



Sudbury Source Protection Committee
68th Meeting
November 18, 2021

Held: Virtually via Teams

Commenced at: 1:03 p.m.

Adjourned at: 3:15 p.m.

Present: Gerry Bilodeau, Chair
Luc Bock
Robert Alemany
Harry Pearce
Paul Javor
Cheryl Beam
Michael Loken (M. Jensen replacement)

Also Present: Amanda Desjardins, RMO, City of Greater Sudbury
Joel Castonguay, City of Greater Sudbury
Lana Haslam, City of Greater Sudbury
Jessica Brunette, City of Greater Sudbury
Jennifer Babin-Fenske, City of Greater Sudbury
Taylor Menard, City of Greater Sudbury
Lin Gibson, Vice-Chairperson, Sudbury Source Protection Authority
Beth Forrest, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Madison Keegans, Conservation Sudbury

Regrets: Wendy Wisniewski (proxy to Luc Bock)
Michel Simard
Kendra Driscoll (proxy to Cheryl Beam)
Mike Jensen

1. Opening Remarks

Chair Bilodeau opened the meeting and welcomed new Liaison Officer Beth Forrest who will be working with the committee moving forward. Gerry also welcomed Jennifer Babin-Fenske from EarthCare as a guest presenter. Chair Bilodeau informed committee members of the passing of Nels Conroy, the first Chair of the Sudbury Source Protection Committee. Madison informed members that a letter will be sent to the Conroy family on behalf of the committee.

Safety Talk: Gerry provided members with considerations for shoveling snow in the winter including wearing appropriate clothing and footwear, using a proper size shovel, and picking up

smaller shovel loads. Gerry nominated Michael Loken to provide the safety talk at the next committee meeting.

Enviro Talk: Madison provided members with some tips on reducing salt use at home including using 1 tablespoon of salt per square meter, shoveling prior to applying salt and using salt when it is most effective, between 0°C and -10°C. Madison nominated Cheryl Beam 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

Resolution 2021-09

Loken - Javor

That the agenda for the November 18, 2021 Sudbury Source Protection Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried.

4. Approval of Minutes

Resolution 2021-10

Pearce - Bock

That the minutes of the June 24, 2021 Sudbury Source Protection Committee meeting, as duplicated and circulated, be approved.

Carried.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

6. Communication from Visitors

None.

7. City of Greater Sudbury Project Update

a) Michael Loken – Water Treatment Audit

Michael Loken provided an overview of the 2021 Performance Audit of Water Services that took place from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2020. The audit included the water treatment facilities but excluded the Linear Infrastructure Services. The overview provided highlights of the seven sections of the audit including:

1. Master Plan and Long-Range Financial Plan
2. Capacity and Quality Management
3. User Fees
4. Drinking Water Quality Management Process
5. Performance Measurement

6. Significant Accomplishments

7. Risk Management

b) Cheryl Beam – Water Efficiency Strategy

Cheryl provided an update on the Water Efficiency Strategy for the City of Greater Sudbury and a preview of the results. The following recommendations are included in the strategy:

- Increase water efficiency in City owned facilities
- Fix a leak week
- Address non-revenue water
- Determine economic level of leakage
- School water efficiency programs
- Target high demand ICI customers
- Public education and outreach

The strategy will be posted on Over to You Greater Sudbury for public comment for 60 days starting Monday November 22nd.

c) Amanda Desjardins – Risk Management Plans

Amanda provided an update on Risk Management Office activities:

- To date in 2021 there have been 54 Section 59 reviews, with one review resulting in the identification of a new significant threat
- 1 risk management plan was deemed to be not a significant threat
- 3 risk management plans are being negotiated and on track for completion by the end of 2021
- Remaining annual inspections for risk management plans are underway
- An update to the Source Protection By-Law 2015-34 will be reviewed by Municipal Council on December 14th
- Work has begun on the Annual RMO and Policy Implementation Reports

d) Jennifer Babin-Fenske – EarthCare Initiatives

Jennifer provided a summary of EarthCare Initiatives including education and outreach initiatives undertaken to fulfill Source Protection Plan policy requirements.

- Residents: engaged through EarthCare Minutes on topics including phosphorous, hazardous waste, drinking water and winter salt management. Green Living online articles are utilized including a recent article on Source Water Protection. Other engagement strategies include pamphlets, bus ads, FOG buckets, and social media.
- Businesses: engaged using pamphlets, events, Smart About Salt, salt cup and partnerships. Recently EarthCare offered free Smart About Salt Training to encourage contractors to sign up for the program.
- Youth: engaged through the Sudbury Children's Water Festival held annually involving 400 Anglophone and 400 Francophone grade three students. The festival involves hands-on activities to teach students the importance of water in the community. This year the festival was held virtually using videos from community partners and a virtual assembly.

