



# Multi-Stakeholder Consultation Conservation Authorities: Local Solutions

January 31, 2020 Barrie ON



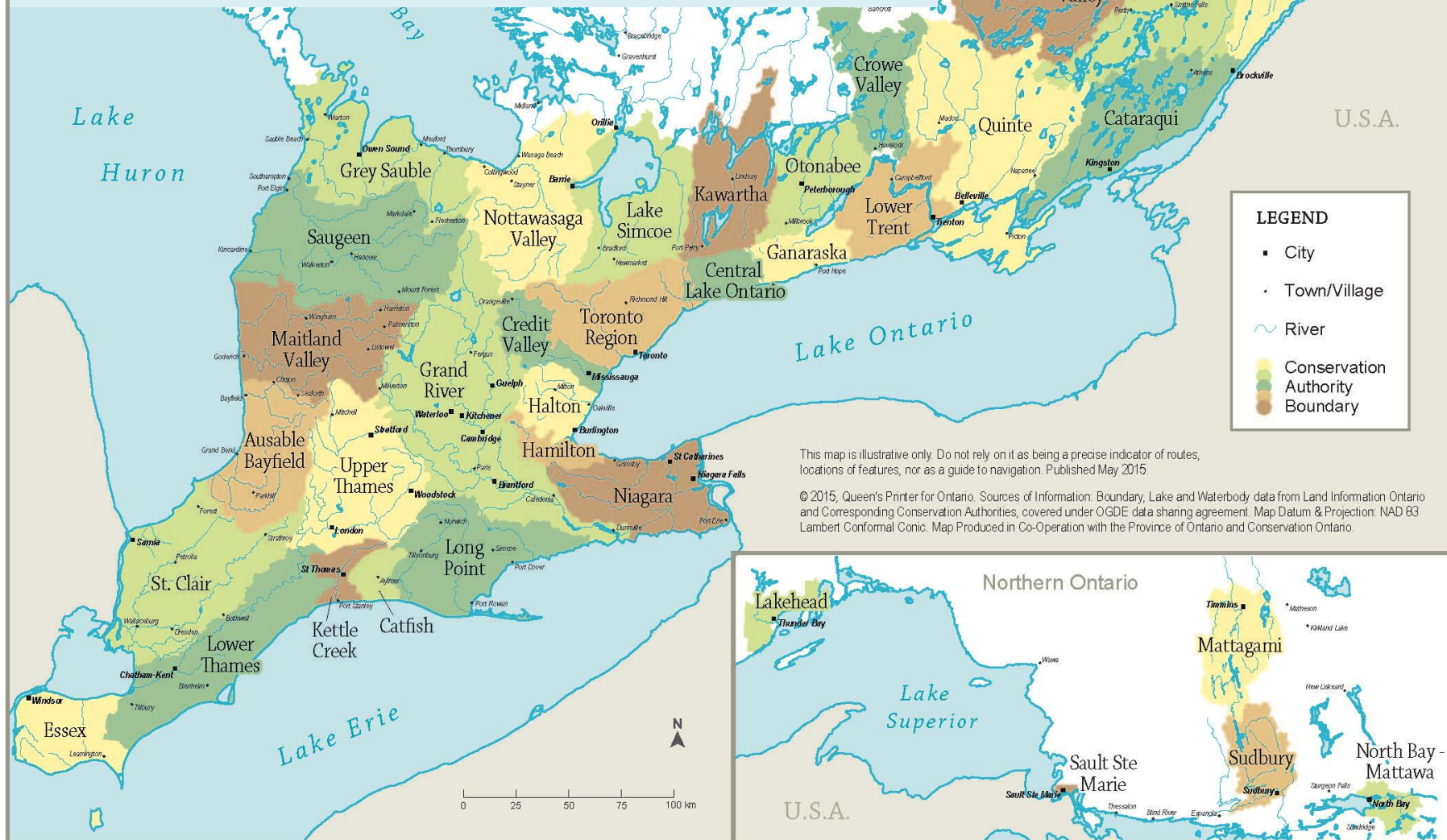




# Conservation Authorities of Ontario

[www.conservationontario.ca](http://www.conservationontario.ca)

95% of Ontario's population lives in watershed managed by conservation authorities

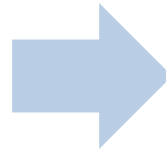


# Purpose of a Conservation Authority

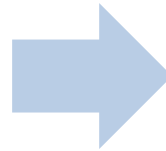
## Purpose of a Conservation Authority:

*“to provide, in the area over which it has jurisdiction, programs and services designed to further the conservation, restoration, development and management of natural resources”*

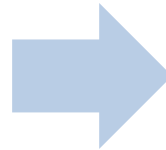
Conservation Authorities Act, Sec. 20(1)



