

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

Date: February 17, 2022

Location: Zoom

Attendees:

Kevin Trimble (Chair)	Tom O'Callaghan	Jade Turmelle
John Nemeth	Geoff Ross	Stephen Fahner
Patricia Arney	Daryl Moffatt	Penny Thomas
Deb Martin Downs	Peter Sale	Chris Cragg
Andrew McCammon	Carolyn DuBois	Wendy Sommerville
Michael Peppard	Bryan Ingram	Aaron Rusak
John Cooper	Jo-Anne Goodwin	Frank Belerique (4:45)

District of Muskoka Staff:

Christy Doyle, Director, Watershed and Environmental Programs

Glenn Cunnington, Project Manager, Water Strategy

Cassie Emms, Program Communications Specialist

1. Welcome, Opening Remarks

Kevin Trimble, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if anyone had any questions on the agency relationship model that was distributed via email.

2. Review and approval of minutes from January 10, 2022 meeting, review of action items

Kevin summarized the status of the action items from the previous meeting. Minutes from the January 10, 2022 meeting were approved.

3. Review Membership Model

Kevin displayed and reviewed the draft membership model. Glenn Cunnington suggested considering the resource extraction industry, such as aggregates. Andrew McCammon asked if there is an active source water protection agency in Muskoka and if that would be applied in the municipal context as identified in the model. Kevin clarified that Muskoka does not have a source water protection agency, but Severn Sound Environmental Association does.

Kevin raised the idea that when the CRT is drafting the recommendations for the next steps of IWM, the CRT should consider how the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry, and Municipalities work together on water management. An educational component for the CRT should also be considered.

4. Roundtable Introductions and Sector Affiliation

In light of many new members of the CRT, Kevin welcomed everyone to introduce themselves and identify which sector fits best with their skills and background.

Note: This table is a work-in-progress. Input is required from some CRT members.

CRT Members and Sectors

Name	Affiliation	Sector 1	Sector 2
Daryle Moffatt	Councilor, Township of Seguin	Municipal	Environment
	Treasurer, Muskoka Watershed Council		
Michael Peppard	Councilor, Township of Lake of Bays	Municipal	Environment
	Lake of Bays Association		
	Biologist		
Jo-Anne Goodwin	Treasurer, Bass Lake Association	Lake Association	Construction - infrastructure
	Environmental Engineering & Technologist		
	Sixth generation Muskoka Lakes resident		
Geoff Ross	Past Chair of Muskoka Watershed Council	Lake Association	Environment
	Past President of Skeleton Lake Cottagers Association		
	Science and Engineering		
John Cooper	Sparrow Lake Association	Lake Association	General Business
	Commercial (general business and community)		
Chris Cragg	Ontario Hydro Dams	Lake Association	Water Power
	Muskoka Lakes Association, MWC, Muskoka Watershed Advisory Group		
Wendy Sommerville	Director, Peninsula Lake Association	Lake Association	
Aaron Rusak	Georgian Bay Land Trust	Environment	
	President of Muskoka Field Naturalist		
Brian Ingram	Operations Manager, Bracebridge Generation	Water Power	Recreation (angler)
	Water Management Plan Steering Committee		
	Conservation Director, Muskoka Bass Anglers		
Carolyn DuBois	Water Quality	Environment	General Community
	Cottager, recreation		

Name	Affiliation	Sector 1	Sector 2
Jade Turmelle	Aggregate technician, Fowler Construction	Indigenous	Aggregate
	Indigenous		
Tom O'Callaghan	Civil Construction	Construction -infrastructure	
Peter Sale	Chair of Muskoka Watershed Council	Environment	
	Marine Ecologist		
Penny Thomas	Past Lake of Bays Heritage Foundation Director	Lake Association	Environment
	Lake Association and conservancy		
Deborah Martin-Downs	President of Muskoka Lakes Association	Lake association	
	Past Conservation Authority Director		
Stephen Fahner	Development – Planner	Development	Real Estate
	Municipal – Provincial		
	Real-estate		
John Nemeth	Watershed and infrastructure planning	Construction -infrastructure	
	Heavy construction for municipalities		
Patricia Arney	Muskoka Watershed Council, Muskoka Watershed Advisory Group	Environment	General Business
	Retired Business Person		
	Retired Councilor		
Andrew McCammon	Ontario Headwaters Institute	Environment	General Community
	Policy analyst and community engagement specialist		
Andy Metelka	Georgian Bay Association	Environment	
Roberto Bellicoso	District of Muskoka Water & Wastewater Operations	Environment	Construction - infrastructure
Barry Davidson	Westwind Forestry	Forestry	
Brad Wescott			
Bill Jennings		Community	
Caleb Timmermann		Community	
Cameron Von Bratt	Freshwater Ecology	Environment	
Don Macintosh	Director, LOBA	Environment	

