

**THE CATARAQUI SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE - MINUTES OF
MEETING # 69**

Thursday, February 25, 2021

Teleconference

Participants: John Williamson, Chair; Steve Allen; John Conley; Adora Kwong; Richard Lindgren; Chris Mangan-Greene; Nona Mariotti; Terry Shea; Kim Sytsma; Mary Wooding

Non-Participants: Christine Brennan; Richard Bresee; Michael Farrell; Andrea Gummo; Gordon Ohlke; Jeff Peters

Participating Staff: Tom Beaubiah, Manager, Conservation Lands; Angela Mills, Analyst, Source Water Protection

Guests: Albert Paschkowiak, RMO Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands; Niall Oddie, Planner, City of Kingston Y

In response to recommendations by the Province of Ontario and public health officials for mitigating and responding to the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) meetings are not held in-person, therefore, this Cataraqui Source Protection Committee meeting was convened via teleconference.

Chair John Williamson called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

1) Roll Call and Notice of Proxies

There were 7 (seven) voting members participated in the teleconference and no proxies.

Quorum was not met.

2) Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted by consensus.

3) **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

There were none.

4) **Acknowledgement of Previous Meeting Minutes**

Accepting the minutes of January 21, 2021 has been deferred to the next meeting. No concerns with Minutes were brought forward.

5) **Business Arising**

a) There was none.

6) **Delegations**

There were none.

7) **Correspondence**

There was none.

8) **Updates from the Source Protection Committee**

a) Roundtable Updates from the Source Protection Committee

John Williamson, Chair	none
Steve Allen	Stores starting to open and resemble normalcy. Issues with watermain breaks. Developpers working on many land areas; it has been an interesting year with the housing market going crazy, with sales way above asking.
John Conley	none
Richard Lindgren	none
Chris Mangan-Greene	Article from Gananoque newspaper regarding the use of Clearview chemical and the concern for its impact on groundwater quality.
Nona Mariotti	Real estate has been a hot topic, with demand for lake cottages. Discussion whether septic inspections could be made mandatory and whether people could afford them.
Kim Sytsma	Working on a project with Grassland Canada for ecological goods and services carbon credit

Mary Wooding	As follow up from last meeting, Rick had asked about the Guidance document. Checked with Wendy and the plan is to post it on Ontario.ca and it will be a living document with constant changes. Being an online, interactive type of document. Municipal organizations that were engaged early and promoted through the chairs meeting and contacts to be used to get the word out.
Terry Shea	none

b) ADM and Chair’s Conference call update – John Williamson, Chair

Was dissatisfied with the September Chair’s meeting and sent a letter to the ADM. Got a nice response from ADM and 30-minute phone call (Feb 17th). Some comments of concern include the program being referred to as “mature”, implying that the program would not continue to grow, but was assured that will not be the case.

The Chairs Conference was this week and each region had 10-minutes to discuss. Overall, it went well, and the ADM and Director remained on the call for the full two hours. A follow up discussion will be held by Director with Chairs, individually.

Mary echoed that the general sentiment of the meeting was positive.

c) Local Drinking Water Source Protection Program and Risk Management Update – Angela Mills, Analyst, Source Water Protection

Ongoing work with annual reporting. Two municipalities remain outstanding but working with them to get responses shortly. Will have Annual Reporting ready for a March SPC meeting. Has taken training for online reporting platform.

The Municipal Forum is scheduled for March 26th, and we are expecting one guest speaker and Angela to present one from Holly that was intended for last year (but cancelled due to COVID).

Ongoing discussions/communications with Big East.

d) Provincial Drinking Water Source Protection Program, Mary Wooding Source Protection Liaison

Other than the Guidance document previously mentioned, there are no other updates.

Business/Reports

- a) Local Threat: Transportation of Specified Substances along Corridors – Policy Concepts (Report IR-013-21-CSPC)

This presentation was designed to spark discussion of potential direction for developing policy.

Inquiry about where the Spills Action Centre is located – Mary answered that it is a 24/7 hub with engagement from multiple Government agencies, located in Toronto. It is responsible for province-wide response, not just the local Source Protection Area.

Steve Allen asked whether Source Protection was considered when Emergency Detour Routes were established. Angela answered that the EDRs were set up before DWSP.

John C. asked about the option for using the St. Lawrence Parkway as EDR (later confirmed it is operated by St. Lawrence Parks Commission). Angela noted that there are signs for Trucks to not use that route and that the EDR is County Rd. 2. It was noted that trucks tend to detour north to Athens and then back to Highway 2 or stay off Highway 401 until Prescott.

Steve asked about potential mechanism to notify water operators when EDRs are activated (EDR runs through Brockville IPZ-1).

Rick L. noted that as a Wolfe Island resident, the Ferry Route is not accurately portrayed on the Assessment Report mapping and is not likely within the IPZ. Angela made note for mapping update for next AR.

Terry asked about better information for all users of WHPA and IPZ areas. Should policies be directed towards signage? Can we make changes and really want to expand signage to identify and make individuals more familiar with the influence of transportation routes, enhancing and identifying for the intrusion of threats. If users know they are in a vulnerable area, they would understand the implications for a spill.

Mary responded that Conservation Ontario wants to have an education campaign on what the signs mean. Angela added that she has forwarded ideas to that Working Group about potentially adding QR codes for signs on walking routes, and that car GPS gives driver notice of animal crossing signs in advance. There may be a potential to add DWSP signs for similar notice, but this would be done at the provincial scale, not just our jurisdiction.

Steve suggested that a risk management perspective should be used with respect to communication between OPP and EDR activation to notify water treatment operators.

Steve will look into the opportunity to have the speed limit reduced on Hwy 15 through Cana. Others commented that the intersection just outside the WHPA is very dangerous with regular collisions.

Kim supports education initiatives. There are few practical alternate routes.

John W likes the opportunity to be consistent with adjacent SPC policies.

Nona noted that more oil and gas is transported by rail and road, and we should be more progressive to think ahead and include those in the plan and policies moving forward. Concern that things may be done too quickly and not correctly.

Rick L. asked who might provide and pay for emergency responder training. John suggested reaching out to fire department to find out if such topics are already being covered.

John C. believes that local responders already have chemical spill kits and training, even in smaller municipalities.

It is believed that regular review of Emergency Response Plans is already mandated.

Steve to talk to Craig Drake regarding ability for remote shutdown and capabilities.

Mary will check with existing annual reporting to see if the current Spills Action Centre reporting includes WHPA/IPZ spill events, and whether it is effective.

Angela to inquire on policy effectiveness where potential policies would overlap those of other Source Protection Plans.

No quorum to accept report.

9) Announcements or Inquiries

There were none.

Guest Albert Pashkowiak was happy to listen – no announcements.

10) Motions/Notice of Motion

There were none.

11) Opportunity for Questions from the Media

There were no questions.

IN CAMERA Session

This was not required.

12) Next Meeting

The next meeting will be scheduled for March 25th at 6:30 to review annual reporting that needs to be forwarded to the Authority.

13) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. by consensus.

John Williamson, Chair

Angela Mills,
Analyst, Source Water Protection