



South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region

MINUTES

Source Protection Committee Meeting No. SPC-03/2015
 Meeting No. 3
 Monte Carlo Inn Barrie Suites, 81 Hart Drive, Barrie, ON
 April 20, 2016
 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

MEMBERS:

Lynn Dollin, Chair

Municipal

Herb Proudley
 John Boucher
 Rick Newlove
 Stan Wells
 Clayton Cameron

Economic/Development

Colin Elliott
 David Ritchie
 John Hemsted
 Colin Nisbet
 David Ketcheson

Public Sector

Dianne Corrigan
 Fred Ruf
 Larry Slomka
 Tom Kurtz
 Stephanie Hobbs

First Nations

Dan Shilling

Liaisons

Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit – Karen Kivilahti
 Severn Sound Environmental Association – Keith Sherman – in place of Mike Walters
 Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change – Elizabeth Forrest

Guests

Katie Thompson, RMO, Barrie - on behalf of Richard Forward
 Don Goodyear, York Region – on behalf of Wendy Kemp
 Stacey McCarthy, Senior Account Manager, Letter M Marketing
 Doug MacMillan, President, Letter M Marketing

Staff

Ben Longstaff	Ryan Post	Joan E. Patch
Bill Thompson	Keith Sherman	Mike Wilson
Susan Jagminas	Jessica Burns, minutes	

Regrets

Wendy Kemp – proxy to Stan Wells
 Richard Forward - proxy to Rick Newlove
 Bob Duncanson – proxy to Tom Kurtz

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V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) Activities of the Chair & Committee

A brief update from the recent Project Managers (PMs) & Chairs Meeting was provided.

- An overview of the Cap and Trade Reg. 172 was provided
- An update on the Great Lake Protection Act was provided
- Discussion occurred around out of scope steady state items i.e. fracking and outdoor fuel storage – policy gap letter previously provided by the SPC was reference for policy oversights
- The Province provided an update letter on what they have done in order to conform to policies
 - The Province has adopted the prohibition policy across all regions

(b) Agricultural Sector Update to the SPC

The SPC Agricultural Representatives (Ag Reps) reviewed what activities they have recently undertaken for Source Water:

- They presented on the topic of Source Water at a two day Central Ontario Agricultural Conference (COAC) – their message was well received
- They co-hosted and presented at the “Negotiating Risk Management Plans with Farmers - Making the Right Connections” workshop held on March 29, 2016 – again this event was well attended and their message well received – LSRCA staff were thanked for their efforts in coordinating the event
- The Ag Reps were commended for their successful presentations and continued efforts in support of communication and implementation of agricultural Source Water policies
- The Ag Reps will be meeting with Conservation Ontario staff on April 27, 2016 to discuss their aid in preparing a series of articles to be published in Better Farming magazine on Source Water and agricultural effects

(c) MOECC Update

Elizabeth Forrest provided a brief update on the status of MOECC Source Water activities:

- At the recent PM and Chairs meeting they focused on Annual Reporting for the purpose of monitoring policies implementation and effectiveness
- The MOECC mapping tool is now live and available for public use at Ontario.ca



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- It was noted that upgrades to the mapping tool will be done in the future including linkage to a policy database and parcel data
- They are undertaking a review of the Source Water Program in order to identify how the program will evolve moving forward – an update on this will be provided as soon as possible

VI. DELEGATIONS

None.

VII. PRESENTATIONS

(a) Education & Outreach Strategy

Doug MacMillan and Stacey McCarthy from Letter M Marketing presented on the status of the Source Water Education & Outreach (E & O) Strategy.

SPC members were assured that there will be multiple opportunities for collaboration throughout the process and that the input of SPC members will be sought in terms of messaging used in the communication of the EDU policies prior to any implementation.

It was clarified that this is a responsibility that falls to the lead SPA and as such, does not fall under the SPC i.e. SPC Communication Sub-Committee. That being said, close collaboration with SPC members will be sought by Letter M Marketing as it is considered a vital resource in the process. It was noted that the use of an independent communication consultant, in this case Letter M Marketing, will aid in the implementation of communication for targeted policy messaging, instead of general communication of the Source Water Program.

Collaboration with the other 19 Source Protection Regions (SPRs) is underway; informal consultation and resource sharing is occurring behind the scenes. Although there is a desire from a communication messaging stand point to preserve the autonomy of each local area, there is a need to maintain Province wide consistency.

