

## 1. Welcome, Introductions, Approval of Agenda

Tom Henderson called the meeting to order at 5:08pm and welcomed everyone. Roundtable introductions were held (*See Appendix A for complete attendance*). Tom proposed amending the agenda to add two items to the PAC section; Derek Coronado providing updates on the effect of Fukushima on the Great Lakes and Mike Walsh providing updates on the renegotiations of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA). Sandra proposed adding the Little River Cleanup to the 2011-2012 EPI Project Updates. Tom Henderson moved to approve the agenda, as amended, Marcia Valiante seconded, approved by consensus.

## 2. Approval of May 11, 2011 Meeting Record

Tom Henderson commented that the Citizens Environment Alliance Boat Tour (July 16<sup>th</sup>) supported with \$5000.00 from the DRCC was an excellent event. He also noted that there was good success tree planting in the spring, despite the rain. Derek Coronado thanked the DRCC for supporting the boat tour; this event would not have been possible without the DRCC support. The costs shown are estimates in the May 11<sup>th</sup> meeting record are estimates and the actual costs were higher. Accepted by consensus.

### Review of Action Items from May 11, 2011 Meeting Record

**Sandra will contact Bill Roesel and Karen Cedar to discuss the installation of the signs at the Marina and on Pêche Island**

Sandra delivered the signs, but they have not yet been installed.

**Sandra will contact Adrian Bateman at CBC Television to discuss coverage of the Video Contest and a possible communication strategy to air clips regarding the DRCC and local events on CBC television/**  
Sandra contacted Adrian Bateman and he did not respond to her request;

**Sandra will contact all media representatives regarding the recognition event to be held at Ecole Secondaire E.J. Lajeunesse.**

A media event was held at the high school related to the video contest – it did receive good media coverage. CFTV34 Leamington, Radio Canada and Windsor Life Magazine all covered the media event.

**Sandra will contact TVCogeco and CFTV34 Leamington to confirm their ability to air the video in its current format.**

CFTV34 Leamington and TVCogeco confirmed their ability to air the video. However, a statistic in the video could not be verified and Sandra has been unable to contact the winner to get the statistic verified or changed, and this will need to be done before the video can air.

**Marcia, Derek and Sandra to develop and sign a contract for CEA to design a DRCC handout.**  
Action completed.

**Derek, Phil, Marcia, Dave, Mike, Tom, and Sandra will meet Tuesday May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2:00pm at the Airport Meeting room to develop a letter to send to local politicians to outline the ecological linkages that should be included in the design of the Windsor-Essex Parkway.**

Meeting was held and the letter was written and sent to local politicians. More details and discussion in the Public Advisory Council portion of the meeting.

**PAC members not on the writing sub-committee can provide ideas/comments for consideration to Sandra before the May 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

Action completed.

**Derek to forward the report regarding loss of funding for real-time monitoring of Lake St. Clair by the U.S. to members.**

Action completed.

### **3. Acting RAP Coordinator's Report**

Sandra Hogan gave a detailed report of her activities since the last EPI/PAC meeting (May 11, 2011). (See Appendix 2 for complete details of the Acting RAP Coordinator's Report)

## **Education and Public Involvement**

*This portion of the meeting was chaired by Marcia Valiante.*

### **4. DRCC EPI – 2011 / 2012 Outreach Projects Update**

#### **i) DRCC Brochure**

Sandra drafted text with help of EPI and PAC members, and provided this text and photos to Citizens Environment Alliance (CEA). The CEA is waiting to receive the first payment, and then will begin graphic design. Printing will be approximately \$550 for 2000 copies of the brochure. If you have photos that represent the DRCC send them in to Sandra and she will forward them to the CEA for consideration.

