



File Number

Dear Sir/Madam:

Re: Greater Cardinal Creek Subwatershed Study – Existing Conditions Report

The City of Ottawa is pleased to announce the completion of Phase 1 of the Greater Cardinal Creek Subwatershed Study: the Existing Conditions Report. Prepared by staff of the City of Ottawa and the consultants AECOM, the report provides the comprehensive baseline information necessary for Phase 2 of the study, development of a Subwatershed Management Plan.

The Existing Conditions Report provides a complete description of the Greater Cardinal Creek Subwatershed. This includes:

- The general environmental context (*e.g.* climate, geology, physiography);
- Hydrogeology (*i.e.* groundwater);
- Hydrology (*i.e.* stream flows);
- Geotechnical and geomorphic assessments of Cardinal Creek and its associated valleylands;
- The terrestrial and aquatic natural environment environments, including wildlife and fish habitat;
- Land use, including urban, agricultural and rural uses.

The main products of the report are:

- Recommendations for improving hydrologic modeling of Cardinal Creek stream flows;
- Recommendations and priorities for stabilization of stream banks and valley slopes along Cardinal Creek;
- Identification of a preliminary natural heritage system;
- An integrated characterization of the subwatershed based upon its hydrologic cycle – *i.e.* the movement of water through the subwatershed.
- Recommended management strategies and actions in seven areas:
 - Hazard land management;
 - Natural heritage and environmental protection;
 - Groundwater quality and quantity management;

- Rehabilitation, restoration and improvement measures;
- Agricultural and rural land use management;
- Stormwater management – urban and rural estate;
- Subwatershed monitoring.

The recommended management strategies and actions will be the starting point for Phase 2 of the study, preparation of the Subwatershed Management Plan. The City of Ottawa expects to begin work on Phase 2 in early autumn 2009, with a target for public presentation of a draft Subwatershed Management Plan by February 2010.

If you have any questions regarding the Greater Cardinal Creek Subwatershed Study, or you wish to obtain a copy of the Existing Conditions Report, please contact:

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Sincerely,

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Attach.

cc: