

SPC MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 5, 2021
Meeting #78

The Source Protection Committee Chair, Dean Edwardson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on November 5, 2021 via ZOOM. The following members and staff were in attendance;

Members

Dean Edwardson
Johnny Bowes
Jarrod Craven
Gary Eagleson
Vince Gagner
Carl Kennes
Earl Morwood

Valerie M'Garry
Christa Sawyer
Karleen Sirna
Matthew Jauernig
John Van Dorp
Joe Salter (Liaison)
Olga Yudina, MECP

Regrets:

Brent Clutterbuck
Pat Feryn
Andrew Powell (HU Liaison)
George Marr
Gary Martin

Staff:

Jenna Allain
Deb Kirk
Steve Clark
Katie Ebel
Julie Welker
Emily De Cloet
Ken Phillips

Deborah Balika,
Source Protection Lead, Conservation
Ontario

1) Chair's Welcome

Dean Edwardson welcomed the committee. After the roll call, he acknowledged a quorum was achieved. The members and staff introduced themselves to include the newest members. Julie Welker was introduced as the new Source Program Coordinator with Jenna Allain moving into a new role of Manager of Planning with the UTRCA. Dean advised everyone of Darlene Whitecalf, a long standing committee member's passing in July; and noted she will be very much missed.

2) Adoption of the Agenda

The November 5, 2021 agenda be approved.

Moved by Carl Kennes-seconded by Earl Morwood

"RESOLVED that the November 5, 2021 agenda were approved."

CARRIED.

3) Approval of March 26, 2021 SPC minutes

The March 26, 2021 previous meeting minutes be approved.

Moved by John Van Dorp-seconded by Valerie M'Garry

"RESOLVED that the March 26, 2021 meeting minutes were approved."

CARRIED.

4) Delegations

None.

5) Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest was identified.

6) Business Arising from the minutes

None.

7) Business

a) Chairs Meeting /Update

Dean Edwardson gave an update from the SPC Chairs meeting held on September 14, 2021. The presentations from that meeting were included in the package under Agenda Item #8. Phosphorus and Algal Blooms and Overview of Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances. The Chairs will be meeting again in the near future and Dean will be discussing this region's local concerns such as geothermal, wind turbines, salt piles, and ASM piles.

b) Stantec Presentation Kelly McLagan from Stantec gave a presentation titled: *Hydrogeological Assessment and Source Protection Updates within the Waterloo Moraine Strasburg/Parkway Well Fields Case Study*. The study site was in the Region of Waterloo with a population of 550,000 and 75% of water supply is groundwater, having approximately 100 municipal wells, 40 plus well fields. The Strasburg Parkway Well Fields was the area of focus located in south Kitchener.

The study's goal was to understand how to maintain long term groundwater quality and quantity; looking at various land uses in the area; residential, industrial/commercial and City's snow facility, nearby development and proposed development and how these affect water quality/quantity (Groundwater / Surface Water Interactions). Tier 3 modelling and pumping rates were looked at. Transport Pathway Adjustments and Vulnerability Scoring was done and calculation of Percentage of Managed Lands and Livestock Density and Surrogate Percent Impervious Areas.

Using the list of Prescribed Drinking water threats, Stantec updated the previous threat inventory to reflect the following:

- Updated WHPAs
- Changes to land use, identified through a detailed field survey
- Review of aerial imagery

- Mapping of sanitary/sewer pipes
- Updated road networks
- Stormwater management pond locations

This region worked with other stakeholders to obtain thorough dataset for model updates. When data gaps existed, a field program was completed to supplement existing understanding Tier 3 model has been maintained and updated to remain useful and relevant for planning and development decisions Region uses Tier 3 model to evaluate land use activity and future planning decisions on an on-going basis.

A question was asked concerning a former landfill site in Kitchener and the uncertainty about what was deposited there was asked. This was not included in the study however the City is looking into this.

c) Section 48 Presentation

Julie Welker gave a presentation on the new regulation under the Safe Drinking Water Act that took effect July 1, 2018. This regulation applies in Source Protection Areas identified under the Clean Water Act. This was presented and discussed at March 23rd, 2018 SPC meeting.

The intent of the regulation is to ensure sources of drinking water for new or expanding drinking water systems are protected before providing water to the public. Municipalities (or system owners) are required to ensure work necessary under the Clean Water Act to delineate and score vulnerable areas is completed before they can apply for a drinking water works permit. It will be important to engage SPAs early.