Name	Affiliation	Sector 1	Sector 2
Frank Belerique	Swift River Energy Limited (Bala Generating Station)	Water Power	
Gareth Seltzer		Community	General Business
Greg Padulo	Chiefs of Ontario	Indigenous	Community
Helen Thompson	Relator	Real estate	
Jason Lorbetskie	Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources, Forestry		
John Roberts	Three Mile Lake Association	Lake Association	
Kathleen Padulo	Chiefs of Ontario	Indigenous	
Kathleen Lamb	Arborist / Landscape	Forestry	
Kevin Trimble	MWC	Environment	
Kevin Laframboise	Lake Vernon Association	Environment	
Laurie Thomson			
Malcolm Bates	Ontario Power Generation	Water Power	
Neil Levesque	Province of Ontario		
Norm Huggins	Retired Municipal Consulting Engineer	Development	Construction - infrastructure
Sandy Bos	Building Inspector	Construction - home & cottage	
Samantha Craig-Curnow	Rama First Nation	Indigenous	
Sharday James	Rama First Nation	Indigenous	

CRT Representation Summary	
Sector	Number of reps
Algonquin Park	0
Aggregate	1
Chambers of Commerce/general business	3
Construction	0
Construction -home & cottage	1
Construction -infrastructure	4
Development	2
Environment	15

Forestry	2
General Community	6
Indigenous	5
Lake Associations	8
Municipal and Provincial	2
Real Estate	2
Recreation (sledding, paddling, hiking)	1
Rural/agricultural community	0
Tourism	0
Water Power	4

5. District Project Update and Imminent Consultation Needs

Glenn explained that the District of Muskoka is delivering 12 technical projects that aim to describe the existing conditions of the Muskoka River Watershed. The outcomes of these projects will eventually lead to an Integrated Watershed Management Plan. Glenn provided an overview of each project and encouraged everyone to review them in more detail on the Making Waves Engage Muskoka website.

Glenn announced that the project consultants will be joining the CRT in April or May for consultation needs. The project consultants are also required to present the final results of each project to the CRT.

The Town of Bracebridge was tasked with a Siltation Project at the mouth of the Muskoka River. That project is complete. The project results are posted on the Town's website.

Lastly, Glenn further added that as part of the funding the District received by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, a new staff member will be joining the IWM team in the next few weeks as a Project Coordinator.

6. Integrated Watershed Management Case Study

Kevin reviewed the evolution of the CRT diagram, which includes how the CRT is related to the District of Muskoka, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, Muskoka Watershed Council, and the Muskoka Watershed Advisory Group.

Kevin provided an overview of the Integrated Watershed Management page located on the Muskoka Watershed Council website and showed the group where to find IWM documents, including MWC Publications such as *The Case for Integrated Watershed Management in Muskoka in Muskoka*, *The Evolution of Water Management in the Muskoka River Watershed*, and *Planning for Climate Change in Muskoka*. Kevin also highlighted the presentations on this web page by Debra Martin Downs and Jack Imhof and the Documents section.

Kevin pointed the CRT to the US Environmental Protection Agency's publication *A Quick Guide to Developing Watershed Plans to Restore and Protect our Waters* as an excellent resource.

Kevin shared the Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance document titled *Integrated Watershed Management Plan*. This non-governmental agency is a key example of a community-based approach to watershed planning that can help guide the Community Round Table as it progresses towards IWM in Muskoka.

7. Communications – Delegations to Council

Kevin explained that the CRT requires a communications and engagement strategy to educate the community about IWM and recruit people to the CRT.

Andrew McCammon suggested a short video be developed that summarizes the case for IWM in Muskoka as an educational piece to the community, which may in turn bring others to the CRT. Chris Cragg liked this idea. Wendy Sommerville added that all Lake Associations could share this video for further outreach.

ACTION: Kevin and Cassie Emms to discuss making a video.

Kevin suggested that a delegation be brought forward to watershed municipal councils to introduce the CRT and IWM. Michael Peppard suggested a multi-step approach to educating councilors of IWM, including a short 2-page primer be circulated first so that questions can be prepared, followed by a delegation. Debra Martin-Downs suggested that this delegation include an invitation to sit on the CRT and fund the long-term of IWM.

Kevin noted that he would welcome Julie Cayley, Executive Director of the Severn Sound Environmental Association, to the CRT to share the lessons learned of engaging sectors that may be apposed to IWM.

Peter emphasized the need for education and recruitment to the sectors may be less likely to volunteer.

Kevin suggested this item be carried onto the next meeting.

8. Next Steps including meeting schedule

To streamline CRT meetings, Kevin suggested the CRT meet regularly at a scheduled time every month. A poll was presented to the group, and it was identified that the first Thursday of every month at 4pm until 5:30pm works best for most. A doodle poll will still be issued to schedule the next meeting to accommodate those that could not make this meeting.