

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 non-mandated 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 November 2021 |
| Transition Plan to Board of Directors for Approval | 18 November 2021 | |
| Distribute Transition Plan to Member Municipalities and MECP | 31 December 2021 | |
| Post Approved Plan on Website | 31 December 2021 | |
| Develop Programs and Services Inventory as per Proposed Draft 2022 Budget – Board Approval | | By 17 February 2022 |
| Circulate Inventory to Municipalities and MECP | 28 February 2022 | |
| Develop Schedule with Municipalities to Discuss and Agree on Funding Support for Non-Mandatory Programs and Services | 31 March 2022 | |
| Enter into Discussions and Confirm Funding Support Leading to the Completion of Cost Apportioning Agreements (MOUs) | | March 2022 to 30 September 2023 |
| 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 Transition Date | 1 October 2023 (if required) | |
| 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.