



Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee

Mission Statement

To collaboratively develop and maintain a local watershed-based plan for the sustainable protection of municipal drinking water sources in the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Region that is science-based and prevents, reduces or eliminates risks to Lake Ontario and groundwater sources of municipal drinking water.

Meeting Minutes

MEETING NUMBER: #1-23
DATE: March 9, 2023
TIME: 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm
LOCATION: Virtual Meeting conducted via Zoom

Source Protection Committee (SPC) Attendees:

Robert (Bob) Edmondson, Chair, Carla Coveart (joined at 1:34 p.m.), Christopher (Chris) Murray, Dana Couture, David Rodgers, Daniel (Dan) Banks, Gavin Smuk, Scott Stewart, Sarah Lock

SPC Liaisons:

Elizabeth (Beth) Forrest, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)
Mike Stone, Hamilton Conservation Authority
Barbara Veale, Conservation Halton

Conservation Authorities:

Mardi Bergen, Conservation Halton
Katherine Hale, Conservation Halton
Martin Keller, Conservation Halton
Jacek Strakowski, Conservation Halton

Municipalities:

Gail Anderson, Town of Milton
Jon Clark, Halton Region
Alexander Disyak, Niagara Region
Richard MacDonald, City of Hamilton Public Health Services
Marco Silverio, City of Hamilton
Carmen Vega, City of Hamilton

Presenters

Debbie Balika, Conservation Ontario

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1	<p>Call to Order and Welcome</p> <p>Chair Bob Edmondson called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.</p>
2	<p>Roll Call and Certification of Quorum – 6 Members Constitute Quorum (2/3 of Members plus Chair)</p> <p>The Chair and seven members are in attendance and therefore quorum is reached.</p>
3	<p>Declaration of Pecuniary Interest</p> <p>None</p>
4	<p>Review of Agenda</p> <p>THAT the agenda of March 9, 2023 be accepted as distributed.</p> <p>Moved by Daniel Banks and seconded by Dana Couture.</p> <p>Carried</p>
5	<p>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</p> <p>THAT the minutes of the December 6, 2022 meeting of the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee be approved as circulated.</p> <p>Moved by Sarah Lock and seconded by Gavin Smuk.</p> <p>Carried</p>
6	<p>Business arising from the December 6, 2022 meeting</p> <p>Martin Keller and Mardi Bergen have a meeting booked with Dr. Taylor on March 23, 2023. Bob Edmondson will arrange a meeting with Martin and Mardi prior to their meeting with Dr. Taylor.</p> <p>Bob Edmondson inquired if any regulations have come with the introduction of Bill 23. Mike Stone informed the Chair that there have not been any new regulations or news since December.</p> <p>Bob Edmondson asked if Beth Forrest could provide highlights of the annual progress reporting at the June SPC meeting, which she agreed to. Beth is hoping to have more clarity at that time regarding the level of detail required going forward.</p> <p>Action: Beth will present highlights of the annual progress reporting at the June SPC meeting.</p> <p>Bob Edmondson asked Debbie Balika if the programming she is developing for school grades 8 and 10 will be available to everyone. She confirmed this resource</p>

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	<p>will be shared. Video resources are being created on delivery of the lessons and activities – she will also share these once available. Action: Deb Balika to share programming and videos once available.</p>
7	<p>Presentations</p> <p style="text-align: center;">None</p>
8	<p>Reports</p> <p>a) SPC 23-03-01: Source Protection Program Updates</p> <p>Martin Keller informed the Committee that staff are still awaiting a formal nomination from the City of Hamilton and will hopefully be up to our full complement by the June meeting.</p> <p>Martin and Mardi Bergen presented updates on the Source Protection Program. They are currently waiting for confirmation and feedback from the Municipal Working Group that the updated percent impervious surface area maps meet their needs. A vulnerability score of 10 has been overlaid on the maps as the criteria to identify significant threats. Overlaying the percentage thresholds with the vulnerability scores show only small areas where the application of road salt can be a significant threat, meaning small areas where policies would apply. Staff, in collaboration with municipalities, will consider these limitations as part of policy development and revisions.</p> <p>Conservation Ontario is hosting a workshop in March on the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment Tool. This workshop will provide additional context and help municipalities in identifying benefits, needs and potential priorities in applying the tool.</p> <p>The province, in partnership with municipalities, is looking into additional data on drinking water systems that are not included under the Clean Water Act and that may be beneficial to help target the promotion of the best practices to address specific drinking water concerns and issues. Further discussion will follow once staff have a clearer understanding of the types and numbers of non-municipal drinking water systems in the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Region. A staff member from Quinte Source Protection will present on their projects at our June SPC meeting to help inform what we could do as a Committee.</p> <p>The Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Region has a new website (public-facing), with further content refresh and clean-up being made in the next few months. If the committee has any additional feedback for the site, please let Martin know.</p>

