



## NVCA Board Meeting Highlights November 24, 2017

Next Board Meeting: December 15, 2017  
at Tiffin Centre for Conservation, Utopia

For the full meeting agenda including documents and reports, visit [nvca.on.ca/about/boardofdirectors](http://nvca.on.ca/about/boardofdirectors)

### Environmental Education at the NVCA

Board members received an update from Naomi Saunders, NVCA's environmental education facilitator, on the authority's outdoor education program. NVCA has provided environmental education to students and the general public for over 30 years.

In 2016, 13,200 students from grades JK to 12 attended NVCA environmental education programs. This included students from schools within the watershed and beyond.

Recent new initiatives for the education program include:

- Partnering with the Simcoe County District School Board to provide three-day "Habitat in Our Community" workshops for students in grade 4.
- Continuing to expand Camp Tiffin, NVCA's day camp program, by running a program geared to kids who are new to Canada, offering a winter camp over the school break, and offering more weeks of summer camp. In 2017, the number of campers taking part increased by close to 10 percent.
- Offering a once-a-month program for homeschooling families
- Developing certification programs to support the Specialist High Skills Major program offered at the secondary school level. While most certifications are related to the environmental studies stream, there are leadership and other programs that apply to a variety of SHSM streams.

- Building a new "free play forest" that allows young students to independently – and safely – explore the forest at the Tiffin Centre for Conservation.

NVCA's education program is funded exclusively through user fees and through partnerships with local school boards and funders such as TD Friends of the Environment and Rotary.

### Funding for Tottenham Dam Repair

The board approved the use of \$52,000 from reserves for repairs to the Tottenham Dam, which was damaged during the 100-year storm event of June 23, 2017.

### In brief

During the meeting the board also:

- approved the allocation of any 2017 program surplus/deficits into specific reserves.
- congratulated NVCA stewardship services staff, in particular Fred Dobbs, manager and Sarah Campbell, aquatic biologist, on the floodplain and river restoration work recently completed along Lamont Creek in Clearview Township.

### Future Meetings and Events

#### Nature Days for Homeschoolers

Thursday, Dec 7, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Tiffin Centre for Conservation, Utopia

**Camp Tiffin: Winter Nature Day Camp**

Daily: Tuesday, Jan 2 to Friday, Jan 5, 2018  
Tiffin Centre for Conservation, Utopia

**Christmas Bird Count for Kids**

Saturday, Jan 6, 2018, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm  
Tiffin Centre for Conservation, Utopia

For more information on these events, please  
visit the [NVCA website](#).