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REPLACEMENT OF MUNICIPAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEES AS REQUIRED BY THE CLEAN WATER ACT

The Transportation and Works Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report, February 25, 2008, from the Commissioner of Environmental Services:

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. Regional Council appoint Neil Garbe as the Municipal representative for York Region and its constituent local municipalities on the Credit Valley, Toronto Region and Central Lake Ontario Region Source Protection Committee.
2. Regional Council appoint Erin Mahoney as the Municipal representative for York Region and its constituent local municipalities on the South Georgina Bay-Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee.
3. The Regional Clerk forward a copy of this report to the Clerks of the nine local municipalities of the Region, the South Georgina Bay-Lake Simcoe Source Protection and the Credit Valley, Toronto Region and Central Lake Ontario Region Source Protection Authorities.
4. Regional Council request the nine local municipalities to endorse the appointment of Neil Garbe and Erin Mahoney as the applicable Municipal representatives on the Credit Valley, Toronto Region and Central Lake Ontario Region Source Protection Committee and the South Georgina Bay-Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee.

2. PURPOSE

This report requests Regional Council's endorsement for the replacement of the municipal representatives for York Region and its local municipalities as requested by the Source Protection Authorities, in order to comply with the *Clean Water Act*.

3. BACKGROUND

On July 3, 2007 the *Clean Water Act* came into force along with five regulations. The purpose of the Act is to provide a framework to protect water at its source, as a first step in ensuring a safe drinking water supplies across the Province. Through the creation of

source protection plans for each watershed, potential threats to the municipal drinking water source would be prevented or managed. The entities responsible for creation of these plans are Source Protection Authorities, which are conglomerates of existing Conservation Authorities around the Province. Under the Act, the various source protection authorities are required to establish Source Protection Committees (O.Reg 288/07) for the purpose of preparing the terms of reference, assessment reports, and the source protection plans for each source protection area.

There are two Source Protection Committees in York Region because the Region straddles two source protection areas, the Credit Valley, Toronto and Region, and Central Lake Ontario Source Protection Area, and the South Georgian Bay-Lake Simcoe Source Protection Area.

Membership for the Source Protection Committee is limited to 22 members with one-third representation by the municipal sector (7 seats). In consultation with municipalities, the lead Source Protection Authorities appointed the seats to those municipalities responsible under section 11 of the *Ontario Municipal Act 2001* for water protection, treatment and storage. York Region has this legislated responsibility and it was suitable to the local municipalities that a Regional representative be appointed to reflect our local and Regional needs.

Nominations for York Region staff to represent the municipal sector for the two Source Protection Committees were adopted by Regional Council on September 27, 2007 as noted in Clause 6 of Report No 7 of the Transportation and Works Committee. Members are expected to attend meetings of the committee, act as liaison by bringing forward concerns in their sector, assist in communicating the committee's work, attend public consultation and make decisions at the committee table.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

Original representatives need to be replaced

Debbie Korolnek and Ilmar Simanovskis from Water and Wastewater were the initial Council endorsed members. Since their nomination, they are no longer employed by the Region.

To continue to meet our legislative obligations under the *Clean Water Act*, these vacancies must be filled quickly as the Source Protection Committees have stringent deadlines and are moving ahead with their responsibilities. Through Regional Council endorsement, the newly appointed York Region member can vote on Committee resolutions, thereby continuing to voice and represent the Region and local municipality's interests.

Neil Garbe and Erin Mahoney are recommended as the York members for the Credit Valley Toronto Region Central Lake Ontario and South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committees

It is proposed that Neil Garbe, Executive Director, Strategic Initiatives and Administration of the Chief Administrator Office, represent the interests of York Region and its local area municipalities within the source protection area on the Credit Valley Toronto Region Central Lake Ontario Source Protection Committee.

It is proposed that Erin Mahoney, Commissioner, Environmental Services, represent the interest of York Region and its local area municipalities within the source protection area of the South Georgian Bay-Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee.

These candidates meet the qualifications prescribed by the regulations and recommendations by the MOE. They are also well positioned to keep the local municipalities informed as necessary.

Relationship to Vision 2026

Participation in source protection committees, and the development of source protection plans, furthers the Region's desire to enhance sustainable development principles in Vision 2026 and the Regional Official Plan.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Completion of the source protection plans is a legislative requirement and will potentially have financial impacts on the Region and the local municipalities. Through active and thorough involvement and representation, the Region in cooperation with local staff participation can ensure that financial implications are warranted and to the benefit of our communities, the environment and regional sustainability.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

Region staff has initiated contact and communications with local municipalities to begin the exchange of dialogue regarding the progress of the Source Protection Committees, which shall assist the Source Protection member to address any local concerns and comments from all interested parties.

7. CONCLUSION

The *Clean Water Act* and associated Regulations came into force on July 3, 2007. There are two Source Protection Committees in York Region, and the Region has one representative seat on each Committee. The Province has established aggressive timelines

for deliverables from Source Protection Committees. The ability to have continuous representation on the Source Protection Committees will ensure the Region and local municipal interests are considered throughout the Source Protection process.

For more information on this report contact Wendy Kemp, extension 5141, Program Manager, Water Resources in the Water and Wastewater Branch in the Environmental Services Department.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.