



**Raisin Region Conservation Authority
Full Authority Meeting
Agenda**

March 15, 2018

**** 3:00 p.m. ****

RRCA Administration Office

	Page
1. Call to Order	
2. Approval of Agenda	
3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest	
4. Approval of Minutes	
a) Minutes of February 15, 2018	1-4
5. Delegations / Presentations	
a) RRCA Project Update – PowerPoint Presentation (Staff)	
6. Business Arising From the Minutes	
7. New Business	
a) Closure of the Ontario Tree Seed Plant (Norm)	5-6
8. Future Meetings	
RRCA Full Authority starting at 3:00 p.m. – Apr 19 th , May 17 th , Jun 21 st	
9. Closed Session	
a) Property Matter (Norm)	7-8
b) Personnel Matter (Richard)	
10. Adjournment	

Richard Pilon
General Manager / Secretary-Treasurer

RAISIN REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
FULL AUTHORITY MINUTES
FEBRUARY 15, 2018 – 3:00 P.M.
RCA ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

PRESENT: Frank Prevost, South Glengarry, Chair
Tammy Hart, South Stormont, Vice-chair
Ian McLeod, South Glengarry
David Smith, South Stormont
Michel Depratto, North Glengarry
Alton Blair, North Stormont
Claude McIntosh, City of Cornwall
Carilyne Hebert, City of Cornwall

STAFF: Richard Pilon, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
Josianne Sabourin, Administrative Assistant
Sandy Cites, Manager of Finance
Phil Barnes, Project Manager
Lissa Deslandes, Regulations Officer / Communications Coordinator
Matthew Levac, Resource Technician
Brendan Jacobs, Fish & Wildlife Biologist / ALUS Coordinator
Normand Génier, Forestry Specialist
Pete Sabourin, Manager of Field Operations

CALL TO ORDER

Frank Prevost, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Alton requested to add Charlottenburgh Park Laundry Facility to the agenda as item 7 b).
The Gambhir Memorial Forest – Highway 401 Bridge Replacement was added as item 7 d).

RESOLUTION #16/18:

Moved by: Carilyne Hebert
Seconded by: Ian McLeod

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

PECUNIARY INTEREST

Frank declared pecuniary interest for item 7 b) and 7 c).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION #17/18:

Moved by: Claude McIntosh
Seconded by: David Smith

THAT the minutes of the January 18, 2018 meeting of the Raisin Region Conservation Authority be approved.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

NEW BUSINESS

RIVER MAINTENANCE

RESOLUTION #18/18:

Moved by: Michel Depratto
Seconded by: David Smith

THAT the Board of Directors receive the River Maintenance Annual Report, as presented.

CARRIED

CHARLOTTENBURGH PARK LAUNDRY FACILITY

Tammy was asked to Chair the meeting for this report.

There was a discussion regarding the laundry facility and the appliances at Charlottenburgh Park.

Dave requested that the discussion continue in closed session to discuss personnel matters.

RESOLUTION #19/18:

Moved by: Ian McLeod
Seconded by: Carilyne Hebert

THAT the Full Authority Meeting move into Closed Session to discuss the laundry facility at Charlottenburgh Park as there would be discussions regarding personnel matters.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION #20/18:

Moved by: Ian McLeod
Seconded by: Carilyne Hebert

THAT the Full Authority Meeting move to Open Session.

CARRIED

LAUNDRY SERVICES – CHARLOTTENBURGH PARK

Tammy was asked to Chair the meeting for this report.

RESOLUTION #21/18:

Moved by: Ian McLeod
Seconded by: Carilyne Hebert

THAT the Board of Directors approve purchasing the existing laundry service appliances at Charlottenburgh Park, at a total cost of \$3,500 including HST.

CARRIED

GAMBHIR MEMORIAL FOREST AND HIGHWAY 401 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

Norm Genier gave a presentation regarding MTO's Highway 401 bridge replacement project adjacent to the Gambhir Memorial Forest.

RESOLUTION #22/18:

Moved by: Michel Depratto
Seconded by: Claude McIntosh

THAT the Board of Directors direct staff to present the proposed compensation plan to MTO and enter negotiations for the temporary use of the Gambhir Memorial Forest property.

CARRIED

FUTURE MEETINGS

RRCA Full Authority – Mar. 15th, Apr. 19th, May 17th (3:00 p.m. start for all meetings)

CLOSED SESSION

RESOLUTION #23/18:

Moved by: Claude McIntosh
Seconded by: Tammy Hart

THAT the Full Authority Meeting move into Closed Session to discuss personnel matters.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION #24/18:

Moved by: Claude McIntosh
Seconded by: David Smith

THAT the Full Authority Meeting move to Open Session.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION #25/18:

Moved by: Michel Depratto
Seconded by: Ian McLeod

THAT the Board of Directors authorize staff to pursue items of action dealing with the personnel matter discussed in the Closed Session.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION #26/18:

Moved by: Ian McLeod
Seconded by: Carilyne Hebert

THAT the Full Authority meeting of February 15, 2018 be adjourned at 5:00 pm.

CARRIED

Frank Prevost
Chair

Richard Pilon
General Manager / Secretary-Treasurer



To: Board of Directors
From: Normand Genier, Forestry Specialist
Date: March 2, 2018
Subject: Closure of the Ontario Tree Seed Plant

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Directors endorse a letter from the RRCA to the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry against the closure of the Ontario Tree Seed Plant (OTSP) and allow the signing and sharing of online petitions on RRCA social networks.

BACKGROUND:

On August 23, 2017, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) announced the closure of the Ontario Tree Seed Plant, effective September 2018. The Ontario Tree Seed Plant and its public seed bank provide genetically appropriate seed for reforestation on Ontario's Crown land, afforestation planting programs such as the 50 Million Tree Program and the Tree Seedling Program. In addition, the Ontario Tree Seed Plant offers an open service available to all Ontarians, from landowners to school groups to growers, to purchase a variety of native species' seeds at a reasonable cost for any project.

Since 1923, this unique facility and its staff have provided expertise and best practices to ensure high quality, source-identified seed is translated into successful planting projects that preserve Ontario's biodiversity, protect our water, air and soils, and support jobs in the nursery, forestry and wood manufacturing sectors.

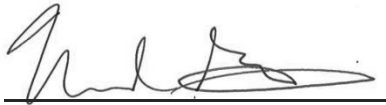
DISCUSSION:

In response to the August 23rd closure notice, the Ontario Tree Seed Coalition quickly formed from concerns users of the OTSP. In the last two months, Coalition members have made the following recommendations to the Minister of MNRF:

- MNRF to work with the Seed Coalition and other stakeholders to develop a transition plan to ensure continuation of the critical services provided by the Ontario Tree Seed Plant beyond the September 2018 deadline;
- Ensure the chain-of-custody for seed in Ontario is not disrupted in the transition process;
- Ensure the continuous supply of biologically appropriate seed, so Ontario's reforestation and afforestation practitioners can react and adapt to a changing climate;
- Secure the seed bank currently being managed for the public good by MNRF to facilitate the above options for Ontario practitioners.

The Coalition has had limited response to these recommendations and MNRF is proceeding with its plans to empty out the seed bank beginning late November 2018.

An online petition against the closure of the OTSP organized by AWARE Essa, an active environmental community group, is currently being circulated among the public with over 10,000 signatures so far.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Normand Genier', written over a horizontal line.

Normand Genier
Forestry Specialist