



# May LRCA Board Meeting

Lakehead Region Conservation Authority  
130 Conservation Road/Microsoft Teams  
2025-05-28 16:30 - 18:00 EDT

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Declaration: “The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority respectfully acknowledges that the lands on which we live and work are the traditional lands of the Anishinabek Nation and the traditional territory of Fort William First Nation, signatory to the Robinson-Superior Treaty of 1850.

As partners in the conservation and protection of the Lakehead Watershed along with First Nations communities, the Métis Nation of Ontario, and other Indigenous peoples, the LRCA is committed to the common vision of a healthy, safe and sustainable Lakehead Watershed.”

### 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

THAT: the Agenda is adopted as published.

### 3. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

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THAT: the Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority 4th Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, April 30, 2025 to be adopted as published.

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### 5. IN-CAMERA AGENDA

THAT: we now go into Committee of the Whole (In-Camera) at \_\_\_\_\_ p.m.

THAT: we go into Open Meeting at \_\_\_\_\_ p.m.

THAT: the In-Camera Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority April 30, 2025 meeting be adopted as published.

### 6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

None.

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<b>14. NEXT MEETING</b>	
Thursday, June 26, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.	
<b>15. ADJOURNMENT</b>	
THAT: the time being _____ p.m. AND FURTHER THAT there being no further business we adjourn.	



**April LRCA Board Meeting**  
Lakehead Region Conservation Authority  
April 30, 2025, at 4:30 PM  
130 Conservation Road/Microsoft Teams

**Members Present:**

Albert Aiello, Robert Beatty, Donna Blunt, Rudy Buitenhuis, Dan Calvert, Sheelagh Hendrick, Greg Johnsen (part of Meeting), Brian Kurikka, Jim Vezina

**Member Present (Remote):**

Grant Arnold

**Members Not Present**

Trevor Giertuga

**Also Present:**

Tammy Cook, Chief Administrative Officer  
Mark, Ambrose, Finance Manager  
Ryne Gilliam, Lands Manager  
Ryan Mackett, Communications Manager  
Melanie O'Riley, Administrative Clerk/Receptionist, recorder of Minutes  
Rosy Brizi, Auditor, Doane Grant Thornton LLP, part of Meeting

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

*THAT: the Agenda be adopted as amended.*

**Motion: #60/25**

Motion moved by Rudy Buitenhuis and motion seconded by Robert Beatty. **CARRIED.**

The Agenda was amended, with permission of the Board, to move forward, after the adoption of the Minutes, item 9.2: 2024 Audited Financial Statements.

**3. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

None.

#### **4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

**THAT:** *the Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority 3rd Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, be adopted as published.*

**Motion: #61/25**

Motion moved by Robert Beatty and motion seconded by Rudy Buitenhuis. **CARRIED.**

#### **9.2. Audited Financial Statements**

Members reviewed and discussed the draft 2024 Audited Financial Statements, presented by Rosy Brizi, Doane Grant Thornton LLP.

**THAT:** *the 2024 Audit Report and Financial Statements are adopted as presented **AND FURTHER THAT** each Member Municipality will be forwarded a copy of the final version.*

**Motion: #62/25**

Motion moved by Robert Beatty and motion seconded by Jim Vezina. **CARRIED.**

#### **5. IN-CAMERA AGENDA**

**THAT:** *we now go into Committee of the Whole (In-Camera) at 4:45 p.m.*

**Motion: #63/25**

Motion moved by Rudy Buitenhuis and motion seconded by Brian Kurikka. **CARRIED.**

**THAT:** *we go into Open Meeting at 5:15 p.m.*

**Motion: #64/25**

Motion moved by Rudy Buitenhuis and motion seconded by Jim Vezina. **CARRIED.**

**THAT:** *the In-Camera Minutes of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority March 26, 2025 meeting be adopted as published.*

**Motion: #65/25**

Motion moved by Brian Kurikka and motion seconded by Rudy Buitenhuis. **CARRIED.**

***THAT:** the quote by Marianne Love Consulting Services Inc. to complete a 2025 Compensation Review with an upset limit of \$21,600.00 not including HST be approved.*

**Motion: #66/25**

Motion moved by Jim Vezina and motion seconded by Brian Kurikka. **CARRIED.**

***THAT:** the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors withdraws the support in principle to lease 1111 Fort William Road to the City of Thunder Bay.*

**Motion: #67/25**

Motion moved by Jim Vezina and motion seconded by Sheelagh Hendrick. **CARRIED.**

**6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

None.

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**8. STAFF REPORTS**

**8.1. NMFC-02-2025 CTB Watermain Installation - NM Floodway near Ford St.-Westminster St. to Chapples Dr.**

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report NMFC-02-2025 related to the installation of a new watermain beneath the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway Diversion Channel.

***THAT:** the City of Thunder Bay is authorized to install a new watermain beneath the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway Diversion Channel near the Ford Street and Westminster Street intersection to Chapples Drive, with the requirement that the City of Thunder Bay is responsible for all future maintenance of the infrastructure.*

**Motion: #68/25**

Motion moved by Rudy Buitenhuis and motion seconded by Robert Beatty. **CARRIED.**

**9. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

**9.1. Monthly Treasurer's Report**

Members were provided with the monthly Treasurer's Report for March's Administration and Capital.

**9.3. Provincial Offences Officer Designation - Melissa Hughson**

Members reviewed and discussed Staff Report CORP-04-2025 related to the designation of Melissa Hughson, Watershed Manager, as a Provincial Offences Officer.

***THAT: Staff Report CORP-04-2025 be received AND FURTHER THAT the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors designate Melissa Hughson, Watershed Manager, as a Provincial Offences Officer under Section 30.1 of the Conservation Authorities Act to enforce Section 28 of the Act and applicable regulations as amended from time to time AND FURTHER THAT the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors also delegate Melissa Hughson as an Agent of the Authority for the purpose of the Trespass to Property Act.***

**Motion: #69/25**

Motion moved by Dan Calvert and motion seconded by Albert Aiello. **CARRIED.**

## **10. PASSING OF ACCOUNTS**

***THAT: having examined the accounts for the period March 1, 2025 to March 31, 2025 cheque #3507 to #3529 for \$21,425.62 and preauthorized payments of \$133,893.88 for a total of \$155,319.50, we approve their payment.***

**Motion: #70/25**

Motion moved by Dan Calvert and motion seconded by Albert Aiello. **CARRIED.**

## **11. REGULATORY ROLE**

Members were provided with the Plan Input and Review program comments and Section 28 permits issued since last meeting.

