

DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION

Our Actions Matter

CATARAQUI
Source Protection Area

THE CATARAQUI SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE - MINUTES OF MEETING # 74

Thursday, October 6, 2022

Hybrid

In-Person Cataraqui Conservation Administration Office Boardroom *and* virtually through Microsoft Teams

Participants: In-Person:
Nona Mariotti, Chair
Richard Lindgren
Jeff Peters
Terry Shea

Virtually:
Steve Allen
John Conley
Chris Mangan-Greene
Niall Oddie
Natasha Prepas-Strobeck
Kim Sytsma

**Non-voting
Participants:** In-Person:
Mary Wooding

Virtually:
Gordon Ohlke
Adora Kwong

Regrets: Michael Farrell

**Participating
Staff:** In-Person:
Donna Campbell, Assistant, Chair & General Manager
Kelsey Guerette, Source Protection Coordinator
Andrew Schmidt, Manager, Watershed Planning & Engineering

Delegation: Virtually:
John Pyke, Risk Management Official

Guests: In Person:
John Williamson, Former Chair Cataraqui Source Protection Committee

Interim Chair Nona Mariotti called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

1) **Roll Call, Notice of Proxies and introductions**

There were nine (9) voting members plus the Interim Chair who participated in the meeting and no proxies.

2) **Adoption of Agenda**

There was one change to the agenda. Item 8d Risk Management Official Update was moved to Item 6, Delegation.

Moved As Amended by Terry Shea and seconded by Richard Lindgren.

3) **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

There were none.

4) **Acknowledgement of Previous Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of July 19, 2022 were accepted on a motion by Jeff Peters and seconded by Kim Sytsma

5) **Business Arising**

There were none.

6) **Delegations**

a) **Risk Management Official Update, John Pyke Risk Management Official**

John Pyke provided an update on the Risk Management work in the Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands in the Lansdowne Source Protection Area. The presentation can be found in [Attachment #1](#).

Correspondence

a) International Joint Commission – Great Lakes Connection

Kelsey Guerette, Source Protection Coordinator, advised that the International Joint Commission is hosting some in-personal and virtual sessions regarding water quality in the great lakes. She indicated that the email also includes some great articles and information on work done by the IJC, some achievements and highlights from 2022.

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

b) Roundtable Updates from the Source Protection Committee

Nona Mariotti, Chair	Lake Associations are having difficulty considering a proactive approach when looking at themselves as not just a social committee but also getting into the politics. There is some hesitation jumping into the political side of things. Some are having candidate meetings to see about direction. Lake Associations are also dealing with the migration of people out of cities into rural areas around lakes. Lastly, a look at shoreline work is something being discussed and getting lots of support for.
Steve Allen	Introduced himself as he has been away for two meetings, and there are new faces on the Committee. Indicated that things in the East (City of Brockville) are very busy, an increase in work by 4-5x.
John Conley	No update at this time.
Richard Lindgren	Discussed the recent CELA Report “Safe Drinking Water for All – 20 Years after the Walkerton Inquiry Reports”. It is useful to have an update of work from the past two decades. Based on the Report majority of recommendations in the inquiry were implemented but a handful are outstanding. This report is like a report card from the public interest perspective. CELA has a new advocacy campaign on topics related to lead pipe removal, regulation 903, etc.
Chris Mangan-Greene	No update at this time.
Jeff Peters	Took part in the Kingston Fair with Terry Shea manning a source water display and engaging with the public. Jeff thanked Kelsey for her assistance with providing material for the booth at the fair. There was great attendance at the fair.
Natasha Prepas-Strobeck	No update at this time.
Terry Shea	Echoed Jeffs update as he also participated in the education and outreach at the fair. Terry indicated it was great to have the fair back and start doing more things like this for source water.
Kim Sytsma	Kim mentioned that the species at risk colouring books, best

	management practices and field guides are up and ready for use. Ontario Soil and Crop Association has them. The colouring books are great for classrooms, and available for teachers.
Adora Kwong	No update at this time.
Gordon Ohlke	Lots of turmoil with the election so that has been a focal point as of late. The township has also taken over the management of septic inspections from the Health Unit as of October 1 st .
John Williamson	Mentioned the Municipal Corporation being formed by Frontenac County for communal systems. John indicated that they should be having technical studies done, and is interested in understanding how as a committee we would know if they are implementing these things. John mentioned it would be ideal if these areas invest in a municipal drinking water system instead of groups of communal wells.

c) Local Drinking Water Source Protection Program and Risk Management Update – Kelsey Guerette, Source Protection Coordinator

Kelsey provided the following updates:

(1) International Plowing Match

Kelsey joined some of our neighboring CAs at the International Plowing Match on Saturday the 24th of September. A large tent was set up with different tables representing different programs within conservation authorities. At the Source Protection area there was some educational material, conversations with the public, and water sampling bottles were available to promote those on wells to sample their drinking water. Kelsey indicated it was a great event with lots of visitors to the tent. As mentioned during the roundtable Jeff and Terry were also set up at the Kingston Fair the previous weekend doing some education and outreach for source water and the conversation authority. Kelsey indicated that it was so nice to see some of these education and outreach opportunities starting back up and advised that if any of the Committee members have ideas for education and outreach to reach out.

