

City of Port Colborne
Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting 16-19
Minutes

Date: May 27, 2019

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Council Chambers, Municipal Offices, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne

Members Present: M. Bagu, Councillor
E. Beauregard, Councillor
R. Bodner, Councillor
G. Bruno, Councillor
F. Danch, Councillor
A. Desmarais, Councillor
D. Kalailieff, Councillor
W. Steele, Mayor (presiding officer)
H. Wells, Councillor

Staff Present: D. Aquilina, Director of Planning and Development
J. Douglas-Kameka, Economic Development Officer
B. Garrett, Director of Corporate Services
A. LaPointe, Manager of Legislative Services/City Clerk
C. Lee, Acting Chief Administrative Officer
C. McIntosh, Deputy Clerk (minutes)

Also in attendance were interested citizens, members of the news media and WeeStream.

Note: Mayor Steele called a temporary recess at 9:00 p.m., reconvening the meeting at 9:08 p.m.

1. Call to Order:

Mayor Steele called the meeting to order.

2. Introduction of Addendum Items:

Moved by Councillor M. Bagu
Seconded by Councillor H. Wells

That the rules respecting delegations, as outlined under Section 10 of the Procedural By-law, be suspended in order permit members of the public to speak regarding Item 2, Engineering and Operations Department, Engineering Division, Report 2019-75, Subject: Information Report on the Roadside Grass Mowing for 2019.

CARRIED.

3. Confirmation of Agenda:

Moved by Councillor R. Bodner
Seconded by Councillor E. Beauregard

That the agenda dated May 27, 2019 be confirmed, as circulated or as amended.

CARRIED.

4. Disclosures of Interest:

Councillor Wells declared a pecuniary interest regarding item 9 as it could affect the value of his property. Councillor Wells left the Council Chambers during discussion about Item 9 and refrained from discussing or voting on this item.

Councillor Beauregard declared a pecuniary interest regarding item 9 as he is employed by Sullivan Mahoney, the solicitor for Rankin companies. Councillor Beauregard left the Council Chambers during discussion about Item 9 and refrained from discussing or voting on this item.

5. Adoption of Minutes:

(a) Regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole 15-19, held on May 13, 2019

Moved by Councillor A. Desmarais
Seconded by Councillor G. Bruno

- (a) That the minutes of the regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole 15-19, held on May 13, 2019, be approved as presented;
and

CARRIED.

6. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion:

The following items were identified for separate discussion:

Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, and 14.

7. Approval of Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion:

Moved by Councillor A. Desmarais
Seconded by Councillor G. Bruno

That items 1 to 15 on the agenda be approved, with the exception of items that have been deferred, deleted or listed for separate discussion, and the recommendation contained therein adopted.

Items:

- 5. Engineering and Operations Department, Operations Division, Report 2019-70, Subject: Drinking Water Quality Management System Management Review Summary**
-

Committee of the Whole recommends:

That Engineering and Operations Department, Engineering Division, Report 2019-70, Drinking Water Quality Management System, Management Review Summary, be received for information.

6. Memorandum from Mark Minor, Marina Supervisor Re: Sugarloaf Marina - East Main Run Transformer Replacement

Committee of the Whole recommends:

That the installation of the high-speed diesel pump at Sugarloaf Marina, as approved by Council during the 2019 budget process, be deferred; and

That the Director of Community and Economic Development be directed to investigate the full scope of work required for the installation of the high-speed diesel pump (including power supply upgrade) and submit an associated budget request to Council during the 2020 budget process; and

That the funds original approved for the purchase of the high-speed diesel pump (\$20,000) be reallocated toward the purchase and installation of a new electrical transformer on the east main run (unanticipated cost incurred in 2019).

7. Karen Usick, Community Coordinator, Mental Health & Addictions, Hepatitis C Care Clinic Re: Request for Proclamation of World Hepatitis Day, July 28, 2019

Committee of the Whole recommends:

That July 28, 2019 be proclaimed as "World Hepatitis Day" in the City of Port Colborne in accordance with the request received from Karen Usick, Community Coordinator, Mental Health & Addictions, Hepatitis C Care Clinic.

8. Ashley Grigg, Director of Community and Economic Development, Re: Request for Proclamation of June is Recreation and Parks Month

Committee of the Whole recommends:

That the month of June be proclaimed as "Recreation and Parks Month" in accordance with the request received from Ashley Grigg, Director of Community and Economic Development.

11. Region of Niagara Re: Creating the Ohnia:kara UNESCO Global Geopark (PDS 18-2019)

Committee of the Whole recommends:

That the correspondence received from the Region of Niagara Re: Creating the Ohnia:kara UNESCO Global Geopark, be received for information.

12. Region of Niagara Re: Niagara Biennial Awards Program (PDS 19-2019)

Committee of the Whole recommends:

That the correspondence received from the Region of Niagara Re: Biennial Awards Program, be received for information.

13. Region of Niagara Re: Regional Incentives Financial Information (PDS 22-2019)

Committee of the Whole recommends:

That the correspondence received from the Region of Niagara Re: Regional Incentives Financial Information, be received for information.

15. Town of Mono Re: Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF)

Committee of the Whole recommends:

That the resolution received from the Town of Mono Re: Ontario Municipal Partnership fund, be received for information.

CARRIED.

8. Presentations:

(a) Joanne Ferraccioli, Interim Health Services Coordinator, City of Port Colborne Re: Introduction of University of Ottawa Rural Medicine Week Learners

Joanne Ferraccioli introduced Jeremie Thibault, Alexandre Pratt, Nicolas Ouellete, Sophie Lamontagne, and Zoe Nicolas-Pelletier. Each medical student thanked the City of Port Colborne and Town of Fort Erie for hosting Rural Medicine Week, sponsors for their generous support of the program, and staff and the Health Services Committees for organizing the learning experience.

(b) Grant Policy Committee Cheque Presentations

Chair of the Grant Policy Committee, Bea Kenny, and Committee Members Mayor Steele, Councillor Bruno, and Councillor Beauregard presented 10 grants totaling \$18,510 to the following recipients: Air Race Classic Terminus Committee, Education Foundation of Niagara, Niagara Health Foundation, Port Cares, Port Colborne Feline Initiative, Port Colborne Lions Club, Port Colborne Operatic Society, St. James & St. Brendan Church, Women's Place of South Niagara, and YMCA of Niagara. A copy of the presentation is attached.

(c) David Heyworth, MCIP,RPP, Official Plan Policy Consultant Region of Niagara

David Heyworth provided background information regarding the creation of the new Regional Official Plan, updated the status of the priority background studies, and summarized the consultation framework. A copy of the presentation is attached.

(d) Sean Norman, Senior Planner, Region of Niagara

Sean Norman provided an overview of the Natural Environment background study to be completed for the new Regional Official Plan. A copy of the presentation is attached.

9. Delegations:

(a) Peter Van Caulart, Co-Chair from the 2019 Air Race Classic Terminus Committee re the 43rd Annual Air Race Classic, June 18-24, 2019

Peter Van Caulart provided information with respect to the history and event highlights for the 2019 Air Race Week scheduled to take place at the Niagara Centre Dorothy Rungeling Airport. A copy of the presentation is attached.

(b) Darren Platakis, Founder/CEO Geospatial Niagara and Ian Lucas – Secretary and will be presenting the Ohnia:kara Global Geopark Project

Darren Platakis provided a powerpoint presentation with respect to the Ohnia:kara Global Geopark Project. A copy of the presentation is attached.

Moved by A. Desmarais
Seconded by H. Wells

That Planning and Development staff be directed to provide a report about the potential creation of the Ohnia:kara Global Geopark Project.
CARRIED.

10. Mayor's Report:

A copy of the Mayor's Report is attached.

11. Regional Councillor's Report:

Councillor Butters advised that she attended the presentation of certificates of recognition to 21 students and program staff from Port Colborne High School for their contributions to the Broken Spoke Program. Councillor Butters informed that she attended the Community Safety Day at the Port Colborne Fire Hall on May 25 and Arabella's Pie Social and History Fair at the Museum on May 26. Councillor Butters expressed the importance to Niagara of the 2021 and the catalyst to the economy it will provide, as outlined in a presentation by Doug Hamilton, Chair of the 2021 summer games. Councillor Butters advised that a motion was approved at Regional Committee

of the Whole directing staff to pursue both the Niagara Central Dorothy Rungeling Airport and the Niagara District Airport as part of the Regional Transportation Strategy.

12. Councillors' Items:

(a) Community Safety Day (Desmarais)

Councillor Desmarais advised that approximately 250 people attended Community Safety Day at the Fire Hall on May 25 and thanked the fire fighters, events crew, Optimists, Broken Spoke, Port Colborne High School, Port Colborne Library, POCOMAR, Quad Niagara, War Amps, Niagara Regional Police, Ontario Provincial Police, Sugarloaf Marina, St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation, and Enbridge for participating.

(b) Ward Two Community Meeting (Desmarais)

Councillor Desmarais advised that she and Councillor Beauregard are hosting a community meeting at the French Golden Age Club on June 13, 2019 at 6 p.m.

(c) Port Colborne Quarry (Desmarais)

In response to an inquiry by Councillor Desmarais, the City Clerk advised that staff is investigating an alternate venue and a special meeting of Council to address the Port Colborne Quarry site plan application issues.

(d) Truck parking at the corner of Catharine and Clarence Street (Bagu)

In response to a concern by Councillor Bagu about restricted sightlines due to trucks parking at the corner of Catharine and Clarence Streets, the Director of Planning and Development advised that he will report back to Council with options for consideration at a future meeting.

(e) No truck route sign, Barrick Road (Bruno)

In response to concern about a missing no truck route sign on Barrick Road between Hwy 58 and Elm Street, the Acting Chief Administrative Officer advised that staff will investigate and re-sign where required.

(f) Children playing sign in the Erie and Minto Streets area (Danch)

Councillor Danch advised that residents in the area of Erie and Minto Streets have requested a children playing sign to be installed.

(g) Garbage from Highway 58 (Danch)

In response to Councillor Danch advising that residents on Oxford Boulevard have expressed concern with the amount of garbage that ends up in their back yards from the highway, the Acting Chief Administrative Officer advised that he would contact the Region and Ministry of Transportation about the concerns.

(h) Rural roads and sightlines (Bodner)

In response to an inquiry by Councillor Bodner, the Acting Chief Administrative Officer advised that the Roads Crew will review the tree leaves affecting sightlines on Empire Road and intersections in ward four.

(i) Directional signage for Nickel and Centennial-Cedar Bay Beaches (Bodner)

In response by Councillor Bodner for a request for an update about signage directing visitors to Nickel and Centennial-Cedar Bay Beaches, the Acting Chief Administrative Officer advised that Engineering and Operations Department staff and By-law Services Division staff will work together with respect to providing a report about the signage at a future meeting of Council.

13. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion:**1. Port Colborne Public Library, Report No. 2019-77, Subject: Annual Report 2018, Fees and Charges Report, 2019 Events Highlights**

The Director of Library Services, Susan Therrien provided a presentation with respect to the 2018 annual report, fees and charges report, and 2019 events highlights. A copy of the presentation is attached.

Moved by Councillor G. Bruno
Seconded by Councillor E. Beauregard

That the Port Colborne Public Library Report 2019-77, the 2018 Annual Report, Fees and Charges Summary, and the 2019 Events Highlights, be received.

CARRIED.

2. Engineering and Operations Department, Engineering Division, Report 2019-75, Subject: Information Report on the Roadside Grass Mowing for 2019

Patty Moss provided a presentation in support helping pollinator species by modifying roadside mowing and seasonal cut times. A copy of the presentation is attached.

Ron Baarda expressed concern about the proposal to modify roadside mowing and seasonal cut times to create a habitat attractive to pollinators in close proximity to the road.

Margaret Tanaszi, the Port Colborne Garden Club – Ontario Horticultural Association District and Niagara, spoke in favour of modifying the roadside mowing and seasonal cut times to ensure a healthy habitat for pollinators. A copy of the speaking notes is attached.

Moved by Councillor A. Desmarais
Seconded by Councillor E. Beauregard

That Engineering and Operations Department, Engineering Division Report 2019-75 be received for information; and

That the request from the Environmental Advisory Committee to modify the roadside mowing and seasonal cut times to mid-June and mid-September, be approved; and

That the request from the Environmental Advisory Committee for Second Concession Road and Killaly Street East, east of Lorraine Road, to be eliminated from the mid summer Canal Days Festival cut, be approved.

Moved in amendment by Councillor A. Desmarais
Seconded by Councillor E. Beauregard

That the main motion be amended by adding to the second and third paragraphs the words "as an annual program"; and

That the main motion be further amended by adding thereto the following:

That the Environmental Advisory Committee be directed to investigate how to use new land, both public and private, as a pollinator habitat; and

That the Environmental Advisory Committee be directed to investigate education opportunities for pollinator habitats.

CARRIED.

The vote was then taken on the main motion, as amended, as follows:

That Engineering and Operations Department, Engineering Division Report 2019-75 be received for information; and

That the request from the Environmental Advisory Committee to modify the roadside mowing and seasonal cut times to mid-June and mid-September, be approved as an annual program; and

That the request from the Environmental Advisory Committee for Second Concession Road and Killaly Street East, east of Lorraine Road, to be eliminated from the mid summer Canal Days Festival cut, be approved as an annual program; and

That the Environmental Advisory Committee be directed to investigate how to use new land, both public and private, as a pollinator habitat; and

That the Environmental Advisory Committee be directed to investigate education opportunities for pollinator habitats.

CARRIED.

3. Planning and Development Department, Planning Division, Report 2019-76, Subject: Recommendation Report for Zoning By-law Amendment D14-05-18, 85 and 91 Main Street West

Moved by Councillor A. Desmarais
Seconded by E. Beauregard

That the Zoning By-law Amendment, attached as Appendix A to Planning and Development Department, Planning Division Report 2019-76, rezoning the subject property from Downtown Commercial to MU-50, be approved.

That staff be directed to prepare the Notice of Passing in accordance with the Planning Act and circulate to all applicable parties.

CARRIED.

4. Planning and Development Department, Planning Division, Report 2019-74, Subject: Recommendation Report for a Proposed Temporary Use By-law (File No. D14-02-17) 1133 Forks Road

Moved by Councillor M. Bagu
Seconded by Councillor G. Bruno

That the rules respecting delegations, as outlined under Section 10 of the Procedural By-law, be suspended in order permit members of Council to make inquiries of the property owner, Teresa Wiwchar.

CARRIED.

Moved by Councillor H. Wells
Seconded by Councillor R. Bodner

That the Temporary Use By-law, attached as Appendix A to Planning and Development Department, Planning Division Report 2019-74, permitting a private water ski club to be established for a period of three years subject to conditions, be approved; and

That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign an agreement with the property owner enacting the conditions established in the temporary use by-law; and

That staff be directed to prepare the Notice of Passing in accordance with the Planning Act and circulate to all applicable parties.

CARRIED.

9. Memorandum from Janice Peyton, Executive Assistant, DEO Re: Environmental Advisory Committee, Motion Regarding Port Colborne Quarries Site Alteration

Moved by Councillor A. Desmarais
Seconded by Councillor F. Danch

That the Memorandum received from Janice Peyton, Executive Assistant, DEO on behalf of the Environmental Advisory Committee Re: Environmental Advisory Committee, Motion Regarding Port Colborne Quarries Site Alteration, be received for information; and

That the list of questions provided by the Environmental Advisory Committee regarding the Port Colborne Quarries Site Alteration, be submitted to the Director of Planning and Development for Council's consideration and inclusion in the current review process.

CARRIED.

10. Region of Niagara Re: Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority Board Appointments

Moved by Councillor A. Desmarais
Seconded by Councillor G. Bruno

That the correspondence received from the Region of Niagara Re: Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority Board Appointments, be received for information; and

That Council recommend the appointment of Councillor _____ to the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority for a term of August 1, 2019 to November 30, 2022.

Moved in amendment by Councillor A. Desmarais
Seconded by Councillor H. Wells

That the main motion be amended by striking paragraph two and by adding thereto the following:

That the City Clerk be directed to conduct a recruitment process for the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority Board including both residents and members of Council where all applications are reviewed considering relevant professional experience, specialized environmental knowledge, and personal effectiveness skills.

CARRIED.

The vote was then taken on the main motion, as amended, as follows:

That the correspondence received from the Region of Niagara Re: Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority Board Appointments, be received for information; and

That the City Clerk be directed to conduct a recruitment process for the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority Board including both residents and members of Council where all applications are reviewed considering relevant professional experience, specialized environmental knowledge, and personal effectiveness skills.

CARRIED.

14. Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake and the Town of Aurora Re: Opposition to Bill 108 regarding the More Homes, More Choice Act

Moved by Councillor A. Desmarais
Seconded by Councillor H. Wells

That the resolutions received from the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake and the Town of Aurora Re: Opposition to Bill 108 regarding the More Homes, More Choice Act, be received for information.

Moved in amendment by Councillor A. Desmarais
Seconded by Councillor H. Wells

That the main motion be amended by striking out "be received for information" and inserting "be supported".

CARRIED.

The vote was then taken on the main motion, as amended, as follows.

That the resolutions received from the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake and the Town of Aurora Re: Opposition to Bill 108 regarding the More Homes, More Choice Act, be supported.

CARRIED.

14. Notice of Motion:

That the Chief Administrative Officer be directed to contract an independent consultant to review the Port Colborne Quarries' site alteration permit application and supporting documents in order to provide a report back to staff to assist with the preparation of Planning staff's report and recommendation to Council.

15. Adjournment:

Moved by Councillor Danch
Seconded by Councillor Bruno

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at approximately 10:35 p.m.

CARRIED.

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SPEAKING NOTES
GRANT PRESENTATIONS
MAY 27, 2019

Good evening ladies and gentlemen.

We are here this evening to present several community grants to non-profit organizations who serve the residents of Port Colborne.

Council formed a committee who now oversee the semi-annual review of the applications.

There are three members of council and two members of the public on this committee – Councillors Eric Beauregard and Gary Bruno, Mayor Bill Steele, with Brenda Haymes and myself from the public.

For 2019, council has set aside a maximum of \$30,000 to be distributed.

The first round of applications were received by January 31st and we are here this evening to present 10 grants totalling \$18,510.

The next round of applications must be submitted by June 30th and information is available on our website.

I'd like to call up a representative from each organization.

Air Race Classic Terminus Committee (Peter Van Caluart) – to assist with costs of the Air Race Classic being held June 19-24 at the Niagara Central Dorothy Rungeling Airport - **\$1,300**

Education Foundation of Niagara (Laura Byers) - to assist in providing essential items to DSBN students in Port Colborne who experience a high level of need - **\$1,500**

Niagara Health Foundation (Carrie Zeffiro)– to assist with the purchase of a “Spirit Bed” for use at the Port Colborne Site - **\$1,900**

Port Cares (not sure who is coming)– to assist with the purchase of a cargo van for use at the Reach Out Centre - **\$2,300**

Port Colborne Feline Initiative (Jackie Crow and Debbie Burden) – to assist with program expenses with TNVR (trap-neuter-vaccinate-return); CatSnips; and subsidized spay/neuter program for low income residents of Port Colborne - **\$2,500**

Port Colborne Lions Club (George DeRuyte) – to assist with operating costs - **\$1,600**

Port Colborne Operatic Society (Bernadette Piche-Proulx) – to assist with their “Musician in the Pit” program and general upkeep of their storage hall - **\$2,150**

St. James & St. Brendan Church (John Hogan and Linda Reinhart) – to assist with Phase Two of the Community Garden including gardens, plantings, benches, water feature, fence, pavilion – **\$1,660**

Women’s Place of South Niagara (Shirley Klauck) – to assist in providing emergency shelter and programs for women and children fleeing abuse - **\$2,000**

YMCA of Niagara (Lauri Brady)– to assist with the operation of the Niagara Day Camp program in the City of Port Colborne - **\$1,600**



Creating a New
Regional Official Plan

Update for Local Councils – Spring 2019

NIAGARA OFFICIAL PLAN

2

This slide contains the main title and subtitle for a presentation. The title "Creating a New Regional Official Plan" is centered in a large, black, sans-serif font. Below it, the subtitle "Update for Local Councils – Spring 2019" is also centered in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. On the right side of the slide, there is a vertical grey bar with the text "NIAGARA OFFICIAL PLAN" written vertically in a small, black, sans-serif font. At the bottom right corner of the slide, there is a small version of the colorful spiral logo seen in the first image. A small number "2" is located at the bottom center of the slide.

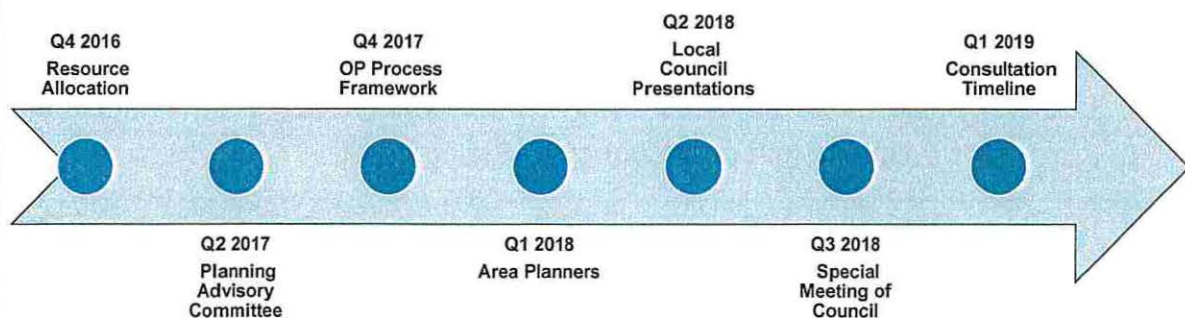
Creating a new Regional Official Plan

The new Official Plan will be a cohesive, concise, user-friendly document that:

- Implements new provincial policy and plans, as amended
- Reflects current goals and priorities of the community and Regional Council
- Provides clear direction for local planning, with flexibility where appropriate



Initiating the New Official Plan



Priority Background Studies

GROWTH MANAGEMENT



RURAL AND NATURAL SYSTEMS



5

Process to Create the New Official Plan



6

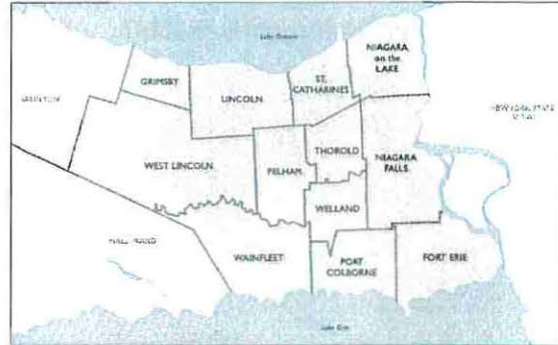
Growth Management – Land Budget

What is it?

