



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

Date: March 20, 2024 at 6:30 pm

Location: Hybrid Meeting

Members Present:

Garnet Thompson (City of Belleville)
Gillian Ward (General Public)
Heather Lang (Agriculture)
Jack Alexander (Economic- Small Business)
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:

Curtis Maracle (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte)
Joanne Albert (Tweed, Centre Hastings and Marmora and Lake)
Ron Hamilton (Group 5)
Roy Pennell (Prince Edward County)
Sandy Latchford (Economic – Business)
VACANT (Agriculture)
VACANT (Health Unit Liaison)
VACANT (Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte)

Also Present:

Amy Dickens (Project Coordinator)
Natasha Mathieu (Outreach Lead)
Michael Holder (MECP – Policy Analyst)
Mary Wooding (Member of the Public)

1. **Call to Order**

The Chair, Max Christie called the meeting to order at 6:38 pm.

2. **Approval of the Agenda**

The Chair mentioned we are going to discuss the potential removal of free drinking water testing in the other business portion of the meeting.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee approved the agenda for the Quinte Source Protection Committee meeting on March 20, 2024.

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 November 16, 2023**

Staff mentioned small typos will be fixed in the approved minutes.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee approved the minutes of the November 16, 2023 meeting.

6. **Matters Arising from Minutes**

Action Item #1: Staff are investigating a presentation about pesticides from an MECP staff member. Staff confirmed that the presentation will take place during a Source Protection meeting in the future, staff will have to confirm the date and time with the presenter.

Action Item #2: Staff attended another webinar about the impacts of wildfires to water quality, but no new information was presented. Staff continue to investigate this topic through news, webinars and other publications.

7. **Action Items of Previous Meeting**

Action Item#1: SPA staff to investigate MECP pesticide presentation – ongoing.

Action Item#2: SPA staff to investigate long-term wildfire impacts on water quality treatment – ongoing.

8. **Chair's Verbal Update**

The Chair thanked a retiring member of the Committee for all their hard work and dedication to Source Water Protection. Members expressed their gratitude to the Chair for their championing for Source Water Protection since the creation of the Source Protection Committee.

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

9. **Section 36 Update**

Staff provided a presentation identifying comments and necessary amendments from the public consultation period.

Policy 1-3-F: Land Use Planning for Prohibition of Future Waste Disposal

No discussion about the suggested amendments. Therefore, by consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee approves the suggested amendments.

Policy 2-7 E&F: Consolidated Linear Infrastructure

Members discussed the inspection cycle and who is responsible for completing the inspections. Staff confirmed that it is the municipality's responsibility to inspect and determine the inspection cycle.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee approves the suggested amendments.

Policy 2-8-F: Land Use Planning and Prohibition of New Sewage Treatment Plants as Part of a Wastewater Collection/Treatment Facility

A member asked if the communal sewage system in Verona would be subject to this policy. Staff explained that the system in question is not in a source protection zone currently. Therefore, there this policy does not apply to the communal system in question. However, in the future, if that area becomes a protection zone, then the system will be required to abide by this policy.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee approves the suggested amendments.

Policy 16-5-E: Management of DNAPL Condition Site

A member asked about the frequency of monitoring. Staff explained that the municipality monitors for DNAPLs quarterly to reduce the cost of testing and to ensure that the sampling is completed seasonally.

A member asked if it's too late if DNAPLs reach the intake. Staff explained that treatment should be in place if DNAPLs are found at the intake site. Staff also explained that the amendment includes a strong recommendation to have proactive treatment options in place if the contamination becomes an issue at the site of the intake.

A member asked for clarification on where the monitoring wells are and who is responsible for collecting the data on DNAPL contamination. Staff explained the two testing wells are the property of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and they collect the data.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee approves the suggested amendments.

Comments Resolved by Minor Edits

No discussion about the suggested amendments. Therefore, by consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee approves the suggested amendments.

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

10. 2023 Annual Reporting

Staff provided a presentation on the Annual Report.

Members suggest that the septic inspection portion of the annual report should be changed to an overall grade of progressing well instead of satisfactory.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee receives the 2023 Annual Report.

11. Best Practices Guidance Report

Staff provided a presentation about the Drinking Water Wise Webinar series and the joint municipal working group with Cataraqui Conservation. The Drinking Water Wise Webinar portion of the presentation went over each webinar that has been completed so far and the success metrics (i.e. number of registrants, percentage of people who learned something new about source water protection, etc.).

Staff then updated the Committee on the joint municipal working group meetings and discussed the advances in municipal buy-in for the Best Practices guidance.

A member asked who attended the meeting from municipalities. Staff explained it's a mix of CAOs, clerks, and environmental staff.

A member asked if follow-up is performed on those municipalities that don't attend. Staff explained that all information is sent to all municipalities regardless of attendance.

A member asked if conservation staff had decided to run another radio contest due to its success last year. Staff confirmed that the school contest is underway again this year and submissions close on March 29, 2024.

A member asked if there is political connectivity between members of the municipal working group and the municipal councils. Staff explained that as of right now, the answer

is no. However, staff have offered to present to municipal councils if the members of the municipal working group support the presentation.

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

12. **Other Business**

SPC Term Expiries:

Staff mentioned that the majority of the seat terms expire in April to June 2024.

In the absence of a Chair, staff are suggesting that the SPC Code of Conduct be changed to include a policy about appointing an interim Chair. The policy will be brought to the Source Protection Authority (SPA) for approval of the interim Chair policy at the next SPA meeting.

2023 Auditor General Report Proposed Phase Out of Free Well Water Testing

Members suggest that the SPC write a letter to support the well water testing program and to obtain signatures from Mayors of municipalities.

Conservation Authority Act:

Staff confirmed that the Conservation Authority will provide a presentation about the changes to the Conservation Authority Act to the Source Protection Committee at a future meeting.

A committee member provided a verbal update about the Conservation Authority Act.

By consensus, the Quinte Source Protection Committee received the information in the Other Business portion of the meeting.

The Chair ended the meeting with a resignation speech about their experience with Source Water Protection.

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

The next meeting will be May 16, 2024.

14. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Max Christie, Chair