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Subject: (EXTERNAL SOURCE) Programs and Services Inventory November 23, 2023

Good Afternoon:

In early October 2021, the province of Ontario released three new regulations under the *Conservation Authorities Act*. These regulations are intended to implement some of the amendments made to the *Act* over the last few years. In the fall 2021, the province communicated information about these new regulations directly to municipalities.

One of these regulations, Ontario Regulation 687/21, Transition Plans and Agreements for Programs and Services Under Section 21.1.2 of the *Act* required each Conservation Authority to develop a Transition Plan which outlined timelines for developing and completing program and service agreements with watershed municipalities. The regulation required the Conservation Authority to circulate a transition plan by December 31, 2021 to all watershed municipalities as well as the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. The Transition Plan was forwarded to the member municipalities in early December 2021.

A second requirement under Ontario Regulation 687/21 is to develop an Inventory of Programs and Services based on the three categories identified in the Regulation. These categories, as defined by the regulation, include:

- (1) Mandatory,
- (2) Municipally requested, and
- (3) Other (that the Authority determines are advisable).

The regulation further required that the Inventory listing be submitted to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and circulated to all participating municipalities by February 28, 2022 as well as to post it on the GRCA's website. This requirement was completed February 24, 2022.

The Programs and Services Inventory has been reviewed over the past year and a half with some revisions made including the removal of natural heritage review and the Clean Water – Healthy Lands program being moved from Category 2 to Category 3. Attached is the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority's (GRCA) Programs and Services Inventory which indicates the category as well as the cost of each area based on the average of the 2023 budget and 2024 preliminary budget. This document was approved by the Board of Directors at the November 23, 2023 meeting at which time the Board directed staff to distribute the Programs and Services Inventory to the member municipalities and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.

The Inventory of Programs and Services is to be an evolving document. Updates will be provided to municipalities and posted on the Authority's website. The GRCA appreciates its partnership with all watershed municipalities and look forward to working with you on the very important program areas.

This correspondence has been sent to the Mayor, Chief Administrative Office and Clerk of all watershed municipalities. If you have any questions or wish to discuss any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Linda

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