

Beaver Valley Agricultural Society  
Box 334  
Clarksburg, ON N0H 1J0



July 20, 2022

Town of The Blue Mountains  
32 Mill Street  
Thornbury, Ontario  
Attention: Mayor Soever & Council

**Re: 2022 Beaver Valley Fall Fair**

Mayor Soever & Members of Council,

2022 will mark the 150<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Fair in the Beaver Valley. This event was to take place in 2020 however due to the events happening around the world, the celebration was put off until in person events could be held again.

As part of the 2020 Budget, Council approved support for the Agricultural Society for a total amount of \$11,400 as follows:

- \$1,500.00 OPP costs for road closure and parade detail
- \$2,200 Stage and Sound System
- \$4,500.00 Lumberjack Exhibit
- \$3,200.00 (in kind) Set-up and use of the Beaver Valley Community Centre

As the Fair will be held on September 9 and 10, 2022, the Beaver Valley Agricultural Society kindly requests the release of the funds approved less the in-kind amounts for the OPP and BVCC set-up and use, being \$6,700.

We do hope to see you all at the Fair!

Regards,  
**Beaver Valley Agricultural Society**

[REDACTED]  
Serena Wilgress  
Vice President

## Livestock Guardian Dog use in Ontario

Predation is a significant cost and ongoing threat to sheep flocks in Ontario. Preventative measures are the first line of defense for producers. Livestock Guardian Dogs are one of the most effective preventative measures available because they are actively protecting the flock 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Livestock Guardian Dogs have been used in Ontario since the 1960's. Their use has increased in the past 40 years as the province's coyote population has increased and expanded throughout the entire province. Livestock Guardian Dog are now used by a great majority of sheep producers in Ontario to protect their flocks from predation by (primarily) coyotes, but also wolves, bears and other wildlife.

Livestock Guardian Dogs live with the sheep flock.

They provide protection to the flock by patrolling pastures, marking the perimeter of their territory. They also bark, run at, and try to intimidate any threats to the livestock they are protecting, which in this case is sheep.

Barking is one of the primary means by which livestock guardian dogs provide protection to the sheep flock. It is their way of communicating with other canines, and the guarding bark warns predators to avoid the area. Because dogs' sense of smell and hearing are many times more acute than that of humans, they often appear to be "barking" at nothing, when in fact, they hear, or smell something that humans are not able to.

Except perhaps for sheep flocks totally confined to barns with no access to outdoors, very few sheep flocks would survive predation attacks if it weren't for the effectiveness of livestock guardian dogs.

Ontario Sheep Farmers (OSF) considers the use of livestock guardian dogs to provide protection to livestock against predation as a normal farm practice.

The Farm and Food Production Protection Act (administered by Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs) defines normal farm practice as a farming practice which:

- is consistent with proper, acceptable customs and standards of similar operations; or
- uses innovative technology according to proper, advanced farm management practices.

The Farm and Food Production Protection Act was established to promote and protect agricultural uses and normal farm practices in agricultural areas, in a way that balances the needs of the agricultural community with provincial health, safety and environmental concerns.



# OntarioSheep FARMERS

---

On behalf of Ontario's 2700 sheep farmers, I am reaching out to begin a dialogue with your municipality on the increasing challenge livestock farmers face in dealing with problem predators, and the role that Livestock Guardian Dogs (LGD) and your municipal dog control bylaws play in helping our farmers protect their sheep.

Problem predators are an increasing challenge and cost for Ontario livestock farmers requiring considerable effort and resources on the part of farmers and the Ontario Sheep Farmers (OSF). The financial cost of predation not only costs farmers, in terms of preventative measures, such as fencing and LGD; it also costs Ontario taxpayers, with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) paying farmers over \$717,000 in the 2021 FY for losses of livestock caused by wildlife. This cost does not include the cost borne by municipalities and OMAFRA in sending investigators out to farms and administering the program. Nor does this cover the costs of veterinarians to help those maimed by predators to recover, the production losses of animals who are stressed from predation and the mental health toll predation takes on the farmer. Without being able to properly protect livestock from predation, taxpayers should expect to see an increased incidence of predation and increased costs.

Livestock guardian animals are one of the most common forms of predation prevention control used by Ontario sheep producers. These include Livestock Guardian Dogs (LGDs), donkeys, and llamas, with LGD being the most popular choice. However, there are instances when municipal by-laws hinder the efficient use of LGDs on farming operations as the by-laws are intended primarily for dogs kept for companionship, breeding, or non-working purposes. We have reviewed work done by several Ontario municipalities where LGDs have been specifically addressed when creating or revising existing by-laws. Below are some of the primary areas of concern and suggested options for consideration by your municipality.

## **Add Definition of Livestock Guardian Dogs (LGDs) and Herding Dogs to by-laws**

We propose that:

"Livestock Guardian Dog" (LGD) be defined as a dog that works and/or lives with domestic farm animals (e.g. cattle, sheep, poultry) to protect them while repelling predators and is used exclusively for that purpose.

"Herding Dog" means a dog that has been trained and is actively being used in a bona fide farming operation for the purposes of controlling livestock on the farm.

There are different breeds of LGDs of which the most popular breeds in Ontario include Great Pyrenees, Akbash, Kuvasz, Maremma and Anatolian Shepherd and crosses between these breeds. Although not an exhaustive list, dogs generally used for herding include Border Collies, Australian Shepherds, Blue & Red Heelers and Huntaways.



[OntarioSheep.org](http://OntarioSheep.org)

130 Malcolm Road, Guelph, Ontario N1K 1B1 T 519.836.0043 E [admin@ontariosheep.org](mailto:admin@ontariosheep.org)

### **Dog Registration/Licensing Requirements**

Paying annual dog registration/license fees for numerous working farm dogs can become a significant cost for sheep producers. We would encourage municipalities to exempt LGDs and herding dogs from annual license fees as is done in many jurisdictions for assistance/service dogs and working police dogs. The definition of

### **Requirement for Dogs to Wear a Collar and Tag**

LGDs' instincts are to guard and follow the flock, sleeping and working outdoors in all kinds of weather. Collars can become snagged on branches or fences and become a skin irritant in hot or wet weather. We suggest that municipal by-laws allow owners to remove the collar and license tag (if applicable) from a guardian or herding dog while the dog is being actively used in farming practices provided that the owner uses an alternative means of identification linking the animal to the name and address of the owner, e.g. either a tattoo or microchip containing the required information.

### **Requirements for Kennel Licensing and/or Limitation on Number of Dogs Kept**

In some areas bylaw requires a person with more than three dogs at the same premises to secure a kennel license. Coyotes are very smart and will lure the dogs away while the remaining coyotes kill the sheep or lambs from behind or will attack the dogs directly. It is not uncommon for farmers to have more than two LGDs, especially when they are training younger dogs. This is especially true in areas where there is heavy predation. As well, larger sheep flocks in Ontario (several over 1500 animals), require numerous dogs to provide adequate protection especially where higher numbers of predators are present.

We would propose for your consideration that a person may keep more than three dogs at a premise without obtaining a kennel license provided:

- the person is keeping sheep (or other livestock) upon the same premises.
- the premises is on land that is zoned rural and agricultural.
- the person provides proof of producer registration issued in the name recorded by the Ontario Sheep Farmers, Beef Farmers of Ontario, Ontario Goat,
- the dogs are registered/licensed annually in accordance with relevant municipal by-laws (if required)
- and that the dogs are LGDs and or herding dogs.

### **Running At Large**

A dog shall not be running at large if it is a LGD and is on their leased or owned property.

### **Barking Restrictions**

LGD are exempt from barking restrictions if actively engaged in guarding livestock against predators. Under the Farming and Food Production Protection Act farmers are protected from nuisance complaints made by neighbours provided they are following normal farming practices. The use of LGD on sheep farms is a widely used practice in Ontario and other sheep producing jurisdictions.



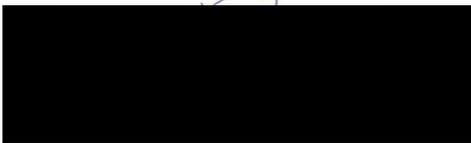
**Aggressive/ Dangerous Dog designation**

LGD act aggressively and show aggression towards things they view as a threat to the livestock they are protecting. As such, an exemption, like that for police dogs should be considered.

OSF wishes to work cooperatively with you to ensure that municipal bylaws take into consideration the use of LGD when developing their bylaws. We would be pleased to communicate with the appropriate municipal officials to review with you Ontario sheep producers' needs and concerns in this area.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



John Hemsted,  
Chair



**Sent:** July 12, 2022 1:55 PM

**To:** Corrina Giles <cgiles@thebluemountains.ca>

**Subject:** Transportation Advisory Committee

Hello Corrina...

Please make these concerns known to the committee for the 14th.

As a homeowner on Fraser Crescent I have interest in what happens on plan 529 which we are a part of. I have been looking at concerns associated with everything from "who has access" on right of ways to parking in the "areas associated with it".

As a resident of Fraser Crescent, I want to help ensure that the "town gets it right".

This rapidly growing community suffers the growing pains from infrastructure bursting at the seams, to traffic calming, etc. Please know that in my view the new development here cannot all be part of deeded right of way access for simple reasons... They just won't all fit. Limiting access is absolutely necessary. This issue along with parking can become a major headache. Parking in my area and others that are designated unlimited will also cause enormous problems for people living on these streets and trying to get out on the highway. I am asking the town to reconsider the unlimited designation and whether it is wise to allow parking on these streets. They have narrow points on them and getting 2 vehicles side by side is already an issue. People will be intruding on to property's in order to park and road maintenance and garbage pickup will be hindered. Homeowners with smaller driveways will have problems accommodating their own guests. Plows in winter will make roads narrower. I question the wisdom of the designation (schedule E unlimited) given us. We have already seen what overloaded parking looks like on Lakeshore W. and highway 26 for people accessing North Winds beach. Lakeshore and highway 26 are far wider than Fraser Crescent/Brophy's lane. Please reconsider.

Best regards

Bob and Joan Newman



Fraser Crescent  
Blue Mountains

**From:** Cal Willis <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** July 13, 2022 3:56 PM  
**To:** Corrina Giles <[cgiles@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:cgiles@thebluemountains.ca)>  
**Subject:** Master Transportation Plan Draft feedback

Town Council members,

I am a resident of Fraser Crescent and wish to offer some feedback regarding the above subject matter. Having reviewed the Plan (page 141?) I noted it seems to indicate Fraser Crescent is set up under unrestricted parking designation. Unless I am mistaken this designation would allow any person to park a vehicle on the laneway at any time for an unlimited time period.

This seems counter to the municipal intent of ensuring clear and unrestricted access wish to raise concerns. Unless I'm mistaken, there are strict hours when no vehicular parking on municipal maintained roads and laneways is enforced. Please correct me if I'm wrong. Some specific examples for consideration are as follow:

- 1) Regularly there are one or more vehicles parked on the laneway overnight. In one case this past winter the snow plow could not pass a vehicle parked at 106 Fraser, had to back down the laneway....a most dangerous action.....and re-enter the laneway from the East to complete their plow services for residents.
- 2) delivery trucks (soil/mail and parcel) are unable to remain on the laneway and yield to incoming traffic when vehicles are parked in the laneway.
- 3) what enforcement proceedings under the current unrestricted parking might we expect when a nonresident vehicles are left in our laneway while the occupants walk to Northwinds Beach, go jogging, biking, etc. for the day.
4. What consequences might a family suffer when emergency response vehicles are unable to get to a home requiring their services. As we are aware, every second counts in almost every single case.

While these are certainly not all possible scenarios, I am urging Council to consider all aspects and consequences of maintaining this current unrestricted parking policy.

Thank you for your time to read this letter and your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Cal & Kim Willis  
[REDACTED] Fraser Crescent  
Town of Blue Mountains  
L9Y 0M8  
[REDACTED]

--

Warmest regards,  
Cal W.

July 7, 2022

To: Town of the Blue Mountains Mayor, Council and Staff

Regarding: Proposed amendments to the current municipal Tree Preservation By-law law 2010-68.

On behalf of TreeTrust TBM, I would like to commend any efforts by Council and Staff to help preserve the tree canopy in TBM. A Tree Preservation By-law can serve as an essential component within a broader basket of policies and tools aimed at preventing needless removal of trees. The current draft Tree Preservation By-law is a step in the right direction. For future, it is important to also note that significant trees within properties outside of Settlement Areas and on properties smaller than 0.5 hectare will not be protected under the current proposed By-law, nor are trees necessarily protected once a development approval has been granted. Finally, the removal of trees as a result of municipal operations remains an unaddressed area of concern for residents. After passage of this By-law, which I hope is very soon, I urge staff and council to next consider policies and processes regarding minimizing removal of trees in these unaddressed circumstances.

Notwithstanding that additional policies (beyond the scope of this By-law) need to be developed to preserve the tree canopy in TBM, TreeTrust TBM is in support of moving forward with the current draft Tree Preservation By-law with some recommendations outlined below. I look forward to working with Staff as needed to flush out the specifics of these recommendations as input in the finalized version.

1. Appeals (Section 10). Section 10 allows appeals to council by the permit applicant. Conversely, the public should be informed and be able to appeal a permit that allows removal of a healthy, older, significant tree.
2. Strengthen conditions when permits will not be issued (Section 5.1). Older, significant trees in good condition should be added to the conditions in Section 5.1 as restrictive to issuance of a permit. An older, healthy tree sequesters carbon and offers unmatched natural system, community and aesthetic benefits and should constitute a criteria for preservation in of itself.
3. Clarify and list specific circumstances in which the Director has discretion to issue a permit (Section 2.3). This section, as currently written without a specific mention of valid circumstances (for example, removal required in order to complete technical studies), is much too broad and lacks transparency.
4. Deepen the qualifications required to support a recommendation for tree removal (Section 2.2). Not all certified arborists have expertise in preservation of older trees meaning that some trees that could or should be saved, won't be. Should an older, large tree be identified as eligible for removal, specialized expertise pertaining to assessment and preservation of older trees should be required.
5. Multi-stemmed trees (Section 1 and Section 2.1). The current definition of a tree does not address multi-stemmed trees which could leave highly valuable multi-stemmed trees (i.e., a birch tree) unprotected.

