

GANARASKA REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

March 16, 2023 (Hybrid)

GRCA 01/23

1. Welcome, Land Acknowledgement and Call to Order

The Chair called the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority (GRCA) Board of Directors meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Lovshin, Chair - Township of Hamilton
Vicki Mink, Vice - Chair - Municipality of Port Hope
Miriam Mutton - Town of Cobourg
Lance Nachoff - Township of Cavan Monaghan
Adam Pearson - Municipality of Port Hope
Joan Stover - Township of Alnwick/Haldimand
Willie Woo - Municipality of Clarington
Margaret Zwart - Municipality of Clarington

ALSO PRESENT: Linda Laliberte, CAO/Secretary-Treasurer
Cory Harris, Watershed Services Coordinator
Ken Thajer, Planning and Regulations Coordinator
Pam Lancaster, Conservation Lands Coordinator
Ed Van Osch, Forest Recreation Technician
Members of the Public

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Randy Barber - Town of Cobourg
Bruce Buttar - Agricultural Representative
Tracy Richardson - City of Kawartha Lakes

ALSO ABSENT:

Land Acknowledgement

The Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority respectfully acknowledges that the land on which we gather is situated within the traditional and treaty territory of the Mississauga's and Chippewa's of the Anishinabek, known today as the Williams Treaties First Nations. Our work on these lands acknowledges their resilience and their longstanding contribution to the area. We are thankful for the opportunity to live, learn and share with mutual respect and appreciation.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

GRCA 01/23

MOVED BY: Willie Woo
SECONDED BY: Adam Pearson

THAT the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority approve the minutes of the December 15, 2022 meeting.

CARRIED.

4. Adoption of the Agenda

GRCA 02/23

MOVED BY: Miriam Mutton
SECONDED BY: Joan Stover

THAT the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority adopt the agenda.

CARRIED.

5. Business Arising from Minutes:

None.

6. Delegations

None.

7. Presentations

a) Ganaraska Forest Update

Ed Van Osch, Forest Recreation Technician, provided an update on the ski trails in the Ganaraska Forest as well the ongoing recovery efforts in preparation for the May 1, 2023 opening. An update on the trail maintenance agreements and the call for volunteers was also provided.

GRCA 03/23

MOVED BY: Lance Nachoff
SECONDED BY: Margaret Zwart

THAT the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority receive the presentation for information.

CARRIED.

b) Natural Hazards Presentation Series – Part 1: Shoreline Hazards

Staff provided an information session on natural hazards regulated under the *Conservation Authorities Act* and focused this month's talk on shoreline hazards. Ken Thajer, Planning and Regulations Coordinator, spoke about the Great Lakes Shoreline and the 5 tests used when considering development applications in or adjacent to the hazards. He further provided examples of areas where shorelines had not been regulated in the past and the problems created as a result.

Cory Harris, Watershed Services Coordinator, explained that shorelines are regulated in order to protect life and property. He reviewed how the flooding and erosion hazards are defined along the shoreline and how the regulation limit is determined. Staff also explained dynamic beach hazards and the causes of slope instability showing pictures and video to illustrate examples of significant slope failures along the Great Lakes. He encouraged Board members to review the short video referenced in the presentation that speaks to the future management challenges associated with shoreline areas along the Great Lakes. A link to the video is provided here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pikb7XyCw1E>

GRCA 04/23**MOVED BY:** Miriam Mutton**SECONDED BY:** Adam Pearson

THAT the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority receives the presentation regarding natural hazards for information.

CARRIED.

8. Correspondence

None.

9. Applications under Ontario Regulation 168/06:

Permits approved by Executive:

GRCA 05/23**MOVED BY:** Joan Stover**SECONDED BY:** Adam Pearson

THAT the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority receive the permits for information.

CARRIED.

Permit Application requiring Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority Board of Directors discussion:

None.

10. Committee Reports:

None.

11. New Business:

a) Amendments to the GRCA Administrative By-Laws

GRCA 06/23**MOVED BY:** Lance Nachoff**SECONDED BY:** Vicki Mink

THAT the Ganaraska Region Conservation amend the Administrative By-Laws as set out in this report.

