



**Minutes of the meeting of the
Quinte Region Source Protection Committee**

Date: June 24, 2021 at 6:30 pm

Location: ZOOM Meeting

Members Present:

- Andrew Landy** (Health Unit Liaison)
- Curtis Maracle** (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte)
- Ernie Margetson** (Prince Edward County)
- Gary Fox** (Agriculture)
- Gillian Ward** (General Public)
- Heather Lang** (Agriculture)
- Jack Alexander** (Economic- Small Business)
- Joanne Albert** (Tweed, Centre Hastings and Marmora and Lake)
- Josh Powles** (General – Education)
- Max Christie** (Chair)
- Mel Plewes** (General – Public urban)
- Mike Kirby** (Source Protection Authority Liaison)
- Phil Norton** (General - Public Rural Non-Farm)
- Roger Cole** (Town of Deseronto and Greater Napanee)
- Sandy Latchford** (Economic – Business)
- Terry Kennedy** (General – Environmental)

Also Present:

- Amy Dickens** (Project Coordinator)
- Michelle Grandchamp** (Communications Assistant)
- Kirsten Geisler** (Communications Specialist)
- Olga Yudina** (MECP Liaison)

Absent:

- Bryon Keene** (Economic – Business)
- Garnet Thompson** (City of Belleville)
- Mary Wooding** (MECP Liaison)
- Nicole Storms** (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte)
- Ron Hamilton** (Group 5)

1. **Call to Order**

The Chair, Max Christie called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm.

As we work, live, and learn on the traditional territories of the Anishnabek, Huron-Wendat, and Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) peoples, the Committee Chair invited Curtis Maracle of the Mohawks on the Bay of Quinte to share a moment of respect for those that suffered through Canada's Residential School System and to reflect on the recent discoveries of unmarked graves of indigenous children and how their communities have been impacted.

There was some general discussion. Committee members expressed condolences for Canada's Indigenous communities and the importance of showing love and support to those who have been impacted.

2. **Approval of the Agenda**

There were no comments.

By consensus, the Quinte Region Source Protection Committee approved the agenda for the SWP Committee meeting on June 24, 2021.

3. **Chairs Statement to Guests - Collection of Personal Information for Board Minutes**

This is addressed to anyone that is not a committee member and/or staff person of Quinte Conservation: Your name will be used in the committee meeting minutes and the minutes will become public information after review and approval of the committee. If you are present for a delegation or hearing, the context of your presentation will be recorded in the minutes of the committee meeting.

No Guests

4. **Disclosures of Pecuniary Interests**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

5. **Approval of the minutes of the Source Protection Authority of March 25, 2021**

A committee member informed the group of an error to the minutes recorded for item 10 – railway threat.

Staff said that the direction was to reach out to CN for more information and that they would correct the minutes.

By consensus, the Quinte Region Source Protection Committee approved the minutes of the March 25, 2021 meeting.

6. S36 Policy Updates

A. DNAPL:

Staff reviewed the current list of policy updates as outlined in the presentation and commented that a public consultation period will take place to spread awareness on policy updates.

By consensus, the Quinte Region Source Protection Committee approved the staff recommendation to address existing significant DNAPL threats in IPZs using risk management plans, to prohibit future threats in the Intake Protection Zone 1, and finally to address future threats in the Intake Protection Zone 2 using risk management plan to manage the risk.

Staff will take the committee's direction and incorporate these decisions into the source protection plan policies.

A committee member asked if risk management plans for existing businesses in IPZ 1 and IPZ 2 should be created.

A committee member asked if existing RMPs were negotiated.

Staff responded that RMPs have been established for wellhead protection areas and plans for IPZs will be created once the policy is in place.

B. Application of Road Salt:

Staff reviewed the current road salt policy and proposed changes.

The staff recommendation is to continue applying this alternative methodology to all vulnerable areas and to further investigate parameters.

A committee member asked whether the calcium chloride used as a dust suppressant on rural roads was an activity of concern under the Clean Water Act.

A committee member suggested looking into Friends Of groups and other stakeholders that may monitor the use of road salt in the Quinte Region.

The MECP liaison responded through the chat function that the circumstances do not specify the season/reason for application, so it doesn't matter whether it's winter application for snow/ice or summer app for dust control.

There was a brief discussion on road salt alternatives including the use of brine and whether there are safer brine alternatives available.

A committee member asked for clarification on which proposed updates to the director's technical rules will decrease scores for road salt threats.

Staff responded that wellhead protection areas will see a decreased threshold for significant threats related to road salt application, however it will not result in any new significant road salt threats.

Threshold changes to IPZs will now see significant threats for road salt in Napanee and Picton when amendments are approved.

A committee member commented that local municipalities use a combination of salt and sand and that the municipality is obligated to meet minimum maintenance requirements and asked if updates would affect municipal policies.

The committee asked staff to investigate whether municipalities can provide monitoring reports for road salt application.

There was some general discussion on what areas type of business would require RMP.

Staff responded that the policy applies to commercial operations and that it excludes large scale residential operations such as apartment buildings, which should be considered in the future.

