Present: Edward Kaczmarczyk    Co-Chair, Welland
Dan O'Hara     Co-Chair, Port Colborne
Beatrice Greenizan     Welland
Heidi Brunner     Private Citizen
Diana Wiggins     Port Colborne
Jim Larouche     City of Welland Councillor
Pat Shore     Port Colborne
Allan Labatt     Welland
Gary Bruno     Port Colborne Councillor
Paul Taylor     Compost Management
Drew Berketo     Niagara Region
Peter Kryger     Niagara Region
Sonia Brault (recorder)   Niagara Region

Regrets: Donna Eckhart
John Mastroianni Regional Councillor
Bob Saracino Regional Councillor

1.0 Introductions
Introductions were made around the boardroom table. PLC members/others were thanked for attending the June 14th tour of the Elm Street Landfill Site and Composting Facility. PLC's comments were that it looked much cleaner compared to a few years ago.

2.0 Minutes from the Previous Meeting – May 3, 2006.
Deferred for approval until the next PLC meeting.

3.0 Business Arising from Previous Minutes
None to report.

4.0 Diversion of organics from the Elm Street composting facility
PLC were provided with a July 2006 listing of Tonnes of Organic Material Destined for Composting at Elm Street, 2005 vs 2006, for review. It was noted no figures are showing for June 2006, the reason being the Region will not receive the June information until July.

A brief discussion ensued on the handout and PLC inquired where the 91.45 tonnes of Christmas trees diverted in January 2006 went.

Action: Drew Berketo is to follow-up and advise where the 91.45 tonnes of Christmas trees were diverted to.
5.0 Waste found outside the boundary at the Elm Street Landfill Site

Mr. Berketo reported that there has been some waste buried outside of the landfilling boundary to the south of the site. It may have been landfilled 30-40 years ago. Mr. Berketo indicated that the Region is formulating a plan to deal with this waste. As an informal proposal, the Region suggested leaving the waste in place and extending the Leachate Collection System south of the waste, however, a 15 metre buffer must be maintained between the waste and any property boundary. Any waste within 15 metres of the boundary edge needs to be removed and landfilled. A land transfer from the City of Port Colborne to the Region may be required. Monitoring wells will also be required. The Region would request a change to the finished contours of the current Landfill site to accommodate the additional waste.

The PLC recommended the Region research any potential Conservation Authority requirements regarding this proposal.

Secondly, the PLC recommended leaving all waste in place and to place a Leachate Collection System to the south of the waste. The PLC also suggested reducing the 15 metre buffer so less material will require disposal.

PLC members were not in favour of any changes to finished contours.

Action: Peter Kryger will look into the new regulations put out by the Conservation Authority regarding this issue.

Action: Drew Berketo is to check on the requirement for a 15 metre boundary.

Action: The Region is to provide a formal presentation on the waste found outside the boundary in September 2006.

6.0 Update – Composting Facility RFP

PLC were updated on the status of the RFP. It is targeted to go out mid-July 2006 to eligible companies with a deadline of approximately mid-September for a response. When the responses are received they will be evaluated and a decision will probably not be made until the new Council is appointed. The Region’s goal is to have the facility up and running by the end of March 2009, or sooner.

Discussion took place on the RFP and one of the questions raised by PLC was if the RFP has any stipulations in it that it has to cover Niagara Region’s organics program, or, can it be larger to take in, e.g. Toronto? Is there anything in the wording that limits it to Niagara or is it open to anyone who wants to get in on it?
In response PLC were advised that the Region is providing proponents with the tonnage projections for Niagara for basic facility sizing. The new facility will be owned and operated by a private contractor.

7.0 Distribution of the 2005 Elm Street Landfill Site Reports
The PLC Chairs were provided with the 2005 Operations Report and the 2005 Annual Monitoring Report for the Elm Street Landfill Site. If there are any questions, they can be e-mailed to Drew Berketo or directly to Silvio Mucciarelli.

8.0 Other Business

• Request for Additional Tour – Elm Street Landfill and Composting Facility

PLC requested a tour of the Elm Street Landfill Site and Composting Facility for those members/others not in attendance on June 14th.

Action: Another tour of the Elm Street Landfill Site/Composting Facility will be arranged through Drew Berketo.

• “Draft” Motion

Councillor Bruno advised he will be presenting a Notice of Motion to Port Colborne Council regarding the Region’s application to increase the Composting Facility to 12,000 tonnes capacity. Following is the “draft” of the Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Bruno:

[See “DRAFT” Notice of Motion – Page 4]
“DRAFT” Notice of Motion: City of Port Colborne

Moved by Councillor

Seconded by Councillor

WHEREAS the Region of Niagara Waste Management Division has been diverting compost material to alternative site(s) with some success as a means of further reducing the incidences of odour at the Elm Street Compost Site and to comply with the MOE’s current Certificate of Approval order;

WHEREAS the recent MOE environmental charges against the Region; and,

WHEREAS previous resolutions by both this Council and that of the Welland City Council to transfer composting to an alternative site; and,

WHEREAS the fact the Region is currently investing a substantial amount of money, time and effort to produce an RFQ and RFP process to find alternative technology, and/or sites for composting; and further,

THAT this RFP process and bidding is about to come to fruition this fall; and,

WHEREAS the fact that odours are still emanating from the site; and,

WHEREAS this site’s proximity to existing and pre-approved residential subdivisions and existing industry, it would be inappropriate to request an increase in the currently permitted volumes allowed under the Certificate of Approval at the Elm Street site;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Port Colborne recommends that the Region of Niagara withdraw its request to the Ministry of Environment to increase its Air (Certificate of Approval) from 6,000 tonnes to 12,000 tonnes as a sign of good faith with the residents of Port Colborne and Welland as well as the established Elm Street PLC;

AND FURTHER that the MOE be asked to deny the request made by the region should they not withdraw their application, as the current diversion practices to alternative compost site(s) has helped reduce the odours at Elm Street.

AND FURTHER that the City of Welland be requested to pass a similar motion, with copies sent to the MOE, Region of Niagara, Area Regional Councillors, MPP’s, MP’s and the Minister of Environment.

__________________________________
Mayor

No……………..
**Action:** Drew Berketo is requested to provide figures for diversion of finished compost and diversion for Christmas trees (which is noted in item 4.0).

- **PLC Meeting – August**

  A request was made to cancel the August meeting. The PLC prefer the August meeting to remain on schedule and to consider cancelling it closer to the date.

**9.0 Adjournment**

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Carried

/sb

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