



NVCA August 2024 Board Meeting Highlights

Next Meeting: September 27, 2024, held in person

For the full meeting agenda including documents and reports, visit [NVCA's website](#).

Regulations Mapping Update

On April 1, 2024, Ontario Regulation 41/24 (Prohibited Activities, Exemptions and Permits) and Part VI of the Conservation Authorities Act (CA Act) came into effect.

NVCA is currently updating its regulation mapping with the focus on using the 2017 shoreline hazard studies produced by Shoreplan Engineering, updated wetland mapping, available flood hazard studies and updated slope hazard identification.

Stakeholder engagement is required prior to finalization of the draft mapping. The stakeholder engagement process includes:

1. Circulation to municipalities for input (summer 2024);
2. Notifying other key stakeholders and the public and a public information session (early fall 2024);
3. Presenting the final mapping, summary of the stakeholder engagement and an overview of the mapping update process to the Board for approval (late fall 2024/early winter 2025).

Permits Approvals under the CA Act

NVCA Regulations staff provided a summary of the permits issued during the period of November 27, 2023 to July 23, 2024.

Due to the enactment of Ontario Regulation 41/24 and sections of the CA Act on April 1, 2024, this report highlighted two different timelines.

Any application that was received prior to April 1, 2024 was reported under the previous Provincial timelines. Applications received after

April 1, 2024 will be reported in accordance with the new timelines.

A total of 334 permits and clearances were approved by staff for the time period between November 27, 2023 to July 23, 2024.

Between November 27, 2023 to March 31, 2024, NVCA staff met prescribed timelines 92% of the time.

Since April 1, 2024, NVCA staff met timelines 100% of the time when issuing permits, and 99% when providing written notification status within prescribed timelines with only one applicant receiving a late notice.

Engineering Review Process Observations, Insights, and Opportunities for Improvement

NVCA's Engineering Review Process is one of the processes that make up the broader NVCA Municipal Plan Input and Review, and Plan Review Not Related to Natural Hazards service areas.

Development Planning & Permits staff evaluate which planning and permit submissions require engineering review. Through a pre-screening process, planning and permits determine what additional technical studies are required as part of a complete application.

Between 2022 and 2024, over 5,500 applications and inquiries were received by planning and permits staff. Although staffing improvements have been made to the Planning and Engineering teams over the past 1-2 years, the Engineering Review Process is presenting a bottleneck that is limiting the overall efficiency of the broader review process.

Through a workshop designed to identify and gain insights into the Engineering Review

Process, the Engineering team found that the rate that files are being assigned to the engineering team exceeds the team's ability to review new assignments while also addressing existing files and emerging urgent/priority reviews. Until this bottleneck is addressed, the value of the investments made by NVCA to improve the broader review process will not be fully realized.

NVCA's Manager of Engineering Services presented a summary of key observations, insights and opportunities for improving the Engineering Review Process. These improvements are especially important given expectations to meet or exceed review timelines on high profile projects such as the \$15 billion Honda Plant expansion in New Tecumseth, Grain Terminals redevelopment in Collingwood, and proposed K-12 school in Wasaga Beach.

Immediate priorities for improvement include the addition of a full-time Engineering Technologist (CET) on a 1-year contract plus another full-time permanent Flood Operations Specialist.

Meeting staffing requirements is an essential component in contributing to the successful implementation of most other opportunities noted in the table and to the broader success of the service areas identified.

2025 Asset Management Plan

The Board approved NVCA's updated Asset Management Plan.

This plan guides the purchase, use, maintenance, and disposal of every asset NVCA needs in order to conduct business and reduce the NVCA's liability. It also defines the use of assets in order to streamline productivity and delivery with minimal loss of capital.

Second Quarter Financials

In the first six months of operations of NVCA, expenditures to date are tracking slightly lower than anticipated, totalling to 43.67% of the budgeted expenses (50% of budget year completed). Revenues are also tracking a bit behind, with 44.24% of the budgeted revenues recognized. This includes the first 6 months of the general municipal levy of \$1,586,950.

Preliminary Budget Guidance

The NVCA Board of Directors approved the preliminary budget guidelines to increase municipal levy by \$400,000, \$368,250 in Category 1 and \$31,750 in Category 3. Municipal general levy, not including Asset Levy, currently stands at \$3,185,300 for 2024.

Staff are anticipating an increase of \$450,000 of uncontrollable costs and \$200,000 for two additional positions. After review, staff will be able to deal with close to 40% of the \$650,000 need.

Based on this approval, staff will prepare a draft budget for Board consideration for the September Board Meeting. The final budget to Board for approval at the December meeting.

Upcoming Events

TD Tree Days

Thanks to funding from the TD Tree Days program, the Stewardship Team will be hosting potted stock plantings.

Date: September 7, 2024

Location: 80 Crompton Drive, City of Barrie

TD Tree Days

Thanks to funding from the TD Tree Days program, the Stewardship Team will be hosting potted stock plantings.

Date: September 21, 2024

Location: Whitetail Refuge Nature Reserve, 754415 Mono Centre Road, Mono Centre

Festival at Fort Willow

Experience Simcoe as it was in the 1800s as it was at the Historic Fort Willow Conservation Area

Date: October 5, 2024

Location: Historic Fort Willow Conservation Area, 2714 Grenfel Road, Springwater Township

TD Tree Days

Thanks to funding from the TD Tree Days program, the Stewardship Team will be hosting potted stock plantings.

Date: October 19, 2024

Location: Creemore - Ganaraska Trail, 2186 S Nottawasaga Concession 6, Creemore, ON, L0M 1G0