## **12. PROJECTS UPDATE**

### **12.1. Communications Manager Projects Update**

Members reviewed and discussed the final version of the 2024 Annual Report.

***THAT: the 2024 Lakehead Region Conservation Authority Annual Report be approved.***

**Motion: #71/25**

Motion moved by Albert Aiello and motion seconded by Dan Calvert. **CARRIED.**

It was noted that the LRCA was successful in receiving \$12,800.00 in funding from the TD Friends of the Environment Fund (TDFEF) for LRCA's Big Year: Birds and Birding Watershed Explorers Program.

It was noted that the 2025 CLE Home and Garden Show was very well attended with staff speaking to 1,077 people over the three-day event.

## 12.2. Lands Manager Projects Update

Members were advised that returning Staff Member, Floodway Labourer, Amanda Donolovitch, began work on April 22, 2025.

It was noted that the Lands maintenance Staff for the 2025 summer season will start after the long weekend in May. Two of the four positions received partial funding from the Canada Summer Jobs program.

## 12.3. Watershed Manager Projects Update

It was noted that the April 15, 2025, snow surveys indicated that the snow survey locations were above average for snow depth and water content when compared to the historical averages for April 15<sup>th</sup>.

It was noted that Lake Superior's lake level at the beginning of April was 15 cm below its period-of-record (1918-2022).

It was noted that the Authority held its 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Melt Meeting on Monday, March 31, 2025.

It was noted that Melissa Hughson, Watershed Manager, participated in the Level 1 Provincial Offences Officer Training Course.

## 13. NEW BUSINESS

The CAO advised the Board of the reference to conservation authorities in the Provincial Throne Speech and Bill 5, which stated that the provincial government intends to "bring common-sense conservation principles to the role of Conservation Authorities". It was noted that a question regarding the reference was posed at the recent NOMA conference to the MECP Minister.

It was noted that funding had been secured for the Mills Block Community Accessibility Project from the CEDC Tourism Development Fund for \$60,000 and for \$20,000 over four years from the Doanne Grant Thornton Foundation. Additionally, Board approval was sought to submit a funding application to NOHFC for the project.

***THAT: the Board of Directors of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority approves the funding submission to NOHFC for the Mills Block Community Accessibility Project AND FURTHER THAT the board agrees to commit a total of \$325,000 towards the total estimated project costs of \$710,000 and resolves to cover any project-related cost overruns, should they be incurred.***

### Motion: #72/25

Motion moved by Albert Aiello and motion seconded by Dan Calvert. **CARRIED.**

It was noted that \$30,000 in funding has been secured from the Rotary Club of Thunder Bay for greenhouse improvements related to the Seeds for Conservation program.

It was noted that a fact sheet related to Black Ash had been developed and was available.

Tammy Cook, CAO advised that she would be attending the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative Annual General Meeting in Milwaukee with Conservation Ontario staff.

It was reported that a Flood Watch was issued on April 26, 2025, which was later upgraded to a Flood Warning at 9:30 p.m. due to a rainfall event. Moderate flooding occurred mostly in the western portion of the LRCA jurisdiction, with some road closures noted.

#### **14. NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, May 28, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.

#### **15. ADJOURNMENT**

***THAT:** the time being 5:45 p.m. **AND FURTHER THAT** there being no further business we adjourn.*

#### **Motion: #73/25**

Motion moved by Dan Calvert and motion seconded by Sheelagh Hendrick. **CARRIED.**

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Chair

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Chief Administrative Officer

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**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE**

May 6, 2025

Tel: (807) 625-2224  
Fax: (807) 623-1164

Tammy Cook  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Lakehead Region Conservation Authority  
130 Conservation Rd  
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 7A4

**Subject:** Temporary Shelter Village – Site Selection Update

Dear Tammy,

On behalf of the City of Thunder Bay, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to you and the Board of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA) for your time, consideration, and willingness to work with us over the past few months in considering your property as a potential location for the Temporary Shelter Village.

We are especially grateful for the LRCA's openness in granting approval in principle to explore the use of your lands for this purpose. We recognize this was not without its challenges given the level of public interest and concern that emerged during the process. Even though the LRCA has now withdrawn their approval in principle, it does not diminish in any way the tremendous initial support that was offered.

Following Council's review of all viable options, I am writing to inform you that the City will be proceeding with Kam River Heritage Park as the approved location for the Village. This decision reflects Council's consideration of site feasibility, public input, and the ability to meet project requirements.

Thank you again for your collaboration and for the important role you play in supporting community-focused initiatives. Your partnership has been sincerely valued. We look forward to our continued work together.

Sincerely,



John Collin, City Manager  
City of Thunder Bay  
[John.Collin@thunderbay.ca](mailto:John.Collin@thunderbay.ca)  
807-625-2224

May 16, 2025

LAKEHEAD REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY  
c/o General Manager  
130 Conservation Rd, PO Box 10427  
Thunder Bay ON P7B 6T8



Dear Friends,

I hope this note finds you well and enjoying all that spring has to offer. I'm writing to share a heartfelt thank you from everyone at Lakehead University — and especially from the student(s) whose lives you've touched through your generous support.

Enclosed you'll find a personal message from your student(s) who received financial aid made possible by you. Their words reflect genuine gratitude and demonstrate the very real impact you've made. For many, your support has meant the difference between continuing their studies or putting their dreams on hold.

Your generosity sends a powerful message — that someone believes in their potential and wants to see them succeed. It's more than financial help; it's motivation, encouragement, and hope.

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at [mhanbury@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:mhanbury@lakeheadu.ca) or by phone at 807-343-8010 ext. 8910. I would be delighted to hear from you.

Thank you again for your meaningful support. Your kindness continues to inspire us all.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Meghan Hanbury".