CARRIED.

b) Terms of Reference Ganaraska Forest Recreational Trails Strategy

GRCA 07/23

MOVED BY: Willie Woo
SECONDED BY: Adam Pearson

THAT the Ganaraska Region Conservation receives the Ganaraska Forest Trails Strategy Terms of Reference for information.

CARRIED.

c) 2022 Timeline Report for Section 28 Applications

GRCA 08/23

MOVED BY: Vicki Mink
SECONDED BY: Joan Stover

THAT the GRCA Board of Directors receive the Staff Report regarding 2022 Timeline Report for Section 28 Applications for information.

CARRIED.

d) Recreational Users Committee Terms of Reference

Miriam Mutton asked about representation from the various groups, such as Ontario Nature, and the balance between the recreational uses and the natural environment. Staff responded there are ongoing discussions at the user committee meetings around ecology.

GRCA 09/23

MOVED BY: Lance Nachoff
SECONDED BY: Margaret Zwart

THAT the Ganaraska Region Conservation approve the updates to the Recreational Users Committee Terms of Reference.

CARRIED.

e) Question Period

The Chair brought forward the possibility of adding a 10-minute public question period at the end of the meeting. The question period would only deal with items on the agenda. There were concerns that such inquiries would generate follow-up items and staff consultations which would lengthen the process. There was a suggestion that the questions could be submitted in advance of the meeting to speed up the process.

A report will be brought forward at the next meeting that outlines the proposed question period.

12. Other Business

None.

13. In Camera

None.

14. Adjourn

The Chair announced that future Board meetings will begin at 4:00 pm.

GRCA 10/2023

MOVED BY: Adam Pearson

SECONDED BY: Miriam Mutton

THAT the meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

CARRIED.

CHAIR

CAO/SECRETARY-TREASURER



Natural Hazards Presentation Series - Part 1: Shorelines

Ken Thajer, MCIP, RPP
Planning and Regulations Coordinator

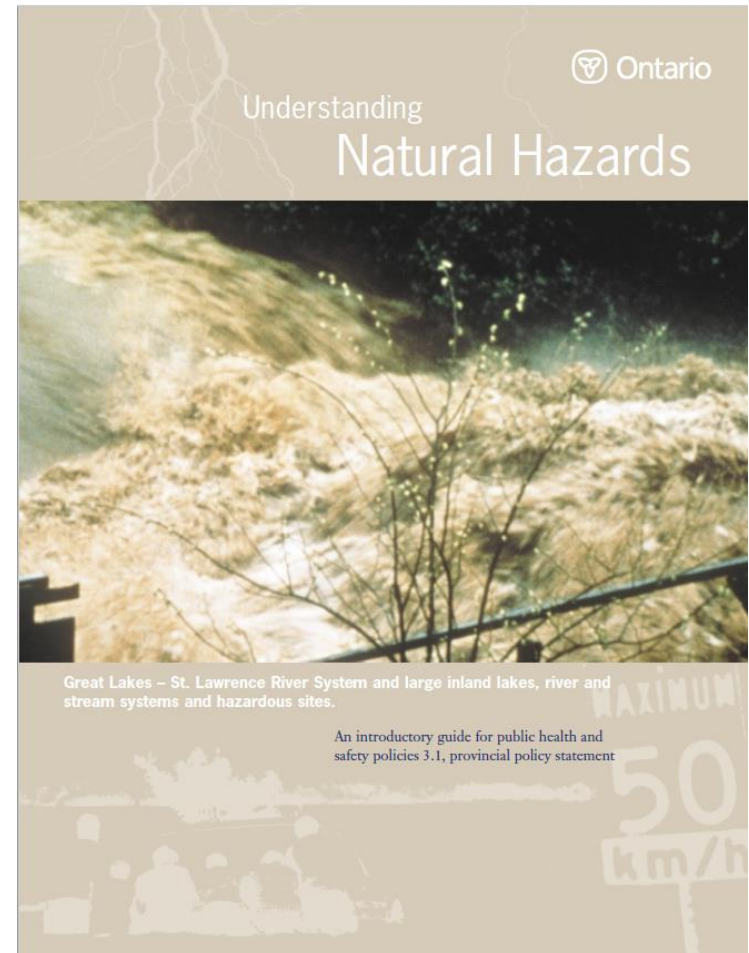
Cory Harris, P.Eng., CAN-CISEC
Watershed Services Coordinator

