

**Humberstone Landfill Site
Public Liaison Committee (PLC)**

**Meeting held
Wednesday, April 1, 2009 - 7:10 p.m.
Civic Square, Community Room, Welland**

Present:	Mike Dickman	Chair
	Randy Daly	Town of Pelham
	Jim Larouche	City of Welland Councillor
	Cindy Forster	Regional Councillor
	Jay Mitchell	Welland
	Silvio Mucciarelli	Niagara Region
	Jamie Kristjanson	Niagara Region
	Susan Archer	Recorder – Niagara Region

Guest:

Tony Whelan, Welland River Keepers

Regrets: Connie Zalwasky

1. Acceptance of Agenda

The agenda was accepted as presented.

Motion: That the agenda be accepted.
Moved by: J. Larouche
Seconded By: R. Daly

CARRIED

2. Notes of Previous Meeting of December 3, 2008

Top of page 2, the first paragraph was revised to

“A short list of critical contaminants should be developed for surface water. This list should include cobalt, zinc, and cresols.”

M. Dickman asked if the Niagara Region Water and Wastewater Division include PAHs test in their monitoring. Staff responded that they will ask the appropriate staff in Waste and Wastewater.

The proposed meeting schedule for 2009 was revised. The May 27th date was revised to July 8th after the environmental monitoring report is completed.

Motion: To accept minutes from December 3, 2008, as amended.
Moved by: C. Forster
Seconded By: J. Larouche

CARRIED

3. Business Arising from Previous Notes

i. Update on Brown Tap Drain Study

Conestoga Rovers & Associates (CRA) submitted the Brown Tap Drain Study to the Ministry of Environment (MOE) on behalf of the Niagara Region. CRA did not test for total dissolved solids (TSS) in conjunction with the weather event, but everything still looks okay. Staff distributed the Region's response.

Both CRA and the MOE are in agreement not to remediate. PCBs are leaching from the Brown Tap Drain into the Welland River; however, remediation would stir up too much sediment. PCB concentrations are still low enough not to affect life in the river.

Mike asked if consultant would provide the TSS results. Staff responded that this was not possible as the laboratory only keeps the samples for a short time and then disposes the samples.

We are now waiting for the MOE's written reply to CRA's response. M. Dickman asked if we can expect an answer before the next meeting in July. The Region is confident of an answer by that time.

ii. Update on Johnson Ditch Investigation – Chromium

Testing of the Johnson Ditch revealed that the landfill was not a source of chromium. The MOE is in agreement. It was noted that concentrations are highest on the north side ditch. The Region was prepared to excavate, however the MOE has advised against this, as they are still trying to identify the source. In addition, a surface water specialist from the MOE recommends keeping the vegetation in place, as it limits the chromium from travelling downstream.

R. Daly asked if chromium is at an acceptable level. Staff responded that chromium is 7 times above background levels. However, levels are below those affecting human health.

iii. Commercial Greenhouses and Market Garden Centre

The City of Welland has granted zoning approval to a limited company (associated with Compost Management Associates) for operation of commercial greenhouses and a market garden centre. Stripping of soil started late fall 2008.

Starting April 1, 2009, Niagara Region's curbside collected organics will be delivered and processed at the new composting facility owned and operated by Walker Industries.

The last day that organics were delivered to the Elm Street composting site was March 31, 2009. As the compost product is produced, it will be sold from the site. Composting and retail of compost at Elm Street will cease by July 31, 2009.

Niagara Region has granted CMA permission to remove asphalt from the Elm Street composting site, for use at their proposed garden centre located near the Humberstone Landfill Site. Traffic on Humberstone Road at peak times can cause a delay of 10 to 15 minutes to gain entry into the landfill. The Region has operational plan to alleviate traffic issues.