#### **ii) Drawing/Calendar Contest**

Pearl, Al, Kris and Sandra have been working on implementing a drawing contest for elementary school children. They received approximately 70 submissions from children in grades one through eight. The subcommittee is currently obtaining quotes for the graphic design and printing of a 2012 Calendar utilizing the drawings. Currently, the budget is an issue for this contest. The original budget for this contest was \$1000.00, and \$260.00 has already been spent on prizes. Printing quotes range but it will be \$1000.00 to print 100 or 200 calendars depending on the company. There is potential to put some of the printing costs in the 2011 COA/MOE agreement.

#### **iii) EnviroTips**

Sandra drafted text for EnviroTips with the help of EPI and PAC members. Sandra forwarded this text to Cathie Griffin at the Essex Windsor Solid Waste Authority (EWSWA) and expects to have a draft copy of the document soon. She will forward the draft to the EPI and PAC before it is sent out to the public. EWSWA hopes to send out the document in October.

**iv) Signs for native plant and the GLIER garden**

Caroline Biribauer reported that we are looking for a company to make small sturdy signs to label plants in the Turkey Creek Native Plant Demonstration Garden. These signs would label the different plant species, to increase the educational value of the garden. Pearl Bradd suggested finding out who manufactured the signs in the Town of Amherstburg Hosta garden. Caroline explained that the GLIER Garden currently needs maintenance, specifically weeding. This site will need to be maintained before a sign is installed. We are in the process of contacting GLIER to determine when maintenance can begin.

**v) Tree plantings**

Caroline reported that it has been a busy fall so far. DRCC funding has supported two plantings in the Canard River watershed; one at Gesstwood Camp and one at Camp Bryerswood. Additionally, there has been a Chrysler-Grand Marais Drain planting supported from other funding sources (including Environment Canada). Sacred Heart elementary school wants to expand their plantings to include a prairie. They are working with Villa Nova's horticultural students on the project.

**vi) Canard River Shoreline Softening Project**

The DRCC has provided \$8000.00 towards the softening of shoreline in the Canard River. Most of the DRCC funds are supporting shoreline softening at River Canard Park, a high profile site. ERCA has hired an external engineer to design the work. The plans are completed and are going to be reviewed by the Towns of LaSalle and Amherstburg, because the park is jointly owned. In October there will be a public consultation meeting.

**ACTION: Sandra will inform EPI and PAC members of the date and time of the public consultation meeting once it has been scheduled**

**vii) Fall Movie Screenings**

In the past this has been a very popular event, in 2009 the EPI hosted a screening of Waterlife and in 2010 Tapped. Sandra would like suggestions for 2011, one suggestion she has received is Mysteries of the Great Lakes. If you have ideas, please send them along to Sandra. Sandra noted that for the 2012 the EPI 2010-2015 Work Plan includes a sewer education project and we could look for documentaries about sewers. Sandra watched the documentary CrapShoot, a 2003 movie produced by the National Film Board, this movie is about sewers and waste water treatment and is also slightly dated. It was suggested that the City could provide information about waste treatment in Windsor after the movie. An American movie, Liquid Assets, covers this topic but Sandra has not seen it and it may not be applicable to the Canadian situation. Tina suggested a movie by Alexandra Cousteau for the Blue Legacy Project – Jacques Cousteau's granddaughter which examines water as a global issue. Sandra also suggested Homo Toxicus or Toxic Trespass. Derek noted that Toxic Trespass has been overplayed in this area. Pearl suggested that we need to view the movies before deciding on one to show. Al, Derek, Caroline, Pearl, Marcia and Sandra will work together to pick a movie for the public screening.