(2) On-Going Source Protection Plan Updates

Great progress is continuing to be made on the Source Protection Plan Amendments as we will discuss further in today's meeting. Kelsey is continuing to work with PMs across the province and in particular the East when reviewing the technical rule changes and collaborating on concepts and ideas for policy changes. Additionally, RMO and Municipal working groups have been formed to aid in the development of the draft policies brought forward.

(3) Education and Outreach

To promote communication with Municipalities regarding Source Water, twice annual Municipal Newsletters have been prepared and issued. Kelsey is currently preparing a newsletter for distribution this Fall. The newsletter is generally sent out through email which makes it a bit difficult to know levels of engagement. So, Kelsey is looking into potentially moving the newsletter to our website.

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

Mary provided an update on the Chair Re-appointment. Seven Source Protection Areas/Regions are seeking new chairs so those have been advertised. These positions are the current priority.

8) Business/Reports

Kelsey provided a presentation to accompany reports (a) to (d) ([Attachment #2](#))

a) Cataraqui Source Protection Plan Layout Update – Policy Changes and Organization (Report IR-106-22-CSPC)

Comment #1: Rick Lindgren – Mentioned that the new design works very well, it was difficult to envision based on our discussions at the last meeting, but now seeing it, it works very well.

Resolution: CSPC-009-22
Moved By: Natasha Prepas-Strobeck
Seconded By: Chris Mangan-Greene

That Report IR-106-22-CSPC, Cataraqui Source Protection Plan Layout Update – Policy Changes and Organization, **Be Received**; and,

That staff **Be Directed** to revise the draft policies and layout as recommended within this report; and,

That the resulting updated policies and layout **Be Included** in the amended Cataraqui Source Protection Plan for further consultation.

Carried

b) Draft Policy Changes (Road Salt and Pesticides) (Report IR-107-22-CSPC)

Comment #1: How would the salt stickers be distributed. Kelsey indicated that they would be distributed to the Risk Management Officers.

Question #1: (Niall Oddie) – Niall asked about the change from 20kg, 250kg, to 300kg. Kelsey indicated that the 300kg change is associated with the size of average road salt bins. For road salt storage under 300kg education and outreach would be used and over 300kg risk management plans would be required. The 20kg is noted as in the technical rules that is the

threshold at which a significant threat would be possible. However, as noted that would be handled by education and outreach as its under 300kg.

Question 2: (Niall Oddie) – How does this compare to other regions. Kelsey indicated that there isn't one approach that everyone is taking, however, many regions are looking at handling it through risk management at a certain threshold. Niall indicated that that range (250-350kg) appears reasonable.

Comment #2: (Niall Oddie) – Indicated that a business outside of a protection area but they have large exposure of salt through spillage. Mary indicated that the educational stickers are being considered for areas outside of the WHPAs and IPZs that may be able to provide additional education and outreach.

Through the Pesticide Section – Kelsey indicated that through additional conversations with PMs at other CAs a change in wording for the exemption was considered. Kelsey indicated the exemption would include the Allowable List.

Question #4: (John Williamson) – In previous meetings pesticide use in guardrail areas for instance were discussed. Would this policy be applicable to those areas? Kelsey mentioned that it would depend. Whether it would be prohibited or require a risk management plan would depend on where spraying is occurring (significant threat area), the amount of area that would be sprayed (often >1 hectare is a significant threat), and depending on the pesticide used (if it falls within the exemption or not).

Kelsey asked if anyone was opposed to the change in the exemption.

Comment #3: (Rick Lindgren) – Mentioned he liked the new exemption list as it narrows the scope.

Resolution: **CSPC-010-22**
Moved By: Terry Shea
Seconded By: Niall Oddie

That Report IR-107-22-CSPC, Draft Policy Changes (Road Salt and Pesticides), **Be Received;** and,

That staff **Be Directed** to revise the draft policies and format as recommended within this report, as amended; and,

That the resulting updated policies and format **Be Included** in the amended Cataraqui Source Protection Plan for further consultation.

Carried

- c) Cataraqui Source Protection Plan – Draft Policy Updates (Non-Agricultural Source Material, Fertilizer, Snow, Organic Solvent) (Report IR-108-22-CSPC)

Question #1: (Niall Oddie) – The threshold is the area of snow storage itself correct? Niall has a concern with the area as it would be difficult to enforce as property owners could pile high instead to avoid prohibition or RMPs. Asked about consideration for using the snow area cleared instead of storage area itself. Kelsey indicated that the numbers used are based on the technical rules and that was in part the reason we did not include a lower threshold for the RMP policy. Therefore, it would be up to the discretion of the Risk Management Official.

