

Ontario Invasive Plant Council Annual General Meeting – DRAFT Meeting Minutes
Toronto, Ontario
October 26, 2016
2:00 pm

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Call to order (2:00)
- Quorum present

2. Approval of the 2016 OIPC AGM Agenda

- No additions to the agenda

Motion: Be it resolved that the agenda of the Annual General Meeting held October 26, 2016 be approved. Moved by Iola Price. Seconded by Suzanne Hanna. All in favour. Carried (approved).

3. Approval of the 2015 OIPC AGM Minutes

- No comments or business arising.

Motion: Be it resolved that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held October 14, 2015 be approved. Moved by Iola Price. Seconded by Kathryn Norman. All in favour. Carried (approved).

4. President's Report for the 2015-16 Fiscal Year and a look ahead to 2016-17 (Iola Price, OIPC President)

- Iola Price gave an overview of key accomplishments by the OIPC in the 2015-16 fiscal year including, but not limited to:

- Big news that guided some of our thinking and our activities was the passage of the *Invasive Species Act* in November 2015 and the announcement that it will come into effect in November 2016. The next step was when the OMNRF published a draft **Guidance for Invasive Species Assessments under the Invasive Species Act 2015** and we provided detailed comments on that document. By and large, we thought it was a good start and we agree that a science-based risk assessment process is the appropriate way to go. We would like to see additional species listed as either Prohibited or Restricted in the near future.
- But that wasn't the only document that we reviewed and commented on. For the
 - Pollinator Health Action Plan,
 - Act to Protect and Restore the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin, and the
 - Conservation Authorities Act update,
 - We recommended greater recognition of the impact of invasive species, especially invasive plants and, in the case of Conservation Authorities, we recommended a greater role for the CAs in invasive plant management, together with an appropriate level of resourcing to do the job well.

Our staff performed many tasks:

- Updating the website (by contract and with a website committee)
- Eight well-attended and informative webinars

- Countless Outreach and Media activities – many of them on weekends including the Early Detection and Rapid Response workshops all around the province
- Workshops to assist municipalities to develop Invasive Plant Management Strategies
- Judging at the North American Envirothon
- Helping to organize the national Canadian Invasive Species Council workshop to develop National Priorities for Alien Invasive Species Management
- Shepherding through the ongoing update of our BMPs and the writing of two new ones

Future tasks include:

- Working with the OMNRF on initiatives related to the Invasive Species Act including workshops for municipalities to develop Invasive Plant Management Strategies
- Working to expand the activities of the committees
- Increasing the number of OIPC members – I would like to see everyone here at this meeting invite one person who is not currently an OIPC member to join us
- Increasing our funding base
- Working on Early Detection and Rapid Response initiatives including public outreach and training on invasive plant identification and management/control techniques
- Increasing awareness of the EDDMapS (Early Detection & Distribution Map System)
- Increase our presence on social media sites
- More BMPs and one-page information sheets
- Working on meeting your expectations as expressed in the membership survey
- Updating our Strategic Plan and our Bylaws

She also introduced the new board members including:

- Stephanie Burns, Forests Ontario
- Mike Farrell, Hydro One
- John Foster, Director at Large
- Mackenzie Lespérance, OMAFRA
- Francine MacDonald, OMNRF
- Kristina Pauk, CFIA
- Jon Peter, Royal Botanical Gardens
- Cara Webster, City of Toronto

She also said farewell and thank you to past board members including:

- Lindsay Barr, Royal Botanical Gardens
- Hugh Berges, OMAFRA
- David Coplestone, OMNRF
- Jennifer Gibb, City of Toronto
- Mary Gordon, Hydro One
- Erin Mallon, Ontario Nature
- Larry McDermott, Plenty Canada
- Diana Mooij, CFIA

- Kristen Obeid, OMAFRA
- Andrew Pitek, Forests Ontario

She also mentioned our vacancies:

- Ontario Nature
- Ontario Society for Ecological Restoration
- First Nations/Indigenous Peoples representation

She also mentioned the executive committee and the other board members:

- Ken Towle, VP
- John Urquhart, Treasurer
- Owen Williams, Secretary
- Mhairi McFarlane, Nature Conservancy of Canada
- Sandy Smith, University of Toronto
- John Benham, Ontario soil and Crop Improvement Association/Wellington County
- Dawn Sucee, Ontario Federation of Hunters and Anglers
- Jeanine West, Landscape Ontario
- Suzanne Hanna, Ontario Horticulture Association
- Michel Irvine, OMNRF
- Paula Berketo, Ministry of Transportation
- Karen Hartley, Ontario Parks
- Prabir Roy, Parks Canada

Iola Price asked the members if they would be interested in attending the OIPC's AGM in Ottawa in 2017. About half said Yes.

Motion: Be it resolved that the President's Report for the fiscal year 2015-2016 be accepted. Moved by Iola Price. Seconded by Mary Mallany. All in favour. Carried (approved).

5. Treasurer's Report for the 2015-16 Fiscal Year (John Urquhart, OIPC Treasurer)

- John provided a very brief Financial Statement summary and explained due to unforeseen delays, the final financial statement was not ready in time for the AGM.
- The good news is that the OIPC had \$15,000.00 in revenue.

Motion: Whereas unforeseen delays beyond the control of the OIPC led to the OIPCs inability to present an audited and final Financial Statement for the fiscal year 2015-16 to the Membership at the Annual General Meeting be it resolved that the Treasurer's draft Financial Statement for the fiscal year 2015-2016 be accepted. Moved by John Urquhart. Seconded by Jon Peter. All in favour. Carried (approved).

6. Presentation of the Auditor's Report for the 2015-16 Fiscal Year

- John Urquhart explained that unfortunately there were some unforeseen delays with the audit and that it will be presented digitally by the end of November. The members will have 21 days to review it and then the OIPC will hold a proxy vote for approval.

Motion: Whereas unforeseen delays beyond the control of the OIPC led to the OIPCs inability to present the Auditor's Report to the Membership 21 days prior to the Annual General meeting, be it resolved that the 2015-2016 Auditor's Report be presented to the membership by November 30, 2016 for a proxy vote, with a minimum notice of 21 days before members must submit their votes. Be it further resolved that the quorum rule for AGM voting apply to the vote (i.e. a minimum of 5% of the OIPC membership). Moved by John Urquhart. Seconded by Prabir Roy. All in favour. Carried (approved).

7. Appointment of the Auditor for 2016-17

- John explained that although the audit was not ready in time for the AGM, the auditor themselves are a very good company and the delay was also somewhat out of their hands. John recommended using this auditor again.

Motion: Whereas the delays leading to the production of the 2015-16 audit have been rectified, be it resolved that McColl Turner again be appointment to conduct the audit of the OIPCs finances for the fiscal year 2016-2017. Moved by John Urquhart. Seconded by Diana Shermet. All in favour. Carried (approved).

8. Review of the Annual Report (Ken Towle, OIPC Vice-President)

- Due to timing, Ken gave a very quick overview and encouraged everyone to read the report to further learn what activities the OIPC has been doing.

9. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Note: These resolutions were printed and signed at the meeting by those members who Moved and Seconded them. The paper copies are on file at the OIPC office in Peterborough, Ontario.