**ACTION: Sandra to approach Paul Drca about the movie CrapShoot for his perspective.**

**ACTION: Sandra will look into getting movies and arrange a viewing. Al, Derek, Caroline, Pearl, Marcia and Sandra will work together to pick a movie for the public screening.**

### **viii) Cleanup of Little River**

There has been some discussion about a cleanup behind Canadian Tire. Caroline and Sandra had discussed organizing it for Monday October 17<sup>th</sup> or Tuesday October 18<sup>th</sup>, from 3:00pm – 5:00pm for high school students to participate in. Tom noted that usually cleanups are planned first thing in the morning to be able to get garbage / metal taken away, etc. Chris Vilag and Pete Thomas usually help by taking away the metal and electronics, etc. Tom suggested organizing a spring cleanup instead when the carts have accumulated. Caroline commented that campaigning local businesses to add quarter deposits to the carts may help stop this problem. Tom explained that attempts have been made to work with the businesses and so far there has been little interest in such programs. Currently, the best option is to turn the carts in as scrap metal and donate the money to computers for kids. Caroline suggested the cleanup should take place in early spring before the trees leaf out. Pete explained that this is a sore spot with the CAW Local 200 – why take work away from City employees. He noted that we need a prevention program and suggested partnering with the two big businesses to work on prevention, for example installing a fence. Gord recommended contact media outlets to cover the next cleanup, as that may put pressure on local business to participate in a prevention or program. Pearl commented that we should revisit this topic in the new year, closer to the scheduled cleanup. Tina suggested soft-enforcement from the City of Windsor at the site, for example ‘no dumping’ signs. Spring cleanup as scheduled by RAP Coordinator was approved by consensus.

**DECISION:** A cleanup of Little River will be scheduled for spring 2012.

**ACTION:** RAP Coordinator to organize cleanup of Little River in spring 2012.

## **5. 2012 – 2013 Work Planning**

Sandra provided a draft work plan worksheet for the upcoming year (2012 – 2013) and the EPI 2010-2015 work plan. The Ministry of the Environment funding agreement under the Canada-Ontario Agreement needs to be completed soon. Sandra explained that some items in the EPI 5 year work plan are recurring and we will request funding for these items, for example the E. Newsletter, Website hosting, and Pêche Island Day, etc. The 5 year EPI work plan also outlines new projects for 2012.

### **Sewer Education Project**

This project includes developing and implementing a Sewer Water Education program, and we can partner with the City of Windsor. Sandra requested participants for a sewer water education sub-committee. Volunteers included Al, Marcia, Sandra, Kris; if you are interested, please contact Sandra directly. Al and Gord will be able provide professional expertise. Karina will likely sit on this sub group.

**DECISION:** Al, Marcia, Sandra and Kris will form the sub-committee for the Sewer Water Education Group.

### **Curriculum Lesson Plans**

Sandra suggested having a teacher come and take on this project as a placement. Pearl, Sandra and Kris will work on the committee together. Pearl suggested contacting the Faculty of Education at the University of Windsor. Sandra noted we can provide materials for teachers to borrow from the Media Room for the public school board. Additionally, a budget will need to be developed for this project to purchase supplies. Tina explained that the North Shore RAP has developed curriculum based on their

AOCs and this may also lend itself to assisting in what type of materials should be purchased to help us develop a budget.

**DECISION:** Pearl, Kris and Sandra will form the Curriculum sub-committee.

**ACTION:** Sandra will contact the Faculty of Education to determine if a student teacher can complete a placement with the DRCC to develop curriculum.

#### **Brochures - \$2000**

Sandra noted that some of our brochures, for example the household mercury collection brochure, are out of date. However, we may wish to use this money for mail outs, so people receive our brochures.

#### **Logo Design**

Natalie and Sandra have discussed having a new logo designed for the DRCC. Sandra received quotes from a number of graphic design firms and they ranged from \$275.00 to \$4000.00. Sandra suggested setting aside \$1000 for this project in the 2012-2013 work plan. Approved by consensus.

**DECISION:** The DRCC EPI WG will budget \$1000.00 for Logo Design in the 2012-2013 EPI Work Plan.

#### **CEA Boat Tour - \$5000.00**

Derek proposed setting aside \$5000.00 to support the CEA Boat Tour. Approved by Consensus.

**DECISION:** The DRCC EPI WG will budget \$5000.00 to support the CEA Boat Tour in the 2012-2013 EPI Work Plan.

#### **6. EPI Chairperson Position**

Tabled to the next meeting.

