



LOWER TRENT CONSERVATION

714 Murray Street, R.R. 1, Trenton, Ontario K8V 0N1

■ Tel: 613-394-4829 ■ Fax: 613-394-5226 ■ Website: www.ltc.on.ca ■ Email: information@ltc.on.ca

Registered Charitable Organization No. 107646598RR0001

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOWER TRENT CONSERVATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board of Directors refers to the General Membership as set out in the Lower Trent Conservation Administrative By-Law No. 2023-01

Administration Office, 714 Murray Street, Trenton
Virtually [Join Meeting HERE](#)
Thursday, March 12, 2026
Time: 1:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. **Meeting called to order by the Chair**
2. **First Nations Acknowledgement**
3. **Disclosure of pecuniary interests**
4. **Approval of the Agenda**
RECOMMENDED:
THAT the agenda be approved as presented.
5. **Delegations**
There are no requests for delegations received for this meeting.
6. **Public Input** (3 minutes per speaker)
7. **Adoption of the Minutes:**
 - a. Annual General Meeting minutes February 12, 2026RECOMMENDED:
THAT the Annual General Meeting minutes of February 12, 2026 be adopted.
8. **Business arising from these minutes**

Page # 4

CORRESPONDENCE

- 9. Correspondence** – Rhonda Bateman, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer Page # 12
 a) 2026-02-25 - Cataraqui Conservation – ALTO Motion
 RECOMMENDED:
 THAT the correspondence as provided in the agenda package be received as information.

STAFF REPORTS

- 10. Management of Cheques - January 2026** - Chitra Gowda, Manager, Coporate Services and Water Resources Page # 13
 RECOMMENDED:
 THAT the Management of Cheques - January 2026 staff report be received as information.
- 11. List of Monthly Payments Issued** – Chitra Gowda Page # 15
 RECOMMENDED:
 THAT the list of payments issued in the total amount of \$230,299.56 for the month of February 2026 be received as information.
- 12. Audit Report to the Board for Year Ending December 31, 2025** – Dan Coleman, Welch LLP Page # 16
 RECOMMENDED:
 THAT the Audit Report to the Board, including the Draft Lower Trent Conservation Financial Statements for the period ended December 31, 2025 as prepared and presented by Welch LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants be adopted and circulated.
- 13. Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations Update** – Scott Robertson, Development and Regulations Lead Page # 55
 a. Summary of Permits for Period January 31 – February 27, 2026
 b. Planning and Regulations
 c. Flood Forecasting and Warning (FFW) and Ontario Low Water Response (OLWR)
 RECOMMENDED:
 THAT the Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations Update be received as information.
- 14. Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan Program** – Anne Anderson, Manager, Community Outreach and Special Projects Page # 60
 a. February 2026 Newsletter
 RECOMMENDED:
 THAT the Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan Newsletter for February 2026 be received as information.
- 15. CAO's Report** – Rhonda Bateman Page # 63
 RECOMMENDED:
 THAT the CAO's Report be received as information.

16. Closed Session

RECOMMENDED:

THAT the Board go in to Closed Session under Section 239(2)(b) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* regarding Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including (municipal) employees.

17. Members Inquiries/Other Business

18. Adjournment

PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THIS MEETING

Chitra Gowda 613-394-3915 ext. #215 chitra.gowda@ltc.on.ca



LOWER TRENT CONSERVATION

714 Murray Street, R.R. 1, Trenton, Ontario K8V 0N1

■ Tel: 613-394-4829 ■ Fax: 613-394-5226 ■ Website: www.ltc.on.ca ■ Email: information@ltc.on.ca

Registered Charitable Organization No. 107646598RR0001

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board of Directors refers to the General Membership as set out in the Lower Trent Conservation Administrative By-Law No. 2023-01

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MEETING # 2026-01

DATE: February 12, 2026

TIME: 1:11 PM

LOCATION: Administration Office, 714 Murray Street, Trenton / Virtually

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

ON SITE		REMOTE SITE
Eugene (Gene) Brahaney (Chair)	Jeff Wheeldon	Lynda Reid
Sherry Hamilton (Vice-Chair)	Jim Alyea	Bobbi Wright
Bob Mullin	Eric Sandford	

ABSENT/REGRETS: Mike Ainsworth, Rick English

STAFF: Rhonda Bateman, Chitra Gowda, Scott Robertson, Anne Anderson, Chris McLeod

GUESTS: None

1. Meeting called to order by the Chair

The meeting was called to order by Chair Brahaney at 1:11 p.m.

2. First Nations Acknowledgement

"This land is located on the traditional territories of the Anishnabek, Huron-Wendat, and Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) peoples. We acknowledge our shared responsibilities and obligations to preserve and protect the land, air and water. We are grateful to have the privilege to meet, explore, and connect here on these shared lands. In the spirit of friendship, peace and respect, we extend our thanks to all the generations that came before us and cared for these lands - for time immemorial."

3. Disclosure of pecuniary interests

There were no pecuniary interests declared.

4. Approval of the Agenda as amended

RES: G1/26 Moved by: Eric Sandford Seconded by: Lynda Reid
 THAT the agenda be approved as presented.
Carried

5. Delegations

There were no delegations received for this meeting.

6. Public Input (3 minutes per speaker)

There was no public input at this meeting.

7. Adoption of the Minutes:

RES: G2/26 Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon Seconded by: Sherry Hamilton
 THAT the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of December 11, 2025 be adopted.
Carried

8. Business arising from these minutes

None.

CORRESPONDENCE**9. Correspondence**

Rhonda Bateman noted that after the agenda package was prepared and posted, many additional letters were received focused on ERO comments on the proposed consolidation of conservation authorities.

RES: G3/26 Moved by: Eric Sandford Seconded by: Bob Mullin
 THAT the correspondence to the Board as provided in the agenda package be received as information.

Carried

2025 BUSINESS**10. List of Monthly Payments Issued**

RES: G4/26 Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon Seconded by: Bobbi Wright
 THAT the list of payments of issued in the amount of \$242,129.02 for the month of December 2025 and \$225,668.66 for the month of January 2026 be received as information.

Carried

11. Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations Update Reports

RES: G5/26 Moved by: Sherry Hamilton Seconded by: Jim Alyea
 THAT the Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations Update Reports be received as information.

Carried

12. Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations End of Year Report

RES: G6/26

Moved by: Jim Alyea

Seconded by: Eric Sandford

THAT the Planning and Regulations End of Year Report be accepted as information.

Carried

13. Annual Permit Report

Scott Robertson, Development and Regulations Lead, noted a correction in information submitted to Conservation Ontario for the number of applications approved, rather than the number received.

RES: G7/26

Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon

Seconded by: Sherry Hamilton

THAT the Annual Permit Report as required under O. Reg. 686/21 and O. Reg 41/24 be received as information and further that the report be posted to the LTC Governance website page for compliance.

Carried

14. Conservation Lands Report – Period October 1 to December 31, 2025

RES: G8/26

Moved by: Bob Mullin

Seconded by: Eric Sandford

THAT the Conservation Lands Report for the period October 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 be received as information.

Carried

15. Summary of Education and Outreach Activities – October 1 to December 31, 2025

Director Eric Sandford asked about the Forest Bathing event. Anne Anderson, Manager, Community Outreach & Special Projects, responded that this is a wellness practice that started in Japan, encouraging a gentle walk immersed in nature and mindfulness.

RES: G9/26

Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon

Seconded by: Sherry Hamilton

THAT the summary of Education and Outreach Activities for the period of October 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 be received as information.

Carried

16. Summary of Risk Management Official Activity Pursuant to Part IV of the *Clean Water Act* Report - Period October 1 to December 31, 2025

Director Bob Mullin asked if the number of threats determined to not be occurring were the same count every year. Anne Anderson, Manager, Community Outreach & Special Projects, responded that this number was from the first count required by the provincial government, and remains to be the same mirroring the annual reporting requirement.

RES: G10/26

Moved by: Lynda Reid

Seconded by: Jeff Wheeldon

THAT the Risk Management Official Activity pursuant to Part IV of the Clean Water Act Report for the period October 1 to December 31, 2025 be received as information.

Carried

17. Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan Update

RES: G11/26

Moved by: Sherry Hamilton

Seconded by: Jeff Wheeldon

THAT the BQRAP December 2025 and January 2026 Newsletters be received as information.

Carried

18. Annual Report on Flood and Erosion Control Structures

Director Eric Sandford asked if LTC-owned structures were budgeted for the necessary maintenance. Chief Administrative Officer Rhonda Bateman replied that LTC does prepare annual budgets for known maintenance needs of its flood and erosion control structures; and that municipalities are responsible for municipally owned structures. LTC staff can assist with finding contractors for municipalities.

RES: G12/26

Moved by: Bob Mullin Seconded by: Eric Sandford

THAT the 2025 Flood and Erosion Control Structures Inspection report be accepted as information; and,

THAT the Board approve the circulation of the report to Municipal staff.

Carried

19. Close 2025 Business Year – Chair’s Remarks

Chair Gene Brahaney provided his end of the year remarks as the LTC Board Chair, thanking the board members for their work. He noted the provincial government’s proposal and expressed concern over not knowing what would happen to the Board if a consolidation happens.

RES: G13/26

Moved by: Sherry Hamilton Seconded by: Lynda Reid

THAT the Lower Trent Conservation 2025 Business Year be closed.

Carried

2026 BUSINESS**20. 2026 Board of Directors Elections**

RES: G14/26

Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon Seconded by: Sherry Hamilton

THAT the CAO/Secretary Treasurer Rhonda Bateman assumes the role of Chair to conduct the 2026 Board of Directors Elections.

Carried

Rhonda Bateman assumed the Chair position to conduct the 2026 Board of Directors’ Elections. She declared the positions of LTC Chair and Vice-Chair to be vacant and confirmed the number of eligible voters present at the meeting was eight (8). Rhonda Bateman added that in the event of an election by secret ballot, members attending remotely would be able to vote through the scrutineers.

Appointment of Scrutineers

Before opening the floor to nominations, Rhonda Bateman recommended that Anne Anderson and Chris McLeod be appointed as scrutineers.

RES: G15/26

Moved by: Jim Alyea Seconded by: Bob Mullin

THAT Anne Anderson and Chris McLeod be appointed as scrutineers.

Carried

Before proceeding, Rhonda Bateman provided the rules of the election process:

“The Conservation Authorities Act, Section 17(1.2) indicates that Chairs and Vice-Chairs be appointed on a rotating basis between municipalities such that the new Chair and new Vice-Chair are not from the same municipality as the outgoing Chair and Vice-Chair. However, it is allowed to have a Chair or Vice-Chair be elected for two consecutive years.

Nominations will be called three times. A nomination will not require a seconder. After each nomination, we will ask for confirmation that the nominee will allow their name to stand. Before the motion to close the nominations we will ask for confirmation that the nominees will allow their names to stand. A motion to close nominations will require a mover and a seconder. Each candidate will be allowed up to three minutes to speak.

If an election is required, it will be conducted by secret ballot. If there are more than two nominees, a majority will be required. In the event of no majority, the one with the fewest votes will be dropped from the ballot and secret ballots will be held until a nominee has a majority. In the event of a tie, another ballot will be carried out. Should there still be a tie after a 3rd vote, a name will be drawn by the Acting Chair.

After the election, if one is required, we will need a motion that the scrutineers destroy the ballots”.

Election of the Lower Trent Conservation (LTC) Chair

Rhonda Bateman opened the floor to call for nominations for the position of Chair for the Year 2026.

Director Eric Sandford nominated Director Gene Brahaney to stand for the position of Chair. Rhonda Bateman asked the nominee, Director Gene Brahaney if they would allow their name to stand. Director Gene Brahaney accepted the nomination for Chair.

Rhonda Bateman called for nominations for the position of Chair for the second time. Director Jim Alyea nominated Director Sherry Hamilton to stand for the position of Chair. Rhonda Bateman asked the nominee, Director Sherry Hamilton if they would allow their name to stand. Director Sherry Hamilton accepted the nomination for Chair.

Rhonda Bateman called for nominations for the position of Chair for the third and last time. There were no further nominations after being called three times. Rhonda Bateman asked the nominees again if they would allow their names to stand. Director Gene Brahaney and Director Sherry Hamilton confirmed acceptance of their respective nominations for Chair. Rhonda Bateman called for a motion to close the nominations for Chair.

RES: G16/26

Moved by: Eric Sandford

Seconded by: Bob Mullin

THAT nominations for the position of Chair for the Year 2026 be closed.

Carried

Rhonda Bateman invited the nominees to speak for up to three minutes each. Scrutineers distributed ballots, collected the votes and announced the results. Rhonda Bateman declared Director Sherry Hamilton as Chair of the Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority and congratulated her.

RES: G17/26

Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon

Seconded by: Eric Sandford

THAT the scrutineers destroy the voting ballots.

Carried

Election of the Lower Trent Conservation (LTC) Vice-Chair

Rhonda Bateman opened the floor to call for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair for the Year 2026.

Director Jeff Wheeldon nominated himself for the position of Vice-Chair. Rhonda Bateman confirmed with the nominee, Director Jeff Wheeldon that they would allow their name to stand. Director Jeff Wheeldon accepted the nomination for Vice-Chair.

Rhonda Bateman called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair for the second time. Rhonda Bateman called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair for the third and last time. There were no further nominations after being called three times. Rhonda Bateman asked the nominee again if they would allow their name to stand. Director Jeff Wheeldon confirmed acceptance of the nomination for Vice-Chair. Rhonda Bateman called for a motion to close the nominations for Vice-Chair.

