

# THE MUNICIPALITY OF LAMBTON SHORES

**Report CAO 22-2023**

**Council Meeting Date: December 19, 2023**

**TO:** Mayor Cook and Members of Council  
**FROM:** Steve McAuley, Chief Administrative Officer  
**RE:** Cost Apportioning Memorandum of Understanding - SCRCA

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT** Report CAO 22-2023 regarding the Cost Apportioning Memorandum of Understanding with St. Clair Region Conservation Authority be received; and

**THAT** the Cost Apportioning Memorandum of Understanding with the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority be approved; and

**THAT** the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign all necessary documents.

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**SUMMARY**

This report presents a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for category 3 work that the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) is proposing to provide to Lambton Shores

**BACKGROUND**

As Council is aware, funding provide to local conservation authorities has been drastically reduced by the Provincial Government over the last few years. Certain programs that were previously funded are no longer being funded by the Province, and as a result local municipalities are being asked to fund the programs in order for them to continue to be offered. These types of programs are considered optional and are referred to as Category 3 projects under the Conservation Authority Act. A request from the SCRCA was received outlining the projects and included a MOU, both of which are attached for Council review.

The SCRCA is offering three Category 3 projects that includes:

- School and Community Programs
- Private Land Stewardship
- Conservation Services

The annual apportionment cost for these programs for Lambton Shores is as follows:

- School and Community Programs      \$4,500
- Private Land Stewardship              \$500
- Conservation Services                  \$4,288

The MOU is a five (5) year commitment with a total cost of \$46,440.

A similar request from the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA) was received and approved by Council at their June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Council meeting. In the case of the ABCA, the total apportionment for the Category 3 projects was \$34,613 annually with a total 5-year cost of \$170,065.

### **ALTERNATIVES TO CONSIDER**

Category 3 projects are optional, as such Council could decide not to participate in the projects, however staff are of the opinion that similar projects could not be offered by Lambton Shores staff as economically as the SCRCA can provide them.

### **RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

Staff recommend entering into the attached MOU to fund the specified Category 3 projects.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

If approved, the costs of the Category 3 projects will be included in the 2024 budget.

### **CONSULTATION**

Ken Phillips – General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer, SCRCA