

MISSISSIPPI-RIDEAU SOURCE PROTECTION REGION
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DRAFT MINUTES
(Subject to approval)

Mississippi-Rideau
Source Protection Committee **April 7, 2022** **#1/22**

VIA ZOOM

Voting Members: Scott Bryce Carol Dillon
 Ken Graham Roy Huetl
 Michel Kearney Drew Lampman
 Claude Lloyd Randy Malcolm
 Peter McLaren Beverly Millar
 Eleanor Renaud
 Diane Smithson Wilf Stefan

Staff: Sommer Casgrain-Robertson (RVCA)
 Laura Cummings (RVCA)
 Marissa Grondin (RVCA)
 Marika Livingston (RVCA)
 Claire Milloy (RVCA)
 Brian Stratton (RVCA)

Guests: Tessa Di Iorio (City of Ottawa)
 Mary Wooding (MECP)
 Jaclyn Schneider (Township of Rideau Lakes)

Regrets: Kathryn Downey (Medical Officer of Health Liaison)
 Jeff Atkinson (Mississippi Valley Source Protection Authority Liaison)
 Pieter Leenhouts (Rideau Valley Source Protection Authority Liaison)

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Chair Graham called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. He welcomed everyone and thanked them for joining. Roy Huetl, new voting member was introduced.

a) Agenda Review

Chair Graham reviewed the agenda.

b) Notice of Proxies None.

c) Adoption of Agenda

Motion 1-220407

Moved by: Peter McLaren
Seconded by: Eleanor Renaud

THAT the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee adopts the Agenda as circulated.

Motion Carried

d) **Declaration of Interest** None.

e) **Approval of Minutes of September 9, 2021**

Motion 2- 220407

Moved by: Diane Smithson
Seconded by: Michel Kearney

That the minutes of the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee meeting of September 9, 2021, be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried

f) **Correspondence** None.

2.0 Source Protection Program Update Part 1

Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, RVCA General Manager gave an overview of the New Regulations under the *Conservation Authorities Act* approved in December 2020, and how they affect Drinking Water Source Protection.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson provided a background and timeline of the changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act*. She informed the Committee of the formation of a Working Group made up of representatives from Conservation Authorities, the development community, agriculture, and municipalities to provide feedback on the drafted regulations. Phase 1 Regulations were released in October 2021 and Phase 2 Regulations are anticipated for early 2022.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson noted that one of the main changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act*, was for the Conservation Authorities to recategorize their Programs and Services into 3 main categories: Mandatory Programs, Municipal Programs, and Other Programs. Source Protection Authority and DWSP, under the *Clean Water Act*, are categorized under Mandatory Programs, and DWSP will be funded through the conservation authority's existing funding mechanisms.

Ms. Casgrain-Robertson responded to questions from the Committee about funding.

Claire Milloy, RVCA Groundwater Scientist gave an update on the Highly Vulnerable Aquifer Education Collection project. Action sheets and an interactive story map have been created on the ArcGIS website for residents, small businesses, and municipal decision makers. Ms. Milloy demonstrated how the website works, and where links to additional resources are located and informed the group of the website's various resources including HVA Protection information.

Laura Cummings explained that staff have been working with Spring Ridge Training Institute and Queens University to produce three educational videos. Ms. Cummings shared one of the educational videos.

A member congratulated the team on a job well done. Another member commented on the importance of the video as there is a need for educational resources on HVA protection.

A member asked if there will be a link for municipalities to access the videos. Ms. Cummings and Ms. Milloy confirmed the videos will be shared with all municipalities and uploaded to the ArcGIS website along with the other educational resources.

3.0 2021 Annual Progress Reporting to MECP

Laura Cummings provided an overview and background of the annual reporting requirements under Section 46 of the *Clean Water Act* and Ontario Regulation 287/07 (Section 52).

Ms. Cummings noted that this year will be the fifth submission of the Annual Progress Report. She provided an overview of submission date requirements for Monitoring Policies, complete and submitted by February 1, 2022, RMO Annual Report, complete and submitted by February 1, 2022, and the Annual Progress Report currently in progress. The Annual Progress Reporting public and supplemental reporting forms provided by the MECP is meant to provide standardization across the province for sharing critical information from source protection authorities and is due to the MECP by May 1, 2022.

Ms. Cummings explained how the grading requirements within the Annual Reporting public facing document work, and informed voting members that a comment sheet for written comments was provided in the agenda package.

Ms. Cummings reviewed all sections of the Public Facing Document before returning to the message of the committee section which contains the overall score. Overall, the Source Protection Committee feels that the implementation of Source Protection Plan policies is progressing well in the Mississippi-Rideau Region.

A member inquired about the number of risk management plans that were conducted in 2020 and 2019 compared to the 7 in 2021. Staff were congratulated on their efforts.

Ms. Cummings asked voting members to provide comments before taking this report to the Source Protection Authorities on April 20 and 28.

Brian Stratton responded to a question from a member regarding how the RVCA handles compliance infractions.

Motion 3- 220407

Moved by:

Eleanor Renaud

Seconded by:

Diane Smithson

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee receive for review the draft Annual Progress Report for 2021;

And further, that the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee assess and grade the progress achieved so far, providing a grade achieved through discussion at the meeting of April 7, 2022 to be recorded in the meeting minutes;

And further that the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee direct staff to summarize the comments, notes, grading and discussion and provide the Annual Progress Report to the Source Protection Authority for their approval.

