

**Full Authority**  
**24 February 2023**  
**Agenda Item: 14**

**Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority (LTRCA) Boundary Expansion**

**Background**

In 2017, the Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority (LTRCA) CAO informed the CVCA of a proposal to expand the jurisdiction of the LTRCA to include an area north of their current boundary. A portion of Trent Hills in the northern portion of the former Township of Seymour, is outside the jurisdiction of any Conservation Authority. This includes a portion of Trent River, Cedar Shores Road, Morningside Drive, Franklin Road and Lake Road and lands between the boundary of Lower Trent Conservation and Crowe Conservation. The intent was to include the area in order to serve all of the Municipality of Trent Hills from a planning and regulatory perspective under the LTRCA to better serve the municipality and be consistent for all of the municipalities' residents. It would also eliminate any ambiguity about jurisdiction.

The area was shaped by the creation of the Otonabee Region Conservation Authority, the Crowe Valley CA in the 1950's and finally the addition of the Lower Trent Region CA in the late 60's. It is approximately 29 km<sup>2</sup> and has been affectionately known in the conservation authority world as the "no man's land or the black hole".

In 2017 the option was posed to Havelock-Belmont-Methuen and after their Council's deliberations, they decided not to proceed with the boundary expansion into HBM.

The boundary expansion did not have any impact on the CVCA and therefore staff did not offer any objection to the LTRCA proposed changes.

As a result, the LTRCA proceeded with their proposal and contacted the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to obtain the necessary approvals. However, CVCA discovered an error with the proposed boundary change and proceeded to rectify the discrepancy with the LTRCA.

The CVCA and LTRCA both agreed the CVCA's 1963 watershed map proves the boundary has not changed and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry needs to make an adjustment to their mapping.

The Crowe Valley Conservation Authority confirmed with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry that the CVCA watershed boundary has remained as it was when first established in 1958 by the Order-in-Council which states "The Honourable Minister of Planning and Development therefore recommends that pursuant to Section 4 of the Conservation Authorities Act, a conservation authority, to be known as "The Crowe Valley Conservation Authority", be established with jurisdiction over the area lying within the watershed of the Crowe River;"

And further that specifically, the point of the outlet of the Crowe River be at the confluence of the Crowe and Trent Rivers as originally mapped.

Therefore, the final result was both the CVCA and ORCA at that time had no objections to the proposed expansion.

### **Currently**

The Township of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen (HBM) sent a letter to the CVCA in November 2022 indicating they now wish to proceed to bring the area indicated on the map under the jurisdiction of the LTRCA. (see attached letter) No concerns were brought forward to HBM from the CVCA.

The LTRCA CAO has recently requested a letter from the CVCA indicating our Authority does not have any objections to the proposal.

### ***Staff Recommendations***

*That CVCA staff be directed to send a letter to the LTRCA indicating there are no objections provided the mapping inaccuracy as originally identified in 2017 has been resolved.*

*TP*