The communication strategy that is developed will define the implementation action plan on which the SPAs will act; necessary tools will be developed at that time and will be shared resources across SPRs. However, those municipalities that have already made headway in this area are not required to abandon their efforts and adopt this strategy; it along with any communication tools will be available if needed.

Discussion occurred around how to get SPA buy in from those that remain reluctant. Letter M Marketing will work to make the strategy as simple as possible with a central resource of communication expertise to ensure implementation is easy.



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Moved by: Fred Ruf

Seconded by: Colin Elliott

RESOLVED: THAT the information provided by Susan Jagminas, Stacey McCarthy and Doug MacMillan on the status of the E & O Outreach Strategy be received for information.

CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

(b) General Program Updates

Ben Longstaff presented on current Source Water activities and provided a brief review of the transition phase of the program.

Discussion occurred around the involvement and role that the Joint Advisory Committee is currently playing in terms of program evolution.

It was noted that the MOECC is currently completing a review of the technical framework, policy framework and overall Source Protection Program framework. It was assured that the MOECC will not override any of the Source Protection Plan policies developed by this Committee and that assessment of implementation effectiveness of the policies will begin with the SPC and then move to the MOECC. It was further noted that the MOECC is working to compile a list of all received comments that will be reviewed by PMs and Chairs to ensure that no comment has been missed.

Action Item 1	All presentations provided at today’s SPC meeting will be posted to ourwatershed.ca for reference.
Responsibility	Susan Jagminas

Action Item 2	Confirm whether the MOECC presentations referred to in the General Program Update can be posted to ourwatershed.ca. If so, they will be posted to ourwatershed.ca and a notice circulated to SPC members.
Responsibility	Elizabeth Forrest

In terms of program evolution, the MOECC assure there will be many opportunities for collaboration and input. Feedback is expected from SPC members through their PMs. Discussion as to how the members of this SPC envision the role of the Committee changing should occur. A need for ground level input to be provided at the onset was emphasized.

Discussion occurred around how the role of the SPC is changing and how there is a strong need for the roles of SPCs and SPAs in each phase to be clearly identified. According to the MOECC, there remains a legislative role for SPCs and they are looking at whether

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Action Item 4	Language around the eligibility criteria for public sector applicants in terms of their residential proximity to the boundaries of the SPR will be drafted and sent to Bill Thompson.
Responsibility	Elizabeth Forrest

Dan Shilling provided a brief review of the recent activities of Ramara First Nations:

- Have recently address a number of pressing priorities that outweighed Source Water
- Source Water is now a priority as per Council
- Fred Jahn had completed a lot of work in terms of assessing the septic systems, eliminating some drinking water threats and engaging a monitoring consultant that continues to monitor the landfill
- They have also recently adopted a 4 year electoral term instead of a 2 year term which will aid in planning and prioritization
- Their wetlands, trees, animals and medicines have been identified as priorities in which Source Water plays a vital role
- Ramara First Nations is made up of 7 parcels, 2300 acres of land and 1800 acres in Ramara Township – these additional lands are split between Ramara First Nations and Ramara Township may pose some regulatory challenges
- Dan Shilling intends to remain on the SPC

Moved by: John Hemsted

Seconded by: John Boucher

RESOLVED: THAT the information presented by Ben Longstaff on the SPC be received for information.

CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

(d) Annual Reporting

Bill Thompson provided an update on the status and progress of the Risk Management Official (RMO) Annual Report and Annual Reporting framework.

- Report templates are currently based on Clean Water Act requirements, recommended questions from the Annual Reporting Working Group and include some open ended questions
- As it is early in implementation there is not a lot of data to report on however there are a number of Risk Management Plans (RMPs) that have been established and this number will continue to increase over time



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- Municipalities are at different stages in terms of Official Plan updates but are all heading in the right direction; some collaboration between neighboring municipalities is also resulting in some common language
- Septic inspections are well underway in all municipalities and even completed in some – good news
- Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) staff continue to work on the threats database – its functionality in terms of Annual Reporting will be refined moving forward
- It is vital to reflect on the data illustrated in the completed reports to ensure that implementation is occurring effectively
- Next to be addressed for Annual Reporting consideration will be Section 46
- With Mike Wilson now on board the Annual Reporting Working Group will get back up and running

It was clarified that Bill Thompson, LSRCA, Ryan Post, NVCA and Keith Sherman, SSEA are the identified agents to which RMOs are to report. Additionally, RMOs are ultimately accountable to their local SPC; SPC members will be responsible for weighing whether RMOs are interpreting and supporting the implementation of policies the way they were intended.

