



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

**Date: November 16, 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)  
**Gillian Ward** (General Public)  
**Heather Lang** (Agriculture)  
**Jack Alexander** (Economic- Small Business)  
**Josh Powles** (General – Education)  
**Mary Wooding** (MECP Liaison)  
**Max Christie** (Chair)  
**Mel Plewes** (General – Public urban)  
**Phil Norton** (General - Public Rural Non-Farm)  
**Roger Cole** (Town of Deseronto and Greater Napanee)  
**Roy Pennell** (Prince Edward County)  
**Sandy Latchford** (Economic – Business)  
**Terry Kennedy** (General – Environmental)

**Members Absent:**

**Andrew Landy** (Health Unit Liaison)  
**Joanne Albert** (Tweed, Centre Hastings and Marmora and Lake)  
**Mike Kirby** (Source Protection Authority Liaison)  
**Ron Hamilton** (Group 5)  
**VACANT** (Agriculture)  
**VACANT** (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte)

**Also Present:**

**Amy Dickens** (Project Coordinator)  
**Natasha Mathieu** (Outreach Lead)  
**Meghan Murphy** (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte)  
**Michael Holder** (MECP – Policy Analyst)  
**Keith Taylor** (Project Manager- Trent Conservation Coalition)

1. **Call to Order**

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

2. **Approval of the Agenda**

**By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee approved the agenda for the Quinte Source Protection Committee meeting on November 16, 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 pecuniary interests were announced.

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

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

6. **Matters Arising from Minutes**

Staff attended MECP information sessions on the ERO postings. Staff prepared comments, which we shared with SPC members. Quinte Conservation's CAO asked staff to present this as information at the Quinte Conservation Executive Board meeting in October, to ensure our municipal members were all aware of the proposed changes. The Board shared the concern about the lack of ministerial review on these activities under this proposed amendment and decided to write a letter to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks asking that the proposed amendments not move forward unless the public health concerns are met and there is some Ministerial review when activities are significant drinking water threats. This letter was sent to all member municipalities as well as local MPs and MPPS.

7. **Action Items of Previous Meeting**

Action Item#1: SPA staff to share chapter 4 of Walkerton Inquiry – complete.

Action Item#2: SPA staff to share ERO posting on Streamlining environmental permissions for stormwater management – complete.

Action Item#3: SPA staff to investigate speaker from MECP to discuss pesticide application on land – ongoing.

Action Item#4: SPA staff to investigate long-term wildfire impacts on water quality treatment – ongoing.

8. **Chair's Verbal Update**

The Chair announced his resignation. The resignation declaration included the Chair's last day as March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, or until the Ministry appoints another Chair.

The committee shared their great appreciation for the Chair's dedication and championing over the many years of service and wished the Chair well in their future endeavors.

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

9. **Section 36 – Pre-Consultation Comment Review**

Staff provided a presentation identifying comments from organizations that could be affected by the Section 36 amendments. These organizations include OMAFRA, the City of Belleville, Prince Edward County, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), and several others.

Staff clarified that the MECP has reviewed several policies to confirm they are written as legally binding documents.

**Policy 2-6-F: Prescribed Instrument for Management of Future Sewage**

A committee member mentioned that the Committee maintains the specificity for the stormwater policy.

Another committee member mentioned that the cost will be immense for small municipalities to include drainage in their area.

Staff will amend Policy 2-6-F to remove naturalization around storm ponds. Staff will work with MECP staff to create policy wording that both the Conservation Authority and the MECP agree upon. Once completed, staff will send the final amended policy to the committee for approval.

The Chair questioned who defines and ensures that the area has been naturalized. Ministry and Conservation staff identified that the naturalization and the sediment volumes comments will be removed from Policy 2-6-F.

**Policy 11-4-E&F: Prescribed Instrument for Handling and Storage of Non-Agricultural Pesticides**

Staff suggest keeping this policy in the Source Protection Plan (SPP) because if they remove Ministry policies it could lead to impairment of drinking water sources. For example, if staff directs a proponent to comply with the SPP and there are no policies within the SPP regarding non-agricultural pesticide handling and storage, there is nothing in place to protect the drinking water source(s).

A committee member mentioned that conservation staff should be notified about pesticide applications if it influences drinking water sources.

The committee is in support of keeping this policy to receive reporting information annually.

**Minimum Prescribed Instrument Requirement:**

Staff reminded the committee of the reasons why they agreed on the minimum Prescribed Instrument (PI) requirements. Specifically, anyone reading or reviewing the Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) would know whether the area of concern is included in a vulnerable area or not.

Ministry staff suggested that the committee change the wording from “will” to “consider” because there is no guarantee that Ministry staff can confirm that the PI requirements will be met from the day that it is posted on the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) website.

The Chair recommended that there be a timeline that is included in the policy wording to ensure that the Ministry has enough time to ensure that the policies are implemented in an appropriate time frame from when it is posted on the ERO website.

The Chair requested that Amy work with the Ministry to come up with wording that pleases both the Ministry and the Source Protection Authority.

**Section 36- Condition Policies**

Staff suggest that MECP advises the SPC of any changes known to the MECP concerning the contaminated site that is identified as a significant threat condition in the assessment report. The information requested includes the levels of contamination, contamination migration strategies, and whether such changes may result in a drinking water issue as defined in Part XI.1 of the Technical Rules (specify-actions policy). This approach may be suitable whether or not the Ministry is already involved in addressing the condition, and whether or not monitoring is ongoing (i.e., by the owner or another body).

Direct the local planning authority to require that where a development is being proposed on a contaminated site identified as a significant drinking water threat in the assessment report, the site shall be remediated as necessary before any activities are carried out in relation to the proposed use.

The committee is in consensus with Policy 1-4-E wording. A committee member identified a typographical error (and should be “any”).

**By consensus, the Quinte Region Source Protection Committee accepted all recommendations on policy amendments related to pre-consultation comments received.**

10. **Best Practices Guidance Report**

Staff provided a presentation about the Best Practices initiatives which include, a school board partnership, a municipal working group, the Drinking Water Wise Webinar series, and social media campaigns.

The Chair asked the committee if they would prefer that staff provide the same presentation that was given to the municipal working group, or if they would rather staff share the session’s

recording. By consensus, the committee decided to have staff represent the municipal working group presentation to committee members. Committee members also expressed their interest in knowing if their municipality attended the first municipal working group. Additionally, SPC members asked if SPA Board members are aware of the municipal working group. Staff informed them that SPA Board members were not contacted about the municipal working group, however, conservation staff contacted appropriate staff at municipalities for this working group (i.e. environmental staff, clerks, CAOs, etc.).

A member asked if we have any information related to shore wells as there are thousands in the Quinte SPA. The member went further to suggest that something be prepared to address shore wells.

A member suggested staff request Drinking Water Source Protection data to assist with finding problem areas. Staff informed the Committee that the information provided by Public Health Ontario is vague and it does not identify defined problem areas. The data that staff were able to obtain were by municipality, or by forward sorting addresses.

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

11. **Other Business**

Belleville Festival of Lights was advertised to all members.

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 8:04 pm.

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Max Christie, Chair