



Lakehead Region  
Conservation Authority  
Conserve Today...For A Better Tomorrow

**LAKEHEAD Source Protection AREA**

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

Minutes of the Fifty-Seventh Regular Meeting of the Lakehead Source Protection Committee held on Wednesday, November 13, 2013, at the Airline Hotel and Conference Centre. The Chairman called the Meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bob Hartley, Chairman  
Ken McWhirter, Vice Chairman  
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  
Abby Mackie, Senior Health Inspector, TBDHU (in place of Lee Sieswerda)  
Mary Wooding, MOE (via telephone)

### **ALSO PRESENT:**

Tammy Cook, Watershed Manager  
Roman Augustyn, GIS/Data Specialist  
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-Sixth Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, November 7, 2012, were adopted by consensus.

### **4. SOURCE PROTECTION PLANNING**

#### Source Protection Plan Approved

Discussion of the Lakehead Source Protection Plan (SPP) approval by the Minister of the Environment took place. It was noted that the Lakehead has the only approved SPP in the province.

#### Summary of Requirements by Implementing Bodies

Discussion took place regarding the SPP implementation requirements of the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge and the Thunder Bay District Health Unit (TBDHU). The Chairman asked the TBDHU representative if a decision was made regarding fees for the mandatory re-inspection of septic systems in WHPA-A. He stated that at this time the TBDHU was planning to not charge the homeowners a fee.

#### Meetings With Implementing Bodies - Oliver Paipoonge

It was noted that Source Water Staff held Meetings with Oliver Paipoonge on February 14, 2013, and September 26, 2013. These Meetings were held to ensure the Municipality is prepared for SPP implementation.

#### Oliver Paipoonge By-Law Amendment

It was noted that the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge had completed a site specific zoning by-law amendment in order to comply with the Approved Source Protection Plan Policy RV.1.CW-PA which prohibits the application of hauled sewage to land and future agricultural uses within WHPA-A.

#### Municipal Water Works Inspection Report

It was noted that the 2012-2013 Municipal Water Works Inspection Report for the Rosslyn Village Drinking Water System had been completed and circulated at the Meeting.

#### Meetings With Implementing Bodies - Thunder Bay District Health Unit

It was noted that Source Water Staff met with the TBDHU on September 3, 2013. This Meeting was held to ensure the TBDHU is prepared for SPP implementation. A discussion took place regarding the properties in WHPA-A and the mandatory re-inspection program. It was decided that only properties where any part of the septic system was located within WHPA-A would be subject to re-inspection. Lots located in WHPA-A with septic systems not located within WHPA-A would not be subject to the re-inspection program. Since the Meeting the TBDHU reviewed their files to

determine the locations of the septic systems in WHPA-A.

It was noted that 3 of the 4 properties that are on the border of WHPA-A do not have site plans in the TBDHU files. The location of septic systems will be confirmed during the initial inspection to determine whether these homes would continue to be part of the re-inspection program.

#### On-Site Sewage System Maintenance Inspections

Discussion took place regarding the document from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding sewage system inspections. It was noted that most of the properties in WHPA-A would only require a Phase I maintenance inspection, which involves a site visit and generally avoids significant disturbance to the system and surrounding soil area. A Phase II inspection would be required if during the Phase I inspection deficiencies were observed. A Phase II inspection would involve a detailed examination of all components of the septic system.

#### 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 MOE Liaison stated that there is no new information on funding following the end of the current funding agreement (which expires on March 31, 2014), and stated that there is no information regarding when a funding announcement would be made.

#### \$13.5 Million Municipal Implementation Fund

Discussion took place regarding the \$13.5 million Municipal Implementation Fund that would be made available to small and rural municipalities to assist with Source Protection Plan Implementation. It was noted that the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge was given \$50,000.00 by the MOE; however, eligible activities will be limited. As the Lakehead's SPP has been approved, many of the actions that could be funded under this Fund have already taken place and have been paid for by the Municipality.

Discussion took place regarding other Municipalities that received funds and whether they would be able to spend it even though their SPPs have not been approved. It was noted that the funding could be spent over the next three years, so all Municipalities should have SPPs in place during that timeframe.

## Minister's Annual Report on Drinking Water

It was noted that the Minister of the Environment released the "Annual Report on Drinking Water, 2012" which contained a quote from Chairman Bob Hartley as well as an article regarding the fact that the Lakehead's SPP had been approved.

## The Future of Source Protection

It was noted that the Mattagami Source Protection Staff produced a presentation entitled "The Future of Source Protection: Where do we go from here."

## Water Quality in Ontario 2012 Report

It was noted that the "Water Quality in Ontario 2012 Report" released by the Ministry of the Environment. The Report circulated at the meeting.

