



NVCA January 2026 Board Meeting Highlights

Next Meeting: February 27, 2026, held virtually

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

NVCA Board of Directors Election

Jonathan Scott, Councillor for the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury and Gail Little, Deputy Mayor for the Township of Amaranth, were acclaimed to lead the 2026 NVCA Board of Directors as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively.

Permits Approvals under the Conservation Authorities Act

NVCA reports permit application processing timelines against timelines set by Conservation Ontario's Best Practices timelines, which recommend conservation authorities to follow these timelines:

- Major permits processed within 90 days
- Minor permits processed within 30 days
- Notify applicants of the status of their applications within 21 days.

Between January 1, 2025, and December 31, 2025, NVCA issued 435 permits and consistently met these benchmarks:

- On average, both Minor and Major permits were issued within 17 days.
- Major permits were issued within 90 days 98% of the time
- Minor permits were issued within 30 days 92% of the time and within 90 days 100% of the time.

- NVCA staff notified applicants the status of their application within 21 days 90% of the time.

Process improvements

The implementation of Risk Based Review for new applications has significantly reduced review times. This change in the permitting process has allowed NVCA's technical staff to focus efforts on more complex files.

Staff track a permit's "Run Time" for when an application is with NVCA and when it is with the applicant. This tracking excludes periods when applications are returned to the Applicant to address any comments, and ensures transparent and accurate timeline reporting.

2026 Permit and Planning Fee Schedule

NVCA's Board of Directors approved NVCA's Permit and Planning fees to increase by 3%. This fee is intended to partially reflect the cost-of-living allowances (COLA) while being consistent with other Conservation authorities.

This fee increase considers NVCA's increased costs and the provincially mandated fee freeze in 2024 and 2025.

Upcoming Events

Families in Nature

NVCA's Families in Nature & Wellness Retreats invite you and your loved ones to slow down, breathe deeply, and rediscover what it means to truly be present, together.

Take your 'me time' with Nature-Infused Yoga, or explore hands-on outdoor experiences designed to inspire curiosity, confidence, and connection.

- Sunday, February 1, 2026 – Yoga & Winter Tree Identification
- Sunday, February 15, 2026 – Yoga & Kick Sledding Adventure

All yoga sessions are offered at 10:00 to 11:30 am & 1:00 to 2:30 pm, at the same time as Family Nature Experiences.

Location: Tiffin Centre for Conservation

[Register here](#)

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

Location: Tiffin Centre for Conservation

[Register here](#)

March Break Camp Tiffin

Led by NVCA's environmental educators, Camp Tiffin is an outdoor camp designed to enhance your child's knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the natural world and our amazing planet.

Our staff have been excited to plan some winter camp activities this March Break which will be full of outdoor adventures.

Dates: March 16 – 20, 2026

Location: Tiffin Centre for Conservation

Spring Tonic Maple Syrup Festival

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

Visitors will journey back in time to discover how maple syrup was made in the past, then return to the present to see how it's crafted today.

Complete your tour with a delicious pancake and sausage breakfast topped with fresh maple syrup, followed by fun family-friendly activities!

Date: April 11 and 12, 2026

Location: Tiffin Centre for Conservation