

**North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority
Members Meeting for October 21, 2026 at 4:00 pm
IN PERSON AND via ZOOM
NBMCA's Marc Charron Boardroom
15 Janey Avenue, North Bay, Ontario**

AGENDA

Procedural Matters

1. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Traditional and Treaty Lands
2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest
3. Per Diem and Mileage Record
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Adoption of Previous Minutes of September 23, 2026 – Page 2
6. Delegations - none
7. Correspondence - none

Business Reports

8. Communications & Outreach – Report #26-COMM-02 – Page 7
9. NEORCA Transition Committee – Page 13

Other Business

10. New Business
11. Closed meeting
 - 11.1. Adoption of Minutes from Closed Meeting of September 23, 2026
 - 11.2. Client privilege includes communications necessary for that purpose and personnel matters about identifiable individuals.
12. Other Business
13. Adjournment

Zoom Link

<https://zoom.us/j/94239770407?pwd=el3CRjbIT6yGZA5Etz5Yn4kmrJiR9P.1>

Meeting ID: 942 3977 0407

Passcode: 663555

North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority

Board of Director's Meeting

Board of Director's Meeting No. BOD-08-26
September 23, 2026
15 Janey Avenue, North Bay, ON P1C 1N1 and Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Member(s) Present (In person)

Calvin, Township of	Bill Moreton
Chisholm, Township of	Nunzio Scarfone
North Bay, City of	Chris Mayne (5:10 pm)
North Bay, City of	Lana Mitchell
North Bay, City of	Peter Chirico

Member(s) Present (Zoom)

East Ferris, Municipality of	Lauren Rooyakkers
Papineau Cameron, Township of	Shelley Belanger
Powassan, Municipality of	Dave Britton

Also Present (In person)

Water Resources Specialist	Angela Mills
Manager, Lands & Stewardship	Christian Standring
General Manager/Manager, DWSP	Liza Vandermeer
Acting Manager, DWSP	Marlene McKinnon
Comms & Outreach Program Specialist	Paula Loranger

Member(s) Regrets

Bonfield, Township of	Steve Featherstone
Callander, Municipality of	Grant McMartin

Mattawa, Town of
Mattawan, Municipality of

Loren Mick
Don Lemaire

1. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Traditional and Treaty Lands

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 pm, and the acknowledgement of Indigenous Traditional and Treaty Lands was read by Peter Chirico.

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

None Declared.

3. Per Diem and Mileage Record

Passed around to all members present.

4. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution #104-26

Moved by Peter Chirico

Seconded by Nunzio Scarfone

THAT the Agenda for the September 23, 2026 meeting of the Board of Directors be approved as amended. Additions/Changes: DWSP update deferred to November SPA meeting. **Carried**

5. Adoption of Previous Minutes of August 26, 2026

Resolution #105-26

Moved by Bill Moreton

Seconded by Lauren Rooyakkers

THAT the Minutes of the August 26, 2026 meeting of the Board of Directors be approved as presented. **Carried**

6. Delegations

None.

7. Correspondence

None.

8. Weather Stations

Angela Mills, Water Resources Specialist, provided an update noting that 15 weather stations have been purchased, with only three left to install across our member municipalities. She demonstrated how to log in and access the data and provided a step-by-step handout for board members to share within their communities. The Board thanked Angela for the update and expressed appreciation for having this information accessible to their communities.

9. Lands & Stewardship

Christian Standring, Manager, Lands & Stewardship gave a verbal update on the achievements of the program. Notes are included in the minutes.

10. Property Security Issues/Neighborhood Complaints

We've received a complaint from neighbors regarding an ongoing issue in the parking lot of 15 Janey Avenue, where teens and young adults have been gathering late at night, causing noise disturbances, property damage, driving erratically and leaving a substantial amount of garbage on the property. Staff will be meeting with North Bay Police, City of North Bay staff, School Board staff, and members of the public to discuss the situation and develop a plan to address these concerns.

11. Finance Verbal Update

Our Manager of Finance has now left to pursue a new opportunity with another employer. We thank him for his contributions and wish him continued success in their future endeavors.

12. NEORCA Transition Committee

The General Manager and Board Chair continue to serve on the transition committee, working collaboratively to ensure all required tasks are completed by the February 1 deadline. As a Confidentiality Agreement has been signed, very few details can be shared publicly at this time. As written updates are provided throughout the NEORCA Transition Committee Process they will be provided to the Board.

