



THE TOWN OF GEORGINA
WATERWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Monday, September 18, 2017
6:30 PM
Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. INTRODUCTION OF ADDENDUM ITEMS
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF
6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Pages 1 - 5

- (1) Minutes of the GWAC meeting held on June 12, 2017.

7. DELEGATIONS/SPEAKERS
8. PRESENTATIONS
9. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS ON THE AGENDA
10. COMMUNICATIONS

Pages 6 - 7

- (1) Water Soldier Barrier at Sutton Dam Update

Pages 8 - 11

- (2) Ontario Continuing Fight Against Invasive Species

Pages 12 - 13

- (3) The effects of road salt on lake and waterways

Pages 14 - 15

- (4) Human-antidepressants Building up in Brains of Fish in Niagara River.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

- (1) Scheduling presentations, updates if available.
 - A. Ministry of Natural Resources (deferred from June)
 - B. Save the Maskinonge (waiting for response)
 - C. LSRCA's LEAP program (waiting for confirmation - October or November)

Page 17

- (2) Winter Road Salt Information Session, response from LSRCA.

Next steps - choosing a date:

<https://beta.doodle.com/poll/v3esmu2724v9vwwg>

- (3) Jackson's Point redevelopment updates, if available.
- (4) 2018 – Action Plan (ideas for 2018)
- (5) 2018 Dates – eliminate four (dates set as every 2nd Monday of the month).

January 8 (Committee Coordinator booked)

February 12

March 12

April 09 (GEDC conflict?)

May 14

June 11

July 9 (GEDC conflict?)

August 13 (GEDC conflict?)

September 10 (GEDC conflict?)

October 8 (Thanksgiving, stat holiday)

November 12

December 10

12. CLOSED SESSION, IF REQUIRED

13. MOTION TO ADJOURN

- (1) Motion to Adjourn

Next meeting: October 10, 6:30 PM, Council Chambers.



THE TOWN OF GEORGINA
WATERWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Monday, June 12, 2017
6:30 PM
Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:43 PM

2. ROLL CALL

The following Committee members were in attendance:

Councillor Frank Sebo, Chair
David Goldstein, Vice Chair
Mayor Margaret Quirk (Ex-Officio)
Councillor Dan Fellini
Jerry Kucharchuk

The following Committee members were absent with regrets:

Scott Davidson
Natasha Charles

The following staff members were present:

Karyn Stone, Economic Development Manager
John Armstrong, Division Manager, Infrastructure and Operations
Scott Edwards, Road Superintendent
Sarah Brislin, Committee Services Coordinator

3. INTRODUCTION OF ADDENDUM ITEMS

(1) Trent-Severn Waterway Parks Canada presentation.

(2) MNRF – postponed

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Mayor Margaret Quirk, Seconded by Councillor Dan Fellini

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0030

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee approve the June 12, 2017, agenda with the following addendum item:

1. The Trent-Severn Waterway Parks Canada presentation as agenda item 8.1

Carried.

5. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF - *None*
6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- (1) Minutes of the GWAC meeting held on May 8, 2017.

Moved by David Goldstein, Seconded by Mayor Margaret Quirk

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0031

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee adopt the meeting minutes of May 8, 2017.

Carried.

7. DELEGATIONS/SPEAKERS - *None*
8. PRESENTATIONS

- (1) Trent-Severn Waterway Parks Canada presentation.

The Committee welcomed Chad Buchner, from Parks Canada to the meeting and invited him up to give his presentation. The presentation covered:

- Highlights from 2016
- Visitation and trends
- New waterway products
- Events and how to work together
- Free permits – update
- What to expect in 2017

Moved by Councillor Dan Fellini, Seconded by Jerry Kucharchuk

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0032

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee receive the Trent-Severn Waterway Parks Canada presentation.

Carried.

(2) Operations Division on road salt.

Scott Edwards, Roads Superintendent, and John Armstrong, Division Manager of Infrastructure and Operations, provided the Committee with an overview of the Town's winter maintenance operations and provisions to prevent run off from salt. The Committee was advised environmental best practices are followed in order to reduce the negative impact from the product (90 % sand and 10% salt). The Committee was also advised of a new product that is being used "Thaw Rock." Staff have provided positive feedback on this product. Mr. Edwards and Mr. Armstrong cited many benefits including the fact that it sticks to the ground which results in less run off.