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	<p>The external SharePoint site continues to be a work in progress with the end goal to be a collaborative platform for the Municipal Working Group and our SPC members.</p> <p>THAT the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee receive report SPC 23-03-01 Update – Source Protection Program Update for information.</p> <p>Moved by Gavin Smuk and seconded by Carla Coveart.</p> <p>Carried</p> <p>b) SPC 23-03-02: Halton-Hamilton Annual Progress Report 2022</p> <p>Mardi Bergen presented the Annual Progress Report 2022. Everything is progressing well and on target. Going forward all changes approved in S. 36 will be implemented and reported on in the 2023 Annual Progress Report. Bob Edmondson asked for feedback on what is currently included in Part II; the Committee had no further feedback.</p> <p>THAT the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee endorse report SPC 23-03-02 Halton-Hamilton Annual Progress Report 2022;</p> <p>AND THAT the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee direct Staff to present the Halton-Hamilton Annual Progress Report 2022 to the Halton and Hamilton Region Source Protection Authorities for submission to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.</p> <p>Moved by Daniel Banks and seconded by Christopher Murray.</p> <p>Carried</p>
9	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>None</p>
10	<p>Source Protection Committee Chair’s Update by Bob Edmondson</p> <p>a) SPC 23-03-03: Halton-Hamilton SPC Chair Update</p> <p>Bob Edmondson and Carla Coveart participated in the Halton Environmental Network Generation Green Youth Conference on February 17, 2023, which was well attended. Overall, it seems there is a lack of knowledge about the drinking water source protection program in local youth. Bob shared some videos they played at the conference. New contacts were made including setting up a</p>

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	<p>presentation with the Oakville Rotary Club and a local seniors' group. In May, Bob will be meeting 1:1 with Kirsten Service, Director Conservation and Source Protection with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.</p>
11	<p>Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Liaison Officer's Update by Beth Forrest</p> <p>Beth Forrest provided updates to the SPC. Several staffing changes are taking place at her branch. Three of seven Chair appointments have been made; once all seats are filled, the next Chair's meeting will be booked. A number of amendments are being made to Source Protection Plans under S. 34 and S. 36. Risk Management Official and Inspector training is taking place this month.</p> <p>Beth has been working with the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) in relation to fuel handling and storage, specifically private fuel outlets in the province, which can be significant drinking water threats. She will keep this Committee up to date as the project progresses.</p> <p>Gavin Smuk asked what qualifies as private fuel outlets, and Beth noted they are usually associated with agricultural operations but can also include businesses with their own fueling services on site.</p> <p>Kirsten Service has started meeting with project managers in the province to hear their challenges and success stories.</p>
12	<p>Conservation Ontario Update by Debbie Balika</p> <p>Debbie Balika provided an overview of the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment Tool and Chitra Gowda's involvement in its development. The current Excel format is being transitioned into a new web-based platform. Conservation Ontario will be hosting a workshop on Drinking Water Source Protection and Climate Change at the end of March, incorporating a federal, provincial, and local lens. If you are interested in attending, let Debbie know.</p> <p>A quick update was provided on the best practices for source water protection, including the development of a provincial tool kit. Debbie shared a preview of the contents they are developing for the tool kit. Natasha Mathieu (Quinte Conservation) will provide more details at our June SPC meeting.</p> <p>A Back to the Basics – Drinking Water Source Protection 101 Campaign is being created for education and awareness on what the program is and where your drinking water comes from. A safe drinking water survey will be going out as well to find out what people know about their drinking water to obtain geographic information from across the province. Bob Edmondson highlighted that 95% of the</p>

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	population in the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Region is on municipal supplied water, but the 5% that are not represent about 40-50,000 people. The push is on to make people aware of their source water and look at what they can do to protect their individual systems.
13	Other Business None
14	Adjourn Chair Bob Edmondson adjourned the meeting at 2:44 p.m.

Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee Chair: Bob Edmondson, spcchair@hrca.on.ca

Senior Manager, Watershed Planning and Source Protection: Martin Keller, mkeller@hrca.on.ca