Crowe Valley Conservation Authority Transition Plan November 2021

Introduction

Regulation 687/21 has been passed and came into effect as of 1 October 2021. This regulation specifically addresses the financial relationship of Conservation Authorities and their member municipalities. In essence, there is an expanded opportunity for municipalities to determine the level of funding for non-mandatory services and programs.

The passage of Regulation 687/21 "Transition Plans and Agreements for Programs and Services Under Section 21.1.2 of the Act" requires the development and implementation of Transition Plans by each Conservation Authority to ensure compliance with Subsection 21.1.4 (1) of the Act. The Transition Plans are to outline the process and timelines for the development of cost apportioning agreements (Memorandums of Understanding) with municipalities within their jurisdiction for non-mandated programs and services. The regulation sets **1** January **2024** as the transition date.

As such, the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority has developed this Transition Plan to meet the requirements of Regulation 687/21 and ensure its member municipalities are afforded the occasion to not only voice their opinion and concerns regarding non-mandatory funding, but are empowered through the implementation of MOUs to ensure funding is allocated for the programs and services they are interested in supporting.

This Transition Plan is in effect for the ten municipalities in whole or in part within the Crowe Valley Conservation Authorities jurisdiction as follows:

Township of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen Municipality of Marmora and Lake Township of North Kawartha Municipality of Highlands East Wollaston Township Municipality of Faraday Township of Limerick Township of Tudor and Cashel Township of Stirling-Rawdon Municipality of Trent Hills

Regulated Timelines

Phase 1

Transition Plan

This Transition Plan is required to be completed by 31 December 2021 and distributed to member municipalities and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP).

The Crowe Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) Board of Directors will receive the Plan prior to its 18th November 2021 Board meeting, review it and give approval for implementation at this meeting.

The Transition Plan will be posted on the CVCA website before the 31 December 2021.

Inventory of Programs and Services

An inventory of program and services is to be prepared and circulated to municipalities within their watershed jurisdiction by 28 February 2022.

The inventory of programs and services will be classified as either:

Category 1 – Mandatory Category 2 – Non-Mandatory Or Category 3 – Other

These categories are identified in Section 21 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*.

The inventory will include an estimate of the annual cost of the service, sources of funding and the percentage attributed to each funding source.

In addition, a record of the municipal distribution of the inventory is to be forwarded to the MECP. Any changes to the inventory after 22 February 2022 will be documented and forwarded to MECP.

Phase 2

Municipal Agreements

All municipal agreements for non-mandatory services are to be in place by 1 January 2024.

The CVCA will engage with their municipal partners to work together to develop agreements for nonmandated but important watershed wide programs and services. The discussions will be undertaken after the circulation of the inventory in February 2022 and the development of a meeting schedule. In addition, the CVCA has been consulting with neighbouring Conservation Authorities to ensure the Authority is coordinating programs and services to meet the needs of our shared municipal partners.

Timeline Summary Chart

DELIVERABLE	DUE DATE	TIMELINE
Develop Transition Plan	31 December 2021	20 October 2021 to 25
		November2021
Transition Plan to Board of	18 November 2021	
Directors for Approval		
Distribute Transition Plan to	31 December 2021	
Member Municipalities and		
MECP		
Post Approved Plan on Website	31 December 2021	
Develop Programs and Services		By 17 February 2022
Inventory as per Proposed Draft		
2022 Budget – Board Approval		
Circulate Inventory to	28 February 2022	
Municipalities and MECP		
Develop Schedule with	31 March 2022	
Municipalities to Discuss and		
Agree on Funding Support for		
Non-Mandatory Programs and		
Services		
Enter into Discussions and		March 2022 to 30 September
Confirm Funding Support		2023
Leading to the Completion of		
Cost Apportioning Agreements		
(MOUs)		
Consult with Neighbouring CAs		15 August 2021 to 1 November
		2023
Execute municipal agreements	1 January 2024	
Quarterly Reporting to MECP	1 July 2022	
	1 October 2022	
	1 January 2023	
	1 April 2023	
	1 July 2023	
	1 October 2023	
Request for Extension of	1 October 2023 (if required)	
Transition Date		
Final Report	31 Jan 2024	

Notes: The due dates are based on the current regulations. Timelines may be influenced by the issuance of new related regulations.