**Mandatory Programs & Services**  
Identified by the Province in *CA Act*



**Service Delivery for Municipalities**  
MOUs/agreements with municipalities



**Local Resource Management**  
Programs determined by CA Boards

Conservation Authorities Act, Sec. 21.1





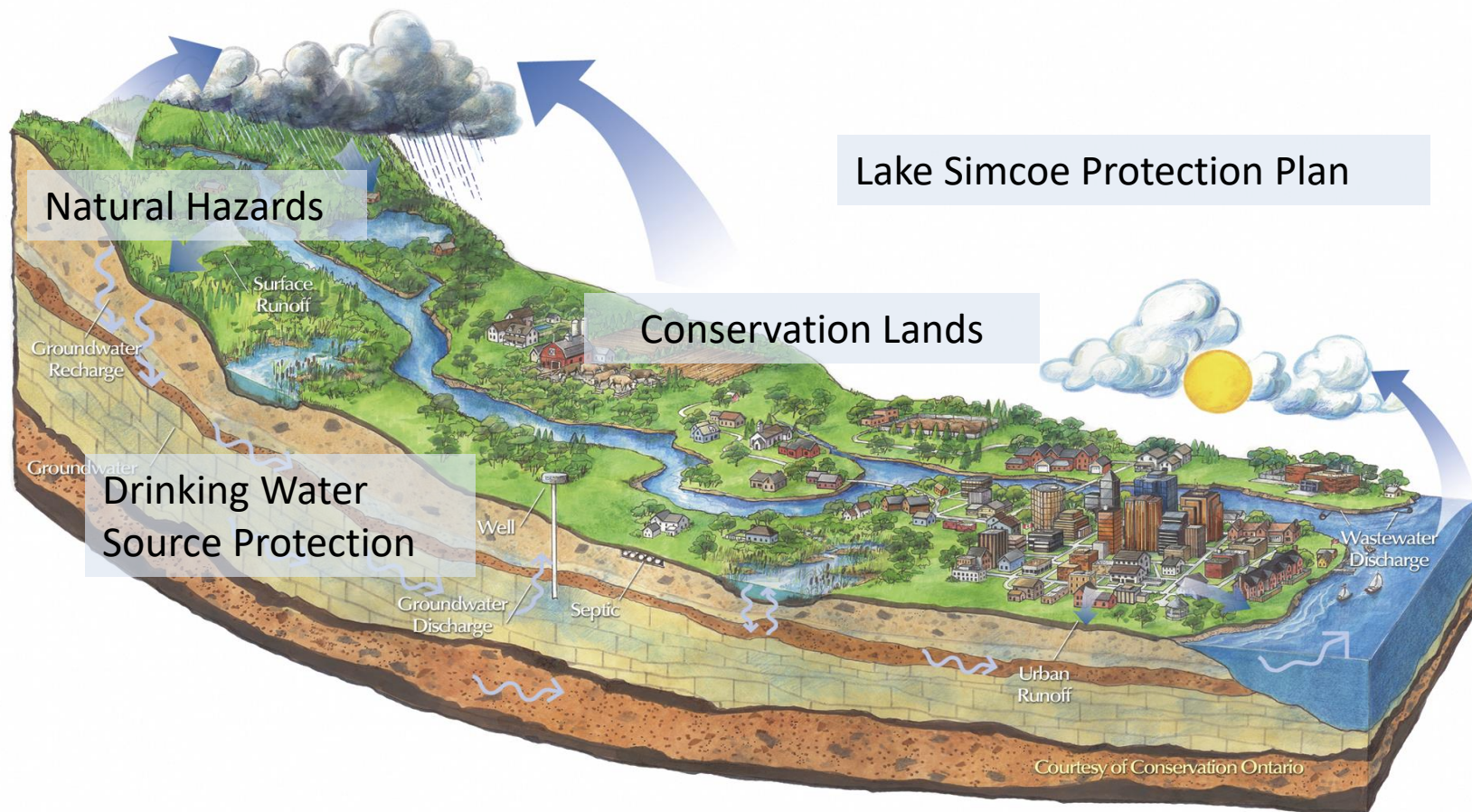
# Conservation Authorities What Do They Do?





# Watershed Management Activities Support Mandatory Programs

Watershed Monitoring | Data Collection & Modeling | Watershed Studies, Plans, Assessments & Strategies | Watershed Actions: Stewardship, Green Infrastructure, Outreach, Education & Communication



# Working Together

## Shared Challenge

- **Changing climate**

- More flooding and higher costs (property damages, social stress, business disruptions)
- Threatened water quality & supply
- Low water levels
- Stressed or degraded biodiversity

## Towards a Solution

- **Fundamental watershed management programs and services enable us to deliver mandatory programs**

- Watershed – wide monitoring, data collecting & modelling
- Watershed studies, plans assessments & strategies
- Watershed – wide actions such as stewardship, green infrastructure, outreach, education & communications





# Working Together

## Shared Challenge

- **More Complex Issues / Fewer Resources**
  - Natural disasters, public health issues impacting budgets

## Towards a Solution

- **Multi-stakeholder collaborations**  
(Province, municipalities, CAs, landowners, agencies)
  - Share watershed knowledge and expertise
  - Science-based decision-making
  - Leverage funding and delivery mechanisms
  - Use cost effective watershed-based approach
  - Provincial guidelines, technical updates, watershed-based policy, funding



# Working Together

## Shared Challenge

- **Guiding Development**

- Need to ensure public health and safety
- Need to increase watershed resiliency
- Need to support sustainable economic growth & desirable communities



## Towards a Solution

- **Improved accountability, transparency and timelines**

- Conservation Ontario's Client Service and Streamlining Initiative
- Provincial policy leadership and consultation with practitioners



# Working Together

- CO Client Service and Streamlining Initiative:
  - Improves client service and accountability
  - Speeds up approvals
  - Reduces red tape and regulatory burden
- Provincial policy leadership and consultation with practitioners





Conservation  
ONTARIO  
Natural Champions

# Key Takeaways

1. Fundamental watershed management activities enable CAs to deliver mandatory programs and services
2. Working together on solutions helps us to address challenges more quickly and cost effectively
3. Continued improvements by CAs, and updated technical / policy support from the Province helps to streamline reviews and approvals







# Thank you



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