

Grand River Conservation Authority

Report number: GM-03-23-24

Date: March 24, 2023

To: Members of the Grand River Conservation Authority

Subject: Progress Report #4- Ontario Regulation 687/21

Recommendation:

THAT Progress Report #4 be approved, circulated to all participating Grand River watershed municipalities, posted on the Grand River Conservation Authority website, and submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry in accordance with Ontario Regulation 687/21.

Summary:

Not applicable.

Report:

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

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

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

Progress Report Details

- 1) Municipal Comments/Feedback:
 - At this time, staff have not received any formal comments or concerns from the participating municipalities regarding the original Inventory of Programs and Services, or any of the updates including the most recent version, dated December 16, 2022.
- 2) Summary of Changes to Inventory of Programs and Services:
 - The Inventory of Programs and Services is updated to reflect refinements in Category 2 related to the Prescribed Acts Regulation (Ontario Regulation 596/22).
- 3) Update on the Progress of Negotiations with Participating Municipalities on Category 2 Programs and Services:
 - At this time, the GRCA is on track with the schedule identified in the GRCA's Transition Plan.

- Negotiation meetings with participating municipalities for Category 2 Programs and Services MOUs have started. Initial meetings have been completed with 11 out of the 22 participating municipalities.
 - GRCA staff will continue to work with neighbouring Conservation Authorities (where possible) to help streamline the process of negotiations with shared participating municipalities on Category 2 Programs and Services.
- 4) Difficulties Reaching Transition Plan Milestones:
- At this time, there have not been any difficulties identified in meeting transition plan milestones.

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

Financial Implications:

Not applicable.

Other Department Considerations:

Not applicable.

Submitted by:

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