

Good afternoon:

As you know, over the last year new regulations and a policy were finalized to implement changes under the *Conservation Authorities Act* (CAA). The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) is offering webinar training sessions to answer questions you may have about the new regulations, policy and their implementation.

The changes announced in [October 2021](#) focus conservation authorities (CAs) on their core mandate by prescribing mandatory programs and services they must provide and setting out requirements for transition plans, inventories, and cost apportioning agreements for CA determined programs that require financing through municipal levy apportionment. They also consolidated the existing “Conservation Areas” regulations.

The changes in [April 2022](#) introduced regulations that built on current CA budgetary practices to align them with the new CA framework and a provincial policy governing the charging of fees by CA. A regulation that addresses information requirements on CA websites was also finalized. Together, these changes will improve CA governance, oversight, transparency, and accountability.

To support the smooth transition to the new CA funding framework and categories of CA programs and services, MNRF will be providing the following online training sessions:

- **Phase 1 Regulations - Refresher:** An overview of the regulations prescribing the programs and services that CAs must provide, requirements to transition to the new CA funding framework, and the rules of conduct in conservation areas, **October 12th at 1:30pm**
- **Phase 2 Regulation and Policy - Overview:** An overview of new regulations governing CA budgetary processes and levy apportionment methods, the classes of programs and services for which a CA may charge a fee, and website information requirements, **October 20th at 10:00am**
- **Phase 2 Regulations for Practitioners involved in CA budgets and municipal levy apportionment:** Detailed information on the requirements related to CA budgets, levy apportionment methods, and determining amounts that may owed by specified municipalities in respect of the *Clean Water Act, 2006* and *Lake Simcoe Protection Act, 2008*, **November 3rd at 1:30pm**

You are invited to share this invitation with appropriate staff and your members.

Those interested in attending can register for the training session/s by emailing ca.office@ontario.ca with the subject line “**New Requirements under the Conservation Authorities Act: Training for CAs and Municipalities.**” A reply will be sent with information on how to join the session.

Thank you in advance for your participation. Please contact MNRF at ca.office@ontario.ca if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Keyes,
Director, Resources Planning and Policy Development Branch
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry