

**Muskoka Watershed Council
Community Round Table – Integrated Watershed Management (IWM)**

Minutes

Date: August 10, 2022

Location: Zoom

Attendees:

Kevin Trimble (Chair)

Dan MacLeod

Jade Turmelle

Justin Bremner

Patricia Arney

Bryan Ingram

Don Macintosh

Jo-Anne Goodwin

Kathleen Lamb

Penny Thomas

Carolyn DuBois

Geoff Ross

John Nemeth

Michael Peppard

Peter Sale

District of Muskoka Staff:

Glenn Cunningham, Manager, Watershed Programs

Alana Perez, Integrated Watershed Management Program Coordinator

1. Welcome, Land Acknowledgement

Kevin Trimble opened the meeting and provided a land acknowledgement.

2. Review and approval of minutes from July 13, 2022 including Chris Cragg's presentation on the Muskoka River Water Management Plan and the Water Quality Indicators consultation

Minutes were approved.

3. Presentation: Water Management Plan vs. Integrated Watershed Management

Bryan Ingram (Bracebridge Power) and Justin Bremner (OPG) provided a presentation on the Muskoka River Water Management Plan (MRWMP), focusing on the current state and applications of the MRWMP, and how the Plan differs from Integrated Watershed Management (IWM).

Following the presentation there was some discussion on the differences between the MRWMP and IWM. In summary, the MRWMP includes social, economic, and ecological considerations but is focused on power production and has minimal flood control functions. IWM focuses on the management of all aspects of the entire watershed (water and land).

4. CRT Status Review & Discussion

Kevin Trimble (Chair) provided an update on the status of the CRT, including the mission and objectives of the group. The CRT Mandate is as follows (motion passed by CRT on May 11, 2022):

That the Muskoka River Watershed Community Round Table will continue toward a collaboration of participating partners representing 13 area municipalities, 4 upper tier municipalities, local Indigenous communities, business sector leaders, NGOs, and residents which will endorse an action plan that includes a shared vision for the future of the watershed, common issues, recommendations on potential future governance and next steps towards watershed-based management (for land use, infrastructure, water management, and climate change).

Kevin also reviewed the trajectory of the CRT, including the past (MWAG, TPA and formation of CRT), present (focusing on DMM project consultations), and future (governance study, vision and action plan, next steps for IWM).

Kevin also provided an update on the DMM project consultation schedule. The CRT will be busy with project results presentations through the fall, and members are encouraged to attend meetings when they have availability and interest or experience. A schedule of project results presentations will be sent out soon (UPDATE: CRT members should have received an email with the presentation schedule on August 15 – the schedule is also included below).

5. Adjournment

The next CRT meeting will be on August 24, which will include the results presentation for the Watershed Health Indicators project from Hutchinson Environmental Services Ltd.

DMM Project Consultation Schedule – Fall 2022

Wednesday September 21, 4:00 - 5:30 PM

Project: Natural Capital Inventory

Wednesday October 5, 4:00 - 5:30 PM

Project: Land Use Policy Review

Wednesday October 12, 4:00 - 5:30 PM

Project: Hydrologic Model

Wednesday October 19, 4:00 - 5:30 PM

Project: Public Access Inventory

Wednesday November 9, 4:00 - 5:30 PM

Project: Operational Adjustments & Scoping Study