financial reports for funding agencies, preparing, and submitting reports to CRA, benefits program administration.	CA Act 20
Legal Expenses	Costs related to agreements/contracts, administrative by-law updates	CA Act 20
Governance	Supporting CA Boards, Advisory Committees, Office of CAO and Senior Management.	CA Act Part IV
Communications and Outreach	Informing public of NVCA programs and projects through media, open houses, public meetings, website administration, responding to inquiries from	CA Act 20

Program/Service and Subservices	Description	Category Rationale
	the public, crisis communications.	
Administration Buildings	Office buildings and workshop used to support NVCA staff, programs, and services. Includes utilities, routine and major maintenance, property taxes.	CA Act 20
Information Technology Management/GIS	Data management, records retention. Development and use of systems to collect and store data and to provide spatial geographical representations of data.	CA Act 20
Vehicle and Equipment	A fleet of vehicles and equipment to support the work of the NVCA, including capital purchases, fuel, licenses, repairs, and maintenance. Programs and projects are charged for the use of the vehicles and equipment.	CA Act CA Act 20
ALL	Asset Management Services	CA Act 25/26

CATEGORY 2

Drinking Water Source Protection

Program Description: The protection of municipal drinking water supplies in the NVCA through the development and implementation of the Source Protection Plans.

Program/Service and Subservices	Description	Category Rationale
DWSP Risk Management Official	Carrying out Part IV duties of the Clean Water Act on behalf of municipalities through service agreements.	CA Act 21.1.1

Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas

Program Description: NVCA owns 5,240 hectares of land which includes conservation areas, management areas, conservation forests, farmland and flood control structures and surrounding land. NVCA property is essential to watershed management, environmental protection, helps implement the Watershed Management Strategy and provides areas for passive recreation.

Program/Service and Subservices	Description	Category Rationale
Tottenham Campground	Long-term lease with municipal partner to operate a campground and associated facilities at Tottenham Conservation Area.	CA Act Non-passive recreation 21.1.1(1)(4); 29(1)
Edenvale Conservation Area	Long-term lease with municipal partner for the management of the Edenvale Conservation Area.	CA Act Passive Recreation 21.1.1(1)(4); 29(1)
Riverdale Park	Long-term lease with municipal partner for the management of Riverdale Park.	CA Act/ Passive Recreation

Program/Service and Subservices	Description	Category Rationale
		21.1.1(1)(4); 29(1)

CATEGORY 3**Local Water Quality Monitoring**

Program Description: The NVCA, in partnership with community organizations, municipalities, and federal and provincial agencies has established sites to monitor surface water quality and quantity.

Program/Service and Subservices	Description	Category Rationale
Surface Water Quality/ Stream Health Monitoring Program	Surface water quality monitoring for Benthic macroinvertebrates at an average of 65 sites per year, water temperature monitoring at an average of 57 sites per year, electrofishing at an average of 20 sites per year, and around 100 sites per year for flows. Responding to local spills events at the request of MECP. Costs include sampling, analysis, and reporting.	CA Act 21.1 (a)
Simcoe Groundwater monitoring program	In partnership with the OGS the NVCA monitors groundwater level and quality at 29 locations. Costs include equipment, data collection, analysis, data management and reporting.	CA Act 21.1 (a)
Watershed Report Card	Conservation Authorities report on local watershed conditions every five years, led by Conservation Ontario's Watershed Report Cards. The NVCA watershed is divided into 9 subwatersheds. Measuring increases understanding of the watershed, focuses efforts and tracks progress.	CA Act 21.1 (a)

Natural Heritage

Program Description: The NVCA completes natural heritage monitoring, delineation of natural heritage systems, data analysis and wetland regulation mapping to support municipalities, other NVCA departments and inter-agency and NGO partnerships.