Motion Carried

4.0 Risk Management Official Annual Reports

Brian Stratton gave a background on the RMO report and provided an update on the RMO Annual Report outside and within the City of Ottawa.

Motion 4-220407

Moved by:

Beverly Millar

Seconded by:

Randy Malcolm

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee receive for information the Risk Management Official Annual Reports for the 2021 calendar year.

Motion Carried

5.0 Proposed Near Surface Disposal Facility at Chalk River Laboratories

Ms. Cummings provided a brief background on the status and introduced Tessa Di Iorio from the City of Ottawa.

Ms. Di lorio gave an overview of the proposed plans for the Chalk River disposal facility to dispose of existing low level radioactive waste as the facility undergoes renovations. The laboratory is required to go through an environmental assessment, reviewed and overseen by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC). The City of Ottawa submitted comments to the CNSC as part of the Environmental Assessment and public hearing process. The City's comments focus on protecting the Ottawa River as the primary source of drinking water for the City of Ottawa. City staff plan to request to speak to these points at Part II of the Commission Hearing on May 31, 2022.

Ms. Di lorio responded to questions from the Committee regarding testing of water coming out of Chalk River and assured the Committee that staff testing procedures would be able to detect threat levels early and react accordingly as part of the City's regular monitoring systems.

The Chair acknowledged the comments and asked Ms. Di lorio to pass along thanks to her team from the Committee.

Motion 5-220407

Moved by: Diane Smithson
Seconded by: Roy Huetl

That the Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Committee receive this update about the proposed Near Surface Nuclear Waste facility at Chalk River and support the City of Ottawa's comments.

Motion Carried

6.0 Source Protection Program Update Part 2

Laura Cummings gave an update on the M-R DWSP Transfer Payment Submission and Progress Report Submission and informed the Committee of a new multiyear funding/workplan cycle. Ms. Cummings provided workplan highlights such as keeping the source water website active and up to date, working with municipalities to support staff, resolving issues with policy implementation, identifying quality/quantity issues, and participation in local, regional, and provincial meetings to enhance the program, Section 34 and Section 36 Amendments. We expect a draft version of the Transfer Payment Agreement soon.

The second Progress Report of the fiscal year was submitted to MECP in February 2022. Ms. Cummings reported that everything is currently on track and staff are preparing to submit the final report in April.

Ms. Cummings gave an update on the RMP Extension Request, the new deadline is December 31, 2024, and a summary of the work to be completed was requested and submitted to MECP by March 1st, 2022.

Brian Stratton provided a summary and brief background of the Section 36 Workplan approved in August 2019. The New Liquid Hydrocarbon Pipeline Policy is currently in progress. Conservation Ontario has requested consistency and harmonization across the Source Protection Regions, and staff are working with CA's across the Province. A detailed update will be provided at a later meeting. The 2017 DTR phase 1 is near complete. Carleton Place/Mississippi Lake Climate Change Study, clerical changes and the new well in Kemptville Northwest Quadrant are in progress and near completion.

Mr. Stratton reviewed proposed potential updates to the Section 36 Workplan including revised WHPA studies in Almonte, Westport, Munster and Richmond. The revised AR and SPP to incorporate Phase 2 Director Technical Rules Changes. HVA guidance is currently in progress.

Planned submission date for Section 36 Workplan is December 2024 to address all items discussed.

Mr. Stratton responded to a member inquiry about acronyms used in the presentation.

Tessa Di Iorio gave a detailed update on the Lemieux Island Intake Improvement Project (Section 34 Amendment). The City aims to have all permit approvals complete by fall 2022 and could start construction by Quarter 1 in 2023. Source Water Protection requirements were complete in 2020. A Source Protection Risk Assessment Study was initiated by the City of Ottawa to compare the source protection areas and regulated activities within Quebec to reveal that management of potential threats is similar in both provinces.

Brian Stratton responded to a question from a member regarding the federal role and responsibility to the Lemieux Island Intake Project. Ms. Di Iorio responded with a list of permits required including Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Environment Canada, Transport Canada, MNRF and more.

Mr. Stratton reviewed the 2021 Director's Technical Rules which took effect in December 2021. Revisions to AR and SPP are required. Detailed updates will be provided at future meetings.

Mr. Stratton provided an overview of the recently released Best Practices for Source Water Protection by MECP. The guidance is intended to help ensure communities and landowners in areas not covered by provincially approved Source Protection Plans have the tools they need to protect their drinking water sources. Source protection staff will work with municipalities in the Mississippi-Rideau Region regarding the Best Practices guidance.

7.0 Other Business

Chair Graham will not be seeking re-appointment as Chair, term expires in August 2022. Chair Graham expressed gratitude for past opportunities.

Mary Wooding (Liaison Officer at MECP) introduced MECP is working on road salt best management practices, and MECP is currently consulting with various groups.

8.0 Member Inquiries None.

9.0 Next Meeting

TBD

10.0 Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m. on a motion by Eleanor which was seconded by Claude.

Ken Graham
Chair

Marissa Grondin
Recording Secretary