RES: G18/26

Moved by: Bob Mullin

Seconded by: Jim Alyea

THAT nominations for the position of Vice-Chair for the Year 2026 be closed.

Carried

Rhonda Bateman declared Director Jeff Wheeldon as the Vice-Chair of the Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority and congratulated him. Rhonda Bateman passed the remainder of the Annual General meeting over to Chair Sherry Hamilton.

21. 2026 Annual ResolutionsRES: G19/26

Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon

Seconded by: Gene Brahaney

THAT the law firm of Templeman LLP from the City of Belleville be engaged as solicitor for Lower Trent Conservation for the 2026 business year;

THAT the firm of WELCH LLP be engaged as external auditor by Lower Trent Conservation for the 2026 business year at a cost of \$14,000.00 plus HST;

THAT the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce in Trenton serve as Lower Trent Conservation's financial institute;

THAT the Authority Chair, Vice Chair, Chief Administrative Officer/Secretary Treasurer, and Manager, Corporate Services and Water Resources be appointed as the signing officers for Lower Trent Conservation for the 2026 business year;

THAT the Lower Trent Conservation Chair be appointed as the Conservation Ontario representative, and that the Vice-Chair and Chief Administrative Officer/Secretary Treasurer be appointed as the Conservation Ontario Alternate Representatives for 2026; and

THAT the Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority authorize staff to borrow from the approved financial institution, if needed, up to \$500,000, in accordance with Section B.12, Signing Officers, and C.12.e, Annual Meeting, Borrowing Resolution, of By-law No. 2023-01 (Administrative By-law) and Section 3 (5) of the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

Carried**22. Permit Authorization**RES: G20/26

Moved by: Eric Sandford

Seconded by: Bobbi Wright

THAT the Manager, Corporate Services and Water Resources be authorized to approve permit applications; and

THAT the Regulations Policy Documents be updated to reflect the change in authorization.

Carried**23. CAO's Report**

Rhonda Bateman summarized the report, indicating that at the ROMA Conference, there were many municipal staff showing support for conservation authorities. She was part of the Centre Hastings delegation to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks to discuss the proposed consolidation of conservation authorities. It was disclosed that CA budgets would be merged into one budget per region.

Rhonda Bateman said that the fee schedule would be changed at the end of February; and that there is the possibility of a cap on the increase to be set by the provincial government. She also updated the board on the Planning Ecologist position which was posted and received over 35 applications. Interviews were planned for the end of February. Native plant sales have begun, and forest wellness hike events are being organized.

Director Eric Sandford asked how there could be only one CAO for a region comprised of many CAs. Rhonda Bateman replied that current CA CAOs would be involved in developing a strategy to move forward, and that there would likely be a consultant hired to do the consolidation. Director Eric Sandford said that he is setting up a meeting with MPP Bresee to meet Centre Hastings CAO, Rhonda Bateman, and Warden Bob Mullin. Vice-chair Jeff Wheeldon also indicated that he would participate.

RES: G21/26 Moved by: Bob Mullin Seconded by: Jeff Wheeldon
 THAT the CAO's Report be received as information.

Carried

OTHER BUSINESS

24. Members Inquiries/Other Business

Rhonda Bateman noted that it is a critical time for the LTC Board to remain engaged, attendance is important, and that staff would appreciate their support moving forward. Chair Sherry Hamilton added that there is expertise at the table that can help navigate these waters and support staff. Director Eric Sandford reiterated support for staff during these times.

25. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

RES: G22/26 Moved by: Jeff Wheeldon Seconded by: Jim Alyea
 THAT the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

Time: 2:05 p.m.

 Sherry Hamilton, Chair

 Rhonda Bateman, CAO/ST

Agenda item #9a.



Motion from Full Authority Board Meeting of Wednesday, February 25, 2026

Whereas Cataraqi Conservation has a mandated responsibility under Ontario's Conservation Authorities Act to ensure that development and infrastructure projects within its jurisdiction do not negatively impact the integrity of the watershed; and,

Whereas the currently proposed southern route is likely to intersect or impact wetlands, significant woodlands, agricultural lands, source water protection areas, and ecologically sensitive shoreline systems within the Cataraqi Watershed;

Therefore, Be It Resolved That Cataraqi Conservation recommends that Alto commit to studying an alternate southern route, near the Highway 401 corridor, with a station stop in the City of Kingston; and,

That a copy of this motion be sent to:

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., M.P. Prime Minister of Canada,
 The Honourable Steve MacKinnon, P.C., M.P., Minister of Transport,
 Martin Imbleau, President and CEO, Alto,
 The Honourable Mark Gerretsen, M.P. Kingston and the Islands,
 Ted Hsu, M.P.P. Kingston and the Islands,
 Michael Barrett, M.P., Leeds—Grenville—Thousand Islands—Rideau Lakes,
 The Honourable Steve Clark, M.P.P. Leeds—Grenville—Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes,
 Scott Reid, M.P. Lanark-Frontenac,
 John Jordan, M.P.P. Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston,
 Shelby Kramp-Neuman, M.P., Hastings—Lennox and Addington—Tyendinaga,
 Ric Breese, M.P.P. Hastings-Lennox and Addington,
 Mayor Ron Vandewal, Township of South Frontenac
 Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte First Nation,
 Eastern Ontario Mayors' Caucus,
 Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus,
 the eleven (11) municipalities under the jurisdiction of Cataraqi Conservation,
 the twelve (12) Conservation Authorities affected by this project; and,
 Conservation Ontario

Agenda Item #10



LOWER TRENT
CONSERVATION

STAFF REPORT

Date: March 3, 2026
To: LTC Board of Directors
Re: Management of Cheques - January 2026
Prepared by: Chitra Gowda, Manager, Corporate Services and Water Resources

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

THAT the Management of Cheques - January 2026 staff report be received as information.

BACKGROUND:

Lower Trent Conservation (LTC) owns a mailbox that staff use regularly to send mail, including payment cheques to vendors, and to receive mail. It is located opposite the parking lot entrance to the LTC Administrative Building. On January 19, 2026, LTC staff noticed that the mailbox was considerably damaged and unusable. It was later confirmed that the damage was inadvertently due to municipal snowplow operations at the time. Details were discussed with the municipality, setting out a plan for repairs to occur in spring 2026.

In the meanwhile, to ensure business continuity, including timely payment to LTC vendors, on January 22, 2026 LTC staff took a batch of payment cheques (dated January 20, 2026) to the Canada Post outlet at Shoppers Drug Mart in Trenton. Approximately two weeks later, vendors began to contact LTC about not receiving payments on time. LTC staff called Shoppers Drug Mart, who advised staff to visit the store. The visit was made on February 11, 2026, and LTC staff were made aware by Shoppers Drug Mart that other businesses also observed that their payment cheques were not delivered.

On the same day, February 11, 2026, the Manager, Corporate Services and Water Resources, contacted LTC's bank CIBC by email to notify them of the matter, and provided the list of cheques. On February 12, 2026, the Manager, Corporate Services and Water Resources and the CAO initiated the placement of stop orders on the cheques dated January 20, 2026 (with the exception of four cheques that were hand-delivered to payees). The Manager, Corporate Services and Water Resources monitored the LTC chequing account daily as per the advice of bank officials because the bank has 48 hours to reverse a cheque once it has been debited from the account.

DISCUSSION:

At the time of writing of this report, none of the cheques dated January 20, 2026 were debited. The Manager, Corporate Services and Water Resources and CAO continue to monitor the LTC chequing account. Replacement cheques were subsequently issued within February 2026 for most vendors, with the exception of two vendors who were paid by LTC credit card. Attached is a table that lists each cheque dated January 20, 2026 and elaborates upon the action taken for cheques for which stop orders were placed. The LTC mailbox has since been made functional by the municipality with long-term installation planned for spring.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Management of Cheques - January 2026 staff report be received as information.

**Lower Trent Conservation
Payments LOG - FEBRUARY 2026**

CHEQUE # / EFT #	PAYEE	DETAILS	AMOUNT
	Staff Payroll	Feb/26 Payroll Period #3 and #4	135,171.78
EFT 82189473	OMERS	Feb/26 Pension Contributions	24,787.28
EFT 82189305	Nesda Technologies Ltd	Monthly IT services, project and tickets fees	2,967.24
EFT 82189572	Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada	Mar/26 Group Benefits Premium	9,590.18
EFT 82189506	Workplace Safety Insurance Board (WSIB)	Feb/26 WSIB Premium	4,260.19
EFT 82189261	CIBC VISA	Feb/26 Payment	6,269.15
17479	Township of Alnwick/Haldimand	2026 interim property tax - Alnwick/Haldimand	276.00
17480	Municipality of Trent Hills	2026 interim property tax - Trent Hills	854.64
17481	Municipality of Brighton	2026 interim property tax - Brighton	4,131.94
17482	Township of Cramahe	2026 interim property tax - Cramahe	220.96
17483	Hydro One Networks Inc.	Utilities - hydro - admin building and workshop	2,081.45
17484	Emerald Cleaners	Cleaning services - admin building and workshop	4,135.80
17485	Environmental 360 Solutions (Ontario) Ltd.	Waste services - conservation lands	65.87
17486	OT Group - DCB Business Systems Group Inc	Monthly photocopier usage service fees and copier toner	394.91
17487	Staples Commercial	Stationery supplies and small equipment	259.11
17488	<i>VOIDED</i>	<i>Misprinted therefore voided</i>	-
17489	Obsentia	Vehicle maintenance	183.23
17490	City of Quinte West	Utilities - water/sewer - workshop (Dec/25, Jan/26)	150.94
17491	<i>VOIDED</i>	<i>Misprinted therefore voided</i>	-
17492	Telizon Inc	Monthly telephone lines (Dec/25, Jan/26)	1,139.44
17493	Earl Rosebush Fuels	Propane - bulk - Goodrich-Loomis Conservation Centre (J	1,106.21
17494	Brighton Springs	Drinking water for admin building	109.45
17495	B&T Sales	Janitorial supplies	76.81
17496	Templeman LLP	Legal fees - regulations and corporate services	4,314.34
17497	River Institute	BQRAP - agreement milestone completion	6,425.00
17498	Pesce & Associates Inc.	Organizational and salary review	3,616.00
17499	Trenton Home Hardware Building Centre	Property maintenance, supplies	310.06
17500	Seymour Mechanical Services	Property maintenance - snow plow - Seymour CA	339.00
17501	Conservation Ontario	2026 Cons Ontario Levy - install 1 of 2	11,208.27
17502	Free Flow Petroleum	Monthly vehicle and equipment fuel	695.01
17503	BDI - Division of Bell Mobility	Mobile phones - 2	1,139.04
17504	CDW Canada Corp.	Laptop bags	76.25
17505	Enbridge	Utilities - gas - admin building and workshop	503.75
17506	Fireside Publishing House Ltd.	DWSP advertising	231.65
17507	KONE Inc	Admin bldg elevator maintenance fee and CAT1 test	2,546.02
17508	<i>VOIDED</i>	<i>Misprinted therefore voided</i>	-
17509	Quinte West Chamber of Commerce	Annual membership fee	337.87
17510	Municipality of Centre Hastings	Interim property taxes - Douglas Spring NHA	324.72
		Total of Payments	230,299.56



REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF

**THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION
AUTHORITY**

For the year ended December 31, 2025

Prepared by:
Daniel J.W. Coleman, CPA, CA
Partner
March 3, 2026

AUDIT STATUS

Our audit of the financial statements of The Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority for the year ended December 31, 2025 is substantially complete and we expect to release our auditor's report after the following outstanding matters are completed:

- Receipt of the signed management representation letter
- Approval of the financial statements by the Board of Directors
- Final subsequent review up to the date of approval of the financial statements

If any significant matters arise between the date of this report and the signing of our audit report we will raise them with you. The following paragraphs provide information we are required to communicate with you in accordance with Canadian auditing standards.

QUALITATIVE ASPECTS OF ACCOUNTING PRACTICES AND FINANCIAL REPORTING

Our audit includes consideration of the qualitative aspects of the financial reporting process, including matters that have a significant impact on the relevance, reliability, comparability, understandability and materiality of the information provided in the financial statements.

There are no matters with respect to the qualitative aspects of accounting practices that we wish to draw to your attention in relation to the financial statements for the 2025 fiscal year.

MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIONS

We are required to obtain written representations from management as an acknowledgement of their responsibility for the fair presentation of the financial statements and as audit evidence on matters material to the financial statements. We have provided a draft of the letter of representation as an attachment to this letter. The Manager, Corporate Services and Water Resources has committed to provide us with a signed copy of the letter on a date to coincide with the date of our auditor's report.

MISSTATEMENTS

The corrected misstatements identified during our audit are included in Appendix A. Management made all the corrections we proposed and as a result there are no unadjusted errors to report to you.

SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES IN INTERNAL CONTROL

During our audit we did not identify any significant deficiencies in internal control to report to the Board.

However, we identified some areas where there was room for improvement in procedures and internal controls and these will be included in a report to management. We have not provided a comprehensive statement of all weaknesses which may exist in internal control or all improvements which can be made, but have addressed only those matters which have come to our attention as a result of audit procedures we have performed.

INDEPENDENCE

Canadian generally accepted auditing standards require that we communicate at least annually with you regarding all relationships between The Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority and us that, in our professional judgment, may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence.

No matters have been identified that would reasonably be thought to bear on our independence. As a result, we confirm that we are independent.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION

1. Significant Accounting Policies

The Authority's significant accounting policies are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

During the year there were no new accounting policies or changes to existing accounting policies.

