



**POCKWOCK WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**
Meeting Minutes – March 2, 2017 10:00 am
2 Park Avenue, Lower Sackville
Halifax Water Conference Room



Attendance:

Jeff Brown (JeB), Forestry TechnicianDepartment of Natural Resources (DNR)
 Jillanna Brown (JiB), P. Eng.....Nova Scotia Environment (NSE)
 Barry Geddes (BG), (*Vice Chair*) Watershed ManagerHalifax Water
 Rachel Gilbert (RG), Manager of Planning ServicesEast Hants Municipality (EH)
 Dawn MacNeill (DM), Watershed PlannerNova Scotia Environment (NSE)
 Anna McCarron (AM), (*Secretary*) Source Water PlannerHalifax Water
 Heather Olivella (HO), Protected Areas.....Nova Scotia Environment (NSE)
 Cyril McDonald (CM), Community Resident.....Mount Uniacke
 Tim O’Brien (TO), (*Chair*) Crown ForesterDepartment of Natural Resources (DNR)

Regrets:

Reid Campbell (RC), P. Eng., Director of Water ServicesHalifax Water
 Andrew Houlihan (AH), Supervisor, J.D. Kline WS Plant.....Halifax Water

<u>Pockwock Watershed Management Committee Meeting Called to Order by Chair</u>	<u>Action</u>
<p>1. Attendance / Introductions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regrets were expressed (listed above); • Quorum noted; and • AM and BG distributed copies of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Meeting Agenda b. DRAFT Oct. 20, 2016 Meeting Minutes c. Source Water Protection (SWP) Report. <p>2. Old Business:</p> <p>a. <u>Review of Oct. 20, 2016 Minutes and Action Items:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointment of Special Constable Status (SCS): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Training completed week of May 2, 2016; ○ Allows Halifax Water to enforce <i>Protected Water Area Regulations</i> under Section 106 of the <i>Environment Act</i>; and ○ Halifax Water still needs to be appointed SCS by NSE; however, the MOU is awaiting NSE’s signature. <p>Action: NSE to sign MOU. JiB to inquire with NSE to see where it is in process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ToR Changes Approval: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Changes accepted. Include updated version as an attachment to the Annual Source Water Protection Report and send to NSE. 	<p align="center">JiB</p>

<p>Action: Attach ToR to Annual 2016 SWP Report and send to NSE.</p>	<p><u>Action</u> Complete (BG)</p>
<p>Action: Prepare an electronic and hard copy version of the Protected Areas (PA) map for March 2017 Committee meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See 2(b) below. 	<p>Complete (BG)</p>
<p>Action: Present findings of geosmin report at March 2017 Committee meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See 2(c) below. 	<p>Complete (BG)</p>
<p>Action: Briefly present how Pockwock water quality has changed over time based on sediment core sample results.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BG briefly described the data collection activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Data was collected from deep and shallow areas of Pockwock Lake and carbon dating was conducted to track impacts of landscape activities on the watershed over time (1700s – present). • Impacts from human activities such as mining, forestry, and road construction have been reduced by watershed regulations introduced in the 1970's, as well as technological advances. Levels of contaminants are returning to pre-colonization levels. 	<p>Complete (BG)</p>
<p><i>Q: Clarification requested on the aspect of lake recovery. Is it a good thing? (CM)</i></p>	
<p><i>A: Lake recovery is a good thing; however, changes to air pollution regulations resulting in changes to water quality are creating challenges that the existing Water Supply Plant (WSP) was not designed to handle. For example, Pockwock Lake has been experiencing increases in organic carbon, which may be a result of the upward trend of pH, which is increasing due to the reduction in emissions (sulfur dioxide) that create acid rain. When Chlorine mixes with organic carbon it creates a disinfectant byproduct that is harmful to the environment. The existing Pockwock WSP uses chlorine to disinfect the water, therefore, creating the disinfectant byproducts. It is a treatment plant issue. Halifax Water is still gathering data. (BG)</i></p>	
<p><i>Q: If an asphalt plant were to be built in the business park (inside the non-designated PWA area of Pockwock watershed) would the water quality be impacted? (CM)</i></p>	
<p><i>A: The water quality would need to be monitored to determine the impacts. (BG)</i></p>	
<p><i>A: You do not want to find out if the asphalt plant has a negative impact after the fact. A more relevant question is; could Halifax Water inform the decision-making process? (DM)</i></p>	
<p><i>A: The information gathered from sediment cores suggests human activities impact water quality and the watershed (i.e., the asphalt plant would have a negative impact). (BG)</i></p>	
<p><i>A: The data shows the efficacy of watershed regulations. (BG)</i></p>	
<p>Action: Invite expert (Ian Spooner) to present lake recovery data findings to Committee after more data has been collected.</p>	<p>Complete</p>

9. Adjournment

- 12:00 pm

Tim O'Brien – Chair

Barry Geddes – Vice Chair

Anna McCarron – Secretary