Resolution: **CSPC-011-22**
Moved By: John Conley
Seconded By: Kim Sytsma

That Report IR-108-22-CSPC, Cataraqui Source Protection Plan – Draft Policy Updates (Non-Agricultural Source Material, Fertilizer, Snow, Organic Solvent), **Be Received**; and,

That staff **Be Directed** to revise the draft policies and layout as recommended within this report; and,

That the resulting updated policies and layout **Be Included** in the amended Cataraqui Source Protection Plan for further consultation.

Carried

d) Cataraqui Source Protection Plan – New Policies (Best Practices and Climate Change Assessment) (Report IR-094-22-CSPC)

Question #1: (Terry Shea) – Asked about implementation notification. Kelsey indicated that this policy would fall under a monitoring policy.

Question #2: (Rick Lindgren) – Questioned that Municipalities are going to think that the “sources of drinking water” in their municipality would fall under the jurisdiction of the Source Protection Authority and Committee. Kelsey indicated that the hope with including sources in that policy is during these tools and plans would be to consider their area as a whole as the impact on lakes or groundwater would also impact their municipal system. Rick indicated that there may be municipal push back on that wording but perhaps we could take it as is through consultation and see if there are any concerns. John indicated that maybe it would be best to change sources to highly vulnerable aquifers.

Comment #1: (Chris Managan-Greene) – Mentioned that in her business they got a letter from the health unit that in light of the number of power outages we’ve experienced as a result of climate change, they have been urged to have a generator to protect the drinking water system. There may be other similar policies going through at other organizations/levels.

Comment #2: (Niall Oddie) – Indicated that as it is a non-binding policy there may be some issues in getting it adopted, due to cost for instance. Concern about uptake. Kelsey indicated that this does give us an opportunity to reach out annually during annual reporting to assess progress and discuss options for implementation. It opens that door for discussion.

Question #3: (Rick Lindgren) - What would efforts be under the first bullet. Kelsey indicated this could be a wide range of things such as education and outreach or if there was ever funding available potentially some stewardship programs.

Comment #3: (Rick Lindgren) – Provided a comment noting that this won’t provide any material difference on the ground, its non-binding, non-mandatory and non-enforceable. This is about as far as we can go as a committee but really this is a baby step in protecting these other systems. A big gap, lots of people are still on the outside of the protection under the clean water act unless a municipality has the resources and vision to actually do something to help these folks.

Comment #4: (Steve) – Mentioned that Rick summed it up really well. When this policy was passed to him it was a bit of fear considering the lack of resources and ability to carry out the items in this policy. Will be difficult to undertake these items from the municipal perspective.

Comment #5: (Terry Shea) – Terry indicated that he likes the policy. The policy is about best practices that leaves it as a placeholder. This is to put best efforts forward. It is important that the statement is made, it exists and it shows that our committee has made these considerations. Rick indicated that he does agree with Terry in the way that it provides a

signal and is a first step, but in the short term it may not do a lot in terms of source water protection for those other systems.

Comment #6: (Jeff Peters) – Large amount of our area is a highly vulnerable aquifer, in his district in South Frontenac, the most contentious issue is septic inspections and whether they become mandatory or not. The cost of some of that work could be detrimental to some people, they may not be able to undertake that work on the local scale. John Williamson, replied that many people who are concerned with getting these inspections are generally those who have issues with their system. John indicated that municipalities that have the funds to do so should be putting in municipal systems during development not just looking at private wells or communal systems.

Comment #7: (Nona Mariotti) – Nona indicated that we should be dealing with this equally, urban or rural as we all play into sources of drinking water. Nona indicated that it's a difficult position we are in with no real power, we try and do the best we can.

Resolution: **CSPC-012-22**
Moved By: Jeff Peters
Seconded By: John Conley

That Report IR-109-22-CSPC, Cataraqui Source Protection Plan – New Policies (Best Practices and Climate Change Assessment), **Be Received;** and,

That staff **Be Directed** to revise the draft policies as recommended within this report, as amended; and,

That the resulting updated policies **Be Included** in the amended Cataraqui Source Protection Plan for further consultation.

Carried

9) **Announcements or Inquiries**

Kelsey indicated that there will be a job posting for a Source Protection Assistant in the coming weeks. That individual will assist with the consultation phase of the Amendment and to aid in implementing and developing educational material related to the Best Practices.

10) **Motions/Notice of Motion**

There were none.

11) Opportunity for Questions from the Media

There were no questions.

12) IN CAMERA Session

This was not required.

13) Next Meeting

To be held at the call of the Chair. Looking at a potential meeting for Early December or Early January.

14) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m. on a motion by Niall Oddie, seconded by Natasha Prepas-Strobeck.

Nona Mariotti, Interim Chair

Kelsey Guerette,
Coordinator, Source Protection