In closing, I thank staff and Council for their leadership in considering ways to preserve the beautiful and valuable natural heritage of the Town of the Blue Mountains. This By-law will play a part. I look forward to working with Staff and Council on additional policies and programs to protect, enhance and grow our tree canopy.

Betty Muise  
Manager and Lead Volunteer, TreeTrust TBM



## The Blue Mountains Attainable Housing Corporation

32 Mill Street, Box 310  
Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0  
thebluemountainshousing.ca

---

July 13, 2022

Corrina Giles  
Town Clerk  
Town of The Blue Mountains  
32 Mill Street, P.O. Box 310  
Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0

Dear Mayor Soever and Members of Council

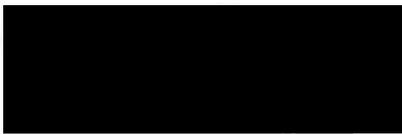
**Re: Special Meeting of Council, June 13, 2022  
Correspondence from Thornbury Business Improvement Area on Attainable Housing**

Thank you for the correspondence from the Thornbury Business Improvement Area to the Town regarding a secondary suite program to address workforce attainable housing needs.

The Blue Mountains Attainable Housing Corporation previously administered a Secondary Suite Grant Program with up to \$5,000 available to offset the costs to create an accessory apartment in the Town. However, our involvement with this program ended in June 2021 following the adoption of the Housing Within Reach Community Improvement Plan by the Town, which contains a toolkit of financial incentive programs to facilitate and encourage attainable housing including a new Accessory Dwelling Unit Program.

As an advocate, catalyst, and provider of attainable housing for economic and workforce development, The Blue Mountains Attainable Housing Corporation looks forward to learning more about the Town's plans to implement the Housing Within Reach Community Improvement Plan and exploring opportunities to work collaboratively to address the community's attainable housing needs.

Sincerely



Jennifer Bisley  
Executive Director

Enclosed: Motion, The Town of The Blue Mountains, Special Meeting of Council, June 13, 2022



The Town of The Blue Mountains, Special Meeting of Council  
Special Meeting of Council

Date: Monday, June 13, 2022

---

Moved by: Councillor Hope

Seconded by: Councillor Matrosovs

THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receives for information the May 16, 2022 correspondence from the Thornbury Business Improvement Area regarding attainable housing;  
AND THAT Council refers the correspondence to The Blue Mountains Attainable Housing Corporation, to the Finance and IT Services, and to the Official Plan Review Committee, for consideration

YES: 6

NO: 0

CONFLICT: 0

ABSENT: 1

The motion is Carried

YES: 6

Deputy Mayor Bordignon    Councillor Hope                      Councillor Matrosovs            Councillor Sampson  
Councillor Uram                      Councillor Bill Abbotts

NO: 0

CONFLICT: 0

ABSENT: 1

Mayor Soever



May 16, 2022

Mayor Alar Soever  
Town of The Blue Mountains  
32 Mill St  
Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0

Dear Mayor Soever,

As you are no doubt aware, one of the most pressing issues facing businesses in our area is finding adequate staff. One of the main contributing factors is the lack of affordable rental housing. The Gateway Attainable Housing Project will hopefully address some of that shortage, but its completion is years away. In the meantime, the creation of secondary suites could make affordable rental units available.

Will Council consider introducing grants to homeowners to help with renovations to convert part of existing homes to accommodate a secondary suite? Qualifying expenses would include such things as creating a separate entrance and converting units to meet fire code requirements. Also, if necessary, amend existing bylaws to allow the creation of secondary suites where necessary.

This issue affects many of our members and we welcome your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of George Matamoros.

George Matamoros, Chair  
Thornbury BIA Board of Management.

PO Box 662, Thornbury, Ontario N0H 2P0



# Notice of Decision and Right to Appeal

**This is a notice about a decision of the Committee of Adjustment on Minor Variance Applications A34-2022 (Owner: Windfall GP Inc.)**

A certified copy of the Committee of Adjustment's decisions is attached to this notice.

**If you disagree with this decision you may file an appeal with the Ontario Land Tribunal.** An appeal must include the required Appellant Form and the required Fees made out to the Minister of Finance. The Appellant Form must also set out the objection to the decision and the reasons in support of the objection.

The Appellant Form and fees must be delivered in person or by registered mail to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee of Adjustment:

Secretary-Treasurer  
Committee of Adjustment  
Town of The Blue Mountains  
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON, N0H 2P0

**The last date for filing an appeal is August 9, 2022, by 4:30 pm.**

More information about how to file an appeal, including the forms and fees, is available on the Ontario Land Tribunal website at <https://olt.gov.on.ca/>.

If there is an appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal, except where all appeals are withdrawn, a hearing will be held and notice will be given to the Applicant, the Appellant, the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee, and to anyone else as determined by the Ontario Land Tribunal.

If no appeal on this decision is received within twenty days of the decision, the decision of the Committee is final and binding. The Secretary-Treasurer will notify the Applicant and file a certified copy of the decision with the Clerk of the Town of The Blue Mountains.



Town of The Blue Mountains  
Committee of Adjustment  
Decision

In the matter of application for Minor Variance File No. **A34-2022** to consider a variance to the Town of The Blue Mountains Comprehensive Zoning By-law 2018-65, as amended,

**Date of Hearing:** July 20, 2022  
**Property Location:** Unit 908, 277 Jozo Weider Boulevard  
**Owner/ Applicant:** Ross and Shanna Hurd

**Purpose of Application:**

The purpose of this application is to consider a request for minor variance to the provisions of Zoning By-law 2018-65 to permit development in a *Hazard* zone, whereas development and site alteration is generally prohibited within *Hazard* zones, and to permit a rear yard setback of 6.5m, whereas a setback of 9.0m is required in the R1-1 zone. The effect of the application would be to permit the construction of a 22sq.m. one-storey addition to an existing single detached dwelling unit.

WE, the undersigned, in making the decision upon this application have considered whether or not the variance requested was minor and desirable for the appropriate development and use of land and that the general intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law and the Official Plan will be maintained, **CONCUR** in the following decision and reason(s) for decision:

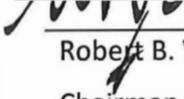
**DECISION:**

THAT the Committee of Adjustment **GRANT** Minor Variance Application No. A34-2022 to permit the development of the lands in accordance with the site sketch.

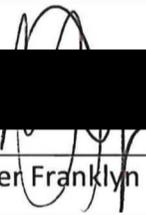
**Conditions and Reasons For Decision:**

*See Attached Schedule "A"*



 Robert B. Waind  
Chairman

 Bill Remus

 Peter Franklyn

Jim Uram

Jim Oliver

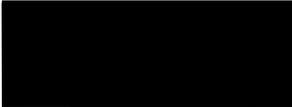
**Date of Decision: July 20, 2022**

**\*The last date for filing an appeal to the decision is August 9, 2022\***

**CERTIFICATION**

Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P13, Sec 45(10)

I, Kyra Dunlop, Secretary-Treasurer of the Town of The Blue Mountains Committee of Adjustment, certify that the above is a true copy of the decision of the committee with respect to the application recorded therein.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Secretary-Treasurer  
Town of The Blue Mountains Committee of Adjustment  
32 Mill Street East, Thornbury, Ont., NOH 2P0

Dated: July 20 , 2022



Town of The Blue Mountains  
 Committee of Adjustment  
 Decision

- Schedule A -

**CONDITIONS:**

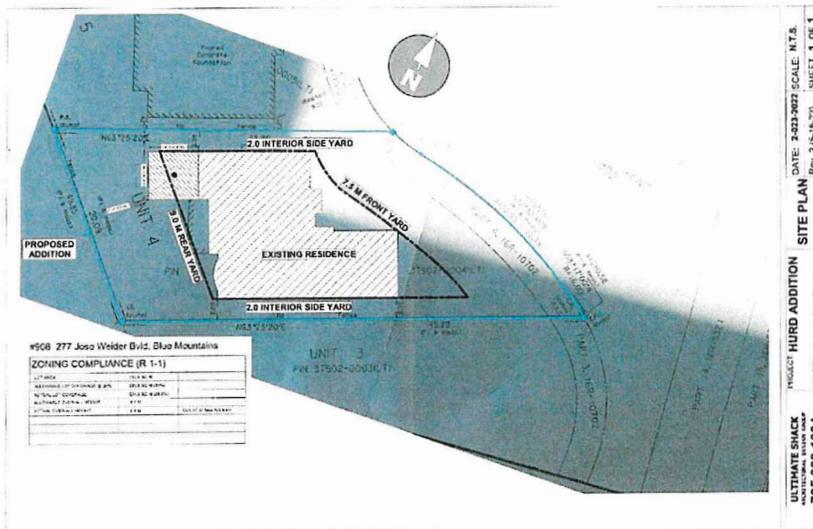
- 1) That the site development be constructed in a manner substantially in accordance with the submitted site sketch;
- 2) That this variance to the Zoning By-law is for the purpose of obtaining a building permit and is only valid for a period of two year from the date of decision. Should a building permit not be issued by the Town within two years, the variance shall expire on July 20, 2024.

**REASON FOR DECISION:**

The Committee is satisfied that the application meets the four tests for minor variance of S.45. (1) of the Planning Act, as noted in the Planning and Development Services Staff Report PDS.22.094.

The Committee received written and/or oral submissions before and/or during the hearing and have taken these submissions into consideration when making the decision.

**APPLICANT'S SITE PLAN**





# Notice of Decision and Right to Appeal

**This is a notice about a decision of the Committee of Adjustment on Minor Variance Applications A36-2022 (Owner: Windfall GP Inc.)**

A certified copy of the Committee of Adjustment's decisions is attached to this notice.

**If you disagree with this decision you may file an appeal with the Ontario Land Tribunal.** An appeal must include the required Appellant Form and the required Fees made out to the Minister of Finance. The Appellant Form must also set out the objection to the decision and the reasons in support of the objection.

The Appellant Form and fees must be delivered in person or by registered mail to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee of Adjustment:

Secretary-Treasurer  
Committee of Adjustment  
Town of The Blue Mountains  
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON, N0H 2P0

**The last date for filing an appeal is August 9, 2022, by 4:30 pm.**

More information about how to file an appeal, including the forms and fees, is available on the Ontario Land Tribunal website at <https://olt.gov.on.ca/>.

If there is an appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal, except where all appeals are withdrawn, a hearing will be held and notice will be given to the Applicant, the Appellant, the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee, and to anyone else as determined by the Ontario Land Tribunal.

If no appeal on this decision is received within twenty days of the decision, the decision of the Committee is final and binding. The Secretary-Treasurer will notify the Applicant and file a certified copy of the decision with the Clerk of the Town of The Blue Mountains.



Town of The Blue Mountains
Committee of Adjustment
Decision

In the matter of application for Minor Variance File No. A36-2022 to consider a variance to the Town of The Blue Mountains Comprehensive Zoning By-law 2018-65, as amended,

Date of Hearing: July 20, 2022
Property Location: Lot 7, Courtland Street (Plan 16M-86)
Owner/ Applicant: Windfall GP. Inc.
Purpose of Application:

The purpose of this application is to consider a request for minor variance to the provisions of Zoning By-law 2018-65 to permit:

- 1. To permit a minimum rear yard setback of 4.0m for the proposed dwelling unit, whereas a minimum of 9.0m is required in the R1-3-62 zone; and
2. To allow an unenclosed deck to project a maximum of 6.0m into a required rear yard, whereas a maximum projection of 1.5m is permitted per General Provision 4.12.

The effect of the application would be to permit the construction of a new single detached dwelling unit on an irregular shaped parcel and to permit an unenclosed deck to be setback 3.0m from a rear lot line.

WE, the undersigned, in making the decision upon this application have considered whether or not the variance requested was minor and desirable for the appropriate development and use of land and that the general intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law and the Official Plan will be maintained, CONCUR in the following decision and reason(s) for decision:

DECISION:

THAT the Committee of Adjustment GRANT Minor Variance Application No. A36-2022 to permit the development of the lands in accordance with the site sketch.

Conditions and Reasons For Decision:

See Attached Schedule "A"



Robert B/Waind Bill Remus Peter Franklyn Jim Uram Jim Oliver
Chairman

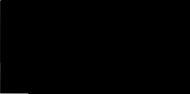
Date of Decision: July 20, 2022

\*The last date for filing an appeal to the decision is August 9, 2022\*

CERTIFICATION

Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P13, Sec 45(10)

I, Kyra Dunlop, Secretary-Treasurer of the Town of The Blue Mountains Committee of Adjustment, certify that the above is a true copy of the decision of the committee with respect to the application recorded therein.



