

St. Lawrence River Restoration Council (SLRRC)
April 4, 2018
1:00 pm

The St. Lawrence River Institute of Environmental Sciences

Present:

Jon Gee	Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)
Sandra Kok	Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)
Dawn Walsh	Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC)
Kristin Geater	Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)
Andrew Morley	Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC)
John St. Marseille	City of Cornwall
Barbara Schurman	Ministry of Environment and Climate Change
Joffre Coté	Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF)
Jake Larose	Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Scott Peters	Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Environment Program
Richard Pilon	Raisin Region Conservation Authority (RRCA)
Chris Critoph	Raisin Region Conservation Authority
Brendan Jacobs	RRCA / Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS)
Robin Poole	Cooper Marsh Conservators
Elaine Kennedy	Municipal Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC)
Jules Bourdon	Collectif France
Joe Belmonte	Cornwall Lunger Club
Jeff Ridal	St. Lawrence River Institute (RI)
MacKenzie Waller	St. Lawrence River Institute (RI)
Dominique Lapointe	St. Lawrence River Institute (RI)
Matt Windle	St. Lawrence River Institute (RI)
Dorothy Hamilton	Ontario Woodlot Association (S,D, G Chapter)
Will Robertson	General Public Liaison
Mark Kaddie	Upper St. Lawrence River Protection Network (USLRPN)
Walter Oeggerli	Glengarry Farmers Association (GFA)
Karen Cooper	Remedial Action Plan St. Lawrence River (Cornwall)

St. Lawrence River Restoration Council (SLRRC)

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Approval of Agenda**
- 3. Approval of Minutes**
- 4. Beneficial Use Impairment (BUI) Listing Criteria Review Process**
 - 4.1 Andrew Morley (Powerpoint presentation attached).
 - 4.2 Questions were asked re- the distance from the mouth of the tributary will be included within the criteria
 - 4.3 Long term vision is to allow us to work along the River on specific projects that address concerns but without certain specificity with regard to targets that were identified within the BUI designations
 - 4.4 Some concern was expressed re- tributaries being considered less important because of their smaller size in relationship with a large River ecosystem like the St. Lawrence River
 - 4.5 Establishment of a Framework Document (i.e. Lake Huron Framework implementation of a Community based plan
 - 4.6 The SLRRC needs to submit its priorities into the new COA document by the end of 2018 a 5 Year Strategic Action Plan
 - 4.6 Does the SLRRC want to endorse the strategy outlined by Andrew
 - 4.7 Emphasis was placed on community collaboration
 - 4.8 The latest draft of the LAMP will come out this Spring for public comment for the St. Lawrence River
 - 4.9 MNRF is rolling out its own project connected to the COA through development of a tool kit with respect to coastal wetland work with respect to shoreline work. This nearshore assessment work will identify priority areas through intensive shoreline mapping that should be undertaken locally in the summer of 2018

Motion: Be it resolved that SLRRC proceed on the recommendations provided in the December 13, 2017 Report “Recommendations to Revise Delisting Criteria” by French Planning Services Inc.

Moved: Elaine Kennedy

Seconded: Jeff Ridal

Carried

b) **Creation of a Framework Document for St. Lawrence River (Jeff Ridal)**

- Creation of Community Action Framework (*refer to Lake Huron Framework – attached*)
 - This is an overall framework that is quite high level and it includes a Charter
 - Our regional action plan requires an emphasis on the Words Before All Else with the Mohawks taking a lead on this project - a step in the right direction

Motion: Be it resolved that SLRRC endorse the development of a Framework Document for St. Lawrence River Community Action

Moved: E Kennedy

Seconded: Robin Poole

Carried

c) **Cornwall Sediment Strategy (CSS) Update** (Powerpoint presentation attached)

- 2 new committees -
 - Long Term Monitoring Committee
 - Administrative Protocol Committee
- Have the high flow rates at the Dam seen over the past year impacted the sediment in the contaminated zones?
- Matt Windle mentioned that a baseline will be established in 2018
- Question: What is the sediment deposition rate annually?
The Answer is a fraction of a centimetre per year.

5. **New Business**

Re-designating Beneficial Use Impairments (BUIs) one BUI at a time (Kristin Geater and Jon Gee) (*Powerpoint presentation attached*)

5.1 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA) allows Areas of Concern (AOCs) to delist BUIs individually

- i.e. when looking at the Beach BUI we will need to go back to both the Eastern Ontario Health Unit (EOHU) and the Mohawk Health Unit to review most current data and then go through
- *Add the process identified in the GLWQA for a bi-national Area of Concern*
- Endorsement of this concept is being sought from SLRRC by ECCC and MOECC
- A Plan for prioritizing BUIs will come from ECCC and MOECC

Motion: Be it resolved that SLRRC approves re-designating BUIs individually in the St. Lawrence River AOC (Cornwall) following the procedures laid out in the 2012 GLWQA for a bi-national Area of Concern

Moved: Elaine Kennedy

Seconded: Mark Kaddie

Carried

- A BUI Public Engagement Plan needs to be developed by RAP Coordinator

New Business

- The Cornwall Pollution Control Plan (PCP) was originally developed in 1994 - a new PCP is being developed now due to access to Great Lakes Sustainability Funding (GLSF). John St. Marseille (City of Cornwall) acknowledges this 2 year project funding from the province of Ontario
- A study is being undertaken which will look at Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs)
- The River Institute is involved in this CSO study as well as in consultant studies for Storm Sewer Discharges in SLR as well.

* **N.B.** Andrew Morley will be taking on an assignment with MOECC for a period of 9 months that will take him out of his current position working with this AOC. Barbara Schurman will be filling in this position for the duration.

Next meeting / Annual General Meeting Date:

Wednesday, May 23 (1:00 p.m.)

Motion to adjourn: Mark Kaddie