Moved by David Goldstein, Seconded by Jerry Kucharchuk

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0033

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee receive the Operations Division presentation on road salt.

Carried.

9. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS ON THE AGENDA - *None*

10. COMMUNICATIONS

(1) Ports: The Cruising Guide Lake Simcoe - Georgina

(2) Jackson's Point marine unit facility (<http://www.yrpsb.ca/whats-new-marine-facility>)

Moved by Councillor Dan Fellini, Seconded by Jerry Kucharchuk

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0034

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee receive the following Communication items:

1. Ports: The Cruising Guide Lake Simcoe – Georgina
2. Jackson's Point marine unit facility

Carried.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

(1) September meeting

The Committee was advised of a scheduling conflict with the September 11th meeting. The Committee tentatively agreed on rescheduling the meeting to Sept 18th. Staff were asked to email members and confirm dates.

(2) Scheduling presentations updates if available.

- A. Ministry of Natural Resources (possibly September 11, 2017)
- B. Save the Maskinonge (scheduled September 11, 2017)
- C. LSRCA's LEAP program (to be scheduled)

(3) Winter Road Salt Information Session

The Committee asked staff to inquire with Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority regarding the opportunity for them to present at the Public Information Session in the fall.

(4) Jackson's Point redevelopment updates, if available.

Karyn Stone provided an update regarding public engagement. The Committee was advised the next step would be evaluating the difference concepts that have been coming forward.

(5) Historical overview of Bonnie Boats.

The Committee requested Committee Services Coordinator circulate the book Grew and Bonnie Boat Company History.

12. CLOSED SESSION, IF REQUIRED - *None*

13. MOTION TO ADJOURN

(1) Motion to Adjourn

Moved by Mayor Margaret Quirk, Seconded by David Goldstein

RESOLUTION NO. GWAC-2017-0035

That the Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee June 12, 2017, meeting be adjourned at 8:09 PM

Carried.

Councillor Frank Sebo, Chair

C. Sarah A. Brislin, Committee
Services Coordinator

Sarah Brislin

From: Frank A. Sebo
Sent: July-25-17 10:58 AM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: Fwd: Water Soldier Barrier at Sutton Dam Update

Fyi.

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

----- Original message -----

From: "Frank A. Sebo" <fsebo@georgina.ca>
Date: 2017-07-25 10:56 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: Dan Pisani <dpisani@georgina.ca>
Subject: Re: Water Soldier Barrier at Sutton Dam Update

Hi Dan. It is certainly something that the GWAC could discuss. However, I think it is more appropriately something for the region or province to consider.
Thanks.

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

----- Original message -----

From: Dan Pisani <dpisani@georgina.ca>
Date: 2017-07-25 9:53 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Frank A. Sebo" <fsebo@georgina.ca>
Subject: FW: Water Soldier Barrier at Sutton Dam Update

Hi Frank,

Is this something the committee should look at? I really I don't if this is a good investment or not.

I hope your event last Saturday was a success, and that we met you expectation with the areas being cleaned up.

Thanks

From: Wegman, Wil (MNR) [mailto:wil.wegman@ontario.ca]
Sent: July-24-17 4:28 PM
To: Dan Pisani <dpisani@georgina.ca>
Cc: Dan Murnaghan (dmurnaghan@georgina.ca) <dmurnaghan@georgina.ca>; Karyn Stone <kstone@georgina.ca>
Subject: Water Soldier Barrier at Sutton Dam Update

Hi Dan,

So late last Friday after Mike Nealon and I spoke, he pulled the water soldier barrier/silt curtain from below the dam in Sutton. Ever since ice out we have wanted to get this thing back in the river—working ... doing its job to prevent the Invasive Plant Water Soldier from spreading downstream towards Lake Simcoe. However- as you well know this whole year has been crazy with rain events and flooding and here we are almost in August and water levels are still up and the flow over that dam and below it is unlike anything I have ever seen for this time of year. So- we've decided to pull the plug on this particular idea and barrier (that Mike put together at NC and we helped with installing and removal) . But we are hoping the Town would be interested in purchasing a dual purpose ... safety first floating barrier and one that would also help prevent water soldier's floating offshoots and plants from going over the dam.

