

## MEETING RECORD

### DRCC Steering and Implementation Committee

Thursday, January 30, 2014 – 1 pm to 3 pm

Conference Call

---

#### 1. Welcome, introductions, approval of agenda

Michael Moroney, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm. Roundtable introductions were held; attendance is in Appendix 1. Michael explained that the main purpose of the meeting was to receive information on the Aesthetics BUI assessment. Therefore, the meeting did not include a review of past action items or previous meeting record.

#### 2. Assessment of the Degradation of Aesthetics BUI

Natalie presented the recent findings on the assessment of the 'Degradation of Aesthetics' BUI (see Appendix 2 for presentation); the Monitoring & Research Work Group's recommendation is to re-designate the status of this BUI to 'NOT IMPAIRED'. Natalie reported that she also presented the Assessment to Canadian PAC members in December 2013 and the US PAC in January 2014. The information and results were well received from all groups except the Canadian PAC which seemed to have misunderstood the meaning of the BUI (condition of the water, not the land or shoreline). Natalie summarized the PAC comments from their December meeting record. The US PAC was supportive of the re-designation of the BUI to 'Not Impaired' while the Canadian PAC's decision was not clear.

#### Decisions:

- Tom Henderson, Chair of the PAC, endorsed the report on behalf of the PAC.
- The SIC endorsed the re-designation of the BUI based on the findings presented. The group proposed posting the presentation and report on the DRCC's website for a 30 day review period before submitting to COA for review.

#### Actions:

- Natalie/New Coordinator will finalize the report and post it to the DRCC's website along with the PowerPoint presentation for a period of 30 days.
- The SIC will conduct a thorough review of the written report and provide written comments/revisions to the new Coordinator.
- Once all comments are compiled and addressed, the new Coordinator will submit the report to the COA Annex Implementation Committee Co-Chairs for review/approval of re-designation (as per BUI re-designation process; see June 2013 SIC meeting record).

#### 3. Delisting Plan Update

Natalie reminded the Group that the Draft Delisting Plan was presented to (and supported by) the SIC on December 5, 2013. It was also presented to the PAC on December 10, 2013. There were minor revisions resulting from the discussion with the SIC which Natalie has completed. She explained that the PAC had some questions but its decision for endorsement was unclear. Natalie

received written comments from one PAC Member Organization. She noted that the comments will be addressed through a small team made up of the RAP Coordinator, Sandra Kok, and Ted Briggs as most of the comments were directed at the AOC program as a whole rather than just the Delisting Plan. Natalie added that a professional-looking cover is being designed for the report.

Actions:

- Natalie will finalize the Delisting Plan report and provide the final copy to the new Coordinator.
- The new Coordinator will distribute (print and electronic) the Delisting Plan and update it regularly with each of the Work Groups.

**4. GLSF 2014-2015 Call for proposals**

Jon reported that Environment Canada received one application to the 2014-2015 Great Lakes Sustainability Fund from a Detroit River group. The application was made by ERCA for their Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Rural Non-Point Source program (as discussed at the December 5 meeting). He noted that, if successful, the applicants will be notified directly in the spring 2014.

**5. Proposed Work Group**

Natalie reported that she recently met with the Chair of the EPI Work Group to discuss the possibility of creating a new Delisting Communications Work Group. Natalie explained that the EPI Work Group Chair was interested and supportive of the decision to move forward on a new Work Group and refocusing the current EPI Group. Natalie noted that she hadn't had the time to work on a draft Terms of Reference for such a group but offered to work with the New Coordinator to complete the task.

Action: The New Coordinator will draft a Terms of Reference for a new Delisting Communications Work Group for review by the SIC.

**6. New RAP Coordinator**

Sandra explained that the Supervisory Group conducted interviews of candidates for the RAP Coordinator position on Tuesday, January 28, 2014. Reference checks are in progress and the DRCC Member Organizations will be notified when a new coordinator is hired.

**7. Closing Remarks/Next Meeting**

Jon wished Natalie the best of luck for her new adventure. He noted that a gathering to wish Natalie farewell will be hosted at ERCA on Wednesday, February 5, 2014; all are welcome to attend. The next meeting will be in June 2014 in conjunction with the Annual Detroit River Evening. The meeting was adjourned at 3 pm.

# **APPENDIX 1**

## **Attendance**

Mike Moroney	Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Co-Chair
Jon Gee	Environment Canada, Co-Chair
Rich Drouin	Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
Peter Berry	Windsor Port Authority
Paul Drca	City of Windsor
Tom Henderson	Public Advisory Council
Kevin Miller	Town of LaSalle
Sandra Kok	Environment Canada

Natalie Green	RAP Coordinator
---------------	-----------------

### Regrets

Antonietta Giofu	Town of Amherstburg
Ted Briggs	Ontario Ministry of the Environment
Jenn Richards	Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources