



Memo

To: Peel Agricultural Advisory Working Group

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

Date: January 6, 2020

Re: Peel Rural Water Quality Program – 2019 Status Report

The year 2019 marked the fifteenth complete program year for the Peel Rural Water Quality Program (PRWQP). This status report summarizes the program's accomplishments over the past fifteen years, with an emphasis placed on the 2019 program year.

Types and Number of projects approved in 2019:

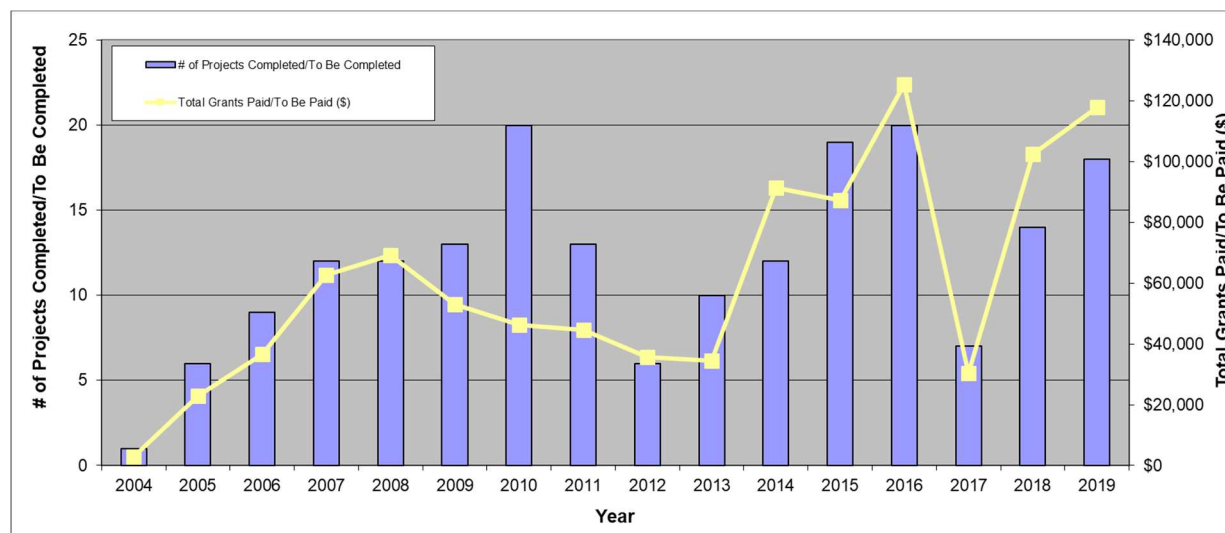
Manure Storage	1
Milkhouse Washwater	0
Barnyard Runoff Control	0
Nutrient Management Strategy	1
Nutrient Management Plan	1
Private Well Upgrade	0
Clean Water Diversion	0
Livestock Access Restriction	0
Erosion Control Structure	0
Tree Planting	9
Education	0
Chemical Storage	0
Fuel Storage	0
Silage Storage Upgrade	0
Irrigation Management	0
Integrated Pest Management	0
Cover Crop	5
Natural Area Enhancement and Creation	2*
TOTAL PROJECTS APPROVED	19

*One of the Natural Area Enhancement and Creation Projects was withdrawn after approval.

Grants paid and/or to be paid on 2019 projects: \$117,871.98

Annual program activity:

In 2019, nineteen projects were approved and eighteen projects have been completed or are in progress. Total grants paid/to be paid is \$117,871.98. This financial support has leveraged an additional \$90,369.98 from project proponents and other funders to assist with the completion of these eighteen projects. The graph below illustrates the programs performance for each year since 2004.



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.

After a slower than normal year in 2017, both total projects completed/to be completed and grants paid/to be paid rebounded in 2018. This upward trend continued in 2019, resulting in an above average year for both projects completed/to be completed and grants paid/to be paid.

Program accomplishments:

Between 2004 and 2019, the PRWQP has engaged 75 individual farm businesses and has paid/allocated a total of \$963,405.96 in funding towards 192 agri-environmental projects. These funds have leveraged an additional \$3,500,290.53 to contribute to the completion of projects valued at \$4,463,696.49.

Environmental benefits of BMPs:

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

Safely store 292,453 m³ of livestock manure to reduce the risk of nutrient, pathogen and bacteria contaminating drinking water, streams and wetlands.



This equates to 40,091 dump trucks of manure!

Install 15.95 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 56,062 trees and shrubs to restore degraded habitats, reduce erosion and to sequester carbon dioxide.



Restore and/or protect 137 ha of land to improve water, air, soil and habitat quality.



This is an area equal to 137 football fields!

In 2019, advertisements for the program were run in the Caledon Enterprise every other month. In addition, our social media presence was increased with numerous tweets and Facebook posts published.

Program staff also promoted the program at the following events/workshops:

- Peel Soil and Crop Improvement Association Annual General Meeting
- Peel Dufferin Plowing Match
- Soil Sampling and Fertility Planning Workshop
- Natures Benefits Twilight Tour
- Woodlot Management Workshop (2)
- Site Visits

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 2019 program year, please contact Program staff.

Sincerely,



Mark Eastman

Credit Valley Conservation



Nadine Abrams

Toronto and Region Conservation