13. On-site Sewage System Report

Resolution #106-26

Moved by Shelley Belanger

Seconded by Dave Britton

THAT the Board receives and approves On-site Sewage System Report #26-OSS-02 as presented and append to the minutes. **Carried.**

14. DWSP Update

DWSP verbal update be deferred to the November Source Protection Authority meeting. It was mentioned that it is extremely important to meet quorum at this time, as there is a December 15 deadline to submit the Section 36 update for Minister's approval.

15. New Business

None.

16. Closed Meeting

Resolution #107-26

Moved by Chris Mayne

Seconded by Peter Chirico

THAT the meeting moves into a closed session at 6:24 pm to discuss client privileges including communications necessary for that purpose and personnel matters about identifiable individuals. **Carried.**

Resolution #112-26

Moved by Lauren Rooyakkers

Seconded by Dave Britton

THAT the meeting moves out of the closed session and back into an open meeting at 6:49 pm. **Carried.**

17. Other Business

Resolution #113-26

Moved by Nunzio Scarfone

Seconded by Chris Mayne

THAT the Board re-affirms item #4 (Resolution 100-26) from the minutes of the closed session on August 26, 2026 regarding reconsideration of Resolution #55-26. **Carried.**

18. Adjournment

Resolution #114-25

Moved by Chris Mayne

Seconded by Nunzio Scarfone

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 6:55 pm and the next meeting be held on Wednesday October 14, 2026, or at the call of the Chair. **Carried**

X

Lana Mitchell
Chair

To: The Chairperson and Members of the Board of Directors

Origin: Paula Loranger, Communications & Outreach Program Specialist

Date: October 21, 2026

Report: 26-COMM-02

Subject: Communications & Outreach update

Background:

Communications and outreach are central to the work of the Conservation Authority. The health of our lakes, rivers, forests, and wetlands depends on a community that understands and values them, and outreach is how we turn technical expertise into public awareness and build the trust and relationships that make conservation possible.

Outreach helps residents understand the Authority's role, from flood and erosion mitigation to protecting sensitive habitat and managing our conservation areas. It connects people to the outdoors, fosters stewardship, and allows us to address challenging topics.

Outreach also strengthens our partnerships. Working with municipalities, community organizations, and local groups extends our reach, stretches limited resources, and demonstrates that conservation is a shared effort.

This report highlights the events, partnerships, and community activities the Authority took part in this year.

Many of this year's events were a true team effort. Lands and Stewardship and Communications and Outreach staff worked side by side, with both teams rolling up their sleeves to plant trees, run events, and connect with the community. The collaboration has strengthened both teams and our impact in the community.

Analysis:

Ongoing throughout the year

- Conservation Ontario Social Media Working Group: Participated as part of the provincial working group, sharing ideas and best practices for conservation authority communications.
- Monthly Communications Meetings: Attended monthly meetings hosted by Conservation Ontario with communications, marketing, and outreach staff from all conservation authorities to share successes and training opportunities.
- Community Boards: Served on the boards of Discovery Routes and Clean Green Beautiful, and Canadore College School of Environmental Studies Program Advisory (PAC), strengthening local partnerships.
- Invasive Species Program: Secured two grants to support invasive species work: \$3,500 from the Ontario Invasive Species Centre and \$2,500 from RBC. These funds are to support work on the Chippewa Creek EcoPath.
- Supported DWSP Team at the winter and fall public consultations.
- Completed CAU Training

February

- Home & Garden Expo (Feb. 20-22): Connected with over 500 residents to share information about the Authority's programs and services.



March

- Grant Writing Training (Mar. 10): Completed professional development to support future funding applications.
- Canadore College School of Environmental Studies PAC (March): Contributed as a member of the Program Advisory Committee, helping connect the program with industry needs.

Spring

- Spring Planting with Trees for Nipissing and Clean Green Beautiful: Planted an orchard on the Chippewa Creek EcoPath.



May

- East Ferris Tradeshow (May 23): Engaged with the community and shared information about the Authority's work.

June

- Miskwaadesi Sunrise Ceremony (June 19): Took part in this community ceremony and assisted with set-up.