I was at the Stouffville dam last week and saw the attached safety barrier that I think we could use to help collect plants (if we attached much tighter together than pic shows) and place it set back from the upstream side of the dam a couple of metres. I've asked a friend at TRCA to source the place to acquire those types of barriers and they came up with a Canadian company that now makes them now called Hydrotika. You can find them here:

<http://www.hydrotika.com/waterway-barriers>

Anyway ... please let me know what you think and if installing one of these or similar is still doable for this year.

On a very bright note ... we were out again today monitoring for water soldier above the dam and found NOT ONE plant! Last week were downstream all the way to the lake with zero plants found. Since water soldier was first discovered above the dam in 2015, we are happy to report that so far no plants have been found between the dam and the lake!

Wil Wegman

<°)))><

Resource Management Technician

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Aurora District- 905-713-7730



Sarah Brislin

From: Ontario News <newsroom@ontario.ca>
Sent: August-16-17 2:27 PM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: Ontario Continuing Fight Against Invasive Species



News Release

Ontario Continuing Fight Against Invasive Species

August 16, 2017

Province Working With Partners to Create Awareness of Invasive Species and Protect the Environment

Ontario continues to combat invasive plants and animals in order to protect the environment and allow people across the province to continue to enjoy rivers, lakes, parks and other green spaces.

Kathryn McGarry, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry and Jeff Leal, MPP for Peterborough, were in Peterborough today to announce a number of new investments in programs to combat invasive species.

New investments this year include:

- Support for the Invasive Species Centre's work to further research into new biological control agents for phragmites and dog-strangling vine
- Additional support for the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) [Invading Species Awareness Program](#) - which is marking its 25th anniversary - to strengthen the reporting invading species hotline, [online tracking system](#) and mobile application, management and eradication of water soldier in the Trent-Severn Waterway as well as public outreach initiatives
- New funding for the Ontario Invasive Plant Council so they can engage municipalities in the development of municipal invasive plant management strategies
- Support for the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations and their work with lake front property owners to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species, including [A Shoreline Owner's Guide to Invasive Species](#)

Ontario will continue to support the successful implementation of the [Invasive Species Act](#) and [regulation](#) through public education and working with neighbouring jurisdictions.

Creating awareness of invasive species and protecting our environment is part of our plan to create jobs, grow our economy and help people in their everyday lives.

QUICK FACTS

- For 2016-17, Ontario is investing \$1.6 million in invasive species partnerships.
- Ontario provides annual support to the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters to deliver the Invading Species Awareness Program to track invasive species sightings and provide public education and outreach.
- Invasive species often out-compete native species for food and take over their habitats, threatening both the environment and economy.
- In 2016, Ontario [prohibited and restricted 19 invasive species](#) to prevent their arrival, control their spread in the province and protect the environment.
- Sightings of invasive species can be reported using the interactive application at EDDMaps.org/Ontario or by calling the Invading Species Hotline at 1-800-563-7711.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Ontario.ca/invasionON

QUOTES

"Over the past 25 years Ontario has had many successful initiatives that have helped to contain and prevent the spread of invasive species in our province, including Zebra Busters and Operation Bait Bucket. Through working with our partners, our government is asking people across Ontario to continue to help us protect our ecosystem by keeping your garden free from invasive plants, using only local wood for your campfire and remembering to clean, drain and dry your boat when moving it between waterbodies."

— *Kathryn McGarry, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry*

"The OFAH is proud to be celebrating 25 years of partnership delivering the Invading Species Awareness Program with Ontario's Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. For the past 25 years, we have strived to keep the topic of invasive species relevant in order to engage Ontarians in prevention efforts and stop the spread of invasive species. We look forward to continuing to work with Ontario and all other partners to collectively combat invasive species and maintain the diversity of our natural resources."

— *Angelo Lombardo, Executive Director, Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters*

"The Invasive Species Centre is proud to celebrate with our partners, 25 years of fighting invasive species in Ontario, and to work together with the provincial government, and many other important organizations, to combat invasive species in this province. Through our partnerships, we provide research on evidence-based prevention, detection and response activities and make our efforts to fight invasive species even more effective."

— Tracey Cooke, Executive Director, Invasive Species Centre

"Since its inception in 2007, the Ontario Invasive Plant Council is proud to have worked closely with Ontario's Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and many other partners, including the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters Invading Species Awareness Program and the Invasive Species Centre, to empower Ontarians to take action against the spread of invasive plants. We will continue to collaborate with new and existing partners to promote a coordinated response to this serious threat to our ecosystems and economy."

