

# Preliminary Draft LTVCA Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy



## Draft Preliminary Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy



2024 Draft Preliminary – For Consultation – July 17, 2024

Lower Thames Valley  
Conservation Authority

Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority  
Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy

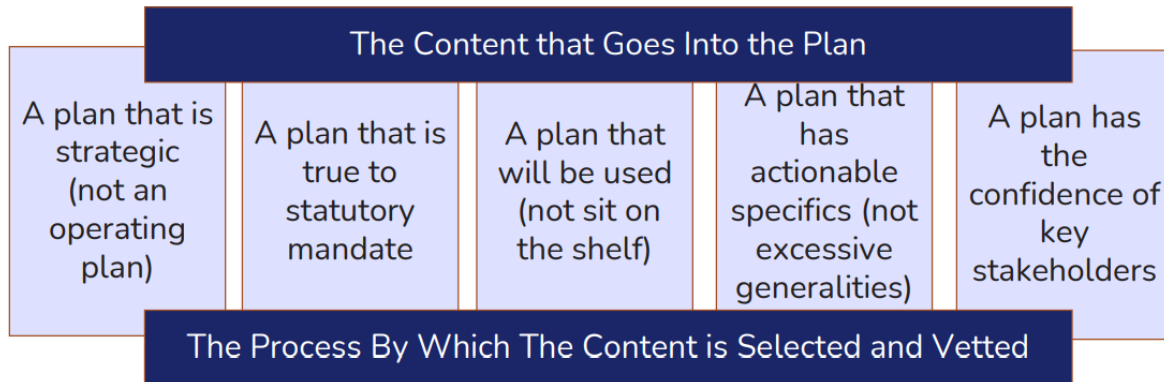
Valerie Towsley,  
Watershed Resource Planner  
Mark Peacock, P. Eng.  
C.A.O. / Secretary-Treasurer  
August 2, 2024



# What do we want?

Strategic Planning is both a Process and an Outcome...

- The desired result:



[strategycorp.com](http://strategycorp.com)

# The LTVCA Approach



## Integrating

- ▶ The LTVCA Strategic Plan, and
- ▶ The Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy

Why?: Have already begun the Strategic Plan Update and will be using components of that work in the new Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy

# Mandatory Requirements in WBRMS (section 21.1 CAA)

- ▶ Natural Hazards
- ▶ Conservation, management of lands owned by the Authority
- ▶ Drinking water source protection per Clean Water Act
- ▶ Prescribed by regulation: e.g.
  - PWQMN
  - PGMN

May include municipal and other/authority programs if directed by municipal MOUs/agreements (sections 21.1.1, 21.1.2 CAA)

