



THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
FINAL AGENDA

PWC 8-2019

Tuesday, August 6, 2019

9:30 a.m.

Council Chamber

Niagara Region Headquarters, Campbell West

1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON

	Pages
1. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>	
2. <u>DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST</u>	
3. <u>PRESENTATIONS</u>	
4. <u>DELEGATIONS</u>	
5. <u>ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION</u>	
5.1 <u>PW 48-2019</u> Initiation of Capital Project Funds for Recycling Centre Facility Improvements	3 - 6
5.2 <u>PWC-C 22-2019</u> Recommendations for Consideration from the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee meeting held June 24, 2019	7 - 20
6. <u>CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION</u>	
6.1 <u>PW 45-2019</u> Niagara Children's Water Festival	21 - 41
6.2 <u>PWC-C 21-2019</u> Niagara GO Station Strategy	42 - 57

7. OTHER BUSINESS

8. CLOSED SESSION

8.1 Confidential Presentation

A Matter Respecting a Proposed or Pending Acquisition or Disposition of Land by the Municipality and a Position, Plan, Procedure, Criteria or Instruction to be Applied to any Negotiations Carried on or to be Carried on by or on Behalf of the Municipality - Niagara GO Station Development Strategy

8.2 Confidential Report PW 44-2019

A Matter of Proposed or Pending Acquisition of Land by the Municipality - Sir Isaac Brock Way Multi-Use Trail - 3530 Schmon Parkway

9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. in the Council Chamber, Regional Headquarters.

11. ADJOURNMENT

If you require any accommodations for a disability in order to attend or participate in meetings or events, please contact the Accessibility Advisory Coordinator at 905-980-6000 (office), 289-929-8376 (cellphone) or accessibility@niagararegion.ca (email).

Subject: Initiation of Capital Project Funds for Recycling Centre Facility Improvements

Report to: Public Works Committee

Report date: Tuesday, August 6, 2019

Recommendations

1. That financing in the amount of \$500,000 gross and net **BE INITIATED** from the approved capital budget for the 2019 Recycling Facility Improvements project and that the project **BE FUNDED** as follows:
 - Reserve – Waste Management Capital: \$500,000

Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval for the initiation and funding of the 2019 Recycling Facility Improvements project.
- The current Council approved uninitiated capital budget for the 2019 Recycling Facility Improvement project is \$500,000. The project is an annual program for the replacement or upgrade of equipment at the Material Recycling Facility (MRF) to ensure the facility continues to operate efficiently and to improve the marketability of the recyclable products; it typically includes specific equipment requests. The request for 2019 was for a bag breaker to enhance operational efficiencies and improve the marketability of the end products.
- The project funds will be reprioritized to build, supply and install a drum feeder to improve the overall throughput of material through the MRF, which is a critical step before proceeding with any other investments to improve the quality of the processed material going to end market, as outlined in this report.
- The project was not initiated with the approval of the capital budget, as it was determined that the investment may not proceed subject to the outcome of the MRF Opportunity Review – Phase 4 and the resulting recommendation for the preferred ownership structure for the Recycling Centre considering the potential transition of the Blue Box program to full extended producer responsibility.

Financial Considerations

This report seeks approval and initiation of capital project funding for the 2019 Recycling Facility Improvements in the amount of \$500,000 per capital project 20000893 for the estimated cost to design, build and install a drum feeder at the MRF.

Adequate funding for the project has been approved in the 2019 budget per CSD 1-2019 from the Reserve – Waste Management Capital.

The impact of not proceeding with the facility improvements would be a greater budget shortfall in MRF operations for the remainder of the 2019 operating budget year. There is also the potential that if the improvements are not made, the Region will be unable to remain competitive with other MRFs in Ontario that are making substantial investments to meet the demands of the market, and as a result, may not be able to sustain domestic and export markets and higher commodity pricing.

Analysis

Background

Due to domestic market surpluses in North America, coupled with the lack of demand for post-consumer product, larger volumes of hardpack (boxboard and cardboard) are now being sold to export markets at historically low values. End markets are becoming stricter on contamination standards for baled material. In the month of June, hardpack was being sold at a net loss to the Niagara Region. Market pricing continues to be at levels that have not been seen since 2009 for cardboard and hardpack, and since 1997 for newsprint. As reported in WMPSC-C 15-2019, there is currently a net loss in budgeted revenue from January to April 2019 for fibre and container streams of approximately \$770,000.

Staff, in collaboration with Niagara Recycling, have explored capital investments ranging from \$200,000 to \$2.3 million, with an estimated return on investment of 11 to 17 months. These one-time investments will improve the quality of outgoing recyclables, and consequently, will garner a higher price per tonne in revenue. In order to optimize the output of the aforementioned investments, project funds being recommended for initiation will be utilized to design, build and install a drum feeder at the front end of the MRF operations.

Facility Improvements – Drum Feeder

A drum feeder on the fibre line will improve the metering of the fibre stream materials onto the processing line to allow for a more consistent flow of materials. This will reduce the amount of operational downtime that is a direct result of material jamming due to material fluctuations on the fibre line. The drum feeder can eliminate “black belts” (where no material is on the processing line) as the loader can load more material into the drum feeder than it can by pushing material directly onto a conveyor.

Drum feeders have been successful in increasing throughput of material at MRFs by as much as fifteen to twenty per cent. An increased throughput will reduce the amount of overtime hours worked per year to process material and will improve the quality of

material being marketed to ensure the Region continues to have a sustainable market for the fibre stream in the future. The MRF's current throughput is approximately thirty metric tonnes per hour. Even a ten per cent increase in throughput has the potential cost avoidance of approximately \$180,000 per year in overtime costs. Payback, not including additional revenues due to improved quality, is approximately 2.2 years. Further analysis is currently being undertaken to determine the increase in revenues as a result of said initiative. It is estimated that the cost to procure and install the drum feeder will range from approximately \$382,000 to \$410,000, including 1.76% non-recoverable HST.

Following the installation of a drum feeder on the fibre line, the Region will evaluate whether the installation of a wind tunnel system as well as other investments (such as a bag breaker) on the fibre line can further increase the quality of our fibre stream. There is potential to secure a premium value for newsprint provided that a contamination standard of less than one per cent prohibitives (cans, plastic etc.) and five per cent out throws (hardpack, cardboard) can be achieved.

The 2020 Waste Management Capital Budget request will include, for consideration of Council, appropriate funds for further investments that will result in creating premium quality materials for end market.

Alternatives Reviewed

Alternatives reviewed as part of this report were to install wind tunnels on the existing fibre optical sorter or to do nothing. Upon review of the potential implementation of wind tunnels on the existing fibre optical sorter, it was determined that the current flow of material and varying burden depth would not be optimal for the utilization of the wind tunnel system.

In order to improve consistency of feedstock through the fibre line, a drum feeder must be installed prior to proceeding with the wind tunnel system installation. The drum feeder will reduce overall downtime and improve the overall throughput of all fibre materials, which is a critical first step in the installation of the wind tunnel system.

If the Region were to do nothing, there is the potential that the Region will have to pay to recycle fibre material, or worse, due to the tightening specifications in both the domestic and export end markets for fibre material, the Region may have no where to ship their processed material for recycling. For those reasons, the aforementioned alternative reviewed is not being recommended.

Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities

This recommendation aligns with Council's strategic priority of Responsible Growth and Infrastructure Planning, specifically around Environmental Sustainability and

Stewardship. By investing in the MRF, the Region will reduce downtime, increase throughput of recycling material, and allow the Region to improve quality of recyclable material, making it more desirable for the end markets in order to sustain domestic and export markets.

Other Pertinent Reports

- WMPSC-C 15-2019
- WMPSC-C 23-2019
- CSD 1-2019

Prepared by:

Allison Tyldesley
Associate Director, Waste Management
Public Works

Recommended by:

Catherine Habermebl
Acting Commissioner
Public Works Department

Submitted by:

Ron Tripp, P.Eng.
Acting Chief Administrative Officer

This report was prepared in consultation with Jennifer Wilson, Supervisor, Waste Management Sara Mota, Program Financial Specialist, Norm Kraft, CEO, Niagara Recycling and reviewed by Dan Ane, Manager, Program Financial Support.

MEMORANDUM

PWC-C 22-2019

Subject: Recommendations for Consideration from the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee meeting held June 24, 2019

Date: August 6, 2019

To: Public Works Committee

From: Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk

At its meeting held on June 24, 2019, the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee passed the following motion for consideration by the Public Works Committee:

Minute Item 5.1
WMPSC-C 22-2019
2019 Battery Collection

That Report WMPSC-C 22-2019, dated June 24, 2019, respecting 2019 Battery Collection, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendation **BE APPROVED**:

1. That the annual one-week curbside battery collection program **BE INCLUDED** in the 2020 budget process for consideration.

Respectfully submitted and signed by,

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANNING STEERING COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**WMPSC 03-2019
Monday, June 24, 2019
Committee Room 4
Niagara Region Headquarters
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold ON**

Committee: Bellows, Butters, Diodati, Edgar, Fertich, Gibson, Ugulini
(Committee Chair), Witteveen (Committee Vice-Chair)

Absent/Regrets: Bradley (Regional Chair), Rigby

Staff: M. Evelyn, Administrative Assistant to the Regional Clerk,
T. Harrison, Commissioner/Treasurer, Enterprise Resource
Management Services, L. McGovern, Program Manager, Waste
Management Services, S. McPetrie, Waste Management
Services Advisor, S. Mota, Program Financial Specialist,
E. Prpic, Associate Director, Disposal Operations and
Engineering, S. Tait, Program Manager, Waste Management
Services, L. Torbicki, Acting Director, Waste Management
Services, M. Trennum, Deputy Regional Clerk, A. Tyldesley,
Associate Director, Waste Collection and Diversion

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Ugulini called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

3. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

4. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

5. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

5.1 WMPSC-C 22-2019

Review of Draft Regulations for Electrical and Electronic Equipment and Batteries

Lucy McGovern, Collection & Diversion Program Manager, provided information respecting Review of Draft Regulations for Electrical and Electronic Equipment and Batteries. Topics of the presentation included:

- Current State of Initiatives
- Designated Materials
- Legal Obligations
 - Collection Methods
 - Reduction, Reuse, Recycle
 - Consumer Education
 - Registration, Compliance, Records
- Timelines

A copy of the presentation is attached to the minutes.