Signature of Secretary-Treasurer
Town of The Blue Mountains Committee of Adjustment
32 Mill Street East, Thornbury, Ont., N0H 2P0

Dated: July 20, 2022



**Town of The Blue Mountains  
Committee of Adjustment  
Decision**

**- Schedule A -**

**CONDITIONS:**

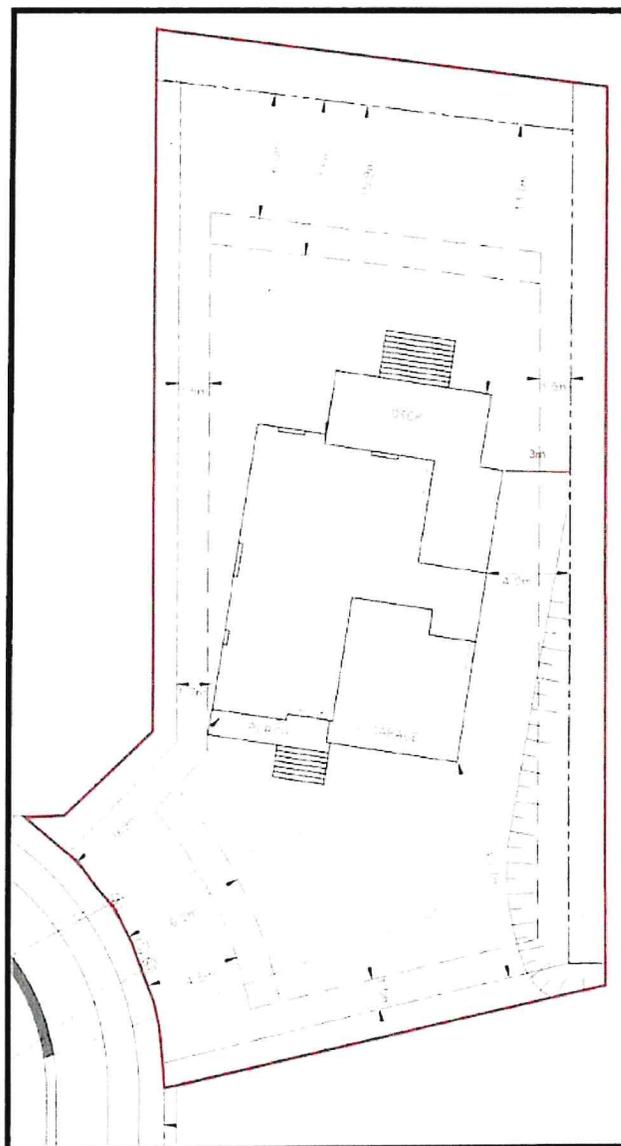
- 1) That the site development be constructed in a manner substantially in accordance with the submitted site sketch;
- 2) That this variance to the Zoning By-law is for the purpose of obtaining a building permit and is only valid for a period of two years from the date of decision. Should a building permit not be issued by the Town within two years, the variance shall expire on July 20, 2024.

**REASON FOR DECISION:**

The Committee is satisfied that the application meets the four tests for minor variance of S.45. (1) of the Planning Act, as noted in the Planning and Development Services Staff Report PDS.22.095.

The Committee received written and/or oral submissions before and/or during the hearing and have taken these submissions into consideration when making the decision.

**APPLICANT'S SITE PLAN**



**Fig 5: Lot 7 Plot Plan**



# Notice of Decision and Right to Appeal

**This is a notice about a decision of the Committee of Adjustment on Minor Variance Applications A37-2022 (Owner: Windfall GP Inc.)**

A certified copy of the Committee of Adjustment's decisions is attached to this notice.

**If you disagree with this decision you may file an appeal with the Ontario Land Tribunal.** An appeal must include the required Appellant Form and the required Fees made out to the Minister of Finance. The Appellant Form must also set out the objection to the decision and the reasons in support of the objection.

The Appellant Form and fees must be delivered in person or by registered mail to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee of Adjustment:

Secretary-Treasurer  
Committee of Adjustment  
Town of The Blue Mountains  
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON, N0H 2P0

**The last date for filing an appeal is August 9, 2022, by 4:30 pm.**

More information about how to file an appeal, including the forms and fees, is available on the Ontario Land Tribunal website at <https://olt.gov.on.ca/>.

If there is an appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal, except where all appeals are withdrawn, a hearing will be held and notice will be given to the Applicant, the Appellant, the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee, and to anyone else as determined by the Ontario Land Tribunal.

If no appeal on this decision is received within twenty days of the decision, the decision of the Committee is final and binding. The Secretary-Treasurer will notify the Applicant and file a certified copy of the decision with the Clerk of the Town of The Blue Mountains.



Town of The Blue Mountains
Committee of Adjustment
Decision

In the matter of application for Minor Variance File No. A37-2022 to consider a variance to the Town of The Blue Mountains Comprehensive Zoning By-law 2018-65, as amended,

Date of Hearing: July 20, 2022
Property Location: Lot 81, Courtland Street (Plan 16M-86)
Owner/ Applicant: Windfall GP. Inc.
Purpose of Application:

The purpose of this application is to consider a request for minor variance to the provisions of Zoning By-law 2018-65 to permit:

- 1. To permit a minimum exterior yard setback of 4.5m for the proposed dwelling unit, whereas a minimum of 6.0m is required in the R1-3-62 zone; and

The effect of the application would be to permit the construction of a new single detached dwelling unit on an irregular shaped parcel.

WE, the undersigned, in making the decision upon this application have considered whether or not the variance requested was minor and desirable for the appropriate development and use of land and that the general intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law and the Official Plan will be maintained, CONCUR in the following decision and reason(s) for decision:

DECISION:

THAT the Committee of Adjustment GRANT Minor Variance Application No. A37-2022 to permit the development of the lands in accordance with the site sketch.

Conditions and Reasons For Decision:

See Attached Schedule "A"



Robert B. Waing, Bill Remus, Peter Franklyn, Jim Uram, Jim Oliver
Chairman

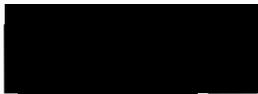
Date of Decision: July 20, 2022

\*The last date for filing an appeal to the decision is August 9, 2022\*

CERTIFICATION

Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P13, Sec 45(10)

I, Kyra Dunlop, Secretary-Treasurer of the Town of The Blue Mountains Committee of Adjustment, certify that the above is a true copy of the decision of the committee with respect to the application recorded therein.



Signature of Secretary-Treasurer
Town of The Blue Mountains Committee of Adjustment
32 Mill Street East, Thornbury, Ont., N0H 2P0

Dated: July 20, 2022



Town of The Blue Mountains  
Committee of Adjustment  
Decision

- Schedule A -

CONDITIONS:

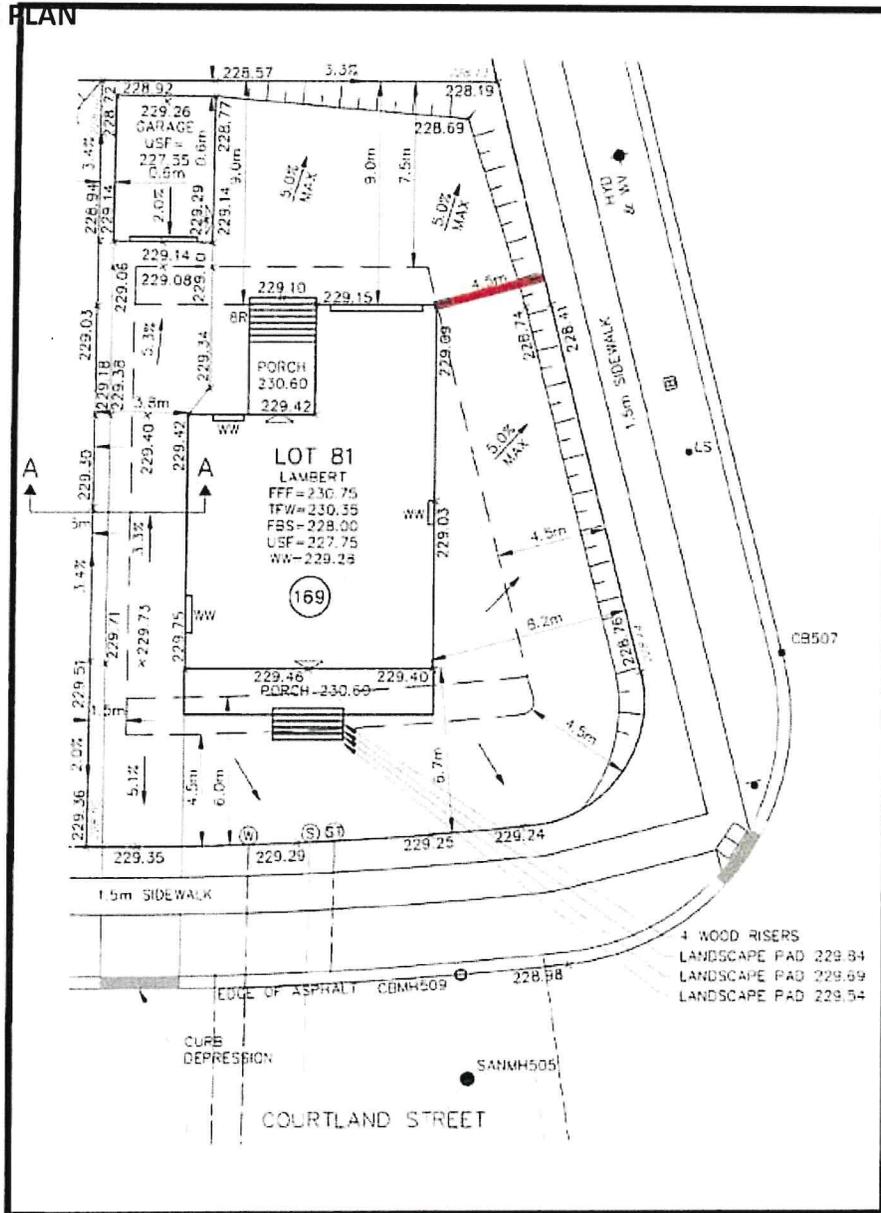
- 1) That the site development be constructed in a manner substantially in accordance with the submitted site sketch;
- 2) That this variance to the Zoning By-law is for the purpose of obtaining a building permit and is only valid for a period of two years from the date of decision. Should a building permit not be issued by the Town within two years, the variance shall expire on July 20, 2024.

REASON FOR DECISION:

The Committee is satisfied that the application meets the four tests for minor variance of S.45. (1) of the Planning Act, as noted in the Planning and Development Services Staff Report PDS.22.096.

The Committee received written and/or oral submissions before and/or during the hearing and have taken these submissions into consideration when making the decision.

APPLICANT'S SITE PLAN



Excerpt of Lot 81 Plot Plan (Tatham Engineering)



# Notice of Decision and Right to Appeal

**This is a notice about a decision of the Committee of Adjustment on Minor Variance Applications A38-2022 (Owner: Flynn)**

A certified copy of the Committee of Adjustment's decision is attached to this notice.

**If you disagree with this decision you may file an appeal with the Ontario Land Tribunal.** An appeal must include the required Appellant Form and the required Fees made out to the Minister of Finance. The Appellant Form must also set out the objection to the decision and the reasons in support of the objection.

The Appellant Form and fees must be delivered in person or by registered mail to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee of Adjustment:

Secretary-Treasurer  
Committee of Adjustment  
Town of The Blue Mountains  
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON, N0H 2P0

**The last date for filing an appeal is August 9, 2022, by 4:30 pm.**

More information about how to file an appeal, including the forms and fees, is available on the Ontario Land Tribunal website at <https://olt.gov.on.ca/>.

If there is an appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal, except where all appeals are withdrawn, a hearing will be held and notice will be given to the Applicant, the Appellant, the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee, and to anyone else as determined by the Ontario Land Tribunal.

If no appeal on this decision is received within twenty days of the decision, the decision of the Committee is final and binding. The Secretary-Treasurer will notify the Applicant and file a certified copy of the decision with the Clerk of the Town of The Blue Mountains.



Town of The Blue Mountains
Committee of Adjustment
Decision

In the matter of application for Minor Variance File No. A38-2022 to consider a variance to the Town of The Blue Mountains Comprehensive Zoning By-law 2018-65, as amended,

Date of Hearing: July 20, 2022
Property Location: 105 Plum Ridge Circle
Owner/ Applicant: Flynn

Purpose of Application:

The purpose of this application is to consider a request for minor variance to the provisions of Zoning By-law 2018-65 to permit the construction of a deck with a roof but is unenclosed to be setback 6.1 m from the rear lot line.

WE, the undersigned, in making the decision upon this application have considered whether or not the variance requested was minor and desirable for the appropriate development and use of land and that the general intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law and the Official Plan will be maintained, CONCUR in the following decision and reason(s) for decision:

DECISION:

THAT the Committee of Adjustment GRANT Minor Variance Application No. A38-2022 to permit the development of the lands in accordance with the site sketch.

Conditions and Reasons For Decision:

See Attached Schedule "A"



Robert B. Waind Bill Remus Peter Franklyn Jim Uram Jim Oliver
Chairman

Date of Decision: July 20, 2022

\*The last date for filing an appeal to the decision is August 9, 2022\*

CERTIFICATION

Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P13, Sec 45(10)

I, Kyra Dunlop, Secretary-Treasurer of the Town of The Blue Mountains Committee of Adjustment, certify that the above is a true copy of the decision of the committee with respect to the application recorded therein.