By consensus, the Quinte Region Source Protection Committee approved the staff recommendation to continue calculating impervious surface percentages based on vulnerable area for each drinking water system in the source protection plan.

C. Transition Policy:

Staff reviewed the status of the transition policy.

There were no comments

By consensus, the Quinte Region Source Protection Committee received the staff update on the transition policy.

D. Urban/Backyard Flocks:

Staff provided an update on the status of backyard/urban chicken flocks as a significant threat. Using the definitions in the *Nutrient Management Act*, and its associated General Regulation 287/07, staff determined backyard flocks do fall within the pathogen threat related to the generation of agricultural source material.

Staff commented that there is currently no definition to outline livestock under the Clean Water Act and that the gap needs to be filled for the urban farming threat.

Staff suggested educating urban chicken owners and/or work with municipalities to create land use by-laws to address this, but feels that public outreach be the best way to approach situation.

Staff asked a committee member if they could reference PEC by-law. A committee member shared the requirements of PEC's by-law related to urban chicken flocks. Another committee member commented that their municipality has created a by-law to prohibit livestock in urban areas.

By consensus, the Quinte Region Source Protection Committee approved the staff recommendation to use education and outreach to address this threat.

Staff will present the proposed policy text at the next SPC meeting.

The committee also asked to see examples of municipal by-laws for urban flocks at the next SPC meeting.

E. Transportation:

Staff presented the policy update for transportation corridors.

A committee member recommended including Wellington and any other vulnerable areas where the Coast Guard is the responding body to spills.

A committee member recommended elevating the Coast Guard awareness issue to neighbouring Source Protection Areas and Regions.

By consensus, the Quinte Region Source Protection Committee approved the staff recommendation to include a strategic policy directed to the Canadian Coast Guard and approved the S36 policy update.

7. Nitrate Issues

Staff presented monitoring results from the raw water in the municipal drinking water system that showed elevated levels of nitrates in the drinking water. Staff presented how this can be identified as an Issue under the *Clean Water Act* and recommended that an Issues Contributing Area be delineated to manage nitrate levels.

The Chair asked staff to verify how much consultation has happened with Tweed's municipal well inspector.

The committee directed staff to speak with the municipal well inspector and to provide an update for the next meeting.

By consensus, the Quinte Region Source Protection Committee received the report on Trending Nitrate Issues. Further the committee directed staff to continue the technical work related to identifying an Issue and Issues Contributing Area to be reviewed at the next meeting, along with any monitoring results received over the summer months.

8. DNAPL Condition

Staff provided an update on a property contaminated with Dense Non-aqueous Phase Liquids (DNAPLs). Staff presented notes from a meeting with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks related to the status of the Director's Order related to the site as well as the extent of contaminants.

Staff briefed the committee that they met with MECP to discuss the issue of contamination and that the contamination has existed for approximately 10 years. Staff added that the property is privately owned and Quinte Source Protection cannot write a policy directed at specific land owners.

Committee member asked if the plume was migrating and another committee member confirmed that it was not.

By consensus, the Quinte Region Source Protection Committee received the report on Identification of a Condition in Town of Picton.

9. Program Update

Staff gave a brief update on agreements, best management practices, the WELLness project, and CN Rail's pesticide threat.

A committee member thanked staff for investigating CN Rail's pesticide threats.

There was no further discussion.

By consensus, the Quinte Region Source Protection Committee received the report on the Source Protection Program Update.

10. Chair's Update

The Chair provided an update to the committee on the latest Chairs meeting, the amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act, and the status of the Best Practices Guidance for non-municipal drinking water systems.

The Chair asked the MECP Liaison to speak on the intention and status update for best management practices.

The MECP Liaison said that the intention of the document is to support landowners and stakeholders in protecting their drinking water sources. The Liaison reminded the committee that the best management practices are voluntary and information is based on collective experience and lessons learned. They said that there was some consultation done within a group of four regions. The document has not been published yet and will be made available with the feedback survey. They added that the MECP social media team is looking at different campaigns to reach a variety of groups.

A committee member commented that the best practices guidance will be important in the coming months and years as the region continues to see an influx of people moving from large urban areas into rural areas of the Quinte Source Protection region. They also stated that the MECP need to be considerate of thinly stretched municipal budgets.

Another committee member commented that they would like to see the best management practices available everywhere as a way to educate residents, especially those who have recently migrated to rural areas from urban ones.

The Chair commented that there is a new director and MECP minister.

Finally, the Chair provided a brief update to inform the committee that changes to the CA Act will not impact the Source Protection Program.

There were no additional discussions or comments.

By consensus, the Quinte Region Source Protection Committee received the Chair's Update.

11. Other Business

Staff briefly discussed the contamination found at CFB Mountain View in PEC and the prevalence of PFOS/PFAs in the Quinte Region.

A committee member shared Tyendinaga Township recently passed two motions supporting resolutions from other Townships calling on the Federal Government of Canada and the Province of Ontario to ban Unencapsulated Polystyrene Foam.

There were no further discussions.

12. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The date and the time of the next meeting will be at the call of the chair.

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm.

Max Christie, Chair