

INFORMATION ITEMS

Week Ending November 21, 2014

REPORTS

1. None

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Resolution from Halton Region re: "Buy American" Provisions in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

BOARDS & COMMITTEES

1. County of Wellington Social Services Committee Minutes – October 8, 2014
2. Grand River Conservation Authority – 'The Current' Newsletter November 2014

ITEMS AVAILABLE IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE

1. None

VIA EMAIL

November 19, 2014

Mike Wallace, MP, Burlington
The Honourable Lisa Raitt, MP Halton
Terence Young, MP, Oakville
The Honourable Michael Chong, MP, Wellington-Halton Hills
Eleanor McMahon, MPP, Burlington
Indira Naidoo-Harris, MPP, Halton
Kevin Flynn, MPP, Oakville
Ted Arnott, MPP, Wellington-Halton Hills
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), Brad Woodside
Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters, Jayson Myers

Please be advised that at its meeting held Wednesday, November 19, 2014, the Council of the Regional Municipality of Halton adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION: "Buy American" Provisions in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

WHEREAS cities and communities across Canada support free and fair trade between Canada and the United States;

AND WHEREAS bilateral trade between Canada and the United States amounts to over \$600 billion per year in economic activity, significantly contributing to Canada's long-term economic competitiveness;

AND WHEREAS many of the most important supply chains and industry linkages that fuel our respective economies are inexorably linked;

AND WHEREAS provisions, such as 'Buy American' requirements, which serve to inhibit this important economic partnership directly affects the economic prosperity of our country, our businesses and our communities;

AND WHEREAS Halton Hills and Halton Region showed leadership in 2009 by passing resolutions calling on the Federal, Provincial and municipal governments of Canada to push back against unfair U.S. legislation;

AND WHEREAS organizations like Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters estimate that thousands of manufacturing jobs are continuously at risk from continued Buy American provisions being proposed across the United States;

AND WHEREAS Halton companies were directly impacted as jobs were lost due to the Buy American provisions being inserted into projects receiving federal and municipal funding;

AND WHEREAS Canadian cities and communities are committed to open and fair trade with American governments and businesses;

AND WHEREAS recent agreements between Canada and the United States have recognized the critical economic linkages between our two countries, fostering secure, predictable trade and investment environments;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT all municipalities be requested to express support for free, fair and reciprocal trade between the United States and Canada and support the principle that any restrictive 'Buy American' provisions in U.S. legislation are contrary to that spirit of free trade;

AND THAT the Region of Halton call on the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to support and work with the Government of Canada, the Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters and other stakeholders in their efforts to urge the United States Congress and state governments to abstain from the use of 'Buy American' provisions;

AND THAT FCM be requested to write to the U.S. National League of Cities and the United States Conference of Mayors urging them to also support the spirit of this resolution and the spirit of free trade, so that businesses and industries on both sides of the border can compete for contracts in the fairest and most efficient manner;

AND THAT the Regional Chair write to the Prime Minister, the leader of the Opposition and the leader of the Liberal Party advising them of Regional Council's position and enclosing a copy of Regional Council's resolution in this regard;

AND THAT the Regional Clerk forward a copy of Regional Council's resolution to all Ontario municipalities requesting that they endorse and support Halton's position and to Halton MP's, MPP's, FCM and the Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters for their information.

As per the above resolution, please accept this correspondence for your information and consideration.

If you have any questions please contact Ms. Karyn Bennett, Regional Clerk & Director of Council Services.

Sincerely,



Kathy Kieft
Deputy Clerk and Supervisor of
Council & Committee Services

c. Karyn Bennett, Regional Clerk & Director of Council Services



**The Corporation of the County of Wellington
Social Services Committee
Minutes**

October 8, 2014
County Administration Centre
Guthrie Room

Present: Councillor Gordon Tosh (Chair)
Councillor Jean Innes
Councillor Lynda White

Regrets: Warden Chris White
Councillor Bruce Whale

Staff: Eddie Alton, Social Services Administrator
Luisa Artuso, Director of Child Care Services
Susan Aram, Manager of Financial Services
Stuart Beumer, Director of Ontario Works
Harry Blinkhorn, Acting Director of Housing
Donna Bryce, County Clerk
Shauna Calder, Senior Financial Analyst
Ken DeHart, County Treasurer
Ken Harvey, Manager of Employment and Settlement Services
Kevin Mulholland, Property and Construction Manager

1. Call to Order

At 1:00 pm, the Chair called the meeting to order.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

3. New Willowdale Child Care Centre Project Status Report #3

1/6/14

Moved by: Councillor Innes

Seconded by: Councillor L. White

That the new Willowdale Child Care Project Status Report #3 be received for information.

Carried

4. Social Services Financial Statements and Variance Projections as of September 30, 2014

2/6/14

Moved by: Councillor Innes

Seconded by: Councillor L. White

That the Social Services Financial Statements and Variance Projections as of September 30, 2014 be approved.

