

Ontario Invasive Plant Council

March 20, 2014
Conference Call
10 am – 11:15am

Summary Notes

Board Members Attending:

Owen Williams, President & Member at Large
John Benham, Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association/ Wellington County
Dawn Sucee, Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters
Dr. Robert Simmons, Ontario Horticultural Association
Mary Gordon, Hydro One
Paula Berketo, Ministry of Transportation
Dan Kraus, Nature Conservancy of Canada
Jeanine West, Landscape Ontario
Iola Price, Member at Large
Andrew Pitek, Forests Ontario
John Urquhart, Ontario Nature
Ken Towle, Vice-President & Conservation Ontario
Sandy Smith, University of Toronto

Karen Hartley, OMNR – Parks
Elizabeth Wright, Ministry of Natural Resources
Kellie Sherman, OIPC staff
Rachel Gagnon, OIPC staff
Jeremy Downe, OMNR

Board Member Regrets

Larry McDermott, Plenty Canada
Hugh Berges, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
Lindsay Barr, Royal Botanical Gardens
Jennifer Gibb, City of Toronto
Diana Mooij, Canadian Food Inspection Agency
Michael Irvine, OMNR – Forest Health and Silviculture

Agenda items

Agenda items include:

- **Ontario Invasive Species Act – Jeremy Downe, OMNR - Guest**
- **Review action items from the last meeting**
- **Constitution and Bylaws – Owen**
- **Staff and project updates – Rachel and Kellie**

1. Jeremy Downe, OMNR, Presented on the proposed invasive species act for Ontario.

Jeremy spoke for approximately 35 minutes about the proposed Invasive Species Act. There were some questions/ comments from the group throughout to clarify some points as well as a short discussion at the end.

Some members on the call will be submitting comments from their organizations.

There is a stakeholder information session on the proposed act being held in Toronto. Registration is required to attend this event.

Action: Rachel to send the invitation to the board and OIPC members. Sent this out after the call.

Thoughts from the directors: The background information is posted on our webpage and the discussion forum is open for thoughts from our Board and members. We will take comments from our partners in order to provide our comments to the EBR.

ACTION: ALL to provide your comments for the EBR to Rachel (or on the discussion forum) by April 7th .

ACTION: Rachel to submit comments by April 14th.

2. Review action items from the last meeting.

ACTION: Owen to update the changes to the Constitution and Bylaws.

ACTION: Rachel and the executive will review the first changes and provide comment. The document will be updated again and forwarded to the rest of the Board for review. This document is on the OIPC website forum.

ACTION: Rachel to send a call for nominations for members-at-large tomorrow or Monday, ensuring that the requirements for those nominated are stated clearly in the email. Member at large votes have been calculated and Iola and Owen will continue as MAL for the next 2 years.

ACTION: Rachel to update the website with committee minutes. Minutes are up to date on our website.

Action: Rachel to check on future funding projects. Ongoing

3. Constitution and bylaws

There was not a lot of time in today's meeting to discuss this at length. The updated version has been posted to the discussion forum on the OIPC website, this version has all the comments accepted and there are a handful of items that need to be discussed. If everyone could log on and go through these items, the document can be updated again.

The program is quite easy to use.

ACTION: Rachel to enter Iola's comments into the discussion forum. They have been added.

ACTION: ALL to review the constitution and bylaws document on the OIPC discussion forum and provide comment.

4. Brief Staff updates

Rachel:

- Project reports have been submitted to ISC.
 - BMPs: Wild parsnip, Honeysuckles
 - Phragmites sign
 - Workshops for landowners and practitioners
 - Look Before You Leave expansion
- Project report is being finalized for our non-consulting work with MNR
 - BMP Webinars (7)
 - Phragmites website
- Sent out a survey in partnership with the MNR to find out the use of invasive species strategic plans being used in the province. This information will help guide future development of a strategic plan.
- Working on our contract work with Canadian council.
 - Horticultural action plan
 - Weeds across borders
 - Council constitution and bylaws
- Helped to develop some COA proposals
 - Phragmites workshop
 - Risk Assessments for new invasive aquatic plants
 - Aquatic plant watch list training module

Kellie:

- Presented at the Alberta invasive species AGM.
- Attended the Canadian council meeting, will provide information (minutes or material) about the meeting to anyone interested.
- Working on the aquatic invasive plant BMP project

Other items:

TIPS conference is being held in Mississauga, August 6th 7th 8th. This conference's focus is on invasive plant research.

Milkweed is going to be taken out of the noxious weed act and DSV will be added to the list.

NEXT MEETING**April 24th 10am – Conference Call**

Call in: 1-800-669-6180

Access: 302035