**Meghan Hanbury**  
Associate Director, Annual Giving and Student Aid

Enclosure



**A note of gratitude from your 2024-2025 student award recipient:**

**Arthur Shewchuk Memorial Bursary**

*I am incredibly grateful to be supported by the Arthur Shewchuk Memorial Bursary. This bursary has a significant impact on my academic journey, allowing me to focus more on my studies without the added financial burden. It has not only eased my financial stress, but has also motivated me to continue working hard and strive for excellence.*

*Your generosity has made a tangible difference in my life, and I am truly honoured to have this opportunity.*

*Sincerely,*

*Destiny Eissner*

*Bachelor of Engineering with Diploma and Co-op (Chemical Engineering) Degree Program*



<b>PROGRAM AREA</b>	Neebing-McIntyre Floodway	<b>REPORT NO.</b>	NMFC-03-2025
<b>DATE PREPARED</b>	May 15, 2025	<b>FILE NO:</b>	Audit File
<b>MEETING DATE</b>	May 28, 2025		
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Engineering Services for Bathymetric Survey of the Neebing McIntyre Floodway to Investigate Weir Locations		

## RECOMMENDATION

### Suggested Resolution:

***“THAT: KGS’s proposal to complete a bathymetric survey of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway at a cost of \$33,600.00 plus HST be accepted **AND FURTHER THAT** the funds will be appropriated from the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway deferred fund.”***

## LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Links to the Strategic Plan (2023-2027):

### *Protect and Support:*

- *Continue maintaining and enhancing flood control infrastructure in an effort to minimize the impacts of riverine flooding, erosion, and sedimentation.*

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The original design of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway channel included two sediment traps consisting of 1.0 metre high rockfill weirs located upstream of the Balmoral Street bridge and the CPR bridge for the purpose of trapping excess sediment and reducing the turbidity of Floodway flow. Since the construction of the Floodway, the LRCA has undertaken various dredging operations to remove excess sediment from the channel at the sediment traps. It is unknown if the sediment trap weirs were constructed as designed, and if they were, if they are still intact, as they may have been altered by the dredging or natural erosional processes over the years.

The recently completed Neebing-McIntyre Floodway Overtopping Banks Assessment found that the rockfill weirs, as designed, have a notable impact on water levels in the Floodway during flood events. As a result, it is necessary to confirm whether the weirs are still intact so that the water levels resulting from various flood events can be more accurately predicted and to help determine if additional mitigation measures are required to prevent flooding along sections of the Floodway.

KGS Group provided a proposal to complete the recommended bathymetric survey to locate the potential weirs as well as survey the remainder of the Floodway channel using the bathymetric methodology at a cost of \$33,600.00 plus HST. LRCA staff set aside City of Thunder Bay sole-benefitting levy each year to fund the continued operation, maintenance and monitoring of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway which has adequate funds for the project.

Based on KGSs in depth knowledge of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway, their recent completion of the Integrity Study, their expertise in floodplain modelling and mapping as well as their reliable delivery of services to the LRCA over the last several years, LRCA staff recommend accepting and approving KGSs recommendation and proposal to complete the bathymetric survey to determine if the weirs are in place.

Upon completion of the project, the information would be used to confirm the extent(s) of flooding as delineated in the recently completed Neebing-McIntyre Floodway Overtopping Banks Assessment as well as compare the Floodway channel survey results with the annual sediment survey's completed by Hatch Ltd. (completed from the ice), which will in turn be used to ensure the continued operation of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway, Section 28 development regulations under the *Conservation Authorities Act*, O. Reg. 41/24 as well as and LRCAs Flood Forecasting & Warning Program.

## **DISCUSSION**

The original design of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway channel included two sediment traps consisting of 1.0 metre high rockfill weirs located upstream of the Balmoral Street bridge and the CPR bridge for the purpose of trapping excess sediment and reducing the turbidity of Floodway flow. Since the construction of the Floodway, the LRCA has undertaken various dredging operations to remove excess sediment from the channel at the sediment traps. At this time, it is unknown if the sediment trap weirs were constructed as designed, and if they were, if they are still intact, as they may have been altered by the dredging or natural erosional processes over the years.

Sediment surveys are completed annually from the ice by drilling holes in the ice and surveying to the bottom of the channel in a grid pattern to 'map' the bottom of the channel and to review where sediment is accumulating. This information is in turn used to determine when dredging operations need to be completed.

An Integrity Evaluation Study of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway was completed by KGS Group in 2024 and found that based on current conditions there would be no overtopping of the Diversion Structure for floods up to and including the Regional event. New design flows were established for the system based on current data and the modelling suggested in some instances that there may be overtopping of the banks at certain locations between the CPR bridge and the confluence with the McIntyre River. Recommendations from the Integrity Study included completing a focused study (high-level flood maps in the areas of interest) to determine the extent of potential flooding of overtopped banks and if any critical infrastructure would be impacted based on the new design flows in the Floodway.

The results of the Overtopping Banks Assessment found that the rockfill weirs, as designed, have a notable impact on water levels in the Floodway during flood events. As a result, it is necessary to confirm whether the weirs are still intact so that the water levels resulting from various flood events can be more accurately predicted.

LRCA Staff recommend completing the bathymetric survey to confirm if the rockfilled weirs are in place or not and to compare bathymetry data of the floodway channel to the annual sediment survey completed from the ice; confirmation of the weirs will determine if further action is required based on the results of the Overtopping Banks Assessment. This information will be used to ensure that the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway continues to provide protection up to the Regional storm.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

KGS Group has estimated the bathymetric survey at a cost of \$33,600.00 plus HST. Per the Purchasing Policy, section 4.0 purchases from \$10,001 to \$50,000 require three (3) written quotations and services be purchased from the supplier offering the lowest compliant bid, otherwise written rationale must be provided and approved by the CAO. Three quotations were not obtained, rather, based on KGS's recent completion of the Integrity Study, their in depth knowledge of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway, their expertise in floodplain modelling and mapping as well as their reliable delivery of services to the LRCA over the last several years, LRCA Staff recommend accepting and approving KGS's recommendation and proposal to complete the bathymetric survey and confirm the presence or absence of the rockfilled weirs.

LRCA staff set aside City of Thunder Bay sole-benefitting levy each year to fund the continued operation, maintenance and monitoring of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway which has adequate funds for the project.

## **CONCLUSION**

LRCA staff recommend accepting and approving KGSs proposal for engineering services to a bathymetric survey of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway to determine the presence or absence of the originally designed rockfilled weirs.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Neebing-McIntyre Floodway was constructed between 1979 and 1984 to provide additional flow capacity in the two river systems and eliminate surface riverine flooding in the lower Neebing River and Inter-City area. Excess flow diversion through the constructed diversion channel from the Neebing River is a routine occurrence during rapid spring melts and intense rainfall events. The Floodway has provided 40 years of continuous operation in eliminating surface flooding in the Inter-City area; diversion occurs on an almost annual basis.

