



Sudbury Source Protection Committee
67th Meeting
June 24, 2021

Held: Virtually via Zoom

Commenced at: 1:03 p.m.

Adjourned at: 3:13 p.m.

Present: Gerry Bilodeau, Chair
Luc Bock
Kendra Driscoll
Harry Pearce
Wendy Wisniewski
Paul Javor
Cheryl Beam
Michael Loken (M. Jensen replacement)

Also Present: Amanda Desjardins, RMO, City of Greater Sudbury
Joel Castonguay, City of Greater Sudbury
Olga Yudina, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Madison Keegans, Conservation Sudbury

Regrets: Robert Alemany
Michel Simard
Mike Jensen
Lin Gibson

1. Opening Remarks

Chair Bilodeau opened the meeting by thanking members for their continued dedication throughout the pandemic. Gerry introduced new committee member Cheryl Beam representing the City of Greater Sudbury. Gerry indicated that the MECP recently held a Chair's meeting where he provided an update on the progress in the Sudbury Source Protection Area including Section 36 updates and the 2020 Annual Progress Report.

Safety Talk: Paul provided guidance on fireworks safety with the upcoming Canada Day holiday. Fireworks should not be handled by children, they should be off in an outdoor area, the area where the fireworks will be set off should be cleared of debris, etc.

Enviro Talk: Luc discussed the interaction between real estate and source protection. Potable water is considered during the development and selling process. Luc also mentioned that he has experienced blue green algae blooms at his home on Ramsey Lake in the summer months.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

No declarations of conflict were brought forward.

3. Approval of Agenda

Resolution 2021-05

Javor - Bock

That the agenda for the June 24, 2021 Sudbury Source Protection Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

4. Approval of Minutes

Madison provided a summary of items discussed at the previous meeting:

- Amanda Hey from the Greater Sudbury Watershed Alliance provided an overview of their document "A Decision Aid for Common Residential Ice Melts and Traction Aids".

- Lee Gould from the Smart About Salt Council provided an overview of the training program offered to winter maintenance contractors and facility managers.

- Members also reviewed and approved the Fourth Annual Progress Report which provided an overview of the activities that took place throughout 2020.

Resolution 2021-06

Loken - Wisniewski

That the minutes of the March 11, 2021 Sudbury Source Protection Committee meeting, as duplicated and circulated, be approved.

Carried.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

Madison indicated that after the last meeting, the Source Protection Authority reviewed the Fourth Annual Progress Report at their meeting in April. The report was submitted to the MECP at the end of April and is posted on the source water website.

6. Communication from Visitors

None.

7. City of Greater Sudbury Project Update

Amanda Desjardins (Risk Management Official) provided an update from the Risk Management Office:

a) Section 59 Review

To date in 2021 29 Section 59 reviews have been completed – no new significant threats have been identified through these reviews.

b) Risk Management Plans

Five risk management plans are currently in progress and completion for these plans is

expected for early fall.

c) Inspections

Inspections are underway on parcels where a significant risk had originally been identified, however further review indicated a risk management plan would not be required for the activity. On-going inspections ensure that there have been no changes at these properties and that there are no activities taking place that would require a plan.

d) Street Sweeping

A street sweeping audit was completed to ensure that sweeping in the Ramsey Lake subwatershed was prioritized. The results of the audit indicate that the area was prioritized and a media release was completed to share these results. The work took place from April 8 – April 23, 2021.

e) Road Sign Audit

Periodic audits of the source protection zone signs have been completed to ensure there is no damage, to date there have been no issues noted. All required signs have been posted at this time.

f) Land Management Information System

Building and Planning Services are building a new data management system - the Land Management Information System (LMIS). This will help with the completion of Section 59 reviews using GIS applications to generate information and reports related to the property and activity. The system will be complete and ready for use in Spring 2022.

8. Source Protection Program Update

Madison provided program updates to committee members:

a) Transfer Payment Agreement

The MECP has provided final transfer payment agreements to all lead Source Protection Authorities to enter into the 2021-22 fiscal year. Some of the highlights of the workplan include analyzing updates to the Director's Technical Rules once approved to determine potential impacts to the Assessment Report and Source Protection Plan. Results of the Tier 3 Water Budget will be analyzed once complete to determine changes required through a future update.

b) SPC Member Appointment

Madison indicated that Cheryl Beam was appointed by Municipal Council on May 11, 2021 as the Municipal Representative on the committee. Cheryl will be appointed by the Source Protection Authority at a meeting in September. Cheryl is the lead for the Water Conservation Strategy for the City of Greater Sudbury's drinking water systems.

c) First Nations Liaison

Sara Lehman from Wahanapitae First Nation has expressed interest in joining the committee as the First Nations Liaison. Correspondence has been sent to Atikameksheng to notify them of the opportunity to join the committee and to notify them of the interest from Wahnapiatae First Nation. An appointment will likely occur in the fall.

d) Septic Re-Inspection Program

Public Health Sudbury & Districts has confirmed that the 2021 inspections will be

underway as planned, it is anticipated that approximately 38 systems will be inspected this year.

e) Canada Water Agency

As discussed at the last meeting, the Federal Government is working towards creating a new agency called the Canada Water Agency with the purpose of working with provinces, territories, indigenous communities, and local authorities to find the best ways to keep water clean and well managed.

