



Island Lake Conservation Area

Stakeholder Advisory Committee

January 27th 2016



Outline

- Welcome and Introductions
- Meeting #1 Review
- Terms of Reference
- ILCA – Background Overview
- SAC Roles
- Questions and Answers



Meeting Review

November 25, 2015 – Meeting Minutes

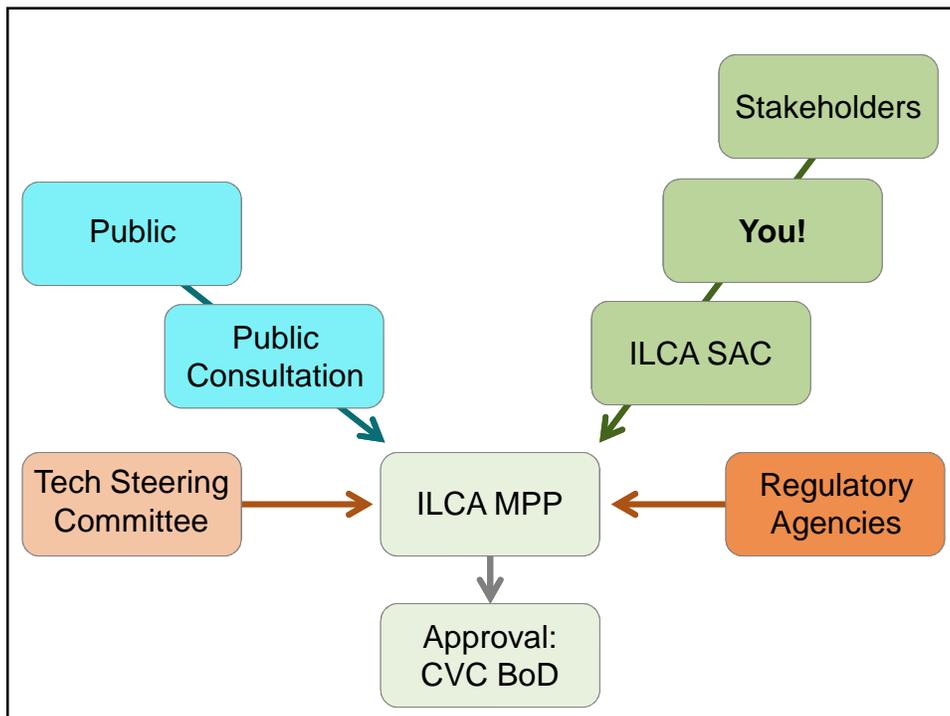
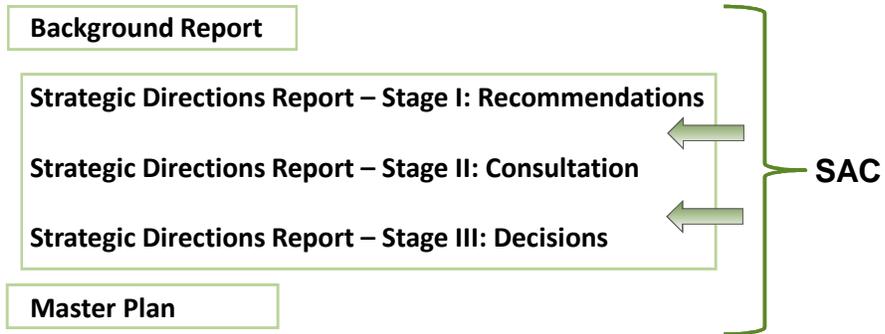


Meeting #1

- Welcome!
- Master Plan Process
- Role of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee
- *What Island Lake Means to Me*



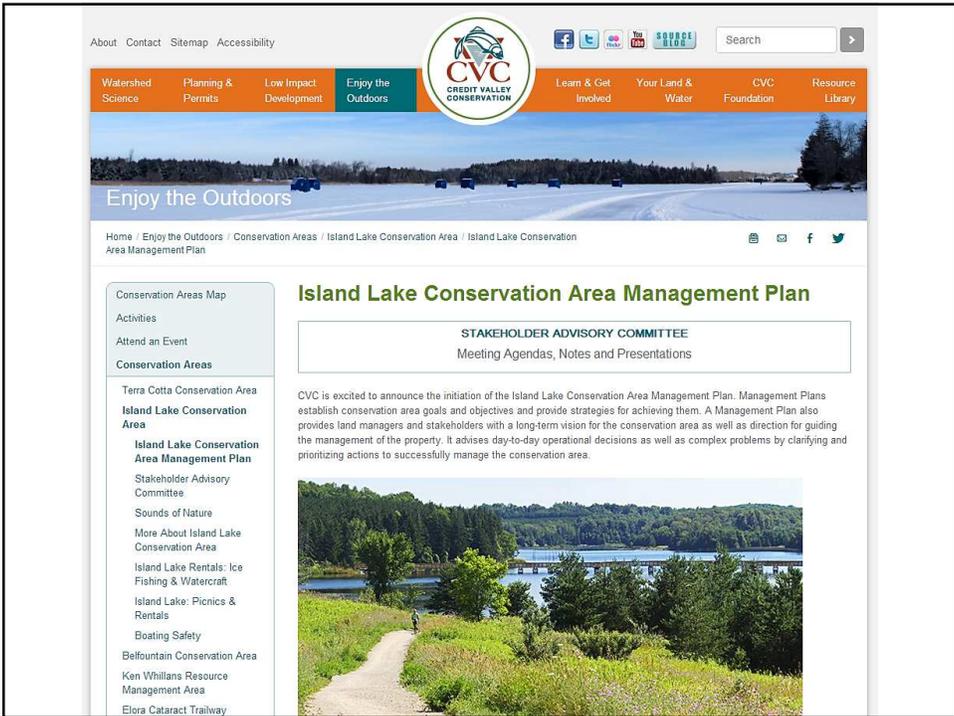
Master Plan Process





SAC Expectations

- Participate in SAC meetings and provide your opinion
 - SWOT analysis, idea generation, visioning
- Complete questionnaires and feedback forms
- Review reports and recommendations
 - Provide comments and feedback
- Feedback loop with the organization/group that you are representing
- Our gratitude! – and knowing that you helped shape the future of ILCA



The screenshot shows the CVC website with a navigation menu and a main content area. The main content area features a large image of a snowy landscape with the text "Enjoy the Outdoors". Below this is a breadcrumb trail: "Home / Enjoy the Outdoors / Conservation Areas / Island Lake Conservation Area / Island Lake Conservation Area Management Plan". The main heading is "Island Lake Conservation Area Management Plan". Below the heading is a box for the "STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE Meeting Agendas, Notes and Presentations". A paragraph of text explains the purpose of the Management Plan. To the right of the text is a photograph of a scenic lake view with a path leading to the water. A sidebar on the left contains a list of links for various conservation areas and activities.

