Full Authority 16 January 2025 Agenda Item: 15

Fee Policy & Schedule

Background

Fee rates for the Regulations and Planning program have been frozen for 2023 and 2024 as per the directives from the Minister of Natural Resources.

CVCA Fee Policy Changes Retraction

On the 12th of December 2024, all conservation authorities received a Ministerial Directive (see attached) from the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry stating the 2024 freeze on fees for regulations and planning will be *extended for all of 2025*.

Therefore, the direction to prepare increases for the 2025 fee schedule was not completed for the 16th of January 2025 Board meeting.

Consequences

This directive will not allow the CVCA to proceed with increases for 2025. Regrettably, this does not allow fees to keep pace with the inflation. Subsequently, this will place more pressure on the municipal levies to be paid to the CVCA to replace lost revenue from fee increases.

As well, when the freeze is lifted, rate increases could be significant and may be seen as a shock to the public paying for permit applications.

Board Information TP