



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

Date: June 23, 2022 at 6:30 pm

Location: ZOOM Meeting

Members Present:

- Andrew Landy** (Health Unit Liaison)
- Bryon Keene** (Economic – Business)
- Curtis Maracle** (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte)
- Ernie Margetson** (Prince Edward County)
- Gary Fox** (Agriculture)
- Garnet Thompson** (City of Belleville)
- Heather Lang** (Agriculture)
- Josh Powles** (General – Education)
- Max Christie** (Chair)
- Mel Plewes** (General – Public urban)
- Phil Norton** (General - Public Rural Non-Farm)
- Sandy Latchford** (Economic – Business)
- Terry Kennedy** (General – Environmental)
- Roger Cole** (Town of Deseronto and Greater Napanee)
- Jack Alexander** (Economic -Small Business)

Also Present:

- Amy Dickens** (Project Coordinator)
- Amy Stringer** (Corporate Services Assistant- Summer Student)
- Keith Taylor** (Lower Trent Conservation Authority)
- John Williamson**
- Catherine Eby** (Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks)
- Megan Murphy** (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte)

Absent:

- Mike Kirby** (Source Protection Authority Liaison)
- Ron Hamilton** (Group 5)
- Mary Wooding** (MECP Liaison)
- Joanne Albert** (Tweed, Centre Hastings and Marmora and Lake)
- Gillian Ward** (General Public)

1. **Call to Order**

The Chair, Max Christie called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

2. **Approval of the Agenda**

The chair noted a small addition to the agenda.

By consensus, the Quinte Region Source Protection Committee approved the agenda for the Source Protection Committee meeting on June 23, 2022.

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.

4. **Disclosures of Pecuniary Interests**

There was no discussion.

5. **Approval of the minutes of the Source Protection Committee of March 24, 2022**

The chair asked for any concerns with the minutes. A member mentioned page 5 section 11, on education outreach initiatives there was some difficulty with the 3rd line, they mentioned the wording “educated them” to “educated students” and recommend making that change. And then on 4th line, it reads students will be asked to do “whatever”, member interpreted the discussion to be asking students to prepare pictures and creative writing pieces for submission for rewards. And suggested that is what the committee should be saying.

With the above changes being made, the Item was closed.

By consensus, the Quinte Region Source Protection Committee approved the minutes of the March 24, 2022 meeting.

6. **Matters Arising from Minutes**

There was no discussion.

7. **Action Items of Previous Meeting**

Staff said that the parking lot size restrictions would be revisited.

Staff shared presentation on Point Anne system, highlighting how it is a surface water system that is influenced by groundwater.

There was no discussion.

8. Rural Development on Private Communal Systems

A Guest, Chair John Williamson from the Cataraqui Source Protection Area gave a presentation on rural development. Chair Williamson is concerned there is not enough water and resources in small municipalities to support proposed large developments.

A Committee Member asked if the ground water studies that were done ten to fifteen years ago show evidence of any water shortages.

The Guest answered that the study did not get into quantity issues but is aware of the quantity issues as people every year have wells that run dry in the west side of the area.

Another Committee Member acknowledged having similar issues.

A Committee Member wanted clarification if the area discussed was a rural subdivision.

The Guest confirmed that some were rural subdivisions.

A Committee Member asked why they don't think about putting in holding tanks for water rather than drilling wells for the subdivisions or have a trucking system established with a local city. Committee Member also mentioned a project that used alternative methods and were successful.

The Guest answered that one of the problems that Walkerton had was pathogens getting into the slime layers. The Guest added that the issue would be difficult to regulate.

Discussion continued and a Committee Member mentioned involvement in water management in Quebec. The Committee Member continued discussion towards Southwest Quebec's water shed and mentioned having contacts that could be of use.

Committee Member asked what the regulations is with community wells. Committee Member continued and asked if community wells are supposed to supply so many homes or so many gallons per minute and if there is some control over these community wells?

The Chair answered that if there are less than six homes, there is virtually no control. The concern is that if there are more than six homes and there is a problem then the municipality would take over.

The Guest answered that if there was a community well then, a well on each individual property would not be necessary.

By consensus, the Quinte Region Source Protection Committee received the Rural Development on Private Communal Systems Report.

9. First Nations Drinking Water Settlement

A Member shared presentation on First Nations Drinking Water and The Class Action Lawsuit.