Carried

5. Child Care

5.1. Directly Operated Child Care Centre User Fees

3/6/14

Moved by: Councillor L. White

Seconded by: Councillor Innes

That the user fees for Directly Operated Child Care Centres as of January 1, 2015 be approved as set out in Report CC-14-14; and

That staff be directed to prepare the necessary by-law.

Carried

6. Housing

6.1. Extraordinary Funding Policy Report

4/6/14

Moved by: Councillor Innes

Seconded by: Councillor L. White

That the proposed Extraordinary Funding policy updated under the Housing Services Act, 2011 and presented in the report of the Acting Director of Housing, be approved.

Carried

7. Ontario Works

7.1. Circles Guelph Wellington Report

5/6/14

Moved by: Councillor Innes

Seconded by: Councillor L. White

That subject to the approval of the local Circles Guiding Coalition, the County of Wellington Social Services Department be designated as the 'lead agency' for Circles Guelph Wellington; and

That, subject to the review and approval of the County Solicitor, the Social Services Administrator be authorized to enter into annual agreements with Circles USA for the purpose of allowing Guelph Wellington to continue to serve as a designated Circles chapter; and

That, on the advice of the Guiding Coalition and subject to the review and approval of the County Solicitor, the Social Services Administrator be authorized to enter into individual hosting agreements with agencies wishing to operate Circles groups.

Carried

7.2. Homelessness Strategy - Housing First Update

6/6/14

Moved by: Councillor Tosh

Seconded by: Councillor L. White

That the report OW-14-12 - Homelessness Strategy – Housing First Update be received for information.

Carried

7.3. Ontario Works Statistics

7/6/14

Moved by: Councillor L. White

Seconded by: Councillor Innes

That the Ontario Works Statistics for September, 2014 be received for information.

Carried

8. **Closed Meeting**

8/6/14

Moved by: Councillor L. White

Seconded by: Councillor Innes

That the Social Services Committee move into a closed meeting for the purposes of considering litigation or potential litigation

Carried

9. **Rise and Report**

9/6/14

Moved by: Councillor Innes

Seconded by: Councillor L. White

That the Social Services Committee rise and report from the closed meeting.

Carried

10. Adjournment

At 1:47 pm, the Chair adjourned the meeting until November 12, 2014 or at the call of the Chair.

Gordon Tosh
Chair
Social Services Committee

GRCA General Membership

Chair Jane Mitchell

Vice-Chair Vic Prendergast

Townships of Amaranth, East Garafraxa, Melancthon and Southgate and Town of Grand Valley
Tom Nevills

Townships of Mapleton and Wellington North Pat Salter

Township of Centre Wellington
Joanne Ross-Zuj

Town of Erin, Townships of Guelph/Eramosa and Puslinch
John Brennan

City of Guelph
Bob Bell, Maggie Laidlaw

Region of Waterloo
Les Armstrong, Todd Cowan,
Jan d'Ailly, Rob Deutschmann,
Jean Haalboom, Ross Kelterborn,
Geoff Lorentz, Claudette Miller,
Jane Mitchell, Warren Stauch

Municipality of North Perth and Township of Perth East
George Wicke

Halton Region J. Barry Lee

City of Hamilton Jeanette Jamieson

Oxford County Bruce Banbury

County of Brant
Brian Coleman, Steve Schmitt

City of Brantford
Robert Hillier, Vic Prendergast

Haldimand and Norfolk Counties
Lorne Boyko, Fred Morison

Warm with seasonal rainfall

Although October was drier than September, rainfall was still close to or above the long-term average across the watershed.

In contrast to September when most rain fell during two large storms, precipitation in October was spread throughout the month. The result was wet ground conditions and elevated river flows.

In some locations, river flows were altered somewhat in order to accommodate construction projects including ones at Conestogo and Guelph dams.

The average daily temperature was two degrees above normal at Shand Dam, making October unseasonably warm.

Lake Erie is about a half-metre higher than usual. This means the southern Grand will likely be more reactive to flooding as lake conditions change.

Funding for floodplain mapping

Ontario's Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry has provided \$170,000 to the GRCA related to floodplain mapping case studies.

The Grand River Conservation Authority, Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority and Conservation Ontario have received funds to review and document innovative floodplain mapping techniques. The intent is to document approaches, technologies and options available to update floodplain mapping.

This will be used by the provinces and federal government as they develop national floodplain mapping guidelines. This kind of mapping is considered increasingly important to improve preparedness for floods due to climate change and potential increased severity of future flooding events.

Ontario's conservation authorities have had floodplain mapping guidelines and related technical documents since the 1980s. A large portion of current floodplain mapping is in a paper or mylar

form. New updated mapping would be in a digital form, making it easier to maintain and use.

