

St. Clair Conservation Authority Inventory of Programs and Services

Program/Service and Subservices	Description	Category (1,2,3)	Category Rationale	5 Year Average Annual Costs	Funding mechanism and percentage of costs
Section 28.1 Permit Administration	Reviewing and processing permit applications, associated technical reports, site inspections, communication with applicants, agents, and consultants and legal costs.	1	CA Act	\$270,391	Municipal Levy – 46% Self-Generated – 54%
Municipal Plan Input and Review	Technical information and advice to municipalities on circulated municipal land use planning applications (Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments, Subdivisions, Consents, Minor Variances). Input to municipal land-use planning documents (OP, Comprehensive ZB, Secondary plans) related to natural hazards, on behalf of Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (MNMNRF), delegated to CAs in 1983. Input to the review and approval processes under other applicable law, with comments principally related to natural hazards, wetlands, watercourses and Sec. 28 permit requirements.	1	CA Act	\$157,357	Provincial – 12% Municipal Levy – 71% Self-Generated – 17%
Plan Review Not Related to Natural Hazards	Technical information and advice to municipalities on circulated municipal land use planning applications (Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments, Subdivisions, Consents, Minor Variances).	2	CA Act	\$16,713.60	Self-Generated - 100%
Flood Forecasting and Warning	Daily data collection and monitoring of weather forecasts, provincial and local water level forecasts, watershed conditions, snow course, ice monitoring, flood event forecasting, flood warning, communications and response and equipment maintenance. Annual meeting with municipal flood emergency coordinator.	1	CA Act	\$127,000	Provincial -33% Municipal Levy –67 %
Flood and Erosion Control Infrastructure Operation and Management	Water and erosion control infrastructure and low flow monitoring. Includes 1 major flood control structure and 12 authority owned structures that are annually inspected, and routine maintenance work completed.	1	CA Act	\$265,000	Provincial –25 %, Participating Municipal Levy –75 %,

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Flood and Erosion Control Infrastructure Major Maintenance/ capital projects	Major maintenance of flood and erosion control structures as required. Projects are dependent on Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) funding from the province.	1	CA Act	\$1,500,000	Municipal levy – 50% Self-Generated – 50%
Low water response	Conditions monitoring and analysis. Technical and administrative support to the Water Response Team representing major water users and decision makers, who recommend drought response actions.	1	CA Act	\$6,200	Provincial –50 %, Municipal Levy –50 %
Contaminated Sediment Remediation	Project management activities to support consultant studies to design implementation options to remediate contaminated sediment along three priority areas along St. Clair River.	3	CA Act	\$500,000	Self-Generated – 100%
Information Management	Data collection, mapping, data sets, watershed photography. Development and use of systems to collect and store data and to provide spatial geographical representations of data.	1	CA Act	\$3,100	Self-Generated – 100%
Technical Studies and Policy Review	Studies and projects to inform natural hazards management programs including: floodplain management, watershed hydrology, regulations areas mapping update, flood forecasting system assessment, floodplain policy, Lake Huron shoreline management. These projects often last one to two years and are distributed over time as human resources and funding is available.	1	CA Act	\$70,000	Municipal – 100%
Flood and Erosion Control Infrastructure Operation and Management	Water and erosion control infrastructure and low flow monitoring. Includes 1 major flood control structure and 12 authority owned structures that are annually inspected, and routine maintenance work completed.	1	CA Act	\$265,000	Provincial –25 %, Municipal Levy –75 %,

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Natural Hazards Communications, Outreach and Education	Promoting public awareness of natural hazards including flooding, drought, and erosion. Public events, materials. Social media services. Media relations. Educate elementary school students and the public about the danger of floodwaters.	1	CA Act	\$10,000	Provincial – 50 % Municipal Levy –50 %
Watershed Report Card	Conservation Authorities report on local watershed conditions every five years. The SCRCA watershed is divided into 14 sub watersheds. Measuring increases understanding of the watershed, focuses efforts and tracks progress.	3	CA Act	\$5000	Self-Generated – 100%
Municipal Drain and Fisheries Review	Fisheries and Oceans Canada and other partners provide funding to SCRCA in order to conduct fisheries assessments on their behalf. This includes the municipal drain classification program, which classifies “not rated” drains to help streamline Fisheries Act approvals to the benefit of both Drain Superintendents and landowners. This is a component of CA Act approvals for municipal drainage works, that while specific to drain review and associated hazards, also protects headwater function, habitat and ecosystem health.	3	CA Act	\$12,000	Self-Generated –100 %
Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP)	Source Protection Area/Region, technical support, Source Protections Committee support, Source Protection Authority reports and meetings. Activities required by the Clean Water Act and regulations.	3	CA Act	\$65,000	Provincial – 100%
DWSP Risk Management Official	Carrying out Part IV duties of the Clean Water Act on behalf of municipalities through service agreements.	2	CA Act	\$50,000	Municipal Contracts – 100%
Strategy Development	New Project: Collate/compile existing resource management plans, watershed plans, studies and data. Strategy development, implementation and annual reporting. This is a one-year project which builds on the 2015 Watershed Management Strategy.	1	CA Act	New Program TBD	TBD

