



MEMORANDUM

To: Melanie Williams, Region of Peel

From: Mark Eastman, Credit Valley Conservation
Nadine Abrams, Toronto and Region Conservation

Date: December 19, 2016

Re: Peel Rural Water Quality Program – 2016 Status Report

The year 2016 marked the twelfth complete program year for the Peel Rural Water Quality Program (PRWQP). This status report summarizes the program's accomplishments for 2016 and over the past twelve years.

Number of projects approved in 2016: Twenty-one

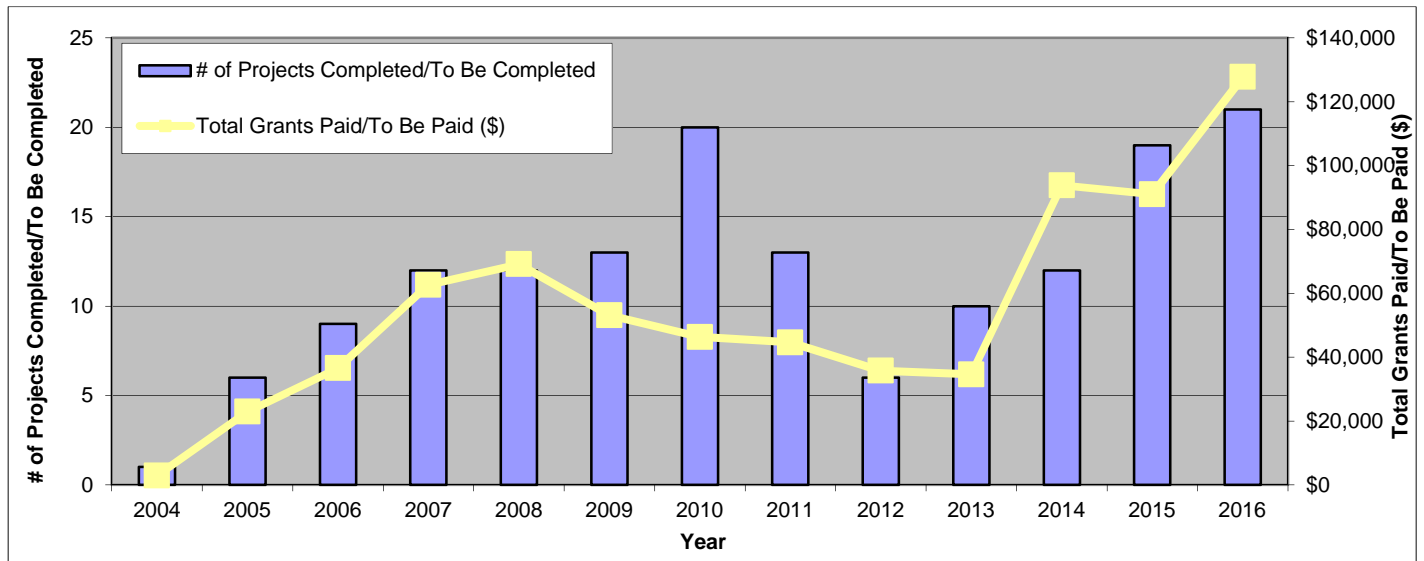
Types of projects approved in 2016:

Manure Storage	0
Milkhouse Washwater	0
Barnyard Runoff Control	0
Nutrient Management Strategy	0
Nutrient Management Plan	0
Private Well Upgrade	0
Private Well Abandonment	0
Clean Water Diversion	0
Livestock Access Restriction	3
Erosion Control Structure	3
Tree Planting	10
Buffer Strip Planting	0
Education	0
Chemical Storage	0
Fuel Storage	0
Silage Storage Upgrade	0
Irrigation Management	0
Integrated Pest Management	0
Alternative Project	0
Cover Crop	4
Natural Area Enhancement and Creation	1
TOTAL	21

Grants paid and/or to be paid on 2016 projects: \$127,718.39



Annual program activity:



Notes: 2004 was not a complete program year.

Statistical discrepancies between annual status reports are a result of approved projects not proceeding with construction, therefore resulting in a withdrawal of applications.

As illustrated in the graph, 2016 achieved the greatest number of projects completed/to be completed and the highest total grant dollars paid/to be paid in program history. This success can be attributed to the spike in interest from farmers in planting trees and shrubs. As anticipated, cover crop applications tapered off this year to 4 applications, from a high of 11 in 2015. For 2016, \$127,718 in grants has been paid or will be paid to support the implementation of projects. An additional \$244,634 was leveraged or will be leveraged from project proponents and other funders to assist with the completion of these projects.

Program accomplishments:

Between 2004 and 2016, the PRWQP has paid/allocated a total of \$720,995 in funding towards 154 agri-environmental projects. These funds have leveraged more than an additional \$3.7 million to contribute to the completion of projects valued at just over \$4.4 million.

Environmental benefits of BMPs:

Over the past twelve years, agri-environmental projects completed with technical and financial assistance from the PRWQP have helped to:

Safely store 237,797 m³ of livestock manure to reduce the risk of nutrient, pathogen and bacteria contaminating drinking water, streams and wetlands.



This equates to 34,159 dump trucks of manure!

Install 12.19 km of livestock fencing to improve the habitat quality of our streams, wetlands and woodlots and to reduce water quality impacts caused by sediment, nutrient and pathogen/bacteria.



Plant 24,783 trees and shrubs to restore degraded habitats, reduce erosion and to sequester carbon dioxide.



Restore and/or protect 109 ha of land to improve water, air, soil and habitat quality.



This is an area equal to 109 football fields!



Program promotion:

In 2016, advertisements for the program were run in the Caledon Enterprise every other month. Program staff also promoted the program at the following events/workshops:

- FarmSmart Conference
- Pond Management Workshop
- Equine Workshops (3)
- Environmental Farm Plan Workshop
- Peel Federation of Agriculture Annual General Meeting
- Peel Soil and Crop Improvement Association Annual General Meeting
- CVC Twilight Tour – Manure Composting
- Peel Plowing Match
- Headwaters in Action Annual General Meeting
- Municipal Agriculture Economic Development Forum
- Cover Crop Article – Published in Golden Horseshoe Soil and Crop Improvement Association summer newsletter

Program staff will continue to advertise the program in local media, by attending events and meetings and by hosting and participating in workshops. Staff encourage Peel Agriculture Advisory Working Group members to continue promoting the program to friends, neighbours and peers. Peer to peer promotion of the program is the best form of advertisement, and we depend on you to help spread the word.

If you have any questions regarding the 2016 program year, please contact Program staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Eastman".

Mark Eastman
Credit Valley Conservation

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nadine Abrams".

Nadine Abrams
Toronto and Region Conservation