

Members Present:	Robert Andrews Michèle Giddings Peter Huck (<i>via phone</i>) Derrick Kamanga Ken Roberts Robert Walton	Mary Jane Conboy Rod Holme Alex Hukowich Jim Merritt John Rudnickas
Ministry Liaison Staff Present:	Pat Lachmaniuk, MOE	Fred Ruf, MOHLTC
Council Staff Present:	Scott Barrett, ODWAC	Iris Biggar, ODWAC
Regrets:	Ron Brecher Lesbia Smith	Robert Lannigan
Guests (MOE):	Satish Deshpande, SDB Indra Prashad, SDWB	Terri Bulman, SDB Bill Gregson, SDWB

1. Call to Order:

The Chair opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Adoption of February 16, 2007 Agenda:

February 16, 2007 agenda was adopted by consensus, with the addition of 1 item (Chief Drinking Water Inspector's 2005-2006 Annual Report) under "7. Other Drinking Water Issues".

Adoption of January 19, 2007 Meeting Minutes:

January 19, 2007 meeting minutes were adopted by consensus, with no changes, and will be posted to the public area of the Council's website at www.odwac.gov.on.ca.

The Chair noted the passing of former Council member Dr. Harold Richardson on February 12th. Harry's numerous contributions to the Council's efforts were acknowledged and his participation was greatly appreciated over his 2-year term.

The Chair briefed the Council on a January 29, 2007 meeting with the Ministry of the Environment's **Training and Certification** staff. It was suggested that the Council receive a presentation on the Ministry's initiatives, at a future meeting.

Action(s):

- *Executive Assistant to arrange for a presentation on the Ministry of the Environment's training and certification initiatives for either the April 20 or May 25, 2007 meeting*
- *Chair to invite the Walkerton Clean Water Centre CEO and Chair for a presentation on their training and certification initiatives for either the April 20 or May 25, 2007 meeting*

The Chair reported on a January 29, 2007 meeting with Council member Derrick Kamanga on regarding the *federal Report on Safe Drinking Water for First Nations*. As a result of the meeting, some potential next steps were discussed and will be presented to the Council at a future meeting.

Action(s):

- *Executive Assistant and Chair to develop potential next steps, for the Council, regarding the Report on Safe Drinking Water for First Nations, for discussion at the March 23, 2007 meeting*

2. Reg. 170 Review:

The Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff member briefed the Council on the progress of **Reg. 170 initiatives**, including an education and outreach program targeting small systems owners and operators.

Action(s):

- *Council to remain engaged in the Ministry of the Environment's Reg. 170 initiatives, and associated regulatory and policy amendments*

Reg. 248:

Council member John Rudnickas then briefed the Council on the **Reg. 248** Working Group's January 25, 2007 meeting with the Ministry of the Environment's Laboratory Services Branch staff, regarding Walkerton Part 2 recommendations 40 and 41, as well as the Council's own Reg. 170 recommendations 14 and 15.

It was noted that the Ministry is working on developing generic guidelines for the use of alternative testing kits (related to Walkerton Part 2 recommendation 40), as well as criteria for additional testing (related to Walkerton Part 2 recommendation 41).

Action(s):

- *Council to remain engaged in the Ministry of the Environment's Reg. 248 initiatives, and associated regulatory and policy amendments*

3. Small Drinking Water Systems Program

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Liaison Staff member briefed the Council on the progress of the **Small Drinking Water Systems Program**.

It was noted that several Council members attended a workshop in January, in order to provide advice on technical issues that will need to be conveyed into policy, for inclusion in the Small Drinking Water Inspection System (Risk Assessment Tool).

Action(s):

- *Council to remain engaged in the Small Drinking Water Inspection System, Legislative and Regulatory changes, and the development of new protocols, in order to provide on-going advice to the MOE and the MOHLTC*

4. Priorities

Use of Surrogates:

Council members Bob Andrews and Peter Huck presented a discussion paper on the **use of surrogates** to monitor drinking water. Specifically, strategies were suggested for the following four parameters: TOC; *E. coli*; AOX; and HAA₉, and it was determined that the Council would need more information on other jurisdictions and benefits, before developing any recommendations, or undertaking any work itself.

As well, the addition of Bromide was suggested to be added to the list of surrogate parameters.

Action(s):

- *Executive Assistant to draft a Project Scoping Document for TOC; E. coli; AOX; HAA₉; and Bromide, for further development by Council members Peter Huck, Bob Andrews, and Ken Roberts, for presentation of potential next steps at a future Council meeting*

Alternative Approaches to Disinfection:

The Chair, along with Council member Peter Huck presented for discussion a proposal for a workshop on **alternative approaches to disinfection**.

The Council, as a whole, agreed to proceed with the workshop.

It was determined that a Working Group would be needed to undertake the necessary tasks that such a workshop would require. Council members Peter Huck, Bob Andrews, Michèle Giddings, and Rob Walton volunteered.

Action(s):

- *Executive Assistant to draft a Project Scoping Document for a workshop on alternative approaches to disinfection, for discussion and development by the Working Group*

5. Clean Water Act

The Chair briefed the Council on a January 22, 2007 meeting with key *Clean Water Act* staff, providing an update of the progress of the various Regulations and Guidance Documentation.

It was noted that the Guidance Documentation will eventually become “Director’s Rules” so that they can be enforced by law.

The Council is awaiting more information from the Ministry of the Environment’s Drinking Water Program Management Branch on the development of the various products and their timing.