Moved by Councillor Butters

Seconded by Councillor Gibson

That Report WMPSC-C 22-2019, dated June 24, 2019, respecting 2019 Battery Collection, **BE RECEIVED** and the following recommendation **BE APPROVED**:

1. That an annual one-week curbside battery collection program **BE INCLUDED** in the 2020 budget process for consideration.

Carried

Councillor Information Request(s):

Provide information respecting scheduled battery collection from comparator municipalities in future reports. Councillor Diodati.

6. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

6.1 WMPSC-C 21-2019

Councillor Information Request

Moved by Councillor Diodati

Seconded by Councillor Edgar

That Correspondence Item WMPSC-C 21-2019, being a memorandum from L. Torbicki, Manager, Waste and Policy Planning, dated April 29, 2019, respecting Councillor Information Request, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried

6.2 WMPSC-C 23-2019

Recycling Centre End Markets Update

Moved by Councillor Witteveen

Seconded by Councillor Bellows

That Correspondence Item WMPSC-C 23-2019, being a memorandum from J. Wilson, Supervisor, Collection and Diversion Operations, dated June 24, 2019, respecting Recycling Centre End Markets Update, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried

Councillor Information Request(s):

Provide information respecting the breakdown of any forecasted shortfalls and how Niagara compares with municipalities who use alternative models such as single stream. Councillor Witteveen.

6.3 WMPSC-C 24-2019

"Recycling Matters" Awareness Campaign

Moved by Councillor Witteveen

Seconded by Councillor Butters

That Correspondence Item WMPSC-C 24-2019, being a memorandum from L. McGovern, Collection and Diversion Program Manager, dated June 24, 2019, respecting "Recycling Matters" Awareness Campaign, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried

6.4 WMPSC-C 25-2019

Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste Update

Moved by Councillor Fertich

Seconded by Councillor Bellows

That Correspondence Item WMPSC-C 25-2019, being a memorandum from E. Prpic, Associate Director, Waste Disposal Operations, dated June 24, 2019, respecting Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste Update, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried

6.5 WMPSC-C 26-2019

Humberstone Landfill Expansion Update

Moved by Councillor Butters

Seconded by Councillor Gibson

That Correspondence Item WMPSC-C 26-2019, being a memorandum from P. Kryger, Project Manager, dated June 24, 2019, respecting Humberstone Landfill Expansion Update, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried

6.6 WMPSC-C 28-2019

Waste Management Advisory Committee Minutes
May 15, 2019

Moved by Councillor Butters

Seconded by Councillor Witteveen

That Report WMPSC-C 28-2019, being the minutes of the Waste Management Advisory Committee meeting, held on May 15, 2019, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried

6.7 WMPSC 2-2019

Waste Management Planning Steering Committee Minutes
April 29, 2019

Moved by Councillor Edgar

Seconded by Councillor Gibson

That Report WMPSC 2-2019, being the minutes of the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee meeting held on April 29, 2019, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Nespresso Recycling Program Presentation

Councillor Diodati advised Committee members that Nespresso coordinates a program to collect used coffee pods (all brands) for recycling and organics. Nespresso has expressed an interest in providing a presentation to the Committee.

Moved by Councillor Diodati
Seconded by Councillor Bellows

That staff **REQUEST** Nespresso to provide a presentation to the Waste Management Planning Steering Committee respecting the coffee pod recycling program.

Carried

8. CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Gibson
Seconded by Councillor Fertich

That this Committee **DO NOW MOVE** into Closed Session for the purpose of receiving information of a confidential nature respecting:

A Matter of Security of the Property of the Municipality under s. 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Phases 1 to 3 Material Recycling Facility (MRF) Opportunity Review.

Carried

Committee resolved into closed session at 10:28 a.m.

9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION

Committee reconvened in open session at 10:53 a.m. with the following individuals present:

Committee: Butters, Diodati, Edgar, Fertich, Gibson, Ugulini (Committee Chair), Witteveen (Committee Vice-Chair)

Absent/Regrets: Bellows, Bradley (Regional Chair), Rigby

Staff: M. Evelyn, Administrative Assistant to the Regional Clerk, T. Harrison, Commissioner/Treasurer, Enterprise Resource Management Services, L. McGovern, Program Manager, Waste Management Services, S. McPetrie, Waste Management Services Advisor, S. Mota, Program Financial Specialist, E. Prpic, Associate Director, Disposal Operations and Engineering, S. Tait, Program Manager, Waste Management Services, L. Torbicki, Acting Director, Waste Management Services, M. Trennum, Deputy Regional Clerk, A. Tyldesley, Associate Director, Waste Collection and Diversion

9.1 Confidential WMPSC-C 27-2019

A Matter of Security of the Property of the Municipality under s. 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Phases 1 to 3 Material Recycling Facility (MRF) Opportunity Review.

Moved by Councillor Gibson
Seconded by Councillor Butters

That Confidential Correspondence Item WMPSC-C 27-2019, being a memorandum from L. Torbicki, Acting Director, Waste Management Services, dated June 24, 2019, respecting A Matter of Security of the Property of the Municipality under s. 239(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 - Phases 1 to 3 Material Recycling Facility (MRF) Opportunity Review, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried

10. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday, August 26, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. in Committee Room 4.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Councillor Ugulini
Committee Chair

Matthew Trennum
Deputy Regional Clerk

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk

Subject: 2019 Battery Collection

Report to: Waste Management Planning Steering Committee

Report date: Monday, June 24, 2019

Recommendations

That an annual one-week curbside battery collection program **BE REFERRED** to the 2020 budget process for consideration.

Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval through the budget process to provide a one-week curbside battery collection program in 2020.
- Niagara Region collected 7,142 kilograms of batteries during the one-week period from April 22 to 26, 2019 and has collected 45,802 kilograms in total since the original pilot program in 2012.
- Staff is estimating a net cost between \$1,816 and \$6,887 to continue to operate the curbside battery collection program for 2020, based on continued stewardship funding and the average annual volumes collected.
- The four year average (2016-2019) for curbside battery collection is 7,043 kg.
- The batteries collected are recycled at a local battery recycling company, Raw Materials Company (RMC), located in Port Colborne.

Financial Considerations

The gross cost to implement the curbside battery collection program in 2019 was \$13,878, inclusive of collection and promotion costs. Staff are expecting to receive industry funding of \$12,990 from the batteries collected through the curbside battery collection program, resulting in a net cost to operate the program of \$888. The program in previous years resulted in a net revenue. The net cost of the 2019 curbside battery collection program was a result of increased Contractor costs associated with collection.

Emterra Environmental Inc. (Emterra), Canadian Waste Management Inc. (CWM) and RMC have agreed to continue to provide service in 2020. Emterra and CWM have agreed to continue the collection structure and maintain their costs for 2020. RMC will continue to accept batteries with no changes to the existing cost structure and agreement. Based on the current funding model and costs, net costs for 2020 are estimated to be between \$1,816 based on 8,045 kg (2018-2019 average) and \$6,887 based on 4,168 kg (2016 lowest volume generating year).

There are minimal cost implications to providing this service to the approximately 151,669 eligible households across the Niagara region. If the curbside battery program was discontinued, it would result in a small financial savings.

Analysis

For the last seven (7) years, Niagara Region has provided a one-week battery collection program, which has provided Niagara residents with a convenient option to properly recycle their used batteries. Residents of single-family homes and low density residential properties with up to six units are eligible to place their used batteries at the curb on their regular collection day, next to their Grey/Blue Box in a clear, sealed bag. Approximately 151,669 households were eligible to participate in 2019. The results of 2019 collection, which occurred the week of April 22 to 26, are as follows:

- 7,142 kilograms of batteries were collected for recycling.
- 2.4% participation rate, calculated by sampling batteries set out for curbside collection on 31 routes throughout the week.
- Volume collected per eligible household was 0.05 kg, compared to 0.05 kg in 2017 and 0.06 kg in 2018.
- One (1) complaint of scavenged batteries was reported to the Waste Info-Line during the week of April 22 to 29, 2019.

Appendix A provides a summary of 2019 battery collection program results.

Staff is recommending continuing a region-wide curbside battery collection program in 2020 for the following reasons:

- A total of 45,802 kilograms of batteries have been recycled through the curbside battery program since the pilot in 2012.
- The batteries are sent to a local battery recycler, where 100% of batteries are recycled.
- The program is operated with minimal net cost.
- Residents are now familiar with Niagara Region's curbside battery collection program and have come to expect the curbside battery collection on an annual basis.
- Curbside battery collection is a convenient service for residents that may not be able to or want to bring batteries to an alternate recycling location, and may otherwise improperly discard them in the garbage.

At this time, there are no known upcoming changes with regards to the future battery funding for 2020. On April 12, 2018, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (previously Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change) announced the full wind up of the Municipal Hazardous and Special Waste (MHSW) program for December 31, 2020. The details of the transition are not known at this time. Funding for curbside

battery collection will be considered with pending regulations under the Waste-Free Ontario Act. If funding changes, staff will advise Council accordingly.

Staff will continue to promote the need to properly recycle batteries at Niagara Region locations as well as other publically available battery drop-off locations on the Niagara Region's website and future publications.

Alternatives Reviewed

The alternate reviewed was to discontinue curbside battery collection program or increase the service frequency. Staff believes it is important to provide consistent and convenient service for residents to recycle batteries through combined programs such as curbside collection and Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) depots and therefore does not recommend discontinuing the established program. Given the uncertainty of volumes, additional staff resources required to operate the program and the general good availability of other recycling locations for batteries in Niagara, staff recommend continuing the frequency at one week per year pending 2020 operating budget approval. Staff also recommends continuing the curbside battery collection program during earth week, April 20 to 24, 2020. Continuing the curbside battery collection program during Earth Week is consistent with other municipal comparators such as the Region of Peel (April 15-26, 2019) and the Region of Durham (April 22-26, 2019).

Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities

The curbside battery program provides a convenient way for residents to recycle batteries and supports the Niagara Region's goal of achieving a 65% diversion target by 2020. Continuation of the program, which promotes environmental stewardship and maintaining high level of customer service, aligns with Council strategic priority of achieving results under Doing Business Differently as well as improving customer service under Advancing Organizational Excellence.

Other Pertinent Reports

- WMPSC-C 27-2018 Curbside Battery Collection Program

Prepared by:
Nick Lidstone
Contract Supervisor
Waste Management Services

Recommended by:
Catherine Habermehl
Acting Commissioner
Public Works

Submitted by:

Ron Tripp, P.Eng.
Acting Chief Administrative Officer

This report was prepared in consultation with Jennifer Wilson, Supervisor, Collection and Diversion Operations, and reviewed by Allison Tyldesley, Associate Director, Collection and Diversion Operations and Lydia Torbicki, Acting Director, Waste Management Services.

Appendices

Appendix 1	Summary of 2019 Curbside Battery Collection	Page 5 - 6
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Appendix A –2019 Curbside Battery Collection Summary

Weight Collected:

Date	Weight (kg)
April 22	1005
April 23	1081
April 24	1720
April 25	1844
April 26	1492
Total	7142

Funding Summary:

- Funding is provided for Phase 1 batteries (single-use alkaline) only
- Based on 2018 totals, approximately 89% of the batteries collected are Phase 1
- Funding expected for 2019 is \$12,990 based on 7,142 kg collected
- Source of funding: Stewardship Ontario, Raw Materials Company

Promotional Summary:

- Niagara Region website - banner on Waste Management landing page to a dedicated curbside battery page
- Niagara Region Collection Guide – mailed to single-family homes
- Niagara Region GreenScene – mailed to all single-family homes
- Newsprint advertising (in-kind)
- Region road signs placed at the Recycling Centre on Montrose Rd. in Niagara Falls, and at the Seniors Services location the Woodlands of Sunset on Pelham Rd. in Welland
- Digital sign advertising at Thorold Stone Rd. and Dorchester Rd. in Niagara Falls
- City of St Catharines posted curbside battery collection information on their front lawn sign at the Geneva St. offices across from Fairview Mall
- City of St. Catharines posted digital advertisements at the Aquatic Centre on Niagara St. and available public digital screens at their buildings
- Social media ads (example below) – ran from April 2 – April 21

Examples of Social Media ads:

 **Niagara Region** April 21 at 9:00 AM · 🌐

This week from April 22 to 26, place batteries in a sealed plastic bag beside your Blue or Grey Box by 7 a.m. on the morning of your regular collection day for curbside battery collection.

Recycle your alkaline, 6 volt, 9 volt, button cell batteries and rechargeable battery packs.


Visit niagararegion.ca/waste for more information.



The poster features five stylized batteries in green, yellow, and red, arranged in a row. To their right, the text 'Curbside Battery Collection' is written in large, bold, white letters. Below this, 'ONE WEEK ONLY: April 22-26, 2019' is written in green and white, followed by 'on your regular collection day' in smaller white text. At the bottom, a green banner contains the 'Niagara Region' logo and the website 'niagararegion.ca/waste'.

8 5 Comments 23 Shares

Like Comment Share

 **Niagara Region** @NiagaraRegion Apr 21

This week only in #Niagara! April 22 to 26 is Curbside Battery Collection on your regular collection day. Place beside your Blue or Grey Box by 7 a.m. Learn more: niagararegion.ca/waste pic.twitter.com/3rQGewr07n

View photo · 🔄 📌 ❤️

Subject: 2019 Niagara Children's Water Festival

Report to: Public Works Committee

Report date: Tuesday, August 6, 2019

Recommendations

1. That Report PW 45-2019 **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Key Facts

- The Niagara Children's Water Festival (NCWF) educates grade three and four students from throughout the region on the importance of water and how they can make informed decisions about their water habits
- The NCWF is a collaborative event held in partnership between Niagara Region, City of St. Catharines, Ontario Power Generation (OPG) and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA)
- The 2019 NCWF took place from May 7 to 10 at Ball's Falls Conservation Area, with over 4,000 attendees
- This year's events marks the 16th annual NCWF

Financial Considerations

Niagara Region supports the majority of the NCWF budget as part of its approved Water operating budget.

The total 2019 NCWF approved funding from Niagara Region was \$85,000. In addition, the NCWF receives donations from our partners, the City of St. Catharines and Ontario Power Generation (OPG). The sponsorship program was re-developed in 2019 which resulted in additional funding from GM BluePlan and other suppliers. The NCWF also applied for, and successfully obtained, a grant from the TD Friends of the Environment Fund. As a result, funding for the NCWF totalled \$112,750 (see Table 1). Actual expenditures as shown in Table 2 totalled \$93,435, resulting in a surplus of \$19,315.

Table 1: 2019 Niagara Children's Water Festival Sources of Funding

Item	2019 Budget	2019 Actual
The Regional Municipality of Niagara	\$85,000	\$85,000
City of St. Catharines	\$5,000	\$6,000
OPG	\$4,000	\$5,000
GM BluePlan	-	\$5,000
TD Friends of the Environment Fund	\$5,000	\$5,000
CIMA+	-	\$1,500

Item	2019 Budget	2019 Actual
Romag Contracting	-	\$1,000
Walkers Industries	-	\$1,000
V. Gibbons Contracting Ltd.	-	\$1,000
Alfred Beam Excavating	-	\$500
Associated Engineering	-	\$500
Environmental Infrastructure Services Inc.	-	\$500
Kerry T. Howe	-	\$500
R.V. Anderson Associates Limited	-	\$250
	\$99,000	\$112,750

Table 2: 2019 Niagara Children's Water Festival Budget Summary

Item	2019 Budget	2019 Actual
Service Providers	\$2,000	\$2,018
Equipment and Supplies	\$7,000	\$4,582
Rentals	\$5,700	\$4,990
Promotions and Marketing	\$5,500	\$6,018
Tents	\$25,400	\$21,938
Transportation	\$25,000	\$24,901
Food and Hospitality	\$7,000	\$7,263
Health and Safety	\$1,000	\$900
Staff Expenses	\$1,800	\$473
Miscellaneous	\$500	-
Site Rental	\$15,000	\$20,352
	\$95,900	\$93,435

Actual amounts include 1.76% non-refundable HST

Net Difference	\$3,100	\$19,315
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Analysis

In 2019, the NCWF was visited by over 3,600 grade three and four students, 170 teachers and approximately 400 parents. Attendees participated in the 43 activity centres offered at this year's festival that focused on five key messages; water attitude, water conservation, water protection, water science and water technology. Four new activity centres were added to this year's festival, three of which were delivered by community partners. These activity centres focused on water safety, benefits of tap water, geography of Niagara and aboriginal perspectives on water.

The success of the NCWF depends largely on volunteers who play an essential role in execution of the NCWF. Each activity centre is presented by volunteers representing a variety of environmental professions while other volunteers assist in areas such as transportation and traffic control, set up and tear down, food services and maintenance.

Festival volunteers are recruited from partner organizations as well as several other supporting organizations. Nearly 100 volunteers are needed each day of the festival. In 2019 the following organizations provided NCWF volunteers:

- Niagara Region- Water and Wastewater Services Division
- Niagara Region- Public Health Department
- Niagara Region- Waste Management Services Division
- Niagara Region- Long Term Care
- City of St. Catharines
- Ontario Power Generation
- Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority
- Associated Engineering
- Bass Pro Shop
- Brock University
- City of Niagara Falls
- City of Welland
- City of Thorold
- Land Care Niagara
- Geospatial Niagara
- HJS Solutions
- Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
- Niagara College
- Niagara Drowning Prevention Coalition
- Niagara Restoration Council
- Niagara River Remedial Action Plan
- R.V. Anderson Associates Limited
- Town of Lincoln Fire Department
- Town of Lincoln
- Town of Pelham
- Township of Wainfleet
- Walker Industries
- Various Community Volunteers

Additionally, approximately 30 secondary school students support the NCWF each day. A special thank you to students and staff from E.L. Crossley, Dennis Morris, Sir Winston Churchill, Blessed Trinity, Beamsville Secondary School and Notre Dame who offered their time to assist with execution of the 2019 festival.

As part of the 2019 NCWF, a 'Name the Mascot' contest was hosted to name Water and Wastewater's newly acquired water drop mascot. A total of 48 submissions were received and Assumption Catholic School in St. Catharines submitted the winning name, H2jO. H2jO was on-site during the festival to greet the students and provided photo opportunities during lunch time.

A media release was issued by Niagara Region on May 7, 2019, in addition to promotion on the Niagara Region and NPCA's social media channels. The NCWF was featured in local newspapers and on YourTV. There was also media coverage of our Sponsor Recognition event.

Positive feedback and continuous improvement recommendations were collected through debrief meetings and teacher and volunteer feedback surveys. These recommendations will be considered when planning for the 2020 NCWF.

Overall, the 2019 NCWF ran successfully, garnered positive feedback from all stakeholders and provided education to students and adults about the importance of our region's water resources while building and fostering positive community relationships. The ongoing support of council for this worthwhile event is appreciated and acknowledged.

Alternatives Reviewed

All logistical aspects of the NCWF remained as status quo. Alternative site locations for the NCWF were reviewed in 2018/2019 and as a result the festival will be initiating a new partnership with Brock University and the festival will be moving to Brock University Campus in 2020.

Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities

This report connects to Council's Strategic Priority of building a labour ready workforce by educating and exposing local area students to careers and skills in the water and wastewater services through the Niagara Children's Water Festival. Furthermore, the Festival aligns with the priority of doing business differently by developing and encouraging partnerships between the Region, local area municipalities, local organizations and businesses.

Other Pertinent Reports

Not applicable.

Prepared by:

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Engagement and Education
Coordinator, Water & Wastewater
Services Division, Public Works

Recommended by:

Catherine Habermebl
Acting Commissioner
Public Works Department

Submitted by:

Ron Tripp, P.Eng.
Acting Chief Administrative Officer

This report was prepared by Janet Rose, Water and Wastewater Engagement and Education Coordinator, in collaboration with Rachel Beni, W-WW Outreach Representative and reviewed by Deanna Barrow, Manager, Quality and Compliance Water, Pamela Hamilton, Program Financial Specialist Water & Wastewater, and Joseph Tonellato, Director, Water & Wastewater Services.

Appendices

Appendix 1 2019 Niagara Children's Water Festival Summary Report



NIAGARA CHILDREN'S **WATER FESTIVAL**

2019 Summary Report

June 2019

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1. Introduction

The Niagara Children's Water Festival (NCWF) is a collaborative event held in partnership between Niagara Region, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA), City of St. Catharines, and Ontario Power Generation (OPG). The annual, four-day festival engages over 3,500 grade three and four students from throughout the Niagara region to learn about water and the environment.

This report includes a summary of the 2019 NCWF, running from May 7 to 10, including information about:

- Budget
- Activity Centres
- Registration
- Volunteers
- Student Transportation
- Risk Management
- Media Coverage
- Continuous Improvement

2. Budget

The NCWF, including student transportation, continues to be provided free of charge to all participants. The following sections discuss 2019 funding sources and expenditures. **Appendix A** includes a summary of the 2019 NCWF Budget.

Sources of Funding

Niagara Region supports the majority of the NCWF budget as part of its overall operating budget as approved by council and funded through the Region's water rate requisition. In addition, the NCWF receives donations from our partners, the City of St. Catharines and Ontario Power Generation (OPG).

The NCWF sponsorship program was re-developed for the 2019 festival which resulted in additional funding. Water-themed sponsorship levels were designated and a variety of sponsor benefits were provided. Local area municipalities, contractors, consultants, past supporters and grant programs were solicited for sponsorship. A total of \$22,750 was received for the 2019 NCWF.

Furthermore, two grant applications were submitted for additional funding. The festival was successful in obtaining a \$5,000 grant from TD Friends of the Environment Fund.

As a result, funding for the NCWF totalled \$112,750. Actual expenditures totaled \$93,435, resulting in a surplus of \$19,315.

A sponsor recognition event was also held prior to the festival on May 7, 2019 to formally recognize our sponsors (Appendix C) and the winning class of the mascot naming contest. Those invited include delegates from (including in-kind sponsors), Niagara Region's Chair, CAO and Commissioner of Public Works, NPCA's board chair, Town of Lincoln Mayor, and City of St. Catharines Mayor and CAO.

Niagara Region's Chair, NPCA's board Chair and Town of Lincoln Mayor all addressed the crowd and all sponsors participated in a photo with the winning class.

Expenditures

The total NCWF budget for the 2019 NCWF was \$95,900. Actual expenditures totalled \$93,435 (Appendix A).

3. Name the Mascot Contest

A 'Name the Mascot' contest was hosted as part of this year's festival. Classes who were registered to attend the festival were invited to submit one name for the newly acquired water drop mascot who would represent the Niagara Children's Water Festival and Niagara Region's Water and Wastewater department as a whole. Submissions were judged on creativity, uniqueness, and suitability and relevance to the NCWF and the work carried out by the Niagara Region Water and Wastewater department. A total of 48 submissions were received and a panel of judges, consisting of select members from the NCWF Steering Committee and management from Niagara Region's Water and Wastewater department, selected 'H2jO' as the winning mascot name. As winners of the contest, Assumption Catholic School in St. Catharines was awarded with a NCWF branded t-shirt and water bottle for each student, a City of St. Catharines branded reusable straw for each student, a pizza party, a free NPCA educational program experience at Ball's Falls (including bussing) and special recognition at the sponsor recognition event.

The contest was well received by teachers and students and the mascot was a great addition to the festival. H2jO was on site during the 2019 NCWF to greet the students and visited the classes during lunch time for pictures and high-fives.

4. Activity Centres

In 2019, 43 activity centres (accommodating 46 groups per day) were hosted at the NCWF. Activities were distributed amongst three distinct sections known as the red, green and blue sections; school groups stayed within their designated colour section

during their visit. Scheduling groups in this way allowed them to remain close to their designated lunch tent and minimize road crossings. The distribution of activity centres in each section is shown on the map in **Appendix B**.

Table 1 lists each of the 2019 activity centres. The numbered activity centres are 15 minutes in length and those denoted with two letters are 30 minutes in length. All groups were scheduled to visit at least one 30-minute activity during their visit.

Know Your Niagara, Aboriginal Voices and *Save Silly Sal* were new activity centres added to this year's festival that were hosted by external agencies. *Tap into It!* replaced the *Great Niagara Taste Test* to reduce the amount of waste generated from that activity but contains the same messaging. The activity centre known as *Beachy Clean* was changed to *Things that Bite* to better align with the content of that activity centre.

Table 1. 2019 Activity Centre Listing

Red Section	Green Section	Blue Section
1. Yellow Fish Road	13. Flush the Kids	24. Rolling to the River
2. To and Fro with H ₂ O	14. Incredible Journey	25. Save Silly Sal
3. World Water Monitoring	15. Duck Detectives	26. Tap into It!
4. The Power of Water	16. Rolling to the River	27. Yellow Fish Road
5. Treat it Right	17. Water Whirl	28. Water Whirl
6. Flush the Kids	18. Puddle Pictures	29. Climate Change
7. Great Lakes	19. The Power of Water	30. Incredible Journey
8. Agent H ₂ O	20. Water Recreation	31. Alien Invasion
9. Keep it Clean	21. Keep It Clean	32. Great Lakes
10. Know Your Niagara	22. Global Water Race	33. Go With The Flow
11. Save Silly Sal	23. Go Fish!	34. Global Water Race
12. Alien Invasion	AV–Aboriginal Voices	TB – Things That Bite
E1 – Earth First	ML – Down at the Mill	NN – Nuts About Nature Hike
FF – Fire (2 groups)	ST – Simply Treemendous	SS – Scientists in School (2 groups)
MS – Mad Science (2 groups)	--	--
Red Total = 17 groups	Green Total = 14 groups	Blue Total = 15 groups

5. Registration

Online registration was launched in early January. Invitations advertising the NCWF and how to register were distributed to all District School Board of Niagara (DSBN) and Niagara Catholic District School Board (NCDSB) schools. In addition, emails were sent to French schools, a home educators' association, as well as private and Christian

schools that had previously attended the festival. The registration was also advertised via Niagara Region's Twitter and Facebook feeds.

All 184 NCWF openings were filled by February 22, 2019. Once full, the website was updated to reflect that teachers could register to be on the wait list. A small number of school groups were on the wait list but no openings became available for those classes to attend. This year replies to registration were automated for improved efficiency. Unfortunately, through this automated process, a couple registrations were not forwarded to the water festival email account and were missed as a result. Accommodation was made for these groups where possible, and these groups have been given priority registration for the 2020 festival.

There were two last minute cancellations, one due to a scheduling conflict and one due to the weather. These cancellations were made too close to the festival to make accommodations.

A total of 3,624 children with 179 teachers and approximately 399 parents/guardians attended for a total attendance of approximately **4,202** people over the four-day NCWF.

The breakdown of participants per day is shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Number of Participants Per Day

Date	Number of Students	Number of Teachers	Number of Parents *	Total Participants
May 7, 2019	873	45	96	1,014
May 8, 2019	981	48	101	1,130
May 9, 2019	905	44	104	1,053
May 10, 2019	865	42	98	1,005
	3,624	179	399	4,202

** The number of parents was estimated when teachers registered. In many cases these numbers may have fluctuated up or down. Teachers were asked to provide at least one adult supervisor for every 10 students.*

6. Volunteers

Volunteers play an essential role in the successful execution of the NCWF. Each activity centre is presented by volunteers representing a variety of environmental professions. Their enthusiasm and energy create a positive learning environment for all participants. In addition, most activity centres also had assistance from a local high school volunteer.

Festival Volunteers

Festival volunteers are recruited from partner organizations as well as several other supporting organizations. The 2019 NCWF included a mix of longstanding volunteers as well as many new faces, including some from our sponsor organizations. Volunteers assist in nearly every aspect of the festival, including:

- Running activity centres
- Providing information to festival registrants and volunteers
- Coordinating transportation and traffic control
- Ensuring student safety
- Maintaining activity centres and delivering power and water
- Serving food
- Lunch tent coordination
- Festival set up and tear down
- High school volunteer coordination
- Parent and volunteer parking assistants

The following organizations provided NCWF volunteers:

- Niagara Region – Water and Wastewater Services Division
- Niagara Region – Public Health Department
- Niagara Region – Waste Management Division
- Niagara Region – Long Term Care
- City of St. Catharines
- Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority
- Ontario Power Generation
- Associated Engineering
- Bass Pro Shop
- Brock University
- City of Niagara Falls
- City of Welland
- City of Thorold
- Geospatial Niagara
- HJS Solutions
- Land Care Niagara
- Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
- Niagara College
- Niagara Drowning Prevention Coalition
- Niagara Restoration Council
- Niagara River Remedial Action Plan
- R.V. Anderson

- Town of Lincoln Fire Department
- Town of Lincoln
- Town of Pelham
- Walker Industries
- Various Community Volunteers

Table 3. Number of Festival Volunteers Per Day

Date	Approximate Number of Festival Volunteers*
Tuesday, May 7, 2019	106
Wednesday, May 8, 2019	106
Thursday, May 9, 2019	107
Friday, May 10, 2019	112
	431

** This does not include high school volunteers.*

In total there were **431** volunteers. The Steering Committee appreciates the support of each and every NCWF volunteer.

