



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

Date: January 5, 2023 at 6:30 pm

Location: Hybrid (in person/Zoom)

Members Present:

- Andrew Landy** (Health Unit Liaison)
- Curtis Maracle** (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte)
- Garnet Thompson** (City of Belleville)
- Gillian Ward** (General Public)
- Heather Lang** (Agriculture)
- Jack Alexander** (Economic- Small Business)
- Joanne Albert** (Tweed, Centre Hastings and Marmora and Lake)
- Mary Wooding** (MECP Liaison)
- 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)
- Terry Kennedy** (General – Environmental)

Also Present:

- Amy Dickens** (Project Coordinator)
- Meghan Murphy** (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte)

Absent:

- Bryon Keene** (Economic – Business)
- Josh Powles** (General – Education)
- Ron Hamilton** (Group 5)
- Sandy Latchford** (Economic – Business)
- VACANT** (Prince Edward County)
- VACANT** (Agriculture)
- Natasha Mathieu** (Outreach Lead)

1. **Call to Order**

The Chair, Max Christie called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.

The Chair shared the Committee's sadness regarding the recent passing of agricultural representative, Gary Fox. Gary was openly supportive of the committee's objective to ensure that the likes of Walkerton would no longer recur. Gary was also most supportive of the Committee's initiative to protect sources beyond those included in the *Clean Water Act* by promoting source water protection to the vulnerable populations in rural Ontario, showing his understanding of the needs of rural Ontario. The Committee was fortunate to have known and to have worked with Gary.

2. **Approval of the Agenda**

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee approved the agenda for the Quinte Source Protection Committee meeting on January 5, 2023.

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**

No disclosures of pecuniary interests were made.

5. **Approval of the minutes of the Source Protection Committee of October 19, 2022**

The chair asked for any concerns with the minutes. Staff identified a committee member had reached out with a typographic error that had been corrected. A member requested clarification on the correct title for the committee. Staff will investigate and inform the members of the correct title for the committee.

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

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee approved the minutes of the October 19, 2022 meeting.

6. **Matters Arising from Minutes**

There was no discussion.

7. **Action Items of Previous Meeting**

There was no discussion.

8. **S36 Policy Updates**

Staff provided recommended updates and amendments to **six** of the prescribed drinking water threat policies.

a. Salt Monitoring Policy(ies)

Staff explained that samples for sodium and chloride be taken every five years for municipal residential drinking water systems. The frequency of this sampling can make issues identification challenging. Increased sampling at the water treatment plant would provide municipalities and the source protection committee with a better understanding of road salt application and runoff within vulnerable areas.

Based on Committee direction at the October 2022 meeting, staff presented options for policy text.

Committee members discussed potential policies and favoured a combined policy approach using a monitoring policy and amending the Education and Outreach policy.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee approved policy text for the road salt monitoring policies.

b. Storage of Snow

Staff presented policies related to the storage of snow to the Committee. Staff also shared the proposed definition of a *snow dump* to include in the source protection plan.

A committee member expressed concerns with the snow dump definition, suggesting that the definition identify snow dumps contain more than just snow, they also contain oils, salts, heavy metals, and other contaminants.

Staff confirmed there is a preamble to the snow policies. If it is not already clarified in the preamble, staff will include suggestions from the committee.

Staff proposed recommendations for future a policy to prohibit snow dumps using Section 57 for existing and future snow dumps to be managed with a risk management plan using Section 58.

A committee member asked if these policies would apply on a private property acting as a snow dump.

Staff responded that a private property acting as a Snow Dump would require a risk management plan, if the property was in a vulnerable area and met the circumstances for a significant drinking water threat.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee approved the storage of snow policies.

c. Waste

Staff reviewed existing waste policies and presented proposed amendments to waste policies to align with the 2021 Technical Rules.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee approved the amendments to the waste policies.

d. Agriculture

Staff reviewed existing agriculture policies and presented proposed amendments to the agriculture policies to align with the 2021 Technical Rules.