Action(s):

- *Council to remain engaged in the development of the Clean Water Act Regulations and Guidance Documentation, in order to provide on-going advice to the Minister of the Environment*

6. Standards Review

Standards Review Protocol:

The **protocol for providing advice** from the Council into the National process was discussed and it was determined that no changes were required.

It was noted that the Committee on Drinking Water (CDW) will be meeting in Toronto on May 2-4, 2007. The possibility of having the Council Chair attend the meeting as an observer was discussed.

Action(s):

- *Ontario CDW member to ask permission of the CDW to see if the Chair of the Council could attend the Toronto meeting as an observer*

A summary of the Council's currently engaged **Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality** (GCDWQ) was reviewed. Specific details as discussed are below:

Chlorite and Chlorate:

A draft **Chlorite and Chlorate Advice Letter** was presented and some minor revisions were discussed.

Action(s):

- *Council Chair to provide a copy of the updated draft Chlorite and Chlorate advice letter to Minister's Office staff*
- *Executive Assistant and Chair to finalize the Chlorite and Chlorate advice letter and transmit it to the Minister of the Environment, once approval for the final Guideline has been granted by both the CDW and the CHE*

Radiological Characteristics / HAAs:

The **Radiological Characteristics** and **HAAs** Documents for Public Comment are currently being reviewed by the CDW so that consultation comments can be taken into consideration.

The national public comments for **Radionuclides** were made available to the Council.

Action(s):

- *MOE Liaison Staff Member to supply the Council with the national public comments for HAAs for discussion at a future meeting*
- *Council to discuss the Radiological Characteristics and HAAs Documents at future meetings*

MCPA:

The CDW continues to review the public consultation comments on **MCPA** in order to take them into consideration. Public comments will be made available to the Council when available, and Ontario will hold its own public consultation after the final GCDWQ is announced.

Action(s):

- *Council to discuss the MCPA Document for Public Comment at a future meeting, after national consultation comments are made available*

Chloral Hydrate:

The **Chloral Hydrate Document for Public Comment** was posted on Health Canada's website on January 15, 2006 and will be available for public comment until March 2, 2007.

Action(s):

- *Council Members to Review the Chloral Hydrate Document for Public Comment at a future meeting*

Potassium, Corrosion Control:

The **Documents for Public Comment for Potassium, Chloral Hydrate, and Corrosion Control** will be made available to the Council after the peer review comments are incorporated and the documents are posted for national consultation.

Tritium:

The Chair briefed the Council on the **Tritium** Working Group meeting of February 7, 2007. The Working Group determined that it would need more information to conduct a thorough review of a possible new Tritium standard.

It was noted that the Working Group will be meeting again on February 23, 2007, and that there is a possibility of holding a ½ day workshop after that, which would be open to all Council members.

Action(s):

- *Tritium Working Group to report back to the Council on its progress at the March 23, 2007 meeting*
- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison staff member to arrange a meeting on Tritium monitoring data between the Tritium Working Group and the Ministry of Labour's Radiation Protection Service*
- *Chair and Executive Assistant to arrange a meeting of the Tritium Working Group and Toronto's Medical Officer of Health, in order to discuss and understand the concerns surrounding Tritium*

Pending Reviews:

The revised **Draft Documents for Public Comment for Benzene, and Chlorine** will be made available to the Council in 2007.

7. Other Drinking Water Issues

Drinking Water Quality Management Standard:

The Council discussed the **Drinking Water Quality Management Standard (DWQMS)** Guidance Document with key Ministry of the Environment staff.

Of note by the Council was the fact that Emergency Preparedness is a *required* Element, but Security is *not*.

As well, Council member Rob Walton presented the Council with a municipal perspective of the implementation of the DWQMS.

Action(s):

- ***Council to remain engaged in the development of the Drinking Water Quality Management Standard Guidance Documentation, in order to provide on-going advice to the Minister of the Environment***

Chief Drinking Water Inspector's Annual Report 2005-2006:

It was noted that some Council members were independently invited to review and comment on the **Chief Drinking Water Inspector's Annual Report 2005-2006**.

Action(s):

- ***Chair to follow up with Chief Drinking Water Inspector regarding opportunities for the Council, as a whole, to comment on the latest annual report***
- ***Concern for accuracy of public information***

A magazine article, which provided advice on well maintenance, was next discussed. Of note was the fact that the author of the article sought expert advice from the Ministry of the Environment and a Council member, but published misleading and contrary advice. As such, the Council expressed its concern for the accuracy of the information presented to the public.

8. Administrative Items:

Upcoming Conferences:

Council members were reminded that they should register, pay for, and submit expenses for the following conferences, as soon as possible, if they plan to attend:

- PPCPs: Niagara, March 5-7, 2007
- OWWA: Collingwood, May 6-9, 2007
- AWWA: Toronto, June 24-28, 2007

The Ministry of the Environment is planning to hold a Drinking Water Symposium again this year. The tentative date is April 24, 2007, at the Delta Chelsea Hotel, in Toronto. More details to follow.

Next Meeting(s):

- March 23, 2007 (40 St. Clair Ave. W. 3rd Floor, Training Room “B”)
- April 20, 2007 (Location to be determined)
- May 25, 2007 (40 St. Clair Ave. W. 3rd Floor, Training Room “B”)
- June 22, 2007 (Location to be determined)
- July 20, 2007 (Location to be determined)

9. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 3:00 p.m.