

## Ontario Drinking Water Advisory Council: Minutes from May 22, 2009 Meeting

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

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### 1. Call to Order:

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

#### **Adoption of May 22, 2009 Agenda:**

The **May 22, 2009 agenda** was adopted by consensus.

#### **Adoption of April 17, 2009 Meeting Minutes:**

The **April 17, 2009 meeting minutes** were adopted by consensus, with minor changes, 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).

Several items were noted by various Council Members, including:

- the Chair, Jim Merritt, received the Award of Exceptional Merit, at the recent OMWA / OWWA Conference. Also of note, former Council Member Robert Andrews received the Fuller Award at the same conference;
- the Chair received a preliminary draft copy of the Chief Drinking Water Inspector's 2007-2008 Annual Report;
- Swine Flu (H1N1); and
- The start up of a First Nations Water Commission, with Council Member Derrick Kamanga and the Chair, Jim Merritt being asked to sit on the Steering Committee, as individuals (*not representing the Council*).

## 2. MOE Update on Initiatives and Activities:

The MOE Liaison Staff Member briefed the Council on a few items of interest, including:

- status of amendments for Regulations 170, 248, and 169;
- the appointment of Dr. Joseph Odumeru as the new Director of Laboratory Services for the MOE;
- a Backflow Prevention Program in conjunction with the MMAH.

### *Action(s):*

- *MOE Liaison Staff Member to arrange for a presentation on the Backflow Prevention Initiative for a future Council Meeting*

## 3. MOHLTC Update on Initiatives and Activities:

The Council discussed the organization and the roles of the various health-related government organizations in Ontario, including the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (<http://www.health.gov.on.ca>), The Ministry of Health Promotion (<http://www.mhp.gov.on.ca>), and the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (<http://www.oahpp.ca>).

### *Action(s):*

- *MOHLTC Liaison Staff Member to arrange for a presentation on the organization and roles of the MOHLTC, MHP, and the OAHPP, for a future Council Meeting*

## 4. Standards Review:

### Tritium:

The Chair briefed the Council on the progress being made on the **tritium report** for the Minister.

### Radiological Characteristics:

Health Canada's **Radiological Characteristics of Drinking Water** (*Guideline Document*) is currently with the CHE for final approval and the Council's latest **draft advice letter on Radiological Monitoring** was discussed.

### *Action(s):*

- *Executive Assistant to revise the draft Radiological Monitoring advice letter for full Council discussion at the June 26, 2009 Meeting*

Benzene:

Health Canada's **Benzene in Drinking Water** (*Guideline Document*) is with the CHE for final approval and the Council's latest **draft advice letter on Benzene** was discussed, including the relationship between a new Standard and Source Protection Planning, the approach the Council may take in proposing a new Standard, and the actual health-based  $10^{-6}$  and  $10^{-5}$  risk levels.

*Action(s):*

- *Council to review the revised Benzene advice letter at the June 26, 2009 Meeting*
- *Executive Assistant and Chair to investigate the relationship between a new Benzene Standard and Source Protection Planning activities*
- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to provide detailed calculations of the health-based  $10^{-6}$  and  $10^{-5}$  risk levels to the Chair and Executive Assistant prior to the June 26, 2009 Council Meeting*

Chlorine:

The **Chlorine in Drinking Water** (*Guideline Document*) is CDW approved and is expected to be forwarded to CHE for final approval soon.

*Action(s):*

- *Ministry of the Environment Liaison Staff Member to supply the latest version of Health Canada's Chlorine Document to Executive Assistant prior to June 26, 2009 Council Meeting*
- *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*

The Council received an update from the Health Canada Committee on Drinking Water Meetings, held recently in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

Some of the Health Canada documents at various stages of development include: Fluoride, Carbon Tetrachloride, NDMA, Lead, MCPA, protozoa and enteric viruses, 1,2-dichloroethane, dichloromethane,

It was also noted that the National Drinking Water Conferences will now be held in the fall every 2 years. The next one will be in Saskatoon, SK, in 2010.

*Action(s):*

- *Council Member Michèle Giddings to provide Executive Assistant with Health Canada's latest Substance Priority Review List, if it becomes available, to aid in the Council's own priority discussion at the June 26, 2009 Meeting*

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

Council Member Peter Huck updated the Council on the progress of the **Alternatives to Disinfection Symposium report**.

### *Action(s):*

- *Council to review an updated draft of the Alternatives to Disinfection Symposium report at the June 26, 2009 Meeting*

Council Members were reminded of the upcoming MOE Annual Drinking Water Symposium, being held on June 2, 2009, at the Ontario Science Centre.

As well, the Council was made aware of a CCEC / CWN Workshop for Control of Emerging Contaminants, being held on June 3 and 4, 2009, the Renaissance Toronto Airport Hotel and Conference Centre.

## **6. Administrative Items:**

It was decided that the June 19, 2009 meeting should be moved to June 26, 2009, and consequently, the July 17, 2009 meeting should be moved to July 24, 2009, due to scheduling conflicts.

### **Next Meeting(s):**

- Friday, June 26, 2009 (40 St. Clair Ave. W., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Training Room "B")
- Friday July 24, 2009 (40 St. Clair Ave. W., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Training Room "B")
- August, 2009: ***No Meeting Planned***
- Friday, September 18, 2009 (40 St. Clair Ave. W., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Training Room "B")
- Friday, October 16, 2009 (40 St. Clair Ave. W., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Training Room "B")
- Friday, November 20, 2009 (Venue to be announced)
- Friday, December 18, 2009 (40 St. Clair Ave. W., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Training Room "B")

## **7. Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 1:45 p.m.