

Grand River Conservation Authority

Report number: GM-09-22-71

Date: September 23, 2022

To: Members of the Grand River Conservation Authority

Subject: Progress Report #2- Ontario Regulation 687/21

Recommendation:

THAT Progress Report #2 be approved, circulated to all participating Grand River watershed municipalities, posted on the Grand River Conservation Authority website, and submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry in accordance with Ontario Regulation 687/21.

Summary:

Not applicable.

Report:

As a requirement under *Ontario Regulation 687/21*, the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) developed and approved a Transition Plan (December 17, 2021) and Inventory of Programs and Services (February 28, 2022). The Inventory of Programs and Services is based on the three categories identified in the Regulation. These categories include (1) Mandatory, (2) Municipally requested, and (3) Other (Authority determines are advisable).

As required under Ontario Regulation 687/21 and identified in GRCA's Transition Plan, the GRCA is providing its Progress Report. Under the Regulation the Progress Reports must include the following;

- Any comments or other feedback submitted by a municipality regarding the inventory
- A summary of any changes that the Authority has made to the inventory to address comments or other feedback- including a copy of the changed inventory and a description of changes
- An update on the progress of negotiations on agreements with participating municipalities
- Any difficulties that the Authority is experiencing that might affect the ability of the Authority to complete the transition plan milestones

Progress Report Details

1) Municipal Comments/Feedback:

- Senior staff have met with any requesting participating municipalities' staff and/or councils to provide information on the new regulations, associated requirements and any process updates. At this time, staff have not received any formal comments or concerns from the participating municipalities regarding the Inventory of Programs and Services (dated Feb. 28, 2022).

2) Summary of Changes to Inventory of Programs and Services:

- There have been no changes to the Inventory of Programs and Services during the period for Progress Report #2.

- 3) Update on Progress of Negotiations with Participating Municipalities on Category 2 Programs and Services:
 - At this time, the GRCA is on track with the schedule identified in the GRCA's Transition Plan.
 - GRCA will be hosting virtual webinars in October to watershed municipalities on Category 2 programs and services and proposed next steps for negotiations.
 - GRCA staff are also working on developing a draft template for the Memorandum of Understanding for Category 2 Programs and Services.
 - GRCA staff will continue to work with neighbouring Conservation Authorities (where possible) to help streamline the process of negotiations with shared participating municipalities on Category 2 Programs and Services.
- 4) Difficulties Reaching Transition Plan Milestones:
 - At this time, there have not been any difficulties identified in meeting transition plan milestones.

Once the Progress Report is approved, it will be circulated to all watershed municipalities and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. The Progress Report will also be posted on GRCA's website for public access.

Financial Implications:

Not applicable.

Other Department Considerations:

Not applicable.

Submitted by:

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Chief Administrative Officer