- Amount of land needed for residential and employment growth to 2041
- Establish process to address urban expansions requests (TBC)

Current status

- Land budget cannot be finalized until other growth management studies are substantially complete
- Will be impacted by amendments to Growth Plan



Growth Management – Urban Structure

What is it?

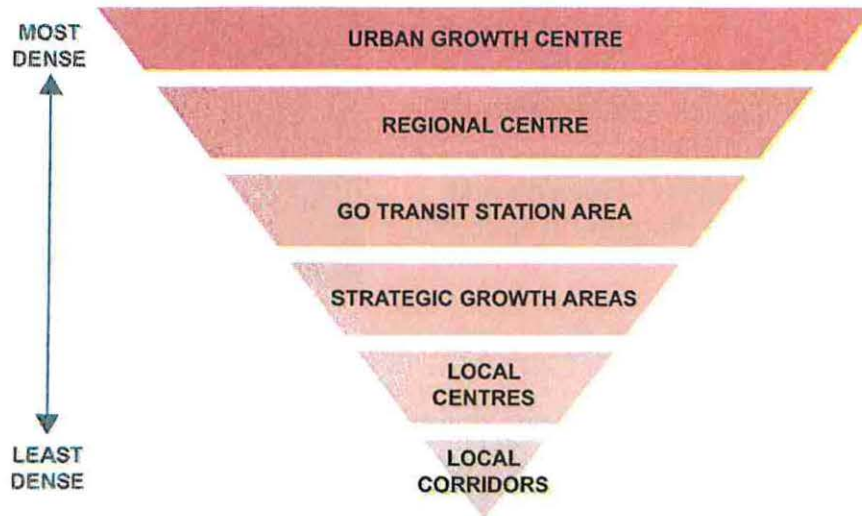
- Strategic areas to direct growth and intensification
- Implemented through local Secondary Plans

Current status

- Draft Regional Urban Structure to be discussed with Area Planners prior to public consultations



Growth Management – Draft Urban Structure Components



9



Growth Management – Employment Lands Strategy

What is it?

- Identify and protect a sufficient and marketable supply of land for employment uses

Current Status

- A consulting firm has been retained to undertake the study
- Target completion date is end of 2019



10



Growth Management – Housing Strategy

What is it?

- Plan for an appropriate range and mix of housing forms to provide choice, affordable options and aging in place
- Will align with the Region's Housing and Homelessness Action Plan (to be updated in 2019)



Current Status

- Housing data has been prepared by a consulting firm and shared with municipal staff
- Target completion date for a housing database is Spring 2019
- Data will be analyzed to inform a Housing Strategy for the Official Plan and targets for the Region's Housing and Homelessness Action Plan

11

Rural and Natural Systems - Agriculture

What is it?

- Inform the identification and protection of our agricultural land, and support the agricultural industry as the primary driver of Niagara's economy



Current status

- Agriculture study to be initiated in Spring 2019



12

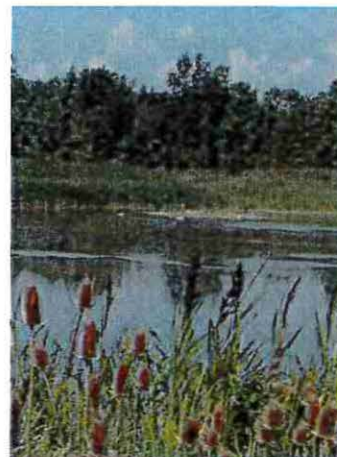
Rural and Natural Systems – Natural Environment

What is it?

- Inform the identification of a natural system or systems in Niagara, and protect important natural features

Current status

- A consulting team has been retained to complete a Watershed Planning Discussion Paper, Mapping Discussion Paper, and Natural Environment Background Study
- Target completion date for the background studies is Spring 2019



13

Rural and Natural Systems – Aggregate Resources

What is it?

- Help to ensure that aggregate resources are available close to market, while addressing land use compatibility and environmental considerations



Current Status

- A consulting firm completed a “State of Aggregates in Niagara Region: Background Report”, which was brought to Committee and Council in 2016
- A Technical Addendum was completed in Spring 2018 to supplement the Background Report as a result of changes to provincial legislation and policies
- Draft policies are currently under development



14

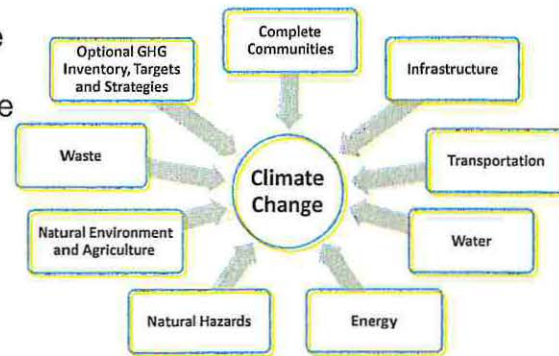
Rural and Natural Systems – Climate Change

What is it?

- Will explore opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in our communities and better adapt to the effects of climate change in Niagara, such as flooding

Current status

- Target completion date for climate change discussion paper is Fall 2019



Consultation Overview

- Consultation framework endorsed by Regional Council in March 2019
- Build on “Imagine Niagara” consultations
- Consult on background studies, draft policies and draft consolidated official plan
- Stakeholder sessions, public information centres (open houses), public meetings, online comments
- Educational videos and social media



Public Consultation Timeline



17

Next Steps and Considerations

Next Steps

- Complete majority of background work in 2019
- Hold first round of public consultations in Fall 2019
- Third 'Local Council Checkpoint' estimated for Spring 2020

Considerations

- The provincial land use planning framework is currently under review

18

Preliminary Framework for New Official Plan



GROWING REGION

How we manage growth and development, with a range and mix of housing forms, including affordable housing

CONNECTED REGION

How we improve connections with transit, recreation and trails, infrastructure and technology

COMPETITIVE REGION

How we increase our competitiveness by supporting employment opportunities and protecting agricultural lands

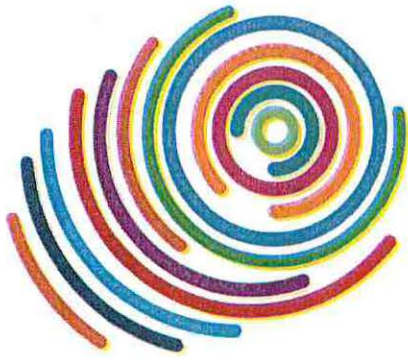
VIBRANT REGION

How we enhance the vibrancy of communities by supporting strong urban design and protecting cultural heritage

SUSTAINABLE REGION

How we protect our natural environment and plan for climate change





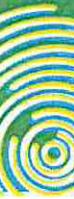
making our mark

NIAGARA **OFFICIAL PLAN**

Natural Environment Work Program

New Niagara Official Plan

**May 27 – Presentation to
City of Port Colborne Council**



Natural Environment Planning



An important component of the new Niagara Official Plan to:

- Support the identification of areas for growth and development
- Meet Provincial requirements for the protection of features, areas, and system
- Support a range of industries that benefit from a healthy natural environment
- Support public health, recreation, and overall well-being of residents
- Plan for climate change



Scope for Natural Environment Work Program

In-Scope	Out-of-Scope*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Heritage Features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodlands, wetlands, habitat, habitat of endangered and threatened species, fish habitat, etc. • Hydrologic Features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streams, seepage areas, wetlands, etc. • Region's watercourse identification and mapping project • Water Resource Systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundwater systems • Surface water systems • Natural Hazards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding hazards, erosion hazards, and dynamic beach hazards, etc. • Wildland fires as per Section 3.1.8 of the PPS • Provincial Natural Heritage Systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenbelt Natural Heritage System and Urban River Valley designation • Growth Plan Natural Heritage System • Niagara Escarpment Plan as it relates to the municipal planning process • Watershed Planning & Stormwater Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aggregates & Petroleum Resources • Source Water Protection

*Official Plan policy development for out-of-scope items to be addressed separately

Project Overview – Natural Environment

Project Phase	Activities
1	Project Initiation and Procurement
2	Background Study and Discussion Papers for Mapping and Watershed Planning Priority Areas
3	1 st Point of Engagement: Inform on Background Study
4	Develop and Evaluate Options for Natural System(s)
5	2 nd Point of Engagement: Consultation on Options for the Natural System(s)
6	Develop Regional Natural System(s)
7	Develop OP Policies & Finalize Mapping
8	3 rd Point of Engagement: Draft OP Policies and Schedules
9	Other Implementation Tools

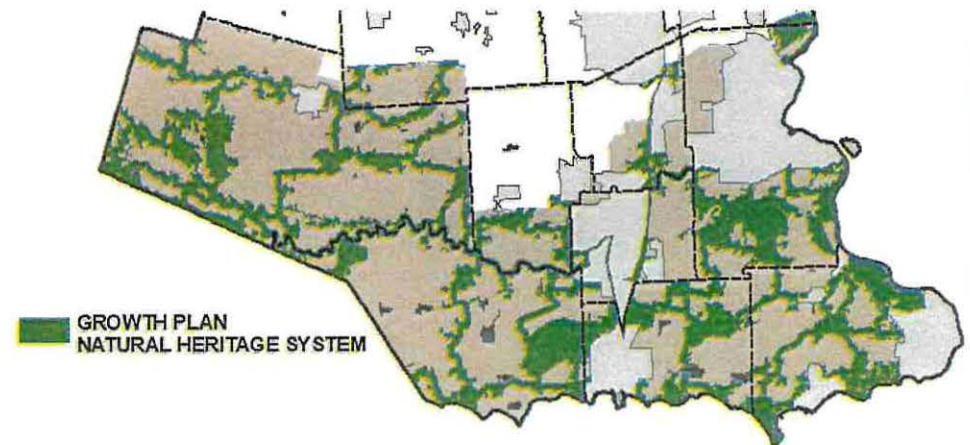
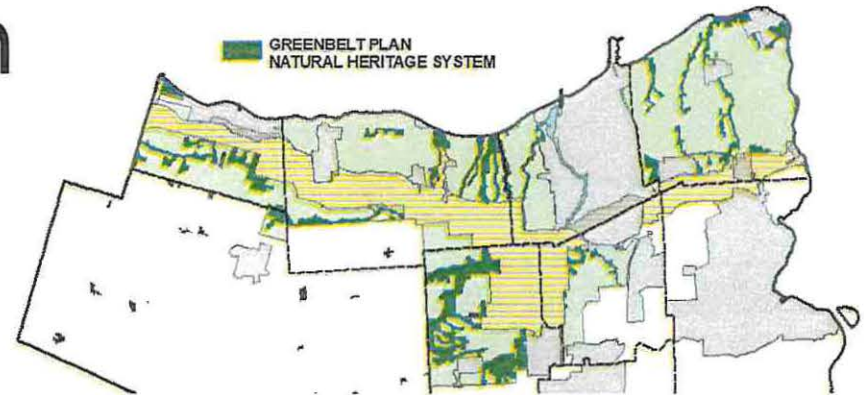
Natural Environment Background Study

Key Topics



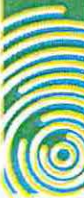
Provincial Direction

- Provincial direction starts with the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS, 2014)
- Greenbelt and Growth Plan Natural Heritage Systems to be implemented by Municipalities
- Province provides a number of guidelines and other tools to assist Municipalities



Interaction with Agriculture

- Clear direction that natural environment polices are not intended to limit the ability of agricultural uses to continue
- Greenbelt and Growth Plan NHS policies both provide a wide range of exemptions for new agricultural and agricultural-related buildings and structures
- The requirement for a natural buffer is exempt where lands will continue to be used for agricultural purposes



Woodlands

- Process for identifying significant woodlands as a 'key feature' :
 1. Identify and map 'Woodlands' in the Region based on defined criteria
 2. Develop and apply criteria to determine 'Significance'. Local context and conditions are a factor in determining significance.
- Local and Regional Tree By-Laws are a related tool for the management and protection of trees and woodlands



Climate Change & Invasive Species

- Two of the most significant threats to the natural environment
- Natural environment systems are an important tool to reduce risk and mitigate the impacts of climate change
- Many invasive species in Niagara including Emerald Ash Borer. Additional tools beyond the scope of the Official Plan Policies will be required.



Emerald Ash Borer
(*Agrilus planipennis*)



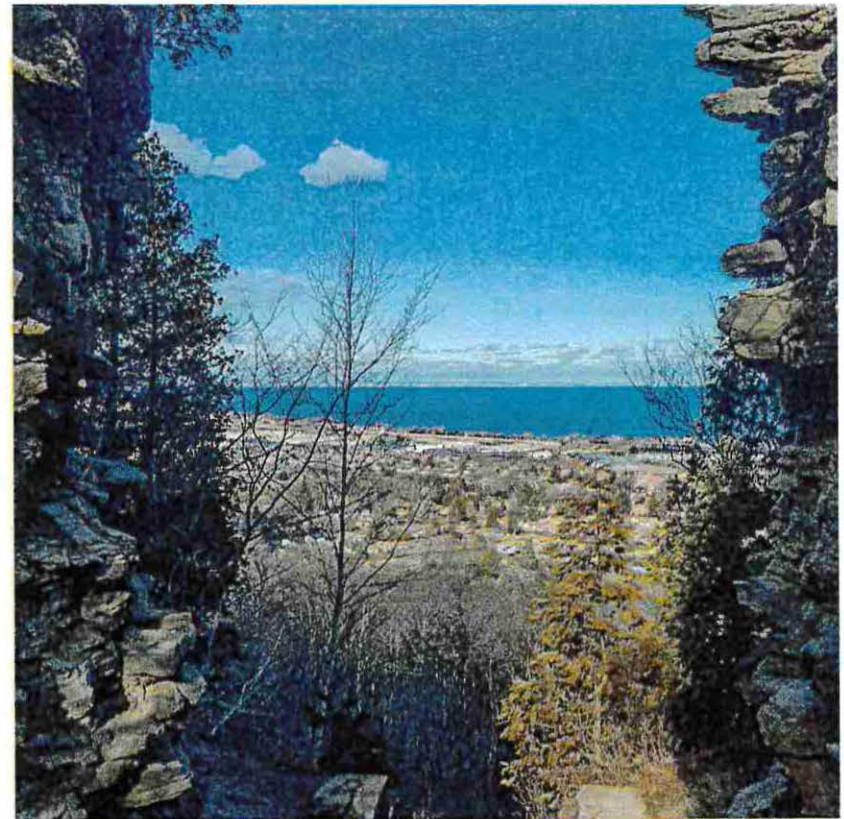
Watershed Planning

- Planning at a watershed scale that considers the relationship between the human and natural environments - with a focus on protecting water resources
- Watershed planning in the Province has been evolving for decades -
 - The 2014 PPS and 2017 Provincial Plans place a much greater emphasis on integration - planning and land use activities must be “informed by” watershed planning
- The new Niagara Official Plan will need to provide a framework and policies for watershed planning
- Additional consultation and engagement during any Watershed Planning process

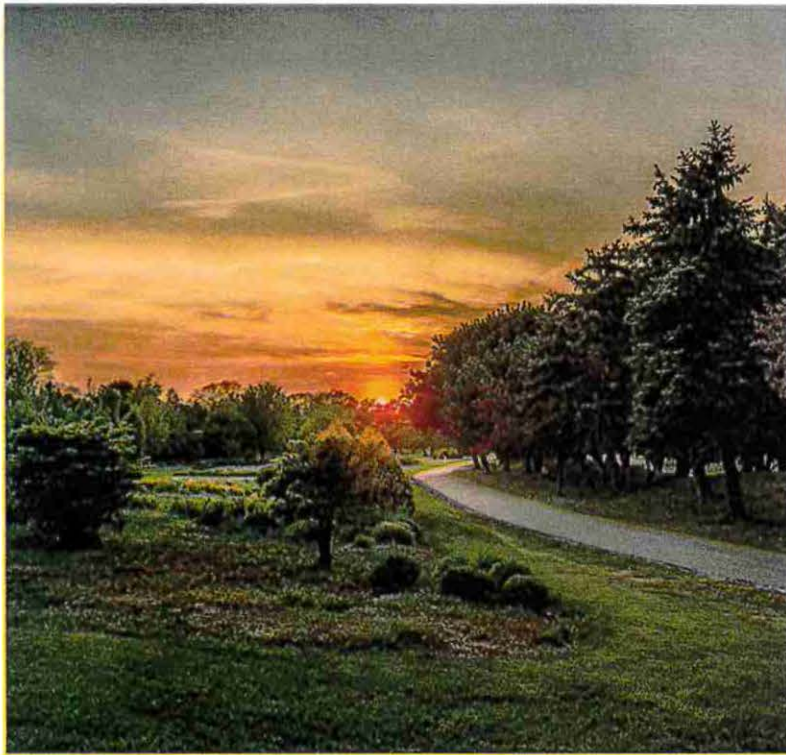
Ongoing Consultation and Engagement

1st major point of engagement focusing on education and sharing information:

- Local Councils
- Public
- Local Planning Staff
- Agricultural and Environmental Stakeholder Groups
- Development Community
- Indigenous Groups
- Planning Advisory Committee (PAC)
- Agricultural Policy and Action Committee (APAC)
- Region's Planning and Economic Development Committee



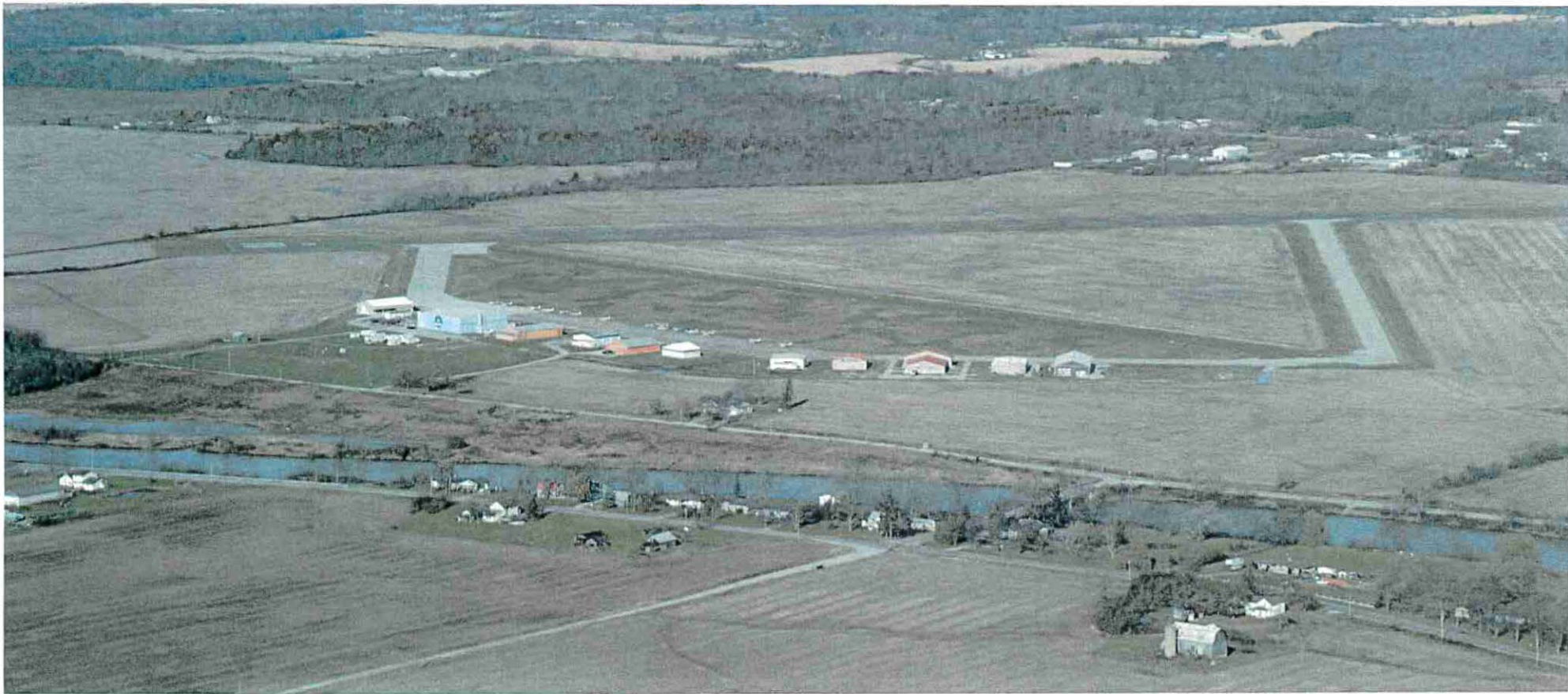
Next Steps



1. Complete 1st Point of Engagement and finalize Background Study and Discussion Papers
2. Identify and evaluate options
3. Present preliminary preferred option to Regional Council and initiate 2nd Point of Engagement



Welcome to the
43rd Annual Air Race Classic
2019 Terminus June 18-24



“Air Race Week”

June 18-24, 2019

- Overview
- Events Schedule
- Public/FlyMarket



Overview: The 2019 Race

43rd Annual

2019

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★ **JACKSON, TENNESSEE (US)** ★
START

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TERMINUS

Map locations:
Sault Ste. Marie, MI (KCIU) | Sault Ste. Marie, ON (CYAM)
Wausau, WI (KAUW) | North Bay, ON (CYB)
Fairmont, MN (KFRM) | Brantford, ON (CYFD)
TERMINUS Welland, ON (CNQ3)

Overview: The Air Racing Spirit



Overview: The Air Racing Spirit

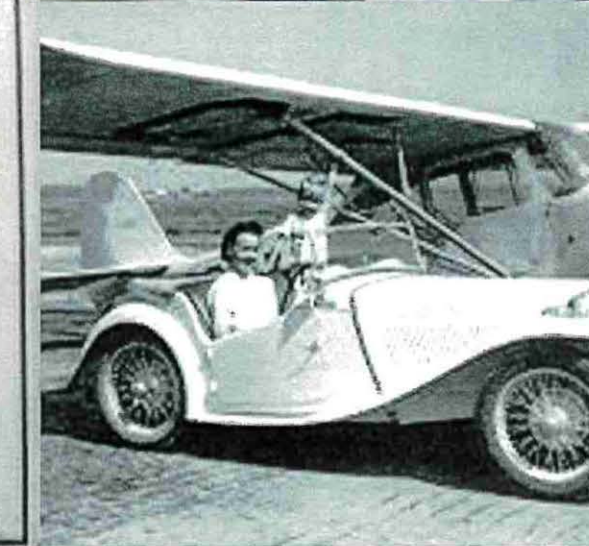


Susan Kock and Dottie 1958 - Grand Bahama

Overview: The Air Racing Spirit



Overview: Our Inspiration



Overview: The ARC Executive

NCDRA Site Map



Events Schedule June 19-21

- Racers fly to finish line, then land.
- Planes refuel and move to weekend tiedown.
- Public FlyMarket 9am-5pm local vendors.
- Food by 87 Air Cadets, Tim Horton's coffee.
- Air Race Race officially ends Friday at 5pm.
- Airport closed by 5:30pm.
- Private function on the field.
- Airport secured at 10pm.

