



NICKEL DISTRICT CONSERVATION AUTHORITY  
OFFICE DE PROTECTION DE LA NATURE DU DISTRICT DU NICKEL

200, rue Brady Street, Sudbury, Ontario P3E 5K3  
Tel: (705) 674-5249 Fax: (705) 674-7939  
[www.nickeldistrict.ca](http://www.nickeldistrict.ca)

May 11, 2007

Mrs. Angie Hache, City Clerk  
City of Greater Sudbury  
200 Brady Street  
Sudbury, ON

Dear Mrs. Hache:

Re: Capital Funding Plan Request to Member Municipality

The Nickel District Conservation Authority (NDCA) hereby requests to appear before City Council at the meeting scheduled for Wednesday, June 27, 2007. I will make the presentation on behalf of the NDCA and will have staff with me to answer questions from Council members.

The NDCA intends to make a presentation pertaining to a Capital Funding Plan request for 2008 and onward. A copy of the background report from the NDCA which we are submitting to members of City Council and staff, is attached. If you need any further information, please contact the NDCA at your convenience.

Thank you very much for your co-operation and assistance. The NDCA sincerely appreciates the City's ongoing support.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bob Rogers'.

Robert J. Rogers  
Chairman

cc. NDCA Member Barbeau  
NDCA Member Cimino  
NDCA Member Dutrisac  
NDCA Member Landry-Altmann

Enclosure.



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## **CAPITAL FUNDING PLAN**

### **1) BACKGROUND**

The N.D.C.A. first approached the City of Greater Sudbury for Special Capital funding in 2001. The Province had eliminated all capital funding for Conservation Authorities in 1996, however, watershed problems, such as flooding and erosion, did not disappear. As well, aging infrastructure, dams and other structures, were in serious need of major maintenance. The N.D.C.A. must do this type of work to protect human life and property, and to promote human health and wellness. Further, climate change will likely lead to more severe storm events and impacts on citizens and the natural environment. The N.D.C.A., along with many other agencies/organizations, must be prepared to respond to these challenges.

### **2) PREVIOUS FUNDING ALLOCATIONS**

Since 2002, the City has approved Special Capital funding each year for the N.D.C.A. The amounts had ranged between \$175,000 in 2002, to \$250,000 in 2006. In 2007, the City allocated \$125,000. Prior to 2007, the funding provided by the City came from designated reserves. In 2007, the funding provided to the N.D.C.A. was included in the General Levy after being ranked through the Enhancement Options voting process. The N.D.C.A. has always been grateful for the support provided each year by the City in supporting the special capital request.

### **3) USE OF CAPITAL FUNDS BY N.D.C.A.**

The N.D.C.A. has used the funds each year in a variety of ways. Project activities have included:

- i) New Capital works in the Maley Dam Reservoir, and the Romford Creek flood control berm. This has been done 100% through local funding.
- ii) Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure major maintenance. Since 2004, necessary work has been done on the Maley, Nickeldale and Lake Laurentian Dams; the 1,755 metres of box culvert on Junction and Nolin Creeks in the downtown core; and large scale erosion control projects. This work has been done on a 50/50 cost sharing basis with the Province, however, it is not clear how much longer the Province will provide this funding for necessary major maintenance. The N.D.C.A. has previously reported to City Council on these works.

#### 4) **FUTURE CAPITAL ISSUES/PRIORITIES**

The N.D.C.A. will have numerous capital issues/priorities over the next five to ten years. Those issues include the following:

- i) Continue to enhance flood protection within the Maley Dam reservoir by constructing additional berms,
- ii) Major maintenance on the two primary flood control dams, Maley and Nickeldale. These are aging structures, and they will both require ongoing upkeep, to extend their life expectancy and operability. As well, Dam Safety Inspections must be completed on these two dams each year.
- iii) The Province is expected to release comprehensive Dam Safety Guidelines this year. This will address dam owner/operator responsibilities and could require the N.D.C.A. to deal with decommissioning requirements for some dams in the watershed.
- iv) The 1,755 metres of box culvert under the City core, is aging. The City and N.D.C.A. own all of the sections. Future maintenance and upkeep will be a high priority. The Engineering Report completed in 2004 for the box culverts, includes a recommended program of inspection, maintenance and repairs.
- v) The N.D.C.A.'s flood forecasting network is a major investment for public safety. These stations need regular equipment replacements and upgrades. As well, reinstating some stations in the network would enhance the forecasting capabilities. Funds are required to instrument the stations.
- vi) The N.D.C.A. has provided erosion control technical assistance to private landowners. More and more requests are being received by the N.D.C.A., and any work which the Conservation Authority might do, is dependent on local funding being available each year.
- vii) The Lake Laurentian Conservation Area, at 950 hectares in size, is the largest publicly owned green space in the City. There is no other location or facility like the Conservation Area. This land trust protects the Ramsey Lake watershed, one of the City's municipal drinking water sources. The Conservation Area also provides opportunities for the general public to improve their health and wellness. The Conservation Authority has 50 kilometres of trails in the Conservation Area. Trail platforms, signage, etc., needs constant replacement and upgrade. The Conservation Authority works with City Leisure Services and Rainbow Routes to provide trail use opportunities. The Nature Chalet building opened in 1995, requires ongoing upgrades and improvements.

5) **CAPITAL ALLOCATION REQUEST TO MEMBER MUNICIPALITY**

The City approved \$125,000 in capital funding for the N.D.C.A. in 2007 as one-time funding from the General Levy as part of the Enhancement Options ranking process. The N.D.C.A. is respectfully requesting that from 2008 onward, the \$125,000 now be considered permanent funding for special capital works and major maintenance. The N.D.C.A. further requests that another \$125,000 be allocated as permanent funding from 2008 onward, for a total of \$250,000 per year.

Previously and again in the City's 2007 budget, it was recommended that the N.D.C.A.'s request for capital funding to the City, be met by allocating funds from the Community Projects Support Envelope commencing in 2008 and onward, once the commitment to Dynamic Earth was fulfilled. The N.D.C.A. would use the funds to address the issues/priorities outlined in Section Four above, on an annual basis for the benefit of our watershed residents.

The N.D.C.A. will include an annual report and new workplan with each budget, to outline how the funds were used in the current year and will be used in the next year, from 2008 onward.

May, 2007.