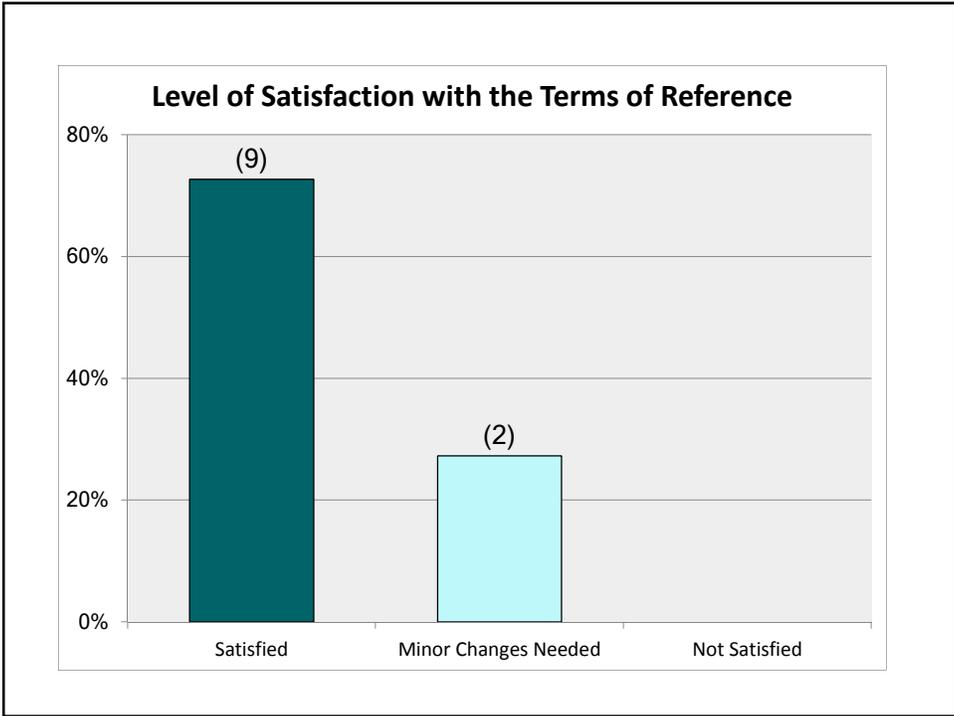


SAC Terms of Reference



Terms of Reference Survey

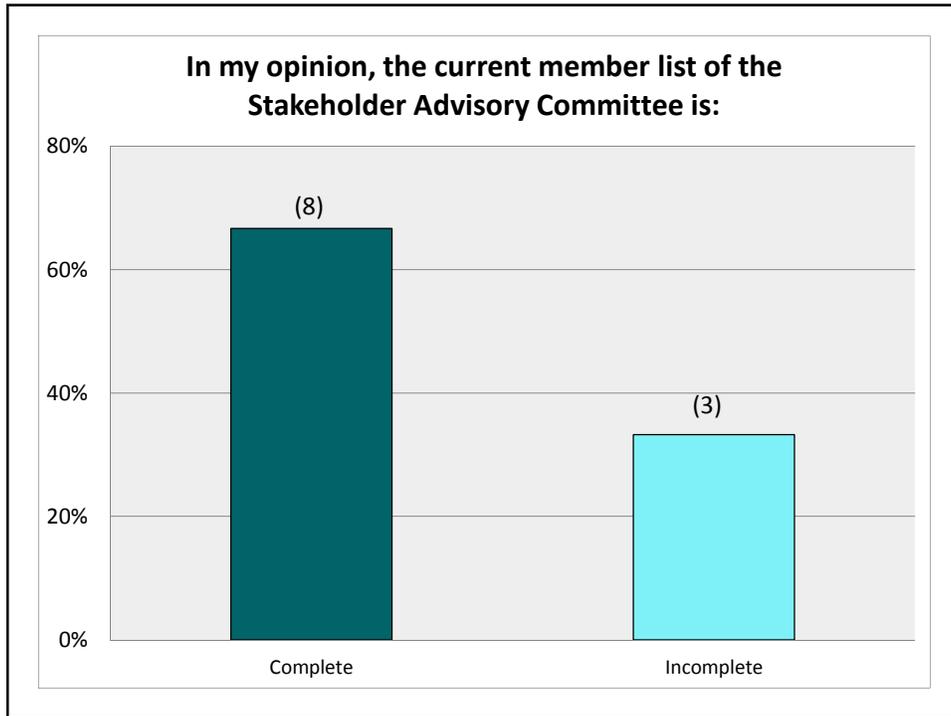
- Thank you to everyone who completed the survey!
- Important to have a Terms of Reference that everyone understands
- Eleven responses received





Level of Satisfaction with Terms of Reference

- I understand the purpose of the SAC (100%)
- I agree with the roles of the SAC (100%)





SAC Membership Comments

- *Presently there are only representatives from the two local Rotary Clubs and the Orangeville Lions. Were the other clubs in town invited and chose not to participate?*
- *I assume this means the list of groups that were invited, not those that agreed to participate since you can't force people to join if you don't want*
- *Optimist Club of Orangeville*
- *Aboriginal Representation*



SAC Membership

- 38 stakeholders were contacted; 28 groups accepted the invitation or asked to be kept up to date on the initiative
- Only clubs and organizations that were some how connected to ILCA or were identified as having a potential interest in the master plan, were contacted
- Aboriginal groups were contacted, notified of the project (and SAC) and asked how they would like to be engaged in the process



