



## **MINUTES OF THE FIFTY-EIGHTH REGULAR LAKEHEAD SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE MEETING**

Minutes of the Fifty-Eighth Regular Meeting of the Lakehead Source Protection Committee held on Wednesday, February 19, 2014, at the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority. The Chair called the Meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bob Hartley, Chair  
Ken McWhirter, Vice Chair  
Bernie Kamphof  
Jim Vukmanich  
Paul McAlister  
Guy Jarvis  
Ross Chuchman  
Hartley Multamaki  
Robert Stewart  
Lucy Kloosterhuis

### **LIAISON MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mervi Henttonen, LRCA General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer  
Mary Wooding, MOE (via telephone)

### **LIAISON MEMBER ABSENT:**

Lee Sieswerda, TBDHU

### **ALSO PRESENT:**

Tammy Cook, Watershed Manager  
Vince Ponka, Source Water Protection Communications/Admin Assistant

### **1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA BY CONSENSUS**

Agenda adopted by consensus.

### **2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

None.

### **3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the Fifty-Seventh Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, November 13, 2013, were adopted by consensus.

### **4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS AGENDA**

#### SPC Replacements and/or Reappointments

Discussion took place regarding the issue of SPC member replacements. Mary Wooding, MOE Liaison, stated that even though the *Clean Water Act* states that 1/3 of members need to be replaced once the Source Protection Plan (SPP) has been approved, and another 1/3 one year after that, there is not an urgent need to replace members at this time and the Source Protection Authority (SPA) does not need to make an application to the Minister of the Environment to grant an exemption.

### **5. SOURCE PROTECTION PLANNING**

#### Oliver Paipoonge Annual Report

It was noted that the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge submitted their first Annual Report on January 24, 2014, as mandated by the SPP. Staff have reviewed the report and have concluded that Oliver Paipoonge have met the requirements of the Plan to date and is progressing towards completing the future requirements of the Plan. Following review and comments by the Source Protection Committee (SPC), the Report will be submitted to the SPA. The SPA is required to submit its first report to the MOE by May 1, 2016.

#### Thunder Bay District Health Unit Annual Report

It was noted that the Thunder Bay District Health Unit submitted their first Annual Report on January 30, 2014, as mandated by the SPP. Staff have reviewed the report and have concluded that the TBDHU is progressing towards meeting the future requirements of the Plan. Following review and comments by the SPC, the Report will be submitted to the SPA. The SPA is required to submit its first report to the MOE by May 1, 2016.

The TBDHU is undertaking a review of their files to determine where the septic systems are located related to the WHPA-A zone in order to confirm which properties will be subject to the septic re-inspection policy.

#### Niagara Peninsula Source Protection Plan Approved

It was noted that the Niagara Peninsula Source Protection Plan has been approved by the Minister of the Environment and will come into effect on October 1, 2014. The MOE Liaison announced that Mattagami and Mississippi-Rideau are likely the next two Source Protection Regions to have their Plans approved.

#### Municipal Engineers Association Class EA Proposed Amendments

It was noted that the Municipal Engineers Association is proposing amendments to the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment. This will affect any new drinking water systems that are created in Source Protection Areas.

## Chair's and Project Manager's Meeting

It was noted that a Chair's and Project Manager's Meeting will take place in Toronto on March 3 and March 4, 2014.

## Implementation Workshop – Conservation Ontario

It was noted that Conservation Ontario will be hosting a one-day Implementation Workshop on March 5, 2014, in Toronto. The Chair added that he will be giving a presentation on the Lakehead Region's progress to date in regards to Source Protection Plan Implementation.

## Implementation Resource Guide

It was noted that Conservation Ontario has been releasing Modules for their Drinking Water Source Protection Implementation Resource Guide. Source Water Staff have been editing these modules to remove the information that is not relevant to the Lakehead Source Protection Area. Staff will continue this process as further Modules are released and will create an Implementation Guide for the Lakehead Region.

## 2014/2015 Funding Update

Discussion took place regarding future funding for source protection planning in the Lakehead. The current funding agreement with the MOE ends on March 31, 2014. No details regarding future funding has been announced.

## Minister's Annual Report on Drinking Water

It was noted that the Minister of the Environment released the "Annual Report on Drinking Water, 2013".

## **6. SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE**

### Oil Transported By Rail Car Past Bare Point Water Treatment Plant

Discussion took place regarding oil being transported by rail past the Bare Point Water Treatment Plant. A Committee Member asked if there was any concern over oil being transported by rail car past the Bare Point Water Treatment Plant. While developing policies, the SPC did not identify transport pathways as a threat to the intake. The "Watershed Characterization Report" states:

"The environmental hazard of petroleum to the water sources within the Lakehead Source Protection Area is limited to spills either at the storage facilities or a spill of a truck or railcar containing a petroleum product. It is unlikely a spill would cause widespread contamination of the water sources within the Lakehead Source Protection Area."

It was noted that the number of rail cars carrying oil has increased a great deal in the years since the original policy was written and now reaches 100 cars per day. Even with this increase, the fact that the treatment plant utilizes a Lake Superior intake means that it is protected from a spill on land, but if a train spill happens to occur close to Northstar Creek, oil or other contaminants could potentially reach the intake pipe.

Due to this increase in rail car shipping and the corresponding increased risk, the Committee was concerned that this could now potentially be considered a drinking water threat. The question was asked how the SPC could update the SPP now that it has been approved. The MOE Liaison stated that she would look into this and report back to Staff.

#### Source Protection Committee Chair's WebEx

For your information, a Source Protection Committee Chair's WebEx was held on January 22, 2014. During the call it was announced that Ontario's Auditor General would be auditing the Ministry of Environment's Source Water Protection Program and that some, or all, Conservation Authorities would be contacted.

To date the following Conservation Authorities have announced that they have been contacted by the Auditor General's office: Halton-Hamilton, Quinte, Cataraqui, Nickel District, Grand River, North Bay/Mattawa, Lake Eire, CTC, Essex, Trent and Niagara.

#### Source Protection Report By University of Toronto Student

For your information, a student studying to obtain her Masters in Planning at the University of Toronto wrote a report entitled 'Harmonizing Diversity in Source Water Protection Planning in Ontario: The Case of the Lakehead Area'. The student contacted the office and spoke to the Chair, who provided some information for her report. The report states that the lack of a First Nation's presence on the SPC was seen as a negative. It was noted that the SPC did all it could to encourage First Nation's involvement.

### **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

#### (a) File: Lake Erie SPC – Extension of Municipal Implementation Fund

Members were advised that the Chair of the Lake Eire Region Source Protection Committee wrote a letter to the MOE regarding a request to extend the existing timeline for the Source Protection Municipal Implementation Fund from two to three years.

### **8. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

### **9. OPEN DISCUSSION**

None.

### **10. NEXT MEETING**

The date for the next meeting has not yet been scheduled. The next meeting is contingent on funds being provided by MOE.

### **11. ADJOURNMENT BY CONSENSUS**

Meeting adjourned by consensus.