— Iola Price, President, Ontario Invasive Plant Council

"The Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA) encourages every cottager to have an [action plan](#) to prevent the spread of invasive species to our precious lakes and rivers. FOCA and our members have been longstanding participants in invasive species monitoring, prevention and awareness, in partnership with MNRF and OFAH."

— Terry Rees, Executive Director, Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations

"Our government is proud to be supporting the efforts of organizations like the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters to combat invasive species in our province. By working together, we are helping protect the ecological integrity of our natural heritage so that it can be enjoyed by Ontarians both now and in the future."

— Jeff Leal, MPP Peterborough

CONTACTS

Media Calls Only: Emily Kirk
Minister's Office
416-314-2206

Media Calls Only: Media Desk
Communications Services Branch
416-314-2106

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

<http://www.ontario.ca/natural-resources>

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Salty trend may cause long-term damage to Lake Simcoe watershed: LSRCA

Chloride concentration in the lake increasing by about .7 milligrams per litre annually since 1971

COMMUNITY Apr 27, 2017 by [Chris Simon](#) Barrie Advance



Bill Thompson, manager of integrated watershed management for Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, says the amount of road salt entering the watershed has increased almost every year since 1971. If the trend continues, the lake will exceed chronic chloride levels in about 100 years. - Mike Barrett/Metroland

For decades, salt has been the standard "go-to" for winter maintenance in the Lake Simcoe watershed.

But excessive winter salt usage, both by municipalities and private businesses, has caused the average chloride concentration in the lake to increase by about .7 milligrams per litre annually since 1971.

At this rate, the lake will exceed the Canadian government's chronic (long-term) chloride guidelines by 2120.

While that seems like a long way off, reductions in usage take time and there's little indication the increase is slowing, said Bill Thompson, the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's manager of integrated watershed management.

"There's really no change," he said. "The challenge with salt is it's pretty much invisible. You put it down and it disappears. The more people that are aware there's an environmental impact, the more people will think twice before demanding that level of service from their local store or municipality. Their behaviour impacts the health of the watershed."

About 100,000 tons of salt is applied to paved surfaces within the watershed each year. Much of that ends up in creeks and rivers before getting to the lake.

The LSRCA monitors chloride levels at 21 tributary locations and 17 lake stations.

Data show chronic guidelines are already exceeded in many creeks and rivers in Barrie, Newmarket and Aurora and that the issue is mostly caused by the larger urban municipalities around the lake.

"We look to not over-apply any de-icing materials on roadways and sidewalks," Newmarket infrastructure services commissioner Peter Noehammer said. "That's carefully measured."

Periodic sampling over a five-year period has also recorded 17 cases of acute (short-term) guideline exceedances at Hotchkiss Creek in Barrie, and 44 at Holland Landing over one winter.

Barrie has been working to reduce salt usage through resident education and outreach and a spring street sweeping program that prioritizes clean-up near sensitive areas like creeks. However, each municipality has to balance safety and liability concerns with environmental protection.

"We still need to make sure we provide a safe transportation network so the community and businesses can all function in the winter," Barrie risk management official Katie Thompson said.

"It is a challenge. As we get the amount of salt down, we're always adding new roads which bump the numbers back up again. The solution is going to have to be collaborative; it's going to take the provincial government, municipalities, residents, businesses and conservation authorities all working together to improve our practices."

Some insect populations in tributaries are already showing damage, Bill said.

"The operational guys can tighten up their practices, then we build another kilometre of road that we need to maintain," Bill said. "We're fighting against ourselves, unfortunately."

Residents can take steps to help their municipalities reduce reliance on salt, such as wearing boots with good traction and putting snow tires on their vehicles.

Municipalities can also encourage the construction of low-impact developments and parking lots and businesses should participate in the LSRCA's Smart About Salt training and certification program, to learn best usage practices, Bill said.

Human antidepressants building up in brains of fish in Niagara River

Scientists concerned over health of fish species as wastewater treatment fails to remove drugs

By Susan Noakes, [CBC News](#) Posted: Sep 04, 2017 3:47 PM ET Last Updated: Sep 04, 2017 5:53 PM ET

Researchers studying fish from the Niagara River have found that human antidepressants and remnants of these drugs are building up in the fishes' brains.