Membership

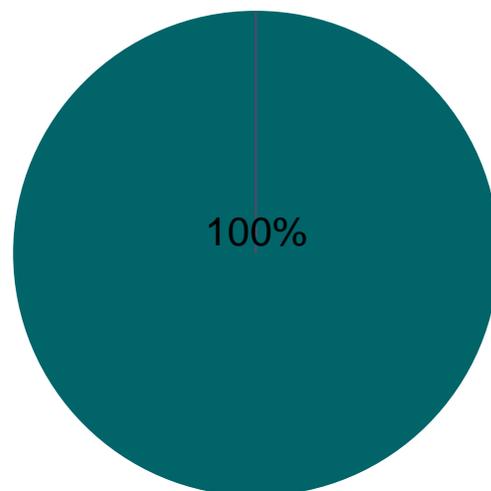
- Access Orangeville
- Arts and Culture Committee (ToO)
- Caledon Hills Bruce Trail Club
- CVC Board of Directors
- CVC
- Dufferin County
- Dufferin County Forest
- Friends of Island Lake
- Dufferin Board of Trade
- Headwaters Community in Action
- Headwaters Streams Committee (ToM)
- Heritage Orangeville
- Heritage Advisory Committee (ToM)
- Hills of Headwaters Tourism Association
- Island Lake Rowing Club
- Ministry of Tourism, Culture & Sport
- Nottawasaga Valley CA
- Ontario Parks
- Orangeville Business Improvement Area
- Orangeville Lions Club
- Orangeville Sustainability Action Team
- Orangeville Recreation Committee
- Rotary Club of Orangeville
- Rotary Club of Orangeville Highlands
- Theatre Orangeville
- Town of Mono
- Town of Orangeville
- Upper Grand District School Board
- Upper Credit Field Naturalists



SAC Membership

- Future public consultations will be open to the public; everyone is invited to attend

Is it reasonable to request that Members do not miss more than 3 meetings without cause?

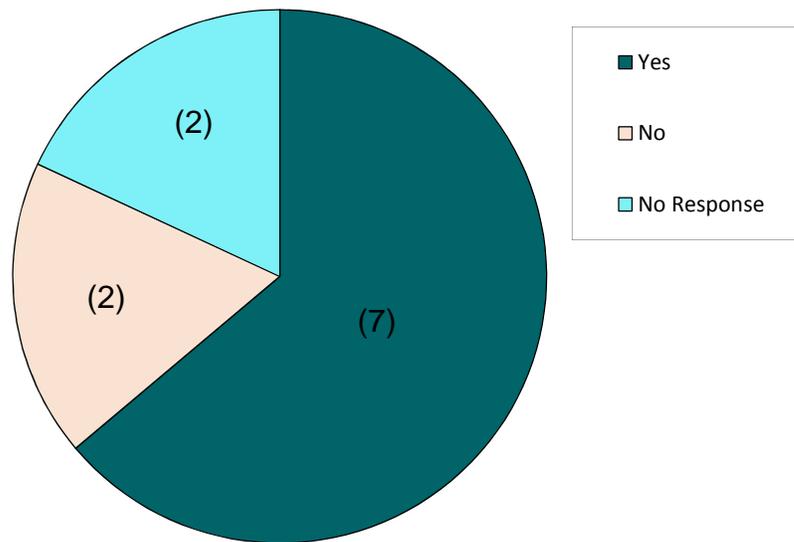




What constitutes 'Cause'?

- Three consecutive meetings with no communication (~ 6 months)
- Lack on input into planning process
- Don't want to acknowledge a group or individual that may not agree with, or had no input in developing, the final plan

Do you agree that One (1) Group member shall be listed as the primary Attendee, with an optional Alternate designate to attend meetings in case of absence.





Attendee Representation - Comment

- *If using alternates, the alternates should be fully abreast of the business of the SAC. That would require a much greater commitment by my organization. Not sure if we would be able to commit 2 people to the project.*
- *I think it is important to have both the main contact and the alternate at every meeting*



Attendee Representation

- Single representative to attend:
 - Ensure fairness and equality for all groups
 - Accurately reflected in comments (SWOT, Visioning exercise, etc.)
- Alternates are optional



Attendee Representation

- Alternates are not distributed meeting invitations, agendas or minutes
- Expectation is that the main contact will distribute materials to their organization as relevant (and vice versa)



Term of Membership

- Terms of Reference identifies a 24 month term (the survey incorrectly described it as an 18 month term)
- No concerns were identified



Meeting Location

- Meeting location will likely continue to change based on availability and meeting content
- Education Centre at ILCA, Monora Park, 55 Zina St.
- Meeting time will be between **6pm and 9pm**.



Email as the Preferred Option for Correspondence

- Email is the preferred option for most
- If you prefer another option (mail, etc.), please let me know



Additional Comments

- *A guided site tour by knowledgeable people would be very helpful – in the spring*
- *I would like to see the “principles of behaviour” (everyone has wisdom...etc.) that were outlined at the first meeting added to the ToR*



Correspondence and Reporting

- Main CVC Contact for SAC is: Laura Rundle
- All meeting agenda's, minutes, and project materials will be sent to SAC members via email.
- All project materials, including SAC meeting materials, will be posted on CVC's Website

<http://www.creditvalleyca.ca/enjoy-the-outdoors/conservation-areas/islandlake-conservation-area/island-lake-management-plan/>



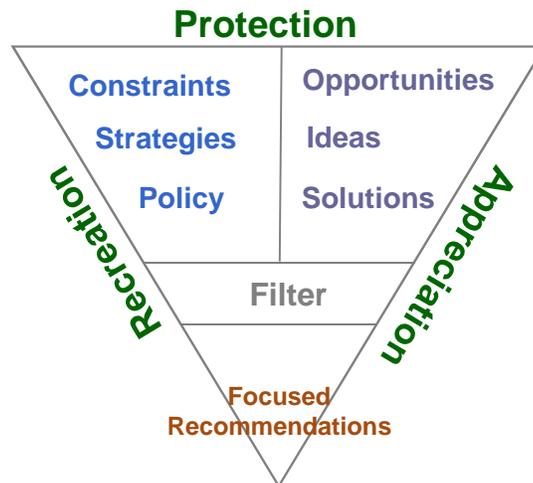
1997 Management Plan Overview



1997 Management Plan - Goal

Island Lake is a recreation class conservation area that will be managed cooperatively as a financially self sustaining site that protects, enhances and promotes understanding of the conservation area's natural systems; provides appropriate outdoor recreation opportunities; and adds to the local economy of the headwaters through tourism initiatives.

Conservation Areas Strategy



Conservation Area Classification

Recreation Class

These are conservation areas that provide the best of the Authority's recreational environments. In general, they are suitable for moderate to high intensity outdoor recreation activities that are linked to the conservation areas natural setting. Management will be directed toward developing and operating sustainable outdoor recreation programs.



Conservation Area Objectives

- 1. Protection:** to protect and enhance the significant and representative values of the conservation area's natural features and functions through an active program of selective monitoring and resource management
- 2. Appreciation:** to create opportunities for and promote an understanding of the conservation area's natural features and functions including the relationship they have with the watershed's ecosystem, the stresses placed on them by natural and human processes and the resource management programs implemented to protect and enhance them.