Secondary School Volunteers

A special thank you to secondary school students from E.L. Crossley, Denis Morris, Sir Winston Churchill, Blessed Trinity, Beamsville Secondary School and Notre Dame who offered their time to assist with the execution of the 2019 NCWF.

Table 4 provides a breakdown of the number of secondary students volunteering at the festival each day.

Table 4. Number of Secondary School Volunteers Per Day

Date	Number of Student Volunteers
Tuesday, May 8, 2019	30
Wednesday, May 9, 2019	29
Thursday, May 10, 2019	38
Friday, May 11, 2019	44
	141

In total there were **141** secondary school volunteers.

7. Student Transportation

School bus transportation was provided by DanNel Coach Lines Company and Student Transportation of Canada (STC). Both vendors have provided excellent service to the NCWF for several years and bookings were divided approximately equally between the two companies.

Table 5 indicates the number of buses required each day of the festival to transport students to and from Ball's Falls Conservation Area.

Table 5. Number of Busses Per Day

Date	Number of Participant Busses	Number of Secondary School Busses	Number of Schools
Tuesday, May 8, 2019	27	1	22
Wednesday, May 9, 2019	30	1	20
Thursday, May 10, 2019	25	2	17
Friday, May 11, 2019	28	2	19
Total	110	6	78

Once again, two bus drop-off/pick-up zones were utilized; the Red/Green Bus Zone located off Sixth Avenue just west of Glen Road and the Blue Bus Zone at the Centre for Conservation. Schools with accessible busses were unloaded and loaded at the main barn. Festival transportation coordinators as well as staff from STC helped ensure the safe and efficient loading and unloading of busses in each bus zone.

Upon arrival at the NCWF, the transportation coordinators directed teachers to a "welcome station" where they were greeted and provided copies of their schedule and a festival map.

8. Risk Management

The committee reviewed and updated the Risk Management Plan that was created in 2018 as appropriate. Due to potential severe weather during one of the festival days, the committee was able to execute the severe weather procedure and identify gaps to be updated in the plan.

The Steering Committee will review and update the Risk Management Plan in preparation for the 2020 NCWF, including new site considerations for the new festival location.

9. Media Coverage

Coverage of the 2019 NCWF included:

- A [Media Release](#) issued by Niagara Region on May 7, 2019
- Media coverage of the [Sponsor Recognition Event](#)
- [Pictures](#) in local paper
- [YourTV feature](#)
- Social media coverage ([Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#))
- Photographers and videographers from Niagara Region

10. Continuous Improvement

The Steering Committee is committed to continuously improving the NCWF to ensure its ongoing success and relevance. The following sections discuss some of the processes utilized to help with continuous improvement.

Steering Committee Debrief

The Steering Committee held a meeting on May 22, 2019. Debrief notes are recorded in the meeting minutes and some of the highlights include:

- The 2019 NCWF was another great success.
- The activity centre list should be reviewed and activity centres should be retired, updated and/or added to ensure new ideas and messaging are included.
- Lunch time for students should be shortened
- Provide further education for volunteers on encouraging parent/teacher involvement
- Update Risk Management Plan based on experience from threat of severe weather

All action items and debrief notes from this meeting will be considered by the Steering Committee as they plan the 2020 NCWF.

Teacher Feedback Surveys

In an effort to continually improve the NCWF, all teachers (179) who attended the festival were invited to complete an online survey following the festival. The Steering Committee appreciates their time and feedback as it is helpful in continuously improving the NCWF. In total, there were 48 respondents and the results are summarized below.

Table 6 presents average scores when teachers were asked to rate various components of the NCWF on scale from 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent).

Table 6. Teacher Survey – Average Ratings on a scale from 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent)

	Average Rating Out of 5
Age appropriateness of activity content	4.6
Relevance of activity content to Grade 3/4 curriculum	4.3
Festival communication	4.8
Helpfulness of staff/volunteers	4.8
Organization of transportation/bussing	5.0
Overall festival organization	4.7

- 75% of respondents had attended the NCWF before.
- 98% indicated they read the Festival Guide prior to attending.
- Some of the favourite activities noted include:
 - Flush the Kids
 - Fire
 - Global Water Race
 - Mad Science
- Several respondents indicated that they believe their students retained key messaging. Some examples include:
 - Students created a poster outlining the importance of water and the many ways people impact water sources.
 - Rolling to the River was an eye opening station for the students as they could visually see the impact of items making their way into our waters. They really liked that station and spoke about it quite a bit afterward.
 - Water safety is definitely something that they learned more about. They will think twice about putting on what they think might be a life jacket and will no doubt inform adults at home if wrong choices are being made.
 - Many of the activities fit directly into both science and social studies curriculums and their experiences were reflected in classroom discussions and activities following our visit to the festival.
- Examples of some additional comments from respondents include:
 - It was a fabulous experience learning through play. My students and I really enjoyed the day. It was very well organized.
 - It was very well organized. The time and effort that went into each centre was amazing. The festival guide allowed me to prepare my students for

what to expect. Staff were well informed and very well prepared for the day.

- Superbly organized. Outstanding volunteers. Fantastic information conveyed.
- My students and I had a great time. We all came home with new knowledge. The workshops were well planned and very informative.
- Covering the busing fees made this event happen for our school
- We thought it was a great hands-on way for our students to learn about water. Everyone was very knowledgeable, friendly and great with the students.

Volunteer Feedback Surveys

In an effort to continually improve the NCWF, all volunteers were invited to complete an online survey following the festival. The Steering Committee appreciates their time and feedback as it is helpful in continuously improving the NCWF. In total, there were 38 respondents and the results are summarized below.

Table 7 presents average scores when volunteers were asked to rate various components of the NCWF on scale from 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent).

Table 7. Volunteer Survey – Average Ratings on a scale from 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent)

	Average Rating Out of 5
Festival communication	4.7
Helpfulness of other staff/volunteers	4.7
Food	4.7
Scheduling	4.7
Overall festival organization	4.8

- 66% of respondents had volunteered in the past
- More than 65% of respondents volunteered as activity centre presenters
- Examples of some of the additional comments from volunteers included:
 - It is a great day. Thank you to all the volunteers who work so hard to make it happen. I had a great time!
 - Thank you for the opportunity to participate, it was an engaging day and I think the children really enjoyed it and learned from the many booths that day.

- As always, it's such a fun, rewarding time for me to serve others and see old friends. The kids have a great time, much laughter coming from the events as I took time to go out into the park. I consider myself fortunate to be a part of the Niagara Children's Water Festival for so many years, and now retired, and still to be needed, does my heart good.

11. Concluding Remarks

Niagara Region successfully hosted the 16th annual NCWF with ongoing support from the Steering Committee partners.

The 2019 NCWF:

- Successfully **taught over 3,600 children about the importance of water** and the environment.
- Was **delivered on budget**.
- Was **well received with excellent feedback** from teachers and volunteers
- Continues to be a **preferred educational field trip** for teachers and students in the Niagara region.
- Was a **great opportunity for Niagara Region** and NCWF Partners to showcase the work they do related to water resources in Niagara.

The NCWF would not be possible without the support of everyone involved. The Steering Committee would like to extend its appreciation to all festival volunteers, high school volunteers, partners, supporting organizations, teachers, parents and students.

We look forward to hosting another successful event in 2020 at our new location- Brock University!

Appendix A. 2019 NCWF Budget



2019 Niagara Children's Water Festival Budget - Summary

SOURCES OF FUNDING

Item	2019 Budget		2019 Actual	
Regional Municipality of Niagara	\$	85,000	\$	85,000
City of St. Catharines Donation	\$	5,000	\$	6,000
OPG Donation	\$	4,000	\$	5,000
Other Sponsors	\$	-	\$	11,750
Grants	\$	5,000	\$	5,000
	\$	99,000	\$	112,750

EXPENDITURES

Item	2019 Budget		2019 Actual	
Service Providers	\$	2,000	\$	2,018
Equipment & Supplies	\$	7,000	\$	4,582
Rentals	\$	5,700	\$	4,990
Promotions and Marketing	\$	5,500	\$	6,018
Tents	\$	25,400	\$	21,938
Transportation	\$	25,000	\$	24,901
Food and Hospitality	\$	7,000	\$	7,263
Health & Safety	\$	1,000	\$	900
Staff Expenses	\$	1,800	\$	473
Miscellaneous	\$	500	\$	-
Site Rental	\$	15,000	\$	20,352
	\$	95,900	\$	93,435
Net Difference	\$	3,100	\$	19,315

Actual amounts include 1.76% net HST.

Appendix B. 2019 NCWF Map



Appendix C. 2019 Sponsors



THANK YOU!

WATERSHED



**TD Friends of the
Environment Foundation**

RIVER



**walker
industries**



**GIBBONS
CONTRACTING LTD.**

CREEK

Alfred Beam Excavating
Bass Pro Shops
Brock University
City of Welland
City of Niagara Falls
Conservation and Parks
Environmental Infrastructure Solutions Inc.
HJS Solutions
Land Care Niagara

Mad Science
Ministry of the Environment
Niagara College
Niagara Drowning Prevention Coalition
Ohnia-kara Aspiring Geopark
(Geospatial Niagara)
Scientists in School
Town of Lincoln
Town of Pelham

ACTIVITY CENTRE SPONSOR

R.V. Anderson

Associated Engineering Ltd.

OUR PARTNERS



MEMORANDUM

PWC-C 21-2019

Subject: Niagara GO Station Strategy

Date: August 6, 2019

To: Public Works Committee

From: Matt Robinson, Director, GO Implementation Office

The attached documents are being provided to PWC for information only.

Together they represent the open session compendium to Confidential Report CSD 17-2019 Niagara GO Station Development Strategy, which are both being considered at Corporate Services Committee August 7, 2019, along with a supporting closed session presentation.

Staff will also deliver the same CSD 17-2019 Niagara GO Station Development Strategy closed session presentation at PWC August 6 for information only.