August

- Louise de Kiriline Festival: Partnered with Friends of Laurier Woods to engage the community in a celebration of nature.
- Digital Accessibility Training: Completed Beyond Compliance: Building Inclusive Communities through Digital Accessibility.

September

- Fall Colours Tour (Sept 18-19, 25-26): Collaborated with Tourism North Bay and Laurentian Ski Hill to encourage community use of the tower during peak fall colours. This event was well attended, and the public was excited to have access to the tower.



- Eau Claire Gorge Conservation Area (Sept 30): The District of Nipissing Paramedic Services and Mattawa Fire Department used the Eau Claire site for training. This showcased the conservation area in a new way, building awareness of the property and strengthening relationships with local emergency services.



October

- Fall Colours Tour (Oct 2-3): Wrapped up the tour's final weekend and the largest turnout (over 200 people).



- Cranberry Festival (Oct 3): Took part in this local community event. We have participated since the festival first started.



- TD Tree Days (Oct. 3): The Authority joined Trees for Nipissing and TD Bank for the 6th annual TD Tree Days planting event in North Bay. Volunteers planted 400 trees and shrubs at Marsh Drive, helping to naturalize the area and create healthier habitat for the community and local wildlife. The event reflects the value of long-term partnerships and community volunteers in advancing our conservation goals.



- Tree Planting in Bonfield (Oct 8): Teamed up with the Township of Bonfield and Trees for Nipissing to replace dead ash trees with 48 new plantings behind the municipal office. This project restores canopy and habitat in a well-used community green space, and shows how partnerships between municipalities, community organizations, and the Authority can get conservation work done efficiently and with lasting local benefit.



- Canadore PAC (October meeting): Participated in the second meeting of the year.

Upcoming

- Invasive Species Information Session: Public education on the impacts of invasive species.
- Citizen Science with the Canadian Ecology Centre (Oct 22-23): Hands-on community science opportunity.
- FLL Judging (Dec 12): Judging the biodiversity-themed challenge. The Authority has served as a judge since the program began 15 yrs ago.

Other

- Guided Walk on Laurentian Community Trails with Baffin, Discovery Routes, and Lefebvre's.

Recommendation/Recommended Resolution:

That the members receive and approve this report as presented.

Northeastern Ontario Regional Conservation Authority (NEORCA)

Transition Committee Progress Update – September 2026

This update provides a high-level summary of activities and outcomes from the inaugural NEORCA Transition Committee meeting held on September 17, 2026.

Transition Committee Membership

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Andrew Marks – Timmins – Councillor• Carl Jorgensen – Conservation Sudbury• Corrina Barrett – Sault Ste. Marie Region Conservation Authority• David Vallier – Mattagami Region Conservation Authority• Lana Mitchell –North Bay – Councillor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Liza Vandermeer – North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority• Marchy Bruni –Sault Ste. Marie – Councillor• Mark Signoretti – Greater Sudbury – Councillor• Tim Commisso – NEORCA Project Executive / Chair of Transition Committee
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Key Highlights

- Transition Committee Terms of Reference including governance structure and mandate were reviewed.
- Relationship between the province-wide transition framework, NEORCA regional workplan, Go-Live Plan and broader transition planning activities were discussed.
- Priority workstreams (6) and detailed transition readiness activities were identified.
- Development of a Key Decision Summary document (to be developed by Project Executive) to be used to support ongoing Transition Committee management and governance oversight was introduced.

Major Milestones Achieved

- Inaugural NEORCA Transition Committee meeting was successfully completed.
- Governance, reporting and oversight approaches were introduced.
- Meeting schedule established through the balance of the Go-Live February 1, 2027, planning period.

Upcoming Priorities

- Advance transition planning across all workstreams.
- Continue readiness planning toward February 1, 2027 Go-Live.
- Refine governance and reporting processes as transition activities mature.

Transition Committee Meeting Schedule

October 15, 2026 (Virtual Teams)

November 12, 2026 (Virtual Teams)

December 10, 2026 (Virtual Teams)

January 14, 2027 (Virtual Teams)

Looking Ahead

The Transition Committee remains focused on ensuring the successful establishment of the Northeastern Ontario Regional Conservation Authority (NEORCA) and readiness for the February 1, 2027, Go-Live date.

Contact: Tim Commisso, Project Executive (437-992-5951)