Conservation Area Objectives

- 3. Recreation:** to provide opportunities and facilities for a variety of outdoor recreational pursuits that are accessible to all genders, ages and abilities; high in quality; financially self-sufficient; environmentally sustainable; promote four season use; and link with local initiatives.
- 4. Tourism:** to support and actively participate in local economic development by encouraging tourism use of the conservation area; promoting local goods, services and facilities; and encouraging development of the tourism infrastructure for the headwaters



1997 Management Plan - Priorities

CVC's first priority is the continued management of the reservoir system for protection of the Credit River's water quality. This is achieved by providing a consistent flow of water to the river for the purpose of diluting effluent from the Sewage Treatment Plant. All other functions served by the reservoir including recreational and educational uses are of secondary priority.



1997 Management Plan Evaluation

- Contains specific objectives and policies
- Identified general recommendations for operations
- Identified possible activities that "should be investigated further" for certain areas



1997 Management Plan Evaluation

- 8.1. “To rehabilitate or restore degraded, threatened or unstable environments and create diverse habitat for a range of plant and animal species”
 - Where?
 - When?
 - How?



1997 Management Plan Evaluation

- Restoration Plan identifying:
 - What restoration activities will take place where (planting plans, how invasives will be managed, etc.)
 - Who will lead the project, how much will it cost



1997 Management Plan Evaluation

- 8.6. “Any portion of the lake system identified as being over stressed from use or requiring protection of significant species or communities will be closed for use.”
 - How will this be determined?
 - What does the monitoring program look like?
 - What does the implementation look like?



1997 Management Plan Evaluation

- Policies and recommendations identifying:
 - How the fishery will be monitored
 - How implementation of adaptive management may take place



1997 Management Plan Evaluation

Section	Objective	Achieved?	Still Relevant?
8.2	The Fall waterfowl hunt will be phased out as other uses recommended in the plan are implemented. In the interim, the ban on lead shot will be continued.	Yes	No
6.2	Conservation Area general public programs focusing on natural and cultural heritage themes will be implemented regularly.	Subjective	Yes
8.3	Enhancement or creation of terrestrial corridors will be actively pursued in all locations of the conservation area including development zones.	Unsure	Yes
9.8	...the Island Lake Perimeter Lake Trail is to be developed...	Yes	Yes
6.3	Recreational activities will only be developed for defined target audiences that will sustain use over time.	Unsure	Unsure



Background Report Findings

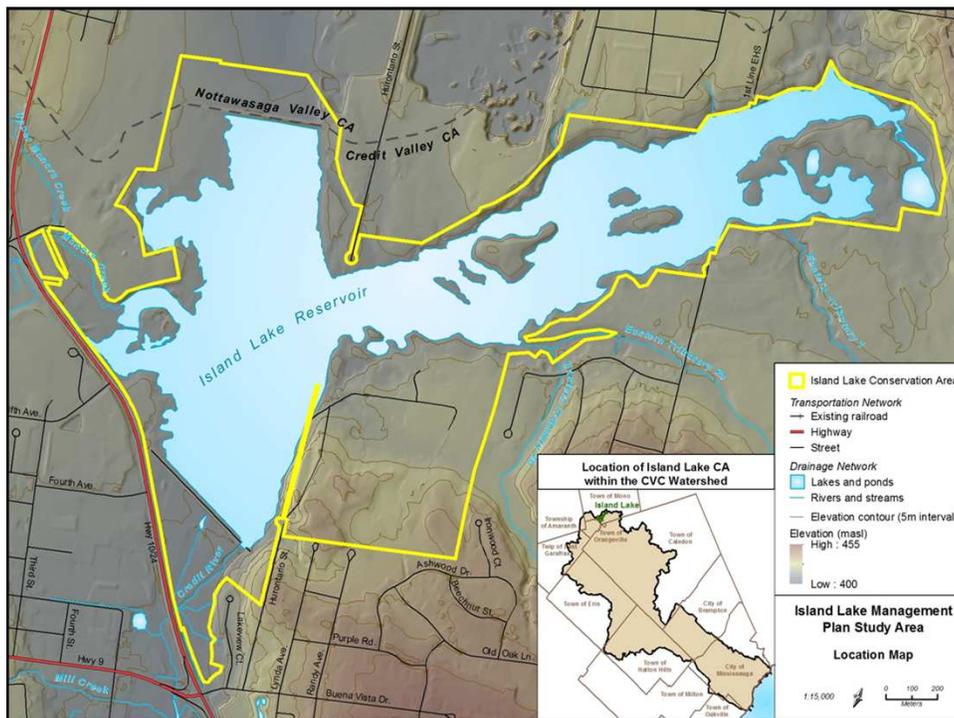
Preliminary Findings



A Background Report:

- Describes natural, cultural and social environments
- Describes federal, provincial, municipal and CVC policies, plans, strategies and legislation and how each influence the property
- Summarizes opportunities and constraints
- Outlines preliminary recommendations

The background report informs the vision, goals, objectives and strategic directives determined in the second phase of the management plan process



Cultural Heritage

Cultural Heritage



Moffat Farmhouse in approximately 1972

- rich history in the early settlement was largely influenced by the Toronto Grey and Bruce Railway
- study area was farmed with the exception of the lower wet areas that is now Island Lake
- little is known about the Aboriginal occupation of the landscape

Cultural Heritage

- No known archeological sites registered within study area
- archaeological potential may still exist in areas adjacent to reservoir
- property demonstrates high potential to encounter cultural heritage resources in areas adjacent to reservoir



Dam and Reservoir, 1969 (Dufferin Archives)

Natural Heritage

Geology and Hydrogeology

- 3 different bedrock formations: the Queenston Formation, the Clinton-Cataract Group and the Amabel Formation
- a bedrock aquifer located in the Amabel Formation provides water to surrounding communities
- water quality and quantity are very important due to reliance on groundwater in this area
- Island Lake is an important groundwater recharge source for this area



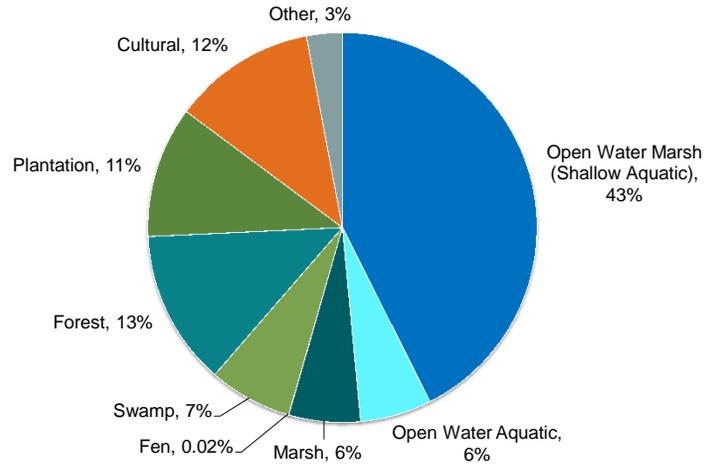
Geology and Hydrogeology

- ILCA is located in the Horseshoe Moraines physiographic region, characterized by north-south trending ridges of sand and silt glacial deposits
- Credit River floodplain and ILCA mainly consist of sand and gravel from glacial streams
- area overlays a significant bedrock valley, which extends through the subwatershed in a north-south orientation



Example of Deposit at Craig Pit, North of ILCA

Vegetation Communities



Forests

Approximately 13% is natural forest;

- Deciduous Forest (7%)
- Mixed Forest (3%)
- Coniferous Forest (3%)

Many are considered Significant Woodlands under the Greenbelt Plan (2005).