Respectfully submitted and signed by,

Matt Robinson
Director
GO Implementation Office

Appendix 1: CSC-C 14-2019 Niagara GO Station Strategy

Appendix 2: CSC-C 14-2019 Appendix 1

MEMORANDUM

CSC-C 14-2019

Subject: Niagara GO Station Strategy

Date: August 7, 2019

To: Corporate Services Committee

From: Matt Robinson, Director

This memo provides Committee with the rationale for the proposed Niagara GO Station Development Strategy presented in confidential report CSD 17-2019, which outlines a strategy for Niagara to invest in the GO train station sites along the CN Rail-owned Grimsby Subdivision, also known as the Niagara corridor. The GO Station Development Strategy outlined in CSD 17-2019 will allow Niagara Region and our local municipal partners to fully leverage and maximize the resident and visitor experience at these key gateways by creation of multi-modal mobility hubs. The customer experience is vital to the continued growth of GO Train service in Niagara, the growth of municipal and regional transit, and tourism in the region.

Niagara has taken considerable time and resources in the strategic planning for transit and GO Train service, including establishing premier transit-supportive policy sets to ensure the foundation for future transit growth and that development is clear, focused and appropriate. The following sets out the policy regime already in place to enable and fully leverage investments in station areas in Niagara Region.

The 2017 Niagara Region Transportation Master Plan (TMP) is what guides the Region's transportation capital investments, and creates the blueprint for growth. The TMP presents a long-term strategy to guide the planning, development and renewal of a multi-modal transportation system in a manner that is consistent with projected needs, aligned with the region's growth, and with the overall vision for a sustainable Niagara.

The following foundational policy has provided the direction to invest in the station areas:

"Continue to support the expansion of GO Transit passenger rail service to Niagara Region, and the development/ redevelopment of rail stations to serve as major transit station areas, to support needs of communities along the corridor, and to commuters and tourists moving in both directions between Niagara Region and the GTHA."

This policy clearly demonstrates the strategic planning and critical integration these station areas have in the long-term transportation network and growth of the region. Other initiatives in place that have led to this GO Station Development Strategy as the logical next step in Niagara's GO Expansion Implementation include:

1. Niagara Region Official Plan policy objectives for the urban areas that includes: *“to actively support the continuation and improvement of the railway system for the movement of both passengers and goods”* clearly indicating that Niagara Region has long supported investment in rail as a travel mode for passengers and believes there is an active role for the Region to play in delivery of this objective;
2. Significant investment in transit including seamless connection all 12 of Niagara’s local municipalities, and expansion of transit service hours over the next three years;
3. 2011 “Niagara Rail Service Expansion Environmental Study Report GO Transit” by RJ Burnside which concluded that the existing rail stations were keys to GO’s expansion and that there would be a new station built in Grimsby;
4. Niagara Falls, St. Catharines, Lincoln, Grimsby, and Niagara Region have set out a vision for the station areas through the Secondary Plan process. Unanimously approved and adopted into the respective Official Plans in each community, these transformational GO station area visionary plans laid out the future development, capital improvements and next generation land use around the train station sites, establishing a full suite of transit-supportive policies that enable full maximization of the land densities, station accesses and transportation network upgrades necessary to ensure these stations remain at the core of the transportation network and the areas evolve into dynamic mobility hubs.

Investing in the station areas further enables the implementation of the mobility hub vision by providing integrated transit connectivity and public investment. This investment will act as a catalyst for further development and redevelopment by the private sector in these station areas. The Region is best positioned to fully capitalize on the existing potential of the station areas as transit hubs, which will be a benefit for all parties and future transit users. At Committee of the Whole July 4, 2019, these and other elements of the overall GO Station Development Strategy were presented (attached Appendix 1).

Respectfully submitted and signed by,

Matt Robinson
Director, GO Implementation Office

Appendix 1 – Committee of the Whole Presentation – July 4, 2019: Niagara GO Station Development Strategy



Implementation of Niagara's GO Rail Expansion

Committee of the Whole
July 4, 2019

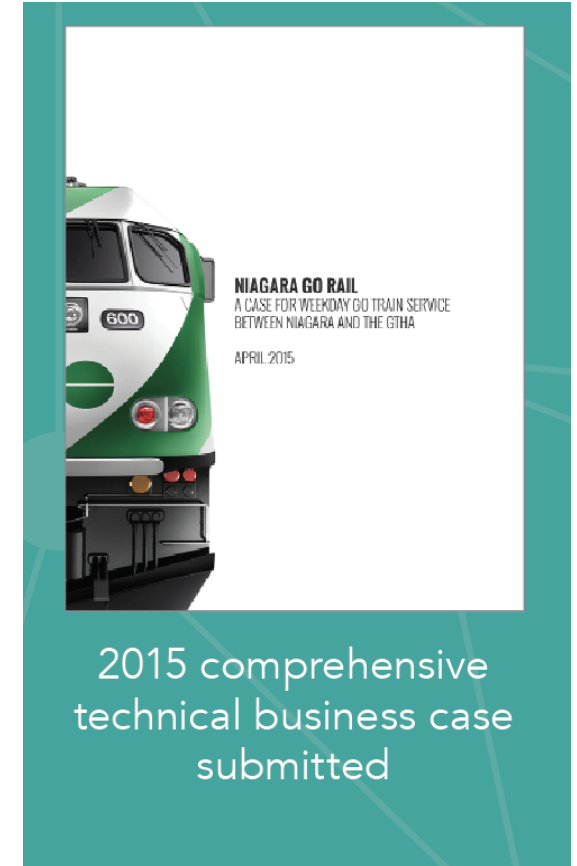
Agenda Overview

- Niagara Region Investment in GO
- Key Milestones
- Policy Framework
- Transit Oriented Development
- GO Hub & Transit Stations Study
- Station Status
- Conclusion and Next Steps

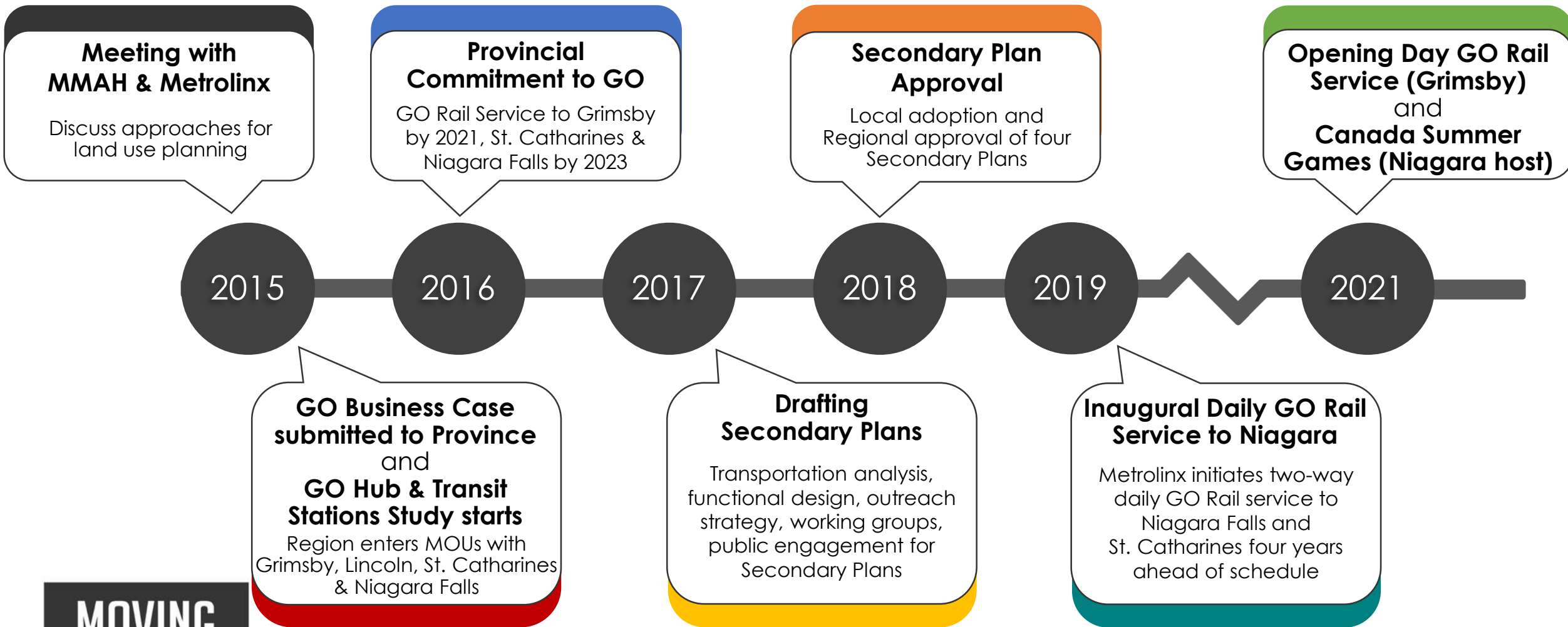


Niagara Region Investment in GO

- 2015 Business Case: Region committed \$40M (1/3 of projected capital costs) to the expansion of GO rail to Niagara
 - \$40M already set aside (2016 - \$10M; 2017 - \$30M)
 - \$34M remains (Grimsby parcel, GIO, consulting, due diligence)
- \$40M contribution as cornerstone of Niagara project expansion
 - Regional contribution = very positive MX and provincial recognition