#### **Public Advisory Council**

*This portion of the meeting was chaired by Tom Henderson.*

#### **7. Update on Detroit River International Crossing/Parkway Compensation Lands**

The sub-group met and wrote a letter to local MPPs expressing the PAC's concerns about the loss of Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSWs). Tom stopped in at Sandra Pupatello's office and spoke with the staff. Yesterday Tom met with Steve Salmons (as referred by Sandra Pupatello's office). Steve wants to meet with members of the PAC after the election to talk. Derek noted that the Sierra Club provided him with a report of the expert opinion and it suggested that there is no way for them to save the Butlers Garter Snake and Eastern Fox Snake in those areas. They are now suggesting that the Butlers Garter Snake is on the verge of extinction in Ontario – up-listed to Endangered. He will forward a copy of the report to the group. Mike suggested that the committee that met in May (Mike, Phil, Marcia, Tom, Dave and Derek) should meet again for next strategies to increase the profile of the plight – for example making use of the media. Sandra will contact the subgroup to arrange a meeting..

**ACTION:** Derek to forward the Sierra Club report to members of the PAC.

**ACTION:** Sandra to arrange subcommittee meeting with Mike, Phil, Marcia, Tom, Dave and Derek to explore strategies to increase awareness of this issue.

#### **8. Ojibway Shores Zoning Change**

We have not heard from the city formally about this issue and the sub-committee meeting for the DRIC compensation lands can also follow up with the City about Ojibway Shores.

**ACTION:** DRIC subcommittee will explore strategies to address the issue of rezoning Ojibway Shores.

## 9. Canadian Component of Detroit International Wildlife Restoration

Tom explained that on the CEA Boat Tour he found the presentation by John Hartig very informative. After this event, Tom researched the boundary of the Detroit International Wildlife Restoration (DIWR) and currently there is no component of the refuge in Canada. Tom explained that Ojibway Shores could possibly be a part of the DIWR. Gord suggested that time timing for recommending this could tie into the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the War of 1812.

## 10. Fukushima impact on the Great Lakes

Derek Coronado noted that the Citizens Environment Alliance has provided a link on their website for the upcoming provincial election that details the environmental position of all the parties ([www.greenprosperity.ca](http://www.greenprosperity.ca)). Derek explained actions and comments in Canada and the U.S. since the Fukushima disaster began. For example, Ontario Minister of the Environment John Wilkinson was quoted as saying "The water in Ontario is safe, but given the situation in Japan we are using increased vigilance". Derek noted that he was unsure what the Minister meant, as to his knowledge there have been no programs put in place to monitor radiation levels in Ontario since the disaster. In the U.S. the EPA found increased levels of radiation were found in some Great Lakes cities. Health Canada found radiation in BC at levels 300x higher in than baseline in rainwater, drinking water, air. In some places like Vermont radioactive isotopes have been found in milk. He also noted that Canada has a higher level of allowable radiation in drinking water than the US, it is 54 x higher. Finally, he noted Fukushima has not yet been contained.

## 11. Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement Re-Negotiations

Mike Walsh provided a report on the renegotiation of the Canada-U.S. Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA). Marcia, Sandra and Mike participated in a public webinar on September 13<sup>th</sup>. Mike reported on the webinar; he found the process quite interesting and informative. Mike provided a historical overview of the agreement, its founding, purpose and use to date as a powerful driver for forming environmental laws in the US and Canada. Mike noted the things that were highlighted to be addressed in this review including accountability. Derek noted that the public comment period for the presentation closed yesterday. The CEA's comments are available on their website.