Wetlands

Approximately 56% is wetland;

- Marsh (49%)
- Swamp (7%)
- Fen (0.02%)

47% of ILCA is within Provincially Significant Orangeville Wetland Complex

A small floating fen is considered a rare habitat type in Ontario.



Biological Inventory

- 429 Plant Species
 - 61 Regionally Rare
 - 74 Locally Rare
 - 107 Non-native
- 10 Mammals
- 130 Birds
- 9 Amphibians, 5 Reptiles
- 25 Butterflies, 25 Dragonflies, 10 Damselflies
- 32 Fish



Pitcher Plant (Jon Clayton)

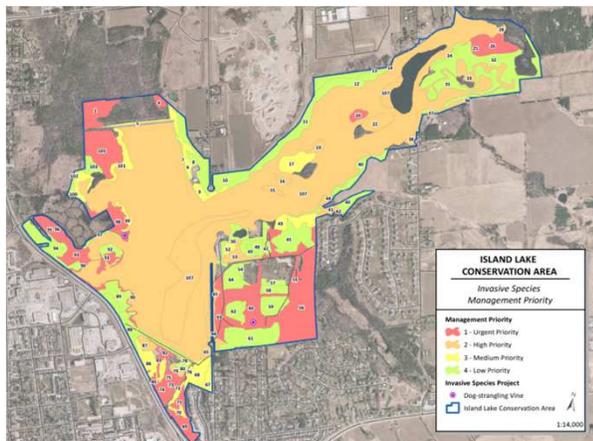
Species at Risk

Of the almost 700 species identified at ILCA, 12 are at risk!

- 8 birds
- 2 reptiles
- 1 plant
- 1 insect



Invasive Species



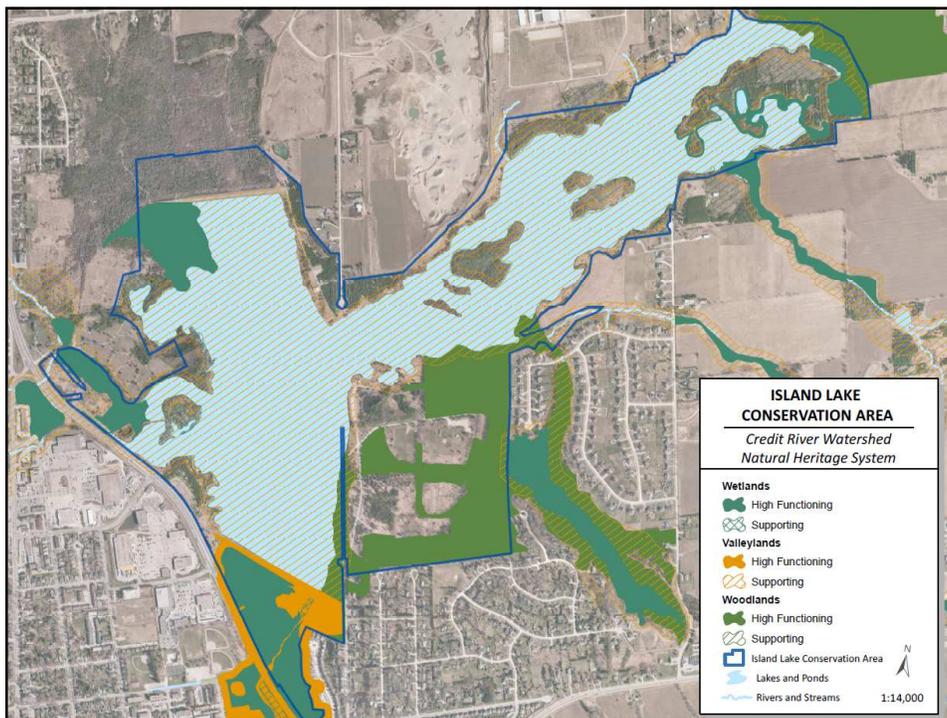
- Dog Strangling Vine
- Common Reed
- Glossy Buckthorn
- Purple Loosestrife
- Garlic Mustard



Significant Wildlife Habitat

Significant Wildlife Habitat Criteria	Confidence Level
Seasonal Concentration Areas	
Waterfowl Nesting Habitat	Candidate
Waterfowl Stopover or Staging Areas (Aquatic)	Confirmed
Migratory Shorebird Stopover Areas	Probable
Rare Vegetation Communities or Specialized Habitats for Wildlife	
Rare Vegetation Communities	Confirmed
Amphibian Breeding Habitat (Forested Sites)	Confirmed
Amphibian Breeding Habitat (Non-forested Sites)	Probable
Turtle Nesting Areas	Confirmed
Habitat for Area-sensitive Species - Forest Interior Breeding Bird Species	Probable
Habitat for Wetland Breeding Bird Species	Probable
Raptor Nesting Habitat (Raptors associated with wetlands, ponds and rivers habitats)	Confirmed
Raptor Nesting Habitat (Raptors associated with woodland habitats)	Confirmed
Habitats for Species of Conservation Concern	
Species Identified as Nationally Endangered or Threatened by COSEWIC which are Not Listed as Endangered or Threatened under Ontario's Endangered Species Act	Confirmed
Species Identified as Special Concern Based on Species at Risk in Ontario List that is Periodically Updated by OMNRF	Confirmed
Species that are Listed as Rare (S1-S3) or Historical in Ontario Based on Records Kept by the Natural Heritage Information Centre	Confirmed
Species that are rare with the Regional Municipality of Peel or Town of Caledon	Confirmed
Animal Movement Corridors	
Corridors and Linkages	Confirmed