4. Operations

i. Request for Proposal - Gas Collection

New legislation has fast tracked the conceptual design of the gas collection system. The Region is currently reviewing submissions from 2 consultants and will award the RFP next week. By June 30, 2009, a Request for Proposal for the design will be issued (contains scope of work). Between now and 2010, a pilot study will be conducted to make a functional assessment of the location of the landfill gas collection. A capital works project for summer 2009 may include a pilot study to get meaningful information such as types of gases present, amount of gas; where to locate the flare.

M. Dickman expressed concern with the length of time to negotiate a landfill gas agreement at the Glenridge Naturalization Landfill site. The 5 to 6 year gap made it no longer feasible due to diminished levels of gas.

ii. Request for Proposal – Re Use/HHW

The Capital Budget forecast includes the construction of two new permanent ReUse HHW/Facilities; one at Humberstone Landfill, and one at The Recycling Centre in Niagara Falls. The Region will then operate a total of 3 reuse centres, including Niagara Road 12, accepting materials to be reused by non-profit organizations. The designated organization will provide its own staff at the reuse centres. It is not anticipated that the Re-use centre will include a retail store.

The Re Use/HHW is scheduled to open at Humberstone Landfill in 2010.

Eventually the Region plans to eliminate costly mobile events from April to November. The ReUse/HHW depots will operate the same hours as the landfills.

J. Larouche asked if the C of A would require amendment because of an increase in capacity. Region responded that each HHW facility would need its own C of A.

C. Forster noted that Good Will made a presentation to Regional Council recently. They donate a significant amount of money each year to local charities and employ 70 people in Niagara Falls. Ms. Forster asked if the material collected at the reuse centre would be sorted on site. Staff responded, no, that material would be picked up by various charities and sorted off site. The Region does not want to compete with the stores. Stores offer tax receipts; the Region will not.

iii. Placement of Final Cover

Placement of the final cover at Humberstone is an integral part of the Gas Collection System. In 2010 the east side of the landfill will be covered with 0.75 metre of suitable clay material.

M. Dickman requested further information on the proposed pilot study. Niagara Region will respond to the PLC when details of the proposed pilot study become available.

C. Forster advised of possible negative outcomes and cautioned against placing the flaring system too close to residents. Ms. Forster also asked if the flare could be moved

once installed? Staff indicated that the header and flare could not be moved once in place; it must be installed in its permanent location.

M. Dickman noted the landfill is fairly flat and thus difficult to shed water. Niagara Region is presently considering options to increase to grade of the landfill surface. Mr. Dickman also asked if an amendment to the CofA was necessary? Staff responded - yes, the CofA must be amended to make any changes to the final contours.

iv. WEEE Program

The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Program was developed by Waste Diversion Ontario (WDO) in co-operation with Ontario Electronic Stewardship (OES), the industry funding organization established by WDO. Ontario Electronic Stewardship (OES) will transport the electronics to a processing site where they break the item down into components and recycle the majority of the item.

The program provides convenient opportunities for individual consumers and businesses to reuse and recycle their end of life electronic items. Industry stewards will pay for recycling and consumers will in turn be charged \$10-\$13 on new electronic items.

A financial incentive of \$165/tonne will be paid to all registered collection locations.

Televisions and monitors will be accepted free of charge at the Humberstone, Bridge Street and Niagara Road 12 landfill sites, the Recycling Centre, and at Walker Industries. Several retailers will also participate in the WEEE program and accept materials at their stores.

J. Mitchell asked if the Region was negotiating with the collection contractor for curbside collection of e-waste. Staff responded, yes, but initial costs provided are too high and further discussion is on-going.

5. Correspondence

- i. Memorandum from MOE – Comments on Chromium Concentration in Johnson Drain
- ii. Memorandum from MOE – Comments on CRA Brown Tap Drain Assessment Report, July 2008
- iii. Letter to City of Welland – Comments on Re-Zoning Application

Motion: To accept noted correspondence.
Moved by: C. Forster
Seconded By: R. Daley

CARRIED

6. Other Business

No other business at this time.

7. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn meeting at 8:30 pm.
Moved by: J. Mitchell
Seconded By: J. Larouche

CARRIED