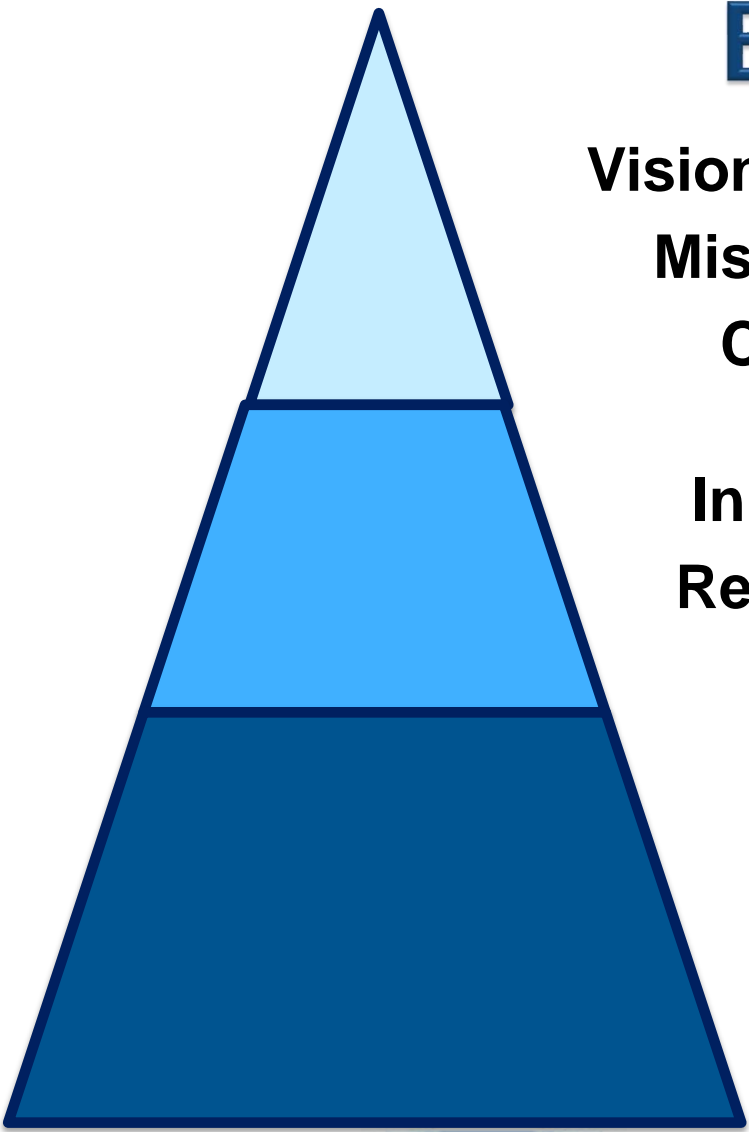
# Agreements with Municipalities

- ▶ All LTVCA 10 municipalities have signed MOUs supporting all programs of the CA – Appendix A of the Agreements
- ▶ Includes Statement:

The Municipality acknowledges and agrees that all Programs and Services identified in Appendix A shall also be included in a Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy that the LTVCA is required to develop and implement in accordance with the Conservation Authorities Act.



# Elements of the Plan



**Vision**

**Mission**

**Core Values**

**Foundational Statements**

**Input**

**Response**

**What needs to be Done**

**Initiatives to**

**Achieve**

**How to get it Done**

**Outcomes and**

**Measuring these`**

# LTVCA Vision

The LTVCA, for a  
balanced and  
healthy  
watershed.



# LTVCA Mission Statement

Leading by example in  
environmental conservation  
in  
partnership with the  
community.





# Core Values

- ▶ Respect
- ▶ Integrity
- ▶ Commitment
- ▶ Objectivity
- ▶ Collaboration



# Strategic Areas of Focus

The strategic areas of focus include the following:

## Watershed Management Areas

1. Healthy and Climate Resilient Watersheds
2. Supporting Sustainable Growth
3. Connecting People to Nature

## Organizational Areas

4. Partner of Choice
5. Organizational Excellence



# What is in each Area

## FIVE STRATEGIC AREAS OF FOCUS OF THE LTVCA'S FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN



Healthy and  
Climate Resilient  
Watersheds



Supporting  
Sustainable  
Growth



Connecting  
People to Nature



Partner of Choice



Organizational  
Excellence

### Resource Management Areas (examples)

### Organizational Areas

Stewardship	Planning/Regs	Cons Areas	Across all Areas	Across All Areas
Species At Risk	Flood Forecasting Warning	Education		
Watershed Planning Projects	Hazard Tech Studies	Communications		
Agricultural Programs	Building Hazard Projects	Outreach		
Urban Stewardship	Low Water	Facilities e.g. Ska- Nah-Doht		
Monitoring	Flood Control	Camp Grounds		

# Desired Outcomes – Lots of Input

This is to include an evaluation of:

1. Shared Waters Approach Recommendations
2. Other LTVCA approved Strategic Planning Documents
3. What everyone else thinks we should be doing

# Strategic Objectives

1. Improving Watershed Health
2. Monitoring the Health of the Watershed
3. Supporting Sustainable Growth
4. Improving Transparency and Customer Service in Planning and Regulations
5. Protecting the Community from Natural Hazards
6. Educating the Community about Natural Hazards
7. Supporting Community Understanding of the Watershed
8. Providing Educational and outreach opportunities
9. Providing Opportunities for Outdoor Experiences
10. Improving Management and Operations of Conservation Areas
11. Strengthening and Increasing Collaboration with Community Stakeholders
12. Increase Awareness of the Value of Good Watershed Stewardship
13. Improve Training Opportunities for Staff
14. Improving Transparency and Understanding of LTVCA Operations
15. Improving Capital Asset Management
16. Strengthening Staff Stability (financial stability, attraction & retention)
17. Improving Staff Communications and Team Building