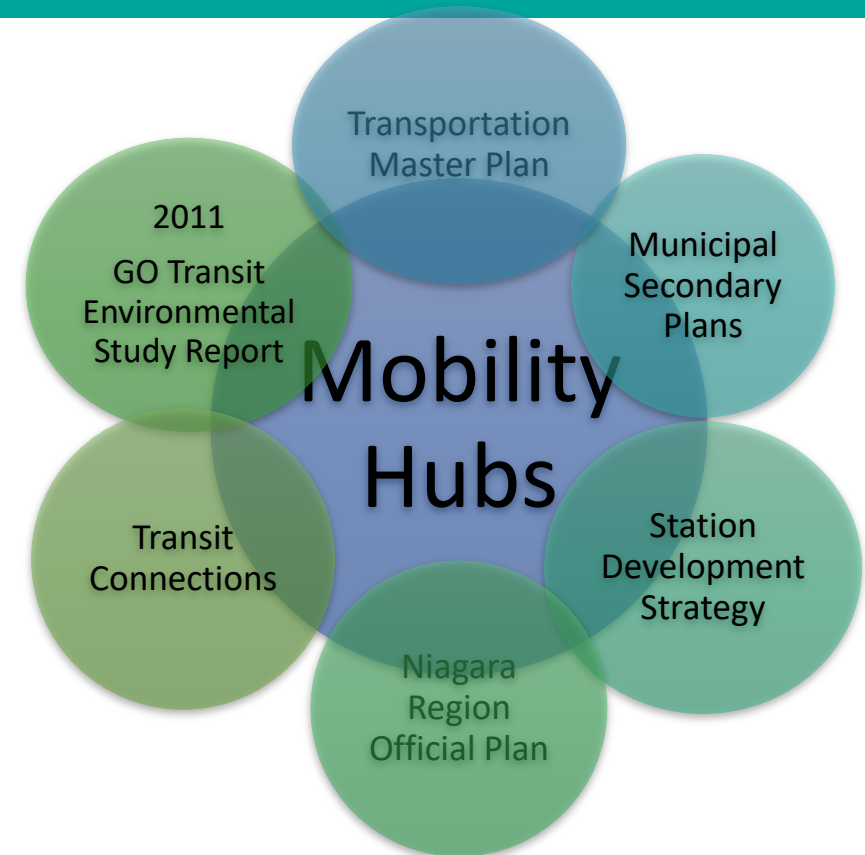
Key Niagara GO Expansion Milestones



Transit-Supportive Policy Framework

Significant investment in creating proactive policy climate for transit-supportive development:

- GO Transit Niagara Expansion EA (2011)
- Niagara Region Official Plan
- GO Hub & Transit Stations Study (2015)
- Transportation Master Plan (2017)
- Municipal Secondary Plans (2018)
- Local Transit Connections (2019)
- Station Development Strategy (2019)



“... the development/redevelopment of rail stations to serve as major transit station areas, to support needs of communities along the corridor...”

- Niagara Region TMP

SEAMLESS MOBILITY



Seamless integration of modes at the rapid transit station.



Safe and efficient movement of people with high levels of pedestrian priority.



A well-designed transit station for a high quality user experience.



Strategic parking management.

PLACEMAKING



A vibrant, mixed-use environment with higher land use intensity.



An attractive public realm.



A minimized ecological footprint.

SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION



Effective partnerships and incentives for increased public and private investment.



Flexible planning to accommodate growth and change.

Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)

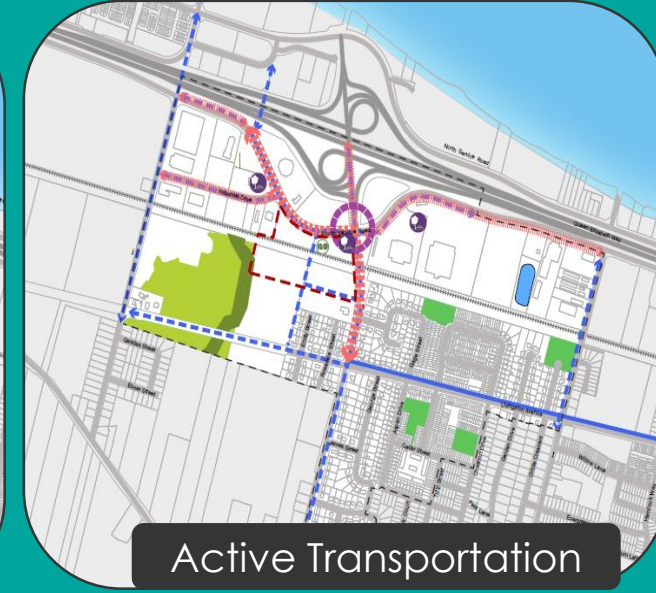
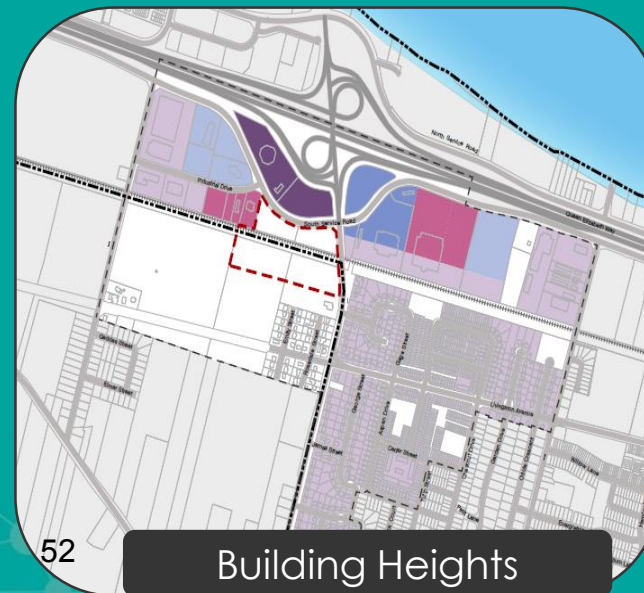
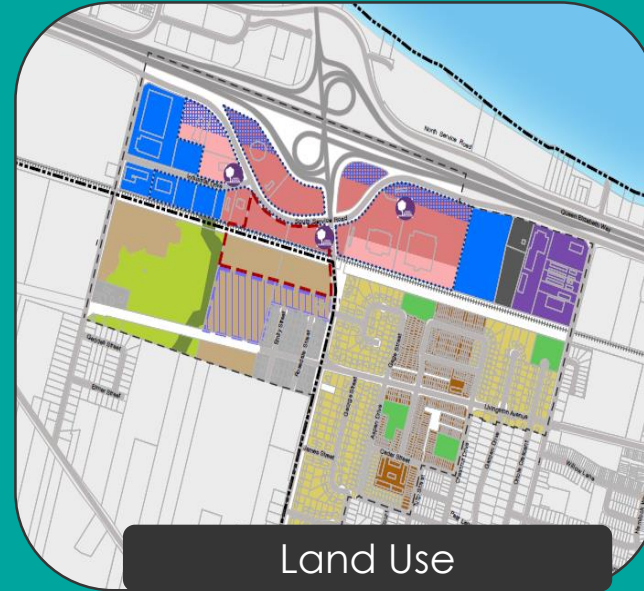
Dec. 2018 - new Provincial approach on GO station delivery (TOD)

- MX focus is operating service going forward
- Third Party 'Market-driven' (municipal, developer, P3, etc.)
- New delivery approach required for Niagara stations
- MX no longer building at Grimsby; not acquiring STC or NF stations
- MX budget containment – investments now focused on 'in-corridor capital improvements' and rail operations (service frequency)



GO Hub & Transit Stations Study

- Proactively identified enabling capital work projects for safe and efficient access to each GO Station
- Developed GO Station design precincts around Niagara's identified GO Station sites
- Land uses that permit transit-supportive development and protect existing neighbourhoods
- Clear direction to budget for and move forward with enabling capital work projects at local and regional levels



