

# Grand River Conservation Authority

**Report number:** GM-12-21-94

**Date:** December 17, 2021

**To:** Members of the Grand River Conservation Authority

**Subject:** 2022-2024 Firewood Supply Tender Results

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## **Recommendation:**

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority award the tender for the supply of firewood for the 2022, 2023 and 2024 camping seasons to Gerber's Firewood for the estimated sum of \$481,380.00 over a three year period (excluding HST).

## **Summary:**

Not applicable.

## **Report:**

The Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) operates eight campgrounds within the conservation areas. As a service to the patrons, firewood is offered for sale in prepackaged (bagged) units. The Conservation Areas sell approximately 22,600 bags of firewood each year (based on a 5 year average), although pre-Covid estimates were around 31,000 bags per year.

One bid package was submitted by the tender closing date. The tender opening was held at 8:00 a.m. on December 2, 2021 via Microsoft Teams. The tender opening committee consisted of Karen Armstrong, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer; Pamela Walther-Mabee, Manager of Conservation Area Operations; and Brian J Hunt, Conestogo Lake Conservation Area Superintendent.

Bidders were given the opportunity to bid on supplying firewood to individual Conservation Areas or to all of the Conservation Areas. This was done to encourage participation from suppliers who would not otherwise be able to supply all eight of the campgrounds.

The only bid was received from Gerber's Firewood of Gadshill, Ontario, and it was to supply all Conservation Areas, at a unit price \$7.05/bag in 2022, a 2.17% increase from 2021. The unit price will increase to \$7.10 in 2023, and \$7.15 in 2024 (excluding HST). Gerber's Firewood has been the provider of firewood for GRCA's Conservation Areas since 2019, when the previous supplier had a catastrophic fire at his business and could no longer supply firewood to the conservation areas.

It is recommended that the 2022-24 Firewood Supply Tender be awarded Gerber's Firewood in the amount of \$481,380 (excluding HST).

## **Financial Implications:**

Firewood purchases are funded from the approved annual Conservation Area budget. The total amount purchased in any given year is dependent on the demand from the public, and can be impacted by factors such as fire bans. Actual costs will be based on the number of bags purchased for each campground and the price per bag identified in the bid documents.

**Other Department Considerations:**

Not applicable.

**Prepared by:**

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Conestogo Lake Superintendent

**Approved by:**

Karen Armstrong  
Deputy CAO/Secretary Treasurer

Pam Walther-Mabee  
Manager Conservation Areas