

**Full Authority**  
**28 November 2024**  
**Agenda Item: 19**

**General Manager's Report**

**Background**

The General Manager's report provides a brief update for the Board Members prior to the Board meeting bringing forward additional information and/or progress on initiatives or current issues for the Board members' consideration.

**Watershed Management**

*Current Watershed Conditions*

- Precipitation levels have been lower than normal for the majority of lakes in the watershed this fall.
- This precipitation pattern has dictated an uneventful drawdown period. Slow and steady has been the pace with virtually no interruptions causing a pause or reversal of the march to lower winter levels. Stop log adjustments have proceeded as planned.

*Anticipated Conditions*

- Staff expect water levels to reach winter elevations on schedule unless there is a significant change to the current weather pattern. Many times this fall, predicted precipitation amounts did not materialize at all or were substantially downgraded.
- In general, predicted winter weather conditions are quite varied, including average snowfall amounts to mild conditions similar to last year.

*Dam Operations – General*

- Staff will continue making any necessary adjustments over the winter water level period.

## **Conservation Areas Update**

### *McGeachie Conservation Area*

- The Hastings Destination Trails Committee cancelled the “foraging” workshop event at the McGeachie Conservation Area for this fall.
- The Kijicho Manitou Madaouskarini Algonquin First Nation (KMM) is planning a Regenerative Tourism project in and around the Algonquin territory. As part of this project, KMM would like to include The Gut and McGeachie in a trails master plan. This plan would recommend trail design and layout for new trails and a refurbishment/enhancement plan for existing trails.
- The KMM would like to collect this data this fall and share all data and maps with the CVCA.
- This is an excellent opportunity to work with the Algonquin First Nation and potentially expand our recreational network for the public depending on the results of the study.
- There is no cost to the CVCA to complete this study.

### *Callaghan’s Rapids Conservation Area*

- The illegal ATV activity has diminished recently primarily due to change in weather and the arrival of the hunting season.

## **Regulations and Planning**

### *Highway #7 Violation*

Further to the details reported in the General Manager’s report to the Board for the 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024 Board Meeting, the CVCA has been advised to refrain from issuing a press release until the Court sentencing has been finalized.

## **Administration**

### *General*

- The CVCA has now been able to complete the requirement to post an online regulated area map viewer tool for the public’s use on the CVCA website.
- The map viewer indicates the CVCA’s approximate regulated area to provide the public an opportunity to first screen whether their property is all, partially or not regulated.
- This should reduce some of the general inquiries from the public. However, if the public is not sure of their interpretation of the map, the CVCA strongly encourages people to contact the office.

### *Grant Opportunity*

- CVCA staff have submitted a Community Emergency Preparedness Grant to bolster the CVCA's capabilities and help ensure the CVCA office will remain 100% functional during a flood emergency (especially during a 1:100 year storm event or greater).
- The CVCA is seeking approximately \$46,000 in funding to purchase a backup generator for the office, portable lights to create a safe working environment on dams at night, additional rain gauges for monitoring the watershed conditions and electric chainsaws.

### *Staff Recommendation*

*That the CVCA Board receive the General Manager's report as presented.*

### **Board Discussion**

**TP**