

**Sault Ste. Marie Region Source Protection Committee**

**Draft minutes**

**SPC Meeting**

**August 22, 2024**

**Virtual Meeting 1pm to 2:20pm**

**Land Acknowledgement**

The SPC would like to begin by acknowledging that we are in Robinson-Huron Treaty territory and that the land on which we are gathered is the traditional territory of the Anishnaabeg, specifically the Garden River and Batchewana First Nations, as well as Métis People.

**Attendance**

Mike Delfre – Acting Chair	Marlene McKinnon – Project Manager & Alternate SPA Liaison & Risk Management Inspector And Gerard Lavoie, GIS Specialist
Hal McGonigal – Prince Township Representative	Larry Woolley – SSM Resident
Catherine Taddo – City of SSM Representative	Corrina Barrett – SSMRCA SPA Liaison
Orlan Euale – Water Industry (PUC Services Inc.)	Michael McCarthy, Environment
Temporary Vacancy – Local Business	Christine Ropeter – DWSP Communications
MECP Representative – Nigel Holgate	Peter Tonazzo – Risk Management Official

**Guests:** MECP Spills Action Centre Staff – Renee Belanger, Afeefa Karim-Nasir, Mikhaila Lafleur, Lauren Perry, Emergency Management Coordinator, Fire Services, Sault Ste. Marie Ontario

**Regrets:** Christine Ropeter, Peter Tonazzo

**Agenda Items:**

1. **PRESENTATION BY MECP – regarding Spills Action Centre**
  - Afeefa presented on behalf of the Spills Action Centre and provided me the presentation.
  - Mikhaila and Renee presented on the investigation and follow-up side of the MECP and has provided me the presentation.
2. Sign-in/Attendance – acknowledgement of those in attendance and any regrets –quorum is 4 or more members plus Acting Chair – no quorum at start of meeting others joined during the presentation.
3. Land Acknowledgement
4. Approval of Agenda –  
Motion by Larry Woolley, seconded by Orlan Euale. Carried

5. Approval of May 16, 2024, and June 13, 2024, minutes as distributed  
 May minutes Motion by Larry Woolley, seconded by Mike McCarthy. Carried  
 June minutes Motion by Larry Woolley, seconded by Orlan Euale. Carried
6. Introduction of new PM – Gerard Lavoie
7. Review of
  - September meeting – draft SPP, ED and AR for pre-consultation distribution under O.Reg. 287/07 Section 51. To be provided in a separate link.
  - Letter from Minister to Acting Chair – see Appendix A
8. Next meeting – September 19<sup>th</sup>, tentative 1pm
9. Adjournment – Motion by Larry Woolley at 2:20pm.

Action Items:

Date	Action Assigned	Resolution
21Apr22	Prepare draft presentation for SPA and Councils on workplan municipal endorsement	In progress
23Nov23	Distribute amended SPP and ED without marks for review.	Done
23Nov23	Update website with proposed meeting dates for MECP and public	Done

Ministry of the Environment,  
Conservation and Parks

Ministère de l'Environnement,  
de la Protection de la nature et des  
Parcs



Office of the Minister

Bureau du ministre

777 Bay Street, 5th Floor  
Toronto ON M7A 2J3  
Tel.: 416 314-8790

777, rue Bay, 5<sup>e</sup> étage  
Toronto ON M7A 2J3  
Tél. : 416 314-8790

357-2024-1599

August 9, 2024

Mr. Michael Delfre  
Acting Chair  
Sault Ste. Marie Source Protection Committee  
Email: [m.delfre@outlook.com](mailto:m.delfre@outlook.com)

Dear Mr. Delfre:

Thank you for your letter regarding your concern about the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' commitment to source protection committees.

The work of the source protection committees is vital in protecting Ontario's drinking water. I am thankful for the work each source protection committee undertakes for the province.

The ministry is committed to protecting our local drinking water sources to ensure Ontario's communities are confident in the quality and quantity of their drinking water. The province continues to provide funding to conservation authorities operating as source protection authorities, including, for the first time, entering into three-year funding agreements demonstrating the ministry's commitment to this vital work. This includes the funding needed for the local source protection committees. Since 2004, the province has invested more than \$300 million in support of Ontario's Source Protection Program. This is critical work that protects the sources of nearly 440 municipal drinking water systems.

Thank you for sharing your concerns about the ministry not hosting in-person chair meetings. The ministry is working to balance the needs of the Source Protection Program to collaborate and share information, as well as the ministry's responsibility to be a good financial steward of provincial funding. I understand Kirsten Service, Director of the Conservation and Source Protection Branch, has recently communicated to the chairs that she is committed to re-initiating quarterly virtual meetings, with the first being scheduled for this fall, and has held one-on-one meetings with the current chairs. I encourage all chairs to contact Kirsten to share their successes, challenges and suggestions.

I acknowledge that chair vacancies exist at four source protection committees, including your source protection committee. The ministry plans to post these positions on the Public Appointments Secretariat website to receive applications from qualified individuals.

...2

Mr. Michael Delfre  
Page 2.

Thank you again for writing and thank you for your dedication to the Source Protection Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andrea Khanjin". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

Andrea Khanjin  
Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

c: Kirsten Service, Director, Conservation and Source Protection Branch, MECP  
Wendy Lavender, Manager, Technical and Program Delivery, MECP