OTHER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE AUDIT

It was noted that under Provincial directives, the Authority will be amalgamated with several other authorities to form a wider regional Authority with an expected implementation date of January 1, 2027 and the Authority's Board ceasing to have decision making power after September 2026. However, it is our understanding that the programs currently being carried out by the various authorities will continue under the amalgamated entity utilizing the resources of each authority and assuming any obligations of each authority. As such, disclosure has been provided in the financial statements of the details of anticipated amalgamation but there is no other impact on the financial statements.

MATTERS TO BE COMMUNICATED

Canadian Auditing Standards require us to communicate to you the following:

- Significant matters identified during the audit in connection with the Authority's related parties;
- Whether we encountered other transactions that were unusual or not in the normal course of business;
- Details of any frauds that we identified or information that indicates that a fraud may exist;
- Conditions identified that may cast significant doubt on the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern; and
- Non-compliance with laws or regulations that come to the auditor's attention during the course of the audit.

We did not encounter any such matters during the course of our audit.

REVISED CANADIAN PUBLIC SECTOR ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

For years beginning on or after April 1, 2026, a new Conceptual Framework for Public Sector Accounting Standards will be required to be implemented along with corresponding changes to Financial Statement Presentation. As it is anticipated that the last fiscal year of the Authority as a stand alone entity will be the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2026, the implementation of this standard will be undertaken by the new amalgamated entity and, as such, we have determined it not necessary to provide any further description of this new standard in this report.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

During the course of our audit, we received considerable assistance from the organization's staff and management. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their efforts and for their constructive approach to the audit.

Date to be determined

Welch LLP
67 Ontario Street
Trenton, ON
K8V 2G8

Dear Sirs/Madams:

We are providing this letter in connection with your audit of the financial statements of **The Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority** (the Authority) for the year ended December 31, 2025, for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

We acknowledge that your examination was planned and conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards so as to enable you to express an opinion on the financial statements. We understand that while your work includes an examination of the accounting system, internal control and related data to the extent you considered necessary in the circumstances, it is not designed to identify, nor can it necessarily be expected to disclose, fraud, shortages, errors and other irregularities, should any exist.

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. An item is considered material, regardless of its monetary value, if it is probable that its omission from or misstatement in the financial statements would influence the decision of a reasonable person relying on the financial statements.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the following representations made to you during your audit:

Financial Statements

1. We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the engagement letter dated January 13, 2023, for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

2. The significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.

Information Provided

1. We have provided you with:
 - (a) Access to all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation of the financial statements, such as records, documentation and other matters;
 - (b) Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit; and
 - (c) Unrestricted access to persons within the Authority from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
2. All transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
3. We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud. We have assessed this risk as low.
4. We have disclosed to you all information in relation to fraud or suspected fraud that we are aware of and that affects the Authority and involves:
 - (a) Management;
 - (b) Employees who have significant roles in internal control; or
 - (c) Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
5. We have disclosed to you all information in relation to allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the Authority's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others.
6. We have disclosed to you all known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
7. We have disclosed to you the identity of the Authority's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.

Accounts Receivable

1. Notes and accounts receivable represent valid claims relating to transactions made before the end of the fiscal year and do not include any amount relating to services provided after year end. Adequate provision has been made for losses which may be sustained in the collection of receivables.

Temporary and Portfolio Investments

1. All investments that are owned by the Authority are recorded in the accounts.
2. The Authority has good title to all investments recorded in the accounts and these investments are free from hypothecation.
3. All income earned on the investments for the year has been recorded in the accounts.
4. Where there has been a significant adverse change in the expected timing or amount of future cash flows from an investment, it has been appropriately written down.

Tangible Capital Assets

1. All charges to tangible capital asset accounts during the year represent actual additions to and no expenditures of a capital nature were charged to the operations of the Authority during the year.
2. All tangible capital assets sold or dismantled have been properly accounted for in the books of the Authority.
3. Appropriate rates have been used to amortize the assets over their estimated useful lives and the provisions were calculated on a basis consistent with that of the previous period.
4. The Authority has good title to the properties represented by the balance carried on the capital asset accounts. Details of any liens, mortgages and other charges against the tangible capital assets shown on the books of the Authority are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.
5. Where the value of any tangible capital assets has been impaired, this fact has been disclosed to you.

Liabilities and Commitments

1. At the year end, with the exception of relatively immaterial obligations for which invoices had not been received or which otherwise could not readily be determined or estimated, all known liabilities of the Authority are included and fairly stated on the statement of financial position.

2. At the year-end there were no contingent liabilities (e.g., discounted receivables or drafts, guarantees, pending or unsettled suits, matters in dispute).
3. The Authority has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance, including all covenants, conditions or other requirements of all outstanding debt.
4. At the year-end, the Authority had no unusual commitments or contractual obligations of any sort that were not in the ordinary course of business or that might have an adverse effect upon the Authority.
5. All claims outstanding against the Authority or possible claims have been disclosed to you and, where appropriate, reflected in the financial statements or notes thereto.
6. We understand that any illegal or possibly illegal act could damage the Authority or its reputation or give rise to a claim or claims against the Authority. We are not aware of any violations or possible violations of law or regulations the effects of which should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements or as the basis for recording a contingent loss.

Statement of Operations

1. All of the revenues of the Authority for the year has been recorded in the books of account and disclosed in the financial statements.
2. The statement of operations contains no extraordinary or non-recurring items of material amount except as shown thereon.

Restrictions

1. All restrictions on the use of the Authority's funds or assets, as well as all requirements or conditions imposed by third parties, have been brought to your attention and are appropriately disclosed in the financial statements. The Authority complied with all restrictions, requirements or conditions which, in the event of non-compliance could have a significant effect on the financial statements.
2. All assets subject to a lien, pledged or assigned as security or guarantee for liabilities were brought to your attention and are appropriately disclosed in the financial statements.

Corporate Minutes

The minute books of the Authority contain an accurate record of all of the business transacted at meetings of directors and committees of directors up to the date of this letter.

Controlled and Related Entities

1. The Authority does not have relationships with any companies or other not-for-profit organizations that involve control, joint control, or significant influence nor does the Authority have an economic interest in any other not-for-profit organization.

Related Party Transactions

1. Related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of Canadian public sector accounting standards.
2. There have been no exchanges of goods or services with any related parties during the year that require disclosure in the financial statements.

Recognition, Measurement and Disclosure

1. Significant assumptions used in arriving at the fair values of financial instruments as measured and disclosed in the financial statements are reasonable and appropriate in the circumstances.
2. The Authority has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets and liabilities reflected in the financial statements.
3. The nature of all material measurement uncertainties has been appropriately disclosed in the financial statements, including all estimates where it is reasonably possible that the estimate will change in the near term and the effect of the change could be material to the financial statements.
4. The Authority did not undertake any material non-monetary transactions or transactions for no consideration during the financial reporting period under consideration.

Going Concern

We confirm that we have assessed the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern, taking into account all information which is at least twelve months from the year-end date, and we conclude that the Authority is able to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future.

Other Information

Other information consists of financial or non-financial information (other than financial statements and the auditor's report thereon) included in an entity's annual report. An annual report is a document, or combination of documents, prepared typically on an annual basis by management or those charged with governance in accordance with law, regulation or custom, the purpose of which is to provide owners or stakeholders with information on the Authority's operations and the Authority's financial results and financial position as set out in the financial statements.

1. The financial statements and any other information provided to you prior to the date of the auditor's report are consistent with one another, and such other information does not contain any material misstatements.

General

1. We are unaware of any frauds or possible frauds having been committed by the Authority, its employees or any of its directors and officers and we have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
2. We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the Authority's financial statements.
3. We acknowledge that we are responsible for the implementation and operation of internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error.
4. We are unaware of any known or probable instances of non-compliance with the requirements of regulatory or governmental authorities, including their financial reporting requirements.
5. The effects of uncorrected misstatements are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements as a whole.
6. In the course of your audit of our financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2025, you have recommended certain journal entries and adjustments to our books and records as attached to this letter. We hereby acknowledge that we understand, agree with and approve of the attached journal entries which have been considered necessary to present fairly the financial position and operating results of our Authority.
7. We have reviewed our tangible capital assets and have determined that there are no asset retirement obligations associated with these assets.

Events Subsequent to the Year-end

All events subsequent to the date of these financial statements and for which Canadian public sector accounting standards require adjustment or disclosures have been adjusted or disclosed.

Yours very truly,

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Per _____

Chitra Gowda,
Manager, Corporate Services and Water Resources

Draft for discussion purposes only

The Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority

Year End: December 31, 2025

Adjustments

Rev. 10/10/01

Date: 1/1/2025 To 12/31/2025

Number	Date	Name	Account No	Reference	Debit	Credit	Recurrence	Misstatement
1	12/31/2025	Unearned Revenue - BQRAP Governance	2040 LTC	HH2	115,338.91			
1	12/31/2025	Unearned Revenue - BQRAP Programs	2041 LTC	HH2		27,862.61		
1	12/31/2025	Deferred Revenue Recognized	4016 D55	HH2		87,476.30		
		To adjust BQRAP program balances at year end.					Recurring	
2	12/31/2025	Unearned Revenue - DWSP	2042 LTC	HH4		51,321.35		
2	12/31/2025	Provincial Funding	4017 D65	HH4	51,321.35			
		To adjust DWSP unearned balance at year end.					Recurring	
3	12/31/2025	Short Term Deposits	1019 LTC	B1	1,767.68			
3	12/31/2025	Short Term Deposit - Shell Cda GLCC	1021 LTC	B1	585.29			
3	12/31/2025	Unearned Revenue - Shell Fund	2044 LTC	B1		585.29		
3	12/31/2025	Interest Earned - Bank	4069 D11	B1		1,767.68		
		To record investment income earned during the year.					Recurring	
4	12/31/2025	A/A Buildings, Structures, Bridges	1815 LTC	K1		13,100.00		
4	12/31/2025	A/A Flood & Erosion Control Infrac	1825 LTC	K1		4,159.00		
4	12/31/2025	A/A Lands Infrastructure	1835 LTC	K1		2,112.00		
4	12/31/2025	A/A Furniture & Fixtures	1845 LTC	K1		2,482.00		
4	12/31/2025	A/A Heavy Equip & Vehicles	1855 LTC	K1		49,831.00		
4	12/31/2025	A/A IT Infrastructure	1885 LTC	K1		6,364.00		
4	12/31/2025	Surplus/Deficit - Beginning of Year	3010 LTC	K1		78,048.00		
4	12/31/2025	Equity in Tangible Capital Assets	3020 LTC	K1	78,048.00			
4	12/31/2025	Amortization Expense	5910 D25	K1	78,048.00			
		To record capital assets amortization for the year.					Recurring	
5	12/31/2025	Accounts Payable	2007 LTC			83,431.79		
5	12/31/2025	Rev - Administered Programs - DWSP	4064 D15			21,519.89		
5	12/31/2025	DWSP - Regional SP	5990 D65		20,643.67			
5	12/31/2025	DWSP - Regional SP	5990 D65		18,804.45			
5	12/31/2025	DWSP - Regional SP	5990 D65		26,523.48			
5	12/31/2025	DWSP - Regional SP	5990 D65		17,460.19			
5	12/31/2025	DWSP - Regional SP	5990 D65		21,519.89			
		Adjust for late journal entries Sept - Dec conservation authority costs.						
6	12/31/2025	A/R - Other	1024 LTC		4,942.24			
6	12/31/2025	Interest Earned - Bank	4069 D11			4,942.24		
		To record December/25 interest receivable. Client to reverse after year end.						
7	12/31/2025	Current Liabilities	2001 LTC			6,329.15		
7	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D55		166.41			
7	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D65		154.63			
7	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D11		497.82			
7	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D13		285.22			
7	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D12		197.18			
7	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D17		11.40			
7	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D15		107.67			

Prepared by	Reviewed by	First Partner	Second Partner
JB 2/16/2026		DJWC 2/21/2026	

