



## Minutes

Friday, October 23, 2009

1:00 p.m.

Council Chambers – District Municipality of Muskoka  
70 Pine Street, Bracebridge

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### Present:

Ian Turnbull	Ben Boivin	Dan Brooks
Margaret Casey	Lou Guerriero	Mary McCulley
Jan McDonnell	Don McVittie	Rob Milligan
Peter Seybold	Al Shaw	Alicia Tyson
Scott Young		

### Regrets:

Patricia Arney	Ken Black	Fran Coleman
Tonia Di Sabatino	Karen Flood	Diane Griffin
Eleanor Lewis	Don MacKay	Anna Mallin
Steve Munro	Peter Sale	Brian Sturgeon
Brian Tapley	Jim Walden	

### Staff:

Judi Brouse	Rebecca Willison
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### Guests:

Scott Lister – Conservation Ontario	Summer Valentine	Winston Young
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### Welcome

Ian Turnbull called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

### Confirmation of Minutes

**MOTION** by Rob Milligan, seconded by Mary McCulley

THAT the minutes of the Muskoka Watershed Council meeting dated September 18, 2009 be approved.

**CARRIED**

### Activity Report

**MOTION** by Rob Milligan, seconded by Margaret Casey

THAT the Activity Report for October 2009 be approved.

**CARRIED**

## **Presentation**

[Conservation Authority Watershed Report Cards](#) – Scott Lister, Conservation Ontario.

[Conservation Ontario](#) has developed a report card template for conservation authorities to use in an effort to get consistency across the province. The main methods of distribution seem to be in newspapers, at public meetings and events, and mailed to specific interest groups such as municipal councils, conservation authority boards, and the Province. Watershed Report Cards provide conservation authorities with a measure of the effectiveness of their watershed management plans.

## **2010 Report Card Discussion**

The Wetlands section of the Report Card will report on wetland cover as a baseline and will grade on the loss of wetland cover. For the 2010 Report Card, the grade will be “insufficient data” with the aim to have data and grades for the 2014 Report Card.

Judi Brouse gave a presentation highlighting the Water Section of the 2010 Report Card and received input from Council members.

The Council discussed the decision to not use *E. coli* and Lake trout as indicators in the Report Card. It was suggested that an explanation be included in the Report Card as to the reasons why.

Al Shaw presented some preliminary findings on mercury contamination in fish.

## **Nomination of Officers**

A memo was distributed with the agenda.

**MOTION** by Rob Milligan, seconded by Margaret Casey

THAT Muskoka Watershed Council members be invited to nominate candidates for Chair and Vice-chair from existing members. The nomination deadline would be December 15, 2009 for election at the first meeting of Council in 2010. Walk on nominations would still be accepted from the floor at the first meeting in January.

**CARRIED**

## **Updates & New Business**

- Memo distributed with the agenda on membership recruitment indicating that the Chair and Vice-chair will seek Muskoka Watershed Council members for 2010 according to the Operating Guidelines, and report the outcome at the November 20<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting.
- Memo distributed with the agenda establishing guidelines for MWC's committees.
- Environmental Lecture Series – [Muskoka's Water Quality](#) – November 12th, 7 pm at Nipissing University – Muskoka Campus
- Muskoka Heritage Foundation update distributed with the agenda highlighting an online [Christmas Auction](#) underway until December 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Muskoka Heritage Trust update distributed with the agenda.
- The Town of Bracebridge will be holding a Community Workshop on November 5<sup>th</sup> to get input for their Official Plan Review.

- The Muskoka Lakes Association is working to enhance their stewardship program by working with other organizations.
- Elinor Ostrom was awarded the 2009 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences for her for her [analysis of economic governance, especially the commons](#).
- The University of Waterloo officially launched the [Centre for Ecosystem Resilience and Adaptation](#).

### ***Correspondence & Articles***

- Email re: participation in the 2009 Haliburton Muskoka Children's Water Festival
- MWC comments submitted to the Ministry of the Environment re: EBR posting 010-6350
- Letter from Parks Canada re: Government response to the Panel on the Future of the Trent-Severn Waterway, [News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#).

### ***Next Meeting***

Friday, November 20, 2009 at 1:00 pm in the Council Chambers at the District Municipality of Muskoka administration building.

### ***Adjournment***

Ian Turnbull adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m.