Digital maps for the Grand River watershed are continually being updated and are available on <http://maps.grandriver.ca> to view and download.

2014 Watershed Awards

The GRCA held an awards night on Oct. 23 and gave out six awards.

The top award — the Honour Roll award — went to Guelph's **Hillside Festival** that has taken place at Guelph Lake Park for the past 31 years. Hillside has undertaken many environmental initiatives to ensure that their festival is the greenest in Ontario.

In addition, there were five watershed award recipients. These included the **Guelph Hiking Trail Club** that has been encouraging people to get outside and hike since 1972; University of Waterloo professor Emeritus **Emil Frind** for his activities in water stewardship; Arthur residents **Buck Ross and Joyce Spies**, who have been excellent stewards of their land; **Bird Studies Canada** which has undertaken many monitoring programs within this watershed and engaged hundreds of volunteers; and retired teacher **Fraser Gibson** of Kitchener who has devoted lots of time and commitment to sharing his love of nature and education.

Special Heritage River Anniversary Awards

Heritage River Awards and pins were given out by the GRCA in October to mark the 20th anniversary of the designation of the Grand River and its tributaries as Canadian Heritage rivers.

The three recipients of the Heritage River award were active during the designation process and have continued their participation in heritage river activities since then. They are **Eva Salter**, a member of the Grand Strategy co-ordinating committee in 1994 and an excellent promoter of the Heritage River designation; the **Heritage Resources Centre** at the University of Waterloo which did





One Honour Roll Award and five Grand River Conservation Awards were given out by the GRCA in October 2014. From left are GRCA CAO Joe Farwell, Joyce Spies & Buck Ross, Marie Zimmerman (Hillside Festival), Fraser Gibson, Steven Price (Bird Studies Canada), Emil Frind, GRCA Chair Jane Mitchel, Dave Culham and Jim Hoare (Guelph Hiking Trail Club). Awards night was Oct. 23. The awards were photos from the GRCA photo contest.

the initial research for the river designation and has undertaken many projects including a survey of heritage bridges; and **Barbara Veale**, co-chair of the co-ordinating committee for the Grand Strategy in 1994 who has led many initiatives to keep the Canadian Heritage River designation on the front burner over the past 20 years.

In addition, about 20 people from around the watershed received Canadian Heritage River pins and certificates for their role in the designation process in 1994. Those invited to receive the pins included members of the steering committee, the coordinating committee, the GRCA board in 1994 and a few others.

Bradley Fauteux, the managing director of Ontario Parks and the Ontario representative on the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board, spoke at this event and also helped to hand out the awards.

Three scholarships awarded by GRCF

The Grand River Conservation Foundation awarded three 2014 scholarships to post-secondary students.

This was the third year for the Allan Holmes Scholarship, named for the former CAO of the GRCA who passed away in 2010. The recipient was **Keegan Hicks**, a PhD student at the University of Waterloo who is doing research on the Grand River.

The McEwen Clean Water Prize was received by **Graeme McDonald** who is enrolled in the Master of Science program at the University of Guelph. It is named after a long-time supporter of the GRCF.

The S. C. Johnson & Son Limited Scholarship went to **Joel Gretton**, a University of Guelph student. This award is given out each year to a full-time student in the third or sixth semester of an honours program at a watershed university or a college student in the second year.

GRCF gives out conservation grants

The Grand River Conservation Foundation awarded three Community Conservation Grants to organizations.

- Ruthven National Historic Site near Caledonia for a Butterfly Meadow Senses Project
- Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp & Retreat Centre near New Hamburg to naturalize a former gravel pit
- Rotary Club of Dunnville to beautify the "Muddy the Mudcat" statue area

In addition, conservation grants of \$250 each are being provided to 10 schools. The schools use the grants for naturalization projects. These grants were presented at each school. The winning schools are:

- Cambridge Christian School

- Forest Hill Public School, Kitchener
- King Edward Public School, Kitchener
- Grandview Public School, New Hamburg
- Holy Spirit Catholic School, Cambridge
- Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary School Guelph
- Ponsonby Public School, Guelph
- Maryborough Public School, Moorefield
- Central Public School, Guelph
- Victoria Terrace Public School, Fergus

Community Conservation Grants are given out each year by the Foundation.

This issue of GRCA Current was published in November 2014.

It is a summary of the October business conducted by the Grand River Conservation Authority board and committees as well as other noteworthy happenings and topics of interest.

The Grand River Conservation Authority welcomes the photocopying, forwarding and distribution of GRCA Current.

Next board meeting: Friday, Nov. 28 at 9:30 a.m., GRCA Administration Centre.

Reports mentioned in GRCA Current: www.grandriver.ca/MeetingReports.

For coming events, please see www.grandriver.ca/Calendar.

The Grand Actions newsletter is available at:

www.grandriver.ca/GrandActions