WS1

The Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority

Year End: December 31, 2025

Adjustments

Rev. 10/10/01

Date: 1/1/2025 To 12/31/2025

Number	Date	Name	Account No	Reference	Debit	Credit	Recurrence	Misstatement
7	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D19		36.71			
7	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D19		28.98			
7	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D14		7.60			
7	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D16		73.43			
7	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D45		11.40			
7	12/31/2025	OMERS	5114 D55		500.85			
7	12/31/2025	OMERS	5114 D65		465.40			
7	12/31/2025	OMERS	5114 D11		1,498.27			
7	12/31/2025	OMERS	5114 D13		858.41			
7	12/31/2025	OMERS	5114 D12		593.46			
7	12/31/2025	OMERS	5114 D17		34.32			
7	12/31/2025	OMERS	5114 D15		324.07			
7	12/31/2025	OMERS	5114 D19		110.50			
7	12/31/2025	OMERS	5114 D19		87.22			
7	12/31/2025	OMERS	5114 D14		22.88			
7	12/31/2025	OMERS	5114 D16		221.00			
7	12/31/2025	OMERS	5114 D45		34.32			
accrue WSIB and OMERS to Dec 31 (Reverse on January 1, 2026)								
8	12/31/2025	Current Liabilities	2001 LTC			52,440.84		
8	12/31/2025	Wages - Permanent Regular	5101 D55		4,196.14			
8	12/31/2025	Wages - Permanent Regular	5101 D65		5,166.07			
8	12/31/2025	Wages - Permanent Regular	5101 D11		14,613.39			
8	12/31/2025	Wages - Permanent Regular	5101 D13		6,819.38			
8	12/31/2025	Wages - Permanent Regular	5101 D12		14,379.96			
8	12/31/2025	Wages - Permanent Regular	5101 D15		3,001.56			
8	12/31/2025	Wages - Permanent Regular	5101 D19		2,283.50			
8	12/31/2025	Wages - Permanent Regular	5101 D19		490.25			
8	12/31/2025	Wages - Permanent Regular	5101 D16		1,490.59			
To record payroll accrual. Client to allocate to projects per Welch working paper and reverse after year end.								
9	12/31/2025	Current Liabilities	2001 LTC			60,596.83		
9	12/31/2025	Vacation Time Paid	5104 D55		6,388.58			
9	12/31/2025	Vacation Time Paid	5104 D65		5,936.35			
9	12/31/2025	Vacation Time Paid	5104 D11		19,111.06			
9	12/31/2025	Vacation Time Paid	5104 D13		10,949.31			
9	12/31/2025	Vacation Time Paid	5104 D12		7,569.76			
9	12/31/2025	Vacation Time Paid	5104 D17		437.75			
9	12/31/2025	Vacation Time Paid	5104 D15		4,133.54			
9	12/31/2025	Vacation Time Paid	5104 D19		1,409.44			
9	12/31/2025	Vacation Time Paid	5104 D19		1,112.58			
9	12/31/2025	Vacation Time Paid	5104 D14		291.83			
9	12/31/2025	Vacation Time Paid	5104 D16		2,818.88			
9	12/31/2025	Vacation Time Paid	5104 D45		437.75			
To record vacation accrual. Client to allocate to projects per Welch working paper and reverse after year end.								
10	12/31/2025	Heavy Equip & Vehicles	1850 LTC		20,148.52			
10	12/31/2025	Heavy Equip & Vehicles	1850 LTC		81,973.44			
10	12/31/2025	Heavy Equip & Vehicles	1850 LTC		14,260.59			
10	12/31/2025	Surplus/Deficit - Beginning of Year	3010 LTC		90,382.55			
10	12/31/2025	Equity in Tangible Capital Assets	3020 LTC			90,382.55		

Prepared by	Reviewed by	First Partner	Second Partner
JB 2/16/2026		DJWC 2/21/2026	

WS1-1

The Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority

Year End: December 31, 2025

Adjustments

Rev. 10/10/01

Date: 1/1/2025 To 12/31/2025

Number	Date	Name	Account No	Reference	Debit	Credit	Recurrence	Misstatement
10	12/31/2025	Vehicles & Large Equip Purchased	5815 D25			20,148.52		
10	12/31/2025	Vehicles & Large Equip Purchased	5815 D25			81,973.44		
10	12/31/2025	Vehicles & Large Equip Purchased	5815 D25			14,260.59		
		To capitalize capital assets included in expense and to adjust equity in tangible capital assets to agree for total capital additions.						
11	12/31/2025	Surplus/Deficit - Beginning of Year	3010 LTC			85,954.80		
11	12/31/2025	Surplus/Deficit - Beginning of Year	3010 LTC		26,000.00			
11	12/31/2025	Equity in Tangible Capital Assets	3020 LTC			26,000.00		
11	12/31/2025	Reserve for Vehicles & Equip	3113 LTC		46,006.89			
11	12/31/2025	Reserve for Vehicles & Equip	3113 LTC			26,000.00		
11	12/31/2025	Reserve for IT Infrastructure	3114 LTC		37,285.60			
11	12/31/2025	Reserve for Lands Infrastructure	3116 LTC		2,662.31			
11	12/31/2025	Vehicles & Large Equip Purchased	5815 D25		26,000.00			
		record spending from reserves and to adjust client postings relating to down payment of truck /trailer funded from reserves						
12	12/31/2025	Accounts Receivable	1023 LTC		121,250.00			
12	12/31/2025	Provincial Funding	4017 D55			75,781.00		
12	12/31/2025	Provincial Funding	4017 D55			45,469.00		
		To record BQRAP funding receivable.						
13	12/31/2025	A/R - Other	1024 LTC		35,042.50			
13	12/31/2025	Interest Earned - Bank	4069 D11			97.23		
13	12/31/2025	Rebates & Recoveries	4077 D11		32,561.92			
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D55			6,469.25		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D55			1,362.80		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D65			3,678.53		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D65			2,636.61		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D65			939.22		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D65			638.08		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D11			18,058.14		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D11			302.59		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D13			6,922.59		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D13			546.25		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D13			761.43		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D12			14,767.02		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D12			514.45		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D17			750.45		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D19			2,546.01		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D19			603.22		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D35			200.54		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D14			535.33		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D45			833.84		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D45			928.56		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D45			1,206.45		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D45			466.56		
13	12/31/2025	WSIB	5112 D45			1,839.27		
		Adjust for WSIB rebates in 2025						
14	12/31/2025	HST Rebate	1025 LTC			25,931.19		

Prepared by	Reviewed by	First Partner	Second Partner
JB 2/16/2026		DJWC 2/21/2026	

WS1-2

The Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority

Year End: December 31, 2025

Adjustments

Rev. 10/10/01

Date: 1/1/2025 To 12/31/2025

Number	Date	Name	Account No	Reference	Debit	Credit	Recurrence	Misstatement	
14	12/31/2025	Rebates & Recoveries	4077 D11		25,931.19				
		reallocate Dec 31/24 HST rebate received (duplicated rebate claim from Jan-Jun/25)							
15	12/31/2025	Surplus/Deficit - Beginning of Year	3010 LTC		98,105.00				
15	12/31/2025	Reserve for Special Projects	3111 LTC			3,680.00			
15	12/31/2025	Reserve for Vehicles & Equip	3113 LTC			30,550.00			
15	12/31/2025	Reserve for IT Infrastructure	3114 LTC			12,000.00			
15	12/31/2025	Reserve for Bldgs, Struct, Bridges	3115 LTC			32,000.00			
15	12/31/2025	Reserve for Lands Infrastructure	3116 LTC			19,875.00			
		To add capital budget to reserves.						Recurring	
16	12/31/2025	Prepaid Expenses	1200 LTC		16,346.96				
16	12/31/2025	Insurance - Property	5315 D11			428.68			
16	12/31/2025	Insurance - Property	5315 D13			3,429.43			
16	12/31/2025	Insurance - Property	5315 D13			602.83			
16	12/31/2025	Insurance - Directors E&O	5542 D11			818.91			
16	12/31/2025	Insurance - Directors E&O	5542 D12			4,947.21			
16	12/31/2025	Insurance - Gen & Com Liability	5543 D11			849.96			
16	12/31/2025	Insurance - Gen & Com Liability	5543 D13			1,574.10			
16	12/31/2025	Insurance - Gen & Com Liability	5543 D12			1,574.10			
16	12/31/2025	Insurance - Gen & Com Liability	5543 D19			344.79			
16	12/31/2025	Insurance - Cyber Security	5776 D11			887.20			
16	12/31/2025	Insurance - Vehicles	5830 D13			355.90			
16	12/31/2025	Insurance - Vehicles	5830 D12			533.85			
		Adjust for prepaid insurance (reverse Jan 1/26)							
17	12/31/2025	Surplus/Deficit - Beginning of Year	3010 LTC		13,382.00				
17	12/31/2025	Reserve - Community Stewardship	3126 LTC			13,382.00			
		appropriation to/from reserve per minutes							
18	12/31/2025	Deferred Revenue - Youth Education	2026 LTC	HH6	54,418.49				
18	12/31/2025	Deferred Revenue Recognized	4016 D14	HH6		54,418.49			
18	12/31/2025	Deferred Revenue Recognized	4016 D14	HH6		7,000.00			
18	12/31/2025	Grants - Special Projects	4022 D16	HH6	7,000.00				
		adjust Youth Education deferred balance							
19	12/31/2025	HST Rebate	1025 LTC			150.25			
19	12/31/2025	HST Rebate	1025 LTC			3,472.50			
19	12/31/2025	Insurance - Property	5315 D11		91.06				
19	12/31/2025	Insurance - Property	5315 D13		728.50				
19	12/31/2025	Insurance - Property	5315 D13		128.06				
19	12/31/2025	Insurance - Directors E&O	5542 D11		173.96				
19	12/31/2025	Insurance - Directors E&O	5542 D12		1,050.91				
19	12/31/2025	Insurance - Gen & Com Liability	5543 D11		180.55				
19	12/31/2025	Insurance - Gen & Com Liability	5543 D13		334.38				
19	12/31/2025	Insurance - Gen & Com Liability	5543 D12		334.38				
19	12/31/2025	Insurance - Gen & Com Liability	5543 D19		73.24				
19	12/31/2025	Insurance - Cyber Security	5776 D11		150.25				
19	12/31/2025	Insurance - Cyber Security	5776 D11		188.46				

Prepared by	Reviewed by	First Partner	Second Partner
JB 2/16/2026		DJWC 2/21/2026	

The Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority

Year End: December 31, 2025

Adjustments

Rev. 10/10/01

Date: 1/1/2025 To 12/31/2025

Number	Date	Name	Account No	Reference	Debit	Credit	Recurrence	Misstatement
19	12/31/2025	Insurance - Vehicles	5830 D13		75.60			
19	12/31/2025	Insurance - Vehicles	5830 D12		113.40			
		Adjust for HST claimed on insurance costs						
20	12/31/2025	Wages - Permanent Regular	5101 D55			4,271.28		
20	12/31/2025	Wages - Contract/Temporary	5102 D55			2,500.00		
20	12/31/2025	Internal Staff Services Chargebacks	5190 D14		4,271.28			
20	12/31/2025	Internal Staff Services Chargebacks	5190 D14		2,500.00			
		allocate expenses to project 308 per Chitra						
21	12/31/2025	Wages - Permanent Regular	5101 D55			1,071.39		
21	12/31/2025	Wages - Permanent Regular	5101 D14		1,071.39			
21	12/31/2025	Clothing/Uniforms/PPE	5205 D13			40.26		
21	12/31/2025	Property Maintenance	5310 D13			142.93		
21	12/31/2025	Property Maintenance	5310 D13			44.37		
21	12/31/2025	Building Maintenance	5311 D13			44.37		
21	12/31/2025	Small Equipment/Materials	5430 D13			445.71		
21	12/31/2025	Small Equipment/Materials	5430 D13			989.11		
21	12/31/2025	Small Equipment/Materials	5430 D13			221.19		
21	12/31/2025	Small Equipment/Materials	5430 D13			91.40		
21	12/31/2025	Small Equipment/Materials	5430 D14		2,046.51			
21	12/31/2025	Equipment Maintenance - Unlicensed	5820 D13			27.17		
		reallocate project 301 expenses						
					1,316,639.86	1,316,639.86		
Net Income (Loss)					141,473.65			

Prepared by	Reviewed by	First Partner	Second Partner
JB 2/16/2026		DJWC 2/21/2026	

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2025

Draft for discussion purposes only

MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

The financial statements of The Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority are the responsibility of management and have been approved by the Board.

The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, as issued by the Public Sector Accounting Board of The Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada. A summary of the significant accounting policies are described in Note 2 to the financial statements. The preparation of financial statements necessarily involves the use of estimates based on management's judgment, particularly when transactions affecting the current accounting period cannot be finalized with certainty until future periods.

The Authority's management maintains a system of internal controls designed to provide reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions are properly authorized and recorded in compliance with legislative and regulatory requirements, and reliable financial information is available on a timely basis for preparation of the financial statements. These systems are monitored and evaluated by management.

The financial statements have been audited by Welch LLP, independent external auditors appointed by the Authority, in accordance with Canadian auditing standards. The accompanying Independent Auditor's Report outlines their responsibilities, the scope of their examination and their opinion on the Authority's financial statements.

Rhonda Bateman
Chief Administrative Officer

Chitra Gowda
Manager, Corporate Services and Water
Resources

Date to be determined

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of
THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of **THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2025, and the statements of surplus, changes in net financial assets, operations and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Authority as at December 31, 2025, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Authority in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Information other than the Financial Statements and Auditor's Report thereon

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises:

- ♦ The information, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon, in the Annual Report.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed on this other information, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact in this auditor's report. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Authority or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Authority's financial reporting process.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (continued)

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We will also:

- ◆ Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- ◆ Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control.
- ◆ Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- ◆ Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Authority to cease to continue as a going concern.
- ◆ Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Trenton, Ontario
Date to be determined

CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS
LICENSED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
(Established Under the Conservation Authorities Act of Ontario)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2025

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 2,221,170	\$ 2,080,733
Short term investment - <i>note 5</i>	72,326	69,973
Accounts receivable		
Municipalities	-	129,224
Other	161,235	58,085
Due from partnership programs - <i>note 7</i>	28,062	-
	<u>2,482,793</u>	<u>2,338,015</u>
LIABILITIES		
Bank loan - <i>note 4</i>	73,386	-
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	244,070	202,949
Unearned revenue	3,324	10,754
Due to partnership programs - <i>note 7</i>	-	8,093
Deferred contributions - <i>note 6</i>	27,844	81,678
	<u>348,624</u>	<u>303,474</u>
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	<u>2,134,169</u>	<u>2,034,541</u>
NON FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Tangible capital assets - <i>schedule 4</i>	3,081,778	3,043,443
Prepaid expenditures	35,297	31,786
	<u>3,117,075</u>	<u>3,075,229</u>
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	<u>\$ 5,251,244</u>	<u>\$ 5,109,770</u>
Represented by:		
Operating fund - <i>note 8</i>	1,354,181	1,276,574
Reserve funds - <i>note 9</i>	815,285	789,753
Equity in tangible capital assets	3,081,778	3,043,443
	<u>5,251,244</u>	<u>5,109,770</u>

Approved by the Board

_____ Director

_____ Director

(See accompanying notes)