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Natural Heritage Systems Implementation Phase	The SCRCA incorporates natural heritage information particularly around wetlands to develop planning and regulatory strategies to mitigate downstream natural hazards.	3	CA Act	New Program TBD	TBD
Lake Huron Regional Initiative	Collaborative project of federal and provincial agencies and Lake Huron Southeast Shore Conservation Authorities to develop watershed plans to address broader-scale water quality issues and natural hazard issues in near-shore areas and contributing watersheds.	3	CA Act	\$88,250	Self-Generated – 100%
Sydenham River Regional Initiative	Sydenham River Phosphorus Management Plan Sydenham River Recovery (e.g., SAR Threats Inventory)	3	CA Act	\$85,000	Self-Generated – 100%
Natural Heritage Systems Implementation Phase	The SCRCA incorporates natural heritage information particularly around wetlands to develop planning and regulatory strategies to mitigate downstream natural hazards.	3	CA Act	New Program TBD	TBD
Lake Huron Regional Initiative	Collaborative project of federal and provincial agencies and Lake Huron Southeast Shore Conservation Authorities to develop watershed plans to address broader-scale water quality issues and natural hazard issues in near-shore areas and contributing watersheds.	3	CA Act	\$88,250	Self-Generated – 100%
Sydenham River Regional Initiative	Sydenham River Phosphorus Management Plan Sydenham River Recovery (e.g., SAR Threats Inventory)	3	CA Act	\$85,000	Self-Generated – 100%
Regional Conservation Areas including AW Campbell, LC Henderson, and Warwick	Management and maintenance of 3 conservation areas which offer both seasonal and overnight camping, day use facilities including trails, pavilion rentals, playgrounds, pools, and canoe or kayak rentals. Program includes risk management, hazard tree management, site security, parking lot and road maintenance, trail maintenance, stewardship and restoration, facilities maintenance, agricultural lease management, customer service tasks, signage, and advertising.	3	CA Act	\$1,203,643	Self-Generated – 99.8 % Grants – 0.2%

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Local Conservation Areas (owned and operated by SCRCA)	Management and maintenance of 6 local conservation areas. Program includes risk management, hazard tree management, parking lot maintenance, trail maintenance, facility maintenance, stewardship and restoration, and signage.	2	CA Act	\$155,812	Levy – 3% Special Levy – 44% Self-Generated – 19% Grant – 34%
Local Conservation Areas (long-term lease to municipality)	Seven local conservation areas leased to local municipality. Largely taxes and insurance costs.	1	CA Act	\$37,380	Special Levy – 58% Self-Generated – 40% Grant – 2%
SCRCA forests and management areas (McKeough Upstream Lands)	Management and maintenance of CA owned lands. Includes forest management, signage, gates, passive recreation, stewardship, agriculture leases, restoration, ecological monitoring, carrying costs such as taxes and insurance.	1	CA Act	\$156,279.10	Self-Generated – 100%
Managed Lands (Lambton County)	Management and maintenance of five properties, four with passive recreation and one managed for wildlife habitat. Program includes risk management, hazard tree management, forest management, parking lot maintenance, trail maintenance, stewardship and restoration, and signage.	3	CA Act	\$30,538	Self-Generated - 100%
Woodlands Conservation By-Law	The county of Lambton has entered into an agreement with the SCRCA to administer the Woodlands Conservation By-Law on their behalf. Site inspections, permitting, approvals, investigations, laying of charges, court appearances	3	CA Act	\$52,500.66	Self-Generated – 100%
Land Management - St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation (SCRCF)	Management and maintenance of SCRCF owned lands. Includes passive recreation, risk management program, hazard tree management, forest management, agriculture leases, signage, trails, parking lots, buildings, roadways, stewardship, restoration, ecological monitoring, carrying costs such as taxes and insurance.	3	CA Act	\$18,353	Self-Generated – 100%

Program/Service and Subservices	Description	Category (1,2,3)	Category Rationale	5 Year Average Annual Costs	Funding mechanism and percentage of costs
Inventory of Conservation Authority lands	New Project: The land inventory will include the following information: location as well as date acquired, method and purpose of acquisition, land use, and updates as properties are acquired or disposed of. Year one: Information gathering and document development \$20,000.00. On-going document maintenance \$1,500.00 annually.	1	CA Act	\$ 5,200.00	Self-Generated – 100%
Strategy for CA owned or controlled lands and management plans	New Project: A strategy to guide the management and use of CA-owned or controlled properties including guiding principles, objectives, land use, natural heritage, classifications of lands, mapping, identification of programs and services on the lands, public consultation, publish on website. Year one: strategy development \$35,000. On-going: Creation or update of individual property management plans \$35,000	1	CA Act	\$35,000.00	Self-Generated – 100%
Land Acquisition and Disposition Strategy	New Project: A policy to guide the acquisition and disposition of land in order to fulfil the objects of the Authority. Year one: strategy development \$35,000.00. On-going: bi-annual review \$5,000.00 (website update, mapping exercise, general document review)	1	CA Act	\$8,000.00	Self-Generated – 100%
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Land Acquisition and Disposition Strategy	New Project: A policy to guide the acquisition and disposition of land in order to fulfil the objects of the Authority. Year one: strategy development \$35,000.00. On-going: bi-annual review \$5,000.00 (website update, mapping exercise, general document review)	1	CA Act	\$8,000.00	Self-Generated – 100%