The original design of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway channel included two sediment traps consisting of 1.0 metre high rockfill weirs located upstream of the Balmoral Street bridge and the CPR bridge for the purpose of trapping excess sediment and reducing the turbidity of Floodway flow. Since the construction of the Floodway, the LRCA has undertaken various dredging

operations to remove excess sediment from the channel at the sediment traps. At this time, it is unknown if the sediment trap weirs were constructed as designed, and if they were, if they are still intact, as they may have been altered by the dredging or natural erosional processes over the years.


The Authority has conducted various studies in the past to review the performance of the Floodway to facilitate multi-year capital planning of the system to ensure it continues to provide protection up to the designed level of the Regional Storm. An Integrity Study is completed every 10 years, with the last evaluation recently completed by KGS 2023/2024.

Based on recommendations from the most recent Integrity Study, LRCA staff had KGS Group complete a focused study to assess the potential and extent of overtopped banks under certain circumstances on the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway. The results of the Overtopping Banks Assessment found that the rockfill weirs, as designed, have a notable impact on water levels in the Floodway during flood events. As a result, it is necessary to confirm whether the weirs are still intact so that the water levels resulting from various flood events can be more accurately predicted. The proposed survey will also consist of bathymetric survey of the entire Floodway channel that will be used to compare to the results of annual sediment survey's taken from the ice; this information will help determine survey methodologies moving forward that in turn ensures the continued maintenance and operation of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway.

#### REFERENCE MATERIAL ATTACHED

- KGS Proposal – Bathymetric Survey of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway

**PREPARED BY:** Melissa Hughson, Watershed Manager

THIS REPORT SIGNED AND VERIFIED BY:  Tammy Cook Chief Administrative Officer	DATE: May 20, 2025
--	-----------------------

March 4, 2025

Lakehead Region Conservation Authority  
130 Conservation Rd.  
Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 7A4

Attention: Tammy Cook  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Re: Bathymetric Survey of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway  
Proposal for Engineering Services**

Dear Ms. Cook:

As per your request, Kontzamanis Graumann Smith MacMillan Inc. (KGS Group) is pleased to submit this proposal to provide engineering services to complete a bathymetric survey in the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway.

This proposal outlines KGS Group's project understanding, proposed scope of services, fees, and schedule for this assignment.

## 1.0 PROJECT UNDERSTANDING

The original design of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway channel included two sediment traps located upstream of Balmoral Street bridge and the CPR bridge for the purpose of trapping excess sediment and reducing the turbidity of Floodway flow. Based on the original design drawings, the sediment traps consisted of a 1 m high rockfill weir. These weirs were designed to trap sediment behind them so that it could be dredged out of the channel. Since the construction of the Floodway, the LRCA has undertaken various dredging operations to remove excess sediment from the channel. It is unknown to what extent the original geometry of the sediment trap weirs is still intact, as they may have been altered by the dredging or natural erosion processes.

The rockfill weirs, as designed, have a notable impact on water levels in the Floodway during flood events. As a result, the LRCA would like to confirm whether the weirs are still intact so that they can more accurately predict water levels resulting from various flood events.

## 2.0 SCOPE OF SERVICES

### 2.1 Bathymetric Survey of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway

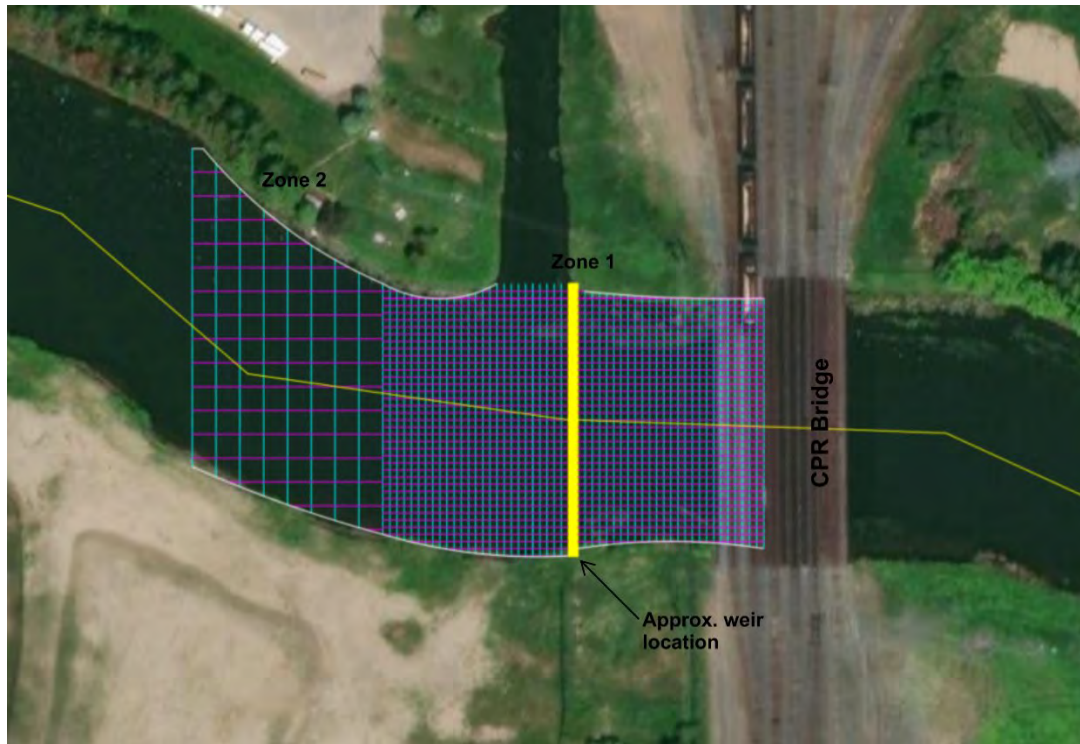
KGS Group will complete a bathymetric survey within the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway. The survey will be focused on the reaches immediately upstream of Balmoral Street and the CP Railway, as these are the assumed location of the sediment trap weirs. However, due to the small incremental cost of surveying the entire Floodway, KGS has proposed a second option that includes bathymetric survey of the entire Floodway. Further details of the two options are provided below:

#### **Option 1 – Detailed Survey of Sediment Trap Areas Only**

KGS Group will carry out a bathymetric survey of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway in the vicinity of the two sediment trap weirs. The survey will be completed by the Lead Surveyor (Jamie Childs) and an assistant. KGS Group is proposing to utilize APACHE 3 PRO autonomous RC craft with a single beam echo sounder to complete all bathymetric surveying for this project. The bathymetric survey would extend 40 m upstream and downstream of the structures, as shown in Figures 1 and 2. There will be two zones of capture. Transects (i.e. cross sections) in Zone 1 will be completed at 1.5 m intervals for areas 40 m upstream and downstream from the weir location. Transects in Zone 2 will be completed at 5 m intervals. There will be two sets of transects completed for each zone. One set will run parallel to the weir while the second set will run perpendicular to the weir. The final discrete bathymetric survey data points will be collected every 0.5 m along each transect. The proposed survey layout is shown in Figures 1 and 2.

