



Sudbury Source Protection Committee
69th Meeting
March 24, 2022

Held: Virtually via Teams

Commenced at: 1:05 p.m.

Adjourned at: 3:19 p.m.

Present: Gerry Bilodeau, Chair
Wendy Wisniewski
Robert Alemany
Harry Pearce
Michel Simard
Kendra Driscoll
Mike Jensen
Paul Javor
Cheryl Beam

Also Present: Amanda Desjardins, RMO, City of Greater Sudbury
Akli Ben-Anteur, City of Greater Sudbury
Jennifer Babin-Fenske, City of Greater Sudbury
Richard Auld, Public Health Sudbury & Districts
Beth Forrest, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)
Madison Keegans, Conservation Sudbury

Regrets: Luc Bock
Steve Kaufman, Chairperson, Sudbury Source Protection Authority
Joel Castonguay, City of Greater Sudbury

1. Opening Remarks

Chair Bilodeau opened the meeting and welcomed members.

Safety Talk: Gerry provided members with [tips for drivers to avoid distractions](#). This includes mapping out your route prior to departing and avoiding using a cellphone in the vehicle. Gerry nominated Harry Pearce to provide the safety talk at the next committee meeting.

Enviro Talk: Cheryl discussed Fix a Leak Week which promotes monitoring toilets or other household plumbing for leaks, many small leaks may add up to a substantial amount of water loss. Dye strips were made available at libraries for homeowners to detect leaks. Cheryl nominated Mike Jensen to provide the environmental talk at the next committee meeting.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

No declarations of conflict were brought forward.

3. Approval of Agenda

Added under City of Greater Sudbury Project Updates – Mike Jensen to provide an update on the Water Quality and Summary Reports and provide an update on the Markstay-Warren water/wastewater systems.

Resolution 2022-01

Beam - Javor

That the agenda for the March 24, 2022, Sudbury Source Protection Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

4. Approval of Minutes

Resolution 2022-02

Javor - Jensen

That the minutes of the November 18, 2021, Sudbury Source Protection Committee meeting, as duplicated and circulated, be approved.

Carried.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

6. City of Greater Sudbury Project Update

a) Akli Ben-Anteur – Water/Wastewater Updates

- Akli shared that the update to the Tier 3 Water Quantity Risk Assessment in the Valley Drinking Water System is advancing. The calibration of the model has been completed and a draft report will be made available soon. Draft findings have indicated that the majority of high-risk areas have been marked at low with two areas remaining significant.
- An update to the Water/Wastewater Master Plan will be completed every five years. A request for proposal to engage a consultant for the work will be going forward soon and it is anticipated a consultant will be secured by the end of the year.

b) Jennifer Babin-Fenske EarthCare Initiatives

Jennifer provided an overview of the activities planned for 2022:

- A new agriculture themed EarthCare will be released this year with messaging that will be applicable to residential landowners as well as farms.
- The Children’s Water Festival will be held virtually for one more year before returning to in person.
- An online dashboard will be added to the City of Greater Sudbury website that shows municipal infrastructure. Jennifer asked for suggestions for source protection

related items to include on the dashboard.

- A salt package will be launched in the fall that provides businesses with tips to prepare for winter to reduce salt application. A salt cup will also be provided that demonstrates the appropriate amount of salt to apply on a surface. The cups will be provided to businesses and distributed at libraries. Coupons will be provided to winter maintenance contractors for a discount on Smart About Salt Training.

c) Mike Jensen

- The [2021 Annual Water Summary Report](#) is in the final stages of review and will be available by the end of March. The results have indicated that surface water usage is at 43% of the permit allowance. All wells in the Valley Drinking Water System are below 35% of the permit allowance.
- There have been elevated levels of iron and manganese detected in the M and J Wells in Capreol. A project is currently underway to implement a solution to solve this water quality issue.
- The Garson Wells project is moving ahead – this project aims to consolidate the Garson Wells with the Sudbury System due to aging infrastructure and historical water quality issues.
- The [2021 Annual Water Quality Report](#) is currently available online. The report provides information on sodium levels in drinking water sources in addition to other water quality parameters.
- The City of Greater Sudbury is in the process of taking over the standalone water/wastewater systems in Markstay-Warren. Historically the municipality purchased some water from the City of Greater Sudbury. On April 1st the City of Greater Sudbury will have full control over the systems.