## Review of Lakehead SPA Water Quantity Geodatabase

Discussion took place regarding the Lakehead's Water Quantity Geodatabase. Roman Augustyn stated that he worked with the Ministry of Natural Resources on the project and it took over a year to complete. The database was approved on September 3, 2013.

## **5. SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE**

### Chair Reappointment

It was noted that Bob Hartley has been reappointed by the Minister of the Environment as Chair of the SPC for a three year term commencing August 20, 2013.

### New SPC Member

It was noted that Lucy Kloosterhuis, Mayor of the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge, has replaced Eric Collingwood on the SPC. Eric Collingwood has taken a position as an LRCA Board Member and according to the Clean Water Act, he cannot serve on both.

### Board Member Replacements and/or Reappointments

Discussion took place regarding replacement of SPC members. According to the Clean Water Act (288/07, Section 8.1), one-third of the SPC must be replaced once the SPP has been approved. One member from each category (municipal, agricultural/commercial and other interests) must be replaced. However, according to Section 11 of the Clean Water Act, the Minister of the Environment may, upon application, grant an exemption to these reappointments. The Chair stated that replacing board members serves no purpose and will cost money, and will also mean losing a member who has served for many years and therefore has a deeper understanding of the source planning process.

The MOE Liaison stated that the MOE has not currently been focusing on this issue. When asked whether the SPA should apply for a Section 11 exemption, she stated that she will look into the issue and report back.

#### Update From MOE Liaison Officer

It was noted that the MOE Liaison Officer had nothing new to report to the SPC that had not already been covered in the Agenda.

#### PAC Meeting

It was noted that the Watershed Manager attended the PAC Meeting at which a presentation was given regarding the completed Site Specific Risk Assessment for the North Harbour at the former Cascades mill site. Discussion took place regarding studies that are currently underway regarding the best way to deal with this issue: either dredging or capping, or a combination of the two. The study is due to be completed within the next six months.

#### Electronic Data Request

It was noted that a scientist from Stantec Consulting in Texas emailed Joe Evers at the Mattagami CA requesting GIS data associated with their Approved Assessment Report. This prompted a discussion between CAs about how to deal with such requests. In general, only data generated by the LRCA would be released (ie: IPZ boundaries or WHPA zones).

### **5. CORRESPONDENCE**

#### (a) File: Environmental Policy & Law

Members were advised that the Environmental Policy & Law website ([www.environmentalnews.ca](http://www.environmentalnews.ca)) had an article that announced that the Lakehead SPP had been approved.

#### (b) File: MOE Liaison Changes

For information purposes, the Committee was provided with emails from Paul Heeney. The emails stated that there have been changes regarding MOE Liaison Officer assignments and the current Liaison Officer for the Lakehead is Mary Wooding.

#### (c) File: 2014 Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative General Meeting and Conference

For information purposes, the Committee was provided with a press release announcing that Thunder Bay will be hosting the 2014 Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative General Meeting and Conference.

- (d) File: “Roles and Responsibilities for the Clean Water Act, 2006.”

For information purposes, the Committee was provided with a pamphlet created by the Ministry of the Environment entitled “Roles and Responsibilities for the Clean Water Act, 2006”.

- (e) File: Letter from Assistant Deputy Minister of the MOE

For information purposes, the Committee was provided with a letter from Susan Lo, Assistant Deputy Minister, Drinking Water Management Division of the MOE acknowledging the work done to date and anticipating the work ahead leading to Implementation.

- (f) File: Letter Announcing TransCanada Pipeline

For information purposes, the Committee was provided with a letter from TransCanada announcing plans to proceed with a pipeline that would bring crude oil from Western Canada to Eastern Canadian refineries and export terminals. A press release and related information circulated at the meeting.

It was noted that the pipeline is being converted from natural gas to oil and that oil presents a greater risk to the environment in the event of a leak.

- (g) File: Nickel District SPC Minutes

For information purposes, the Committee was provided with the Minutes from the Nickel District SPC Meeting held on February 12, 2013.

- (h) File: US Geological Survey Report

For information purposes, the Committee was provided with an email from Matthew Millar at Conservation Ontario that has a link to the US Geological Survey Report entitled “New Insight on Vulnerability of Public-Supply Wells to Contamination”.

- (i) File: Question From Canadian Tire

For information purposes, the Committee was provided with an email from Hardeep Bains from the legal department of Canadian Tire asking if any Canadian Tire retail locations would be affected by the Lakehead SPP. Staff informed him that no existing Canadian Tire stores would be affected by the Plan.

- (j) File: Letter From MOE

For information purposes, the Committee was provided with a letter from Ling Mark, Director, Source Protection Branch, MOE, noting that the Lakehead Source Protection Plan takes effect on October 1, 2013.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**9. OPEN DISCUSSION**

None.

**10. NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, February 19, 2014, in the LRCA Boardroom at 4:00 p.m.

**11. ADJOURNMENT BY CONSENSUS**

Meeting adjourned by consensus.