Niagara Central Dorothy Rungeling Airport Commission is grateful to our "2019 Air Race Terminus" sponsors



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Request for Delegation – Port Colborne City Council – Monday, May 29, 2019

Delegation:

Darren Platakis - Founder/CEO Geospatial Niagara – Ohnia:kara Steering Committee

Ian Lucas - Secretary Geospatial Niagara – Ohnia:kara Steering Committee

Philip Davis – Indigenous Culture Liaison – Ohnia:kara Steering Committee

Contact:

Address – 11 Nello Street – St. Catharines, ON L2N 1G5

Phone – 905-964-4169

Organization Represented – Geospatial Niagara and the Ohnia:kara Aspiring Global Geopark Steering Committee – pronounced **Oh-nee-ah-gah-rah**

Presentation Focus:

To significantly expand Sustainable Tourism by establishing the entire Niagara region as a UNESCO Global Geopark, WITHOUT the usual restrictions associated with traditional parks, and WITHOUT building any new tourism destination infrastructure.

Information:

1. **Ohnia:kara (pronounced Oh-nee-ah-gah-rah) is the Mohawk word for “neck between two bodies of water” and is the origin of the name the world recognizes as Niagara.** It has been the home going back further than 12,000 years, to many Indigenous Peoples, and continues to this day to be an iconic gathering place for visitors from all nations around the world.
2. **This presentation is about an exciting, achievable project to steadily expand Tourism destinations to every corner of Niagara region, WHILE ALSO increasing tourism revenues for the traditional “anchor” destinations.**
3. Geographically situated between two Great Lakes, the Niagara Escarpment is a

result of 500 million years of natural processes, and is designated as a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve. This helps us to achieve the UNESCO Global Geopark designation.

4. UNESCO Global Geoparks are grassroots community led projects that must demonstrate broad community engagement and commitment to be UNESCO designated. **The Ohnia:kara Aspiring Geopark will bring a sense of pride, and strengthen our Niagara community identities while educating about the importance of the geology and its impacts on our industry and cultural history through the recognition of the indigenous peoples that call this land home.**
5. Our diverse, experienced Steering Committee is making presentations to identified Stakeholders, including municipalities across Niagara. **The response to-date has been overwhelmingly positive.**
6. As new councils are coming together to plan for their municipalities and the region over the next 4 years, one of the most common goals is collaboration to move Niagara forward. We are asking that each Municipal council and the Regional council embrace, endorse and support the Ohnia:kara Aspiring Global Geopark project as a means to bring all of Niagara together to work towards this reachable designation that can be a reality within the next 4 years. Now is the time for Niagara to come together.

Our Ask:

- 1) We are seeking written endorsement of the Ohnia:kara Aspiring Global Geopark by the current council.
- 2) Staff report on the project for full Council consideration.
- 3) To evaluate participation in the Ohnia:kara Aspiring Geopark as part of your strategic plans.
- 4) Staff support, from time-to-time, to help with UNESCO Status Submission.
- 5) Future discussion of possible funding, related to tangible benefits.
- 6) Link on your municipal website to the Ohnia:kara Aspiring Geopark site.



OHNIA : KARA AN ASPIRING GLOBAL GEOPARK

INTRODUCTION

What is a UNESCO Global Geopark?

Niagara has long been a world-famous destination, anchored by its iconic Falls. In fact, it has been a meeting place for Indigenous peoples dating back 12,000 years.

The tourism infrastructure that has developed over the decades at Niagara Falls specifically has entrenched this position and its effect has gradually cascaded through Niagara-on-the-Lake and into the rest of the region, primarily through its historical, agricultural and viticulture assets. The importance of tourism to Niagara's local economy is acknowledged by its designation as one of the Niagara Region's four pillars of economic development strategy. Recognition of its role has been accompanied by the desire to expand its impact throughout the region.

Several types of tourism already exist in Niagara, providing a spectrum of different opportunities in a variety of different cultural and environmental contexts. Many of these different types of tourism include mass, rural and farm, cycling, culinary, wine, brewery, and ecotourism. The inclusion of geotourism would serve to reinforce these existing tourism types, but also diversify into new areas, and new products and attractions, that highlight the unique character of the Niagara region.

Geotourism is a niche-market that has grown over the past 20-plus years. It is a form of nature-based tourism that showcases an area's geographical character, its "earth history" which includes geology and landscape, flora and fauna, and their interaction with humans to form a cultural identity. It is a niche that focuses on education, conservation, and sustainability (Megerle & Pietsch, 2017; Dowling, 2011; Farsani et al., 2011). It is through the growing phenomenon of geotourism that the relatively new concept of the "geopark" – and the official designation of the UNESCO Global Geopark – has emerged.

UNESCO defines its geoparks as a "single, unified geographical area where sites and landscapes of international geological significance are managed with a holistic concept of protection, education and sustainable development" (UNESCO 2016).

While the concept of geoparks date back to the 1990s, specifically with their establishment in Europe and China, it wasn't until 2004 that the Global Geoparks Network was formed under UNESCO. Furthermore, the official branding of the UNESCO Global Geopark did not occur until 2015. There are currently 140 UNESCO Global Geoparks in 36 countries, but only three of these are in Canada: Stonehammer in New Brunswick (designated a Global Geopark in 2010), Tumbler Ridge in British Columbia (2014), and Percé in Quebec (2018), signifying that the concept is relatively new in Canada. Members of the Niagara community through Geospatial Niagara have submitted an expression of interest to the Canadian National Committee for Geoparks to become a geopark. This has enabled the group to now market the concept and create a formal application as an "Aspiring Global Geopark". **The Ohnia:kara Aspiring Global Geopark is a non-profit grassroots effort to bring the brand to Niagara.**



What is UNESCO looking for?

In its application, UNESCO asks that the aspiring Global Geopark addresses 10 topics:

1. the importance of natural resources in the region and their sustainable use;
2. existing geological hazards, such as volcanoes and earthquakes, and disaster mitigation strategies;
3. climate change;
4. educational activities for all ages that spread awareness of geological heritage and its links to our geography, culture and heritage;
5. scientific research with academic institutions;
6. exploring the links between communities and Earth, including activities and partnerships with the arts and heritage communities;
7. the empowerment of women;
8. a sustainable economic development plan;
9. preserving and celebrating local and Indigenous knowledge by including those communities in the planning and management of the geopark; and
10. geo-conservation and the protection of geosites. (UNESCO 2016)



The UNESCO designation does not carry any regulatory status, although sites within the geopark may already be protected by local laws. Rather, it is best understood as an international brand that signifies to potential tourists that this is a destination with significant geological and geographical assets worth visiting. That may seem obvious in Niagara. However, the UNESCO Global Geopark brand was originally meant to support and encourage sustainable economic development in rural areas by showcasing their formidable geological sites. With that goal in mind, a Global Geopark designation could be a means to expanding tourism interest across the Niagara region, by increasing the economic benefits of tourism to all 12 of its municipalities as well as adding value to its core tourism areas of Niagara Falls and Niagara-on-the-Lake, and giving visitors more reason to stay in the region for longer periods.

This policy brief aims to introduce this relatively new concept to Niagara stakeholders and answer the question: What is a geopark, and how might it enhance an already popular tourism destination? This study will highlight challenges and opportunities that Ohnia:kara organizers face in their bid for designation. It includes a discussion of the branding process, the current impact of tourism in Niagara and how a geopark designation might differentiate itself; and a brief look at the impact of some current Global Geoparks. It will also build a case for local support of the initiative, placing the discussion within the realm of amplifying culture and tourism assets across the region to contribute to Niagara's overall economic development.

THE PROCESS

Ohnia:kara, the Mohawk word for "neck between two bodies of water", is proposed to be congruent with the boundaries of the Regional Municipality of Niagara. It has identified 78 "geosites" of geological, environmental, or cultural interest in all 12 municipalities of the region, but that list continues to grow as the group consults with stakeholders. The sites range from the Welland Canal to the Wainfleet Bog to Beamer Falls, as well as historical sites from the War of 1812 and the Mewinzha Archeology Gallery in Fort Erie. The Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority and the Niagara Parks Commission already oversee the bulk of the proposed sites, which should be considered an advantage as there is already infrastructure in place (trails, signage, parking, programming) for visitors and residents to enjoy many of these local assets.

A UNESCO Global Geopark carries a four-year designation after successfully completing an application that includes a dossier of information and a site visit from technical experts. The application should demonstrate the area has "geological heritage of international value" as assessed by scientific professionals, with accompanying details of geo-conservation pressures and efforts. A management team with a business and marketing plan should be in place. Part of the process includes having already implemented geopark projects as proof of commitment and capacity. Information signs at geosites and educational programs offered to schools are such examples.

The designation is re-evaluated every four years, through a progress report and another site visit.

The Ohnia:kara initiative is currently at the beginning of its application process. It has a steering committee and organizers have been making contacts with other geoparks and participating in international conferences and workshops. Once completed, the application will be vetted through the Canadian National Committee for Geoparks (CNCG) before moving to UNESCO for final approvals.

ROLE OF TOURISM IN NIAGARA'S ECONOMY

Tourism has been identified by Niagara Region as one of four priority sectors in its economic development and growth strategy, alongside agribusiness, manufacturing, and transportation/logistics.

The tourism sector employs approximately 18 per cent of Niagara's workforce, or almost 40,000 people, and has a location quotient of 1.8 relative to Ontario (Niagara Region Economic Development, 2019). This signifies the concentration of a specialized labour pool in this region.

TOURISM NUMBERS

The latest data from the Ontario Ministry of Tourism shows that the St. Catharines-Niagara Census Metropolitan Area had approximately 12.9 million "person-visits" in 2017. About 8.4 million came from Ontario (another 292,000 visitors from the rest of Canada), 1.1 million came from overseas, and 3.1 million from the U.S. Total expenditures were approximately \$2.36 billion. The ministry numbers measure, among other things, how many nights people stayed in the CMA, what type of accommodation they used, and what they did while they were here. We know, for example, that less than half of those who visited from Ontario stayed overnight (2.98 million) and the majority of those for only a couple of nights. Less than half of overseas visitors stayed overnight in the CMA, the bulk of those spending two nights or less.

(Note: The St. Catharines-Niagara CMA does not include Grimsby or West Lincoln. Overseas visitors counted were over the age of 15.)

It is a cross-sectoral industry that includes food and beverage, accommodation, performing arts, spectator sports, heritage institutions, and gambling. As such it provides quality-of-life amenities to residents while marketing to visitors outside the region.

Niagara Falls and its established tourism base is central to the region's competitive advantage. However, challenges in "growing and enriching the experience" moving forward have been identified in recent discussions around the strategic growth of the region (Niagara Region Economic Development 2018, p. 14).

Some of the challenges include:

1. encouraging return visits
2. increasing the number of overnight stays
3. making the entirety of the Niagara region a destination for those seeking a wine, culinary, or arts experience.

In a geopark model, Niagara Falls anchors the tourism experience, but the region-wide potential is realized. Brouder and Fullerton have referred to it as a "cascade effect" (2015). That is, Niagara Falls is still the focal point for tourists, but the rest of the region might also benefit. This policy brief recognizes that tourists to the region are not all alike. The casino buses travelling down the QEW are not necessarily filled with aspiring geotourists. Nor are the bus tours that take international visitors for a quick day trip. The geopark appeals to a separate genre of tourist (and resident) and lends a different perspective to Niagara's assets.

WHY DO WE NEED A GEOPARK?

If Niagara is already such a popular destination, why do we need to be officially designated as a Global Geopark?

Branding Niagara as a UNESCO Global Geopark may provide an institutional path for the entirety of the region to gain international recognition by drawing attention to the extent of the existing geological and cultural assets, including its many smaller waterfalls, trails, historical sites, wineries, and artisans. For organizers, these branding efforts come with opportunities and challenges. Tourist amenities and attractions are already abundant, and the geopark can take advantage of this infrastructure to establish its own brand of tourism and add value to a visit, highlighting geological assets and earth history (which includes its interaction with humans through culture and heritage). However, the challenge occurs in: 1. differentiating what it can offer to the experience and, 2. quantifying its impact on the established tourism sector as well as the local economy at large.

What difference will a UNESCO Global Geopark make and how can it be measured? The difficulty lies in that often these geosites are not gated (Lemky, 2014), or they may be one of several reasons someone might visit an area.

This could be mitigated through geopark-specific activities and attractions. For example, if it had its own visitors' centre and took visitor counts at its promoted geosites. Because one goal of the Ohnia:kara initiative is to attract tourists already at

¹Location quotients measure employment concentration in a geographical area compared to a larger geographical area, in this case Niagara to Ontario. If the LQ is greater than 1, that indicates a larger proportion of workers in a sector than the larger area, and a comparative advantage in terms of a specialized labour pool. Agriculture (location quotient 1.94), arts/entertainment/recreation (1.92 LQ), and food/accommodation (1.75 LQ) are the three most significant sectors in Niagara in terms of employment (Niagara Region Economic Development 2018, p. 13).

Niagara Falls to explore the surrounding region (in the hopes they might spend more time in the area), taking counts and surveys at geosites in the surrounding municipalities would give some indication if that strategy is working. Other solutions may include on-site surveys, website visits via on-site QR codes, or "passport" programs in which visitors get stamps for each site visited and then trade them in at the end of a vacation for a small reward.

Determining whether or not the geopark brand is attracting tourists who otherwise would not have made the trip to Niagara may be more difficult. Overall numbers gathered by Statistics Canada before and after the branding can be compared, but one would be challenged to measure how much can be attributed to the actual geopark versus other factors.

This ability to differentiate becomes a significant issue not only when looking for funding and partnerships, but also when making its case to UNESCO in seeking official designation.

The Niagara Escarpment, for example, has been a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve since 1990. In the case of such branding overlap, UNESCO stipulates an "Aspiring Global Geopark" must show how it would add value to the region both independently and in cooperation with other designations. In this case, Ohnia:kara may argue that as a promoter of geotourism, it can help the Biosphere Reserve tell its story by guiding people to lesser known geosites as the escarpment winds to its greatest asset, Niagara Falls. There are other overlaps, as well: with Ontario Parks, the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, the Niagara Escarpment Commission, and the Niagara Parks Commission.

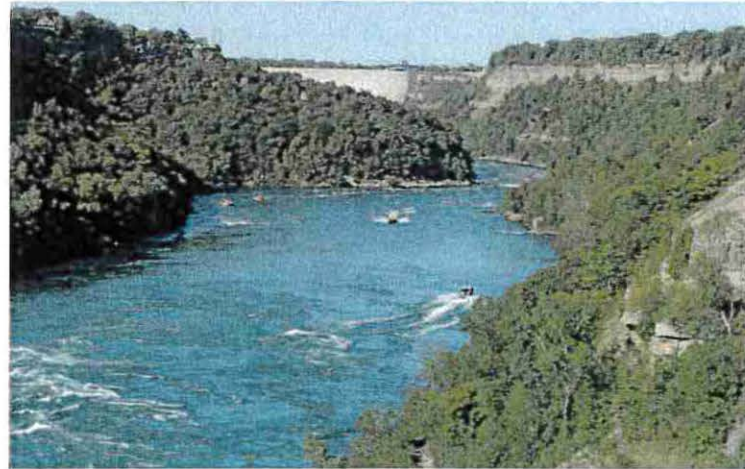
Megerle and Pietsch (2017) recognized this trade-off in the case of German geoparks – the risk of decreased visibility of a geopark due to the larger profile of established protection agencies, versus the benefit of geosites already enjoying degrees of legislated protection and administrative oversight. In the German case, geoparks overlapped with nature parks, national parks, and a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Risks included competition between brands² and confusion amongst the public about the difference between them. The danger was having this play out with businesses and other stakeholders questioning the value of paid membership in a geopark. But the research also saw the opportunity of working with higher-profile organizations with better financial resources and infrastructure to mount joint marketing campaigns and joint activities.

GEOPARKS AROUND THE WORLD: THE COSTS AND BENEFITS

There is evidence that designated Global Geoparks are having positive economic impacts on their regions.

China, for example, housed 204 national geoparks in 2017 (35 of them UNESCO Global Geoparks), and each was estimated to generate \$26 million USD per year (Ng 2017), or approximately \$34.5 million CAD. The geopark brand has been used in China since 2000 as part of a rural poverty alleviation strategy with the geoparks directly employing 20,500 managers and administrators, and 464,000 part-time and full-time frontline workers (Ng 2017).³

Of course, China could be considered an outlier due to its population size and the sheer number of geoparks. A peer-reviewed study by Farsani et al. (2011) looked at employment numbers in a survey of 25 Global Geoparks in Europe, Asia (excluding China, which did not answer the questionnaire), Australia, and South America. It found an average of 18 people were directly employed by a geopark's administration. This did not count indirect employment impact in related industries such as food and beverage, accommodation, or retail.



We can infer from these numbers, versus those in China, that the number of people directly employed by a geopark depends on how its management board has decided to run the business and could vary greatly. For example, does the geopark run its own tours, have its own museum, or a dedicated visitors' centre?

In the Farsani survey, direct employment by geoparks included seasonal workers in visitor centres and as tour guides at sites, as well as facility coffee shops and those working in other

²Which can result in too many signs. Biosphere Reserves had better funding and could afford more signage which led to a higher profile than the geopark in which it was situated.

³The challenges of operating the brand have included managing such a "high demand for facilities and amenities, visitor management, environmental and heritage protection, and recruiting young people to work in remote parks."

amenities. The survey found revenue-generating activities run directly by the geoparks included recreation/sports activities, themed restaurants, spas, and bakeries; "geoproducts", and partnerships with existing businesses. Other activities designed to increase the awareness of the geopark and its benefits included education programs (workshops, conferences, tours), and conservation activities (p. 75-76).

An economic impact study conducted for three of **Portugal's** four Global Geoparks in 2014 (the fourth had just opened) found that visitor numbers had doubled since designation. (The parks had been designated between 2006 and 2014, but no indication was given for the timeframe of the increase.) All indicators, as self-reported by the managers, saw various increases in employment, number of restaurants, available beds, hotels, visitors from the school community, average expenses per visitor/day, average length of stay, and overall number of visitors.

The estimated average income (which it reported as average "economic benefit" to the community) of the three parks was 424,940 Euros per year (approx. \$647,398 CAD), 57 per cent of revenues from government sources (mainly municipal and regional), 19 per cent from private sources, and 24 per cent classified as "external".⁴

The study found the initial cost of earning the UNESCO designation ranged from approximately 30,000 Euros to 80,000 Euros (\$45,000 to \$121,000 CAD), including marketing and management plans, inventory and assessment of geo-heritage sites, and a technical team (Portuguese National Commission for UNESCO, 2014, p. 55). The annual cost of affiliation, including the work of technicians, promotional rate payments to the Geopark networks, and participation in conferences, was estimated at 5,417 Euros (\$8,100 CAD).

In the **United Kingdom**, a 2013 report estimated the annual financial benefit that its seven Global Geoparks brought was 18.84 million pounds (\$32 million CAD) – taking into account the estimated "cost of status" at 330,000 pounds (\$562,000 CAD) or approximately 47,000 pounds each (\$80,000 CAD) (UK National Commission for UNESCO, 2013, p. 12).

The report stated that the designation had been used to increase tourism numbers which in turn brought spill-over effects into the local economy and the seven parks had secured a combined 4.6 million pounds/year in funding (\$7.8 million CAD), not accounting for revenues from visitor spending. Its Marble Arch Caves Geopark, given as an example, attracted 250,000 visitors per year which the report equated to an annual 3.9 million pounds (\$6.6 million CAD) in visitor spending per year due to the UNESCO designation (pg. 14).

SOURCES OF INSPIRATION

Part of the campaign to become a UNESCO Global Geopark, and retain its standing, is to network with already established Global Geoparks in order to gain insight, not only into best practices, but to gain ideas and inspiration into what is possible. Two geoparks that stand out as relevant to the Niagara experience are the **English Riviera Global Geopark** in South Devon, England and the **Beaujolais Global Geopark** in eastern France. But we have also included **Hong Kong** as a brief talking point – considered an urban geopark, it provides an example of how an already world-famous destination has used the branding.

English Riviera

The English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark in southwest England is an interesting comparative case for Niagara as it has been a popular domestic vacation destination pre-dating its 2007 UNESCO designation. The English Riviera has declared itself an "urban" geopark with a population of 134,000 over 62 square kilometres, including the resort towns of Torquay, Paignton, and Brixham, around Torbay.⁵

This area became well-known during the Napoleonic Wars when the families of naval officers settled in the area and word spread of its attractiveness. It was also once the United Kingdom's largest fishing port. These days, tourism is its dominant industry, recording nine million bed-nights per year and employing 15,000 people either directly or indirectly.

