

Grand River Conservation Authority

Report number: GM-05-23-44

Date: May 26, 2023

To: Members of the Grand River Conservation Authority

Subject: Provincial Offences Act Officer Designations – Section 29 Conservation Areas

Recommendation:

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority appoint Caden Hammond, Spencer Ireland, and Taylor Schell as Provincial Offences Act Officers to enforce section 29 of the Conservation Authorities Act.

Summary:

Not applicable

Report:

The Conservation Authorities Act, section 29 authorizes the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) to make regulations applicable to lands owned by the GRCA. R.R.O. 1990, Regulation 106 authorizes GRCA to appoint staff members as Provincial Offences Act Officers (POA) to enforce the Act and regulations on GRCA properties, including Conservation Areas and passive land properties.

The focus of the GRCA enforcement program is adapted as required to meet the organization's current challenges. Some of the enforcement issues at GRCA properties include alcohol use, vandalism, off-leash dogs, and trespassing.

Conservation Area Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents, and Park Operations Technicians are typically designated as POA officers to enforce the Conservation Authorities Act and the Trespass to Property Act. Caden Hammond and Spencer Ireland were recently hired as Park Operations Technicians; Caden works at Laurel Creek Conservation Area, and Spencer works at Byng Island Conservation Area. Both have completed POA training. Taylor Schell is the Senior Security Guard at Elora Gorge/Elora Quarry Conservation Areas, has completed POA training, and has been employed by the GRCA for the past two seasons.

Based upon their enforcement training and prior work experience, these staff members meet the GRCA requirements for appointment, and the criteria established by the Regulatory Compliance Committee of Conservation Ontario, to be designated as Provincial Offences Act Officers.

Financial Implications:

Not applicable

Other Department Considerations:

Not applicable

Prepared by:

Pam Walther-Mabee
Manager of
Conservation Area Operations

Approved by:

Lisa Keys
Director of Land Management