Signature of Secretary-Treasurer
Town of The Blue Mountains Committee of Adjustment
32 Mill Street East, Thornbury, Ont., N0H 2P0

Dated: July 20, 2022



Town of The Blue Mountains  
 Committee of Adjustment  
 Decision

- Schedule A -

CONDITIONS:

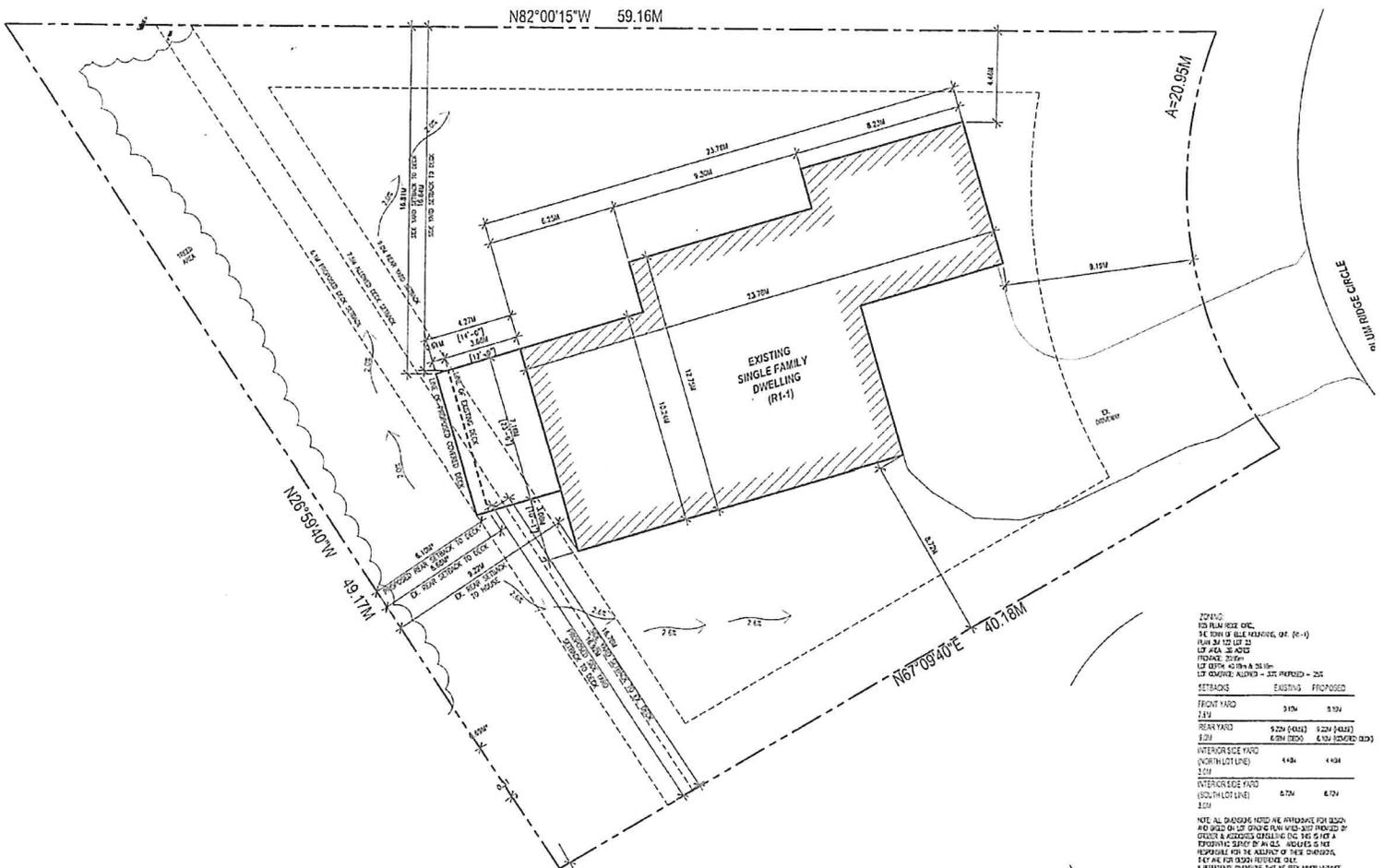
- 1) That the development be constructed in a manner substantially in accordance with the site sketch attached; and
- 2) This variance to the zoning by-law is for the purpose of obtaining a building permit and is only valid for a period of two (2) years from the date of decision. If a building permit has not been issued by the Town within two years, the variance shall expire on July 20, 2024.

REASON FOR DECISION:

The Committee is satisfied that the application meets the four tests for minor variance of S.45. (1) of the Planning Act, as noted in the Planning and Development Services Staff Report PDS.22.090.

The Committee received written and/or oral submissions before and/or during the hearing and have taken these submissions into consideration when making the decision.

APPLICANT'S SITE PLAN:





# Notice of Decision and Right to Appeal

**This is a notice about a decision of the Committee of Adjustment on Minor Variance Applications A39-2022 (Owner: Wilton & Guignard)**

A certified copy of the Committee of Adjustment's decision is attached to this notice.

**If you disagree with this decision you may file an appeal with the Ontario Land Tribunal.** An appeal must include the required Appellant Form and the required Fees made out to the Minister of Finance. The Appellant Form must also set out the objection to the decision and the reasons in support of the objection.

The Appellant Form and fees must be delivered in person or by registered mail to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee of Adjustment:

Secretary-Treasurer  
Committee of Adjustment  
Town of The Blue Mountains  
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON, N0H 2P0

**The last date for filing an appeal is August 9, 2022, by 4:30 pm.**

More information about how to file an appeal, including the forms and fees, is available on the Ontario Land Tribunal website at <https://olt.gov.on.ca/>.

If there is an appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal, except where all appeals are withdrawn, a hearing will be held and notice will be given to the Applicant, the Appellant, the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee, and to anyone else as determined by the Ontario Land Tribunal.

If no appeal on this decision is received within twenty days of the decision, the decision of the Committee is final and binding. The Secretary-Treasurer will notify the Applicant and file a certified copy of the decision with the Clerk of the Town of The Blue Mountains.



Town of The Blue Mountains  
Committee of Adjustment  
Decision

In the matter of application for Minor Variance File No. **A39-2022** to consider a variance to the Town of The Blue Mountains Comprehensive Zoning By-law 2018-65, as amended,

**Date of Hearing:** July 20, 2022  
**Property Location:** 117 Crestview Court  
**Owner/ Applicant:** Wilton & Guignard

**Purpose of Application:**

The purpose of this application is to consider a request for minor variance to the provisions of Zoning By-law 2018-65 to permit the construction of a deck that projects 3.61 metres into the rear yard and to permit an exterior staircase to project 5.2 metres into the rear yard.

WE, the undersigned, in making the decision upon this application have considered whether or not the variance requested was minor and desirable for the appropriate development and use of land and that the general intent and purpose of the Zoning By-law and the Official Plan will be maintained, **CONCUR** in the following decision and reason(s) for decision:

**DECISION:**

THAT the Committee of Adjustment **GRANT** Minor Variance Application No. A39-2022 to permit the development of the lands in accordance with the site sketch.

**Conditions and Reasons For Decision:**

**See Attached Schedule "A"**



Robert B. Waind      Bill Remus      Peter Franklyn      Jim Uram      Jim Oliver  
Chairman

**Date of Decision: July 20, 2022**

**\*The last date for filing an appeal to the decision is August 9, 2022\***

**CERTIFICATION**

Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P13, Sec 45(10)

I, Kyra Dunlop, Secretary-Treasurer of the Town of The Blue Mountains Committee of Adjustment, certify that the above is a true copy of the decision of the committee with respect to the application recorded therein.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Secretary-Treasurer  
Town of The Blue Mountains Committee of Adjustment  
32 Mill Street East, Thornbury, Ont., N0H 2P0

Dated: July 20, 2022



Town of The Blue Mountains  
Committee of Adjustment  
Decision

- Schedule A -

CONDITIONS:

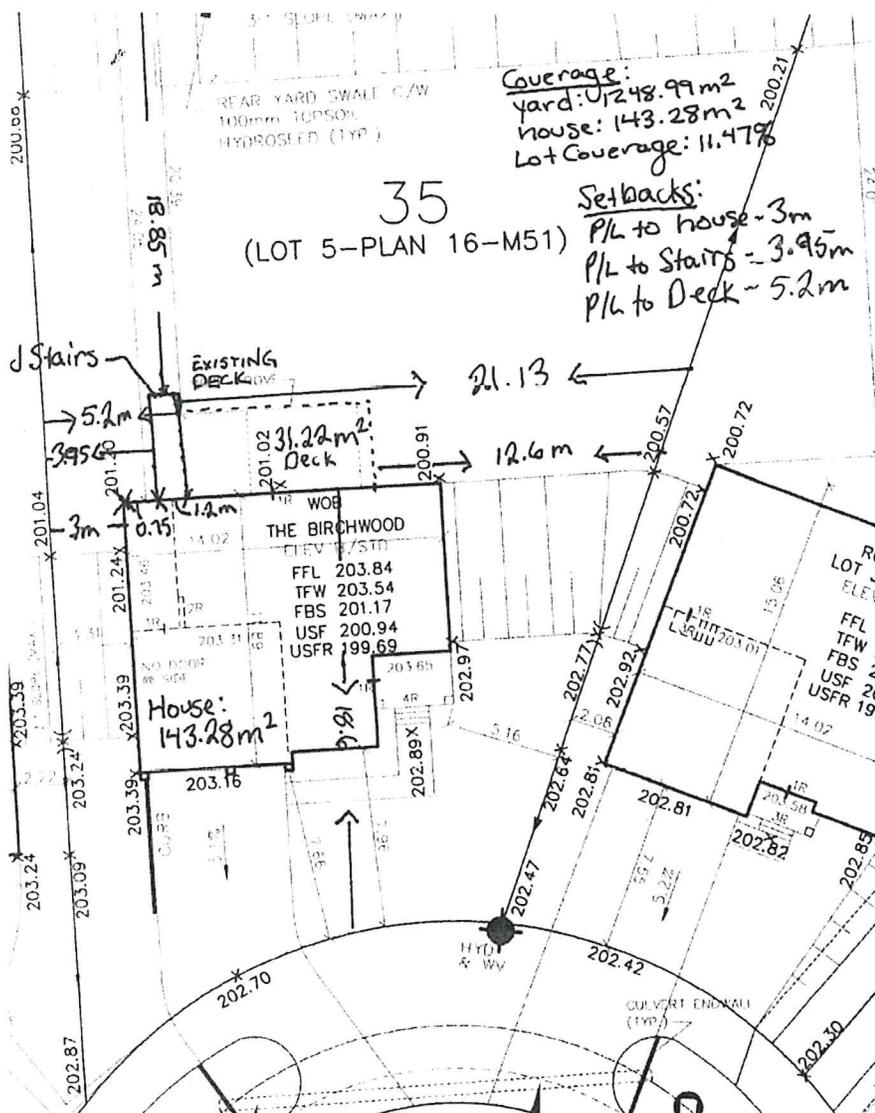
- 1) That the development be constructed in a manner substantially in accordance with the site sketch attached; and
- 2) This variance to the zoning by-law is for the purpose of obtaining a building permit and is only valid for a period of two (2) years from the date of decision. If a building permit has not been issued by the Town within two years, the variance shall expire on July 20, 2024.

REASON FOR DECISION:

The Committee is satisfied that the application meets the four tests for minor variance of S.45. (1) of the Planning Act, as noted in the Planning and Development Services Staff Report PDS.22.091.

The Committee received written and/or oral submissions before and/or during the hearing and have taken these submissions into consideration when making the decision.

APPLICANT'S SITE PLAN:





# Notice of Decision and Right to Appeal

**This is a notice about a decision of the Committee of Adjustment on Minor Variance Applications B09-2022 (Owner: Cundy)**

A certified copy of the Committee of Adjustment's decision is attached to this notice.

**If you disagree with this decision you may file an appeal with the Ontario Land Tribunal.** An appeal must include the required Appellant Form and the required Fees made out to the Minister of Finance. The Appellant Form must also set out the objection to the decision and the reasons in support of the objection.

The Appellant Form and fees must be delivered in person or by registered mail to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee of Adjustment:

Secretary-Treasurer  
Committee of Adjustment  
Town of The Blue Mountains  
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON, N0H 2P0

**The last date for filing an appeal is August 9, 2022, by 4:30 pm.**

More information about how to file an appeal, including the forms and fees, is available on the Ontario Land Tribunal website at <https://olt.gov.on.ca/>.

If there is an appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal, except where all appeals are withdrawn, a hearing will be held and notice will be given to the Applicant, the Appellant, the Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee, and to anyone else as determined by the Ontario Land Tribunal.

If no appeal on this decision is received within twenty days of the decision, the decision of the Committee is final and binding. The Secretary-Treasurer will notify the Applicant and file a certified copy of the decision with the Clerk of the Town of The Blue Mountains.



# The Corporation of the Town of The Blue Mountains

## Committee of Adjustment

### Decision on Consent Application File No. B09-2022

**Owners/Applicants:** Cundy

**Purpose / Effect:** The purpose and effect of this application is to sever a portion of the lands in order to add the severed portion to the neighbouring residential lot 120 Tyrol Avenue.

**Legal Description:** Plan 807 Lot 37

**Severed Parcel:** Frontage: 6.09 metres      Depth: 60.96 metres      Area: 371.61 sq metres

**Retained Parcel:** Frontage: 24.38 metres      Depth: 60.962 metres      Area: 1,486 sq metres

**Road Access:** Opened Tyrol Avenue

**Servicing:** Municipal Water and Private Septic System

**Decision:** Grant Provisional Consent

**Date of Decision:** July 20, 2022

In making the decision upon this application for Consent, the Committee of Adjustment of The Corporation of the Town of The Blue Mountains is satisfied that the proposed Consent Application complies with the intent and direction of the Provincial Policy Statement, County of Grey Official Plan and the Town of The Blue Mountains Official Plan and represents good planning.