d) Paul Javor

- A notice of completion for the Ramsey Subwatershed Study has been provided to stakeholders. The Master Plan component of the study is going through the Environmental Assessment process, however many projects from the Master Plan have been implemented and continue to move forward.
- A [Stormwater Funding Feasibility Study](#) is posted for public comment. The goal of the study is to review current maintenance and improvement project budget requirements and to identify funding mechanisms to address these challenges. Municipal Council will review the results of the study in 2023 with recommendations including changes to stormwater rates.

7. Source Protection Program Update

Madison provided program updates to committee members:

a) Transfer Payment Agreements 2022-24

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks put a call out for workplans in November to enter into a two-year agreement for the 2022-24 fiscal year. This is the first time a two-year agreement will be completed. The workplan was submitted in January and follow-up with the MECP has been completed. The next step is to review the draft transfer payment agreement.

b) Workshop on Road Salt Use in Ontario

- The MECP has proposed to develop road salt best management practices to help reduce the impacts of excessive salting on the natural environment and water sources. These best management practices will guide winter maintenance activities on properties such as parking lots, private roads and sidewalks. The best management practices could incorporate personnel training, applications methods and rates and equipment calibration.
- The MECP recently hosted a workshop on road salt use in Ontario and invited many stakeholders to contribute to the conversation including source protection program managers. During the session the MECP posted several questions for discussion to capture important considerations for developing the best management practices.
- Beth indicated a total of six sessions were held with other stakeholders including winter maintenance contractors, other ministries and indigenous communities.

c) Ontario Road Salt Management Advisory Committee (ORSMAC)

- ORSMAC is co-chaired by Conservation Ontario and the Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA). The committee was formed in 2019 and meets on a quarterly basis.
- The committee is made up of voting members, observers and subject matter experts to provide committee support. There are representatives from the municipal sector, conservation authorities, provincial and federal government, environmental law, and consultants.
- The role of the committee is to provide advice and recommendations on enhancing effective road salt management in Ontario with a focus on protecting sources of drinking water while ensuring continued safety on roads, sidewalks and parking lots.
- The committee has provided a letter to the Attorney General on municipal liability and insurance costs, a welcome letter to Minister Piccini, and comments on several Environmental Registry of Ontario postings.
- More recently, the committee identified seven high levels goals including balancing liability, promoting salt management plans, increase awareness around road salt management, promote training, support best practices, support Ontario's salt vulnerable areas guidance, and explore practical opportunities to work with stakeholders.
- The next meeting is scheduled for March 29th and any updates will be provided to members through an email update.

d) Health Canada: Guidance on the Temperature Aspects of Drinking Water

- A document was recently published by Health Canada titled Guidance on the Temperature Aspects of Drinking Water. The purpose of the document is to highlight how temperature can affect different aspects of drinking water from the source through to treatment and distribution. The document discusses how temperature can affect treatment efficacy and water quality.
- There are seven sections included in the document:
 - Impacts of a changing climate
 - Impacts of temperature
 - Measurement and sampling protocols
 - Efficacy of treatment processes

- Distribution system water quality
- Residential and building plumbing systems
- Management strategies

8. Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Update

Beth Forrest provided an update on behalf of the MECP

a) Transfer Payment Agreements

- All source protection authorities have provided their 2022-24 workplans of the MECP. The Ministry is in the process of receiving comments from the authorities and are working towards providing draft transfer payment agreements for review.

b) Annual Reporting

- All ministries have completed their annual reporting responsibilities in the electronic reporting system for February 1st. The annual reports from source protection authorities are due to the Ministry by May 1st.

c) Director's Technical Rules Phase II

- Amendments to the Director's Technical Rules were approved in December and guidance was provided to Source Protection Authorities on February 15th. Project Managers continue to conduct an analysis on the impact the Rules may have on local source protection plans. The MECP is in the process of answering questions from project managers and may hold a virtual session with authorities to discuss outstanding questions.

d) Best Practices for Source Water Protection

- The Best Practices for Source Water Protection document was released in February. This document provides readers with advice to protect drinking water systems not covered under a source protection plan. There is a feedback survey available until mid-April in order to improve future versions of the document.