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
STATEMENT OF SURPLUS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS , beginning of year	\$ 5,109,770	\$ 4,861,826
Annual surplus	<u>141,474</u>	<u>247,944</u>
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS , end of year	<u>\$ 5,251,244</u>	<u>\$ 5,109,770</u>

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS , beginning of year	<u>\$ 2,034,541</u>	<u>\$ 1,800,806</u>
Annual Surplus	141,474	247,944
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(116,383)	(66,902)
Proceeds on disposition of tangible capital assets	-	2,600
Gain on disposal of tangible capital assets	-	(2,573)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	78,048	60,589
Change in prepaid expenditures	<u>(3,511)</u>	<u>(7,923)</u>
	<u>99,628</u>	<u>233,735</u>
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS , end of year	<u>\$ 2,134,169</u>	<u>\$ 2,034,541</u>

(See accompanying notes)

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

	2025 Budget <u>(Note 12)</u>	2025 <u>Actual</u>	2024 <u>Actual</u>
REVENUE - OPERATING			
Government grants - provincial	\$ 68,831	\$ 68,831	\$ 68,831
Municipal levies - operating	1,392,904	1,392,904	1,235,239
Recoveries - property taxes	22,167	24,923	23,628
Legal enquiries and permits	180,000	148,530	158,620
Plan review	130,000	82,810	111,115
Property rental	30,333	35,456	32,820
Grants - stewardship projects	-	14,352	107,039
Tree seedling and native potted plants	25,000	32,371	38,382
Donations - unrestricted	3,000	4,115	2,950
Dedicated contributions recognized - note 6	24,210	61,418	55,498
Municipal agreements	267,031	213,532	249,406
Recovered from partnership programs - note 11	171,489	180,345	334,983
Government grants - federal	59,742	9,632	9,868
Interest	60,000	73,307	113,940
Sundry	-	2,000	10
	<u>2,434,707</u>	<u>2,344,526</u>	<u>2,542,329</u>
EXPENDITURES - OPERATING			
Category 1 (Mandatory), Schedule 1	2,184,564	1,866,576	2,010,420
Category 2 (Non-mandatory), Schedule 2	150,007	119,227	122,157
Category 3 (Non-mandatory), Schedule 3	194,426	195,229	157,743
	<u>2,528,997</u>	<u>2,181,032</u>	<u>2,290,320</u>
Annual surplus before capital items - note 8	<u>(94,290)</u>	<u>163,494</u>	<u>252,009</u>
CAPITAL ITEMS			
Municipal levies - capital	98,105	98,105	98,104
Major repairs and maintenance	(98,105)	(39,948)	(44,153)
Amortization	-	(78,048)	(60,589)
Loan interest	-	(2,129)	-
Gain on disposal of tangible capital assets	-	-	2,573
	<u>-</u>	<u>(22,020)</u>	<u>(4,065)</u>
ANNUAL SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	<u>\$ (94,290)</u>	<u>\$ 141,474</u>	<u>\$ 247,944</u>

(See accompanying notes)

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE 1 - CATEGORY 1 (MANDATORY)
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

	2025 Budget (Note 12)	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
REVENUE			
Government grants - provincial	\$ 68,831	\$ 68,831	\$ 68,831
Municipal levies - operating	1,392,904	1,392,904	1,235,239
Recoveries - property taxes	22,167	24,923	23,628
Legal enquiries and permits	180,000	148,530	158,620
Plan review	130,000	82,810	111,115
Property rental	30,333	35,456	32,820
Grants - stewardship projects	-	1,389	106,664
Donations - unrestricted	3,000	4,115	2,950
Recovered from partnership programs	171,489	180,345	334,983
Government grants - federal	45,840	-	5,234
Interest	60,000	73,307	113,940
Sundry	-	2,000	10
	<u>2,104,564</u>	<u>2,014,610</u>	<u>2,194,034</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Natural hazard management			
- Staffing	570,387	495,613	575,880
- Operational	201,180	66,456	140,409
Provincial water quality monitoring			
- Staffing	25,708	25,356	-
- Operational	-	639	1,243
Local/regional drinking water source protection			
- Staffing	51,489	56,157	112,834
- Operational	-	400	-
Conservation authority lands and areas			
- Staffing	312,725	272,812	272,451
- Operational	165,034	139,398	158,880
Enabling services			
- Staffing	616,516	594,270	579,226
- Operational	241,525	215,475	169,497
	<u>2,184,564</u>	<u>1,866,576</u>	<u>2,010,420</u>
ANNUAL SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	<u>\$ (80,000)</u>	<u>\$ 148,034</u>	<u>\$ 183,614</u>

(See accompanying note)

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE 2 - CATEGORY 2 (NON-MANDATORY)
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

	2025 Budget (Note 12)	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
REVENUE			
Municipal agreements	\$ 150,007	\$ 96,508	\$ 138,650
EXPENDITURES			
Local risk management part IV and education			
- Staffing	115,186	110,079	117,053
- Operational	28,053	2,607	5,104
Non-owned flood and erosion control infrastructure			
- Staffing	6,568	6,541	-
- Operational	200	-	-
	<u>150,007</u>	<u>119,227</u>	<u>122,157</u>
ANNUAL SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (22,719)</u>	<u>\$ 16,493</u>

(See accompanying note)

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE 3 - CATEGORY 3 (NON-MANDATORY)
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

	2025 Budget (Note 12)	2025 Actual	2024 Actual
REVENUE			
Municipal agreements	\$ 117,024	\$ 117,024	\$ 110,756
Grants - stewardship projects	-	12,963	375
Tree seedling and native potted plants	25,000	32,371	38,382
Dedicated contributions recognized	24,210	61,418	55,498
Government grants - summer students and interns	<u>13,902</u>	<u>9,632</u>	<u>4,634</u>
	<u>180,136</u>	<u>233,408</u>	<u>209,645</u>
EXPENDITURES			
Youth education			
- Staffing	55,225	56,327	52,683
- Operational	15,450	12,835	6,255
Community outreach			
- Staffing	16,828	25,958	2,088
- Operational	25,000	25,303	28,171
Local water quality monitoring			
- Staffing	59,126	53,365	46,411
- Operational	<u>22,797</u>	<u>21,441</u>	<u>22,135</u>
	<u>194,426</u>	<u>195,229</u>	<u>157,743</u>
ANNUAL SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	<u>\$ (14,290)</u>	<u>\$ 38,179</u>	<u>\$ 51,902</u>

(See accompanying note)

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE 4 - TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

	Land	Buildings, structures and bridges	Flood and Erosion Control Infrastructure	Roads, parking lots and trails	Furniture and fixtures	Equipment	Office equipment	Vehicles	Computer Equipment	2025 Total	2024 Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Opening Balance	2,116,658	881,024	349,131	134,797	53,774	106,913	39,021	235,600	114,570	4,031,488	3,988,883
Additions	-	-	-	-	-	34,409	-	81,974	-	116,383	66,902
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(24,297)
Closing Balance	2,116,658	881,024	349,131	134,797	53,774	141,322	39,021	317,574	114,570	4,147,871	4,031,488

Accumulated Amortization:

Opening Balance	-	357,010	182,763	50,305	41,362	40,340	38,437	181,580	96,248	988,045	951,726
Amortization	-	13,100	4,159	2,112	2,482	17,231	176	32,600	6,188	78,048	60,589
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(24,270)
Closing Balance	-	370,110	186,922	52,417	43,844	57,571	38,613	214,180	102,436	1,066,093	988,045

Net book value for year ended December 31, 2025	2,116,658	510,914	162,209	82,380	9,930	83,751	408	103,394	12,134	3,081,778	3,043,443
--	-----------	---------	---------	--------	-------	--------	-----	---------	--------	-----------	-----------

(See accompanying notes)

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Annual surplus	\$ 141,474	\$ 247,944
Adjustments for:		
Amortization	78,048	60,589
Gain on disposal of tangible capital assets	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,573)</u>
	219,522	305,960
Change in non-cash operating balances:		
Accounts receivable	26,074	163,614
Prepaid expenditures	(3,511)	(7,923)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	41,121	80,366
Unearned revenue	(7,430)	(11,397)
Deferred contributions	(53,834)	(50,422)
Due to partnership programs	<u>(36,155)</u>	<u>(205,648)</u>
	<u>185,787</u>	<u>274,550</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS		
Purchase of tangible capital assets	(116,383)	(66,902)
Proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets	-	2,600
Proceeds from bank loan	82,000	-
Repayment of bank loan	<u>(8,614)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>(42,997)</u>	<u>(64,302)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING TRANSACTIONS		
Purchase of short-term investment	<u>(2,353)</u>	<u>(2,312)</u>
INCREASE IN CASH	140,437	207,936
CASH, beginning of year	<u>2,080,733</u>	<u>1,872,797</u>
CASH, end of year	<u>\$ 2,221,170</u>	<u>\$ 2,080,733</u>

(See accompanying notes)

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

1. NATURE OF OPERATIONS

The Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority ("the Authority") is established under the Conservation Authorities Act of Ontario to provide for the organization and delivery of programs and services that further the conservation, restoration, development and management of natural resources in watersheds in Ontario. The watersheds include areas in the Municipalities of Centre Hastings, Trent Hills and Brighton, the Townships of Alnwick/Haldimand, Cramahe and Stirling-Rawdon, and the City of Quinte West.

The Authority is a registered charity and is exempt from income taxes.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Authority follows Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards as issued by the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) in preparing its financial statements. The significant accounting policies used are as follows:

Basis of accounting

Revenue and expenditures are recorded on the accrual basis, whereby they are reflected in the accounts in the year in which they have been earned and incurred, respectively, whether or not such transactions have been settled by the receipt or payment of money.

Appropriations to reserves

Authorities may establish reserves by appropriating amounts to earmark them for specific purposes. Appropriations to or from reserves are disclosed in note 8 and note 9 as appropriations from or to the operating fund.

Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost less accumulated amortization and are classified according to their functional use. Amortization is recorded on a declining balance basis commencing in the year the asset is put into service. Donated tangible capital assets are reported at fair value at the time of donation. Amortization rates are as follows:

Buildings, structures and bridges	2.5%
Equipment	20%
Vehicles	30%
Office equipment	30%
Furniture and fixtures	20%
Computer equipment	30 to 45%
Roads, parking lots and trails	2.5%
Flood and erosion control infrastructure	2.5%

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Revenue recognition

The Authority recognizes revenue as follows:

Municipal levies - general are recognized in the fiscal year in which they are levied.

The Provincial government annual operating grant is recognized in the fiscal year to which the grant relates to the extent that eligible expenditures have been incurred.

User fees and sales are recognized when the service has been performed or the goods have been transferred.

Other grants and specified donations are recognized when the related net expenditures have been incurred.

Property rental income is recognized over the lease term.

General donations are recognized when received.

Any funding received for which the related services have not been performed and/or the related expenditures have not been incurred at the end of the fiscal year are recorded as unearned revenue.

Investment income, which includes interest on bank accounts and distributions from mutual funds, is recognized when earned.

Investments

Investments, which consist of mutual funds, are measured at acquisition cost.

Financial instruments

The Authority initially measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value adjusted by, in the case where a financial asset or financial liability is subsequently measured at amortized cost, the amount of transaction costs directly attributable to the instrument. The Authority subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost. Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash, accounts receivable and short term investment. Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include bank loans, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, due to partnership programs, unearned revenue and deferred contributions. The purchase and sale of investments are accounted for using settlement date accounting. Transaction costs associated with the acquisition of investments and investment management fees are expensed as incurred.

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Liability for contaminated sites

A contaminated site is a site at which substances occur, in concentrations that exceed the maximum acceptable amounts under an environmental standard. Sites that are currently in productive use are only considered a contaminated site if an unexpected event results in contamination. A liability for remediation of contaminated sites is recognized when the Authority is directly responsible or accepts responsibility, it is expected that future economic benefits will be given up and a reasonable estimate of the amount can be made. The liability includes all costs directly attributable to remediation activities including post remediation operations, maintenance and monitoring. The liability is recorded net of any expected recoveries. These statements do not include any liability for contaminated sites.

Pension expense and obligation

The cost of employer contributions to the multi-employer defined benefit pension plan are charged to operations in the same year as the related employee salaries and wages to which the contributions relate. No provision is made for any funding liability or surplus related to this plan.

Asset retirement obligations

Liabilities are recognized for statutory, contractual or legal obligations, associated with the retirement of tangible capital assets when those obligations result from the acquisition, construction, development or normal operation of the assets. The obligations are measured initially at fair value, determined using present value methodology, and the resulting costs capitalized into the carrying amount of the related asset. In subsequent periods, the liability is adjusted for the accretion of discount and any changes in the amount or timing of the underlying future cash flows. The capitalized asset retirement cost is amortized on the same basis as the related asset and the discount accretion is included in determining the results of operations. These statements do not include any asset retirement obligations.

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian public sector accounting standards requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Items requiring the use of significant estimates include determining the estimated useful lives of tangible capital assets. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

3. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Credit risk

The Authority is exposed to credit risk resulting from the possibility that parties may default on their financial obligations. The Authority's maximum exposure to credit risk represents the sum of the carrying value of its cash, accounts receivable and investments. The Authority's cash and investments are with Canadian banks while the accounts receivable are largely amounts due from governments and as a result management believes the risk of loss to be remote. All of the receivables are current.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Authority cannot meet a demand for cash or fund its obligations as they become due. The Authority meets its liquidity requirements by preparing and monitoring detailed forecasts of cash flows from operations, anticipating investing and financing activities and holding assets that can readily be converted to cash. Substantially all of the accounts payable and accrued liabilities are anticipated to be settled within six months of the year end.