GRCA Board Meeting
March 15, 2023



Outline

- Background
- Natural Hazards Presentation Series
- Overview of Shoreline Hazards
- Policy and Technical Considerations
- Conclusion



Background

- Conservation Authorities Act enacted in 1946 in response to erosion and drought concerns. These issues are best managed on a watershed basis.
- It provided the means by which the province and the municipalities could join together to form a Conservation Authority within a specified area - the watershed - to undertake programs for natural resource management.
- The Conservation Authorities Act and corresponding regulations are designed to protect people and property from flooding and erosion hazards
- Development and construction within hazardous lands is costly to build and requires maintenance
- Good planning saves the taxpayer significant dollars, is good for the economy and makes our communities more resilient



Natural Hazards Presentation Series

Over the coming months, staff will provide an overview of the various hazardous areas in which CAs regulate development and activities:

- Adjacent or close to the shorelines of the Great Lakes and inland lakes (Section 2(1)(a))
- In or adjacent to river or stream valleys (Section 2(1)(b))
- Watercourses (Section 5)
- Hazardous lands (Section 2(1)(c))
- Wetlands (Sections 2(1)(d) and 5)
- Other Areas that could interfere with the hydrologic function of a wetland (Section 2(1)(e))



Development Considered under the 5 Tests

Permission for development may be granted under Section 2 of the Regulation provided the control of:

1. Flooding
2. Erosion
3. Dynamic Beaches
4. *NEW* Unstable Soil & Bedrock
- ~~5. Pollution, or~~
- ~~6. Conservation of Land will not be affected by the development (previously known as the 5 TESTS)~~