9. Review of the Fifth Annual Progress Report

Resolution 2022-03

Driscoll-Pearce

That the Sudbury Source Protection Committee accepts the Source Protection Fifth Annual Progress Report, including any remarks as discussed at the Source Protection Committee Meeting of March 24, 2022.

And further, that the Annual Report be brought forward to the Source Protection Authority for approval and subsequent submission to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks by May 1, 2022.

Carried.

Madison provided an overview of the activities from 2021:

Summary of Policy Implementation

- 39 of the legally binding policies for significant threat policies have been implemented
- 1 policy remains in progress, the policy for the water quantity action plan in the Valley
- All non-legally binding policies have been implemented
- 1 policy that addresses low-moderate threats remains in progress

Septic Inspection Program

- 2017-2021 205 systems were inspected. In 2021 34 systems were inspected – 25 systems located in the Ramsey Lake area and 9 in the Valley Drinking Water System. No minor or major maintenance work was required, and all systems were in compliance.

Risk Management Plans

- To date 50 files have been reviewed by the RMO:
 - 17 risk management plans have been established
 - 2 plans established in 2021, 15 in previous years
 - 26 files have been closed
 - 5 plans remain in progress
 - 3 files are managed through prescribed instruments

Prescribed instruments

- 8 of 9 prescribed instrument policies have been implemented
- 100% of previously issued permits have been reviewed
- In 2021 1 pesticide permit was issued with source protection measures included

Education and Outreach

In 2021 several outreach initiatives were undertaken by the City of Greater Sudbury:

- A virtual event titled “Hold the Salt” was held to interact with contractors, property managers, and homeowners. The event discussed the balance between slips and falls and reducing effects on the environment.
- EarthCare Minute is a program that highlights municipal environmental programs and provides viewers with tips to reduce their own environmental footprint. Source protection topics include “Phosphorus Free Lawn Care”, “Spring Flood Prevention” and “Shoreline Living”.
- The Children’s Water Festival was held virtually which included videos from several local water organization and included a virtual assembly.

Comments from the Source Protection Committee

- Policy implementation is close to 100% with two policies remaining in progress
- There is significant progress on establishing risk management plans with five remaining in progress
- There are many education and outreach initiatives conducted despite COVID-19 policies remaining in place.

Feedback from Implementing Bodies

Madison provided an overview of education and outreach policies in the Source Protection Plan – including policy requirements and deliverables from 2021. Committee members provided feedback for implementing bodies:

- Expanding education initiatives beyond grade 3 students
- Include metrics to measure the success of outreach initiatives
- Focus efforts on threat topics that would have the most impact
- Promote information on hazardous waste disposal

Madison will provide a formal letter to EarthCare that outlines the comments discussed at the committee meeting.

10. Looking Ahead 2022 Source Protection Program

Resolution 2022-04**Pearce - Driscoll**

That the Sudbury Source Protection Committee accepts the changes to the Rules of Procedure, Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Policy made November 4, 2021.

Madison provided an overview of the proposed changes to the Rules of Procedure, Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Policy.

- Roles and responsibilities of members.
- Term of appointment/vacancies
- Meeting schedule
- References to the development of the assessment report, source protection plan and terms of reference have been removed
- Source Protection Authority reporting
- Inclement weather to host a virtual meeting
- Update to proxy form

It was suggested that hybrid meetings should remain an option in case of illness or immunocompromised members who may be unable to attend an in-person meeting. In addition, correct typo noted under Section 2.10 Indemnity. The document will be updated to reflect these suggestions.

Carried.

11. Roundtable Updates

None.

12. Adjournment**Resolution 2022-05****Javor - Driscoll**

That we do now adjourn.

Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 3:19pm.

Next meeting: June 2022