



Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Emily Quinton, Bill Lidster (CVC), Skye Vandenberg, Greg Sol, Mike Sklad, Jane Lightle, Jeff Sedgwick, Kirsten Ball, Ann Nelson, Alison Scheel, Wayne White, Linda Shin, Jeff Bathurst, Kim Heaton, Alison Lumby (WSP), Jennifer Sisson (WSP), Eladia Smoke (Smoke Architecture), Natalie Faught (CVC), Sharlene Hardwar (CVCF), Terri LeRoux (CVC), Yasmine Slater (CVC), Terence Radford (Trophic Design), Kate Burgess (CVC – meeting lead), Laura Rundle (CVC), Eric Baldin (CVC), Maggie Janik (CVC - minutes)

Regrets: Jim Tolles, Mark Whitcombe, Diana Morris, Caroline Mach, Bob Shirley, Paul Charbonneau, Caroline Polgrabia, Jillian Van Niekerk, Fred Murphy, Sharyn Ayliffe, Charles Cosgrove, Lynn Picard

Date & Time: March 31, 2021, 7 - 9 p.m. – Microsoft Teams

Re: Island Lake Conservation Area Management Plan – Concepts & Directions

Meeting Minutes

****Please note that links to key documents are provided at the end of the minutes****



Agenda Item	Discussion
Welcome	<p>Meeting Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide an update on the draft directions and guiding statements for ILCA - Present the draft concept plans and public realm components for ILCA - Provide direction on how to provide feedback on materials provided
Project Update	<p>Overview of Plan Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Purpose and goals of management planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Gain a better understanding of ILCA’s significance from a natural, cultural, economic and social perspective o Confirm ILCA’s identity in CVC’s conservation areas system o Achieve a balance of protection of the natural resources with visitor access and enjoyment o Describe how the park will be managed for the next several years o Ensure that public, partner and stakeholder input is integrated into the Plan <p>Project Surveys Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public survey results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 437 responses received o Survey was designed to get an understanding of what people value most about ILCA - Visitor capacity survey results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 31 responses received from SAC and PARCS staff o Response identified 3 categories of emerging capacity issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Managerial: Parking and traffic, insufficient facilities and enforcement and maintenance ▪ Environmental: Trail Impacts ▪ Social: Impacts to visitor experience and crowding <p>Park Classification and Zoning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CVC has three park classifications: Credit Valley Parks, Conservation Lands and Nature Reserves. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o ILCA is identified as a Credit Valley Park since it provides a variety of active and passive recreational opportunities, has infrastructure and amenities, is open year-round and has dedicated staff - Zoning ensures that management policies are customized to reflect the significant natural, cultural and recreational resources at each conservation area. - Zoning decisions are developed based on several factors: park classification; vision, goals and objectives; significant natural and cultural features; existing and future visitor needs; and restoration and resource management opportunities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o ILCA zones are allocated in the following ways: Nature Reserve (16%); Natural Heritage Appreciation (81%); Cultural Heritage (0.1%); Development (3%) <p>Guiding Statements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Our Vision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The vision statement describes the importance and value of ILCA to the public and stakeholders

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Our Commitments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o CVC's Conservation Areas Master Strategy, completed in 2018, outlines our commitments to land and water stewardship; to being accountable to watershed residents, park visitors, donor, partners and the natural environment; to advancing the goals of truth and reconciliation and sharing traditional knowledge and culture; and to customer focused services that connect people to nature - Objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Influenced by the 4 principles in our Conservation Areas Master Strategy (Protect, Connect, Experience and Deliver), identifies what we aim to accomplish. A fifth objective "Sustain" was added that focuses on Island Lake itself - Outcomes and Directions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Outcomes are the desired results we want to see, and directions are the actions needed to get there <p>Together the guiding statements are the roadmap for the management plan. Is there something missing? Do you see yourself in this plan?</p> <p>Supporting Strategies (Restoration & Trails)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restoration Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o High level plan that identifies natural resource management opportunities - Trail Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o High level plan that identifies opportunities to improve the trail system <p>Conceptual Design</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conceptual plans and artistic renderings serve several purposes in the management planning process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Provide context and visualizations o Provide cost projections for detailed design and construction of new facilities and public realm designs
Review of Draft Concepts	<p>Proposed Big Move Draft Concepts</p> <p>Alison (WSP) gave an overview of the park conceptual design, walking through the 'big moves' proposed for the park, balancing restoration and natural heritage with experience and enjoyment of the park.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Park Entrance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Arrival experience will be designed to let visitors know they have entered ILCA o New pylon sign is being designed and will be front and centre at the entrance o Split entrance and exit lanes. Entry road will now have 2 lanes o VBLT will be moved to the lakeside and be created using boardwalk structure 2. Gatehouse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The wow factor will be present here o Gatehouse will be placed where the current Orangeville Lions Club pavilion is. One lane will have a weather protection cover the second lane will be exposed to accommodate larger vehicles entering ILCA