A discussion began about the recent cuts at Environment Canada. Tina explained that in total 787 jobs have been cut, including jobs in the Great Lakes division. She advised the DRCC EPI and PAC spend funding received because it demonstrates that the AOCs, RAPS and the PACs are using the money toward good ends. Additionally, the PAC can write letters to MP, MPPs, Councillors and Minister Kent to let them know that the Great Lakes area is a priority. Sandra explained that Luca Cargnelli (Environment Canada) will no longer be involved in the Detroit River RAP, he has been transferred to the Great Lakes Management and Information Report group. Marcia suggested that the PAC write a letter and distribute to all members of parliament, media, the public, etc. Gord seconded. Pearl noted to send it to the Letter to the Editor. Send your ideas / points to Sandra and she can draft a letter for Tom to sign and send to members of parliament and news outlets.

**ACTION: Tom, Marcia and Sandra will work together to draft a letter to all members of parliament and to the editor of the Windsor Star and other newspapers.**

## **12. Upcoming Conferences**

Tina noted that for Great Lakes Week is October 11 -14, 2011 in Detroit, MI. Environment Canada is looking to pay for a shuttle service to attend the International Joint Commission Great Lakes Water Quality Biennial Meeting at Wayne State University. Tina will be send information about the bus to Sandra and Sandra will pass this information along to the group. Other conferences taking place this week include the Healing our Waters - Great Lake Coalition Conference 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Lakes Restoration Conference Oct 12-14, the Great Lakes Commission Annual Meeting Oct 11-12, and the U.S. Areas of Concern Program Annual Meeting Oct 13-14; all these meetings will be held at the Westin Book Cadillac. For more details about the Great Lakes Week Conferences please visit [www.glri.us/glweek.html](http://www.glri.us/glweek.html). Sandra explained that the DRCC is providing a bus from the University of Windsor to and from the State of the Strait Conference November 2<sup>nd</sup> , at Eastern Michigan University (Ypsilanti, MI).

## **13. DRCC Committee and WG updates**

- a. Monitoring and Research Work Group  
The Monitoring and Research Work Group is hosting a science workshop to examine 4 beneficial use impairments September 28<sup>th</sup> and September 29<sup>th</sup>.
- b. Point/Non Point Source Work Group  
The Point/Non Point Source Work Group is developing a septic management strategy for the AOC and will want the input and help of the EPI for public outreach strategies.

## **14. RAP Stage 2 Report Update**

Sandra explained that we have received comments from the IJC on the Stage 2 RAP Report. The major comments concerned lack of evaluation of remedial actions completed and selected. The Stage 2 comments from the IJC also said the DRCC made a diligent effort to consult with the public. The IJC comments are being addressed in a letter drafted by Ted and Luca which provides clarification and outlines our plans to make changes to the RAP report based on these comments. Copies of the IJC comments were available to individuals who wanted them at the meeting.

## **15. Other Items**

No other items were brought forward at this time.

## **16. Adjournment**

Tom thanked everyone for attending. Next meeting at the call of the Chairs.

## ***Appendix A***

### *Meeting Attendance*

#### **EPI/PAC Meeting – Wednesday, September 21, 2011**

Tom Henderson	Public Advisory Council - Chair
Marcia Valiante	Education and Public Involvement – Chair
Gord Harding	Public Advisory Council – Vice-Chair
Caroline Biribauer	Essex Region Conservation Authority
Pearl Bradd	Public Advisory Council
Derek Coronado	Citizens Environment Alliance
Rick Coronado	Windsor and District Labour Council
Brett Groves	Essex County Stewardship Network
Elizabeth Munn	Friends of Canard River
David Munro	Public Advisory Council
Tina Romaneh	Environment Canada
Al Stephens	Public Advisory Council
Pete Thomas	CAW Local 200
Mike Walsh	Public Advisory Council
Ken Wickens	CAW Local 195

#### **Resource**

Sandra Hogan	Acting RAP Coordinator
Kris Ives	Assistant

#### **Regrets**

Ian Naisbitt	Little River Enhancement Group
Karina Richters	City of Windsor
Phil Roberts	Essex County Field Naturalists' Club
Chris Vilag	CAW Local 200