Discussion occurred around the deadline for septic re-inspections. As the deadline is in early 2017 a reminder to municipalities should be circulated.

Action Item 5	A reminder to municipalities that the septic re-inspection deadline is January 2017 is to be circulated.
Responsibility	Bill Thompson

It was further clarified that in circumstances where some municipalities have chosen to delegate out RMO service, they are allowed to use the Source Protection Municipal Implementation Funding (SPMIF) to pay for the provision of those services. Any unspent funds are to be returned to the Province.

It was agreed to revise the below recommendation as originally stated in the agenda by removing the second portion following “AND FURTHER”.

Moved by: Stan Wells

Seconded by: Dave Ritchie

RESOLVED: THAT the information presented by Bill Thompson on the RMO Annual Report and Annual Reporting framework be received for information.

CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

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(e) Issues Contributing Area (ICA) Study Update

Keith Sherman provided an update on the status of the Lafontaine ICA study.

- Purpose of the study is to assess the ICA policies and how to approach implementation based on the technical information gathered
- Background information on the ICA was provided
- They are looking at how to reduce Nitrates in the ground water and the source(s) of Nitrate compounds
- Trends show that Nitrate levels are on the rise in both Township and private communal wells
- The Surface Water Model was run backwards until particles broke land surface – contributions from different areas and how particles travel was discussed
- The focus of the work looks at where water flows after it hits the ground, it does not look at concentrations and takes into consideration intermittency based on seasonal flows
- The travel time of Nitrate particles is also being looked at as part of this study
- Some Best Management Practices as well as some Risk Management Measures have been identified
- Pseudo-yield maps were reviewed

Discussion occurred around whether the Nitrate contributions are coming from natural sources or if there is enough agricultural activity in the identified areas to be a possible contributor to contamination.

Karen Kivilahti noted that as an outcome of the data reflected in this current ICA study, the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit will be looking to revise and share more of the initial work done on this issue with SSEA in 2012.

Paul Maurice was noted as playing a vital role in the success of this study; he acts as an ambassador to the local agricultural community.

Given some of the new data collected on water flow, it was suggested that consideration be placed on how Well Head Protection Areas (WHPAs) are identified moving forward. It may be that this Committee should look at protecting source areas that lie outside the boundaries of current WHPA boundaries.

Moved by: Larry Slomka

Seconded by: Rick Newlove

RESOLVED: THAT the information presented by Keith Sherman on the status of the Lafontaine ICA study be received for information.

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CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

VIII. DETERMINATION OF ITEMS REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION

Correspondence Item 1 b): Correspondence from the MOECC entitled “Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change responses to Source Protection Plan Authority Reporting Policies” dated March 2016.

IX. ADOPTION OF ITEMS NOT REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION

None.

X. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION

Correspondence Item 1 b) Q7 (pg. 19 & 22):

Concern was expressed in regards to pesticide permits and farm applications and whether the Toronto Region Conservation Authority is overriding the local SPP policies (pg. 19).

Concern was also expressed regarding Permit to Take Water (PTTW) implications for farmers and the need to ensure that municipalities are not allowed to control water taking outside their boundaries (pg. 22).

Action Item 6	A discussion on the topics of pesticides and farm applications and PTTW municipal control is to take place and information reported back to the SPC.
Responsibility	Ben Longstaff, Lynn Dollin, Bill Thompson and Elizabeth Forrest

Moved by: Dan Shilling

Seconded: Colin Nisbet

RESOLVED: THAT the recommendations respecting items requiring separate discussion be approved, and staff be authorized to take all necessary actions to effect those recommendations.

CARRIED BY CONSENSUS



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XI. OTHER BUSINESS

Mike Wilson was again welcomed to the team.

Jessica was wished good luck as this marks her last SPC meeting before she begins her maternity leave.

It was noted that the Simcoe County Greenbelt Coalition has been formed and will focus on water. The Coalition has utilized the MOECC mapping tool for this work. They are meeting tomorrow evening at the Edgar Community Hall – contact Tom for attendance details.

As this marks Clayton Cameron and Rick Newlove’s last SPC meeting as official members, they were thanked for their many contributions. Hopefully they will remain connected to the SPC in some manner in the future. Rick Newlove indicated that he may apply as economic sector representative and Clayton Cameron may apply for a public sector representative.

XII. CLOSED SESSION

None for the record of this meeting.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Rick Newlove at 4:15 pm.