

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

**Notes of Meeting  
Wednesday, February 20, 2008 - 7:00 p.m.  
Civic Square, Welland, Room 108**

<b>Present:</b>	Mike Dickman	Chair
	Randy Daly	Town of Pelham
	Connie Zalwasky	Welland
	Jay Mitchell	Welland
	Jim Larouche	City of Welland Councillor
	Silvio Mucciarelli	Niagara Region
	Jamie Kristjanson	Niagara Region
	Susan Archer (Recorder)	Niagara Region

**Regrets:** Gus Marcello  
Councillor Cindy Forster

**1. Acceptance of Agenda**

Motion: That the agenda be accepted.  
Moved by: Mike Dickman  
Seconded By: Connie Zalwasky

CARRIED

**2. Notes from the Previous Meeting of August 29, 2007**

The revisions requested by the PLC members have been made to the Terms of Reference. Clause 11.2 has been deleted and Clause 11.1 has been revised by adding the following *“The Chair may reduce the ordinary quorum, but such a quorum shall not be less than three (3) members including the Chair”*. The revised Terms of Reference will be going to committee and council for approval.

At the last meeting, the Chair of the Welland River Keepers stated they wanted to clean up sections of the Brown Tap Drain with the help of volunteers. Silvio Mucciarelli reported that after discussion with staff of the Public Health Department, the Region will hire a contractor to cleanup along the Brown Tap Drain.

A copy of the general synopsis of the Humberstone Landfill monitoring program was provided to PLC members during the site tour on September 11, 2007.

**Action Item: Provide a copy of the synopsis regarding the monitoring program to Jay Mitchell.**

Motion: That the notes of the meeting of August 29, 2007 be approved.

Moved by: Randy Daly

Seconded by: Connie Zalwasky

CARRIED

**3. Memo of November 28, 2007**

Because of lack of quorum on November 28, 2007, the meeting was deferred.

**4. Membership**

Jay Mitchell, a resident of Welland, attended the August 29, 2007 meeting and expressed an interest in becoming a member of the PLC. He submitted an application and at the February 20, 2008 meeting, the PLC recommended Jay Mitchell as a new citizens' member.

Motion: To recommend Jay Mitchell as a new member.

Moved by: Jim Larouche

Seconded by: Randy Daly

CARRIED

**5. 2006 Annual Environmental Monitoring Report**

Mr. Wilf Ruland was retained by the Humberstone PLC to review the annual Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring Report. He was in attendance and provided a general overview of how landfill sites can impact the environment. A copy of his preliminary review comments was distributed to members.

Mr. Ruland related his thought process on how he formulates his review of landfill sites. Look at the chemicals in the leachate first to see how toxic it is. Look at the amount of precipitation in the area to estimate how much leachate can be produced. Look at the type of soils in the area to see how much water will run off or infiltrate into the ground. Water can end up in three places – runoff to surface water, infiltrate into groundwater, or be captured by the leachate collection system. The soil under and in the vicinity of the landfill site is thick clay which means little movement of leachate into groundwater. More water runoff into ditches and creeks. Therefore, the majority of potential impact from the landfill will be to surface water.

Wilf indicated that the environmental monitoring program should therefore be more focused on surface water monitoring than on groundwater monitoring. Groundwater monitoring should be more focused in the shallow clay than the deep clay due to more fractures and fossil tree roots in the shallow soil.

Mr. Ruland will do a more comprehensive review and provide comments at the next Humberstone PLC meeting.

Connie Zalwasky commented that a number of trees have died around the landfill site. Wilf Ruland said that he will investigate the reason for the tree dying when he returns to the Site in April. It may be that the trees are not appropriate for the conditions. Silty clay soil is a tough environment for trees, especially during the hot summer.

There was some discussion regarding the PCBs found in the Brown Tap Drain sediment and in the Welland River. The consultant Conestoga-Rovers & Associates (CRA) is conducting an investigation to evaluate the toxicity and bioaccumulation of the PCBs contaminated sediment. The report on the findings should be finalized in April.

**ACTION ITEM: The Region shall provide a copy of CRA report to Wilf Ruland when the report is available.**

Mike Dickman discussed having attended a meeting of the Welland River Keepers in February 2008 and there was some concern about the PCB contamination. Jamie Kristjanson will make a presentation at the next meeting of the Welland River Keepers to discuss the results of the investigation to date.

## 6. **Status of Dr. Salter's Work Plan**

In 2006, Dr. Salter had discussed with the PLC Chair the work plan to investigate residual PCB's from the 1980s within the landfill site. The Humberstone site was cleaned up in 1989 to Residential Parkland standards. It was suggested to put on hold the work plan until Wilf Ruland has completed his review of the monitoring report.

## 7. **Newsletter**

Silvio Mucciarelli presented the draft newsletter. PLC members were asked to provide their comments to Silvio within one week. The Newsletters will be mailed to the community around the landfill site.

## 8. **2007 PLC Activity Report**

Silvio Mucciarelli distributed a one page outline of the 2007 PLC Activity Report.

The PLC members were asked to provide their comments within one week. The intent is to report to PPWC and Regional Council on the activities of the PLC.

## 9. Correspondence

- i. Welland Library Collection of Humberstone Landfill Reports
- ii. Memo of September 11, 2007 regarding landfill site visit
- iii. Notes of August 15, 2007 meeting PLC/CLC/WMAC
- iv. Work Plan for Technical Review and Monitoring (submitted by Wilf Ruland)

## 10. Other Business

The Waste Management Services staff invited PLC members and their friends to attend a screening of a film entitled ***“Garbage – the revolution starts at home”***.

When: Tuesday, March 4, 2008

Time: 7:30pm

Where: Brock University’s David S. Howes Theatre

The film is a documentary about how the family household has become one of the worst environmental predators of our time. It features an average family from Toronto who agreed to keep every scrap of garbage that they created for three months. Filmmaker, writer, and director, Andrew Nisker will be a special guest at the March 4<sup>th</sup> screening.

## 11. Next meeting

The next PLC meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 9, 2008**.

Two other dates were also scheduled:

Wednesday, September 3, 2008 and Wednesday, December 3, 2008

## 12. Adjournment

Motion: To Adjourn at 8:55 p.m.

Moved by: Connie Zalwasky

Seconded by: Randy Daly

CARRIED