While the economic impact of the geopark, specifically, was not publicly available, the English Riviera Geopark Organization is mentioned more than once as part of the area's tourism strategy moving forward as it aims to grow its visitor numbers. Between 2010 and 2015, this area saw a 12 per cent increase in domestic visitors and an eight per cent increase in their spending (to 274.4 million pounds in 2015, or \$464.5 million CAD). The number of overseas visitors increased by one per cent and their spending by three per cent. Overall, in 2015, there were 4.5 million trips made to Torbay and 436 million pounds (\$739.2 million CAD) spent.

The English Riviera Global Geopark calls itself an "urban geopark" though 45 per cent of its land remains undeveloped as farmland, woodland, or open space. It has its own visitors' centre, themed playground, and website promoting activities and trails centered around its 32 geosites. It encourages its business partners and commercial members to use the branding to "stand above the crowd" when seeking funding. The geopark operates within the established tourism community as one of 14 stakeholders in the Destination Management Group for the local authority. Its own management organization includes tourism, geography, heritage, business, and educational stakeholders, as well as members of the local council. (English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark website).

⁴No definition was given for "external sources", but this would include entrance fees, etc.

⁵By way of comparison, Niagara's population is spread out across 1,854 square kilometres.

Beaujolais

The Beaujolais UNESCO Global Geopark in eastern France seems a natural case to study for Niagara due to its world-famous wine region (producing primarily red wine from the Gamay grape). This geopark located just northwest of Lyon, within view of the Alps, was designated in 2018 and makes the direct connection between its geological and hydraulic resources, and its viticulture, agriculture and history of its community. It currently has 26 geosites, ranging from historical buildings and sites, to vistas, trails, and protected areas. An interactive map of geo-activities on its website features guided tours and walks, museums and trails. As it is a new geopark, economic benefits are not available, and details about its structure are not yet publicly available. (Beaujolais UNESCO Global Geopark website).

Hong Kong

The Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark features outcrops of volcanic rock columns, other rock formations and historical relics that are about an hour's drive from the centre of the city. The city of seven million people acts as host to visitors who make the trek to see the geosites via land-based or water-based tours. Tour guides are accredited. It has a Geopark Visitors Centre, a Volcano Discovery Centre, and several smaller "Geoheritage Centres". It provides an example of how a world-famous city has used the UNESCO branding to enhance and diversify the visitor experience (Ng 2014, Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark website).

CONCLUSION

The UNESCO Global Geopark brand is meant to be used as a tool for communities to support and promote their natural resources and geological heritage through sustainable development practices, including geotourism, conservation, and education. The goal of this brief is to introduce this relatively new concept to economic development, tourism, conservation, and education stakeholders in Niagara. This region has already claimed its spot as a world-famous destination, thanks to the Niagara Falls and adjacent historical and cultural offerings. Wineries, breweries, and agritourism are adding to the draw of Niagara – the region – as a tourism destination. So much of this success already hinges on the uniqueness of Niagara's geography and geology, from the many waterfalls to the building and operation of the Welland Canal, to the soil and climatic factors that lead to a robust Niagara wine industry, particularly ice wine. Supporting a bid to become an internationally recognized geopark could even broaden the region's appeal to those looking for a recreational and educational geotourism experience, the benefits of which can be shared across all 12 municipalities of the region.

NEXT STEPS

By Charles Conteh & Carol Phillips

The vision behind the UNESCO Global Geopark initiative in Niagara is not disconnected from the economic and sociocultural advancement of the region, but rather constitutes another potential engine that can only further drive the tourism sector. It should also be emphasized that leveraging and promoting cultural assets is a fundamentally community-driven initiative if it is to be sustainable. This policy brief encourages all sectors to consider the benefits of a UNESCO Global Geopark and how they may each contribute to its use as a tool of sustainable economic development.

To articulate the essential elements moving forward in a successful local geopark initiative, a framework from Jennifer Clark's work on resilient regions is instructive (2017). There are four core characteristics of resilient and adaptive regions that could inform the strategic direction of the geopark initiative in Niagara. First, building a deep specialized team of local geopark "activists"; second, creating a legitimate platform of institutionalized intermediaries to connect the various organizations and interests invested in the region's natural, environmental and cultural assets; third, cultivating an awareness of geoparks as fundamentally about the management of relationships and narratives between stakeholders in Niagara and the world; and fourth, a clearly articulated role for government at multiple scales of authority. The rest of this section elaborates on each of these elements.

The first element is the need to cultivate a critical mass of local geopark activists who are knowledgeable and passionate about the region's geological, geographic, cultural and historical uniqueness. As a strategic step, this would involve effective outreach to, and partnership with, local schools and post-secondary institutions to integrate geopark training modules into existing curriculum, and host regular public workshops to raise awareness about the region's stock of geopark assets. Ohniakara has already begun this outreach with programs in place at the post-secondary level.



Engaging people of diverse backgrounds and leveraging their skills and passions to create a compelling local ecosystem of geopark activists is an important part of developing a convincing and sustainable initiative. In fact, a major reason UNESCO gives for the designation of a Global Geopark is its educational

benefits – increasing awareness and appreciation for geology by teaching the communities within the geopark, as well as visitors, about the region's earth history.

Most importantly, geology and its role in earth history also provides a portal through which to learn about Niagara's Indigenous cultures which have existed here since time immemorial. With the help of Geospatial Niagara and the participation of Indigenous communities (such as the Niagara Regional Native Centre), educational units can be designed with hands-on experiences for students of all ages, elementary to post-secondary. As well, information at geosites, and on educational/promotional materials can also tell the story of the land from the Indigenous perspective.

The second element in the geopark region's strategic steps would be the creation of a platform for the institutional intermediaries that share the conservation and operational oversight of Niagara's physical assets. This platform can serve as facilitator and provide the glue that holds networks of disparate actors together. As we noted earlier, geoparks often overlap with nature parks, national parks, and biosphere reserves. An effective institutional intermediary platform will pre-empt competition between brands and confusion amongst the public about the difference between them. Moreover, it will address the concerns of businesses and other stakeholders questioning the value of paid membership in a geopark. The cooperation of these types of groups is essential to the upkeep, enhancement, and promotion of geosites. Working together, such an environmental network platform will not only provide the multidimensional perspectives for articulating and differentiating what a geopark can offer to the experience of visitors but also operationalizing those perspectives into quantitative indicators for measuring its impact on the established tourism sector as well as the local economy at large.

This platform could serve as the management team with a business and marketing plan. Where this new platform or management team fits within the current Niagara tourism landscape is up for further discussion. But as we see from the English Riviera example, the initiative's inclusion in Niagara's tourism discussions and strategies is central to its success.

A third element in the initiative's strategic direction or next-steps is to frame its geopark initiative in terms of managing relationships and cultural narratives between Niagara and the world. Geopark assets are more than objects of nature. They are the critical relics of history that embody the natural heritage of a place. These relics provide the physical emblems that have

shaped the worldview and even belief systems of many generations of Indigenous peoples living in the region. The geopark initiative provides a mechanism for sharing those narratives with tourists from around the world, and with Niagara residents as well who may not be familiar with those stories embedded in these natural vestiges of the distant past. This third element ties well with the concept of branding.

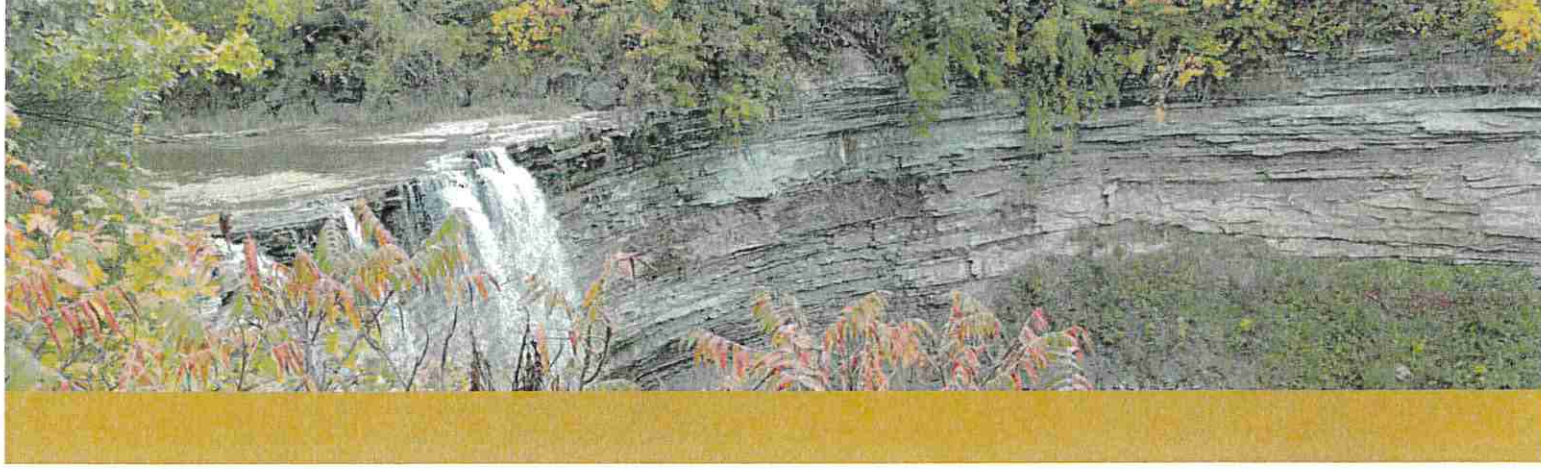
The branding of a UNESCO Global Geopark provides an entrepreneurial opportunity to increase the number of, and expand existing, geotourism activities and visitor amenities. For those who have existing geopark-oriented businesses and events, the branding may help them build on their success by increasing international awareness of the geotourism opportunities in Niagara region.

The fourth and final element in the initiative's strategic next-steps is the question of the role of government. While there is a tendency to tout community initiatives with leadership provided by ordinary residents, the fundamental need for a clear role for local government leadership must not be lost or downplayed. A global initiative aimed at gaining the attention and winning the designation of UNESCO would require the backing, authority, legitimacy and resources of the state at various levels. To what degree, is a matter for discussion.

A geopark initiative for Niagara needs a broad agreement at the regional scale and requires a regional approach – and there is a tourism marketing structure in place for that. Meanwhile, tourism has been tagged by Niagara Region as a pillar of economic development moving forward and the industry is a major employer locally. The challenge is to leverage the entirety of Niagara's geographical and cultural assets to continue to grow the industry. The proposed Ohnia:kara geosites cut across regulatory, administrative, and operational lines. The Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, the Niagara Parks Commission, Parks Canada, Ontario parks, Niagara Escarpment Commission, St. Lawrence Seaway Authority, Niagara Region and its 12 municipalities all share responsibility for some facet of Ohnia:kara. Other than providing legitimacy to the efforts, what role can each level of government and regulatory body play? We should also bear in mind that Ohnia:kara provides an opportunity for greater recognition and appreciation for the role of Niagara's Indigenous peoples in the area's history and culture, which predates local governance structures.

The Ohnia:kara Aspiring Global Geopark provides an opportunity to broaden the appreciation for the entirety of Niagara's geological history and its impact on our cultural history through a means of sustainable economic development. For it to succeed, we suggest the geological "activists" and the tourism stakeholders must work closely together. This policy brief is meant only as a first step towards introducing the concept of a geopark to the Niagara community, outlining challenges and opportunities. What direction the geopark initiative takes is ultimately up to those relevant Niagara stakeholders.





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Contact information

About the author: Carol Phillips, PhD, is the research coordinator at the Niagara Community Observatory, Brock University.

Photos

Page 1: Morningstar Mill, Comfort Maple

Page 2: Beamer Falls

Page 4: Niagara Gorge

Pages 6-7: Beamer Conservation Area Trail

Page 8: Ball's Falls

The Niagara Community Observatory at Brock University is a public-policy think-tank working in partnership with the Niagara community to foster, produce, and disseminate research on current and emerging local issues. More information on our office, and an electronic copy of this report, can be found on our website brocku.ca/nco

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brocku.ca/nco
[@BrockNCO](https://www.instagram.com/BrockNCO)

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Ohnia:kara... "The neck between two bodies of water"

INTRODUCTIONS

Darren Platakis, Founder/CEO, Geospatial Niagara – Ohnia:kara Steering Committee

Phil Davis, Indigenous Culture Liaison – Ohnia:kara Steering Committee

Ian Lucas, Board Secretary, Geospatial Niagara – Ohnia:kara Steering Committee



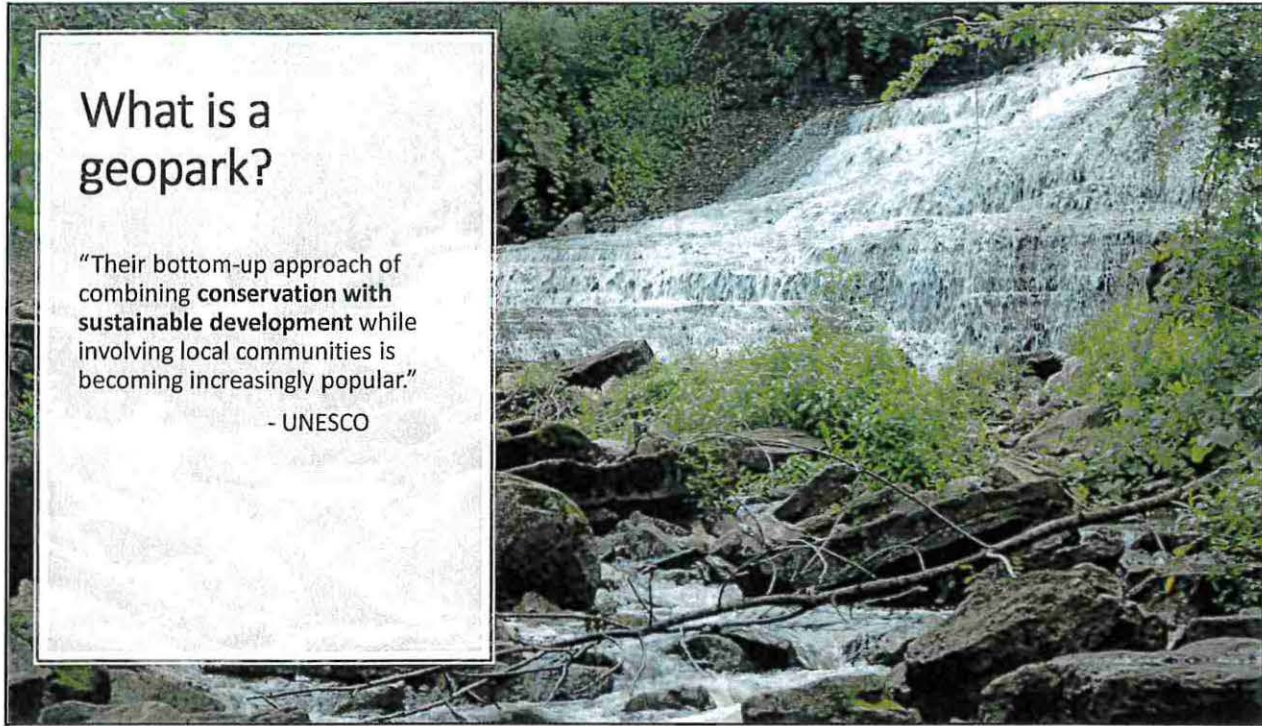
Thank you for having us

What is a geopark?

“... a single, unified geographical area, where sites and landscapes of international geological significance are managed with a holistic concept of protection, education and sustainable development ...”

- UNESCO

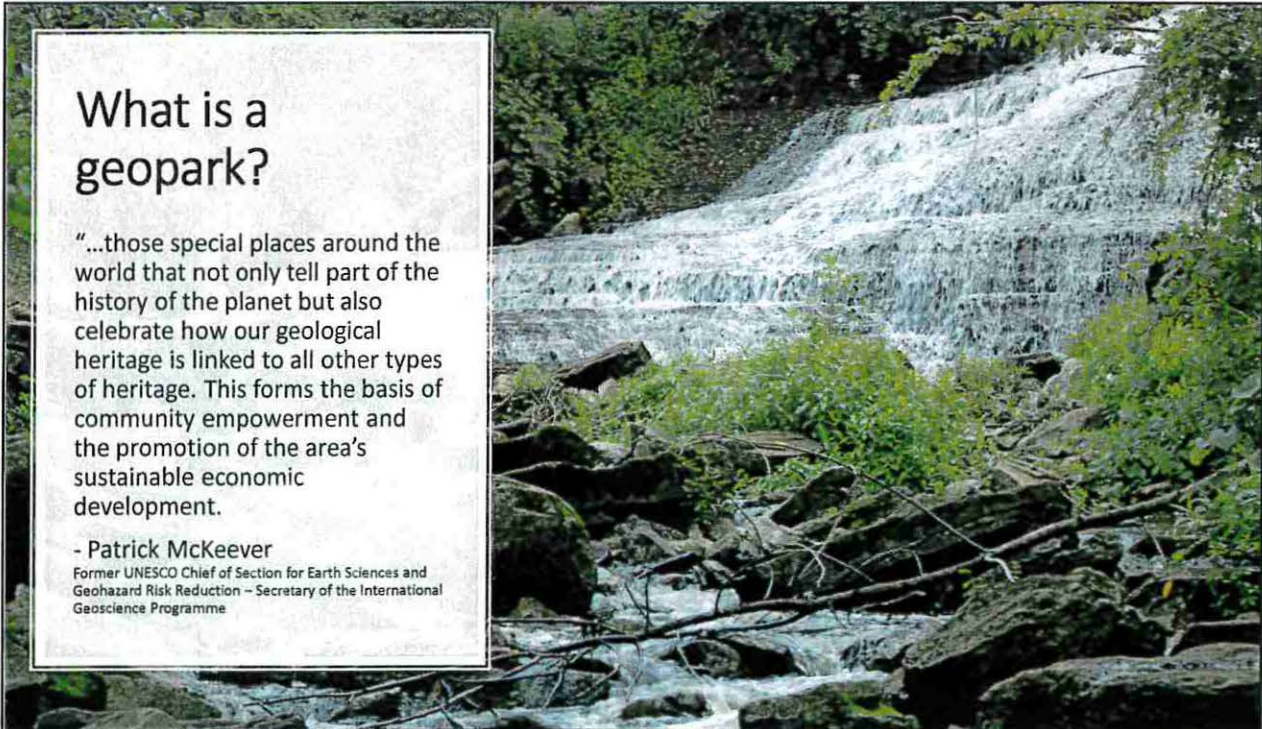




**What is a
geopark?**

“Their bottom-up approach of combining **conservation with sustainable development** while involving local communities is becoming increasingly popular.”

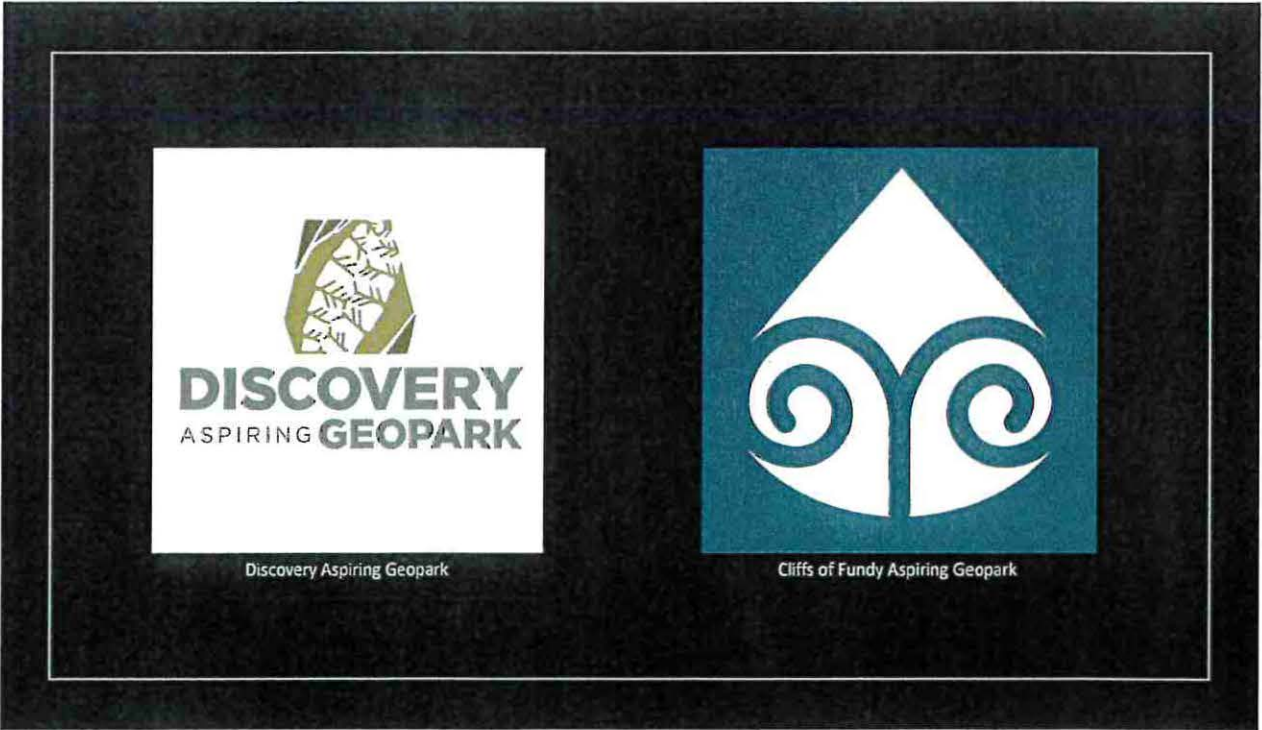
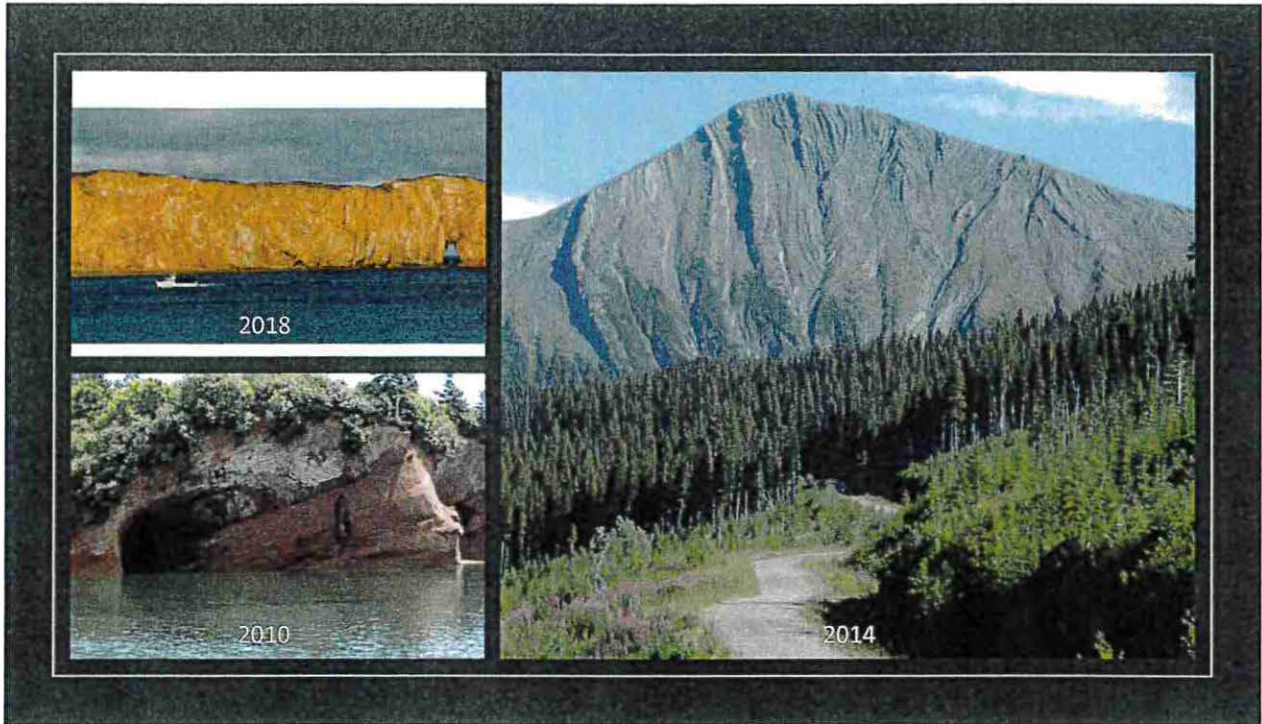
- UNESCO



**What is a
geopark?**

“...those special places around the world that not only tell part of the history of the planet but also celebrate how our geological heritage is linked to all other types of heritage. This forms the basis of community empowerment and the promotion of the area’s sustainable economic development.