**FIGURE 1: BALMORAL AVENUE WEIR SURVEY LAYOUT**



**FIGURE 2: CP RAILWAY WEIR SURVEY LAYOUT**

The operator will inspect all equipment and perform in-field tests and checks for QA/QC. Test data will be reviewed once collected in Topcon Magnet Tools for validation. KGS Group field staff will also perform manual depth checks in the field to verify that the Echo sounder is reading depths correctly.

KGS Group will also carry out a Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) flight of the two weir sites. The RPAS will be used to capture georeferenced/geotagged high resolution orthographically corrected images and photos. This imagery may help identify if any features exist just under the water surface. Given that flow through the Floodway can be fairly sediment laden, the imagery will be collected under low flow conditions so that the water is clearer.

#### **Option 2 – Detailed Survey of Sediment Trap Areas plus Additional Floodway Cross Sections**

Option 2 includes the same detailed survey of the two weirs as described under Option 1, but also includes the survey of additional cross sections throughout the remainder of the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway (approximately 400 m upstream of the Balmoral Bridge to the confluence of the Floodway and Lake Superior). Four transects (spaced 1 m apart) will be completed at approximately 150 m intervals. Bathymetric survey points will be collected every 0.5 m along each transect. The centreline profile will be collected along the length of the Floodway as well. The proposed survey layout is shown in Figures 3 and 4.

**FIGURE 3: FLOODWAY TRANSECTS AT 150M SPACING****FIGURE 4: ZOOM IN OF FLOODWAY TRANSECTS**

## 2.2 Data Analysis

The survey data will be processed and analyzed to determine if the original sediment trap weirs (or remnants of them) are still in place at Balmoral Street and the CPR bridge. Channel bottom profiles will be developed to demonstrate whether the weirs are still present in the channel.

## 2.3 Reporting

KGS Group will prepare a brief report describing the bathymetric data collection and our conclusions on the current state of the weirs. All survey data collected will be submitted with the report in both .csv and GIS format.

## 3.0 PERSONNEL

The key staff assigned to this project are summarized in the table below.

Summary of Project Personnel			
Name	Role	Years of Experience	Location
Melissa Haresign, P.Eng.	Project Manager / Senior Hydraulic Engineer	13	Winnipeg
Kevin Schmidt, P.Eng.	Hydraulic Engineer	12	Saskatoon
Jamie Childs, C.Tech.	Survey Lead	17	Thunder Bay
Mark Wilcox, C.E.T.	GIS Senior Review	22	Winnipeg

## 4.0 SCHEDULE

The work required for this project will begin in the spring or early summer once the Floodway is clear of ice and conditions are deemed to be safe. The survey will take 2-5 days to complete, depending on the option selected. Data processing, analysis, and reporting is expected take an additional four weeks to complete.

## 5.0 ESTIMATED FEES

The basis of compensation for the proposed engineering services will be a Fixed Fee, due at the completion of the project. The total estimated cost to complete the assignment is \$22,000.00 (excluding taxes) for Option 1 or \$33,600.00 (excluding taxes) for Option 2. A detailed breakdown of our proposed total project fees and disbursements is presented in Tables 1 and 2.

**TABLE 1: ESTIMATED FEES – OPTION 1**

FEES FOR PROJECT			
Item	Engineering	Disbursements	Total
Project Management and Quality Control	\$2,600		\$2,600
Bathymetric Survey	\$6,200	\$3,500	\$9,700
Data Analysis	\$3,800		\$3,800
Reporting	\$5,900		\$5,900
<b>Total Estimated Fees (Excluding Taxes)</b>			<b>\$22,000</b>

**TABLE 2: ESTIMATED FEES – OPTION 2**

FEES FOR PROJECT			
Item	Engineering	Disbursements	Total
Project Management and Quality Control	\$2,600		\$2,600
Bathymetric Survey	\$12,600	\$6,300	\$18,900
Data Analysis	\$6,200		\$6,200
Reporting	\$5,900		\$5,900
<b>Total Estimated Fees (Excluding Taxes)</b>			<b>\$33,600</b>

## 6.0 FORM OF AGREEMENT

KGS Group's Standard Agreement and Terms and Conditions, or any other mutually agreeable form of agreement, will apply for the Services outlined in this proposal.

## 7.0 CLOSURE

We thank you for this opportunity to provide engineering services on this project and appreciate your consideration on the above matter. Please contact the undersigned with any questions or comments you may have.

Prepared By:

Approved By:

Melissa Haresign, P.Eng.  
Water Resources Assistant Department Head

David S. Brown, P.Eng.  
Principal

2025 TREASURER'S REPORT MONTHLY EXPENSES				
	2025 BUDGET	April	TOTAL TO DATE	BALANCE REMAINING
<b>REVENUE</b>				
Provincial Grants	316,923	-	119,804	197,119
Municipal Levy	1,913,993	-	1,913,993	-
Self Generated	684,785	69,305	245,312	439,473
Other Revenue	1,659,262	100,026	243,285	1,415,977
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>4,574,963</b>	<b>169,331</b>	<b>2,522,394</b>	<b>2,052,569</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
<b>Category 1 Mandatory Programs and Services</b>				
Corporate Services	895,324	133,992	358,893	536,431
Risk of Natural Hazards	2,085,099	56,990	163,992	1,921,107
Conservation and Management of Lands owned and controlled by the Authority	1,044,201	30,235	148,270	895,931
Source Water Protection	55,883	5,755	31,583	24,300
Other Programs and Services	22,104	905	4,459	17,645
<b>Total Category 1 Mandatory Programs and Services</b>	<b>4,102,611</b>	<b>227,876</b>	<b>707,197</b>	<b>3,395,414</b>
<b>Category 2 Non-Mandatory Programs and Services at the Request of a Municipality</b>				
Mapping Services	18,527	-	-	18,527
<b>Total Category 2 Non-Mandatory Programs and Services at the Request of a Municipality</b>	<b>18,527</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18,527</b>
<b>Category 3 Non-Mandatory Programs and Services</b>				
Education	99,481	4,331	16,864	82,617
Stewardship	354,344	14,295	56,627	297,717
<b>Total Category 3 Non-Mandatory Programs and Services</b>	<b>453,825</b>	<b>18,626</b>	<b>73,490</b>	<b>380,335</b>
<b>Total All Expenses</b>	<b>4,574,963</b>	<b>246,503</b>	<b>780,687</b>	<b>3,794,276</b>
<b>Surplus(Deficit)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 77,172</b>	<b>1,741,707</b>	<b>- 1,741,707</b>