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk is comprised of currency risk, interest rate risk and other price risk.

a) Currency risk

Currency risk refers to the risk that the fair value of financial instruments or future cash flows associated with the instruments will fluctuate relative to the Canadian dollar due to changes in foreign exchange rates. Substantially all of the Authority's transactions are in Canadian dollars and as a result, management does not believe the Authority is exposed to significant currency risk.

b) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that the fair value of financial instruments or future cash flows associated with the instruments will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. The Authority has limited interest rate risk as it bears no variable rate debt but does earn interest on its bank account based on market interest rates.

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

3. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

c) Other price risk

Other price risk is the risk that the fair value of financial instruments or future cash flows associated with the instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market prices (other than those arising from currency risk or interest rate risk), whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual instrument or its issuer or factors affecting all similar instruments traded in the market. The Authority is not exposed to other price risk.

Fair value

Financial instruments that are measured subsequent to initial recognition at fair value are grouped into levels 1 to 3 based on the degree to which the fair value is observable.

- Level 1 fair value measurements are those derived from quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities using the last bid price;
- Level 2 fair value measurements are those derived from inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (i.e. as prices) or indirectly (i.e. derived from prices); and
- Level 3 fair value measurements are those derived from valuation techniques that include inputs for the assets or liabilities that are not based on observable market data.

The Authority has no instruments that are subsequently measured at fair value after initial recognition.

Change in risk

There was no significant change in the Authority's risk exposure during the year.

4. BANK LOAN

During the year, the Authority was advanced \$82,000 under a demand instalment loan. The loan bears interest at 4.66%, is repayable in blended monthly instalments of \$1,535 and is due on demand. As collateral for the loan, the bank holds a general security agreement representing a first charge on all the Authority's present and after acquired personal property.

5. SHORT TERM INVESTMENT

The short term investment consists of a T-Bill mutual fund and includes \$17,991 (2024 - \$17,406) which is restricted in use for the Shell Canada project described in Note 6. The market value of the investment is equivalent to its cost.

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

6. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 81,678	\$ 132,100
Contributions received in year	7,000	4,500
Interest earned	584	575
Expended in year - net of employment grants	<u>(61,418)</u>	<u>(55,497)</u>
Balance, end of year	<u>\$ 27,844</u>	<u>\$ 81,678</u>

Deferred contribution balance includes the following items:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Shell Canada	\$ 17,991	\$ 17,406
Youth Education Programs and Fundraising Initiative	<u>9,853</u>	<u>64,272</u>
	<u>\$ 27,844</u>	<u>\$ 81,678</u>

The Authority received contributions in a prior year from Shell Canada that are restricted in their use towards capital improvements at the Goodrich-Loomis Conservation Centre. During the year, \$nil (2024 - \$nil) was expended for these purposes.

The Authority received contributions during the current year and prior years from various donors that are restricted in their use towards Youth Education Programs and Fundraising Initiative. During the year, \$61,418 (2024 - \$55,497) was expended for these purposes.

7. DUE TO/(FROM) PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

The Authority has been engaged to manage and administer non-authority programs on behalf of partners. This includes hiring and supervising the employees of these programs as well as providing technical and administrative support. The Authority is advanced funds to cover the expenditures of these programs. Separate bank accounts are not maintained for these programs. Currently, the Authority administers the Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan programs ("BQRAP") and the Regional Drinking Water Source Protection Program for the Trent Conservation Coalition ("RDWSP"). At the end of the current year, the Authority had the following amounts payable to these programs and funds received and expended for these programs.

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

7. DUE TO/(FROM) PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS (continued)

	Amount payable beginning of year	Funds received in year	Expenditures	Amount payable end of year
BQRAP Governance	\$ (64,796)	\$ 165,771	\$ (281,110)	\$ (180,135)
BQRAP Stewardship	<u>72,045</u>	<u>152,259</u>	<u>(124,396)</u>	<u>99,908</u>
BQRAP Total	7,249	318,030	(405,506)	(80,227)
RDWSP	<u>844</u>	<u>699,797</u>	<u>(648,476)</u>	<u>52,165</u>
	<u>\$ 8,093</u>	<u>\$ 1,017,827</u>	<u>\$ 1,053,982</u>	<u>\$ (28,062)</u>

The Authority is the signatory to funding contracts with the Federal and Ontario governments for the above noted programs. Under these contracts, there are periodic submissions of financial reports and reconciliation of expenditures incurred to the funding provided for the contract period. Funding received in excess of eligible expenditures may have to be returned to the funding government.

8. OPERATING FUND

The activity during the year in the operating fund is as follows:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 1,276,574	\$ 1,066,195
Increase in net financial assets	99,628	233,735
Increase in prepaid expenditures	3,511	7,923
Appropriations to reserves	(111,487)	(131,269)
Appropriations from reserves	<u>85,955</u>	<u>99,990</u>
Balance, end of year	<u>\$ 1,354,181</u>	<u>\$ 1,276,574</u>

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

8. OPERATING FUND (continued)

The amounts added to the operating fund surplus for the year (before appropriations to/from reserves) is as follows:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Category 1 annual operating surplus	\$ 148,034	\$ 183,614
Category 2 annual operating surplus (deficit)	(22,719)	16,493
Category 3 annual operating surplus	<u>38,179</u>	<u>51,902</u>
Total annual operating surplus	163,494	252,009
Annual capital deficit	(22,020)	(4,065)
Add amortization	78,048	60,589
Less capital asset additions	(116,383)	(66,902)
Add net book value of capital assets disposed of	<u>-</u>	<u>27</u>
	<u>\$ 103,139</u>	<u>\$ 241,658</u>

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

9. RESERVE FUNDS

Appropriations to or from the reserve for administration facility, reserve for equipment, reserve for special projects, reserve for workshop facility, reserve for conservation lands, reserve for legal fees and reserve for youth education are specific decisions of the Authority's Board of Directors. The Provincial land reserve consists of funds received from sales of lands that are restricted in purpose to the purchase of provincially significant conservation lands, flood operations, flood control structures or hazard land mapping and require provincial approval. The activity in the various reserve funds during the year are as follows:

	Balance beginning of year	Appropriation from Operations	Appropriation to Operations	Balance end of year
Reserve for buildings, structures, and bridges	\$ 117,720	\$ 32,000	\$ -	\$ 149,720
Reserve for vehicles and equipment	70,624	30,550	(46,007)	55,167
Reserve for special projects	74,335	3,680	-	78,015
Reserve for conservation lands	3,000	-	-	3,000
Reserve for legal fees	90,000	-	-	90,000
Reserve for youth education	65,350	-	-	65,350
Provincial land reserve	225,245	-	-	225,245
Reserve for IT infrastructure	55,752	12,000	(37,286)	30,466
Reserve for land infrastructure	69,563	19,875	(2,662)	86,776
Reserve for community stewardship	18,164	13,382	-	31,546
	<u>\$ 789,753</u>	<u>\$ 111,487</u>	<u>\$ (85,955)</u>	<u>\$ 815,285</u>

Appropriations from operations includes the municipal capital levy of \$98,105 approved for the year plus an additional \$13,382 approved by the Board from the 2024 surplus. Appropriations to operations of \$85,955 relate to actual spending on items approved in the capital asset management plan as well as specific items authorized by the Board as follows:

Capital asset additions	\$ 35,264
Major repairs and maintenance of capital assets	39,948
Loan payments	<u>10,743</u>
	<u>\$ 85,955</u>

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

10. DONATIONS

During the year, the Authority received donations totaling \$13,825 of which \$4,115 is included as donations - unrestricted on the statement of operations with \$255 being restricted to use to Category 1 Stewardship Initiatives and included in Grants - Stewardship Projects and \$9,455 restricted to Youth Education Programs and Fundraising Initiative and forms part of the deferred contributions included in note 6.

11. RECOVERIES FROM PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

Recoveries from partnership programs are amounts recovered from the programs described in note 7 and include recovery of wages and benefits of general Authority employees, office space and automotive equipment rental and overhead costs. The amounts charged to the programs are as follows:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan	\$ 65,534	\$ 154,762
Regional Drinking Water Source Protection	<u>114,811</u>	<u>180,221</u>
	<u>\$ 180,345</u>	<u>\$ 334,983</u>

All of the amounts have been recovered from Category 1 programs.

12. BUDGET AMOUNTS

The budget amounts presented are as approved by the Board of Directors on December 12, 2024. This includes both the operating budget and the capital budget. The operating budget included \$2,545,569 of revenue and \$2,545,569 of expenditures for a net deficit of \$nil. However, the operating budget included certain revenues and expenditures of the Regional Drinking Water Source Protection Program that are not reflected on these financial statements as well as transfers from prior year accumulated surplus and thus the operating budget presented on the statement of operations has been adjusted to show revenue of \$2,434,707 and expenditures of \$2,528,997 for a net deficit of \$94,290. The capital budget included \$98,105 of revenue with projected capital expenditures of \$98,105 for a net deficit of \$nil. The Authority does not budget for amortization.

THE LOWER TRENT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

13. EXPENDITURES BY OBJECT

Operating expenditures comprise:

	2025	2024
Salaries and benefits	\$ 1,696,478	\$ 1,758,626
Operating goods and services	484,554	531,694
	\$ 2,181,032	\$ 2,290,320

14. PENSION AGREEMENTS

The Authority makes contributions to the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement Fund (OMERS), which is a multi-employer plan, on behalf of the members of its staff. This plan is a defined benefit plan which specifies the amount of the retirement benefit to be received by the employees based on the length of service and rates of pay. Contributions are split equally between the employees and the Authority.

The Authority's share of contributions to OMERS for 2025 was \$154,298 (2024 - \$148,179) for current service costs, of which \$29,909 (2024 - \$24,624) related to Partnership Programs and \$124,388 (2024 - \$124,785) relates to Authority programs that are included in the statement of operations.

The OMERS plan has a reported \$1.3 billion going concern actuarial deficit at the end of 2025 (2024 - \$2.9 billion), and \$151.4 billion of going concern actuarial liabilities at the end of 2025 (2024 - \$142.5 billion).

15. UNCERTAINTY DUE TO IMPACT OF CHANGES TO THE CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES ACT AND REGULATIONS

In November 2025, the Provincial government passed Bill 68 which amended the Act to establish the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency ("OPCA"). The OPCA objectives include overseeing CAs on the transition to a regional watershed-based framework for CAs in Ontario. In November 2025, the Provincial government also issued ERO #025-1257, a proposal for regional consolidation of the current 36 CAs into 7 regional CAs. The Province will be legislating changes in the spring of 2026 that will allow the consolidation to proceed with an anticipated consolidation date of January 1, 2027. The ERO posting stated that the current Boards of Directors will not be active between October 2026 and December 2026. In January 2027, new Boards of Directors will be appointed for the 7 regional CAs based on the new governance provided for in the legislation. The operations of the Authority are expected to continue throughout 2026 and thereafter under the new structure.

Agenda item #13a.

<p style="text-align: center;">Summary of Permits Approved by Staff <i>Part VI of the Conservation Authorities Act and Ontario Regulation 41/24: Prohibited Activities, Exemptions and Permits</i> Prepared by: Scott Robertson, Development and Regulations Lead, Planning and Regulations For Period: January 31, 2026 to February 27, 2026</p>								
Permit #	Municipality	Ward	Geographic Township	Concession	Lot	Street Address	Regulated Area	Permitted Activity
RP-24-092 (compliance)	Quinte West	Murray	Murray	C	11	1596 County Road 64	Dead Creek Marsh Complex PSW & unevaluated wetlands (allowance), tributary of Lake Ontario & Lake Ontario flood hazard (allowance)	For the Demolition of Four Existing Structures (storage sheds and a tower), the Construction of an approximately 70m ² (750ft ²) Deck, the Installation of a Raised Garden Bed and of a Woodchip trail
RP-26-002	Cramahe	Colborne Village	Cramahe	2	28	28 Parliament Street	Colborne Creek floodplain (allowance)	To Construct an Addition to the Existing Dwelling
RP-26-003	Alnwick/Haldimand	Alnwick	Alnwick	1	3	3-7214 County Road 18	Rice Lake, Rice Lake flood hazard	To Conduct Shoreline Restoration works
RP-26-004	Trent Hills	Seymour	Seymour	14	6	77 Wight Island Road	Trent River floodplain	To Demolish an Existing Dwelling and Reconstruct it with a Second story and Attached Garage
RP-26-005	Quinte West	Sidney	Sidney	4	22	465 Harrington Road	Meyers Creek (allowance)	To Install a Driveway, CSP culvert, and Hydro and Well Servicing
RP-26-007	Alnwick/Haldimand	Haldimand	Haldimand	6	19	1080 county rd 22	Unevaluated wetland (allowance)	To demolish and reconstruct a new garage.
RP-26-008	Quinte West	Murray	Murray	A	6	22571 Loyalist Parkway	Bay of Quinte flood and erosion hazards	To Demolish an Existing Dwelling and Garage, and Decommission a Septic System
RP-26-009 (minor)	Quinte West	Murray	Murray	A	6	22571 Loyalist Parkway	Bay of Quinte flood and erosion hazards (allowance)	To Install Water Servicing Within Lots 1, 6 & 7
RP-26-011	Quinte West	Murray	Murray	A	6	22571 Loyalist Parkway	Bay of Quinte flood and erosion hazard	To Demolish an Existing Dwelling and Decommission a Septic System
RP-26-012	Quinte West	Murray	Murray	A	6	22571 Loyalist Parkway	Bay of Quinte flood and erosion hazards	To Demolish an Existing Dwelling and Decommission a Septic System
RP-26-013	Alnwick/Haldimand	Haldimand	Haldimand	3	15, 16	TCPL ROW - Pipeline Road	Tributary of Shelter Valley Creek and unevaluated wetland (allowance)	To Conduct a Preventative Maintenance Dig and Hydrostatic Testing on a Portion of the Pipeline along the TransCanada Pipelines Limited (TCPL) right-of-way (ROW) southeast of Pipeline Road and King Road
RP-26-014	Quinte West	Sidney	Sidney	3	2	TCPL ROW - Glen Miller Road	Trent River floodplain and unevaluated wetland (allowance)	To Conduct a Preventative Maintenance Dig and Hydrostatic Testing on a portion of the pipeline along the TransCanada Pipelines Limited (TCPL) right-of-way (ROW) west of Glen Miller Road
RP-26-015 (minor)	Quinte West	Sidney	Sidney	3	13	Platt Rd	Flying Club Road Wetland (allowance) & Meyers Creek (allowance)	To Conduct Vegetation Management Along the Trans Canada Pipelines Limited (TCPL) right-of-way (ROW) west of Platt Road.
RP-26-023	Quinte West	Murray	Murray	4	21-May	TCPL ROW - MLV 137-138	Cold Creek, unevaluated wetlands, Cold Creek tributaries, Cold Creek Shiloh to Wooter PSW	To Conduct Vegetation Management Along the Trans Canada Pipelines Limited (TCPL) right-of-way (ROW) MLV 137-138
RP-26-024	Alnwick/Haldimand - Cramahe	Haldimand	Cramahe	AH (3), Cramahe (6)	AH (4-15), Cramahe (17)	TCPL ROW - MLV 136-137	Field Verified Wetlands, Unevaluated Wetlands, Shelter Valley Creek tributaries, Shelter Valley Creek floodplain, Cold Creek tributary	To Conduct Vegetation Management along the Trans Canada Pipelines Limited (TCPL) right-of-way (ROW) MLV 136-137
RP-26-026	Trent Hills	Campbellford	Seymour	6	10	9 Second Street	Trent River floodplain	To Demolish a Dwelling and Garage, and Conduct Site Restoration works
RP-26-027	Trent Hills	Campbellford	Seymour	6	9, 10	109 Saskatoon Avenue	Trent River floodplain	To Demolish a Dwelling, Garage, and Shed, and Conduct Site Restoration work