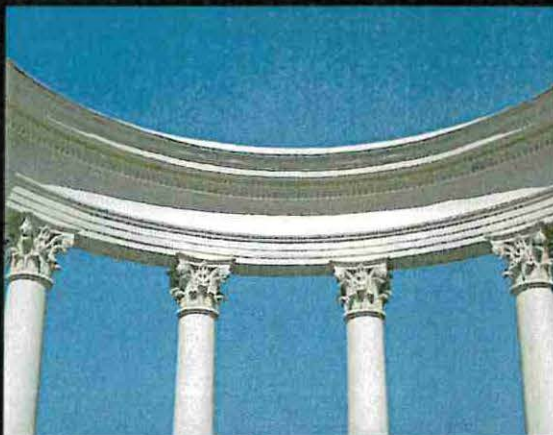
- Patrick McKeever
Former UNESCO Chief of Section for Earth Sciences and Geohazard Risk Reduction – Secretary of the International Geoscience Programme



Niagara's Aspirations



UNESCO Global Geopark Pillars



Education

Sustainable Responsible Tourism

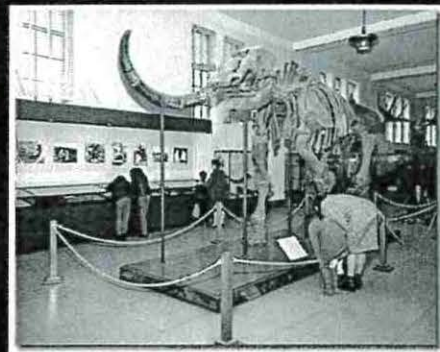
Cultural Awareness

Geoconservation / Geotourism

Why Niagara?



Why Niagara?



<http://www.niagaratheweek.com/news-stories/3278565-wolfand-mactodun-makes-home-at-royal-ontario-museum/>

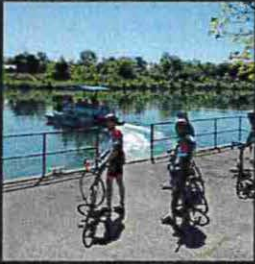
Why Niagara?



Why Niagara?



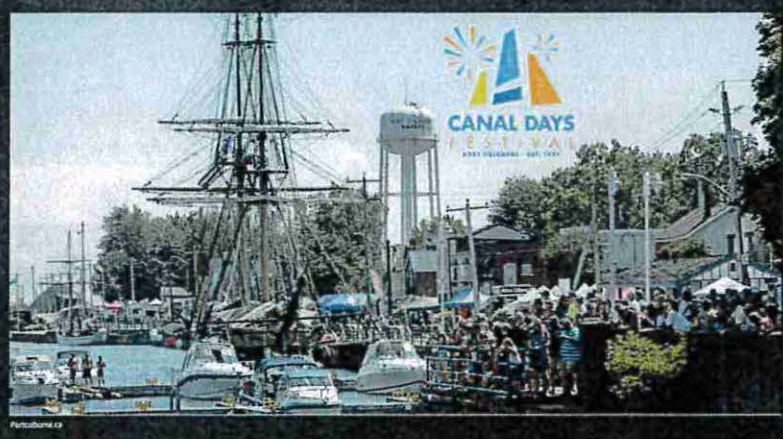
Why Niagara?



Why Niagara?



Why Niagara?



Why Niagara?



Why Niagara?



SportsFest
 Festival of Sports™ Port Colborne, ON

PortColborne.ca

Application Dossier



- Formal self-evaluation
- Application to Canadian Committee (Dec 2020-March 2021)
- Canadian committee review – site visit summer 2021
- Update with recommendations 2022
- Operational for one year 2021-2022
- Negotiate final submission to UNESCO - Nov 2022
- UNESCO review – Summer 2023
- UNESCO designation - 2024

Awareness/Promotional Opportunities

2020 - 10th International Cool Climate Wine Symposium

2021 - Canada Summer Games

2024 - Total Solar Eclipse

2024 - (possible other world class sporting event)

2026 - World Cup

work in
progress



Thank you for your time



Answers to FAQs

1. NOT a legislative boundary - No land use restrictions.
2. No restrictions on any economic activity inside the Global Geopark where activity complies with indigenous, local, regional, provincial and national legislation.

Answers to FAQs

Geo-tourism

“Geotourism is defined as tourism that sustains or enhances the distinctive geographical character of a place—its environment, heritage, aesthetics, culture, and the well-being of its residents.”

National Geographic

Answers to FAQs

Our Ask...

- 1) We are seeking written endorsement of the Ohnia:kara Aspiring Global Geopark by the current council.
- 2) Staff report on the project for full council consideration.
- 3) To evaluate participation in the Ohnia:kara Aspiring Geopark as part of your strategic plans.
- 4) Staff support from time-to-time to help with UNESCO status submission
- 5) Modest funding, related to tangible benefits.
- 6) Link on your municipal website to the Ohnia:kara Aspiring Geopark site.

Answers to FAQs

1. New job opportunities, new economic activities
2. Diversification of tourism options
3. New entrepreneurial opportunities
4. Supports integrity of place

Answers to FAQs

Boost to tourism

Ex. 1 - Stonehammer Geopark 2015-16

- \$252.4 million - increase of 6.4%
- 1.7 million visitors - increase of 5%
- 726,000 overnight visits - increase of 4.6%

Ex. 2 - Tumbler Ridge

- 2014 - 2000 visitors
- 2017 - 17000 visitors

Answers to FAQs

Boost to tourism

Ex. 3 - Marble Arch Geopark - installation of a boardwalk

- 2015 - 3000 visitors
- 2016 - 24000 visitors
- 2017 - 60000 visitors

Ex. 4 - UK Experience - 7 Geoparks across UK

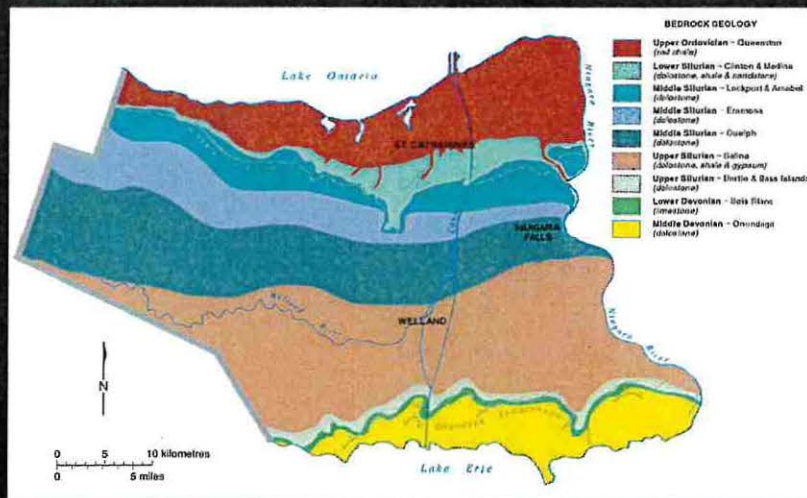
- £18.84 MM/year in NET financial benefit after costs of UNESCO status
- Includes £4.6 MM/year in grants attracted on competitive basis

Answers to FAQs

Funding Considerations

- Public
- Private
- Corporate
- Memberships
- Research Funding
- Trillium etc.

Answers to FAQs





**Ohnia:kara UNESCO Global Geopark
Towards A More Cohesive Niagara**

UNESCO Global Geoparks - Why Not Niagara?

Moving Forward

Please contact us for more information, and to request an
Organisation tailored presentation / discussion or a brief meeting
at the Region:

Darren Platakis, Executive Director, Geospatial Niagara Inc.

905.964.4169

darren@geospatialniagara.com



PORT COLBORNE
PUBLIC LIBRARY

310 King Street
Port Colborne, ON L3K 4H1
905-834-6512

Date: May 27, 2019
SUBJECT: Report to Council Talking Points

In 1948, Arabella Williams bequeathed a block of land for a library and a park. In 1957, the current library was officially opened. The building was updated over the years through major renovations. For over 60 years, the Port Colborne Public Library Board has carefully maintained the facility and ensured that library services have been provided for the community. In 2019, the Port Colborne Public Library continues to proudly serve the City of Port Colborne as part of the Cultural Block with the Museum. The Library is committed to providing the services necessary to meet the needs of our user communities. It is the Library's vision to empower, enrich, and educate.

In 2018, the library circulated 159,186 items, with a 3.3% increase in the circulation of print books from 2017. There were 65,361 in-person visits and the library coordinated 443 programs with an annual attendance of 6,169.

The Port Colborne Public Library Board is an independent, governing corporate board of the municipality. The Board is comprised of one member of Council plus eight volunteer members of the public who scrutinize all decision-making. Board trustees commit to the vital role of ensuring that the public library is able to sustainably deliver critical resources and services to the community through the independent oversight of its local public library budget. To increase operational efficiency and accountability, the Board participates in and shares municipal resources including support services from Human Resources, Facility Maintenance, and Finance.

Public libraries place their user communities as a priority, recognizing the rich diversity of persons they serve. The Port Colborne Public Library strives to provide an accessible and welcoming hub for everyone. The library is also a vital service hub, directing citizens to services and agencies within the municipality, the Region, and to provincial and federal resources. Without barriers or cost, citizens are assisted by trained library staff who are committed to helping all persons with their information needs. Libraries have become more than just books and are committed to continue to ensure that vital resources and services are provided without barriers and with the public library's outstanding record of cost-savings, efficiencies, creativity, and resourcefulness.

Public libraries understand how to deliver the most value from every dollar spent and work cooperatively to achieve the greatest impact for taxpayers. Every dollar invested in the Port Colborne Public Library, generates \$4.65 in local, frontline economic impact that directly benefits the citizens of Port Colborne. The population of our community continues to grow and we are keeping pace and adapting to changing needs: technologically, socio-economically and demographically. When infrastructure pressures increase, we come up with creative solutions, working with the City and with other local libraries. Our Pop-Up Library was implemented to reach underserved areas of our community rather than building a separate branch. This has resulted in huge cost-savings for the municipality.

The Board employs 12 staff members, all of whom understand the vital role of Ontario's public libraries. Staff continue to update their skills and to keep abreast of changes in technology in order to best serve our users. Library staff understand that libraries open doors to the past by archiving, preserving, and making items available for the public. They understand that libraries must respond to the present, and work diligently to provide vital services and resources while removing barriers. The Port Colborne Public Library looks forward to the future with careful strategic planning that takes into consideration the evolving needs of our community.

The background of the cover is a photograph of a library. It shows several rows of light-colored wooden bookshelves filled with books. In the foreground, there are blue armchairs and small wooden tables. The lighting is bright, and the overall atmosphere is clean and organized.

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Port Colborne
Public Library

Port Colborne Proud

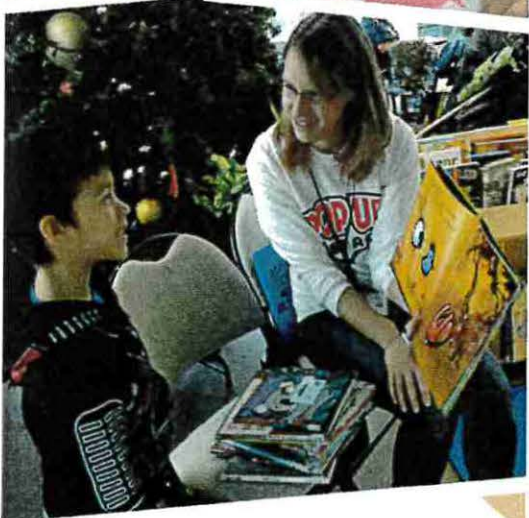
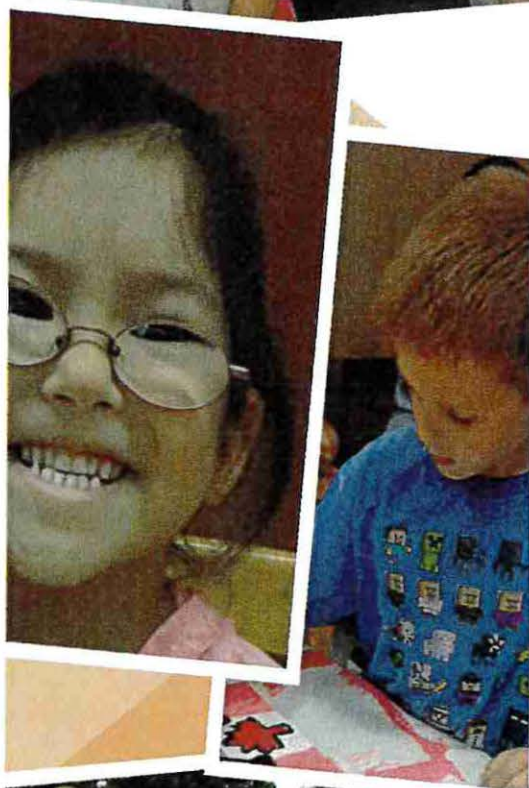
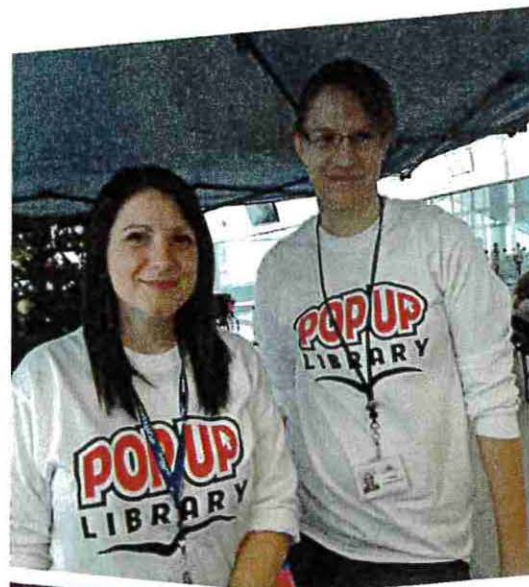
MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

I would like to acknowledge the staff of the Port Colborne Public Library for their continued excellent work and service in 2018. Among their regular stellar efforts, the staff worked diligently through the capital replacements of shelving, flooring, and furniture. These upgrades required staff to shuffle books and furniture back and forth throughout the upgrade. In addition, staff continued their innovative ways with our Pop-Up Library reaching areas and citizens in a unique fashion by bringing the library to them. More upgrades will be coming in 2019 year with an accessible washroom on the main floor. We are thrilled to be able to offer a comprehensive learning experience in a safe welcoming setting.

I would also like to thank City Council for their guidance and continued financial commitment to the library. Extra kudos to CEO Scott Luey who guided us through our strategic planning session and who helps us with his experience and expertise. Lastly, but most importantly, I want to thank all the citizens for their ongoing support.

In closing, I would like to voice my appreciation to my fellow dedicated volunteer Board members for their service. I must comment on the interaction and collaboration we enjoy with the Director of Library Services, Susan Therrien. Our work together has been nothing short of outstanding. I look forward to the next year. We are already hard at work planning further improvements that will continue to make our library a safe community hub for all.

Michael Cooper
Port Colborne Public Library Board Chair



VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

In December 2017, the Port Colborne Public Library Board approved new Mission, Vision, and Values statements to crystallize its vision and provide direction to staff. The Strategic Planning session was facilitated by CEO Scott Luey.

Vision Statement

EMPOWER. ENRICH. EDUCATE.

Mission Statement

The library is committed to providing the services necessary to meet the needs of our user communities.

Vision Statement

- Barrier-free, fair & equitable access
- Community responsiveness
- Professional courteous service
- Life-long learning and literacy
- Intellectual freedom
- Operational efficiency and accountability
- Innovation and tradition
- Cooperation

Port Colborne Public Library Board of Trustees

Michael Cooper, <i>Chair</i>	Harmony Cooper
Bryan Ingram, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	Jeannette Frenette
Councilor Mark Bagu	Ann Kennerly
Brian Beck	Cheryl MacMillan
Valerie Catton	

Management

Scott Luey, Chief Executive Officer
Susan Therrien, Director of Library Services
Peter Senese, Treasurer

The **Public Library** really is a kind of temple, and it ministers to the needs of the spirit as much as it does to the requirements of our minds.

*The Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson,
former Governor General of Canada.*

Libraries represent the diversity and immensity of human thought, our collective knowledge laid out in rows of revealing inspiration.

Manuel Lima

What got **12 million more visits** in Ontario alone, than the whole of the NHL, NBA, and NFL put together across North America?

Ontario's Public Libraries!

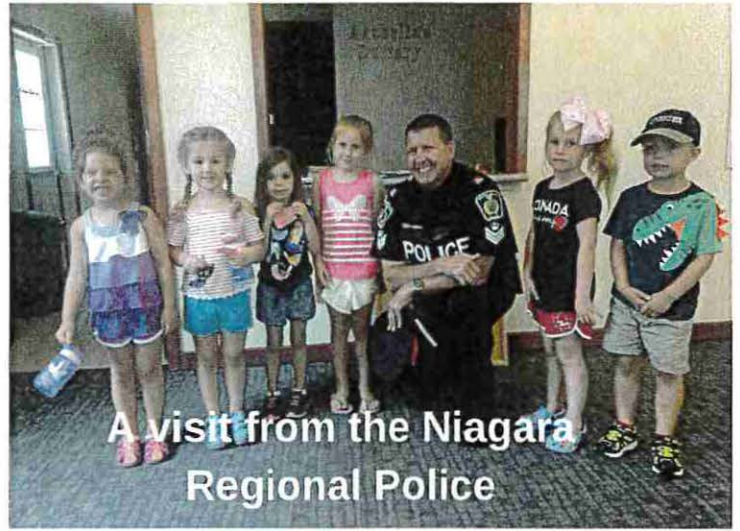
Source: Federation of Ontario Public Libraries



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



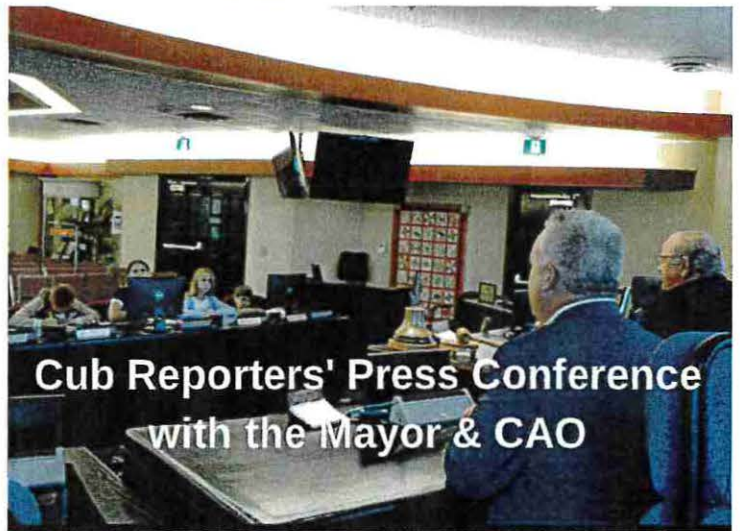
Learning fire safety with the Port Colborne Fire Department



A visit from the Niagara Regional Police



Graduation Day!
Ready, Set, Kindergarten!