- 11 confirmed
- 4 probable
- 1 candidate



Infrastructure & Programming

Infrastructure

Rental Centre	Gatehouse
Workshop Building	2 Office Trailers
3 Washroom Buildings	1 Storage Trailer
Education Centre	2 Pavilions
Rowing Club Building	Amphitheatre
2 Dams	Sugar Shack
Dam Control House	



Infrastructure



- 13 kms of trail incl. 2.2 kms of boardwalk
- 268 unique signs
- Memorial Forest art installations
- 28 benches
- 5 ha of manicured open space
- 1.9 kms of roads
- 5 parking lots for appr. 280 vehicles
- 8 Kiosks

Recreation

- One of the CVC's largest and most active conservation area's
- Recreation and appreciation programs strongly influenced by reservoir
- Most important recreational lake fishery in the watershed



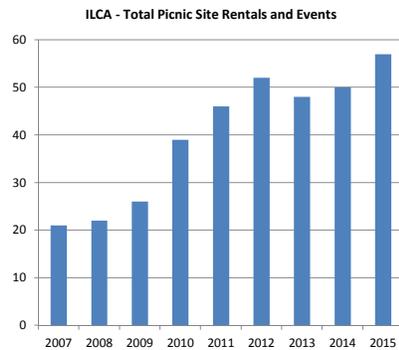


Recreation

Fishing	Hiking	Nature Appreciation
Boating	Cycling	Photography
Windsurfing	Cross-country Skiing	Self-guided interpretive hikes
Canoeing	Snowshoeing	Paddle Boarding
Kayaking	Skating	



Recreation



2014 STATS

- 36% of revenues were from day use fees
- 98% of rental and event revenues were from picnic reservations

Special Events

CVC and Partner Events

- Ice Fishing Derby
- Family Fishing Weekends
- Sugarbush Maple Syrup Festival
- FOIL Bass Derby
- Dods & McNair Memorial Forest Service
- Charity Runs
- Yoga/Art in the Park



Education

- Upper Grand District School Board programs
- CVC staff support Water Study and Maple Syrup Programs
- Sugarbush Maple Syrup Festival in March
- Summer Eco-camp for 2 weeks led by third-party
- 12 interpretive panels along trail system



Conservation Area Visitors

Conservation Area Visitors





1. Winter Day-Use Visitor

- Primarily visits in winter season
- Visits in groups of two (34%) or alone (27%), likely to visit with young children
- Male (89%)
- Aged: 35-49 (33%)
- Travelling from: Orangeville (25%), Brampton (15%), Mississauga (10%)
- Primary activity: Fishing (88%)
- Main Reason for Visiting: Proximity to home (56%), Ice Conditions (15%)
- Facility Rank: Highly for Customer Service (93%), Parking Lots (78%), Rental Shop (75%)



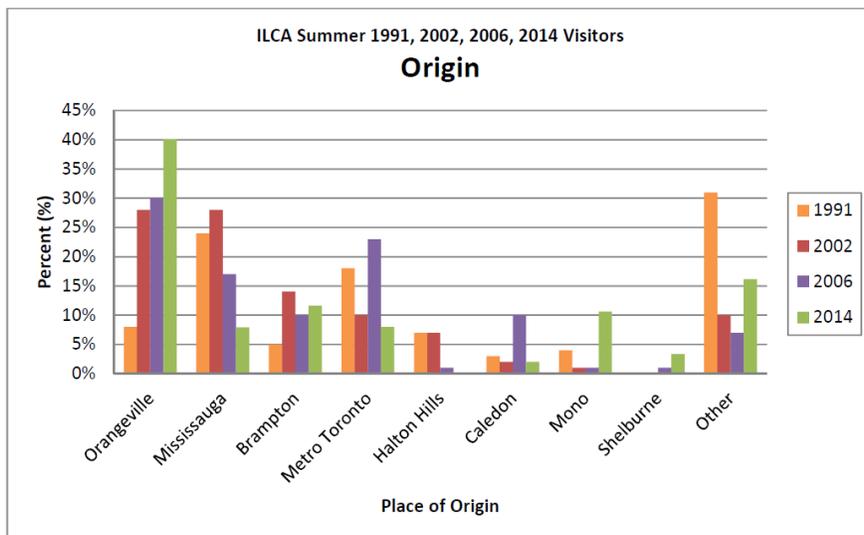
2. Summer Day-Use Visitor

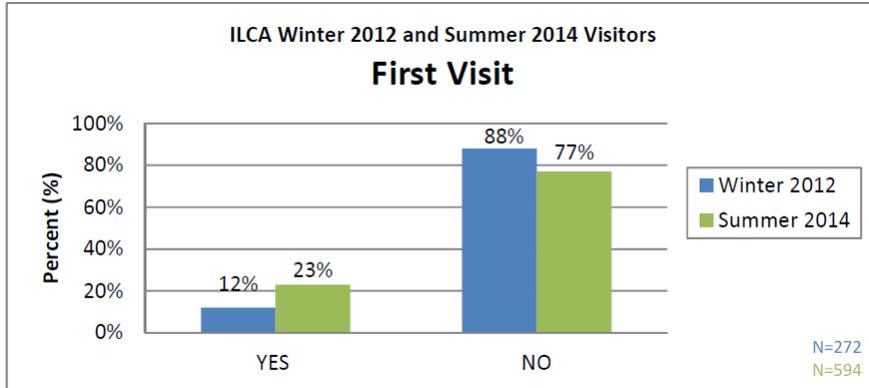
- Visits in groups of two (44%) or alone (23%), most likely to visit with young children
- Male (54%)
- Aged 35-39 (14%), 40-44 (13%)
- Travelling from: Orangeville (40%), Brampton (12%), Mississauga (11%)
- Visits mostly in Summer and Spring
- Primary Activity: Fishing (37%), Hiking (26%)
- Main Reason for Visiting: Proximity to home (31%), Activity Based (19%)
- Facility Rank: Highly for Hiking Trails (79%) Parking Facilities (71%), Customer Service (69%)



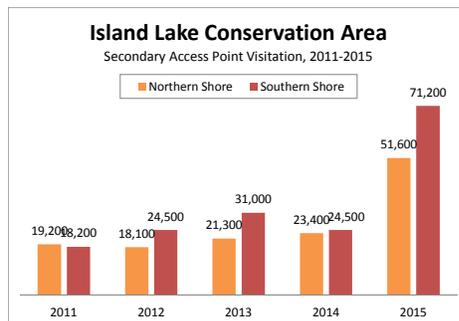
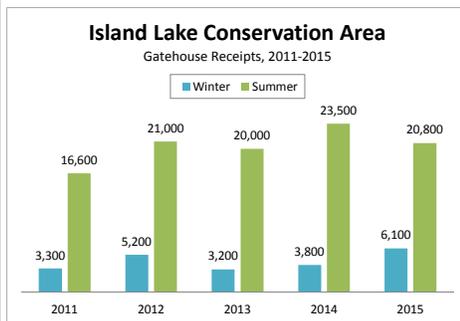
3. Routine Year-Round Visitor