May 28, 2025

Moved By \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded By \_\_\_\_\_

***"THAT: having examined the accounts for the period April 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025 cheque #3530 to #3560 for \$172,436.18 and preauthorized payments of \$183,196.37 for a total of \$355,632.55, we approve their payment."***

3530	Allied Air Systems	New boiler and installation for LRCA Office	28,024.00
3531	Bayview Magazine	2025 Bayview Spring Ad	1,542.45
3532	City of Thunder Bay	Water Bill	588.81
3533	Doane Grant Thornton LLP	1st Quarter QBO fees	406.80
3534	Harris Ecological Consulting	Hurkett vegetation and fish monitoring project	5,650.00
3535	KGS Group Consulting Engineers	Neebing-McIntyre Floodway Floodplain Mapping - final	5,254.50
3536	McKittricks	City temporary shelter	5,045.45
3537	Nova Pro Industrial Supply Ltd	Office supplies	135.60
3538	Pioneer Construction	Salt and Sand	33.93
3539	RAS Maintenance Services	Office Cleaning	644.04
3540	Sportop Marketing	New T-Shirt Design Order; Replenishment Order	1,831.39
3541	Teleco	Telephone Additions	1,646.39
3542	WSIB	WSIB reimbursement for premiums for Jan returned in error	5,149.28
3543	Mark Ambrose	Petty Cash replenishment	267.66
3544	2611943 Ontario Ltd.	Garbage removal Cascades, Mission	791.00
3545	CDS Consulting Limited	Technical Services Jan 1 - March 31, 2025	5,424.00
3546	Doane Grant Thornton LLP	2nd interim Audit Bill	11,085.30
3547	Hatch Ltd.	Floodway Sediment Survey 2025	22,600.05
3548	Innovated Solutions	2025 Cloud Protection	847.50
3549	Lowery's	Office Supplies	361.92
3550	Marsh Canada	2025 Insurance	66,898.36
3551	Nova Pro Industrial Supply Ltd	Janitorial Supplies	475.39
3552	Paris Site Furnishings	Memorial bench for Silver Harbour (Flemming)	2,592.22
3553	SPI Health and Safety	Gloves for Stewardship	69.56
3554	Sportop Marketing	Seeds for Conservation Promo T-Shirts and Long Sleeve Staff Shirt	2,128.58
3555	Thunder Bay Answering Service Inc.	Answering Service	268.04
3556	Walleye Media Inc	Advertising in the Walleye magazine	146.90
3557	boy Roland	Mural Project Initial Invoice	587.60
3558	Lowery's	Photocopy charges April 2025 and Office Supplies	1,442.26
3559	Sleepy G Farm	Fertilizer	361.60
3560	Teleco	Correct March 28 system error -phone system was set to Holiday in error	135.60
			<u>172,436.18</u>
PA	Payroll and Per Diems		140,095.42
PA	Royal Bank Group Retirement RRSP and TFSA		1,528.36
PA	RWAM and Lifeworks Benefits		4,425.66
PA	Enbridge		735.84
PA	Synergy North		537.44
PA	Esso		973.28
PA	Visa Routine Monthly Expenses		16,019.19
PA	Banking and Visa Fees		1,404.26
PA	Postage		-
PA	Omers March		17,190.02
PA	Photocopier Lease		286.90
PA	Property Taxes		-
PA	GIC		-
			<u>183,196.37</u>
			<u>355,632.55</u>

Chair

Res# \_\_\_\_\_/25

Monthly Plan Input/Review and Fill Regulations Administration April 1 to 30, 2025											
Municipality	Minor Variance (A)	Consent (B)	Official Plan	Official Plan/ Zoning By- Law Comprehensive Review	Zoning By-Law (Z)	Subdivisions	Clearances	Reality Services	Lawyer Inquiries	Letter of Opinion (Other)	Total
City of Thunder Bay								116 College Street	Central Ave / Golf Links Road		
								234 Red River Road			
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	3
Oliver Paipoonge		1B-03-25									
		1B-04-25									
		1B-02-25									
		1B-07-25									
		1B-05-25									
		1B-08-25									
		1B-09-25									
Total	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
O'Connor											
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Neebing		V01-2025									
Total	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Shuniah	A25-2				Z25-1				119 Road #5 North		
Total	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	3
Conmee											
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gillies											
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dorion											
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rural Planning Board											
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Monthly Total	1	8	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	14

Monthly Plan Input/Review and Fill Regulations Administration May 1 to 20, 2025											
Municipality	Minor Variance (A)	Consent (B)	Official Plan	Official Plan/ Zoning By-Law Comprehensive Review	Zoning By-Law (Z)	Subdivisions	Clearances	Reality Services	Lawyer Inquiries	Letter of Opinion (Other)	Total
City of Thunder Bay						58T-17501		409 Dufferin Street	981 Red Pine Way		
								1047 Dawson Road			
								235 Red River Road			
								16 St. Paul Street			
Total	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	1	0	6
Oliver Paipoonge							430 Barrie Drive		73 Twin City Crossroad		
							238 Margaret Street				
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	3
O'Connor											
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Neebing											
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shuniah											
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Conmee											
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gillies											
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dorion											
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rural Planning Board											
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Monthly Total	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	4	2	0	9

