

Report To: Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee
Report No.: SPC-23-06-03
From: Bob Edmondson, Chair, Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee
Date: June 13, 2023
Subject: SPC Chair Update

Recommendation

THAT the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee receives for information report SPC-23-06-03 SPC Chair Update.

Executive Summary

The SPC Chair provided a presentation to the Rotary Club of Oakville Trafalgar and had a one-on-one virtual meeting with Kirsten Service, Director, Conservation and Source Protection Branch, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Report

Chair Bob Edmondson attended a meeting of the Rotary Club of Oakville Trafalgar in Oakville on March 31, 2023. This Rotary Club holds monthly luncheon meetings, and it provided a good opportunity to reach out to about 30 individuals from various backgrounds and fields in the Town of Oakville. The presentation was well received with good questions and discussions following.

Kirsten Service, Director of the Conservation and Source Protection Branch with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has been holding one-on-one meetings with the Source Protection Committee Chairs and Program Managers across the Province. These meetings provide an excellent way to highlight our programs and discuss our accomplishments and challenges. The meeting with her was held on May 24, 2023.

A PowerPoint presentation was provided for her benefit which looked at our source protection region, our drinking water systems including our lake intakes and groundwater wells; the number of people serviced by those systems; their vulnerability and significant threats; our program governance and make-up of our committee.

Also reviewed were our accomplishments; our Section 36 plan update work and approval in November 2022; our annual progress reporting; the engagement of our source protection committee members in the program and in outreach to the public and our sectors; and the work of our municipal working group to help guide the program.

Also discussed was our work going forward such as completing work that was not included in our Section 36 plan update relating to incorporating the new 2021 Technical

Rules; updating policies and looking at incorporating climate change initiatives and involvement in the Best Practices work.

Going forward recommendations included long term program funding after March 2024; suggesting a 3 year funding commitment; bringing forward future updates to the program including changes to the Assessment Reports and the Plan as things evolve; keeping the committee involved through incorporating their local knowledge and expertise in matters such as emerging chemicals and local threats; continuing public engagement and looking at having a province wide initiative to highlight the program and what it is accomplishing across the province; also looking at streamlining amendments under Section 34 for the Plan and possibly using other tools and means to expedite such approvals.

Ms. Service was appreciative of the information that was provided to her relating to our program and the gaps and concerns for the future.

The one-on-one with Martin Keller was held on May 29, 2023 where additional program details were discussed.

Signed & respectfully submitted:



Bob Edmondson
SPC Chair, Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee.