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February 13, 2023

Crowe Valley Conservation Authority Board c/o Tim Pidduck, General Manager & Secretary-Treasurer

Sent Via Email: tim.pidduck@crowevalley.com

Dear CVCA Board,

Re: Crowe Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) Budget / Municipal Levy

North Kawartha Council is pleased to see a significant reduction in Municipal Levy requirements from your preliminary budget. We are looking forward to working together to complete FHIMP for Chandos Lake in a timely cost-effective manner.

North Kawartha Council appreciates the budget of the CVCA is limited and variable presenting challenges for funding capital projects and large operational expenditures. For example, absorbing the Crowe River FHIMP without a partner or multiyear plan stresses a budget. Being over 10% of CVCAs 2023 budget it is difficult to imagine this did not impact other accounts during deliberations. Funding partnerships were sought and found for the smaller Chandos Lake project helping stabilize the CVCA budget for all member municipalities. Such a large expense in one lump sum can push back necessary purchases like non-forecasted vehicle replacement. While the budget reduction is again appreciated, if forced to purchase equipment at the last minute the reality can be worse for the Authority, member Municipalities, and ratepayers. Not having enough money can make living terribly expensive.

North Kawartha Council is aware of the Provincial funding challenges the Conservation Authority has faced. By planning ahead and spreading expected expenses across multiple years there is flexibility granted that should assist during financial emergencies. Appreciating the differences between Municipalities and Conservation Authorities, North Kawartha Council is recommending the CVCA work to develop a Capital Forecasting Strategy that meets their specific needs.

Best regards,

Connie Parent, Clerk, Dipl. MM

Connie Parent

On behalf of North Kawartha Council