Prohibited Activities, Exceptions and Permits- Ontario Regulation 41/24

Year: 2025

Permit #	Category	Fee	Applicant Name	Municipality	Subject Property Address	Type of Work	Key Dates					Minor OR Major Application (Timeline BP Minor = 30d Major = 90d)	Within Timelines
							Complete Application Received with Permit Fee Paid (YYYY-MM-DD)	Notice of Complete/ Incomplete Application ISSUED (YYYY-MM-DD)	Days to Issue Notice of Complete/ Incomplete Application (21 day timeline)	Permit Issued / Refused (YYYY-MM-DD)	Days to Issue /Refuse Permit (90 day timeline)		
#11/25	Standard	\$300.00	Chelsey Burch	City of Thunder Bay	100 Main Street	Fill Placement	3/20/2025	3/21/2025	1	3/25/2025	4	Minor	Yes
#14/25	Standard	\$300.00	Mike Vogrig	City of Thunder Bay	Lyons Ditch	Pedestrian Bridge Construction	4/10/2025	4/17/2025	7	4/22/2025	5	Minor	Yes
#15/25	Major	\$1,000.00	OPG	Oliver Paipoonge	4813 Highway 11/17	Kakabeka Fall Generating Station Redevelopment	4/8/2025	4/23/2025	15	5/8/2025	15	Major	Yes
#16/25	Standard	\$300.00	JW Michieli Construction	City of Thunder Bay	Lot 4 Bruin Cres	Dwelling Construction	5/7/2025	5/9/2025	2	5/14/2025	5	Minor	Yes
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## ***Monthly Project Update***

<b>MEETING DATE</b>	May 28, 2025
<b>STAFF NAME</b>	Ryan Mackett
<b>POSITION</b>	Communications Manager

### 2024 Annual Report

The 2024 Annual Report was scheduled to be distributed by the Chronicle Journal on May 24. Physical copies are now available at the office, and will be provided to interested Members.

### 2025 Dorion Birding Festival

The 2025 Dorion Birding Festival occurred on Saturday, May 24 and Sunday, May 25. A verbal update will be provided at the meeting.

### 2025 Wine Tasting and Dinner at Whitewater

The 2025 Wine Tasting & Dinner at Whitewater fundraising event was held on Friday, May 9, 2025. There were 126 tickets sold (up from 88 sold in 2024). The event was a success once again. The silent auction and ticket sales together brought in a total profit of approximately \$10,500, a record for this event.

### Children's Water Festival

Staff are currently planning the 2025 Lakehead Children's Water Festival, which will be held June 17-19 at the LRCA Administrative Office.

### Pride Month

During the month of June, the LRCA will be flying the pride flag alongside the Canada and Ontario flags. The pride flag was provided free of charge by Rainbow Collective. This symbolic show of support reaffirms the LRCA's commitment to being a safe, inclusive work environment and providing non-discriminatory public spaces for all members of the community.

## ***Monthly Project Update***

<b>MEETING DATE</b>	May 28, 2025
<b>STAFF NAME</b>	Ryne Gilliam
<b>POSITION</b>	Lands Manager

### LRCA Storage Building Painting

Classic Painting was hired to prep and paint the storage shed located on the grounds of the LRCA Administration Building. It was painted a deep grey colour in anticipation of a mural which will be designed painted by artist Boy Roland with funding from the CEDC.



### Diversion Structure Blockage

High water levels associated with this year's spring freshet and high precipitation events resulted in a significant blockage to occur in the Diversion Structure located along the Neebing River. Several large trees along with an aluminum boat caused the majority of the blockage. As per the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway maintenance agreement, the City of Thunder Bay brought in a long arm track machine along with a front-end loader to remove and dispose of the debris. Two tri axle dump truck loads of debris were removed.





### “CoastReach” Program

The LRCA has partnered with the University of Waterloo to install “CoastReach” units at Mission Island Marsh and Hurkett Cove Conservation Areas. CoastReach encourages Conservation Area users to contribute to important community science data while learning about coastal ecosystems.

Participants mount their phone on the bracket provided to capture a representative photo, which is then uploaded to the website using a QR code on the signage. The intent is to track changes over time along LRCA shorelines, including erosion, algae blooms, invasive species, and the success of our restoration projects. The project provides tangible data collection for Conservation Area management.





## ***Monthly Project Update***

<b>MEETING DATE</b>	May 28, 2025
<b>STAFF NAME</b>	Melissa Hughson
<b>POSITION</b>	Watershed Manager

### Watershed Conditions – Low Water

On May 6, 2025 the LRCA undeclared the Level I Low Water Condition. A Level I Low Water Condition was issued on October 10, 2024 based on one-month and three-month received precipitation and observed flow conditions in area streams when compared to the lowest average summer flow; the Level I condition remained in place over the winter. Precipitation received in April was recorded at 108.8 mm which is more than double the monthly average of 52.0 mm. The total precipitation received during February, March and April (3-month summary) was 37% above average, and the 18-month summary is currently 89% of normal.

### Watershed Conditions

Lake Superior's beginning of May water level was 9 cm below the beginning of month average, and 7 cm below last years May measurement. During the month of May, Lake Superior undergoes a seasonal rise that historically averages to approximately 10 cm; the lake is expected to continue the seasonal rise under most potential water supply scenarios.

### Annual Rain Gauge Inspection

LRCA staff conducted its annual inspection at the nine rain gauge stations maintained by the LRCA in May. The inspection involved removing debris with the tipping buckets, recording gauge conditions (i.e., missing bolts, damage, etc.) and a calibration check. The calibration check consisted of pouring water down the tipping buckets, downloading the gauges at the office, and observing if the tipping buckets are operating correctly.

### Lake Superior Management Committee

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, applicable LRCA staff attended the Lake Superior Partnership Management Committee call led by Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and the United States' Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Committee is made up of representatives from various regulatory agencies as well as various interest and user groups that contribute to the Lake Superior Lakewide Action and Management Plan (LAMP).

### Kaministiquia River Standing Advisory Committee

The LRCA participated in the Kaministiquia River Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting held May 6, 2025 at Fort William Historical Park. The committee is made up of representatives with a vested interest in the flows of the Kaministiquia River including, OPG, Camper's Association's (Shebandowan and Dog Lake), upper and lower Kam River residents, LRCA, Kakabeka Falls Provincial Park, Fort William Historical Park, MECP, MNR, Thunder Bay Pulp & Paper, etc. The meeting is held annually to discuss how the Kaministiquia River Water Management Plan is being implemented, how the system performed over the last year and what is expected for spring freshet and the year to come.

### PWQMN Sampling

The Provincial (Stream) Water Quality Monitoring Network (PWQMN) sampling program, facilitated by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, began this month. The program measures water quality in rivers and streams across Ontario. Over 400 locations are currently monitored in partnership with Ontario's Conservation Authorities, participating municipalities and provincial parks. Water samples are taken monthly during the ice-free period. Seven locations are within the Lakehead Region including: Current River, McVicar Creek, McIntyre River, Neebing River (at two locations), Slate River and the Kaministiquia River. The program has been operating since 1964 in the province providing a valuable database for tracking changes in water quality over time.