Shoreline Erosion – Lake Huron



Shoreline Erosion

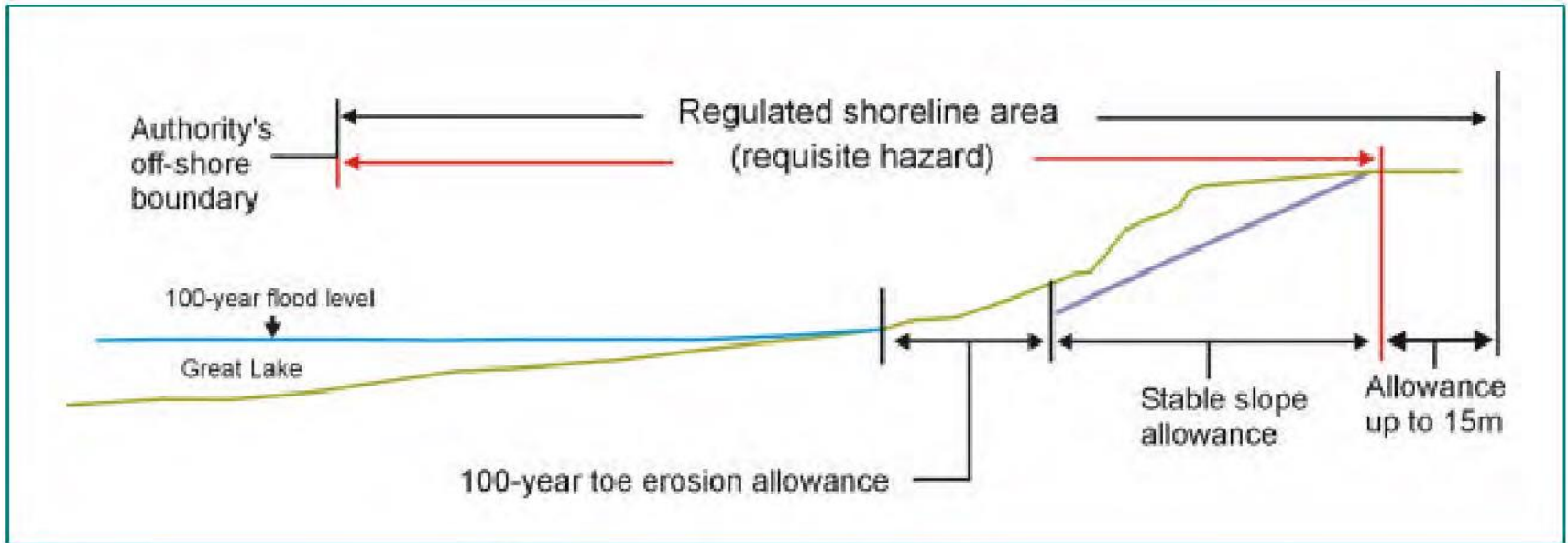


Why Regulate Shorelines

Subject to hazardous conditions that pose a threat to life and property



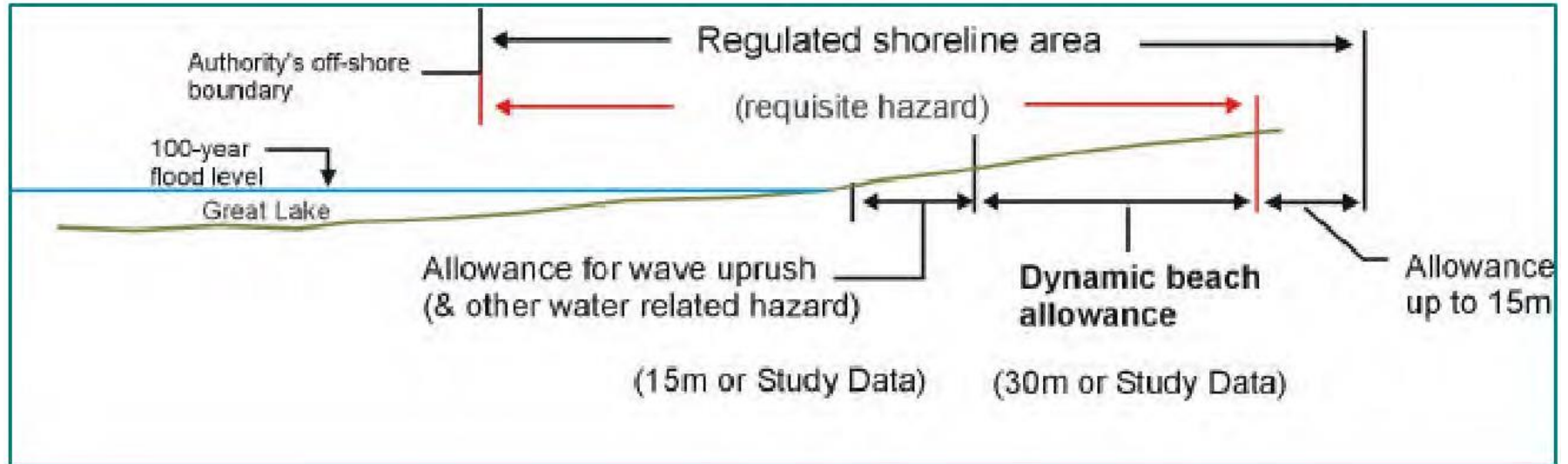
Defining the Erosion Hazard





Eroding Bluff - Newcastle

Defining the Dynamic Beach Hazard



Dynamic Beach – Port Hope



Technical Guidelines

Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River System and Large Inland Lakes

Technical Guides for flooding, erosion and dynamic beaches in support of Natural Hazards Policies 3.1 of the Provincial Policy Statement (1997) of the Planning Act

Ontario

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Slope Failure Video



Video Re: Chatham-Kent



Lake Erie Shoreline Erosion
26,060 views • Jan 16, 2020

<https://youtu.be/Pikb7XyCw1E>

52 5 SHARE SAVE ...



Causes of Slope Instability

- Proximity of shoreline
- Lake Ontario processes
- Internal seepage (ground water)
- Surface runoff
- Soil composition
- Angle of slope (GRCA watershed slopes considered stable at 3:1)
- Natural cover (vegetation)
- Human activities (leakage from swimming pools, septic, cut & fill, improperly constructed retaining walls etc.)



