

Grand River Conservation Authority

Report number: GM-06-22-51

Date: June 24, 2022

To: Members of the Grand River Conservation Authority

Subject: Progress Report #1- Ontario Regulation 687/21

Recommendation:

THAT Progress Report #1 be approved, circulated to all participating Grand River watershed municipalities, posted on the GRCA website, and submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks in accordance with Ontario Regulation 687/21.

Summary:

Not applicable.

Report:

As a requirement under *Ontario Regulation 687/21*, the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) developed and approved a Transition Plan (December 17, 2021) and Inventory of Programs and Services (February 28, 2022). The Inventory of Programs and Services is based on the three categories identified in the Regulation. These categories include (1) Mandatory, (2) Municipally requested, and (3) Other (Authority determines are advisable).

As required under Ontario Regulation 687/21 and identified in GRCA's Transition Plan, the GRCA is providing its first Progress Report. Under the Regulation the Progress Reports must include the following;

- Any comments or other feedback submitted by a municipality regarding the inventory
- A summary of any changes that the Authority has made to the inventory to address comments or other feedback- including a copy of the changed inventory and description of changes
- An update on the progress of negotiations on agreements with participating municipalities
- Any difficulties that the Authority is experiencing that might affect the ability of the Authority to complete the transition plan milestones

Progress Report Details

1) Municipal Comments/Feedback:

- To date, staff have met with all participating municipalities to provide background and information on new regulations are associated requirements. At this time, staff have not received any formal comments or concerns from the participating municipalities regarding the Inventory of Programs and Services (dated Feb. 28, 2022).

2) Summary of Changes to Inventory of Programs and Services:

- Through report GM-06-22-52, the Inventory of Programs and Services has been updated to include existing Memorandums of Understanding and/or Agreements with participating municipalities. Chart C (ii) Programs and Services Inventory Listing- Category 2- Information Requirements has been added.

- 3) Update on Progress of Negotiations with Participating Municipalities on Category 2 Programs and Services:
 - At this time, the GRCA is on track with the schedule identified in the GRCA's Transition Plan.
 - GRCA will be hosting virtual webinars in the near future for watershed municipalities to detail Category 2 programs and services.
 - GRCA staff are also working on developing a draft template for the Memorandum of Understanding for Category 2 Programs and Services.
 - GRCA staff will continue to work with neighboring Conservation Authorities (where possible) to help streamline the process of negotiations with shared participating municipalities on Category 2 Programs and Services.
- 4) Difficulties Reaching Transition Plan Milestones:
 - At this time, there have not been any difficulties identified in meeting transition plan milestones.

Once the Progress Report is approved, it will be circulated to all watershed municipalities and the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks. The Progress Report will also be posted on GRCA's website for public access.

Financial Implications:

Not applicable.

Other Department Considerations:

Not applicable.

Submitted by:

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Chief Administrative Officer