### Stewardship – Cyanobacteria Shoreline Protection Program

Funding through MECP has been received to complete an education and shoreline restoration program aiming to improve understanding of cyanobacteria and harmful algal blooms in the Lakehead Watershed. Landowners experiencing cyanobacteria or blue-green algae on their waterfront that applied to the program will receive professional consultation and up to 100 native plants to add vegetative buffer between lake and lawn. Twelve sites will be restored in 2025 through this program, along with outreach and education through community events, public open houses, and Campers' Association meetings.

### Stewardship – Hazelwood Lake Shoreline Restoration Project

TD Friends of the Environment has funded a shoreline restoration project at Hazelwood Lake Conservation Area. Hazelwood Lake's beach consists of an open field with minimal habitat complexity. In large precipitation events, stormwater runoff carries nutrients from the field and the beach and deposits them into the lake. The lack of buffer and vegetation provides minimal filtration, which has led to an increase in Blue-Green Algae Blooms (Cyanobacteria). A no-mow zone was established this month at Hazelwood Lake in preparation for fall shoreline plantings. Shoreline restoration with native plants will offer tremendous impacts to the health of the lake through nutrient uptake and filtration, while offering wildlife habitat.

### Stewardship – Floodway Habitat Corridor

MECP has once again funded a project along the Neebing-McIntyre Floodway near Waterford Street. The long-term goal of the Floodway Habitat Corridor is to create a functioning riparian buffer along the entire Floodway Corridor, while creating ecologically diverse wildlife habitat and a vibrant greenspace for pollinators, birds, and wildflowers to thrive. The Floodway Corridor envisions restored riparian and meadow habitat along 5 km of urban waterway, promoting community connectivity and augmenting dialogue around climate change in our city. Since 2021, 5 sites have been restored along the waterway through invasive species management, rehabilitation with native plants and habitat enhancements. Collaboration with neighbouring schools, Thunder Bay District Stewardship Council, and the City of Thunder Bay.

### Stewardship – Culvert Assessment Project

Funding through MECP has been obtained to complete a Culvert Assessment Project within the Municipality of Neebing that will record a detailed inventory of culverts within the Municipality, highlighting culverts that are undersized or do not provide safe access and egress. Perched culverts that impede connectivity between the tributaries and Lake Superior will be identified. The intent of the project is to help assist with stakeholder decision-making by providing information for future upgrades and remediation projects, with the goal of improving the safety of the public and enhancing fish migration, habitat, spawning, and populations.

### Seeds for Conservation

The LRCA's Seeds for Conservation program is in full swing; seeds that were sustainably harvested from LRCA's Conservation Areas in the fall were stratified over the winter and planted earlier this year. The program produces locally sourced, native plants for restoration projects within the Lakehead Watershed, ranging from riparian revegetation, wetland creation, to meadow landscapes. Seeds for Conservation contributes to local biodiversity and resilient seed banks by being intentional about species selection, preserving and supporting local genetics and adaptation within our ecosystems. The plants will be used in LRCA's planned Stewardship projects in 2025 as well as projects with the City of Thunder Bay. A plant sale, open to the public will be held at the LRCA office on June 4, 2025.

### Rain Garden

Funded by TC Energy, a demonstration rain garden at the south side of the LRCA Administration Office is being developed. The project will use Northwestern Ontario native plants including plants produced through Seeds for Conservation, to capture and filter runoff from the office building. The rain garden will have a bird habitat focus and will be used for education and community awareness.

### Invasive Species – Sea Lamprey Traps

The LRCA has been contracted for a second year by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) to monitor the sea lamprey traps on the McIntyre and Neebing Rivers for the 2025 season. The traps will be serviced daily from Monday to Friday for a minimum of eight consecutive weeks

completing mark and release studies on the sea lamprey captured. The information is used by DFO to generate a population estimate in the streams. These population estimates will be used along with that of other streams to estimate the population in all of Lake Superior. DFO has been collecting adult sea lamprey from the Neebing-McIntyre system since 1954, as part of a Lake Superior network of traps intended to monitor sea lamprey populations.

#### Invasive Species – Emerald Ash Borer Surveying

Funding through the Invasive Species Centre (ISC) has been received to complete a project to map the location and size of Black Ash stands at selected Conservation Areas, determine if there is evidence of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) using visual surveys, and evaluate the percentage of the stand that appears to be impacted by EAB. The project aims to gain baseline data for monitoring EAB in hopes of preventing its spread in Conservation Areas and across the Lakehead Watershed.

An education and outreach campaign will be completed to inform community members about EAB, how to identify the species, its current extent in the Lakehead Watershed, and where to post observations.

#### Invasive Species – Managing Invasive Cattail in Hurkett Cove

Parks Canada Lake Superior National Marine Conservation Area (NMCA) has funded a project to implement a management strategy to address Narrow-Leaved Cattail (NLC) within Hurkett Cove, preventing its further spread and subsequent loss of biodiversity within the Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW) and Lake Superior NMCA.

An ecological impact assessment will be conducted, reviewing the effects of NLC on rare species including marsh birds, waterfowl, fish, amphibians, and reptiles within the PSW. The project will include a literature review of previous studies, management techniques, and other implications of managing/removing NLC and a regional Best Management Practice for NCL will be developed. The final copy will be reviewed and approved by the Invasive Species Centre. The final draft will be made available on the LRCA's website.

#### Invasive Species – Thunder Bay Regional Phragmites Collaboration

Funding through the Invasive Species Centre has continued in 2025 for LRCA to lead and facilitate the Thunder Bay Regional Phragmites Collaboration. The Collaboration has members from over 37 local organizations, including resources management experts, and interested individuals. In 2024, the LRCA successfully managed twenty-three stands of invasive phragmites, covering an area of approximately 10,521 m<sup>2</sup>. An additional ten locations were sampled and DNA tested for the presence of Invasive versus Native Phragmites and documented with photos and GPS locations. Phragmites mapping, monitoring and management in the Thunder Bay region will continue in 2025. A training session is being held on May 28, 2025, lead by LRCA staff, that will cover phragmites basics, identification, where/how to look, use of DNA kits, how to map, reporting, management techniques, etc.