Agenda Item #13b.



LOWER TRENT
CONSERVATION

STAFF REPORT

Date: February 27, 2026
To: LTC Board of Directors
Re: Planning and Regulations UPDATE
Prepared by: Scott Robertson, Development & Regulations Lead,
 Planning and Regulations

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

THAT the Watershed Management, Planning and Regulations update be accepted as information.

BY THE NUMBERS:

Here are the numbers for new files and deliverables in 2026 and compared to similar numbers for previous years. Highlighted boxes indicate that 2026 has MORE files to date than previous years.

Table 1. File review – New files and deliverables in 2026 versus previous years

	# Files for 2026 (as of February 27, 2026)	Dates for Similar Number for Previous Years (Total for Year)			
		2025	2024	2023	2022
Permits	31	Feb 6 (246)	Feb 16 (283)	Feb 10 (320)	Feb 22 (398)
Planning	25	Feb 12 (188)	Jan 18 (204)	Feb 14 (213)	Feb 18 (310)
Complaints	4	Jan 27 (90)	Jan 5 (96)	Jan 9 (74)	Feb 2 (66)
Enforcement	0	Jan 24 (38)	Jan 3 (39)	Jan 6 (39)	Jan 5 (63)
Online Inquiries	127	Feb 19 (1162)	Feb 5 (1435)	March 27 (1003)	Feb 26 (738)
Legal Requests	2	Jan 27(29)	Jan 8 (49)	Jan 12 (58)	Jan 12 (36)
Clearance Letters	5	Jan 24(61)	Feb 29 (102)	March 2 (52)	April 6 (25)
Site Visits	6	Jan 13 (287)	Jan 10 (303)	Jan 11 (246)	Jan 13 (363)

Online Inquiries

Since the last reporting period, staff have received and actioned **58** inquiry submissions and inquiries are continuing to be received at a steady pace. Several complex files and properties are appearing, and these files are taking staff long periods of time to manage as many of the properties are regulated and development may be restricted or require further review from staff. As usual, to ensure a timely response time, we are asking that people continue to use our online inquiry service and avoid directly contacting staff unless they are following up on a pre-existing file.

Permitting:

Ongoing Permit files:

- Staff have issued **17** permits since the previous reporting period.
- Staff are currently reviewing and commenting on **14** open 2026 permit files and **45** files from previous years as well.

Agenda Item #13b.Planning:

- LTC Staff reviewed and commented on **19** Subdivision and Condominium Files in 2026 (new and ongoing). Since the last reporting period, LTC Staff reviewed and commented on **10** Subdivision and Condominium files. Many of these files are ongoing and staff expect to work on these continuously throughout the year.
- Since the last reporting period, LTC Staff reviewed and commented on **12** Planning Act Applications (Severances, Zoning By-law amendments, Official Plan amendments, Site Plan Control applications and/or Minor Variances). Additionally, we are reviewing several technical reports for pre-consultation files including but not limited to; **3** Environmental Impact Studies. There are currently **9** technical reports in our queue for review.

Lastly, a kind reminder to let your Municipal staff know that LTC is here to assist our Municipal partners where possible. LTC Staff can walk landowners through our permitting process, the planning process and other procedures/processes that may be applicable to their proposal or inquiries. LTC Staff are incredibly knowledgeable, and we are here to help the residents of our Watershed.

RECOMMENDATION:

- Staff recommends to the Board of Directors that the Planning and Regulations Update be accepted as information.

Agenda Item #13c.



LOWER TRENT
CONSERVATION

STAFF REPORT

Date: February 27, 2026
To: LTC Board of Directors
Re: Flood Forecasting and Warning UPDATE
Prepared by: Scott Robertson, Development & Regulations Lead

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

THAT the Flood Forecasting and Warning Update be accepted as information.

BY THE NUMBERS:

Here are the number of flood communications issued and compared to the total number of statements issued in previous years.

Table 1. Number of flood communications issued by Staff.

Statements	Flood Communications Issued (as of February 27, 2026)	Total Number for Previous Years						
		2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019*
Water Safety	0	3	5	4	2	2	3	8
Flood Outlook	0	3	2	8	4	4	5	5
Flood Watch	0	3	2	2	0	0	3	6
Flood Warning	0	4	0	2	0	0	0	13
Total (System)	0	13	9	15	6	6	11	32

*Lake Ontario water levels were highly elevated during 2019, which led to a high volume of flood warning statements and updates.

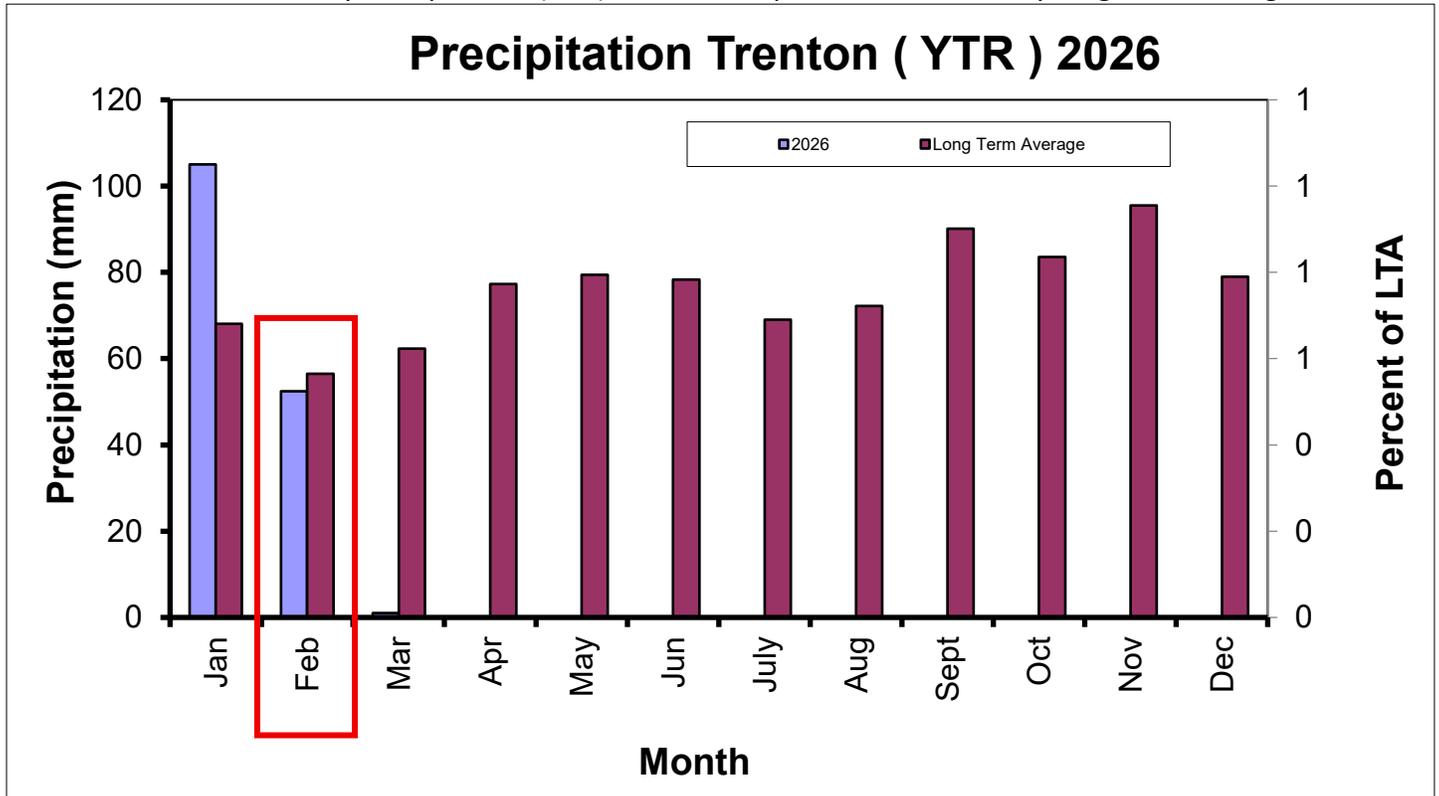
Summary of Current Conditions (since last report)

Although the month of February has had some large precipitation events, recorded volumes have fallen slightly below the established long-term average (LTA). Specifically, the month of February recorded 52.4 mm of precipitation (92.7% of the long-term average). Based on the long-term forecast, March is showing a number of warmer days above freezing temperatures which could lead to increased inputs into our local creeks and streams as well as the Trent River. With warmer temperatures expected, LTC staff will begin meeting with Parks Canada on a regular basis to ensure that we are prepared for any sudden changes in the Trent River system. A monthly comparison of the precipitation volumes observed in 2026 can be seen on Table 2.

LTC staff will continue to review the weather and stream conditions and will report further if there appears to be any potential flood or worsened drought issues.

Agenda Item #13c.

Table 2. Observed Monthly Precipitation (mm) in 2025 compared to the monthly long-term average.

Local Creeks

The local creeks and streams are at the seasonal average for streamflow and water levels for this time of year. With potential warmer temperatures expected, increased flows may be coming in the next few weeks. Staff will continue to review the conditions and forecast updates to ensure the safety of our municipal stakeholders and the general public.

Trent River

The Trent River system is experiencing below-seasonal average flows and water levels due to the extended drought conditions being experienced from the fall and leading into the winter. Although flows slowly increased to normal conditions, flows have begun to decline since late-February.

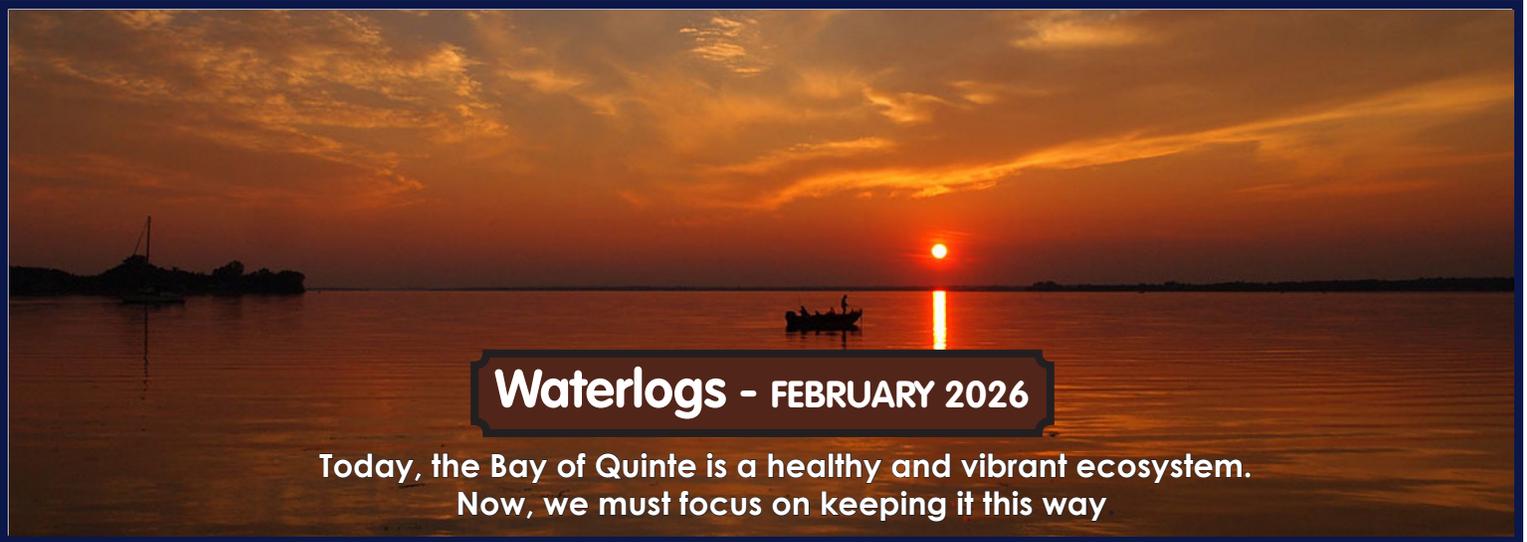
If there are any concerns or issues with the water levels on the Trent River system, owners are advised to contact Parks Canada-Trent Severn Waterway.