Indicators of Slope Instability

Failure Scarp (start of rotational failure)



Provincial Policy Statement (PPS, 2020)

3.1.1 Development shall generally be directed, in accordance with guidance developed by the Province to areas outside of:

b) hazardous lands adjacent to river, stream and small inland lake systems which are impacted by flooding hazards and/or erosion hazards

3.1.2 Development and site alteration shall not be permitted within:

c) areas that would be rendered inaccessible to people and vehicles during times of flooding hazards, erosion hazards and/or dynamic beach hazards unless it has been demonstrated that the site has safe access appropriate for the nature of the development and the natural hazard



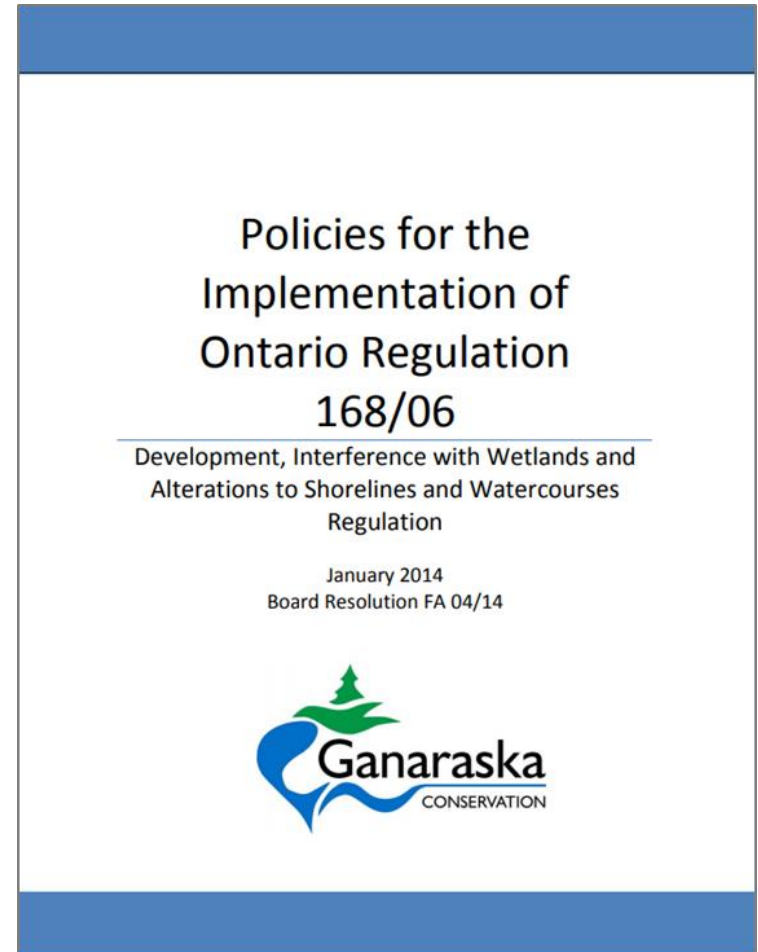
GRCA Policy

See Section 2.0 of our Policy Document

- In general, no new habitable development within shoreline areas;
- All new development should be outside of hazards;

Exemptions include:

- Where development currently exists in the shoreline hazard and/or there is no feasible alternative;
- Public infrastructure where there is a demonstrated need to be located within the hazard;
- Some aspects of public parks;
- Shoreline conservation, restoration or stabilization projects;
- Driveway or access where there is no viable alternative;



Technical Requirements for Permitting

- GRCA staff strive to prevent the need to request costly studies where possible;
- Require the involvement of a qualified shoreline/coastal engineer for protection measures and identify extent of hazard;
- To determine the limits of development, a geotechnical study may be needed to establish the limit of the stable top of slope (long term stable slope line)
- Promote stabilization of slopes (where appropriate) to slow, not stop erosion, using natural materials and vegetation where possible;



How Shoreline Mapping Information is Used

- GRCA hazard mapping layers
- Used in Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw maps
- Real Estate and Lawyers inquiries
- Insurance investigations
- Planning and permit approvals
- Emergency Preparedness Planning
- Assessing risk levels for asset management purposes





Thank you!