**Notice:** The last date for appealing this decision or any of the conditions is: August 11, 2022

**If provisional consent is given, then the following conditions must be met by July 20, 2024 (two years of the Notice of Decision).**

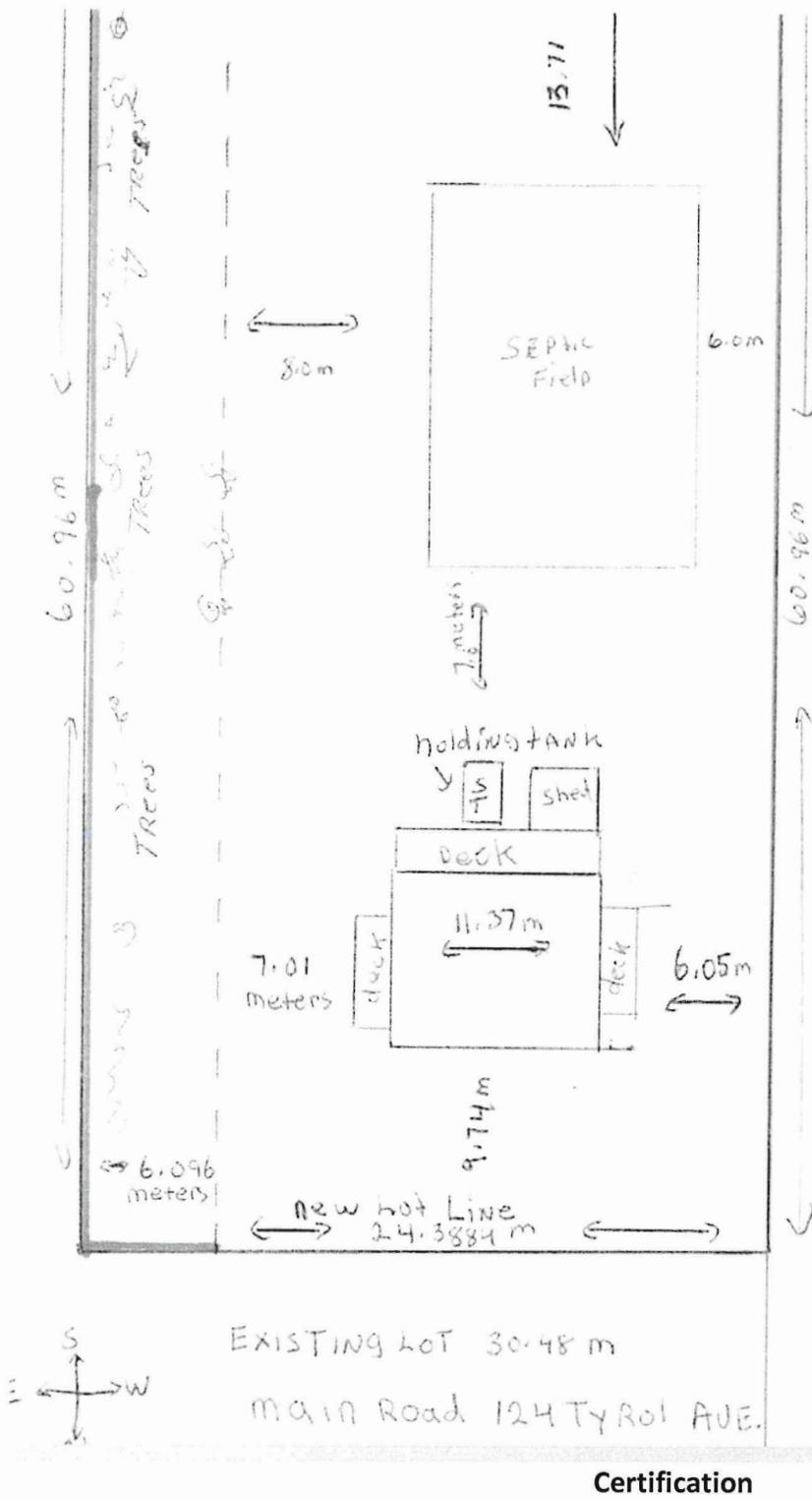
1. That the Applicant meets all the requirements of the Town, financial and otherwise, for the Certificate of Consent to be issued.
2. That the Owner provides a description of the land and deposited reference plan, which can be registered in the Land Registry Office.
3. That the severed and merged parcel be deeded as a lot addition to the abutting property 120 Tyrol Avenue, in accordance with Section 50(5) of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990;
4. That any mortgage on the property be discharged from any land being severed and merged and for any lands to be added to a lot with a mortgage, that any mortgage shall be extended onto additional lands.
5. That all above conditions be fulfilled within two years of the Notice of Decision so that the Certificate of Consent pursuant to Section 53(42) of the Planning Act, can be issued by the Town.



Robert B. Waind      Peter Franklyn      Bill Remus      Jim Uram      Jim Oliver

Dated: July 20, 2022

**Key Map - Severance Sketch**



Planning Act, R.S.O 1990, c. P.13, Sec 53(17) and 53(24), as amended

I, Kyra Dunlop, Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee of Adjustment of the Town of The Blue Mountains, certify that the above is a true copy of the decision of the Committee of Adjustment with respect to the application recorded therein.



Kyra Dunlop, Secretary-Treasurer  
 Committee of Adjustment  
 Town of The Blue Mountains

Dated: July 20, 2022



# Sign Variance Report

---

Committee of Adjustment

**Meeting Date:** July 20, 2022  
**Meeting Time:** 1:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Town Hall, Council Chambers  
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON

---

## Committee of Adjustment Sign Variance Recommendation

---

**NOTE:** The following is a recommendation from the Committee of Adjustment to be considered for adoption by Council

### E.1 Application No. PRSV20220000405

**Recommended** (Move second)

THAT Council of Town of The Blue Mountains acknowledges receipt of the July 20, 2022 Committee of Adjustment recommendations with respect to Sign Variance Application PRSV20220000405, as follows:

THAT the Committee of Adjustment RECOMMENDS to Council Sign Variance Application No. PRSV20220000405 to permit Banner Signs to be affixed to the structure continuously for a period of 3 years whereas the required time period for Banner Signs is 4 time periods per calendar year and shall not exceed 21 days at one time;

AND RECOMMENDS to Council to permit the signs to be 7.75 square metres whereas the requirement is 4 square metres;

AND RECOMMENDS to Council to permit the signs to be 5.8 metres from each other whereas the required minimum distance is 23 metres;

AND RECOMMENDS to Council to permit the Banner Signs to be 0.41 metres and 1.07 metres from a permanent sign whereas the minimum distance is 9.0 metres.

**Sent:** July 26, 2022 10:41 AM

**To:** Corrina Giles <[cgiles@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:cgiles@thebluemountains.ca)>

**Cc:** Maria Leung <[mleung@nvca.on.ca](mailto:mleung@nvca.on.ca)>; Andrea Matrosovs <[amatrosovs@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:amatrosovs@thebluemountains.ca)>

**Subject:** Blue Mountains NVCA 2021 Annual Report Supplement

Hi Corinna,

The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority has developed annual reports supplements for the Town of the Blue Mountains, and they are [here](#).

Please forward this to the councillors in the Town of the Blue Mountains and other appropriate staff.

For reference, here is our [full 2021 Annual Report](#).

Best regards,

Alicia

**Alicia Sharp (she/her/hers)**  
**Communications Assistant**

**Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority**

8195 8th Line, Utopia, ON L0M 1T0

T 705-424-1479

[asharp@nvca.on.ca](mailto:asharp@nvca.on.ca) | [nvca.on.ca](http://nvca.on.ca)



**Nottawasaga Valley**  
Conservation Authority



**2021**  
**Annual**  
**Report**

# Contents

<b>Message from Chair and CAO</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Watershed Safety</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>The Nottawasaga Watershed</b>	<b>6</b>	Mapping	30
Benefits of Having a Healthy Watershed	6	Improving Flood Resiliency, Naturally	30
Human Health	8	<b>Servicing Our Watershed Communities</b>	<b>32</b>
Economic Health	8	Educating Our Youth	32
Ecological Health	8	Teaching Hope in Climate Change	33
<b>Our Natural Heritage</b>	<b>10</b>	Our Conservation Areas	35
Wetlands	11	Providing Nature Spaces for Our Communities	35
Assessing Our Wetlands to Protect Our Wetlands	12	New Infrastructure at Utopia Conservation Area	36
Ecological Net Gains	13	New Parking Lot for Petun Conservation Area	37
Native Grasslands	14	Festivals Canada Funding	39
Planting Trees to Make Up for Losses	14	<b>Support</b>	<b>40</b>
Lymantria Dispar Dispar (LDD)	15	Excellent Customer Service	40
Emerald Ash Borers	15	Budget Review	40
<b>Science</b>	<b>16</b>	Switch to Hybrid Working	40
<b>Partnerships</b>	<b>18</b>	Retrained Staff Accessibility	41
Working With Our Partner Municipalities	19	IT Security	41
Permits and Regulation	19	<b>Revenues and Expenses</b>	<b>42</b>
Planning	19	<b>NVCA Staff</b>	<b>43</b>
Stormwater	20		
Pretty River Dyke	21		
Working With Education Partners	22		
Great Lakes Virtual Field Trip	23		
Microplastics in Our Great Lakes	23		
Working With Our Stewardship Funders and Supporters	24		
Petun Dam	24		
Nottawasaga River Restoration Program	26		
Phragmites Control	28		
Working With Volunteers	29		
Planting in Conservation Areas and Other Public Places	29		



## Our Vision

A sustainable watershed that is resilient to the effects of climate change, urban growth and other stressors and provides for safe, healthy and prosperous people and communities.

## Our Mission

Working together to deliver innovative, integrated watershed management that is responsive to the environmental, economic and social sustainability of the Nottawasaga Watershed.

## What We Value

An abundance of clean water, clean air and fertile soils that provide for healthy people and ecosystems.

Natural heritage systems and the ecosystem services they provide, particularly as they support resilience to the effects of a changing climate.

Distinctive landforms and waterways including the Georgian Bay coastline, Niagara Escarpment, Minesing Wetlands and others that give our watershed a unique sense of place.

Quality recreational opportunities that our hills, forests, meadows, wetlands, waterways and coastline provide for residents and tourists alike.

A wealth of resources within the capacity of our watershed to provide for thriving communities, successful economies and sustainable agriculture, now and in the future.

## Message from Chair and CAO

It is safe to say that we have had an incredible 2021. We have started to implement changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act (CA Act)* while at the same time, continuing on the path on the 20-year Integrated Watershed Management Plan.

There is much to be proud of across our watershed. Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) staff worked hard to protect lives and properties from the risk of flooding and erosion. They were dedicated to creating resilient habitats and strived to maintain high quality recreational opportunities for visitors inside and outside our watershed. Our next generation is blessed to have devoted educators who show them the importance of protecting our environment. And this was all accomplished under the pressure of climate change, urbanization and many other stressors. The passion and commitment of our professional staff cannot be surpassed.

All of this would not have been possible without the support of our watershed municipalities as well as our dedicated Board Members, federal and provincial governments, foundations, private businesses and volunteers. Of course, we give thanks to the local residents who provide their lands, and often dollars, to help restore the environment in our watershed.

We are pleased to highlight our work in this 2021 NVCA Annual Report and we look forward to continued progress in 2022 as we work collaboratively to meet the changes to the *CA Act*.



Mariane McLeod  
Chair



Doug Hevenor  
Chief Administrative Officer

# The Nottawasaga Watershed

The NVCA jurisdiction is 3,600 km<sup>2</sup> and spans from Wasaga Beach in the northeast to Moonstone and Bass Lake, south through Barrie and Bond Head to Highway 9, west to Orangeville then heading north through Collingwood to Nottawasaga Bay. It consists of the Nottawasaga Watershed, the Blue Mountain subwatershed and the Severn Sound Tributary headwaters.

The Nottawasaga Watershed is shaped like a bowl. The rim, or the highest areas of the watershed, are the Niagara Escarpment (a World Biosphere Reserve) to the west, the Oak Ridges Moraine to the south, and the Oro Moraine to the east. The Simcoe Lowlands lie at the bottom of the bowl in the north where the Nottawasaga River flows into Georgian Bay at Wasaga Beach.

The Blue Mountain Watershed encompass approximately 222 km<sup>2</sup>. Here, four rivers form above the Niagara Escarpment, and flow directly into Nottawasaga Bay along the Town of Collingwood shoreline.

## Benefits of Having a Healthy Watershed

Our watershed is home to approximately 200,000 people and thousands of farms and businesses. A healthy watershed helps protect and enhance our lives in many different ways.

Developing in a watershed sustainably requires a well thought out plan. NVCA and its partner municipalities work together to manage human activities and natural resources on a watershed-wide basis while considering social, economic and environmental issues.



## Human Health

Our well-being depends on a healthy watershed. For example, healthy streams provide clean water for drinking and cooking, agricultural irrigation, waste water dilution, and recreational enjoyment.

When we spend time outside, we look for clean rivers, lush forests and areas with abundant wildlife. Activities like exercising, fishing, boating, hiking and bird watching are best enjoyed in these healthy environments. A healthy Nottawasaga Watershed also provides habitat for countless wildlife as well as prized sports fish such as trout, salmon, walleye, pike and bass.

## Economic Health

Local economies are strongly tied to a healthy watershed.

Agriculture is the economic engine of the Nottawasaga Watershed and relies on clean water for irrigation as well as healthy soils and pollinators.

Urban areas also rely on healthy environments as it provides neighbourhoods with access to greenspaces. Our rivers also receive and dilute waste from wastewater treatment plants.

Our strong tourism industry depends on a healthy environment. For example, the Nottawasaga River hosts one of Georgian Bay's largest salmon runs. Wasaga Beach, the world's longest fresh water beach is also situated in the watershed.

## Ecological Health

The composition of local plants, animals and their surrounding environment is fundamentally linked to the health of the watershed. Local environments are interconnected and rely on each other. If one or more of these pieces become unhealthy, the entire system can suffer, and affect our health as well as the economy. Healthy ecosystems and species diversity can also increase resiliency to climate change.

For example, rivers and streams and their surrounding environments help link natural areas across the watershed and are an important part of natural heritage systems. When rivers and streams flood, it helps fertilize the soil and disperse seeds from native plants, greatly benefiting land animals and landscapes. River systems help with nutrient management and flood attenuation.



## Our Natural Heritage

Natural heritage features include woodlands, wetlands, watercourses and the plant and animal life that live within them. When linked together, natural heritage features form natural heritage systems

Together, these systems provide important ecosystem services that support our health, economy and community sustainability, including resiliency in the face of climate change.