Staff explained the amendments to the Technical Rules for Non-Agricultural Source Material (NASM), including the three new categories (1. NASM, 2. Materials listed in Schedule 4 Table 2 of O. Reg. 267/03 in the General Regulation under the *Nutrient Management Act*, 3. Materials listed in Schedule 4 Table 3 of O. Reg. 267/03 in the General Regulation under the *Nutrient Management Act*). Staff explained that the committee only needs to create a policy for Category 1 because the other two categories require Ministry approvals.

A Committee member asked if commercial large-scale ducks and geese would be considered herbivore manure.

Staff informed the committee that those animals would be considered livestock and would not fit under category 1 because they are not considered non-farm herbivores if they are for commercial use.

Staff suggested amendments to include the new category text within agriculture policies. No concerns were expressed by the committee.

Staff highlighted their concerns with Policy 3-4-E&F due to ineffective wording. Staff proposed amendments to this policy to improve its clarity and introduced Policy 3-5-E&F for the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks to perform inspections related to the *Nutrient Management Act*.

A committee member highlighted that Policy 3-4-E&F does not identify the party that is responsible for implementing the emergency response.

Staff informed the committee that the prescribed instrument identifies who is responsible to implement the emergency response.

A committee member identified that some of the policies refer to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks as “MOE” when it should be “MECP”. Staff confirmed that they will adjust the policies accordingly.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee approved the amendments to the agriculture policies.

e. Sewage

Staff identified the eight existing sewage policies and explained the difference between the current approach and the consolidated linear infrastructure permission approach for low-risk sewage works.

Staff reviewed existing sewage policies and presented proposed amendments to the sewage policies to align with the 2021 Technical Rules.

Staff highlighted a minimum condition requirement was added to sewage prescribed instrument policies. The condition states at a minimum the prescribed instrument shall include reference to the applicable vulnerable area and protocols for emergency responses related to protecting the drinking water source. Staff explained some, but not all Ministries are including this information so for consistency and to aid in annual reporting this minimum requirement was proposed.

A committee member stated this information is prudent for the success of protecting source water and encouraged staff to add this minimum requirement to all prescribed instrument policies.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee approved the amendments to the sewage policies.

f. DNAPL Condition

Staff presented two policies to address a recently identified condition site. One policy is directed at the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks, while the municipality is responsible for implementing the second policy, a monitoring policy.

A committee member asked if there is any on-site treatment of the private property. Staff confirmed there is not an on-site treatment system on the property of concern. Staff also clarified that the policy is asking the municipality to monitor the raw water at the municipal treatment plant.

The committee discussed the extent of the contamination and existing measures occurring on the landscape. The discussion also covered various policy tools and whether a policy was needed.

The committee decided due to the nature of the condition that policies were essential.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee approved the report on amendments to the DNAPL condition policy.

Staff informed the committee that all the required amendments were now drafted. Staff explained a copy of all amended policies would be provided to the committee for a 30 day review period. Committee members were asked to review policies and provide comments to staff prior to the subsequent Quinte Source Protection Committee meeting. At that time policies would be approved for the Early Engagement consultative period with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

9. **Best Practices Welcome and Update**

Staff provided a presentation on the work to date on the education and outreach related to the Best Practices Guidance for drinking water systems not included in the Quinte Region Source Protection Plan. Staff highlighted key projects that are in progress or have been completed.

A committee member reviewed the Story Map website and identified an incorrect link.

A committee member suggested that Quinte Conservation release the Groundwater Threat Assessment Quiz on social media.

A committee member suggested the new homeowner infographics should be provided as a paper copy as well as posted virtually. They also suggested providing them in municipal newsletters. It was decided both a physical copy to new homeowners and a virtual copy for municipalities to promote on their websites will be provided.

Committee members provided comments on the endorsement letters to municipalities. Staff will incorporate the committee's comments before sending them out to municipalities.

Staff suggested creating an example tool using private property of a staff member.

Chair Christie suggested creating a working group with all municipal Chief Administrative Officers, doing presentations for rural school boards and long-term care homes, and implementing by-laws or changes to municipalities' Official Plans.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee received the Best Practices Guidance Report.

10. **Bill 23 Implications**

Staff informed the committee that Bill 23 does not currently affect source water protection because the *Clean Water Act, 2006* was not amended.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee received the Bill 23 implications update.

11. **Other Business**

No other business was identified.

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 8:59 pm.

Max Christie, Chair