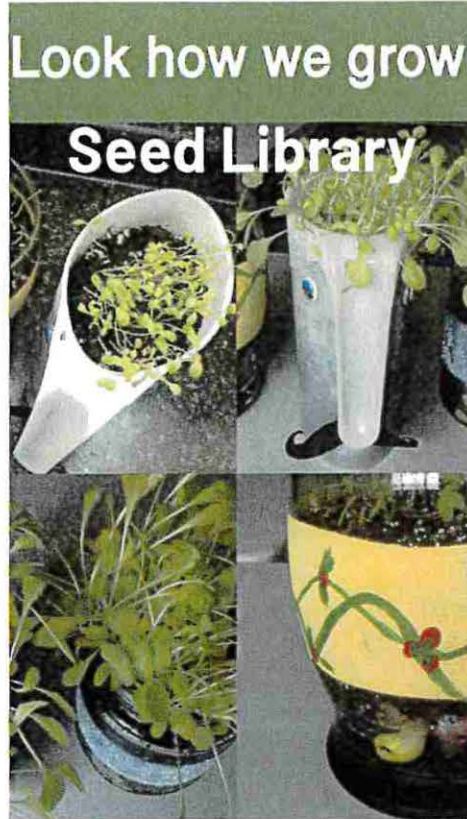
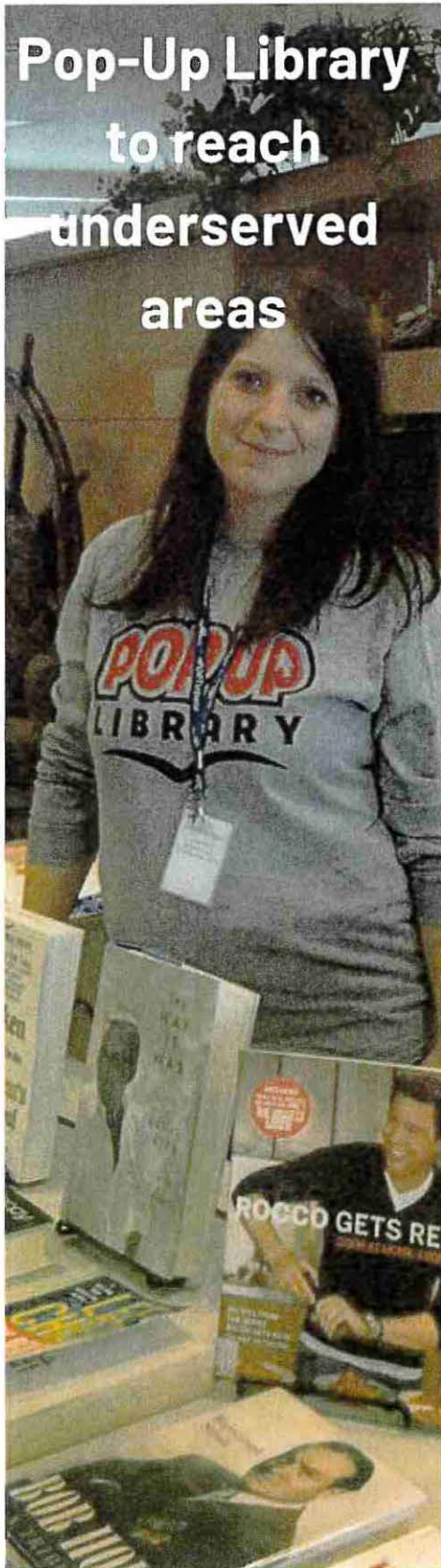
Cub Reporters' Press Conference with the Mayor & CAO



Power Off and Play... Music!

HEALTHY KIDS
COMMUNITY CHALLENGE
NIAGARA

OUTREACH AND MAKERSPACES



PROUDLY SERVING OUR COMMUNITY



David T. Chapman,
Storm Chaser / Photographer



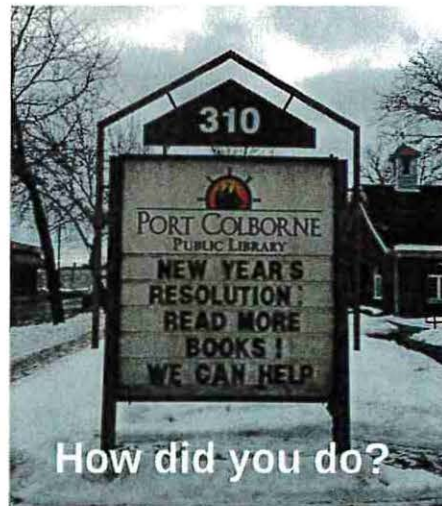
6,169

Annual Program
Attendance

443

Library Programs

- Early Literacy & Early Learning
- Children's Programming
- March Break Activities
- TD Summer Reading Club
- School Visits
- Teen Programs
- Adult Learning
- Seniors' Programming
- Tech Help & Computer Access
- Free Wifi -- 24/7
- Downloadable eBooks & Audiobooks

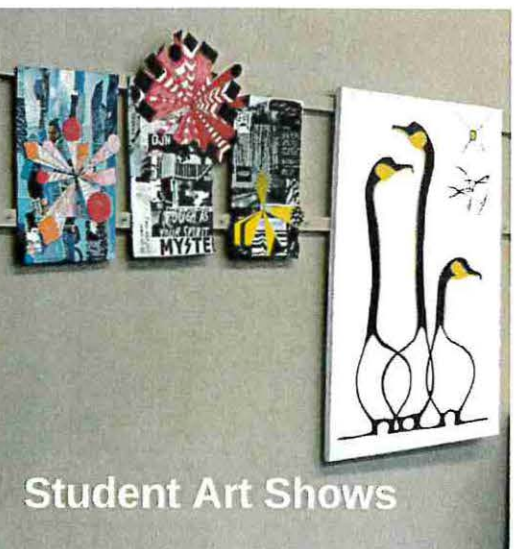


How did you do?

- Crafts & Art for All Ages
- Makerspaces & Board Games
- Culture Days
- Art Exhibits
- Ontario Public Library Week
- Patron Appreciation Day
- Book Clubs
- Community Development
- Print Services
- Reference Questions
- Readers' Advisory
- And more ...



March Break Magic
with Scoop McCoy

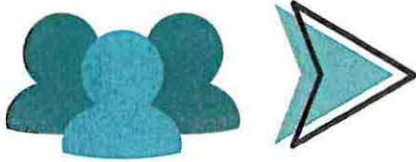


Student Art Shows



Open to the Public
53 hours per week
year-round
Virtual Library
24/7

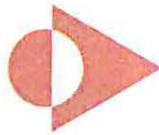
2018 BY THE NUMBERS



7,666
Active
Cardholders

644
New User
Registrations

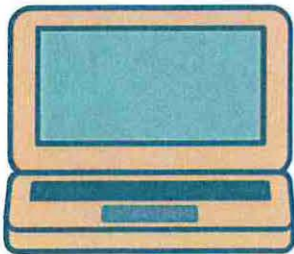
65,361
Visits to the
Library



54,276
Print Books
Borrowed

36,244
eBooks, Audiobooks
& Digital Magazines
Borrowed

159,186
Total Circulation
including
eResources



20,205
Internet Workstation
& Wireless Sessions
16,942
Online Catalogue
Visits



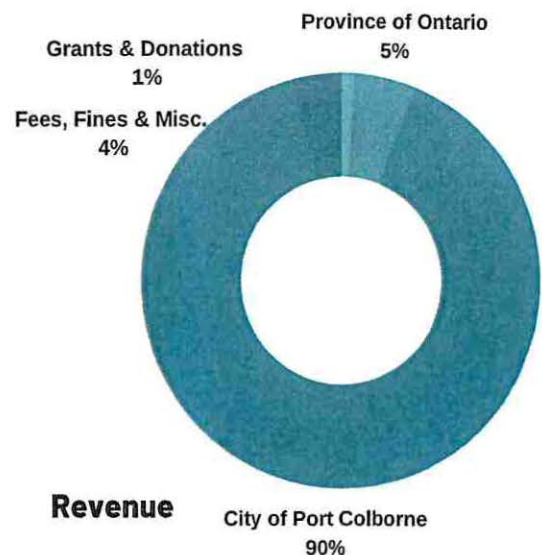
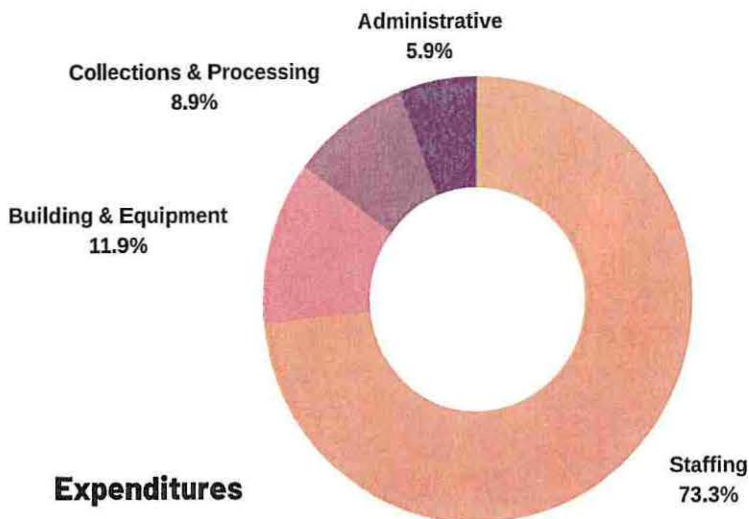
10,452
Reference & Readers'
Advisory Questions Answered



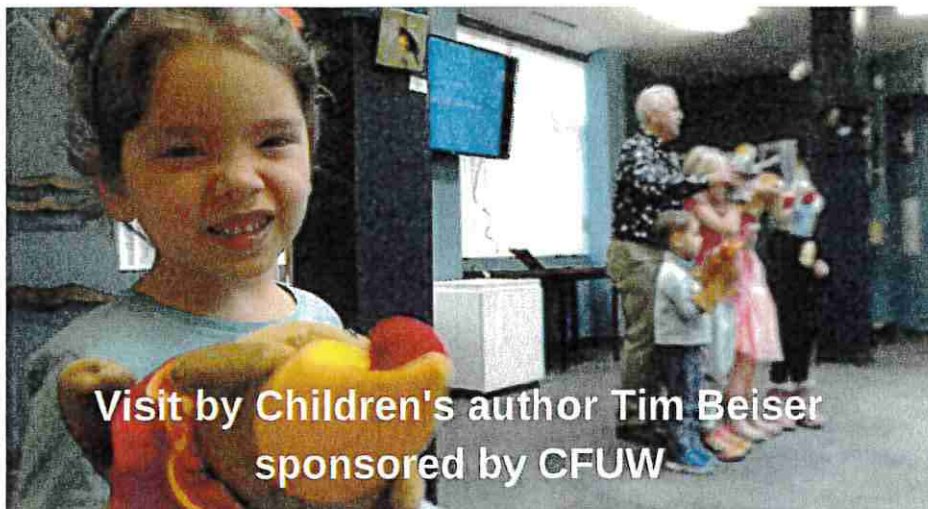
2018 Financials



Did you know that every dollar invested in PCPL generates \$4.65 in local frontline economic impact that benefits the citizens of Port Colborne?



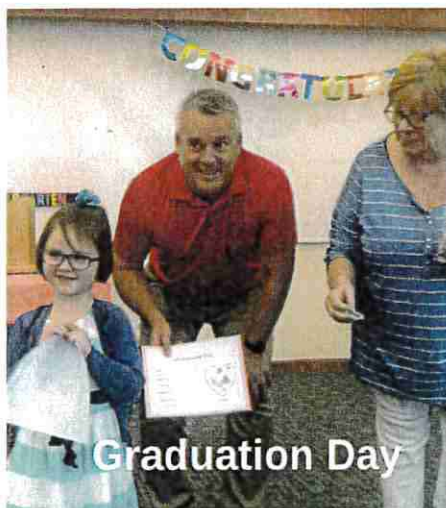
2018 IN PICTURES



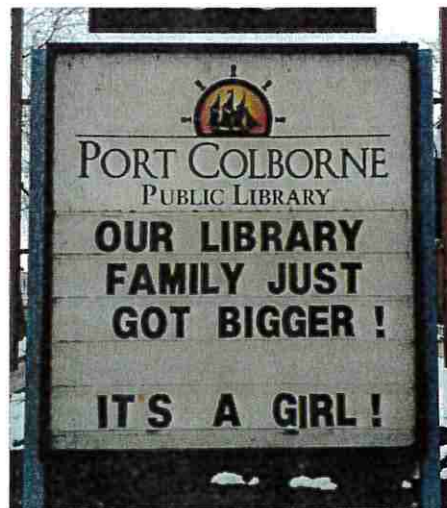
Visit by Children's author Tim Beiser sponsored by CFUW



Royal Wedding Fun



Graduation Day



Tot Time



Patron Appreciation Day



Vintage Blend Quartet

WITH GRATITUDE

Donors

John Feduck
Vicki Fretz
Stacey Hol
Louise Lowes
Cheryl MacMillan
Paul J. Rubocki
Carl Santoni
Eva Schertzing
Pamela & John Schott

Sponsors

7-Eleven
Avondale Food Stores
CFUW, Welland & District
Harvey's
Humberstone Speedway
McDonalds
Port Colborne Lions Club
Port Colborne Lioness Service Club
Safari Niagara
Sobeys Port Colborne
Subway
TD Bank Group

Volunteers

Delorean Babcock-Hill
Kayla Benner
Valerie Catton
Tara Kriyachanda
Brian Laurin
Cheryl MacMillan
Robin Muileboom
Bina Patel
Andrew Roesch
Claire Wilby

Partners

City of Port Colborne
Port Cares EarlyON Child & Family Centres
Healthy Kids Community Challenge
John Howard Society of Niagara
District School Board of Niagara
Library & Archives Canada
Niagara Catholic District School Board
Niagara Regional Police Service
Port Colborne Fire & Emergency Services
Port Colborne Historical & Marine Museum
Southern Ontario Library Service
Therapy Tails
Vale Health and Wellness Centre
Welland Public Library
Youth Job Connection

The Cultural Block



The Port Colborne Public Library is proud to partner with the Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum as part of the Cultural Block, working together to enhance services and programs for the community that we both serve.

The Port Colborne Public Library Board gratefully acknowledges the generous bequest from the estate of Doreen Mary Butler which helped make possible new shelving and furniture in the Adult Fiction Room.



2018: A REMARKABLE YEAR

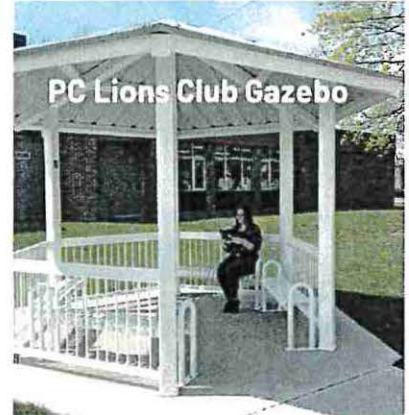
Creating Accessible and Welcoming Spaces: Inside and Outside



Before



After



PC Lions Club Gazebo

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2019

- ▶ Remove barriers by adding an accessible universal washroom on the main floor of the library
- ▶ Improve accessibility to the King Street entrance
- ▶ Implement a "Let's Talk About..." series to provide information to the public on important social issues
- ▶ Expand Makerspace resources and create a Green Screen Studio
- ▶ Set up a Teen Advisory Committee and expand services and programming for teen users



PORT COLBORNE
PUBLIC LIBRARY

310 King Street
Port Colborne, ON
L3K 4H1

905-834-6512

library@portcolborne.ca
portcolbornelibrary.org





MAYOR'S REPORT – MAY 13, 2019

Test it Tuesday

Tomorrow is Test it Tuesday and we encourage everyone to test your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. If you need any assistance, please call our Fire Department at 905-834-4512.

Women's Sledge Hockey Games

The Canadian Women's National Sledge Hockey Team will be facing off against Sledge Team Ontario in Port Colborne for a three game series at the Vale Health & Wellness Centre.

The City of Port Colborne is proud of their affiliation with both the Men's and Women's National Sledge Hockey Teams. Residents and visitors are encouraged to PORTicipate by coming out and cheering on the athletes. Admission is free.

Games are Friday, May 17 and Saturday, May 18 from 7 - 9 p.m and Sunday, May 19 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. on rink 1.

Summer Season

Our summer season began last week as we welcomed 45 students to our workforce. Students will be working in almost every building and in our parks and marina this summer.

Our park season begins this weekend so if you are looking to book a park or pavilion for an event, give us a call.

And hopefully the weather will improve so children can start enjoying the Discovery Spray Pad in H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park on Saturday morning at 10 a.m. It will be open on weekends only from Saturday until mid-June

Dr. Debbie Wilkes-Whitehall named Top Family Physician

We are all very pleased to announce that Dr. Debbie Wilkes-Whitehall has been named Niagara Region's Top Family Physician.

Nominated by Dr. Amanda Bell, Regional Assistant Dean of the Niagara Regional Campus of the Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine and Family Physician, Dr. Wilkes-Whitehall received her award on Doctor's Day which was celebrated on May 1st.

Dr. Wilkes-Whitehall is an exemplary physician and a strong member of the medical community and mentor to our students.

She delivers high quality care to all of her patients, but especially to those who are most vulnerable due to eating disorders, mental health, and addiction issues.

She created the Niagara Eating Disorder outpatient program; the only provincially funded treatment program in Niagara.

Her passion for teaching has seen her grow her role from clinical teacher to a member of the Senior Leadership of McMaster University's Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine.

She also provides care to physicians and their families through the Ontario Medical Association's Physician Help Program. Congratulations.

Niagara IceDogs Exhibition Game

A press conference was held this afternoon announcing that the Niagara IceDogs and Barrie Colts of the Ontario Hockey League (OHL) will be facing off in an exhibition game at the Vale Health & Wellness Centre in Port Colborne on Friday, August 30, 2019.

Revenue from the exhibition games ticket sales will be going to support the Port Colborne Wave Girl's Hockey Association.

The girls' minor hockey program continues to grow with plans to add one or two teams for the upcoming 2019-2020 season.

Mark your calendars now and come out to support local youth.

Additional Information on Port Colborne's Roadside Mowing Initiative For May13th council meeting

Background History of the Study

Back in September of 2014 I made a presentation to council discussing the observation of the Monarch Butterflies using the roadsides as their habitat. Milkweed plants are the only plant for their larva to eat, and the majority these plants are found along the roadsides in Port Colborne. Which is a concern because of the frequency and timing of our mowing caused a high mortality rate for the Monarch species in our area.

Milkweed used to flourish throughout farmer's fields before the use of herbicides, and as the years went by development has taken up the unused spaces between those fields. Landscaping has become so popular in the past 20 years that the overgrown corners of residential urban and rural lots have been replaced with sod or mulch. The wild pockets of flowers are slowly disappearing amongst our landscapes, leaving just small amounts of areas for Monarchs to find their host plants.

Within our roadside vegetation is thousands of Common Milkweed plants, in which after the spring cut that is performed grows up again as fresh tender plants emerging at the right time for Monarch Butterflies. However, the second round of mowing eliminated any chance for the larvae of the Monarch to survive.

After that council meeting and a presentation for the Environmental Advisory Committee meeting, a trial area was chosen to monitor the practice of delaying the second cut for the following year.

Please see attached Report that the Engineering and Operations Department developed in 2015 for details of the initial study.

Then council approved the trial area to have the delay of the summer roadside cut for a duration of three years with monitoring be done by myself and findings reported to council on a yearly basis.

I started monitoring the roads in the trial area beginning after the first cut performed and every two weeks until the last cut performed after October 1st. The monitoring process involved the identification of flowering plants and the observation of their seed dispersal. The measuring of height of vegetation and the counting of Monarch Larvae along these roads.

Summary of the Three Year Study.

In regards to height of vegetation, I found overall the height wasn't a concern in most areas. Where they are deep ditches that didn't receive a proper cut during the spring can be much higher than in other areas, otherwise nothing excessive that the city staff couldn't resolve. So far city staff has been monitoring any complaints regarding site lines and addressing the valid complaints.

Identification of Plant Species

I was surprised at the diverse amount of species of flowering plants that are found along the roadsides I counted over 50 different plants. Listed as follows:

Common Milkweed	Swamp Milkweed	Queens Anne Lace
Birds Foot Trefoil	Black Medic	Teasel
English Plantain	Broad Leaved Plantain	Sow Thistle
Bull Thistle	Canada Thistle	Butter and Eggs
Chicory	Brown Knapweed	Deptford Pink
Yarrow	Canada Goldenrod	Grey Goldenrod*
New England Aster	Heal all	Ragweed
Blue Vervain*	Viper's Bugloss	Yellow Dog's tooth Violet*
Smartweed	Canada Fleabane	Bouncing-bet*
Bladder Champion*	Tall Buttercup	Dame's Rocket
Yellow Rocket	Cinquefoil	Wild Strawberry
Cow Vetch	Variable Crown Vetch	Wild Geranium*
Musk Mallow	Evening Primrose*	Purple Loosestrife
Phlox	Common Mullein	White Heath Aster
Ox eye Daisy	Daisy Fleabane	Orange Hawkweed
Smooth Hawkweed	Red Clover	White Sweet Clover
Dandelion		

Plants marked with * were found along other roadsides outside the trial area.

Out of all of the species listed above, the species with concerns of seed dispersal onto neighboring farmer's crop are the Thistles due to the fact of their aggressive nature to produce seeds and that seeds are easily carried by the wind. Canada Fleabane is a concern because of the plants resiliency to roundup. However that plant seed dispersal concerns should be alleviated by having an earlier fall cut preformed.

Monarch Counts

In the three year period I counted over 900 eggs and larvae of the Monarch Butterfly along the trial area. During those years of the trial period, and last year, I personally collected over 1000 of eggs and caterpillars along the roads that did receive the second cut still. (there were thousands more but I couldn't raise that many!) I was doing larvae counts before the mowers come by for the summer cut, and well I didn't have the heart to leave them to perish. I needed to do the counts to verify that the timing of mowing is critical to preserve the habitat of the Monarch.

Why there are so many Monarch larvae on the milkweed plants along Port Colborne's roadsides?

Young fresh milkweed along these roadside corridors attracts the female Monarch. There has been a study that younger plants have higher cardenolides in the plant leaves, therefore the female monarchs choose these plants to ensure protection continues in the genetic makeup of her young. The taller older Milkweed plants that missed the second cut have considerably less sap content in the leaves, which means less cardenolides. The Milkweed sap the caterpillar ingests while eating the leaves makes them poisonous to predators. The Monarch needs to have this defensive system in order to make the migration and to survive the hibernation without being eaten by birds, spiders etc.

Monarchs are very directional flying insects; they follow linear lines to find food sources. Have you ever noticed that you see Monarchs a lot while driving, or along the friendship trail.