**Appendix B**  
**ACTING RAP COORDINATOR'S PROGRESS REPORT**  
**(September 2011)**

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| 1. Coordination and secretariat support to the DRCC  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scheduled Annual General Meeting for June 15 2011, booked venue, prepared Draft agenda, invited and booked guest speaker (Dr. John Hartig), invited DRCC members to attend, booked caterer, sent out media release</li><li>• Scheduled P/NPS meeting for June 24 2011, prepared and distributed agenda, confirmed meeting room and refreshments, prepared Meeting Record and Decisions and Actions Documents for review, scheduled next meeting for September 29 2011</li><li>• Worked with PAC sub-committee to draft and finalize letter to local MPPs regarding compensation of Provincially Significant Wetlands lost through construction of the Windsor Essex Parkway</li><li>• Met with P/NPS WG Chairs to develop P/NPS Work Plan</li><li>• Assist M&amp;R WG in organization of Science Workshop for Detroit and St. Clair River to develop recommendations for research and actions related to 4 critical BUIs</li><li>• Scheduled P/NPS WG meeting for October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011</li></ul> |
| 2. Detroit River Delisting and Information System  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Completed updates of the DRDIS</li><li>• Created manual for future updates of the DRDIS</li><li>• Exploring options for new local Canadian host for the DRDIS</li></ul>  |
| 3. Outreach and communications for the DRCC (e.g., annual report, brochures, events, Stage 2 printing) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Helped (with City, ERCA and Port Authority) organize Brock Street Dock Cleanup (May 14, 2011)</li><li>• Attended Community Cleanup of Little River organized by St. Joseph's High School (May 26, 2011)</li><li>• Attended community planting event at Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant (June 2, 2011)</li><li>• Organized Media Event at École Secondaire E.J. Lajeunesse (June 1, 2011) for Video Contest winners, invited media and local politicians, did an interview with CFTV34 Leamington and Windsor Life Magazine, additionally Andrew Dowie acted as representative for an interview with Radio Canada (French)</li><li>• Organized Detroit River Evening and with help of Supervisory Group produced and distributed 2010-2011 Annual Review</li><li>• Attended Essex County Stewardship Network Summer Solstice event with DRCC display and</li></ul>   |
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	<p>materials (June 18, 2011)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attended CEA Boat Tour with DRCC Materials (July 16, 2011)</li> <li>• Attended 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration ~ Detroit River A Canadian Heritage River (July 21, 2011)</li> <li>• Attended U.S. PAC Meeting with Gord Harding(July 27, 2011)</li> <li>• Booked booth space (with WECEC) for EnviroExpo (November 2011)</li> <li>• Worked with Pearl, Al and Kris to implement DRCC Calendar Contest for Elementary age children, including attending event at Art Gallery August 3, 2011, and judging of submissions</li> <li>• Attended WECEC Pat on the Back Awards (August 9, 2011)</li> <li>• Obtained quotes for State of the Strait bus</li> <li>• Organized with City, CEA and ECFNC, Pêche Island Day</li> <li>• Developed, with help of EPI and PAC Members, text for EnviroTips Brochure</li> <li>• With Kris Ives' help, produced E-Newsletter, Update Website, Events Calendar and Facebook</li> </ul>
4. Maintenance and implementation of the DRCC Work Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Met with P/NPS WG Chairs to develop P/NPS Work Plan</li> <li>• Develop and implement an aesthetics survey to assess BUI “Degradation of Aesthetics”</li> <li>• Continue to receive data from WECHU and ERCA to begin assessment of BUI “Beach Closings”</li> <li>• Developing draft Septic Management Strategy for AOC</li> <li>• Review EPI 5 year work plan to develop project ideas for 2012-2013 work plan</li> </ul>
5. Manage expenditures against DRCC budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submit Cheque Requisitions and Expense Claims in a timely manner</li> <li>• Manage expenditures against the DRCC budget and General Ledger</li> </ul>
6. Other tasks as assigned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registered for 2011 IJC Biennial Meeting, October 11-14, Detroit MI</li> </ul>