



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

Date: September 7, 2023, at 6:30 pm

Location: Hybrid Meeting

Members Present: __ **Bryon Keene** (Economic – Business)
 __ **Curtis Maracle** (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte)
 __ **Garnet Thompson** (City of Belleville)
 __ **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 Kerby** (Source Protection Authority Liaison)
 __ **Phil Norton** (General - Public Rural Non-Farm)
 __ **Roger Cole** (Town of Deseronto and Greater Napanee)
 __ **Terry Kennedy** (General – Environmental)

Members Absent: __ **Andrew Landy** (Health Unit Liaison)
 __ **Gillian Ward** (General Public)
 __ **Mary Wooding** (MECP Liaison)
 __ **Ron Hamilton** (Group 5)
 __ **Roy Pennell** (Prince Edward County)
 __ **Sandy Latchford** (Economic – Business)
 __ **VACANT** (Agriculture)
 __ **VACANT** (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte)

Also Present: **Amy Dickens** (Project Coordinator)
 Natasha Mathieu (Outreach Lead)
 Christine Campbell (Environmental Monitoring Lead)

1. **Call to Order**

The Chair, Max Christie called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

2. **Approval of the Agenda**

There was no discussion.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee approved the agenda for the Quinte Source Protection Committee meeting on September 7, 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**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

5. **Approval of the minutes of the Source Protection Committee of February 23, 2023**

Staff identified two minor typographical errors in the February 23, 2023 minutes that have since been updated.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee approved the minutes of the February 23, 2023, meeting.

6. **Matters Arising from Minutes**

There was no discussion.

7. **Action Items of Previous Meeting**

Action Item#1: SPA staff to contact OFA regarding vacant agricultural seat – complete.

8. **Treating Invasive Species – Water Soldier**

Quinte Conservation Staff provided a presentation regarding the invasive perennial aquatic plant, Water Soldier, and the remediation techniques being used in the Trent River and the Bay of Quinte.

A committee member asked about the disposal process for Water Soldier that was collected and removed from the Bay of Quinte. Staff identified that the Water Soldier

was removed and disposed of using an approved methodology. Staff also identified that plants in contact with Diquat remained in the Bay of Quinte as decaying plant material.

A committee member asked how this work is being funded. Staff identified that there is Ministry funding that provides support for the remediation work.

A committee member asked about recreational use after the application of herbicides. Staff explained that there will be notices and signs posted when the applications occur that explain the precautionary measures that should be taken in the areas where herbicides were applied.

A committee member asked about the complications with a large amount of decaying plant material and dissolved oxygen levels. Staff will look further into this question to provide more information at the next meeting.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee received the Water Soldier Report.

9. **Chair's Update – Verbal**

The Chair discussed a joint Chair letter that has been developed and will be distributed to the Minister about concerns regarding the recent source water protection changes. The Chair also identified that they reserve the right to write their own letter to the Minister and will provide the letter to the Committee to review before it is sent.

As per the Chair's request, Staff will send a copy of Chapter Four of the Walkerton Inquiry Report.

Environmental Action Sector Registry: Looking at changing four legislations. Staff will provide information on EOs.

The Chair would like to review the Code of Conduct for the Source Protection Committee to ensure that all expectations of committee members are still applicable.

The Chair would like to begin making presentations to promote the use of the Best Practices to municipalities, school boards, and other organizations.

The Chair identified that the Committee is without a Ministry Liaison Officer at the moment due to staff shortages at the Ministry. The Ministry Liaison Officers are no longer obligated to attend the Source Protection Committee meetings. However, the Committee can request a Ministry Liaison to attend the meeting.

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

10. **Section 36 Policy Presentation**

Staff provided a presentation about Section 36 Policy amendments.

Staff proposed keeping Peats Point to one vulnerability score of 8.1 instead of splitting it up into three separate WHPA – Es. The Committee agreed with the proposed item.

Condition policy wording concerns. Committee members suggested that Staff keep the “shall” wording (third option).

Staff explained that they would make the agreed-upon amendments and release them for pre-consultation with QC stakeholders from September 14th to October 14th.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee approved all staff recommendations on amendments policy text related to early engagement comments received from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

11. **Program Update Report**

Staff presented a program update.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee received the Program Update Report.

12. **Best Practices Update Report**

Staff presented the Best Practices Guidance program updates. Staff presented past, present and future projects to promote the use of the Best Practices Guidance.

A Committee member suggested materials be shared with all partners, like Health Units to ensure resources are shared with all various stakeholders.

A Committee member suggested staff and Chair request a delegation with School Boards to promote use of Best Practices around their schools.

A Committee member suggested that the school contest winners be recognized by their local municipal council as well as Quinte Conservation.

The Committee encouraged staff to run the school contest again and expand on the program where possible. (e.g., play the winning ad on more radio stations, etc.)

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee received the Best Practices Update report.

13. **Wildfire Impacts on Water Quality**

Staff verbally described the post-fire implications to drinking water sources.

A committee member asked what the Ministry is doing to monitor the implications of the drinking water. Staff will research this concern and report back to the Committee at the next meeting.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee received the Best Practices Update report.

14. **Other Business**

No other business was identified.

15. **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The date and the time of the next meeting will be October 19, 2023.

16. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm.

Max Christie, Chair