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Private Land Stewardship Program	Work with property owners to implement Best Management Practices to mitigate flood and erosion hazards, improve and protect water quality, restore floodplains and river valleys, reduce nutrient contamination, restore and enhance wetlands to reduce flooding peaks and augment low flow, management of terrestrial non-native invasive species, protect groundwater, and improve aquatic species at risk habitat. Apply for and manage external funding, promote private	3	CA Act	\$100,700	Self-Generated – 100%
Natural heritage monitoring, plans/strategies.	-Planning and developing programs relating to watershed monitoring including fish, mussels, reptiles, species-at-risk and recovery efforts of the Eastern Spiny Softshell Turtle through the Captive Hatch and Release Program. -Production and publication of academic, scientific and technical reports. -Liaise with partner organizations (DFO, MNMNR, NPO's) on the development of aquatic monitoring programs. Drain research Fox Snake Photo database	3	CA Act	\$200,300	Self-Generated – 100%
Conservation Services, Tree Planting, Forestry, Invasive Species	Forestry services including consultation with property owners, tree planting plan development and extended vegetation control and plantation management. Bioremediation and Phytoremediation site management Woodland stewardship and M.F.T.I.P. services. Invasive species management including phragmites, West Nile Virus.	3	CA Act	\$410,000	Self-Generated – 100%

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Remedial Action Plan Coordination	Collate relevant information and support the preparation of reports outlining the status of Beneficial Use Impairments (BUIs) in the St. Clair River to facilitate re-designation, provide communications for the St. Clair River Area of Concern by attending and/or organizing events to engage the public on the program and by developing public friendly documents, facilitate and support local committees established to guide and implement the Remedial Action Plan, lead Indigenous outreach and consultation on activities, reports, and recommendations pertinent to the St. Clair River Area of Concern program.	3	GLWQA COA	\$115,800	Federal – 50% Provincial – 50%
Corporate Services	Administrative, human resources, operating and capital costs which are not directly related to the delivery of any specific program or service, but are the overhead and support costs of a conservation authority. Includes health and safety program, overseeing programs and policies.	1	CA Act	\$255,975	Self-Generated 100%
Financial Services	Annual budget, accounts payable and receivable, payroll, financial analysis, financial audit, administration of reserves and investments, financial reports for funding agencies, preparing and submitting reports to CRA, benefits program administration.	1	CA Act	\$239,975	Municipal Levy - 60%, Self-Generated – 40%
Legal Expenses	Costs related to agreements/contracts, administrative by-law updates	1	CA Act	\$5,400	Self-Generated - 100%
Governance	Supporting CA Boards, Advisory Committees, Office of CEO/CAO/GM and Senior Management.	1	CA Act	\$9,750	Municipal Levy - 100%,
Communications and Outreach	Informing the public of SCRCA programs and projects through media, open houses, public meetings, website administration, responding to inquiries from the public, crisis communications.	1	CA Act	\$102,000	Municipal Levy – 88% Self-generated – 12%

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Administration Buildings	Office buildings and workshop used to support SCRCA staff, programs and services. Includes utilities, routine and major maintenance, property taxes. Note: The Average Annual Cost does not include accessibility upgrades needed by January 1, 2025. These costs are estimated to be approximately \$250,000 in total over the next few years.	1	CA Act	\$93,580	Self-Generated – 100%
Information Technology Management/ GIS	Data management, records retention. Development and use of systems to collect and store data and to provide spatial geographical representations of data.	1	CA Act	\$79,324	Self-Generated - 100%
Vehicle and Equipment	A fleet of vehicles and equipment to support the work of the SCRCA, including capital purchases, fuel, licenses, repairs and maintenance. Programs and projects are charged for the use of vehicles and equipment.	1	CA Act	\$161,336	Self-Generated - 100%
School and Community Programs	Curriculum-based education programs for elementary and secondary students. These programs focus on local watersheds, ecosystems, and environmental issues. Programs take place at schools (indoors and outdoors), field trips to conservation areas and community parks and through online learning. Education and outreach programs and community events to assist in achieving the objectives of the conservation authority. These programs are open to people of all ages. Planting of native trees, shrub, TGP in municipalities, schools' yards	3	CA Act	\$198,600	Self-Generated - 100%