Public and stakeholder consultation closed at the beginning of March, however they are continuing with Indigenous consultation throughout 2021. Currently feedback received is being incorporated into a report which will be posted on their website.

f) Conservation Authorities Act Changes

The *Act* outlines the mandatory program and services to be provided by conservation authorities related to:

- Managing the risk of natural hazards
- Conservation and management of lands owned by the conservation authority
- Carrying out duties and responsibilities as a Source Protection Authority as defined by the *Clean Water Act*.
- Other programs or services as prescribed by regulations

The Drinking Water Source Protection Program was not previously included as a core program or service. The MECP is conducting consultation on the first phase of regulatory proposals related to the mandatory programs and services. Through this regulatory proposal the responsibilities of a Source Protection Authority have been defined:

- Administration and support of source protection committees
- Preparing amendments to the assessment report and source protection plan
- Implementing plan policies where applicable
- Completing annual reporting on source protection plan implementation
- Maintaining source protection information and providing access to data

g) Town of Fort Erie Correspondence

Correspondence was received from the Town of Fort Erie late in April indicating that the Municipal Council passed a resolution to request that the MECP consider changes to Source Protection Legislation in order to expand the protection for aquifers and private services. The resolution was circulated to the Provincial Government and to municipalities and conservation authorities for support and endorsement.

The correspondence was presented to the Source Protection Authority at a meeting in May to determine steps forward. The direction that staff received was to monitor the situation with the correspondence and report back to the Authority in the fall. Any updates will be conveyed to SPC members.

h) Education and Outreach

The subcommittee continues to produce monthly information sheets on a variety of source protection topics. Most recently, "Tips for Protecting Drinking Water" and "Stormwater and Water Quality" were shared on the source water website and through social media. Madison asked members to share the resources with contacts in their sector.

Madison indicated that the communications working group led by Conservation Ontario recently developed a spring social media campaign on topics including spring runoff,

spring cleaning, real estate, and summary activities. The campaign will run until August.

9. Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Update

Olga Yudina provided an update on behalf of the MECP

a) Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks and Director

A new Director of Conservation and Source Protection Branch in the Land and Water Division at the MECP was announced. Kirsten Corrigan is the successful candidate; Kirsten has many years of experience in environmental policy.

A new Minister of the Environment and Parks was announced recently, David Piccini. Olga noted that the Branch will provide them with information on source protection files and priority items during this transition.

b) Phase II Amendments to the Director's Technical Rules

The Ministry is working to finalize the proposed amendment package, however no timeline has been set as of yet.

c) Best Practices for Source Water Protection

The Ministry has been developing guidance to support private system owners including farmers, cottagers, municipalities and First Nations that are not currently covered under source protection. The guidance is voluntary and provides the owners with advice and cost effective strategies that can be implemented to protect their private sources of drinking water. Currently they are working through approvals before posting on their website; however the timeline is uncertain at this time. The final product will be an online book format and will include a feedback survey in order to improve future versions of the resource. A rollout strategy will be developed in order to reach certain groups who might be interested in utilizing the guidance document.

10. Ramsey Lake Subwatershed Study Overview

Paul provided an overview of the Ramsey Lake Subwatershed Study and Stormwater Master Plan:

- The purpose is to develop a plan to protect and maintain surface water, groundwater and natural resources of Ramsey Lake and its tributaries through policy and management actions.

- The plan explores alternatives for stormwater management including:

- Traditional source control measures
- Low impact development
- End-of-pipe
- Terrestrial ecological restoration
- Restoration on private property
- Shoreline works
- Salt management planning
- Stream restoration
- Management of septic systems

- The plan evaluates alternatives to be implemented on existing developed lands as well as proposed future development.

- Paul indicated that several stormwater management projects are currently underway in the subwatershed. EarthCare is developing educational resources to promote restoration on private property including downspout disconnection, rain gardens or shoreline works.

11. Proposed Road Salt Correspondence

Madison provided an overview of the Ontario Road Salt Management Advisory Committee:

- The committee was formed in 2019 and is chaired by Conservation Ontario and the Ontario Good Roads Association
- The mandate of the committee is to :
 - Provide advice and recommendations on enhancing effective road salt management in Ontario
 - To liaise with municipalities, provincial and federal governments, educational institutes, and other stakeholders to further the optimization of road salt management; and
 - Utilize existing working groups to achieve high-level goals of the committee
- The high level goals of the committee include:
 - Balancing liability
 - Promote road salt management plans
 - Increase awareness
 - Promote training
 - Support best practices in parking lots
 - Promote Ontario's Road Salt Vulnerable Areas Delineation Guidance
 - Explore practical opportunities

Madison presented proposed road salt correspondence addressed to the City of Greater Sudbury to the committee for feedback. The correspondence discusses Smart About Salt Training and promoting the training through the procurement process for road salt management on municipal roads and facilities. Members provided the following feedback:

- Focus the correspondence on municipal facilities/parking lots
- Look into other training programs to not limit the training options
- Send correspondence as soon as possible to the municipality
- The municipality does engage in multiyear contracts and could be in the middle of a contract presently

Madison will edit the correspondence and circulate to members for approval after the meeting.

12. Addendum / New Business

None

13. Adjournment

Resolution 2021-08

Driscoll - Beam

That we do now adjourn.

Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 3:13pm.

Next meeting: Late November 2021