Lake Ontario

Lake Ontario Water levels are still below average for this time of year. Staff are continuing to review weather conditions for any high wind events that may result in storm surges with waves exceeding 1 metre.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommend that the Flood Forecasting and Warning Update be received as information.



Waterlogs - FEBRUARY 2026

Today, the Bay of Quinte is a healthy and vibrant ecosystem.
Now, we must focus on keeping it this way

OUT WITH THE OLD...IN WITH THE NEW



WHY DOES THE BAY OF QUINTE NEED A PHOSPHORUS MANAGEMENT PLAN?

WHEN THE REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN IS COMPLETE THERE NEEDS TO BE LONG-TERM GOALS IN PLACE TO ENSURE THE BAY DOES NOT BACKSLIDE.

Find Out More
www.bqrap.ca



photo by Julie Eckert

Over the past several years, this newsletter has talked about the development of a Phosphorus Management Plan for the Bay of Quinte, which is one of the final steps before the bay can be removed from the Areas of concern list. The Phosphorus Management Plan being developed for the bay will take over from its Remedial Action Plan.

The Bay of Quinte Area of Concern is meeting the delisting criteria related to the Eutrophication or Undesirable Algae Beneficial Use Impairment (BUI). However, due to legacy phosphorus in the sediment and other external factors, there are ongoing concerns with: the considerable year-round variations within the system that are not reflected in a single target value; the near-shore water quality conditions that are subject to public perception; and the persistence of harmful algae blooms in the bay. In addition, it is necessary to account for increased population growth in the area.

What is Eutrophication? "Yoo-Troh-Fi-Kay-Shun"

Eutrophication is the process in which a waterbody becomes overly enriched with nutrients. In the Bay of Quinte the nutrient of concern is primarily phosphorus. the excessive growth or (bloom) of algae is an indicator of this process.

The Phosphorus Management Plan addresses these concerns by focusing on phosphorus inputs from sewage treatment plants, urban storm water, and agriculture.

The main issue with the Bay of Quinte has always been the excess phosphorus entering it from both rural and urban sources. The bay has a long history of excess phosphorus levels, but between the 1940s and 1970 phosphorus inputs surged. By 1962, sewage treatment plants were operating at Picton, Napanee, Belleville, CFB Trenton, Trenton and other municipalities located inland from the bay. These early plants were not equipped to remove phosphorus and quickly became the bay's primary summer source phosphorus supply. This supply was inflated even more with the introduction of laundry detergents with high phosphorus concentrations. Since the late 1970s, there have been drastic reduction in phosphorus input from these sources.

Historically, most of the phosphorus entering the bay settled and was retained in the sediments. Sometime in the late 1960s /early 1970s the sediments ceased to be a sink for phosphorus and became a source. This internal source is still a major contributor to phosphorus levels today. So, the management actions outlined in PMP are designed to further reduce the amount of phosphorus entering the bay. Thereby allowing the sediments to continue refluxing the stored excess phosphorus eventually bringing the bay into a new equilibrium. As well as addressing future stressors to the bay like population increases and development, and climate change.

A discussion paper providing details of the Phosphorus Management Plan is available on the [BQRAP web site](http://www.bqrap.ca).

www.bqrap.ca

In partnership locally with Lower Trent Conservation and Quinte Conservation

It's spring and love is in the air

Soon, frogs will start calling and wetland birds will return. We need citizen scientists to survey local Bay of Quinte Region marshes.

Quinte area naturalist Terry Sprague will explain **FrogWatch Ontario** and the **Marsh Monitoring Program**. Help us understand about the health of local marshes by surveying for birds and frogs.

 This is a free online presentation

Monday, March 9, 2026 - 7:00 pm

REGISTER  www.marshmonitoring2026.eventbrite.ca



It's Spring And Love Is In The Air

Soon, frogs will start calling looking for mates and wetland birds will return to their favourite marsh, to stake out territory for another year. You can participate in this springtime ritual by volunteering as a citizen scientist.

Every year, the Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan (BQRAP) needs volunteer citizen scientists to survey local marshes to collect data on wetland birds and frogs. The survey information helps track long-term trends in species diversity, and abundance. An information session is hosted by Quinte area naturalist and columnist Terry Sprague explaining how you can become involved in surveying local inland and coastal marshes through the FrogWatch Ontario and Marsh Monitoring programs.

This year, the virtual presentation is on Monday, March 9th, 2026 at 7:00 pm.

You can register on Eventbrite at <https://marshmonitoring2026.eventbrite.ca> to receive the presentation link.

Terry will discuss both programs, the FrogWatch Ontario program, is a family-friendly activity; and the Marsh Monitoring Program, is more structured, ideal for the outdoors enthusiast. The FrogWatch Ontario Program records amphibians once a week from April through June and the results are submitted online. The Marsh Monitoring Program records wetland birds and frogs, between May and July. Frogs are monitored three times approximately 15 days apart. Wetland birds are monitored twice for 15 minutes, and the monitoring must be at least 10 days apart. Monitoring sites are at a variety of locations like cottages, backyards, or designated monitoring locations.

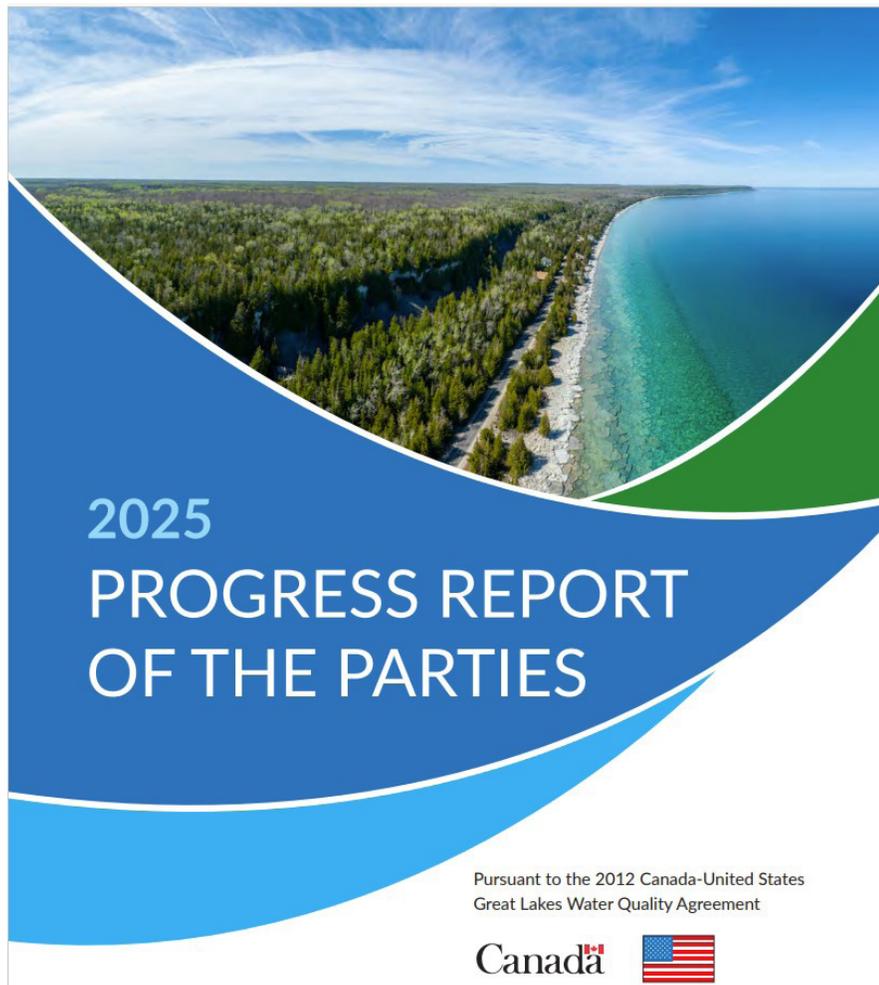
"The information collected tells us about the presence and abundance of both species in coastal and inland marshes and contributes to our understanding of these species and their habitat needs." says Terry.

In the Bay of Quinte, the environmental challenges related to fish and wildlife populations and habitat are classified as restored, meaning they have met all the criteria outlined in the bay's remedial action plan. That's it, it doesn't mean they are protected from the effects of climate change, population increases, and urban and rural development. Citizen scientists are vitally important as "boots on the ground" focusing on ensuring marshes don't revert to the conditions that required a remedial action plan in the first place.

This presentation gives you an excellent overview of the two programs and support is offered to all volunteers throughout the monitoring season.

Registration closes on Monday, March 9th at 3:00 pm. then the link for the presentation will be sent to attendees.

For information on this evening presentation.
 smidlanejones@bqrap.ca 613-394-3915 ext. 214
www.bqrap.ca



Canada and the United States are pleased to release the newest triennial Progress Report of the Parties, pursuant to the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement ("the Agreement"). The 2025 Progress Report of the Parties documents the binational and domestic activities and accomplishments of Canada and the United States in implementing the Agreement over 2023 to 2025.

The Report documents the significant accomplishments achieved through the cooperation of many partners on both sides of the border. Some highlights of the accomplishments reported include: exceeding remediation and habitat restoration goals in the Great Lakes Areas of Concern and improving water quality, beaches, and fish and wildlife; implementing actions to reduce municipal and agricultural sources of nutrients to Lake Erie, which is showing some progress but sustained effort and monitoring are still needed; and collaborating on early detection and control of invasive species, such as invasive carp.

[2025 Progress Report of the Parties](#) (PDF 5 MB)

Agenda Item #15.



CAO REPORT

Date: March 4, 2026
To: Board of Directors
Prepared by: Rhonda Bateman, Chief Administrative Officer

ALTO

I was invited and attended an environmental round table in Peterborough with the ALTO high speed rail group. They outlined the potential routes, as they have for all other information sessions. They asked specific questions regarding the environment and potential mitigation measures. Brad McNevin, CAO from Quinte Conservation, Janette Loveys-Smith, CAO from Otonabee Conservation and a staff member from Kawartha Conservation were also in attendance. As both proposed routes cross several watersheds and Conservation Authorities, we proposed that all of the affected CAs and Conservation Ontario be brought together to share data to have the most accurate picture of the areas potentially affected.

Lower Trent Conservation would be more affected by ALTO's proposed southern route which could traverse several of our properties, both conservation areas and natural habitat areas. The routes could also affect Provincially Significant Wetlands, Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest and Significant Natural Areas. This information is important for ALTO to have to help guide their final route choice and prepare for any mitigation or compensation measures required.

There are two open houses in Madoc on March 5th and two in Stirling-Rawdon on March 25th. I am hoping to attend both open houses to listen to concerns raised.

MPP MEETINGS

Vice-Chair Wheeldon, Member Alyea and I attended a one-on-one meeting with MPP Alsopp on Wednesday March 3rd at the Quinte West Chamber of Commerce office. The meeting was a discussion of the issues with the consolidation raised by the Board of Directors. The meeting went well with good engagement from MPP Alsopp recognizing our issues and the uncertainty surrounding the proposal.

Board member Eric Sandford has arranged a meeting with MPP Bresee for March 16th in Madoc. Vice-Chair Jeff Wheeldon will be in attendance as well.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan (BQRAP) newsletter got some traction locally and MP Chris Malette has requested a meeting with staff regarding this program which is funded 50% by the federal government and 50% by the provincial government. The BQRAP staff and CAOs from Lower Trent Conservation and Quinte Conservation will be attending the meeting.

STAFFING

We have interviewed for the Planning Ecologist position to complement the planning and regulations team. We are currently waiting on reference checks before making an offer. The funding for this position was found with the departure of the manager of the department.

EASTERN ONTARIO REGION CAs

The Eastern Region CAs continue to meet via teleconference monthly to share information and best practices. There is an in-person meeting scheduled for March 16th. I will not be in attendance as we are meeting with MPP Bresee that day.

CONSERVATION ONTARIO

There was a General Managers meeting held on February 23rd with the topics including meetings with federal and provincial MPs and MPPs, strategic advocacy, and a presentation by Strategy Corps on consolidation followed by a question-and-answer period. CO staff and general managers are holding meetings at least once per month.

EVENTS AND STEWARDSHIP

We are introducing new outreach events called the Forest Wellness Series:

March 4th – Staff Forest Wellness Hike

March 11th – Gentle Forest Walk at Bleasdell Boulder Conservation Area – 10:00 – 11:00 am

March 19th – Farewell to Frost – Goodrich-Loomis – annual March Break event

May 9th – Walk of Appreciation at Goodrich Loomis Conservation Area – 10:00 – 11:00 am

Please see the website for more information:

<https://ltc.on.ca/outreach-stewardship/outreach/special-events/>

The annual Native Plant Sale is on. Get yours soon before we are sold out.

<https://ltc.on.ca/outreach-stewardship/stewardship/private-lands-stewardship/native-plant-sale/>