- Visits in groups of two (48%) or alone (33%), least likely to visit with children
- Female (58%)
- Aged 50-54 (14%), 45-49 (14%)
- Travelling from: Orangeville (58%), Mono (20%)
- Visits mostly in Spring, Summer and Fall
- Primary activity: Hiking (56%), Exercising (17%), Dog walking (15%)
- Main Reason for Visiting: Proximity to Home (31%), Great Area to Visit (27%)
- Facility Rank: Highly for Hiking Trails (98%), Trail Signage (77%), Parking Facilities (55%)





Visitor Numbers

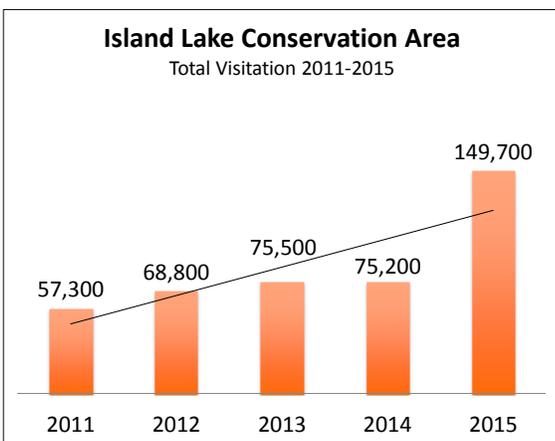


*Does not include, school groups or special events (Maple Syrup Festival or Memorial Forest Service)



Visitor Numbers

Island Lake Conservation Area
Total Visitation 2011-2015



	CA Visitation	% Change
2011	57,392	-
2012	68,858	19.97%
2013	75,531	9.69%
2014	75,201	-0.40%
2015	149,700	99.1%



Visitor Numbers

Island Lake Conservation Area
Visitation along the Vicki Barron Lakeside Trail





Visitor Numbers - Summary

2014 Statistic	Gatehouse	IL – South Shore	IL – North Dam
Annual Visitation	27,300	24,500	23,400
Average Daily Visitors	~82	~67	~64
Busiest Day of 2014	n/a	2014-09-28	2014-08-25
Busiest Month	August	June	June
Busiest Month on Record	August (2014)*	August (2013)	June (2014)
Busiest Time of Day	n/a	2:00 PM	10:00 AM
Busiest Day of the Week	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday
Most Popular Activity	Fishing	Walking	Walking



Economic and Social Benefits



Economic & Social Benefits

Total Economic Value considers the value of a natural resources and its total value based on a variety of market and non-market benefits...

- revenue generation
- ecological goods and services
- health and well-being



Economy

- ILCA generated ~\$325,000 in revenue in 2014
- ILCA employs 7 FT* staff, 9 PT staff (summer) and 6 PT staff (winter)
- ILCA is connected to local businesses: restaurants, outdoor recreation shops
- A 2009 study concluded that proximity to a natural area or feature increased property values by \$8,000-\$10,000
- Credit River receives approximately 30,000 angling days each year and an estimated \$1.2 million is spent by anglers annually
- Hiking led to an overall economic benefit of \$1.365 billion in Ontario in 2014



Ecological Goods and Services

Benefits arising from the ecological functions of healthy ecosystems:

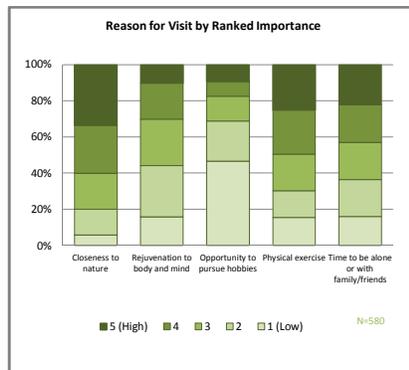
- climate regulation
- pollination
- recreation
- flood storage capacity
- provision of clean water

The Credit River watershed provides a minimum of **\$371 million** in EG&S annually

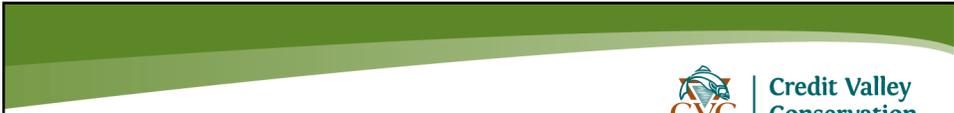
ILCA's natural systems, including its wetlands, forests and reservoir, provide an estimated minimum of **\$4 million** in EG&S annually



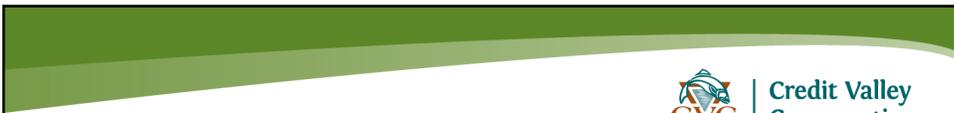
Health & Wellbeing



- Alleviates stress & anxiety
- Aids physical fitness
- Restores productivity and concentration
- Speeds recovery in hospital patients
- Reduces ADHD symptoms in children