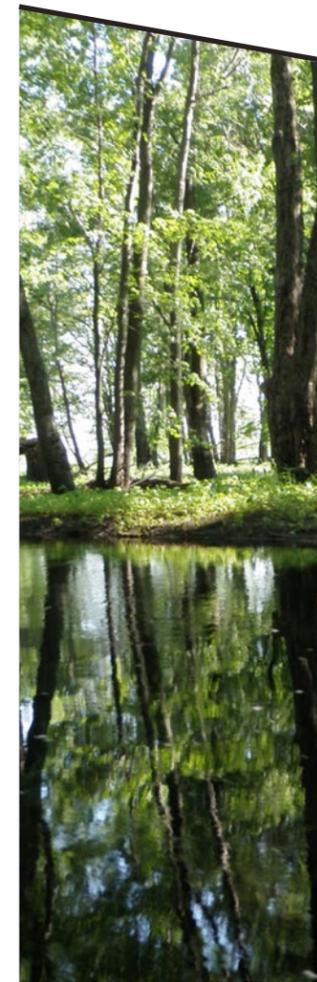
The Nottawasaga Watershed contains 38 areas of Natural and Scientific interest, and 20 Areas of Earth Science interest. These provincially designated areas include Niagara Escarpment and Oak Ridges Moraine. A lesser known but significant corridor connects the Niagara Escarpment to the Canadian Shield. It passes through the Nottawasaga Watershed and is made up of a system of watercourses, wetlands and forests extending from the Niagara Escarpment northeast through Minesing Wetlands to the Canadian Shield in Severn Township.

## Wetlands

NVCA's jurisdiction contains more than 4,000 individual wetlands that are greater than 0.1 hectares. Whether they are large or small, wetlands directly and indirectly provide invaluable natural services for landowners, businesses, and numerous other stakeholders. This includes maintaining healthy drinking water, providing recreational opportunities, and ensuring that native plants and wildlife have the necessary space to thrive.

Wetlands are also very important for flood control, water filtering, groundwater recharge and discharge and wildlife habitat. When there is a lot of rain or snowmelt, wetlands absorb and slow floodwaters, which helps to alleviate property damage and can even save lives. In the face of climate change, these wetlands are ever more important as we experience more extreme storm events.

NVCA is mandated to regulate all wetlands and has developed internal policies that provide guidance for how these wetlands should be protected or conserved.



## Assessing Our Wetlands to Protect Our Wetlands

As the Nottawasaga Watershed becomes more developed, it becomes more important to understand our wetlands. In 2021, NVCA's Watershed Science team completed the NVCA Watershed Wetland Evaluation and Prioritization Report.

The report identified a total of 3,333 Provincial Significant Wetlands (PSW), 34 evaluated non-PSWs and 80 unevaluated wetland complexes. With this information, future wetland evaluation efforts can be prioritized accordingly.

Under the *CA Act*, development must be located at least 30 m away from wetlands to ensure the long-term protection and enhancement of these features.

## Ecological Net Gains

NVCA is responsible for conserving, restoring, developing, and managing the watershed's natural resources. Population growth, and resulting urbanization, presents a challenge for the protection and enhancement of wetlands throughout the watershed.

In 2021, NVCA's Planning Services team developed the *Achieving Net Gains Through Ecological Offsetting Guidelines* to address ongoing loss of wetlands and other ecological features in the watershed.

These guidelines aim to ensure that further losses of regulated natural heritage features within the Nottawasaga Watershed are highly limited, and where appropriate, met with equal or greater gains in area, value, and function.

It's important to note that by instituting a formal offsetting policy, NVCA is not promoting or supporting an increase in removal of wetlands and associated natural features throughout the watershed, but rather to overcome challenges to ensure high quality water resources are available for generations to come.





## Native Grasslands

In Southern Ontario, native grasslands once covered more than 400,000 hectares of land. Today, less than 3% remain.

This puts species that depend on them, like the Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark, at risk.

In 2021, NVCA started eight projects covering over 82.9 hectares with farmers, rural landowners, volunteers and the Nature Conservancy of Canada to help restore some of these grasslands and enhance hay and pasture management.

This work was made possible thanks to funding from Forests Ontario's Grassland Initiative, World Wildlife Canada, Environment Canada and Nature Conservancy Canada.

## Planting Trees to Make Up for Losses

In recent years, trees in the Nottawasaga Watershed have become increasingly threatened by invasive species such as emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis* *Farmaire*) and *Lymantria dispar* *dispar* (LDD), formerly known as European Gypsy Moth.

## LDD Moths

LDD is a non-native, invasive species from Asia that was introduced to Massachusetts in the 1860s. These moths spread to Ontario in 1969. LDD caterpillars feed on deciduous trees, including oaks, poplars and birches, but will also consume conifers if there are no alternatives available.

LDD populations are cyclical, peaking after 7-10 years then crashing from parasites or fungus. Although they are not harmful to people, high concentrations of the caterpillars will defoliate trees. A healthy tree will likely survive, however young, newly planted or trees that were already stressed by other factors may not bounce back as easily from the defoliation.

In 2021, LDD impacted NVCA's planting sites by stressing and sometimes killing the trees that were planted. The population of LDD was predicted to peak in 2021. If true, their population will slowly decrease over the next few years, until there is a natural crash in their population. When populations of LDD are very high, the only way to manage trees is to patiently wait for the population to crash.

## Emerald Ash Borers

In recent years, the emerald ash borer has killed thousands of ash trees across the watershed.

Travelling all the way from Asia, the emerald ash borer was first observed in an Ontario ash tree in 2002. Over a very short amount of time, this small forest pest had managed to cause great economic and environmental destruction.

Infestations of emerald ash borer can occur in both stressed and healthy ash trees. Once this system is disturbed by emerald ash borer larvae, the affected ash tree will die.

The spreading of the emerald ash borer is of high concern because it affects all forests and residential areas in the watershed, including the ash-dominated wetlands in Collingwood and Wasaga Beach and the internationally significant Minesing Wetlands.

To compensate for this NVCA's forestry and stewardship programs planted over 100,000 trees in 2021 to help compensate for the loss of tree canopy from the emerald ash borer.



By monitoring surface water quality, groundwater and natural heritage, NVCA's Watershed Science team can identify stressors and their impacts on the local environment. This information can shape land use planning and policy decisions, and can measure the effectiveness of environmental restoration projects or the impacts of new development.

To fully understand the health of the watershed, NVCA monitors for specific attributes that can tell a strong story about the impacts on the local environment.



Water chemistry sampling provides a snapshot of the quality of rivers at the time the sample was taken. It allows for the direct comparison of results to Provincial Water Quality Objectives. However, water chemistry alone does not provide enough information about the state of the river, or how to repair degraded sections. That's where monitoring other attributes - benthic macroinvertebrates (small aquatic animals that can be seen with the naked eye and have no backbone), stream temperature and flow, as well as fish come in.

Natural heritage monitoring includes formal breeding bird surveys in forest and marsh wetland settings as well as informal monitoring of other plants and animals.

Combined, this information helps NVCA understand the human impacts on our streams and rivers. For example, impacts of development, agriculture and industry, as well as the benefits of environmental restoration.

In 2021, the Watershed Science team undertook a critical review of the watershed monitoring program to ensure all aspects of the program continue to be cost-effective and focused on directly supporting the goals of NVCA and its municipal partners.

# Partnerships

NVCA manages our watershed sustainably so that it is resilient to climate change, urban growth and other stressors. But we cannot do this alone.

We must work together with our municipalities, communities, funders and stakeholders to deliver innovative, integrated watershed management that is responsive to the environmental, economic and social sustainability of the Nottawasaga Watershed.

## Working With Our Partner Municipalities

### Permits and Regulation

Property owners looking to develop in areas with natural hazards associated with rivers, streams and wetlands, and shorelines must apply for a permit from NVCA. Similar to municipal permits such as a building permit or a site alteration permit, this permit is one of the applicable law approvals needed prior to issuance of a building permit.

NVCA's Regulation team works closely with municipal partners to ensure proper permits are in place prior to development to avoid the loss of life and damage to property due to flooding and erosion, and conserve and enhance natural resources.

In the case of non-compliances, NVCA works with municipalities to investigate the case, which may result a request for include site restoration and potential court action.

### Planning

As experts in natural hazards and plant and animal communities in the Nottawasaga Watershed, NVCA's Planning Services team works closely with municipalities, developers and consultants to find a balance between development and preserving natural environment while protecting lives and property from natural hazards.

This work begins early in the development planning process. NVCA's engineers, ecologists and groundwater specialists review the proposed development plan to identify potential risks and environmental features that may be impacted by the development. This information is communicated to developers and municipalities, and may include requests for supplementary information such as environmental impact studies, natural hazard studies and stormwater management studies.

NVCA establishes annual partnership agreements with municipalities to identify key roles and services in the development plan review process. Examples include expertise in flooding, erosion, stormwater management, natural heritage and groundwater. The partnership agreements help ensure that development application reviews are coordinated and streamlined.

## Stormwater

Soil in natural areas or farmland absorbs rainfall and snowmelt and slowly releases it into rivers and streams, helping to create a constant, permanent flow of water. As the Nottawasaga Watershed becomes more urbanized, more hard surfaces (such as pavements) are created.

It becomes harder for water to infiltrate into soil, causing large volumes of stormwater to flow into streams and rivers at a fast pace. Often, this creates erosion and flooding. The permanent flow of water entering rivers and streams from underground springs will also decrease. Going unchecked, stormwater runoff can result in contaminants (oil, pesticides, metal) going into streams and rivers.

As all streams and rivers in a watershed are connected, Ontario's legislation promotes the management of stormwater using a watershed-wide approach.

Municipalities are responsible for the management of stormwater, such as planning, design, building and the maintenance of stormwater facilities. These facilities include stormwater management ponds and various Low Impact Development techniques.

NVCA collaborates with municipalities during the development process to help ensure that stormwater meets provincial standards that ensure the protection and enhancement of our wetlands, watercourses, Georgian Bay shoreline and wildlife habitat.



## Pretty River Dyke

In 2021, NVCA and the Town of Collingwood started the Pretty River Dyke Maintenance Project.

The Town of Collingwood was built on a shallow floodplain, making it prone to flooding. The Pretty River Dyke was built in the 1970s to reduce the risk of flooding in the urban areas of Collingwood. While considering the ecological functions of the corridor, vegetation growing along the sides of the dyke must be removed from time to time to ensure its full functionality.

NVCA and the Town of Collingwood produced a public education campaign to inform residents about the project and why removing vegetation was necessary. It included a mailout of letters and brochures to all town residents as well as two virtual public question and answer sessions.

## Working With Education Partners

Developed through years of passion and experience, NVCA's education program has proven to be a valuable asset to educate youth about our natural environment. In 2021, six new programs were created with external organizations to offer even better learning opportunities to the future generations in our watershed. Two of these programs are the Great Lakes Virtual Field Trip and a microplastics program in Collingwood.



### Great Lakes Virtual Field Trip

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks approached NVCA and four other environmental organizations across Ontario to create a virtual field trip about the Great Lake closest to each organization. As rivers and streams in the Nottawasaga Watershed flow into Lake Huron and Georgian Bay, it was the focal point for the Education team.

This collaboration was enriched with the help of experts such as indigenous peoples, museum curators, scientists, and NVCA staff to speak to students about how lucky we are in Ontario to have this precious resource, and the work that is being done to care and protect our Great Lakes.

### Microplastics in Our Great Lakes

All over the world, including in the Nottawasaga Watershed, hundreds of thousands of microfibrils go down the drain after a cycle in the washing machine. Many are too small to be captured by wastewater treatment plants and end up in our streams, lakes and finally into Georgian Bay.

With generous funding from Georgian Bay Forever, NVCA delivered a free microplastics program for students in the Town of Collingwood. The program aims to take 400 students per year to the Georgian Bay lakeshore or other areas where water collects in their community to understand how water moves through the water cycle and across the land. Students will then take sand soil samples from a beach in Collingwood and a beach in Wasaga Beach, and peer through microscopes lens to find microplastics in the samples.

## Working With Our Stewardship Funders and Supporters

### Petun Dam

The Petun Dam Removal Project is complete! In 2020, the Petun Dam was removed to help return Black Ash Creek to its original condition. This year, staff and volunteers applied finishing touches, such as planting trees, installing live dogwood stakes and constructing in-stream habitat.

Historically, water trapped behind the dam created a 100-metre long stagnant pond, causing summer stream downstream temperatures to increase by 7°C. Not only was the dam a flood risk to communities downstream but it also degraded fish and wildlife habitat.

This project was generously funded and supported by Bruce Power, Greenbelt Foundation, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Blue Mountain Watershed Trust, Georgian Triangle Angler's Association, Nottawasaga Steelheaders, Lake Huron-Georgian Bay Watershed Community Action Initiative, Enbridge, the Town of the Blue Mountains, Rumball Excavation, the Province of Ontario and the H. John McDonald Foundation.





## **Nottawasaga River Restoration Program**

Sports fisheries provide important economic benefits for many municipalities in the Nottawasaga Watershed. For example, summer Chinook salmon fishing is extremely popular in the Town of Collingwood and Town of Wasaga Beach. In the fall, many anglers fish for Chinook salmon and rainbow trout in the Township of Essa.

The Nottawasaga River is also home to native species such as brook trout and river burbot, as well as two species at risk: lake sturgeon and northern brook lamprey. All of these fish rely on healthy waterways to thrive.

The Nottawasaga River Restoration Program (NRRP) is a stream restoration initiative coordinated by NVCA and Nottawasaga Futures – South Simcoe Streams Network. The program aims to improving the water quality in the Nottawasaga River in order to enhance the world class trout and salmon sport fishery, as well as restore native fish habitat.

Restoration efforts begin in the Upper Nottawasaga River, downstream from the Village of Hockley where excellent water quality from the Niagara Escarpment deteriorates quickly. This is caused by soil and nutrients released from eroding river banks and surrounding lands. Summer stream temperatures also rise quickly as there are no forests providing shade to the stream.

Together, all of these factors degrade the habitat for sports fisheries in the Nottawasaga River.

Thanks to funding and support from many partners, NVCA's Stewardship team and volunteers planted native trees and shrubs along the river, stabilized eroding streambanks, constructed woody instream cover habitats, re-created floodplain habitats, enhanced wetlands and worked with local landowners to install livestock exclusion fencing.

