



Agenda

Friday, October 23, 2020

1:00 pm

Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81155436951?pwd=ZmVzNUlFZ2wwSndyWDBjMGdrRWpadz09>

Meeting ID: 811 5543 6951

Passcode: 465576

1. **Opening Remarks** – Chair Geoff Ross (5 min)

1.1. Approval of Minutes (by consent)

THAT the Minutes of the Muskoka Watershed Council meeting dated September 25, 2020 be approved.

1.2. Correspondence

1.2.1. Letter to the Muskoka Steamships and Discovery Centre in support of their application for a Climate Action and Awareness Grant.

1.2.2. Letter from the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks in response to MWC's letter re: environmental monitoring programs and laboratory services in the Province of Ontario during the COVID-19 outbreak.

2. **Presentation** (45 min)

Invasive species resources and tools to support Muskoka Watershed Communities – Sarah Rang, Executive Director of the [Invasive Species Centre](#)

Ms. Rang will introduce the Invasive Species Centre (ISC) and share information on the economic impacts of invasive species, especially with regard to green/grey infrastructure assets, the value of investments in prevention, recent initiatives and useful tools that are available to Muskoka communities and municipal representatives to help combat invasive species in the region.

The ISC was formed in 2011 as a unique example of partnership and hub for collaboration and knowledge sharing through Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Natural Resources Canada, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, and Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. The mission of the ISC is to connect stakeholders, knowledge and technology to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species in Canada.

Ms. Rang will be available for questions following her presentation.

3. **Climate Action Muskoka's "Declaration of Climate Emergency"** – All (10 min)

3.1. THAT Muskoka Watershed Council endorse Climate Action Muskoka's proposed "Declaration of Climate Emergency Resolution", given that climate change is unparalleled in terms of its scientific certainty, scale of impacts, and the required urgency for action as outlined in international and national evidence-based work, including MWC's own "Planning for Climate Change in Muskoka" report.

4. **Project Updates** (5 min each)

- 4.1. Integrated Watershed Management – *Kevin Trimble*
- 4.2. Muskoka Watershed Advisory Group – *Patricia Arney*
- 4.3. MWC Communications – *Pete LeMoine*
- 4.4. MWC Strategic Plan – *Karen Maxwell*
- 4.5. MWC Website – *Karen Maxwell*
- 4.6. Official Plan Reviews – *Geoff Ross*

5. **Partner Updates** (5 min each)

- 5.1. Government Updates – *Open to elected municipal representatives and staff*
 - 5.1.1. District of Muskoka Climate Action Plan – *Christy Doyle and Kevin Boyle*
- 5.2. Partner Updates (e.g., Province, District of Muskoka, Health Unit, Lake Associations, Community Organizations) – *Open to All*

6. **New Business**

7. **Adjournment**

Upcoming Muskoka Watershed Council Meeting

Friday, November 27th at 1:00 pm through Zoom. Featuring a presentation by Dr. Ellen Field from Learning for a Sustainable Future and Lakehead University on her Climate Change Education in Canada Research Study that establishes benchmarks of Canadians' understanding of climate change, their perspectives on climate change impacts and risks, and views on the role of schools and climate change education. We will also have a presentation by three students from the Trillium Lakelands District School Board's G7 Student Summit about the TLDSB climate change action plan created by students.

Next Working Group Meeting

Thursday, October 29th at 2:30 pm through Zoom.