



NVCA March 2025 Board Meeting Highlights

Next Meeting: April 25, 2025, held in person at the Tiffin Centre for Conservation

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

2024 Annual Report

NVCA's 2024 Annual Report is now available.

The report highlights the work that NVCA staff accomplished to protect and enhance the Nottawasaga Watershed.

[Download the 2024 Annual Report here](#)

Interim CAO Workplan Update

In the February 2025 board meeting, NVCA's Interim CAO announced an interim work plan that addresses current challenges while positioning the organization for success under new leadership. Below is a summary of the updates under the four key priorities and commitments:

Strengthening Municipal relationships

- Engaged with a number municipalities to discuss development priorities and address concerns.
- Continued with 48-hour response protocol for issues raised by municipal partners.

Restoring and Enforcing Customer Service Standards

- Reviewed compliance with NVCA's customer service strategy. No issues of concern were identified and full strategy compliance goal has been met within the Q1 of 2025.

Evaluating Planning, Permitting, and Engineering processes

- NVCA has identified a consultant to complete a comprehensive evaluation of planning, permitting, and engineering process. The Interim CAO's goal was to start this process review by March 31, 2025 of this year, however, given the cost and

the consultants desire to work with one person throughout the project, this will be placed on hold until the new CAO starts.

Developing a backlog reduction strategy for Planning, Permitting, and Engineering

- In 2024, the Board of Directors approved staff to hire a contract engineering technician to help reduce the Planning, Permitting, and Engineering file review backlog. However, Staff were unable to find a qualified contract engineering technician and have redirected those funds to the use of peer reviews to assist with the backlog instead of the contract position.

In addition, staff have continued to explore internal measures, such as triage and risk management to reduce the workload on engineering staff without compromising the service standards.

Short-Term Lease Renewal

The Board of Directors approved NVCA to enter into a 5-year lease agreement with Quality Sod Farms Ltd. to have overland access to Bear Creek at the Utopia Conservation Area for the purpose of agricultural irrigation.

Use of reserves for security upgrades

The Board of Directors approved the use of up to \$18,000 for security upgrades at John L. Jose Education Building, the John Hix Conservation Administration Centre and the workshops located at the Tiffin Conservation Area.

Upcoming Events

Spring Tonic Maple Syrup Festival

Hosted in partnership with the Rotary Club of Barrie, the Spring Tonic Maple Syrup Festival at the Tiffin Conservation Area is a tradition spanning more than three decades.

Visitors can explore how maple syrup was made in the past. After that, they will return to current times and see how maple syrup is made today! Ending the tour with a pancake and sausage breakfast with fresh maple syrup. Prices for most activities are included in the admission fee.

Date: April 5 – 6, 2025

Location: Tiffin Centre for Conservation

Tiffin Nature School

At Tiffin Nature School, children aged 2.5 to 10 are invited to explore and connect with the natural world. We nurture their innate curiosity, offering immersive outdoor experiences that inspire discovery and growth.

Dates: Tuesdays & Thursdays until May 29, 2025

Location: Tiffin Centre for Conservation