- Provided what the \$8 billion settlement includes.
- Provided what impact the settlement has on First Nations.

A Committee Member asked if there were individuals impacted in Tyendinaga.

A Committee Member answered that there are individuals who are under boil water advisories under private wells.

A Committee Member mentioned there is currently no science to back up the water health issues, but there are community members that claim to link some health issues to water on the territory.

By consensus, the Quinte Region Source Protection Committee received the First Nations Drinking Water Settlement Report.

10. Chair's Update

The Chair stated that nothing is currently happening with Best Practices.

The Chair added that the new Minister will be announced tomorrow (June 24, 2022). The Chair added that if the Ministry remains the same will also be included in the announcement. Once that happens it will take time for things to gain momentum and to be patient with the Government.

The Chair's for the Source Protection Committees are gone as the 30th of August. The Chair's will be renewed but the timeline is uncertain. The Chair added that temporary Chair's will follow drawing names from a hat. Hopefully there will be one more meeting before the Chair is up on August 30, 2022.

Staff stated that a full-time employee was officially hired at Quinte Conservation for the Source Water Protection Lead for Best Practices.

By consensus, the Quinte Region Source Protection Committee approved the Chairs Update.

11. S34 Tweed Nitrate Issue Status Update

Staff gave update on S34 Tweed Nitrate Issue. Staff are currently in the pre-consultation phase. During this phase the Ministry and other bodies can comment on the policies and changes.

Early engagement: Ten comments in total. Five were about the assessment report mainly about being consistent and technical language that the committee is using. Five were about the source protection plan.

By consensus, the Quinte Region Source Protection Committee approved the S34 Tweed Nitrate Issue Status Update report.

12. S34 Policy Updates

Staff gave a presentation on four policy topics in the Source Water Protection plan.

The first policy presented was Storage of Commercial Fertilizer.

A Committee Member stated that not many people store fertilizer, that it is delivered and immediately spread. The comment confirms the change in wording.

No objections, wording will be removed.

The next policy that was presented by staff was a change of language in the policy of Non-Agricultural Application of Pesticides.

The Committee approved the proposal to change the language for the policy and suggested that the general language be specific to human health and human safety.

Staff presented the application of Road Salt on Private Property Policy.

A Committee Member commented that 400 square-metres for 30 parking spaces is too small.

A Committee Member wanted more clarification the background on where the 1000 square-metres comes from.

Staff answered that it is based on the existing risk management plan parking lot size.

Discussion continued. Committee came to the agreement of it being minimum of 50 spaces as the notion rather than area.

Staff presented on the policy of the Storage of Snow.

Staff discussed that recent amendments to the Technical Rules that have left two small gaps in the Source Water Protection plan: sites where snow is dumped to melt off site, and large residential & institutional parking lots. Staff explained under the new significant drinking water threat circumstances Snow Disposal Facilities that require Ministry of the Environment Conservation and Parks approval and snow stored on sites that are predominantly commercial or industrial land uses. Staff further explained in the original round of source protection planning, the Committee had confirmed no snow dumps existed in the most vulnerable areas before creating policies.

Staff also highlighted the concern that property owners could negate the requirement of a risk management plan by moving snow from the commercial/industrial site to these snow dumps which are often closer to the well or intake.

A Committee Member shared that these sites often contain road salt (sodium and chloride) but also heavy metals and other contaminants.

A Committee Member asked staff to confirm whether MECP approves snow dump locations.

The Committee discussed the possibility of a local threat to address snow dumps and encouraged staff to communicate with the MECP staff to address these gaps.

By consensus, the Quinte Region Source Protection Committee approved the S34 Policy Updates.

13. Transport Pathways

Staff gave a presentation on Transport Pathways and preventative measures.

Staff stated that after a recent Ontario Land Tribunal ruling in favour of source water protection, risk management officials asked the Committee to review the transport pathway policy to ensure it provides the most protection possible.

The Committee reviewed the recently amended policy, approved in 2021, and felt that policy, while worded differently, had the same policy intent, therefore no changes were made.

By consensus, the Quinte Region Source Protection Committee approved the Transport Pathways report.

14. Other Business

Next meeting near the end of the August. Chair put forward preference for an in-person meeting. Hybrid method was suggested if any member wishes to voice their concerns for an in-person meeting.

No oppositions for an in-person meeting.

15. Date and Time of Next Meeting

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

16. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 pm.

Max Christie, Chair