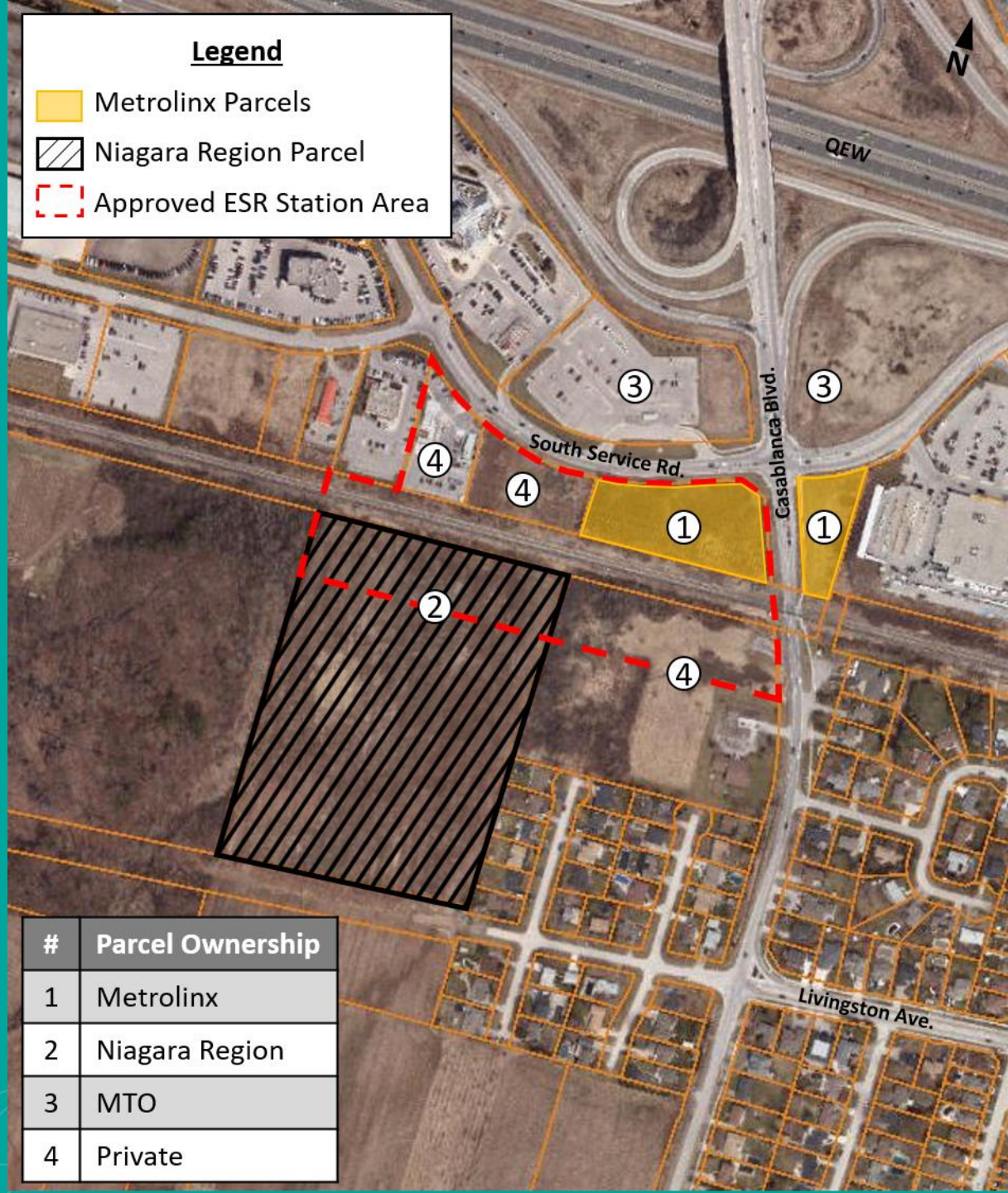
Niagara GO Extension: Current Status

- Grimsby (announced)
 - Subject to Provincial/MX TOD policy
 - New build, greenfield site; MX lands + Regional lands
 - Region acquired 14.2 acres for this express purpose
- Niagara Falls & St. Catharines (in service)
 - Utilizing existing VIA stations
- Lincoln (TBD)
 - 2011 ESR 'future potential station'
 - Opportunity to proceed under Provincial/MX TOD policy



Grimsby GO Station

- 2011 MX EA identified station area
 - Station area included parking, bus loop, and PPUDO facilities on all of the lands identified as station area
- Region land purchase – start of proactive implementation strategy
- Proactive, comprehensive secondary plan
- Grimsby Council confirms station area
- MX now pursuing “market-driven approach” to station construction
- Casablanca Boulevard/South Service Road reconstruction



St. Catharines GO Station

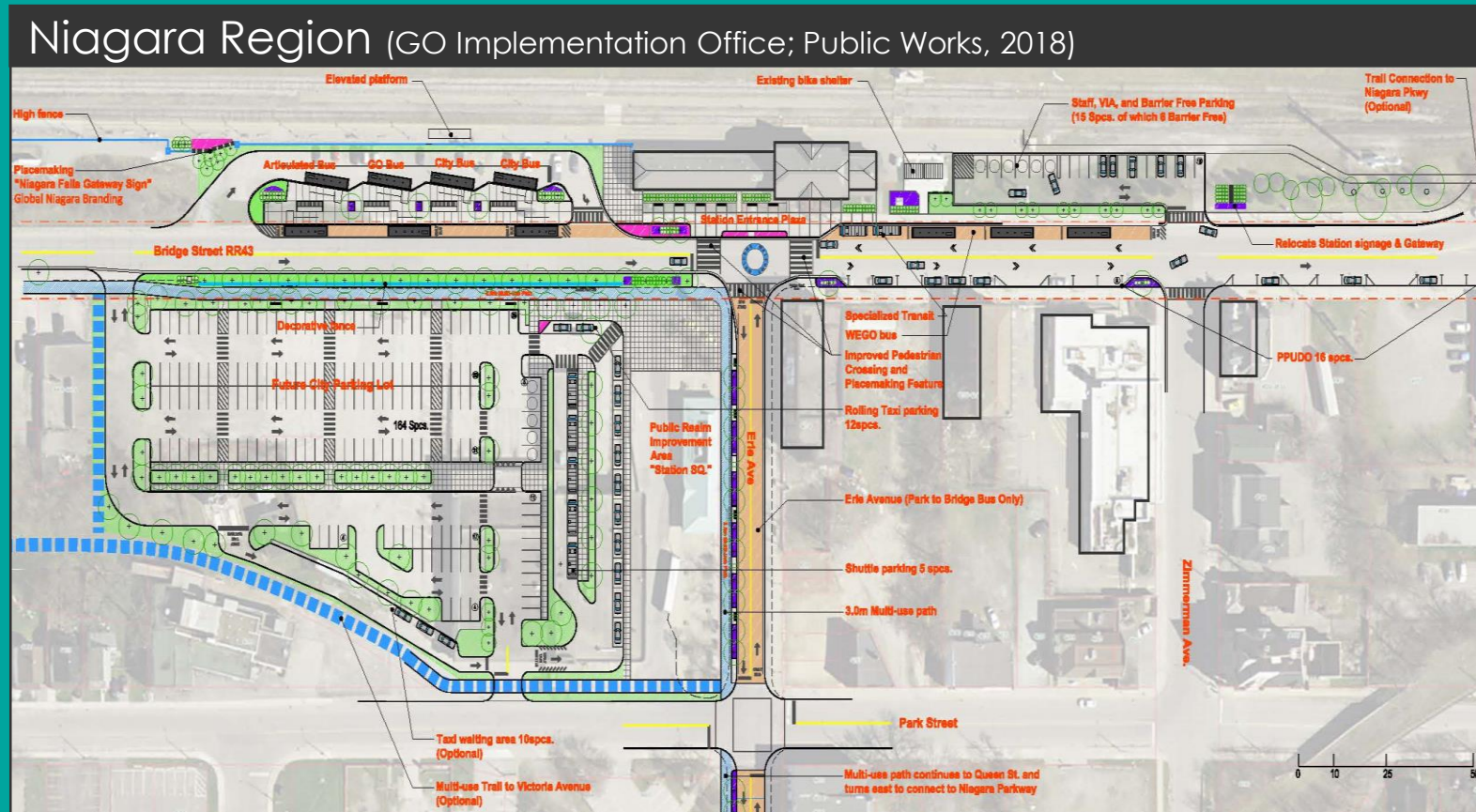
- MX detailed design in progress
- Secondary Plan has VIA station as mobility hub & core of the area
- Opportunity to leverage vacant parcels to create a hub with TOD
- Primary station access road MOU
- City's Ridley Road reconstruction
- St. Paul St. West CNR bridge reconstruction

Metrolinx Functional Design



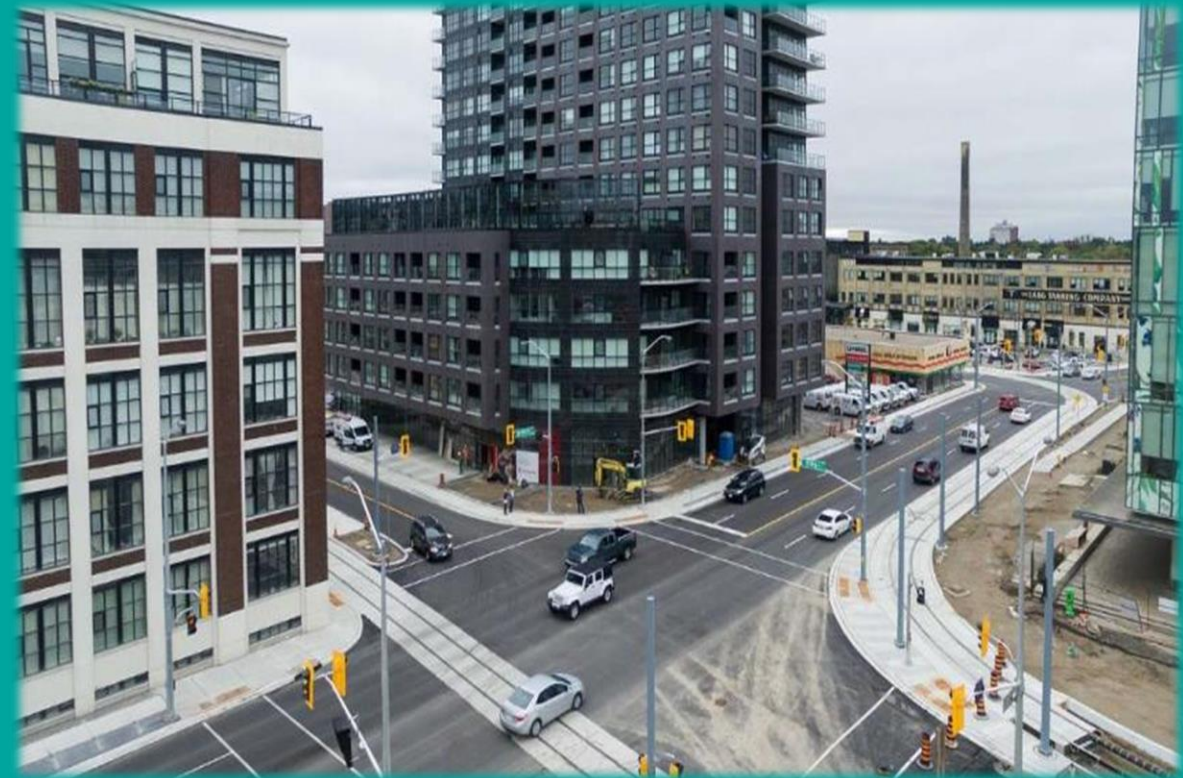
Niagara Falls GO Station Precinct Vision

- Region & City partnered to create transformative vision for Niagara Falls GO Station precinct
- Secondary Plan has station as a mobility hub & core of the area
- Catalyst for development
- All precinct elements identified/recommended within Secondary Plan policy
- Region & City will budget for, coordinate, and implement these elements in upcoming years
- Bridge St. reconstruction



Conclusion/Next Steps

- Municipalities across GGH are **leveraging transit investment to drive growth**
- Transit station areas serve **important function** within regional transportation system
- Current proactive policy framework presents unique opportunity to proactively invest in transportation networks and infrastructure around our GO stations to create vibrant mobility hubs and drive growth
- Niagara Region preparing strategy investment of \$40M existing contribution for Niagara station area improvements as catalyst in establishing true mobility hubs as envisioned in Secondary Plans
- Multi-site station development strategy to Corporate Services in August



Evolving transit hub in Kitchener (GO rail and LRT station)