Program/Service and Subservices	Description	Category Rationale
Natural Heritage Systems	Development of natural heritage systems supporting watershed management objectives. Field based monitoring of terrestrial flora and fauna including bird monitoring and invasive species and species at risk.	CA Act 21.1 (a)

Conservation Authority Lands and Conservation Areas

Program Description: NVCA owns 5,240 hectares of land which includes conservation areas, management areas, conservation forests, farmland and flood control structures and surrounding land. NVCA property is essential to watershed management, environmental protection, helps implement the Watershed Management Strategy and provides areas for passive recreation.

Program/Service and Subservices	Description	Category Rationale
New Lowell Campground	Long-term lease with a private party to operate a campground and associated facilities at New Lowell Conservation Area.	CA Act Non-passive recreation 21.1.2 (1); 29(1)
Utopia Conservation Area	Short-term lease (5-year) with community partner for management of the Utopia Conservation Area	CA Act Passive recreation 21.1(1)(i); 21.1.2 (1); 29(1)
Beeton Creek Property	Short-term lease (5-year) with community partner to lease residence	CA Act 21.1(1)(i); 21.1.2 (1); 29(1)
Mayer's Marsh	Agricultural lease (annual)	CA Act 21.1.2 (1); 29(1)
Petun Conservation Area	Short-term lease (5-year) with community partner to lease portions of the property for fish hatchery operations	CA Act 21.1(1)(i); 21.1.2 (1); 29(1)
Utopia Conservation Area	Short-term lease for commercial access through the Utopia Conservation Area	CA Act 21.1(1)(i); 21.1.2 (1); 29(1)
Black Ash Creek	Formalized agreement for commercial access through Black Ash Creek (NVCA-owned property)	CA Act 21.1(1)(i); 21.1.2 (1); 29(1)
Land acquisition	Strategic acquisition of environmentally significant properties as per NVCA's 2020 Land Securement Strategy.	CA Act 21.1.2 (1)
Events	Includes weddings, corporate events, private gatherings, etc.	CA Act 21.1.2 (1)
Festivals	Includes public events (ex. Spring Tonic, Festival at the Fort, etc.)	CA Act 21.1.2 (1)

Watershed Stewardship and Restoration (Urban, rural & agricultural)

Program Description: The stewardship and restoration program has three key components: one-on-one technical and financial assistance to watershed landowners, coordination of target river restoration initiatives based on watershed science, and the reforestation program. Projects reduce the risk to life and property from natural hazards, protect water quality and quantity, improve forest conditions, increase biodiversity and make the watersheds more resilient to climate change.

Program/Service and Subservices	Description	Category Rationale
Private Land Stewardship Program	Work with property owners and environmental groups to mitigate flood and erosion hazards, protect water quality, restore floodplains, reduce nutrient contamination, restore wetlands, manage non-native invasive species, protect groundwater, improve aquatic species at risk habitat and promote climate change mitigation and adaptation. Coordinate targeted river restoration and fish habitat improvement initiatives using information generated by the Watershed Science department to identify priority sites and restoration techniques. Apply for and manage external funding, promote private land stewardship, provide technical advice and design support and funding assistance.	CA Act 21.1.2 (1)
Tree Planting and Forestry Services on Private	Forestry services including planting plan development, site preparation, tree and shrub planting, and survival assessments. Private woodlot stewardship, technical assistance, link to funding programs to maintain form and function of watershed forest cover.	CA Act 21.1.2 (1)

Conservation Education and Community Outreach

Program Description: Education and outreach programs increase knowledge and awareness in children and adults about local environmental issues, watersheds and ecosystems and conservation actions they can implement.

Program/Service and Subservices	Description	Category Rationale
School programs	Curriculum-based education programs for pre-school, elementary and secondary students. These programs focus on local watersheds, ecosystems, and environmental issues. Programs take place in school yards, schools, field trips to conservation areas, community parks and through online learning opportunities.	CA Act 21.1.2 (1)
Community programs and events	Education, day camp, outreach programs and community events to assist in achieving the objectives of the conservation authority. Some of these programs are open to people of all ages.	CA Act 21.1.2 (1)