# Response to Input (example)

Input / Needs Expressed	Response to Input
Climate Change issues and action plan needed	Create a LTVCA Climate Action Plan
Understanding Ecological Flows and Maintaining them - SWA	Include parameters to understand ecological flows within a new LTVCA Integrated Watershed Monitoring Strategy
Watershed Restoration required to increase biodiversity, habitat connectivity and natural cover	Continue Stewardship Programs –wetlands, tree plants and tall grass prairie plants and unique habitat projects Continue urban stewardship Program Continue to support partner groups delivering stewardship programming Continue Species At Risk Program Non active Conservation Areas –protect existing areas and acquire new acres Municipal Invasive Species Program
Understanding the health of the watershed environment, with the goal of improvement and resiliency	Complete LTVCA Integrated Watershed Monitoring Strategy Continue PGMN and PWQMN monitoring networks Continue project based monitoring when funding available Chatham-Kent Lampton Childrens Water Festival
Undertake integrated and adaptive watershed management	Implement WBRMS
Empowering and supporting watershed residents to understand watershed and do work	Maintain existing LTVCA stewardship program Create new/Update LTVCA Communications/Outreach Strategy
Reduction of Phosphorus in the water	Undertake new Phosphorus Reduction Program and continue existing/ other new agricultural programs

# Initiatives to Address Input

- ▶ We now have to figure out how to get there – initiatives to achieve desired outcomes

# Initiatives – Focus Area 1 - Healthy and Climate Resilient Watersheds

## ► Existing Programs

Current Programs	Measurement	Timing	Strategic Objective #
<b>LTVCA Stewardship Programs</b> - Rural - Urban	- number of wetlands, tree plants and tall grass prairie plants and unique habitat projects per year urban stewardship program – number of volunteers and projects per year	Annually	1,2,7,11,12
<b>Chatham-Kent Lambton Children’s Water Festival</b>	- number of participants	Annually	1,8,9,11
<b>Support to partner groups delivering stewardship programming</b>	number of partners engaged per year	Annually	1, 7,11,12
<b>LTVCA Species At Risk Program</b>	number of projects undertaken	Annually	1, 2,7
<b>PGMN and PWQMN monitoring networks</b>	Samples taken	Continue	2,7
<b>project based monitoring when funding available</b>	Samples taken	Annually	2
<b>Reduction of Phosphorus in the water</b>	continue existing/new agricultural programs	continuing	1,2,7,11,12
<b>Conservation Areas – non active use</b>	Acres maintained	Annually	1,7,9,10



# Initiatives – Focus Area 1 - Healthy and Climate Resilient Watersheds

## ▶ New and Expanded Programs

New Initiative	Measurement	Timing	Strategic Objective #
<b>Climate Change Action Plan</b>	LTVCA Climate Action Plan Created	December 2025	1,3,5,6,7
<b>Integrated Watershed Monitoring Program</b>	LTVCA Integrated Watershed Monitoring Strategy created	December 2026	2,3,6
<b>Municipal Invasive Species Program</b>	- Number of projects	Annually	1,3,7,8
<b>New Phosphorus Management Program</b>	Undertake Precision Phosphorus Reduction Program	August 2024	1,2,3,7,8,11

# Initiatives – Focus Area 2 - Supporting Sustainable Growth

## ► Existing Programs

Current Programs	Measurement	Timing	Strategic Objective #
<b>Customer Service Programs</b>	Time of Plan Review and Permitting as measured against O. Reg. 41/24 and LTVCA Customer Service Strategy – continue	Report delivery time at each Board of Directors Meeting	3,4,5,6
<b>LTVCA Flood Contingency Plan</b>	Update Plan	Annually	3,5,6
<b>LTVCA Low Water Response Program</b>	Summary of Low Water Notices Issued	Annually	2,3,5,6
<b>LTVCA River and Creek Safety Program</b>	# of students	Annually	5,6,8
<b>LTVCA Flood Forecasting and Warning Program</b>	Messages Issued, events in which structures were operated	Annual Reporting	3,5,6
<b>management planning and implementation of Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair</b>	Programs Undertaken	When requested and when funding available	3,5,6
<b>Don't create new or aggravate existing hazards</b>	Continue to implement LTVCA programs	Annually	3,5,6

# Initiatives – Focus Area 2 - Supporting Sustainable Growth

## ▶ New and Expanded Programs

New Initiative	Measurement	Timing	Strategic Objective #
<b>Flood Plain Mapping and Risk Assessment Strategy</b>	Flood Plain Mapping and Risk Assessment Strategy Prepared	December 2025	3,5,6,7
<b>Integrated Watershed Monitoring Program</b>	LTVCA Integrated Watershed Monitoring Strategy created	December 2026	2,3,6
<b>LTVCA Ice Management Plan</b>	LTVCA Ice Management Plan Prepared	December 2024	3,5,6,7
<b>New LTVCA Development Policies</b>	Update LTVCA Development Policies	June 2025	3,4,5,6
<b>Shared Watershed LTVCA Implementation Plan</b>	Shared Watershed LTVCA Implementation Plan Prepared	February 2025	1,2,3,7,11
<b>Flood Control Structures Operational Plan</b>	Prepare Flood Control Structures Operational Plan Prepared	December 2024	3,5,6
<b>LTVCA Climate Action Plan</b>	LTVCA Climate Action Plan Prepared	December 2025	1,3,5,6,7