These achievements were made possible through support from local landowners, volunteers, Nottawasaga Steelheaders, Mono Headwaters Streams Committee, Headwaters Flyfishers, Township of Adjala Tosorontio and the Town of Mono.

The NRRP is funded by Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Patagonia-Tides Foundation, Bass Pro Shops – Cabelas Outdoor Fund, H. John McDonald Foundation, Takla Foundation, Somerville Nurseries and Rumball Excavation.

Thanks to the H. John McDonald Foundation, NVCA began to collect information about the Pine River to determine if the methods used for the Upper Nottawasaga River could be applied to restore sections of the Pine River in Township of Mulmur.

## Phragmites Control

*Phragmites australis* (European Common Reed) is an invasive perennial grass that is spreading rapidly throughout Ontario causing severe impacts in our communities and ecosystems.

It forms thick stands that choke out native vegetation. It limits shoreline access, impeding recreational activities like swimming and boating, and degrading shoreline ecosystems. This tall grass spreads rapidly and can take over wetlands harming turtle, bird and native plant habitat. It is most easily managed when stands are small or still establishing.

Since 2014, NVCA has been working with the Town of Collingwood, Blue Mountain Watershed Trust, Georgian Bay Forever and community groups in the Silver Creek Wetland Complex to remove *Phragmites* in an effort to control the spread of this invasive plant. After pausing in 2020 due to COVID-19, NVCA staff and community volunteer groups got together again in 2021 and removed over 1,190 kg of *Phragmites* from the Collingwood shoreline and nearby watercourses and wetlands.



## Working With Volunteers

In 2021, stewardship staff worked with funders and partners to purchase and plant over 9,900 native trees and shrubs along streams, wetlands and in parks.

Typically, over 2,000 volunteers and landowners help with habitat and water quality projects. COVID-19 lockdowns prevented them from helping during the intense spring planting season which presented some challenges. Thanks to some charitable donations and funders, NVCA hired hand planters to ensure the trees were not wasted. Individual landowners also stepped up and planted them beside streams with their families.

Finally, with restrictions lifted in the fall, over 250 volunteers were able to participate in our fall tree planting events.

Funding for these projects was generously donated by Environment and Climate Change Canada, Forest Ontario, Nature Conservancy Canada, TD Friends of the Environment, World Wildlife Fund, Trillium Foundation, Somerville Tree Nursery, and many more.

## Planting in Conservation Areas and Other Public Places

With so many people enjoying getting outside into local parks and trails, NVCA completed stewardship projects to give back to the natural areas we enjoy.

This year, staff completed a wide variety of habitat restoration projects including establishing forest, wetland, stream, grassland and pollinator patches. This was possible thanks to the many volunteers and funding partners that made this possible!

The Township of Essa's Healthy Communities Committee teamed up with NVCA's Stewardship team to create a pollinator patch to enhance the park and support native pollinators at LeClair Park in Angus.

Other projects were completed in the Utopia Conservation Area, Petun Conservation Area, Edenvale Conservation Area, Stayner EcoPark, Minesing Wetlands Conservation Area, Tottenham Conservation Area and Dunsmore Park in Barrie.

## Mapping

Thanks to partnerships with our municipalities, NVCA's Information Services & Technology team obtained higher resolution topographic data and refined flood hazard limits for select areas. Updates also incorporated flood studies, natural features inventory, and assembling a land use layer for modeling. With these updates, NVCA was able to provide technical recommendation to our municipal partners such as the Town of Collingwood for the Pretty River Dyke maintenance project.

## Improving Flood Resiliency, Naturally

In addition to reducing flood risks through planning and regulations, another important tool is enhancing our forests, wetlands and grasslands.

These natural areas allow water to soak directly into the ground to replenish groundwater, instead of flowing directly into streams and rivers. Restoring stream and riverbanks reduces erosion as the roots of the vegetation stabilizes the soil.

Forests also help provide drought resilience. As the snow melts in the spring, the snow under the trees will take longer to melt, reducing the storm peak.

NVCA's Healthy Waters Program also helps farmers increase flood resiliency through providing technical advice and grant incentives.



## Servicing Our Watershed Communities

### Educating Our Youth

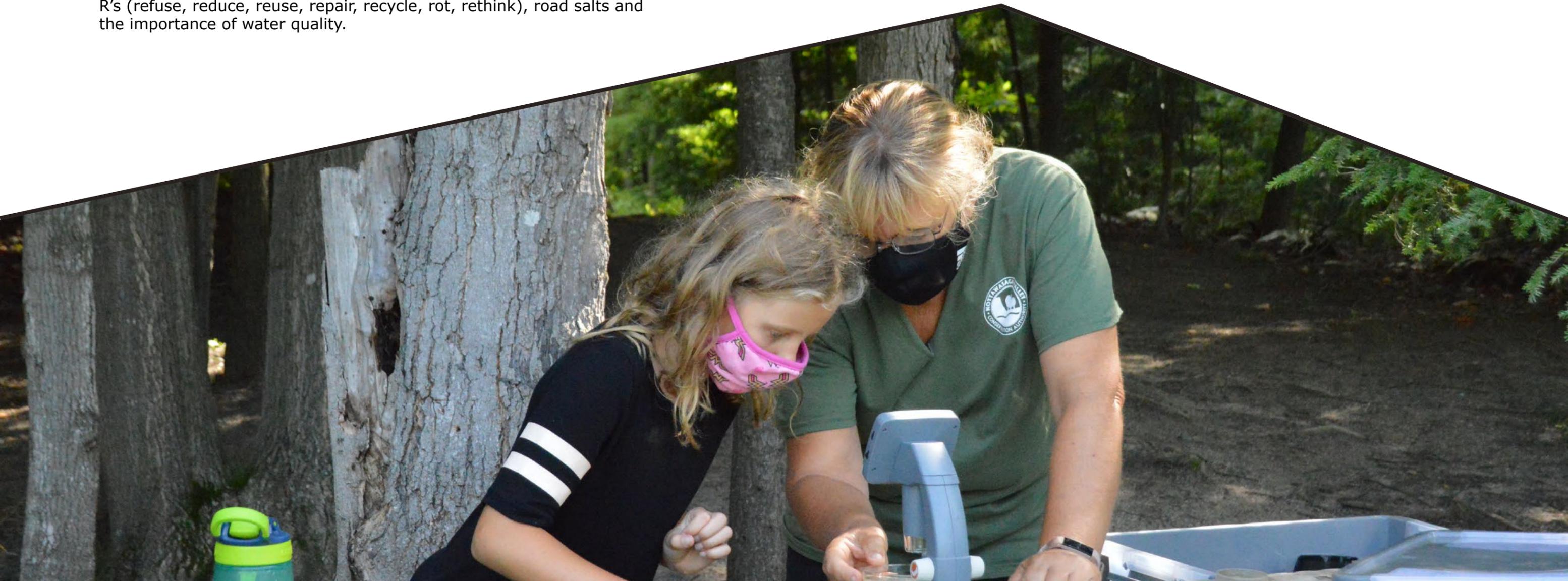
Each year, NVCA educates our youth about the wonders of nature and the environment in our watershed. These topics are often discussed among family members at home, inspiring families and communities to make change.

In 2021, some the topics that were introduced to youth include the 7 R's (refuse, reduce, reuse, repair, recycle, rot, rethink), road salts and the importance of water quality.

### Teaching Hope in Climate Change

Targeted towards youth in Grades 4-8, NVCA's Education team developed a new climate change program. Through using games and technology, students will learn about what climate change is and how they and their families can make better choices to create change. As eco-anxiety is as prevalent as ever, program content will focus on the positive work that humans have done and will continue to do to make change.

This program is built on the current green energy education program. With tablets generously donated by Enbridge, students scan QR codes to launch videos about how green energy can help reduce climate change. Staff made new videos to highlight other features at the Tiffin Centre for Education, such as wetlands, and talk about the roles of those areas in climate change.





## **Our Conservation Areas**

Outdoor spaces provide many benefits for humans, including the ability to reduce symptoms of stress, anxiety, depression, and attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder. Regular use of natural areas for physical activity can reduce the risk of mental health problems by 50%.

The benefits of walking or running in a natural setting compared to indoors include greater sense of revitalization and positive engagement, decreased tension, confusion, anger, and depression, increased energy, and a greater intent to repeat the activity.

## **Providing Nature Spaces for Our Communities**

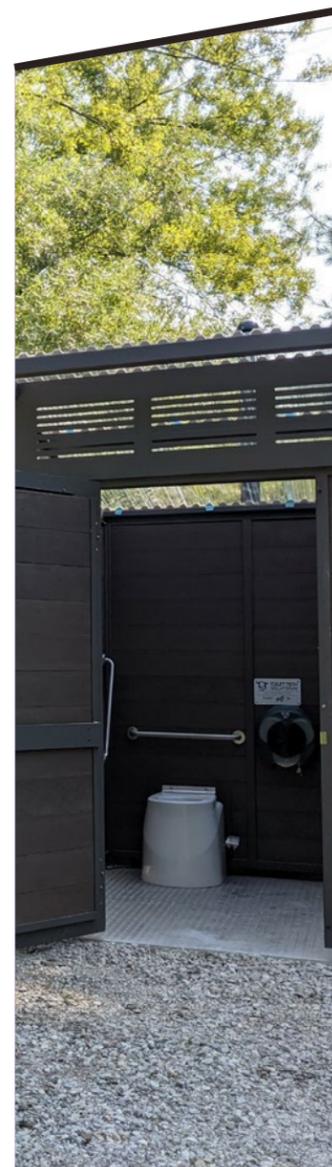
Visitors to NVCA's conservation areas have been increasing every year, but visitor numbers exploded in 2020 when many other activities were not available to the public due to the pandemic. Usage continued to grow in 2021, however, it was the sale of annual parking passes that saw the most significant increase, doubling annually since 2019. This is an indication that visitors value and enjoy the experiences provided by NVCA's conservation areas and recognize the value these greenspaces provide.

## New Infrastructure at Utopia Conservation Area

With funding support from the Ontario Trillium Foundation and extensive community fundraising by the Friends of the Utopia Gristmill and Park, accessible, compostable washrooms were installed to compliment the newly resurfaced accessible hiking trails. Interpretive signs were installed along the trail system to highlight the natural features and history of the property.

A new parking lot is available for visitors for passive recreation, like hiking, bird watching or cross-country skiing.

Fundraising efforts are ongoing to continue with the implementation of the 2020 Utopia Master Plan.



## New Parking Lot for Petun Conservation Area

The Petun Conservation Area may be located in the far, western reaches of the Nottawasaga Watershed, but that doesn't mean the property is any less important than NVCA's more central properties.

The Petun Conservation Area is one of the highest points along the Niagara Escarpment and part of the Bruce Trail transects its hills and forests. The property also supports an externally managed, seismic monitoring station that measures ground motion which can determine location and magnitude of earthquakes.

The increase of visitors noted at all of NVCA's conservation areas, was particularly pronounced at the Petun Conservation Area. In partnership with the Bruce Trail, Georgian Triangle Anglers Association and the Town of the Blue Mountains, NVCA developed year-round parking to accommodate passive recreational visitors. This project will improve the safety of visitors to the site, allowing them to park within the property boundaries and off the road.





## Festivals Canada Funding

Every year, the Festival at Fort Willow welcomes Grade 7 students from across the watershed to learn how the Historic Fort Willow Conservation Area was used before, during and after the war of 1812. For the second year in a row, this annual festival was cancelled.

With support from Local Festivals, a grant through the Federal government, NVCA's Lands and Communications teams recreated the festival and bringing it to students through a virtual field trip. Reenactors, local experts, indigenous representatives and an archeologist provided curriculum-based information that would otherwise have been provided at the festival.

The interactive video will be provided to the Simcoe County District School Board, the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic School Board and Bluewater District School Board.

## Excellent Customer Service

Although most staff continued to work remotely in the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, NVCA continued to provide excellent customer service to our watershed residents.

The Information Management team was able to meet the needs of staff allowing access to centralized information to carry out CA business. The databases and application built over the years provided easy transition to remote working. NVCA's new phone system, with collaborative tools, staff was able to maintain good communication with our partners, the public, and co-workers.

## Budget Review

In anticipation of the changes to the *CA Act*, regulations and the move towards categorizing the work of conservation authorities, the Finance team completed a preliminary review of the budget to determine how NVCA may be impacted.

This involved going through many spreadsheets line by line, as well as creating a new potential platform for future budgets as new regulations are approved.

## Switch to Hybrid Working

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, NVCA was facing increasing pressure to construct a new building to accommodate the growing number of staff. As remote working proved to be a good alternative, staff will be transitioning to a hybrid working model, working from the office and remotely.

NVCA's Management team reorganized the John Hix Administration Building to accommodate shared offices and hoteling stations, preventing the construction of a new building.



## Retrained Staff Accessibility

NVCA continues to be committed to identify, prevent and remove barriers that may limit access to our services, facilities and information. We are dedicated to creating a sustainable culture that continues to facilitate inclusive environments for continued success.

All NVCA staff received mandatory accessibility training for documents that are posted to websites to ensure that they are accessible for people using assistive technologies such as screen readers.

## IT Security

Protecting interest of the public and our staff, the Information Management team incorporated additional security practices to NVCA's data and back-up data centre. NVCA implemented industry standards for cyber threats, additional securities on network access, and were able to migrate our data to a new back-up data server.

