



NVCA September 2025 Board Meeting Highlights

Next Meeting: October 26, 2025, held virtually

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

Revisions to the Procedures for the Implementation of the *Conservation Authorities Act* and Associated Regulations

NVCA's Board of Directors have approved the updates to Procedures for the Implementation of the *Conservation Authorities Act* (CA Act) and Associated Regulations.

This document is a procedural manual to aid landowners, developers, consultants and other stakeholders who are interested in obtaining CA Act approvals from NVCA. This document also assists staff in meeting NVCA's permitting responsibilities under Section 28.1 of the CA Act.

Updates to the procedures include:

- Improvements to the application process - including administrative review and fee reconsideration
- An updated list of exemptions from requiring a permit
- New enforcement protocols for unauthorized works

NVCA held a 30-day consultation in June 2025 regarding the procedures and received comments from two municipalities and one county. NVCA staff reviewed these comments and implemented changes where applicable.

Pretty River Dike Safety Review Recommendations

In 2023, NVCA retained a consultant to complete Phase 1 of a two-phase Dike Safety Review for the Pretty River Dike in Collingwood.

The inspection included a visual inspection and topographic survey to assess the condition of the flood control infrastructure.

The Pretty River Dike system was generally observed to be in fair condition. The consultant observed significant tree growth across most of the earth embankments, moderate to severe erosion in a few areas, and missing rock protection in some areas.

Phase 2 of the Dike Safety Review will involve a geotechnical field investigation and engineering modelling/analysis and provide further direction on the prioritization of tree removal based on risk to the structure's stability. This phase of the study is included in NVCA's 2026 budget and work plan.

Recommendations from Phases 1 and 2 of the Dike Safety Review will inform the development of a dike remediation plan.

Administrative Bylaws Update

Currently, the per diem rate for NVCA's board members is established at the outset of each four-year term and remains fixed for the duration of that term.

The Board of Directors approved per diems to be increased each year by the same cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) percentage applied to staff compensation. This approach ensures consistency, reflects inflationary impacts, and maintains the fairness and relevance of Board member remuneration over time.

The Board of Directors also approved board meeting minutes to be signed by the Chair and CAO to maintain appropriate oversight and accountability.

AI Safe Usage Policy incorporated into employee handbook

NVCA has inserted the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Safe Usage Policy into the Employee Handbook.

NVCA employees are permitted to utilize AI tools while performing their work duties. When using an AI tool, NVCA staff must consider the quality and data security of sensitive, personal data. In certain situations, it is important and required by law to disclose that AI tools were used to ensure transparency, build trust, and comply with ethical or legal standards.

NVCA Asset Management Plan

NVCA's Board of Directors approved NVCA's updated Asset Management Plan.

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

This annual update reviews NVCA's assets to ensure that there is adequate funding for any major repairs or replacements.

2026 Draft Business Plan and Budget

NVCA staff are pleased to present the 2026 Draft Business Plan and Budget as a single, integrated document, streamlining the format from previous years, where the documents were presented separately.

NVCA's 2026 draft budget totals \$7,841,981, reflecting a year-over-year increase of \$180,372.37, including a \$101,307.36 increase in municipal levy.

This corresponds to \$17.36 per resident, slightly up from \$17.09 in 2025, and \$15.31 in 2024.

NVCA staff undertook a rigorous review of its programs and services as part of the budget development process. This helped ensure the organization is leaner and more efficient, and remains responsive to the environmental, economic and social sustainability of the Nottawasaga Watershed.

NVCA reduced discretionary Category 3 charges by 31%, and by holding our overall operating levy increase to approximately 2.8 per cent as committed, with no elimination of services.

[Download NVCA's Draft Business Plan and Budget here](#)

Upcoming Events

TD Tree Days – Wasaga Beach: Sports Park

Join NVCA and TD to plant trees in the Wasaga Beach Sports Park

Date: October 18, 2025 from 9 am – 12 pm

Location: 1888 Klondike Park Road, Wasaga Beach, ON

TD Tree Days – Creemore: Carruthers Park

Join NVCA and TD to plant trees in Carruthers Park

Date: October 18, 2025 from 9 am – 12 pm

Location: Carruthers Park, 3464 County Road 42, Avening, ON

PA Day Camp Tiffin

Adopted from our traditional summer camp program, this special edition of Camp Tiffin encourages outdoor exploration, guided excursions in the forest fueled by student interest.

Dates: October 24 & November 14, 2025

Location: Tiffin Centre for Conservation
8195 8th Line, Utopia ON