# Initiatives – Focus Area 3 - Connecting People to Nature

## ▶ Existing Programs

Current Programs	Measurement	Timing	Strategic Objective #
<b>LTVCA Stewardship Programs</b> - Rural - Urban	– number of wetlands, tree plants and tall grass prairie plants and unique habitat projects per year urban stewardship program – number of volunteers and projects per year	Annually	1,2,7,11,12
<b>municipal natural heritage studies</b>	Number supported	As requested	1,2,3,7,11
<b>LTVCA Outreach and Education Programs</b>	People educated	Annually	7,8,11
<b>Conservation Areas – active use</b>	People using areas	Annually	7,9,10,12

# Initiatives – Focus Area 3 - Connecting People to Nature

## ▶ New and Expanded Programs

New Initiative	Measurement	Timing	Strategic Objective #
<b>LTVCA Lands Strategy</b>	LTVCA Lands Strategy Prepared	December 2024 – Annual Reporting on Progress	1,3,8,9,10
<b>Ska-Nah-Doht Village Strategic Plan</b>	Ska-Nah-Doht Village Strategic Plan Updated	June 2025	3,8,9,10
<b>C.M. Wilson Learning Centre Strategic Plan</b>	C.M. Wilson Learning Centre Strategic Plan Prepared	December 2025	3,8,9,10
<b>LTVCA Natural Heritage Strategy</b>	LTVCA Natural Heritage Strategy Created	???	1,3,7,11

# Initiatives – Focus Area 4 - Partner of Choice

## ▶ Existing Programs

Current Programs	Measurement	Timing	Strategic Objective #
<b>Customer Service Programs</b>	Time of Plan Review and Permitting as measured against O. Reg. 41/24 and LTVCA Customer Service Strategy – continue	Report delivery time at each Board of Directors Meeting	4,14
<b>Stewardship Awards</b>	Number of Stewardship partners recognized	Annual Awards at AGM FEB. of each year	7,11,12
<b>Continuous Financial Reporting</b>	Continue 6x yearly financial reporting to Board of Directors and post on WEB	Continuing	14,17

# Initiatives – Focus Area 4 - Partner of Choice

## ▶ Existing Programs

New Initiative	Measurement	Timing	Strategic Objective #
<b>LTVCA Indigenous Training Program</b>	Training program for LTVCA on Indigenous understandings created	December 2025	13,17
<b>New/Update LTVCA Communications/Outreach Strategy</b>	New/Update LTVCA Communications/Outreach Strategy Prepared	December 2025	4,6,7,11,12

# Initiatives – Focus Area 5 - Organizational Excellence

## ▶ Existing Programs

Current Programs	Measurement	Timing	Strategic Objective #
<b>HR staff committee</b>	Meetings held	Continuing	14,16,17
<b>Monthly staff meetings</b>	Meetings held	Continuing	13,14,16,17
<b>Foster a strong team environment based on trust and mutual respect, transparent in its processes and inclusive of new ideas</b>	Maintain monthly staff meetings with opportunities for staff to bring new ideas forward	Continuing	13,14,16,17
<b>Strengthen staff stability (financial stability, attraction and retention)</b>	Conduct Salary Review	December 2025	16
<b>Improve internal communications, operations and processes</b>	Maintain monthly staff meetings and weekly team meetings	Continuing	14,16,17
<b>Build reliable physical and digital assets</b>	Prepare LTVCA Asset Management Plan	December 2024	15



# Initiatives – Focus Area 5 - Organizational Excellence

## ▶ New and Expanded Programs

New Initiative	Measurement	Timing	Strategic Objective #
<b>Salary Review</b>	Salary Review Undertaken	December 2025	14,16
<b>LTVCA Asset Management Plan</b>	LTVCA Asset Management Plan Prepared	December 2024	14,15
<b>Update Hiring Procedures</b>	Procedures updated	June 2025	14,16,17

# Thank-you