The New Regulation applies where:

- A new municipal residential drinking water system is being located within a source protection area, or
- Changes are being made to an existing municipal residential drinking water system located in a source protection area that results in:
 - the establishment of a new groundwater well
 - deepening an existing well
 - increasing the capacity at an existing well
 - the establishment of a new surface water intake
 - moving an existing intake

Section 48 of O.Reg. 287/07 under the CWA was amended to include the requirements for the 'notice' referred to in the new Safe Drinking Water Act Regulation. The owner of the drinking water system notifies SPA of their intention to make an application for a drinking water works permit and requests SPA to provide written confirmation that the mapping/scoring of vulnerable areas is complete.

The Notice from the SPA will:

- Include a statement that they are satisfied with the vulnerable area work;
- Identify the amendments required to the plan as a result;
- Indicate when the SPA will be proposing amendments;
- Identify whether the amendments have already been made.

Since this new regulation came into effect, UT SPA has written two notices, one in Thamesford and one for Ridgetown.

d) SP Road Signs, Song, Webinar Series-Julie Welker

A music video and an online mapping application are available from Conservation Ontario to help educate the public about drinking water protection zone signs. The mapping highlights areas where extra protective measures help to reduce risk and keep drinking water safe and clean. The new campaign aims to resolve some of the confusion motorists may feel as they see some of the 1,700 signs along the province's highways and local roads. A road sign and other SP videos will be created for our region in the spring.

The link to the song can be found at <https://youtu.be/ltN2JWovQIw>

Conservation Ontario has planned interactive webinar series featuring OBWB's newly published Source Water Protection Toolkit. The webinars will run every Wednesday, October 20 to December 15, 2021 from 11 am to 12 pm. This resource was specially designed to support water utilities, local and provincial government staff, elected officials, First Nations, conservation groups and water professionals who are interested in or responsible for protection of drinking water sources in B.C. and beyond.

8) Information

The items listed below were provided to the committee as a FYI:

8.i.) Article: Ancient groundwater Why the water you're drinking may be thousands of years old

8.ii.) Article: Wheatley explosion

8.iii.) Article: Nunavut government to fly 80,000 litres of water to Iqualuit to address citywide crisis

8.iv) Presentation slides: Phosphorus & Algal Blooms

8.v Presentation slides: Overview of Per-and Polyfluoroalky Substances

Other areas of concern noted by members:

Fire Extinguishers: A fire at a Flea Market in Smith Falls in 2016 resulted in an investigation by the Ministry due to the fire extinguisher foam which contaminated 12 wells and the water is still not drinkable. Work is being done to change to a more environmentally friendly product that does not contaminate.

Glitter bath balms that contain “*synthetic mica*” were questioned as they are not water soluble as originally thought and need to also be considered as they get into water supplies.

9) In Camera Session

None.

10) Other Business

None.

11) MOECP Liaison Report

Olga Yudina, the MECP Liaison provided an update. She noted changes in leadership roles in the MECP since the previous meeting with Kirstin Corrigan now the Manager of SP Branch, she was the former Manager of the Species at Risk program. The recent government cabinet shuffle resulted in a new Minister, David Piccini, who they are assisting in getting up to speed on all the program files.

The SP branch is working on finalizing the Amendments to the Director’s Technical Rules. These rules will offer technical methodology to assess vulnerability/ risk under the Clean Water Act. The goal will be to incorporate any new science, identify and address gaps and implementation challenges since the development of the Source Protection Plan and Assessment Reports. It has been an extensive process involving a lot of research and analysis in consultation with SPC Chairs, Project Managers, and municipalities and was posted on EBR and was re-assessed after review of comments.

The *Best Management Practices for Source Protection -Guidance Document* is being finalized and will be used to ensure the communities/individual have the tools to also protect non-municipal, residential drinking water sources, private wells. The guidance document is based on all the information we have learned and will provide tips on how to protect sources of water. When completed the document will be released on the website Ontario.ca

12) Members Report

Vince Gagner: The Sarnia-Lambton Environmental Association (SLEA) has been invited by various groups to present at their Virtual Drinking Water Program with a focus on Sarnia-Lambton industry efforts to prevent spills to the St. Clair River as well as updates to the regional spill notification system. Vince reported there is a new spills response protocol for the Sarnia area to include a Code 10; which consists of an automated notification to all member companies of a spill.

13) Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned **at 11:40 a.m.**

Moved by John Van Dorp-seconded by Valerie M’Garry

“RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned.”

CARRIED.

PLEASE NOTE: Next SPC meeting to be determined