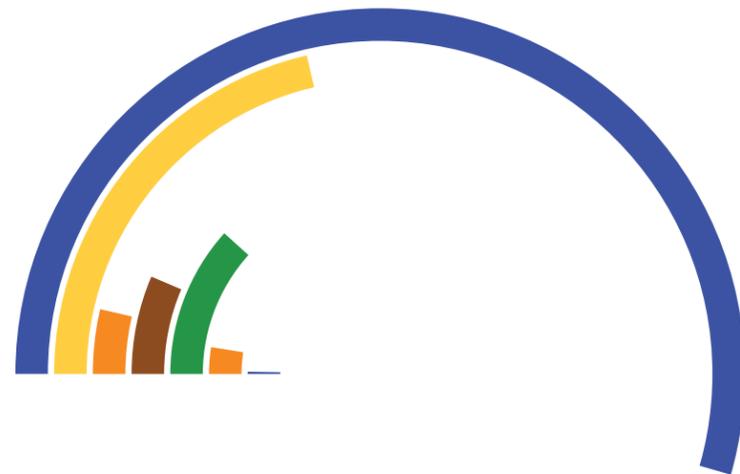
## Revenues and Expenses

NVCA's total 2021 operational budget was \$4,949,422. Revenue came from diverse sources, including member municipalities, provincial and federal governments, local non-governmental partners, and user fees for programs and services and the NVCA ended the year with revenue at 5,104,491. Operational expenses for the year came in at \$5,055,642.

In 2021, NVCA purchased \$65,802 in capital assets (from an approved capital budget of \$293,287), funded through the capital asset levy. The NVCA was able to delay the purchase of some assets due to COVID-19.

This financial information is condensed from year-end, unaudited, statements. The auditor's report for the year ending December 31, 2021, is posted on the NVCA website at [nvca.on.ca](http://nvca.on.ca) once approved by the Board of Directors.

### Revenues



### Expenses



## NVCA Staff as of December 2021

### CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Doug Hevenor

### CORPORATE SERVICES

Sheryl Flannagan, Director

Finance & Administration

Haleigh Ferguson, Executive Administrator

Kerry Jenkins, Administrative Assistant

Christine Knapp, General Accountant

Felicia Najudjaja, Accounting Clerk

Kelcey Montag, Accounting Clerk

Kimberly Winder, Receptionist/Administrative Assistant

### Communications

Maria Leung, Communications Coordinator

### Information Management and Technology

Hendrik Amo, Manager GIS/IT

Robert Bettinelli, Information Management and Technology Specialist

Lyle Wood, GIS Analyst

### WATERSHED MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Chris Hibberd, Director

### Engineering & Flood Program

Mark Hartely, Senior Engineer

Megan Durkin, Water Resource Engineer

Marianne Maertens, Water Resource Engineer

Michael Saunders, Engineering Technologist

Sheri Steiginga, Flood Operations Field Specialist

### Watershed Science

Ryan Post, Manager

David Featherstone, Senior Ecologist

Ian Ockenden, Watershed Monitoring Specialist

Sarah Thompson, Watershed Monitoring Technician

Taryn Arsenault, Watershed Monitoring Technician

Mackenzie Clark, Watershed Monitoring Technician

### Planning

Ben Krul, Manager

Emma Perry, Planning Ecologist

Amy Knapp, Supervisor, Planning Services

### Regulation & Enforcement

Tyler Mulhall, Regulations Technician

Kate Thomson, Regulations Technician

Meagan Kieferle, Regulations Technician

### CONSERVATION SERVICES

Byron Wesson, Director

### Lands & Operations

Kyra Howes, Manager

Clint Collis, Lands & Operations Technician

Mike Bacon, Lands & Operations Technician

Spencer Macdonald, Lands & Operations Technician

### Environmental Education

Naomi Saunders, Manager

Susan Hall, Education Assistant

Emily Febrey, Environmental Education Associate

Charlotte Driscoll, Environmental Education Associate

Jo-Ann White-McKenna, Environmental Education Associate

Vandita Watts, Environmental Education Associate

Samantha Smith, Environmental Education Associate

Stephanie Zsolnay, Environmental Education Associate

### Forestry

Rick Grillmayer, Manager

### Stewardship

Fred Dobbs, Manager

Sarah Campbell, Aquatic Biologist

Shannon Stephens, Healthy Waters Program Coordinator

Laura Wensink, Restoration Biologist



**Nottawasaga Valley**  
Conservation Authority

www.nvca.on.ca  
e: admin@nvca.on.ca  
t: 705-424-1479

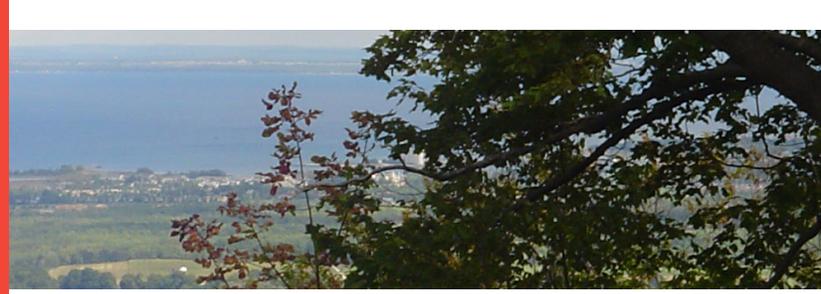
8195 8th Line  
Utopia, ON  
L0M 1T0



**FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA**  
@nottawasagaca

# Town of The Blue Mountains

## Supplement to the NVCA 2021 Annual Report



### Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority

The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) has the responsibility to regulate activities in natural and hazardous areas in order to avoid the loss of life and damage to property due to flooding and erosion, and conserve and enhance natural resources.

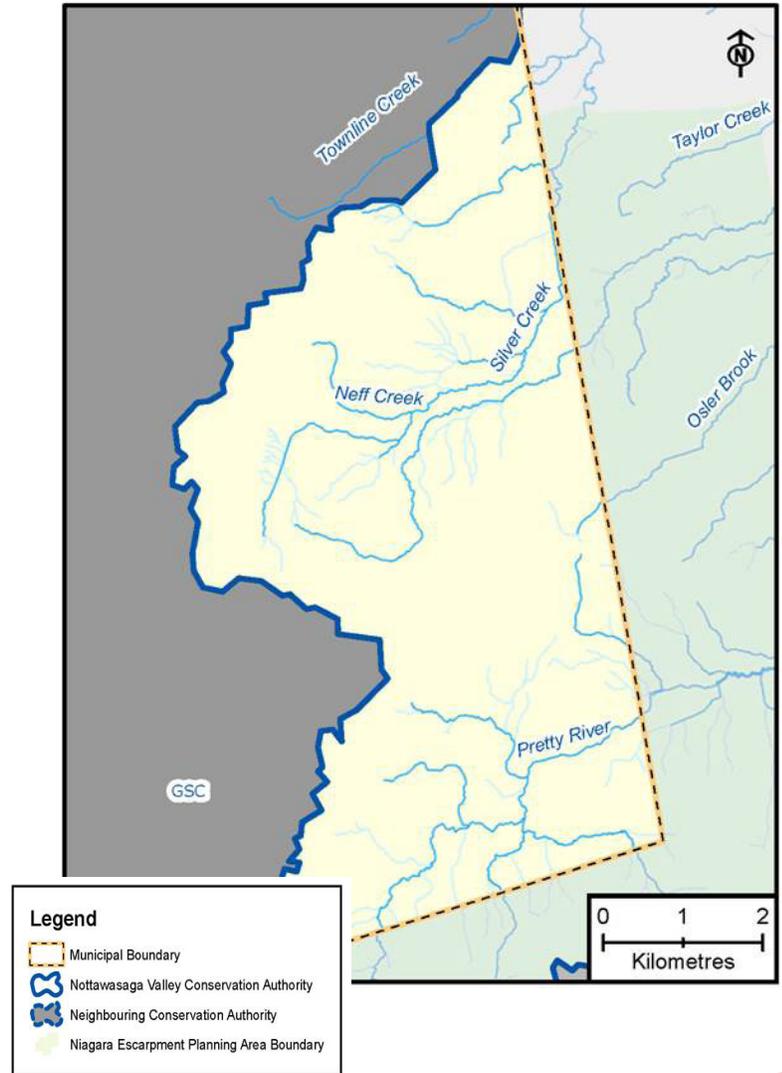
NVCA works to manage our watershed in order for it to thrive and become resilient against the effects of climate change, urban growth as well as other stressors. A healthy watershed means health for humans, the economy, and our ecosystem.

NVCA strives to connect to the community by providing high quality recreational opportunities for visitors from inside and outside of our watershed.

The Nottawasaga Watershed is situated within 18 municipalities in the counties of Simcoe, Dufferin, and Grey as well as a small area in the Region of Peel. The watershed is mainly made up of rural areas, although there is significant urban development in areas such as Barrie, Alliston, Shelburne, Wasaga Beach and Collingwood. Though most of the land is used for agriculture, natural areas also make up a large part of the landscape.

In The Blue Mountains, NVCA's jurisdiction covers 38.6 km<sup>2</sup> (13%) of the municipality. NVCA owns and manages the Petun Conservation Area.

### NVCA in The Blue Mountains



**2021 NVCA Board Member**  
Councillor Andrea Matrosovs

**2021 Levy Contribution**  
\$35,446

**Total 2021 NVCA Budget**  
\$5,055,624

# NVCA Service Delivery The Blue Mountains

## NVCA Services by the Numbers

### Planning Services

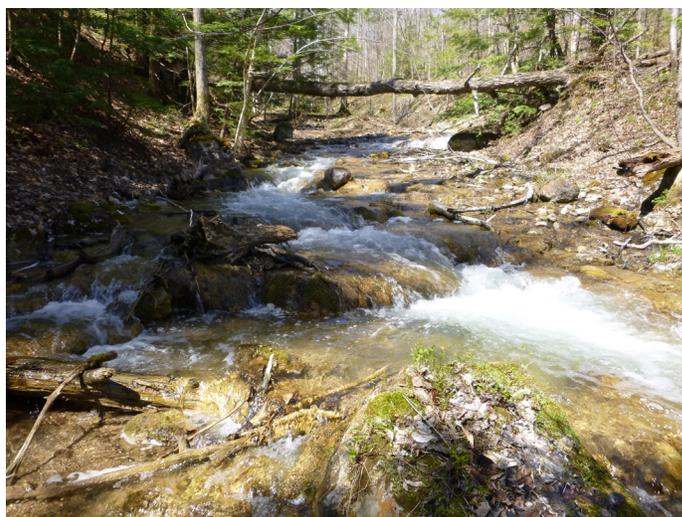
- 8 Conservation Authorities Act Approvals
- 1 Permit Amendments
- 3 Zoning Amendments, Official Plans & Official Plan Amendments
- 6 Consents, Variances & Niagara Escarpment Commission
- 2 Site Plans (Including Aggregates)
- 3 Environmental Assessments
- 1 Preconsultation & Other
- 8 General Inquiries

### Lands & Stewardship Services

- 109 Total Acres of Conservation Lands
- 4 Stewardship & Forestry Projects
- \$2,040 in Stewardship & Forestry Grants Applied
- 1,500 Trees Planted
- 244.11 Forest Acres Managed
- 3.59 km of Stream Protected or Rehabilitated

### Engineering

- 5 Flood messages Issued
- 1 Storm Water Management Plan Reviewed



**Nottawasaga Valley**  
Conservation Authority

8195 8th Line, Utopia, ON L0M 1T0  
705-424-1479  
nvca.on.ca

A member of:



# ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS OF ENBRIDGE GAS INC.

## Enbridge Gas Inc. has applied to raise its natural gas rates effective January 1, 2023.

### Learn more. Have your say.

Enbridge Gas Inc. has applied to the Ontario Energy Board to raise its natural gas rates effective January 1, 2023, based on a rate-setting framework and other adjustments previously approved by the Ontario Energy Board for the period 2019-2023. The rates are set using a formula that is tied to inflation and other factors intended to promote efficiency.

If the application is approved as filed, a typical residential customer of Enbridge Gas Inc. would see the following increases:

Rate Zones	Residential Annual Bill Increase
EGD	\$ 22.61
Union South	\$ 19.84
Union North East	\$ 31.51
Union North West	\$ 36.22

Other customers may be affected. It is important to review the application carefully to determine whether you will be affected by the changes.

#### THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD IS HOLDING A PUBLIC HEARING

The OEB will hold a public hearing to consider Enbridge Gas Inc.'s application. We will question Enbridge Gas Inc. on its case. We will also hear questions and arguments from individual customers and groups that represent the customers of Enbridge Gas Inc. At the end of this hearing, the OEB will decide what, if any, rate increase will be allowed.

The OEB is an independent and impartial public agency. We make decisions that serve the public interest. Our goal is to promote a financially viable and efficient energy sector that provides you with reliable energy services at a reasonable cost.

#### BE INFORMED AND HAVE YOUR SAY

You have the right to information regarding this application and to be involved in the process

- You can review Enbridge Gas Inc.'s application on the OEB's website now
- You can file a letter with your comments, which will be considered during the hearing
- You can become an intervenor. As an intervenor, you can ask questions about Enbridge Gas Inc.'s application and make arguments on whether the OEB should approve Enbridge Gas Inc.'s request. Apply by **August 5, 2022** or the hearing will go ahead without you and you will not receive any further notice of the proceeding
- At the end of the process, you can review the OEB's decision and its reasons on our website

#### LEARN MORE

Our file number for this case is **EB-2022-0133**. To learn more about this hearing, find instructions on how to file a letter with your comments or become an intervenor, or to access any document related to this case, please enter the file number **EB-2022-0133** on the OEB website: [www.oeb.ca/participate](http://www.oeb.ca/participate). You can also phone our Public Information Centre at 1-877-632-2727 with any questions.

#### ORAL VS. WRITTEN HEARINGS

There are two types of OEB hearings – oral and written. The OEB will determine at a later date whether to proceed by way of a written or oral hearing. If you think an oral hearing is needed, you can write to the OEB to explain why by **August 5, 2022**.

#### PRIVACY

*If you write a letter of comment, your name and the content of your letter will be put on the public record and the OEB website. However, your personal telephone number, home address and email address will be removed. If you are a business, all your information will remain public. If you apply to become an intervenor, all information will be public.*

*This rate hearing will be held under section 36 of the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, S.O. 1998, c.15, Schedule B.*



Ontario  
Energy  
Board | Commission  
de l'énergie  
de l'Ontario