

## *Ontario Drinking Water Advisory Council: Minutes from March 14, 2008 Meeting*

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<b>Members Present:</b>	Robert Andrews Rod Holme Alex Hukowich Robert Lannigan Ken Roberts	Michèle Giddings Peter Huck ( <i>via phone</i> ) Derrick Kamanga Jim Merritt John Rudnickas
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<b>Ministry Liaison Staff Present:</b>	Pat Lachmaniuk, MOE
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<b>Council Staff Present:</b>	Scott Barrett	Iris Biggar
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<b>Regrets:</b>	Tony Amalfa, MOHLTC Mary Jane Conboy Robert Walton	Ron Brecher Lesbia Smith
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### **1. Call to Order:**

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

#### **Adoption of March 14, 2008 Agenda:**

**March 14, 2008 agenda** was adopted by consensus.

#### **Adoption of February 15, 2008 Meeting Minutes:**

**February 15, 2008 meeting minutes** were adopted by consensus and will be posted to the public area of the Council's website at [www.odwac.gov.on.ca](http://www.odwac.gov.on.ca).

The Chair noted a couple items of interest to the Council:

- The Chair will be attending a **Small Systems Working Group Meeting** as part of the Committee on Drinking Water (CDW) meetings in Ottawa in April, 2008
- Council Member Robert Andrews will be presenting at the **First Nations Water Symposium** in Niagara Falls on March 18-19, 2008

### **2. MOE Update:**

The Ministry of the Environment Staff Liaison Member updated the Council on the Ministry of the Environment's **Toxics Strategy**.

As well, the issue of contaminants, like lead and arsenic, being found in **Fluoride** preparations used for municipal drinking water was discussed.

#### **Action(s):**

- *Chair to discuss Council's degree of involvement in reviewing the Fluoride drinking water Standard with Minister's Office Staff*

### 3. MOHLTC Update:

The Council learned of a meeting on the **Small Drinking Water Systems Program**, in which one of the main areas of discussion was the definition of a distribution system.

*Action(s):*

- *Council to remain engaged in the Small Drinking Water Systems Program, Legislative and Regulatory changes, and Policy developments, in order to provide on-going advice to the MOE and the MOHLTC*

### 4. Standards Review:

Tritium:

The Chair briefed the Council on the progress of the **Tritium** Working Group and the upcoming public consultation meeting, set for March 26 and 27, 2008:

- EBR Information Notice was posted February 28, 2008
- 36 presenters confirmed; 10 written submission received
- Any and all Council Members welcome to form panel on either or both days
- Working Group continues to finalize consultation plan and meeting logistics

*Action(s):*

- *Tritium Working Group to continue to work with Lura Consulting to plan and execute the Council's March 26 and 27, 2008 public consultation meeting on Tritium*

Radiological Characteristics:

The Council was updated on the progress of the **Radiological Characteristics of Drinking Water Document** (*Council Standards Review Stage 5*). It was noted that the document is currently undergoing Committee on Drinking Water (CDW) final approval.

*Action(s):*

- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to arrange for a presentation on the Radiological Characteristics of Drinking Water Document for deliberation at a future Council Meeting in 2008*

Benzene:

The Council was updated on the progress of the **Benzene in Drinking Water Document** (*Council Standards Review Stage 5*). The CDW approved the document with 5 µg/L be re-affirmed and 1 µg/L as the "As Low as Reasonably Achievable" (ALARA) target.

*Action(s):*

- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to arrange for a presentation on Benzene in Drinking Water Document for deliberation at a future Council Meeting in 2008*

Chloral Hydrate, Potassium:

The Council was updated on the status of the **Chloral Hydrate in Drinking Water and Guidance on Potassium from Water Softeners Documents** (*Both Council Standards Review Stage 5*).

*Action(s):*

- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to arrange for presentations on Chloral Hydrate and Potassium Documents for Council deliberation at future Meetings in 2008*

HAA<sub>5</sub>:

The Council learned that both the CDW and the Committee on Health and the Environment (CHE) have approved the HAA<sub>5</sub> Guideline Document at 80 µg/L.

A draft advice letter to the Minister of the Environment on HAA<sub>5</sub> was discussed. The Council also reviewed data on concentrations of HAA<sub>5</sub> vs. Dichloroacetic Acid (DCA) based on data reported from the MOE's Drinking Water Surveillance Program.

*Action(s):*

- *Executive Assistant to re-draft Minister's advice letter on HAA<sub>5</sub>, based on the Council's deliberations, for discussion at the April 18, 2008 Meeting*

Chlorine:

The Council was updated on the **Chlorine in Drinking Water Document** (*Council Standards Review Stage 3*).

*Action(s):*

- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to arrange for a presentation on the Chlorine in Drinking Water Document for deliberation at a future Meeting in 2008*

## **5. Other Drinking Water Issues:**

### **Guide for Applying for Approvals Related to Municipal and Non-Municipal Drinking-Water Systems:**

The **Guide** was discussed in relation to the "**Design Guidelines for Drinking-Water Systems**". Discussion points included wording around protection of public health, and application to small systems.

**Action(s):**

- **Council Chair to discuss comments with Ontario's Chief Drinking Water Inspector**

**Other Working Group Updates:**

The Chair updated the Council on the progress of several other Council Working Groups:

- **Alternative Approaches to Disinfection Working Group:**
  - Symposium dates confirmed for September 22-23, 2008
  - 6 Speakers have been confirmed
  - RFP to be developed in spring 2008
  - Working Group to meet in spring 2008 to discuss next steps
- **Reg. 248 Working Group:**
  - Schedule spring, 2008 meeting with MOE LaSB staff to discuss outstanding concerns
- **DWQMS Working Group:**
  - MOE Licencing staff to keep Council informed of new and / or updated documents
- **Surrogates Working Group:**
  - RFP to be developed in spring 2008
  - Working Group to meet in spring 2008 to discuss next steps, timing

**6. Administrative Items:**

**Upcoming Conferences:**

The following upcoming conferences / Information sessions were discussed:

- **U of T NSERC Chair Technology Transfer Day:** April 9, 2008
- **MOE Technology Transfer Day:** April 10, 2008
- **OMWA / OWWA Annual Conference:** April 27-30, 2008, London
- **AWWA 2008 Annual Conference and Exposition:** June 8-12, 2008, Atlanta
- **National Drinking Water Conference:** October 4-7, 2008, Quebec City
- **Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation Annual Conference:** October 6-10, 2008, Niagara Falls

**Next Meeting(s):**

- April 18, 2008 (40 St. Clair Ave. W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Training Room “B”)
- May 23, 2008 (40 St. Clair Ave. W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Training Room “B”)
- June 20, 2008 (40 St. Clair Ave. W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Training Room “B”)
- July 18, 2008 (Hukowich residence, Cobourg)
- September 12, 2008 (location to be determined)
- October 17, 2008 (location to be determined)

**7. Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 2:30 p.m.