The concentration of human drugs was discovered by scientists from University at Buffalo, Buffalo State and two Thai universities, Ramkhamhaeng University and Khon Kaen University.

Active ingredients and metabolized remnants of Zoloft, Celexa, Prozac and Sarafem — drugs that have seen a sharp spike in prescriptions in North America — were found in 10 fish species.

Diana Aga, professor of chemistry at University at Buffalo, says these drugs are found in human urine and are not stripped out by wastewater treatment.

Could affect fish behaviour

"It is a threat to biodiversity, and we should be very concerned," Aga said in a [release from the university](#).

"These drugs could affect fish behaviour. We didn't look at behaviour in our study, but other research teams have shown that antidepressants can affect the feeding behaviour of fish or their survival instincts. Some fish won't acknowledge the presence of predators as much."

The Niagara River, which carries water from Lake Erie to Lake Ontario, is already under stress, with [reports this summer of untreated wastewater](#) released into the river.

'Fish are receiving this cocktail of drugs 24 hours a day, and we are now finding these drugs in their brains'- *Diana Aga, study author*

The research, [published in the journal Environmental Science & Technology](#), found levels of antidepressants in fish brains that were several times higher than levels in the river itself, indicating that the chemicals are accumulating over time.

The study set out to look for a variety of pharmaceutical and personal care product chemicals in the organs and muscles of 10 fish species: smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, rudd, rock bass, white bass, white perch, walleye, bowfin, steelhead and yellow perch.

Antidepressants stood out as the major problem.

Rock bass had high concentrations

The rock bass had the highest concentrations of antidepressants, but several fish had a medley of drugs in their bodies.

Aga said she did not believe the chemicals were a threat to humans, as people do not usually eat fish brains. However, she was concerned about the health of fish species who are continually subjected to an influx of chemicals, as well as the delicate balance among species.

Aga said wastewater treatment plants have not kept up with the times in attempting to remove drugs from their effluent.

Between 1999-2002 and 2011-14, the number of U.S. residents using antidepressants rose by 65 per cent, according to the National Center for Health Statistics.

- [Drinking water contaminated by excreted drugs a growing concern](#)
- [Study finds traces of cocaine, other illegal drugs in Ontario drinking water](#)

Wastewater treatment focuses on killing disease-causing bacteria and on extracting solid matter but not on removing chemicals that might be found in human urine, Aga said.

"These plants are focused on removing nitrogen, phosphorus, and dissolved organic carbon but there are so many other chemicals that are not prioritized that impact our environment," she said. "As a result, wildlife is exposed to all of these chemicals. Fish are receiving this cocktail of drugs 24 hours a day, and we are now finding these drugs in their brains."

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Sarah Brislin

From: David Lembcke <D.Lembcke@lsrca.on.ca>
Sent: July-11-17 9:15 AM
To: Sarah Brislin
Subject: RE: The effects of road salt on lake and waterways.

Hi Sarah

The LSRCA has recently been doing a fair amount of work looking at the sources and impacts of winter salt. We have also started to look at strategies to address the main sources and could share those with the committee. While the strategies are not aimed at the general public, we are seeing that the expectation placed on municipalities and commercial parking lots by the public to maintain bare pavement, and the increasing liability associated with failing to meet these expectations, is really driving excess salt application.

Let me know when you have a date and time and how long of a presentation you are looking for.

Regards,

Dave

David Lembcke

Manager, Environmental Science and Monitoring

Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

120 Bayview Parkway,

Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 3W3

905-895-1281, ext. 237 | 1-800-465-0437

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Twitter: @LSRCA

Facebook: LakeSimcoeConservation

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From: Sarah Brislin [<mailto:sbrislin@georgina.ca>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2017 10:56 AM
To: Info Mail
Subject: The effects of road salt on lake and waterways.

Good day,

I am writing to request assistance of the LSRCA. The Georgina Waterways Advisory Committee would like to hold a Public Information Session for the public advising of the damages on the lake that winter road salt has on the environment (Mainly Lake Simcoe and rivers) and the alternatives or precautions members of the public and private organizations can take to reduce the salt or run off from salt used in driveways and on parking lots in the winter.

Is there anyone from your organization that would have information to contribute and able to present at the session in the fall.

Thank you.