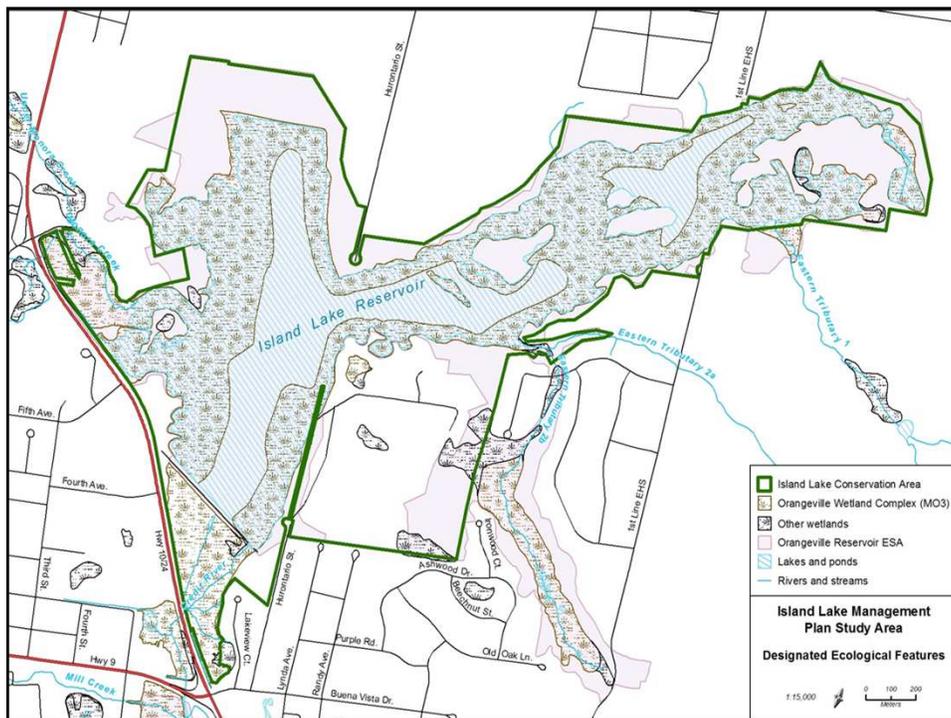
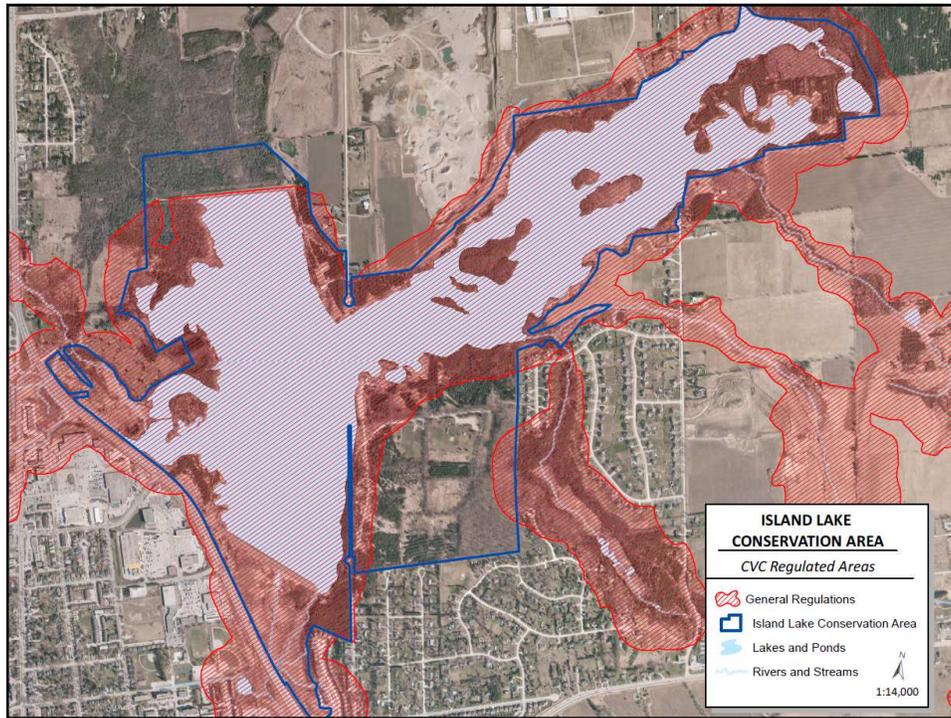


Policies, Legislation and Strategies



Policies, Legislation and Strategies

- CVC: Regulations, Strategic Plan, CA Strategy, Securement Strategy
- Dufferin County: OP, Active Transportation and Trails Master Plan
- Town of Mono: OP, Strategic Plan
- Town of Orangeville: OP, Parks & Recreation Strategic Plan, Trails Master Plan
- Ontario: Trails Strategy, AODA, Greenbelt Plan





Preliminary Recommendations

Cultural Heritage

- Explore and further research local knowledge of culturally significant resources such as, but not restricted to: PreContact Period landscape use and the local families who resided in the area during the nineteenth century
- Conduct archaeological assessments prior to ground disturbance or change of land use and protect any archaeological sites that are discovered
- Create education opportunities through interpretation of local and site history



Preliminary Recommendations

Natural Heritage

- Ensure sustainable management practices extend to all aspects of ILCA's natural resources including biotic and abiotic factors
- Prioritize and manage invasive, non-native species
- Identify opportunities to improve water quality and manage water quantity, including outflows
- Review fisheries policies, identify opportunities for restoration, and promote best practices for fisheries management



Preliminary Recommendations

Natural Heritage

- Identify and prioritize restoration activities to benefit terrestrial, aquatic and riparian habitats
- Provide opportunities for the public to learn and appreciate ILCA's natural heritage
- Identify priority properties for future acquisition
- Continue to monitor ILCA's natural features and functions to ensure their health and future protection



Preliminary Recommendations

Infrastructure and Programming

- Determine operational requirements and strategic directions for ILCA and determine if the current infrastructure meets these needs
- Develop a maintenance schedule for the repair and replacement of ILCA's infrastructure and assets
- Review current programming and identify opportunities
- Review events that currently take place at ILCA and identify opportunities



Preliminary Recommendations

Conservation Area Visitors (based on survey responses)

- *infrastructure*: create engaging staging areas, more fishing piers/fishing spots, better trolling motors, add food services, upgrade facilities within main day-use area, enhance/move beach, and expand programming/facilities to under-utilized areas such as pavilions and sugarbush
- *Maximize marketing opportunities*: improve directional road signage, cross-promotions with outdoor groups/businesses, more advertising on the internet and more information on signage at secondary access points in order attract non-paying trail users to purchase memberships and utilize facilities and services



Preliminary Recommendations

Conservation Area Visitors

- *Special events and activities*: visitors expressed interest in addition of a self-guided canoe trail, outdoor entertainment, camping, an interpretive center, education programming, rental equipment for winter activities, “learn to” events, and experience packages
- Continue to monitor visitor trends including visitor use, visitor origin and visitor opinion as appropriate



Preliminary Recommendations

Social and Economic Analysis

- Gain a better understanding of ILCA's Total Economic Value
- Continue to develop and strengthen partnerships with local agencies, businesses, residents and health sector
- Promote ILCA's many benefits and services to the Credit River watershed and to local communities



SAC Role



Master Plan Topics

- Natural Heritage
- Cultural Heritage
- Infrastructure Needs
- Recreation and Programming



Dam and Water Management

- Water quantity and quality, management of dams and related structure
- Management priority for the area that will be integrated with, or may impact, final plans and decisions



SWOT Analysis - March 23rd 2016

- Strengths
- Weaknesses
- Opportunities
- Threats



Questions



*Together, it's our nature to conserve
and our future to shape.*