We have lots of diverse flowering species along our roads; we do not follow an herbicide program for our roadsides unlike other areas.

Location, location...we are located right beside the most difficult parts of their migration, the crossing of Lake Erie, and our location has become their 'pit stop'. Whether they are flying across from the States and need to refuel before continuing their journey north, or waiting around for the perfect temperatures and wind direction to bring them back across the lake to the States for the journey back. Our area just north of the lake is a great meeting location for mating with other Monarchs! Because they need plants in the area to refuel, and what better place to mate than within our bounty of plants along the roadsides!

There is also a higher concentration of Common Milkweed plants along our roads than other cities and towns in Niagara area. I really don't know why though. So let's embrace that, and use it to educate others in how one city can protect an endangered species.

Having two roadside mowing cuts is nothing new to municipalities in Ontario.

As mentioned at the previous council meeting I made a few calls around Ontario to see what frequency and timing of cuts are performed in other areas of Ontario.

Norfolk County 2 cuts, beginning of June, after Oct.15th (they do this timing for the Monarchs)
Central Frontenac County 2 cuts, end of May, Mid August
Frontenac County 2 cuts, middle May, second cut varies
Chatham Kent County 3 cuts, May 1st, end of July, end of September
Peterborough County 1 cut, tries to do 2 cuts where possible, start mowing mid June til mid July
Wellington County 2 cuts, end of May, late July, in fall on certain roads depending on weather
Malahide County 2 cuts, June and September(times vary in the month)
Haldimond County 2 cuts, early May, middle August

Is there safety concerns regarding pulling over to the side of the road when the roads have only two cuts?

Well I decided to hunt down the rural route one postal worker who delivers the mail in the designated trial area. Sue Esposito stated to me she never had a problem due to the vegetation growth along the roadside to pull over at mailboxes. She also stated that she has no issues seeing the shoulder when pulling over between mailboxes when she needs to.

More than just for Monarchs

Just a reminder, this initiative has become more than protecting the Monarchs, it is ensuring a healthy habitat for bees, pollinators, birds, and all the animals that use these corridors for their habitat.

I want to send my thanks to the city staff, Eac members and to Council members. I look forward to answering any additional questions you may have at the May 13th Council meeting.

Reminder to new councilors please read the Report that the Engineering and Operations made in 2015, it should answer some questions on how this initiative got started.

Patty Moss



**ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT
ENGINEERING DIVISION**

Report Number: 2015 - 126

Date: July 13, 2015.

SUBJECT: Information Report on Establishing Monarch Butterfly Habitat

1) PURPOSE:

This report has been prepared by Chris Lee, under the authorization of Ron Hanson, Director of Engineering & Operations. The purpose of the report is to inform Council and obtain its approval to implement a proposed reduction in roadside grass cutting within specific areas of the City (aka. study area) and to then report back to Council, on the field findings and recommendations of the Environmental Advisory Committee of Council, following this proposed temporary suspension of the summer, roadside grass cutting program within the study areas.

All of this is being proposed, in an attempt to preserve some of the remaining Monarch Butterfly habitat currently found within the City of Port Colborne, specifically along roadways within the City.

2) HISTORY, BACKGROUND, COUNCIL POLICY, PRACTICES

Previously, the Environmental Advisory Committee and Council had the opportunity of participating in a presentation by Patti Moss, on the status and current state of health of the Monarch Butterfly. At those presentations, it became quite evident that the species and its survival were at risk. All due to a shortage and alteration of the natural habitat of the species. The Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC.) has chosen to support Patti in her quest to try and save the local habitat of the species and attempt to locally aid in the recovery of the species to its former numbers.

In the presentations by Patti, it was made evident that locations within our municipality were not only within the migration route of the species but also, areas within our City are the natural summer destination / home of the Monarch Butterfly.

Through an earlier in-depth study process, it was determined that roadside grass areas within the City are prime habitat areas for the Monarch Butterfly. Notably, some of the few remaining areas available within our City, and the current City practice of mowing those areas was detrimental to the summer activities of the species.

As a result Patti, with the support of the EAC. is asking that the Municipality curtail mowing activities along some of the City's country roads, in order to preserve these important habitats, and avail the opportunity for further study of the species.

Following each of the presentations, Patti requested that a pilot program of sorts be initiated, along a few of our rural roadways. It was requested that the City curtail current roadside grass mowing practices along stretches of roadway, thus providing the species with a natural undisturbed habit during summer months. These proposed study areas would remain undisturbed / uncut for a period from mid-June to early October, annually,

for a proposed 3 year study period.

Following the presentation to Council, Staff, the EAC, and Patti, were instructed to report back to Council on the issue, following a polling of the property owners within the proposed study areas. All in an attempt to determine the mood of the landowners within the proposed study area and obtain feedback from them on this proposal.

3) STAFF COMMENTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Contact with the property owners located within the proposed study area has now occurred. The following paragraphs detail that process and its findings.

A door to door contact was initiated, along with handout information and residents were asked to comment on the proposal.

The study areas proposed, involve the roadsides of Cedar Bay, Pinecrest and Weaver Roads, south of Killaly Street East and Highway # 3. Residents / Property owners abutting those roads sections were contacted and asked to comment on the proposal. The response within these proposed areas (study area) was very positive and the majority of the residents were very supportive of the initiative. The following is a brief summary of that polling.

Cedar Bay Road: (south of Highway 3)

Two (2) residents expressed concerns regarding safety and site lines that could be possibly compromised by tall vegetation.

In summary, overall, 95 % of the property owners supported the initiative.

Pinecrest Road:

Three (3) property owners expressed concerns regarding safety and site lines, along with possible drainage issues which all might be compromised by tall vegetation.

In summary, overall, 90 % of the property owners supported the initiative. Only one (1) property owner objected outright against the proposal.

Weaver Road:

Four (4) residents expressed concerns regarding safety and site lines, along with possible allergy issues, which all could possibly occur with tall vegetation.

In summary, overall, 84 % of the property owners supported the initiative. Only one (1) property owner objected outright against the proposal.

It should be noted that it is intended that continual monitoring of the Monarch Butterfly and its activities, throughout its various stages of development, will not only occur within the study area, but also along a number of other City roadways over the summer months. All of this being undertaken, in an effort to determine if the efforts to save its habitat and the plant species critical to its survival, are in

fact proving beneficial to the species.

4) OPTIONS AND FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

a) Do nothing.

If the proposal is not accepted by Council, then the regular roadside grass maintenance will continue as always.

5) COMPLIANCE WITH STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVES

N / A

6) ATTACHMENTS

None.

7) RECOMMENDATION

- A. That the Council of the City of Port Colborne endorse the proposed plan, to temporary suspend, the mid-summer cutting of roadside grass within the study area, all as detailed in this report for a period of three (3) years.**
- B. That Staff be directed to suspend both Contract and any Staff cutting of roadsides within the study areas.**
- C. That monitoring of the study area continue, with reporting back to Council on an annual basis, to determine if the intended results of the program are being realized.**

8) SIGNATURES

Prepared on June 26th, 2015 by:

Reviewed by:

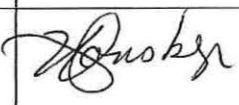





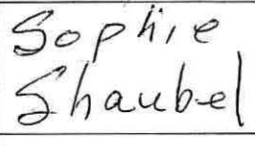
Reviewed and Respectfully Submitted:

X

Robert J. Heil
Chief Administrative Officer

Petition to Continue the Roadside Mowing Initiative


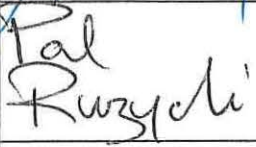


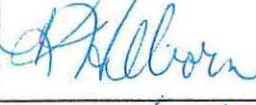






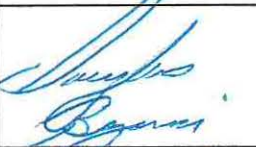
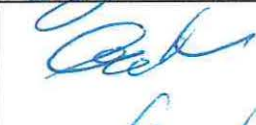

We, the undersigned, are concerned residents of Port Colborne who urge our council representatives to continue the delay of the summer roadside cut. We understand the need and the importance of preserving the corridor habitat needed for the Monarch Butterfly, bees and other pollinators.


Printed Name	Signature	Street Address	Comment	Date
Marieanne Nonsberger		1415 Morgan's Point Port Colborne Ont	We need to think of our wildlife	May 2/19
MAGGIE CORNER		1152 TROUP RD SHERKSTON, ON.	Don't mow the verges. We need the pollinators.	May 1/19
Many Fransen		353 Barrick Rd P.C.		May 1/19
MARIANNE HEASLIP		2652 Hwy #3E	Very Important	May 1/19
RUTH MICHAEL		4385 Sherkston Rd	Needed so much now	May 1/19
CHERYL COX		716 EMPIRE RD	WE NEED TO PROTECT OUR NATURE + ALL IT'S INHABITANTS	MAY 1/19
Sophie Shaubel		690 Empire Rd		May 1/19












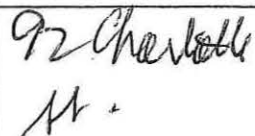

Petition to Continue the Roadside Mowing Initiative

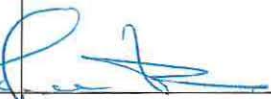




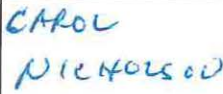

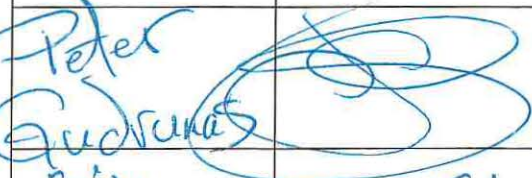
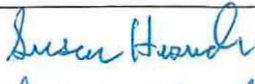

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Printed Name	Signature	Street Address	Comment	Date
KEN BEARD	<i>[Signature]</i>	Elmwood	Great idea -	May 18 2019
Travis-James Haycock	<i>[Signature]</i>	26 Victoria		May 6 2019
F. COONEY F. Cooney	<i>[Signature]</i>	94 Maple St. Port Colborne	a must!	May 11/19
SHARON KER	<i>[Signature]</i>	604-400 Steele Port Colborne		May 11/19
Sarah Dell	<i>[Signature]</i>	492 Northland Ave Port Colborne		May 13/19
Emily Swetz	<i>[Signature]</i>	79 Hunter Rd North		May 13/19
Emily Klonowski	<i>[Signature]</i>	442 Fares St Port Colborne		May 17
Payton Dickie	<i>[Signature]</i>	48 Wellington St Port Colborne		May 17
Carey Warner	<i>[Signature]</i>	63 Omer Ave P. Colb.		May 17
Claudia Jeff	<i>[Signature]</i>	74 Clare Ave P. Colb.		May 16

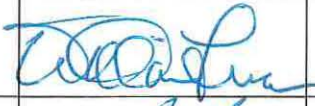







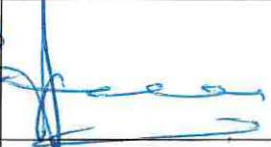




Printed Name	Signature	Street Address	Comments	Date
Leslie Curry		245 Bell St PC	if you need a place to plant for the butterflies	May 10/19
PAUL Ruzyccki		Firelane 13 SHERKSTON	More Nature + wild life	May 16/19
Bernie Sumblor		87 Rodney ST Port	Need More People To Think Like This	MAY 10/19
DAN GRABOWSKI		243 CHARLOITE ST	less cat scary cats healthy lives	10. 2019
Kathy Hilborn		666 Cedar Bay Rd.	This is needed. save the butterflies	May 10/19.
Bryan Hilborn		" "	" " "	MAY 10 2019
Jane Thomas		39 DIVISION ST Pt. Colborne L3K3B4	Take the long view; conserve, revitalize!	
Linda Reinart		6 maple Street		May 11/19
Bob Ranshan		89 Forest PC	Plant Flowers! on BLUDS!	May 11/19
Connie Kettle		glen wood Ave. P.C.		
Pat COOPER		947 Cedar Bay Port Colborne		May 11/19
Douglas Blaziano		164 Bell St	BLAZIANO !! DEPT. !!	May 11
ANDY EDUR		10959 LAKESHORE RD W. P.C.	Great!	MAY 11
BEBE CROFT		"	KEEP IT UP !!	MAY 11

Printed Name	Signature	Street Address	Comments	Date
VAL CATTON	V. Catton	96 FRANKLIN P.C.	DELAY WON'T HURT PLANT MORE FLOWERS	MAY 11/19
PAUL RICHARDSON	Paul Richardson	96 BELL ST. PORT COLBORNE	KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK !!	MAY 11/19
TIM KENNEDY	Tim Kennedy	71 MICHAEL DR.	GOOD WORK	MAY 11/19
Cheryl Davis (catch on)	Cheryl Davis	105 Olga Dr. Port Colborne		May 11
MARSHA COX	Marsha Cox	155 Main St. Port Colborne		
DANIEL BREWER	Daniel Brewer	155 Main West		May 11
Donna Katalieff	D. Katalieff	15 Charlotte St		May 11
June Berndt	J. Berndt	73 Homewood Ave	Fantastic work	May 11
Marg Tanaszi	M. Tanaszi	67 Clare Ave	Thanks for your work!	May 11/19
JOSIE KELLY	Josie Kelly	181 Bell St Port Colborne		May 11/19
Anne Lessard	Anne Lessard	9 Woodside Dr Port Colborne ON.		May 11/19
PIA EBERT	P. Ebert	117 Linwood St P. Colborne	we need this	May 11 2019
Janne Watson	Janne Watson	28 Division Pt Colborne.		May 11/19
Carry Olin	Carry Olin	105 Forest Ave P. C.	Keep it going	May 11 19

Printed Name	Signature	Street Address	Comments	Date
Cathy O'Leary		105 FOREST AVE		11/05/19
SHIRLEY KEMBLEY		43 Runnymede Rd		11/05/19
Lorne Kembley		43 Runnymede Rd		11/05/19
MARCI LUNT		9 SHEBA CR P.C.	LOVE IT!	11/5/19
H. McHardy		354 Catherine P.C.	Good work	11/5/19
MECHAN MEADERLYN		354 Catherine P.C.	Great initiative	11/5/19
JILLIAN WOOD		49 Tennessee Ave.		11/5/19
BRAD WOOD		49 Tennessee Ave		11/5/19
Ken Sider		90 Wellington St. P.C.	Thank you for your efforts. please keep supporting.	5/11/19
Karen Biko		904 Silver Bay Rd. P.C.	Want to save the Butterflies! very important!	05/15/19
Barb deGuerre		289 Clarke St P.C.	Great IDEAS!	5/15/19
Mary Lood		8 Clarence St P.C.	Great	5/15/19
SUSAN L. RUSSELL		92 Charlotte St.	GO FOR IT!	
Monica Pickersgill		23 Forest		05/17/19

Printed Name	Signature	Street Address	Comments	Date
Laurie Kumpf		171 Queen St Port Colborne	.	May 17/19
Mike van der Jagt		76 Clare	Great work!	May 17/2019
Ema Game		1-228 West St		May 17, 2019
TIM PETERS		220 MAIN ST W		MAY 17 2019
Carol Minor		113 LINWOOD AVE P.C.		MAY 17 2019
Patti Stirling		234 Mellansy L3K 2L9	Great job Patti!	May 17
Doug Carter		234 Mellansy L3K 2L9	Good work!	May 17
Carol Nicholas		34 OAKWOOD ST L3K 5E9	Good JOB	May 17/19
Nancy Crawford		10964 Lakeshore Rd Wainfleet	✓	"
Peter Gaudreau		2739 Hwy 3	✓	May 20
EMILY ReMartinez		119 Tennessee	Bueno	17.5.19
Glenn Hisrick	Glenn Hisrick	3521 Finlay 12	Keep up the great work	May 17 2019
Susan qib Glenn Hisrick	 	3521 Finlay 12 Port Colborne Ont	Keep up The great work	May 17 2019







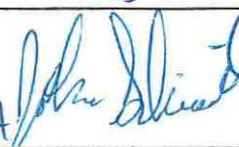
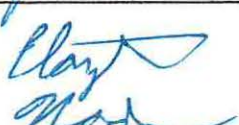

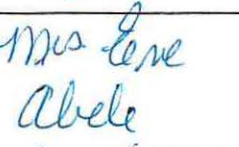
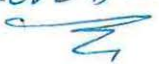
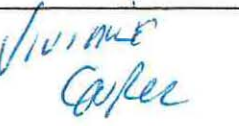
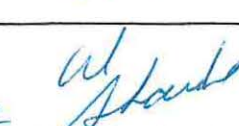
Printed Name	Signature	Street Address	Comments	Date
BETH LIBAR		11567 LAKESHORE		
E. Longoria	el.	243 Charlotte St.		May 16/2019
Marie Bardo		2595 North Shore Dr	Keep up the good work	May 17, 2019
Mike Bessette		13 Shamrock Ave Port Colborne	This is important.	May 17, 2019
PAT LECKIE		2552 Freestone 3 Port Colborne		May 17 2019
Rachel Robina		863 Weaver Rd.		May 17/19
ROCKIN 95		112 Charlotte	Please	17/05/19
BRENNAN		37 Maple St	Great!	17/05/19
C. Allinson		232 Clarence		17/05/19
M. Allinson		3155 Snider Rd		17th May 2019.
C. McCaffery		11 Sheba Cres.	Keep it going	17/05/19
S McCaffery		11 Sheba Cres		2019-05-17
L. Lenson		212 Steele	Without politicians we are doomed!	2019 05 24







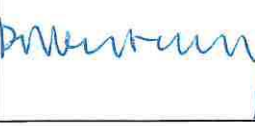



Printed Name	Signature	Street Address	Comments	Date
W. LANSON		272 STERLE ST		
S. SANCI		221 Charlotte St.	think about the future!	May 24
Heather Schmitz		117 Elgin St.		May 24
SUSAN SWIATEK		268 Catharine St		May 24
GREG SWIATEK		268 Catharine St		May 24
ROU COLES		F. CALBORNE		MAY 24
DAN GENNINGS		PORT CALBORNE 2410 Hwy #3	FUTURE	MAY 24
SUSAN GENNINGS				
GLORIA SIMON		PORT CALBORNE L3K 368		May 24
JEFF DUDLEY		P.C. PORTER L3K 5V7		
JEFF EDWARDS		4 Ridgewood Wellford Dr.	BT Wonderful	May 24
MARGARET MINOR		229 Superior St. Port Calb.		May 24
Leo Talley Lucero Talley		105 Weir		MAY 24
F. Bennett		73 Homewood		May 24












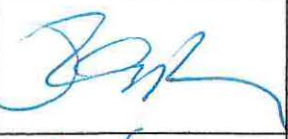
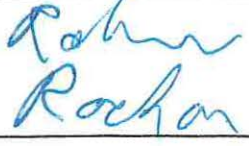
Petition to Continue the Roadside Mowing Initiative





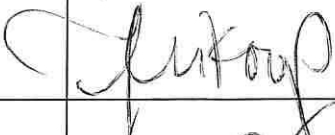

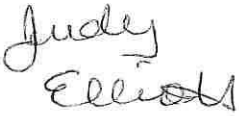







We, the undersigned, are concerned residents of Port Colborne who urge our council representatives to continue the delay of the summer roadside cut. We understand the need and the importance of preserving the corridor habitat needed for the Monarch Butterfly, bees and other pollinators.

