



## Minutes

Friday April 15, 2011  
1:00 pm

Pine Room – District Municipality of Muskoka  
70 Pine Street, Bracebridge

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### Present

Scott Aitchison	Patricia Arney	Shane Baker
Ben Boivin	Margaret Casey	Patsy Cross
Lou Guerriero	Gord Henderson	Jack Hepworth
Piret Hurrell	Anna Mallin	Mary McCulley
Jan McDonnell	Greg Mierle	Rob Milligan (Chair)
Ruth Nishikawa	Tracey Rast	Mary Robertson-Lacroix
Peter Sale	Al Shaw	Lyle Steep
Paul Stueck	Ian Turnbull	Debbie Vernon
Paul Wiancko	Scott Young	

### Regrets

Lola Bratty	Dan Brooks	Louise Cragg
Isobel Heathcote	Neil Hutchinson	Steve Inniss
Caroline Konarzewski	Don MacKay	Don McVittie
Steve Munro	Ken Riley	Peter Seybold
Alicia Tyson		

### Staff

Judi Brouse	Rebecca Willison	Marg French
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### Guests

Rob Willson	Brad Steinberg	Glenn Cunnington
Bev Wicks	Jane Braden	Rosemarie Hinzmann

### Welcome

Rob Milligan called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm by welcoming members and guests. Tracey Rast and Mary McCulley provided autobiographies for the Council.

### Confirmation of Minutes

**MOTION** by Lou Guerriero, seconded by Greg Mierle

THAT the minutes of the Muskoka Watershed Council meeting dated [March 25, 2011](#) be approved.

**CARRIED**

### Correspondence

- Letter from the MOE re: Pharmaceuticals in Water

### Chair's Items

- [Water Hour](#) on June 11<sup>th</sup>.
- [Canadian Water Summit](#) on June 14<sup>th</sup>.

## **Presentations**

[Large Natural Areas](#) – Rob Willson, Senior Terrestrial Ecologist, RiverStone Environmental Solutions Inc.

The Large Natural Areas report created for MWC contains a literature review and recommendations for moving forward. The report will be discussed at the Committee level to determine next steps.

[Algonquin Park – Role of a Large Natural Area](#) – Brad Steinberg, Management Biologist, Algonquin Park

- In response to a question about how similar Algonquin Park is to pre-settlement Muskoka, Brad indicated that the forest is fairly similar, but the climate and elevation is quite different than in Parry Sound and Muskoka.
- A second question was asked about whether there is any research looking at the difference in impacts between lightly used and heavily used trails. Brad responded that there is no research on this specific aspect, but that studies have been carried out on the impact of invasive species and trails in general.
- Algonquin Park has been successful at implementing policy change, mostly due to public pressure and the ability to carry out research.
- There is likely more fine-scale data available for Muskoka than for Algonquin Park.
- The areas of the park open to logging are not considered protected under the park's management plan. Logging is carried out in the park in a way to mimic natural disturbance as much as possible, although not all benefits are the same.

[Muskoka: In a Toxic Lather? Personal Care Products and Toxic Chemicals](#) – Scott Young, MWC member

- David Suzuki Foundation - [What's Inside? That Counts](#) program
- YWCA Muskoka - Girlz Unplugged (Pocket) Guide to [Chemicals in Your Cosmetics](#)
- The MWC website will be updated with information about the proper disposal of pharmaceuticals

**MOTION** by Ian Turnbull, seconded by Anna Mallin

THAT Muskoka Watershed Council support the existing efforts of the YWCA Muskoka and the David Suzuki Foundation on toxic chemicals in personal care products through our regular communications.

**CARRIED**

## **Updates and New Business**

- *April 2011 Activity Report* – was distributed with the agenda.
- *Environmental Lectures* – Eric Miller will talk about Ecosystem Services on May 19<sup>th</sup> in Bracebridge. The Dorset Environmental Science Centre will speak about their research on July 21<sup>st</sup> in Gravenhurst. Linda Mortsch will talk about climate change adaptation in Huntsville on October 20<sup>th</sup>.
- *Creative Economy Report* – study produced by the University of Toronto for Creative Muskoka will be released on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

## **Next MWC Meeting**

Friday, May 20, 2011 at 1:00 pm in the Council Chambers at the District of Muskoka.

## **Adjournment**

Rob Milligan adjourned the meeting at 3:00 pm.