8. Source Protection Program Update

Madison provided program updates to committee members:

- a) Source Protection Committee Appointments
Recently, two members were appointed by the Source Protection Authority at a meeting on October 14th. The two members appointed included Cheryl Beam, Municipal Representative and Sarah Lehman, First Nations Liaison. There are currently no vacancies on the committee.
- b) Conservation Ontario Road Sign Campaign
Conservation Ontario recently completed a media campaign to raise awareness around the Drinking Water Source Protection Road Signs. There are about 1700 drinking water protection zone signs across Ontario to mark vulnerable areas. Conservation Ontario developed an interactive story map that shows sign locations, a description of what the sign means and a link back to the local source protection authority website. The campaign launched on October 7th and ran until October 28th with a media release and daily social media posts directing people to the website. The interactive map and other content can be accessed [here](#).
- c) Okanagan Basin Water Board Webinar
The Okanagan Basin Water Board recently completed a tool kit designed for water purveyors, government officials, and other interested parties to help simplify and improve source protection planning in British Columbia. In order to help launch the toolkit the water board in partnership with the University of British Columbia hosted a series of webinars over nine weeks starting October 20th. On November 10th they hosted the webinar titled “Increasing awareness and stewardship of watersheds and drinking water resources”. Representatives from the MECP, Conservation Ontario and Source Protection Authorities were in attendance. An overview of the Sudbury Source Protection Area, education and outreach policies and examples of outreach initiatives was provided to attendees. The toolkit can be accessed [here](#).
- d) Ontario Road Salt Management Advisory Committee
The Ontario Road Salt Management Advisory Committee chaired by Conservation Ontario and the Ontario Good Roads Association continues to meet on a quarterly basis with the last meeting being held on October 18th. The committee has established seven high level goals related to road salt management and liability. Most recently, the committee sent a welcome letter to Minister Picinni to welcome him into his new role and to provide an overview of the group. The committee is also in the process of planning a road salt webinar to take place in 2022. An invite will be provided to committee members once a date has been set.
- e) Public Health Sudbury & Districts Septic Inspections
The septic inspections for 2021 have been completed with no issues noted. This round of inspections marks the end of the second five-year cycle. 2022 will be the start of the third round of inspections. More details will be provided during the annual reporting process this upcoming spring.

f) Conservation Sudbury COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

At the end of the summer, correspondence was received from Public Health Sudbury & Districts that strongly recommended all area employers develop and implement a COVID-19 vaccination policy for their organization. On October 14th the General Board of Conservation Sudbury approved the COVID-19 Vaccination policy and the policy came into effect on October 15th. The policy indicates all staff must be vaccinated unless exempt. It also indicates board members must provide proof of full vaccination or exemption prior to attend an in-person indoor meeting or event. There is currently no timeline for when the committee will return to meeting in person, so proof of vaccination is not required at this time. The vaccination policy will be circulated to members with the meeting minutes.

9. Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Update

Beth Forrest provided an update on behalf of the MECP

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

The Ministry is working to finalize the proposed amendment package and continues to make progress. There is currently no timeframe for when the updates will be approved. Once approved the Ministry will host engagement sessions in order to provide guidance on incorporating updated Rules into source protection plans and assessment reports.

b) 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 currently awaiting approval and there is no timeframe for when the final document will be approved.

10. 2020 Annual Progress Reporting – Provincial Summary

Beth Forrest provided a presentation that summarized progress on source protection implementation across the province including information on:

1. Policy implementation and threats addressed: the majority of policies have been implemented across the province with 98% of legally-binding significant drinking water threat polices implemented on average. On average 83% of existing significant drinking water threats have been addressed across the province.
2. Part IV implementation: there are 1,139 risk management plans in place across Ontario covering 1,655 properties and addressing 2,925 significant drinking water threats on the ground. There is a 99% compliance rate with risk management plan policies
3. Provincial Ministry implementation: all nine Ministry program areas that issue prescribed instruments continue to report having business processes in place for source protection including screening incoming applications for possible significant drinking water threats. 94% of previously issues prescribed instruments have been reviewed and/or actions have been taken for source protection.

4. Municipal and Source Protection Authority implementation: 94% of municipalities have incorporated/are in the process of incorporating source protection into their official plans. Septic inspections continue to progress, and the results indicate 83% of systems required no maintenance. 91% of source protection committees are progress well/on target for achieving objectives of the plan.

11. City of Greater Sudbury Road Salt Management Plan

Paul Javor provided an overview of the winter control programs at the City of Greater Sudbury.

- The current winter control service policy at the City includes Class 1-3 Main Arterial or Second Collector Routes are treated with slat and plowed to bare pavement conditions. Class 4-6 Rural and Residential Roads will achieve a snow packed surface and sand is applied
- In 2005 a review of existing practices was completed and resulted in the recommendation to establish a salt management plan (SMP)
- The SMP was completed in 2005 and resulted in changes to operations including staff training, equipment calibration and onboard brine systems
- Source protection measures in place include improved monitoring of road salt activities, improved signage and the establishment of a risk management plan for Frobisher Depot
- The salt application rate is reduced by 20% using salt brine
- The municipality continues to monitor sodium and chloride levels in Ramsey Lake, with no increases noted in recent years

12. Looking Ahead 2022 Source Protection Program

- Approval of Updated Source Protection Committee Rules of Procedure, Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Policy (Resolution 2021-11)

The resolution and presentation were deferred to the next meeting due to time constraints.

13. Addendum / New Business

None

14. Adjournment

Resolution 2021- 12

Gibson - Javor

That we do now adjourn.

Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15pm.

Next meeting: Early March 2022