- A Slip lane will lead to a parking lot for the gatehouse staff and short-stay visitors (approx. 6 spots)
 - Glimpse of the lake will be implemented here so gatehouse staff will be able to see the water conditions
3. Waterside
- Indigenous Gathering Space is located here
 - Credit Valley Trail Trailhead is proposed close to the pond
 - Current car parking will be a waterside activity zone
 - Proposed one longer fishing pier
 - The parking lot will be shifted to the east side of the pond and will have approx. 60 spots
 - Opportunity for an improved riparian environment
4. Visitor Centre
- Multifunctional amenity
 - The canoe and kayak day rental is in a great waterside position and so the rental storage will be moved into this area (originally by the amphitheatre)
 - 10 parking spots that could potentially be EV charging stations
 - Multi-functional visitor centre, proposed will be a 2-story building
 - First floor will have a rental area, washrooms, retail/concession space and storage
 - Second floor will have an event/education/meeting space, washrooms and a pre-function space
 - Current footprint as shown is 11,420 sq ft
 - Design for the visitor centre is still in the preliminary stage e.g. no 'character' or materiality has been proposed yet
 - Workshop and garage will be a separate facility next to the visitor centre
5. Amphitheatre
- Improve the condition of the lawn and add terraced seating
 - Incorporate visitor washroom and education centre in this zone
 - Parking lot will be added
 - Potential to add additional finishing piers in this area
6. Day Use area
- Augmenting and updating the current space
 - Parking lot in this area proposes using a permeable surface
 - Overflow parking area shown to accommodate larger events
 - New pavilion (to replace older enclosed pavilion) and permeable surface path proposed to make the whole area more accessible
 - More opportunities to expand natural play area for children
 - Addition of a proper Memorial Forest Trailhead
 - Improvements to trail surface and area surrounding Sugar Shack to mitigate muddy areas
7. Maintenance area
- All season parking will be designed with a small path that accesses the day use area
 - Proposed overflow parking area to accommodate larger events
 - All the working facilities will be combined into this one area for staff. The current footprint as shown is 12,115 sq ft

	<p>CVT Key Site #1: Gathering Space (ES)</p> <p>In collaboration with CVC’s project team, the CVT Indigenous Roundtable, CVT Orangeville Chapter and WSP, the proposed location for the Indigenous Gathering Space was determined based on its position on Island Lake and as the park’s gateway. This space is also in close proximity to the proposed visitor centre where parking and washrooms are available.</p> <p>Eladia (Smoke Architecture) gave an overview of the Credit Valley Trail’s Indigenous Experience Plan’s Key Site #1 (Crane Site) at ILCA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key site #1 is now a Crane (Ajijaak) dodem (originally turtle dodem). To honour the crane, educational aspects and habitat structure will be incorporated at this site - The gathering space design proposes a connection to the lake via a new dock, a gathering space for ceremony, teachings and events, and includes an elder’s drop-off area, entry berry garden, developed riparian zone and a large boulder with engraved moccasin identifiers and crane. <p>Terence (Trophic Design) gave an overview of the proposed successional planting plan and additional, smaller gathering spaces for picnics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This space will be incorporated south of the main gathering space <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o 5 m to 10 m circles with picnic tables, armour stone and logs o Phased planting approach - disturbed edges of the gathering nodes would be initially vegetated and restored and over the years the planting areas would expand leading to a denser woodland feel
Open Discussion	<p>Q from Wayne: What is going to happen to the pergola that the Orangeville Lions Club has next to the gatehouse?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kate response: A transition plan has not yet been considered for the park and more specifically, for the pergola. As we make decisions on the concepts and develop a phasing plan, we will work with our community partners to determine how to integrate what exists with what will come in the future. <p>Q from Linda: Missing from the statement is language around education and awareness to the visitors, including education on native and invasive species. Will there be a plan to incorporate this in signage or workshops?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kate response: The management plan’s programming framework will include education programming including key interpretive themes that should be shared at ILCA – how these themes will be shared is still to be determined e.g. signage, visitor centre displays, workshops etc. We will take a close look at ‘education’, and what it means to ILCA, to make sure it is highlighted in our guiding statements. <p>Q from Linda: Will Public Education workshops be implemented as well?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kate response: Yes, having an indoor space in the proposed visitor centre will allow us to offer more education-based park programming – this discussion has already begun with CVC education staff. <p>Q from Ann: Are there any plans for the north side of the lake? There was a development plan in place but assumed that it was out of date.</p>

- Kate response: Currently, we are focused on providing additional capacity for trail-based amenities e.g. expanding parking, additional washroom facilities.

Q from Wayne: Conceptual drawings have the wow factor, how do you prioritize what happens first, second, third and so on?

- Kate response: We haven't developed a phasing plan yet. Looking at some of the immediate pressures which at this point is the queuing issue at the park entry. There are many considerations to the phasing plan – what is the most urgent, what projects should be completed in the same phase, costing, discussion with Town of Mono planners on the best approach to our future the site plan agreement.

Q from Alison S: Is there a separate waste management plan? Litter is a big issue and education & waste receptacles along the Vicki Barron Lakeside Trail would improve the trail experience.