Printed Name	Signature	Street Address	Comment	Date
JAMES NIECE	<i>James Niece</i>	SHERKSTON RD 1204 CARR RD		Apr 30/19
SYLVIA FANNON	<i>Sylvia Fannon</i>	808 PINECREST	-so critical to all of our futures!	Apr. 30/19
TOM FANNON	<i>Tom Fannon</i>	808 Pinecrest	Great Project.	Apr 30 2019
JANE NIGH	<i>Jane Nigh</i>	736 Pinecrest Rd	I'm so in favour of this project.	Apr 30/19
BRENDA CHASTELET	<i>Brenda Chastelet</i>	42 Union St	GREAT PROJECT	MAY 1 1/19
LISA MCINTYRE	<i>Lisa McIntyre</i>	19 Wood Lane	Please help our bees + butterflies	May 1/19
Sarah Beyer	<i>Sarah Beyer</i>	14 Renfield Street.	Help the Butterflies	May 1/19
PATRICIA REILLY	<i>P. Reilly</i>	106 ALMA ST Pt Col	It's our future	May 1/19
PATSI GOSS	<i>P. Goss</i>	21 Clanke 55	our kids future	May 1/19
Josh McQuiggin	<i>Josh McQuiggin</i>	21 Clanke 55	My Future	May 1/19
Jaym	<i>Moss</i>	776 Chippewa	Save the cats	1/1

Printed Name	Signature	Street Address	Comments	Date
S. Petri	Sue Petri	2921 Tammy	Save our pollinators	
A Crooks		172 S. H. Road		May 2/19
Karen Crooks		1272 / 5th St Road		May 2/19
Eleanor Hurst		1127 White Rd.	- love this program!!	May 3 2019
MIKE FEAGAN		1240 WILHELM RD	SAVE THE BUTTERFLIES!	"
Mary Anne Feagan	MARY ANNE FEAGAN	"		
DAVID NIXON		122 CLARE AVE	☺.	5/3/19
Martha Sager		1686 3rd Conc. Rd.		5/3/19
John Schaefer		621 cedar Bay Rd.		
Clayton Nader		974 Pleasant Beach Rd. Storksta		05/07/19
Kerene Bissen		168 Neff St P.C.	Go Bee/Butterfly collective!	07/07/19
EVE ABELE		926 PINECREST RD RR#1 PORT COL L3K 5U3	I LOVE BUGS 	MAY 8/19
Jillie Cuff		814 PINECREST PORT Col base det.	GREAT Idea	May 2019
ALLEN SHAUBEL		676 - Pinecrest Rd	OK	May 8

Printed Name	Signature	Street Address	Comments	Date
Henry Dutchyn		2395 Killaly St. E. PORT COLBORNE		MAY 8, 2019.
Deborah Swartz		3 Wood Lane. Port Colb. ON. L3K6B8.	Great project!	May 8 2019.
Leonard Chester		303 Elgin St		May 10/19
WAYNE GOODBARNES		300 STEELES	GOOD THANK.	MAY 10/19.
M. CRAWFORD		1305 Hwy #3	GREAT PROJECT	MAY 10/19
Mary Gilbert		299 Catherine St Pt Colborne		May 10/19
Debbie Damuda		138 Neff St PC L3K3J4	Excellent Project B	10 May 19
DARLENE MONTGOMERY		265 CHARLOTTE ST.	thank you!	10 May 2019.
Ann McKibbin		27 Linwood	Yeah Pat!	
Roy Etling		492 Stanley St Port Colborne		May 10 2019
ALAN BRADSHAW		ELGIN ST ←	RETIREMENT HOME.	
E. GULL		White Road	Makes Sense SOY farmers to close ditches	MAY 10 Rain 2019
SCREGGIRE		ELGIN ST. Port Colborne	Retire	May 10 2019

Printed Name	Signature	Street Address	Comments	Date
Richard + CAM NORMAN		Fielder, Port Colborne	Nature is beautiful so green	May 10
LINDA MAKEY		304 Catherine Pt. Colborne	We need this	May 10
Annette H. Coxon		300 Catherine St		May 10
Lisa Little		974 Weaver Rd. Pt. Colborne	Full support	May 10
Autumn Mooney		380 main St. Port Colborne		May 10
Tamia Lafayette		350 Wellington St. Port Colborne		May 10
Emma Sauer		13885 King rd NF, ON		May 10th
Kylie Dangliw		44166 Hwy 3 Wainfleet, ON		May 10th
Mackenzie Smith		252 ash st. ON		May 10th
Isabelle tonnies		188 Queen St, ON		May 10th
JAZZMIN THUT		22 PARK ST.		May 10
P. Roche		155 P.C ASH ST	good idea	May 10
P. Roche		155 PC ASH ST		

Printed Name	Signature	Street Address	Comments	Date
LILIO BENASSI		64 WINDY LINE	LET IT GROW	MAY 24/19
Colleen Walsh		120 FAIR ST	Grow away!!	May 24 2019
Debbie Benner		138 Ring Street	Let it grow!	5/24/19
MARSHA COX		155 Main St W	need any help?	May 24/19
MARIA HEIKOVI		44 KING ST P.C.	Love the natural look	May 29/19
Maria Alexander		133 North Ave	let it grow!	May 24/19
Judy Elliott		158 Wellington St	Keep it natural	May 24/19
Cathy Nilsson		62 King St Port Colborne	Keep it natural	May 24/19
 Gerald 		150 KINDAL		
MIKE FEAGAN		1240 WILHELM RD. SHERKSTON	LEAVE THOSE FRANCOIS ABOVE	"
Carla Busnarda		18 Apollo Drive Port Colborne	Preserve/ Protect the Monarch	May 24/ 2019
Marianne Bradbury		125 Homewood Pt. Colborne	Protect our wild insects	05/ 24/ 19
GARY HAYLF		176 ASH ST 508	LEAVE ALONE	5/24/19

Printed Name	Signature	Street Address	Comments	Date
CLAY R.		386 Concession 2		May 12
DAROL HAMP		11305 Fowler Rd		May 17/19
Natalie GILSON		32 clance street		may 17
Kalley Bird		409 First ave		May 17
Casey Grano		19 Ridgewood Ave		May 17
Becky Faber		987 Elm st PC		May 17
Sue Warford		157 Clarence unit 301		May 17
Al KETTLE		361 GLENNWOOD AVE		MAY 17
LARRY ROSNICK		56 FLAMM ST Rochester		May 17
BILL BRUYERE		227 ASH ST. P. C.		MAY 17
MARGARET TAYLOR		2016-302 E 15th St PC		"
Barbie Morton		12 Charlotte St	Keep the Butter Flys	May 17
Pat Lewis		1799 N. Williams	" "	May 17

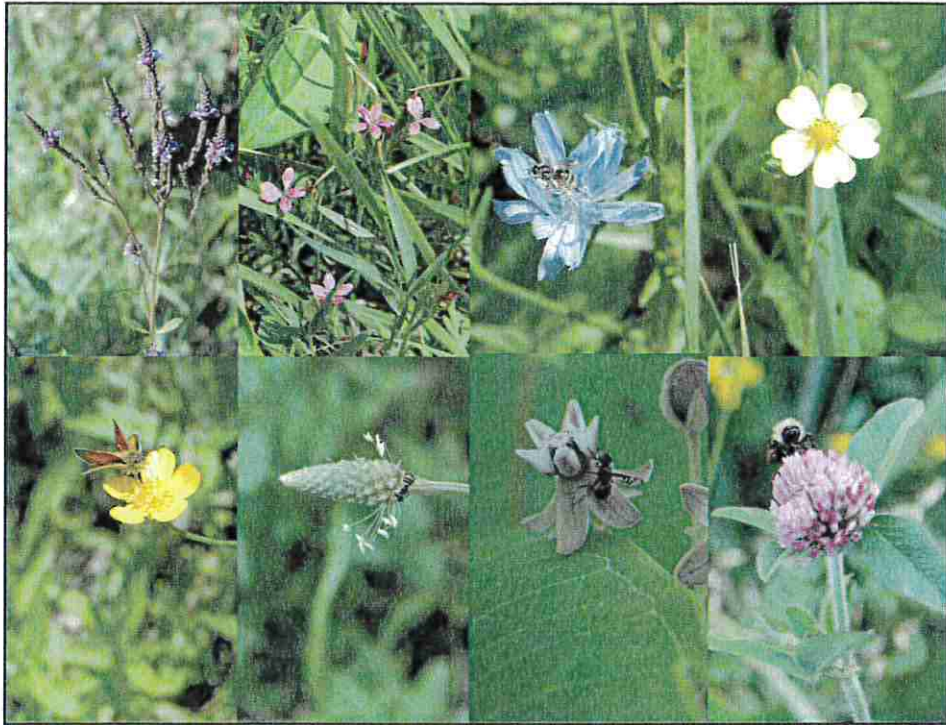
Port Colborne Roadside Initiative

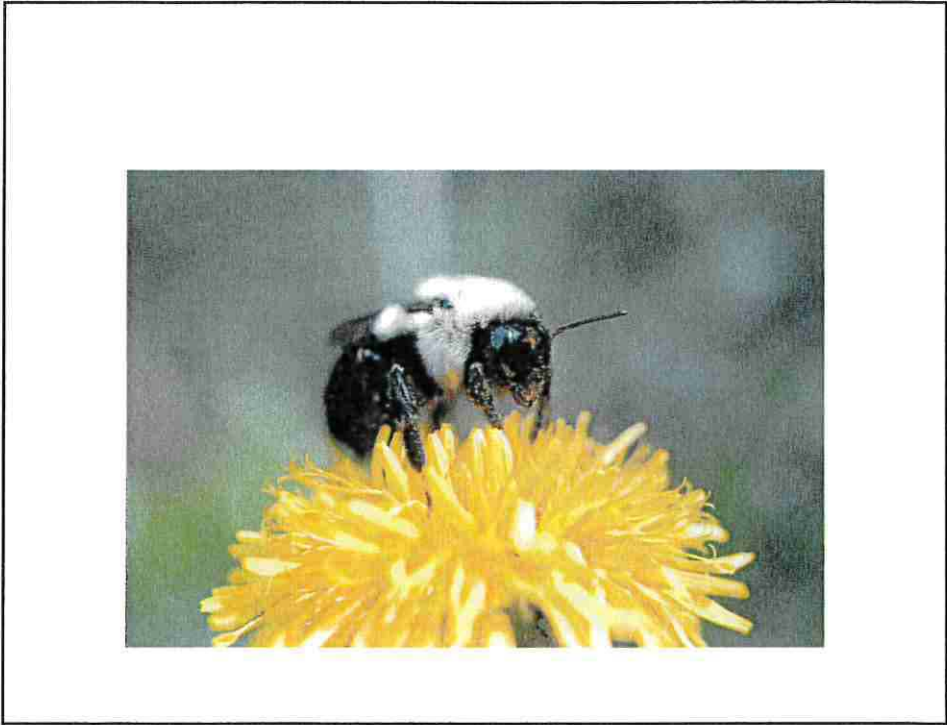


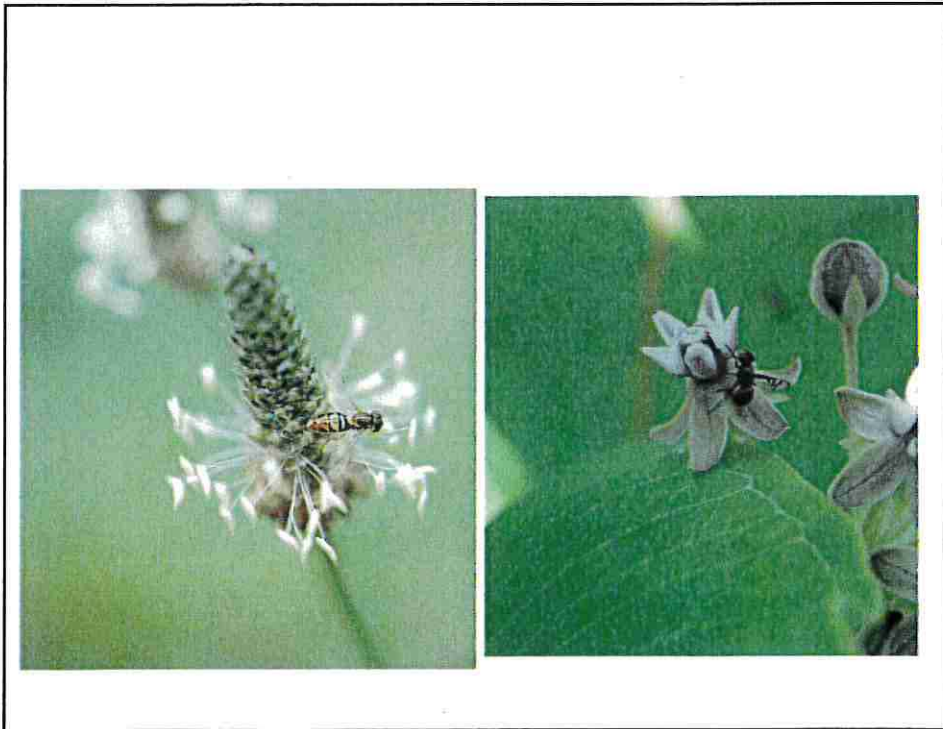
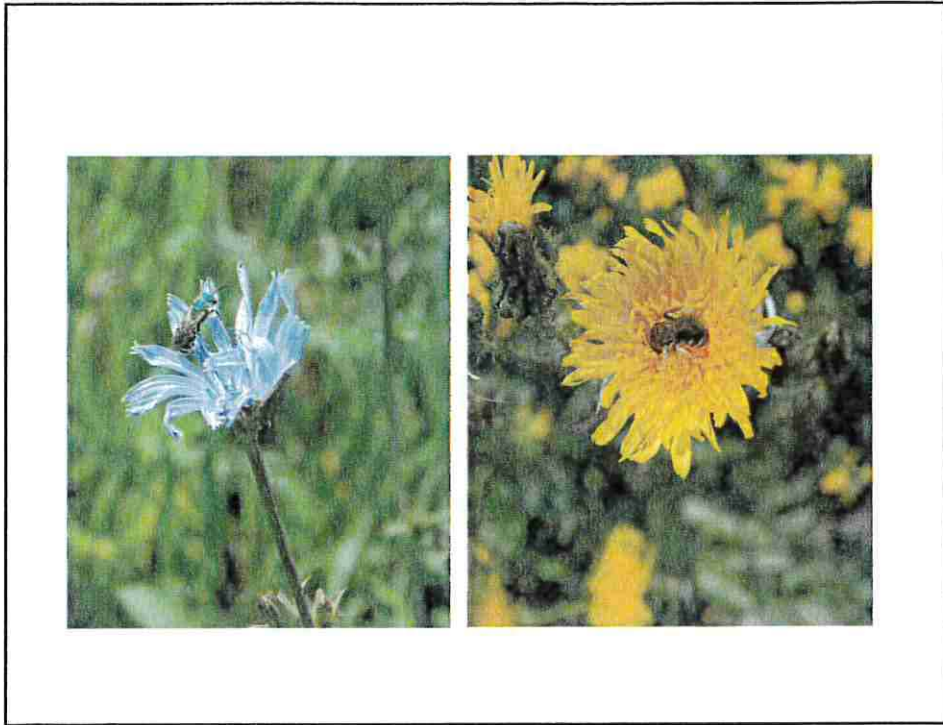


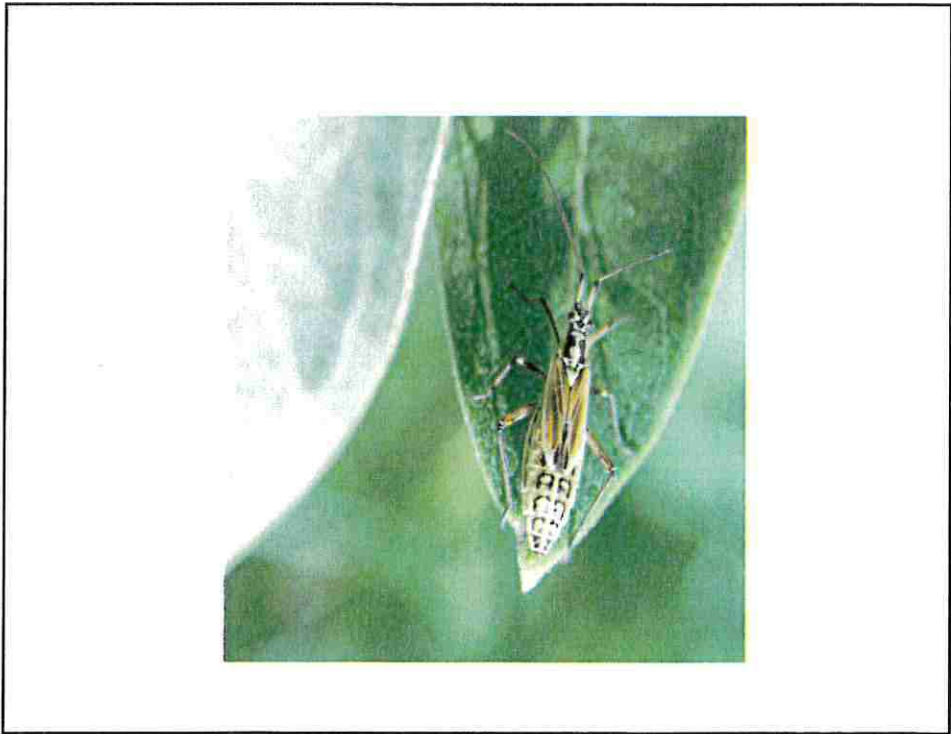
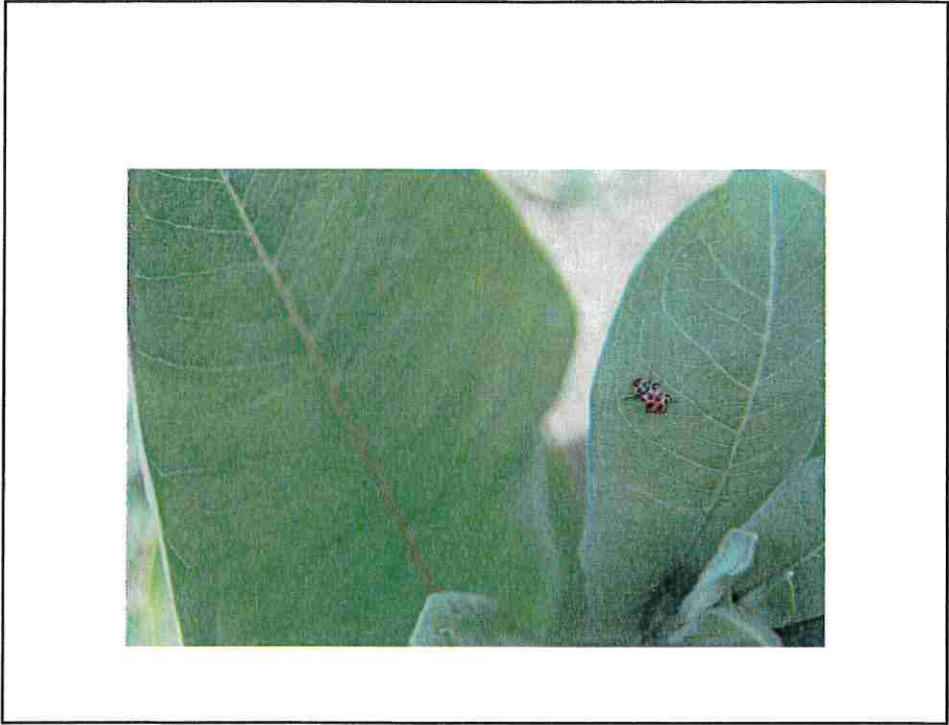
Benefits of linear corridor habitats

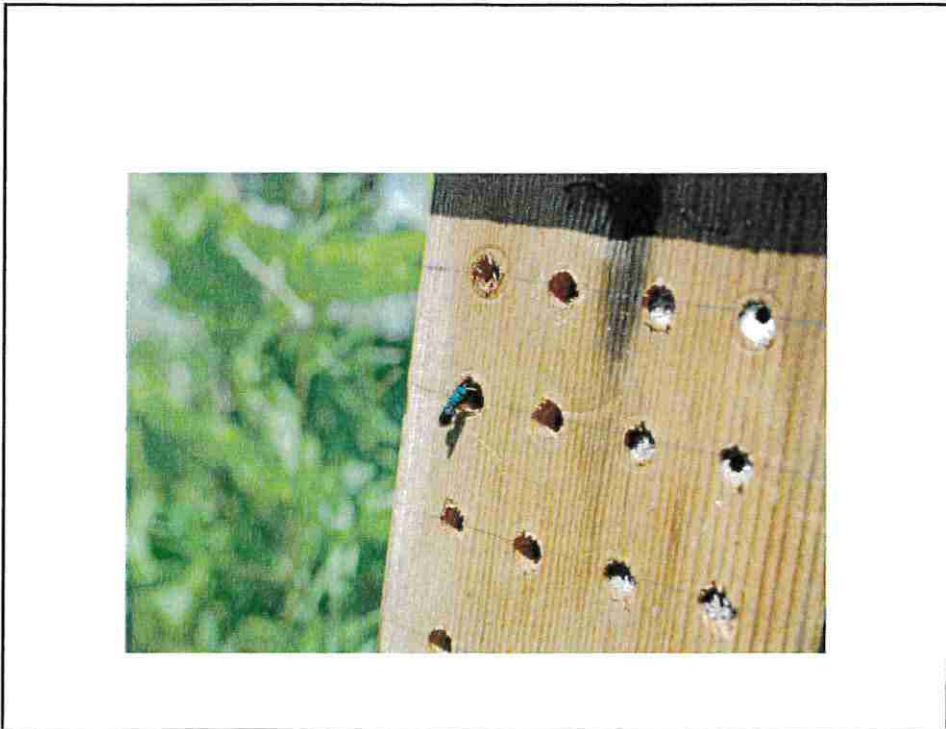












Birds Foot Trefoil



Knapweed



Queens Anne Lace



Sow Thistle



Canada Fleabane



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Presentation to Port Colborne City Council
May 27, 2019

Margaret Tanaszi, president, Port Colborne Garden Club, and Director, District 9
(Niagara) of the Ontario Horticultural Association

Good Evening everyone:

I am Margaret Tanaszi, born and bred in Port Colborne, representing the Port Colborne Garden Club delegation as its president, and District 9 (Niagara) of the Ontario Horticultural Association of which I am the Director. We are here in support of Patty Moss and her work with the City to delay city cutting of ditch culverts to accommodate the lifecycle of butterflies and other pollinators, control drainage issues, and control some of the worst weeds. I am also a qualified Master Gardener with the Master Gardeners of Ontario.

As we see this issue, thoughtful timing of roadside vegetation cutting along ditches can allow vegetative growth

- 1) to support natural pollinators to fulfill their lifecycles by allowing them to feed on plants' nectar, and in the case of Monarch butterflies, letting them lay eggs on and provide food for larvae on common milkweed plants
- 2) to control drainage issues — slowing erosion and the loss of nutrients from the soil, as well as minimizing flooding in some areas.
- 3) And 3) proper timing of the cut in the fall can try to beat some of the worst weeds— to minimize the chance of Fleabane seeds to flourish, but after Goldenrod has completed flowering to allow pollinators to take advantage of feeding on it as it is one of the last such plants in the season.

Why are the insect pollinators there? Because they have few options in finding natural areas. They have been limited by commercial and community development, and agricultural uses. There are many kinds of pollinators, not just butterflies and bees, but also including flies and beetles. And native, or solitary bees are some of the most hardworking, and they typically do not sting—they don't exhibit "hive behaviour".

Whether we know it or not, all these creatures work in a natural balance. Some bugs, and many birds, eat bugs that feed on crops or other vegetation —but not too much— so that everything continues. This is called biodiversity— a variety of plants and insects just doing their jobs. By the way, the OHA Conservation & Environment Committee (I'm its chair), supports this view: "The OHA is committed to protecting the natural

environment and promoting sound conservation practices for both flora and fauna, especially if under threat.”

There are things we can do to minimize runoff into the ditch causing flooding. Ensure there is natural growth alongside the ditch, or natural vegetation in yards in front of the ditch, to slow the runoff of water. Natural vegetation in the ditch can do that, too. In England, natural hedgerows along fields are enforced as erosion control by the municipality. Some people still think clearing ditch vegetation is their prerogative, and that commercial herbicides are the way to do it. Port Colborne has a bylaw on the books restricting residents from discharging a substance that is harmful to the natural environment. Even the labels on these products advise users to “keep product out of drains, ditches and waterways.” If you do it, you will be charged.

Like a good citizen-scientist, Patty has been observing the results of the initial trial of altered cutting times over the last few years, confirming the hoped-for results with data. Many more Monarch eggs and larvae! Increases in species of butterflies and in birds! More data is needed on bloom and seed development because of variations in temperature and rainfall. But it's promising.

What's most promising for us is Patty's hope that “with more observance and studying the roadside habitat, we can come to an agreement on the best roadside management practices to benefit everyone.” That's a goal worthy of community support.