- Bill response: Currently, we are targeting picnic areas for basic garbage and recycling that is similar all throughout the watershed. We are looking more holistically across our parks for the best waste management strategy, but it is difficult as each municipality has different recycling programs. Staff have also been putting more garbage cans along the trails.

Q from Linda: Are there plans to incorporate renewable energy into the infrastructure?

- Kate response: On our internal (CVC) Technical Advisory Committee, there are experts across many disciplines including green infrastructure, capital projects and assets and climate change science. We will evaluate what types of materials and servicing solutions are the best options for ILCA and bring this information to the SAC when more details are known.

Q from Linda: In the visitor centre is there going to be a café or cafeteria?

- Kate response: There is opportunity for food and beverage to be incorporated into the visitor centre. There has been discussion on expanding our current concession (snacks, cold drinks), or potentially partnering with local businesses.

Q from Wayne: What are we able share about this plan with our organizations?

- Kate response: We encourage everyone to share the package of materials that you have received with your respective organizations you are part of. This information will be shared publicly on our website April 7th in advance of the community virtual event April 21st.

Q from Wayne: What are the plans on the natural playscape on the east end? (new forest play area)

- Alison response: Could be a multifunctional open useable space that's near the playground or additional park elements. We are also proposing an immersive forest free-play experience for kids.
- Bill response: We want an area that kids can just feel like they are playing in the forest

Q from Kim: Will the rental space have a licence for special events?

- Response from Kate: We haven't established the parameters for events and activities yet as we are still in the early stages of the planning process. If we move forward with an multi-use/event space in the visitor centre, we would likely permit licensed events. In terms of the hours of operation, we do have events at other parks that extend by 1-2 hours past our 9:00pm park closing.

Q from Kim: What is the capacity of the rental space? Have we thought about whether there will be enough parking for park users and event guests?

- Kate response: We have discussed 200-300 people in line with a typical amphitheatre event.
- Alison response: The overall parking metrics for the park is currently around 500+ but the plan as currently proposed is just shy of 700 spaces
- Terri response: The meeting space at the Visitor Centre is intended to be multi-purpose not specific to events. For example, it would be a meeting space for the Friends of Island Lake who historically have had to meet offsite.

Q from Alison S: From time to time the park invites groups for overnight camping. Will any of the new washrooms incorporate shower facilities?

- Laura response: No, we won't be adding camping facilities.

Q from Kirsten: It all looks very impressive - lots of interesting and exciting ideas. From a built heritage view, will there be any recognition of the Island family? Maybe at the visitor centre, or some marker of where the original homestead was?

- Kate response: We have included recognition of the Island Family as an interpretive theme in the programing framework, but we haven't developed how this will be shared, e.g. signage, in the visitor center.
- Bill response: We are in the early stages on planning this out, but something will be done.

Q from Linda: Please ensure to incorporate pre-settlement history as well

Q from Kirsten: It appears the 2 storey visitor centre is right in the middle of the entry approach sight line - wouldn't it be better to have it located elsewhere - maybe where it's not obstructing the beautiful view of the lake as you approach? And if it does have to stay there, maybe something a bit more inspiring in terms of design rather than just a box? It seems this waterfront area could be better used as recreational space. One of the key rules of thumb in architecture is not to build on the best natural site.

- Alison response: Still in conceptual stage. Key direction is to have the rental space close to the water. The selected site is currently developed and will consolidate the 3 existing buildings in this area. What the building will look and feel like still needs to be determined. Looking to make it efficient there is a strong desire and need for the centre to be where it is. Any comments on the material and style that should be used will be greatly appreciated.

Q from Ann: It looks there is a potential safety issue with the boat launch so close to the visitor center and the need for the trail to cross the road at the same place.

- Alison response: We are looking to try to provide some separation. A balance needs to be put in place on how to manage the separation

	<p>Q from Linda: More windows for passive heating and would provide a somewhat transparency for the visitor centre. Roof would be prime for solar panels or even green roof</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Laura response: Seeing these types of comments is great – it helps push for some of the elements to be implemented <p>Q from Jane: Can you share how general public will be engaged on April 21st?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Laura response: The community consultation will be held virtual/online. Likely very similar format as this SAC meeting. A neighbourhood mailout has gone out, we will also be putting an ad in the Orangeville Banner, issuing a press release and promoting the event on CVC social media channels. <p>Comment from Jane: Lots of interesting, positive changes in these plans, really pleased to see the rental storage relocated. It is very steep to take my canoe down to the water</p> <p>Comment from Linda: love the child friendly forest exploration area! Indigenous gathering space looks beautiful as well! Amazing work</p> <p>Comment from Kim: pleased with the plan presented to date. Very excited to bring her grandkids to ILCA</p>
Next Steps	<p>How to provide comments, input & feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can provide comments whichever form makes sense and easiest for you to provide feedback (email, comments in PDF document or Miro) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Miro link: https://miro.com/app/board/o9JlZrQaZ0=/ <p>Future consultations on draft guiding statements and conceptual design:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Same information will be shared with the Technical Advisory Committee April 1 - General Public April 21 - All CVC staff April 28 - Town of Mono Council Committees April-June <p>Next SAC Meeting will be in June</p>