



**Ontario Invasive Plant Council
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
March 15, 2018
10-11 am**

Agenda Item 2

<p>Present Iola Price, President & Director at Large Ken Towle, Conservation Ontario Owen Williams, Past President/Secretary & Director-at-Large John Urquhart, OIPC Treasurer & Director at Large Mike Farrell, Hydro One Suzanne Hanna, Ontario Horticultural Association Michael Irvine, OMNRF Francine MacDonald, OMNRF Mhairi McFarlane, Nature Conservancy of Canada Kristen Obeid, OMAFRA Jon Peter, Royal Botanical Gardens Prabir Roy, Parks Canada Sandy Smith, University of Toronto Jeanine West, Landscape Ontario Chris Craig, Plenty Canada John Foster, Director-at-Large Colin Cassin, OIPC Coordinator - Staff Belinda Junkin, Executive Director - Staff</p>	<p>Regrets by Pre-arrangement or Later Notification Diana Mooij, CFIA Paula Berketo, Ministry of Transportation Tanya Pulfer, Ontario Nature Stephanie Burns, Forests Ontario Cara Webster, City of Toronto Absent – no notification John Benham, Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association</p>
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1. Approval of Agenda

Iola noted that agenda items 3.1 and 3.4 were identical so 3.4 was dropped/

Motion: Adoption of the amended agenda was moved by Iola. Motion seconded by Owen Williams. All in favour; Motion carried.

2. Approval of February 2018) meeting minutes

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Motion: Moved by Iola Price that the edited minutes be approved. Seconded by Prabir Roy. All in favour; Motion carried.

3. Review of last meeting's action items and unfinished business

Iola thanked Mike Farrell for attending the Shifting the Paradigm meeting in Toronto (see item 3.3) representing both Hydro One and Colin Cassin who was unable to attend for OIPC.

Iola Noted that the OIPC would not attend the Go Wild Grow Wild meeting in London as no OIPC member or staff is available and all the available booth space has been allocated to other participants.

3.1: Achieving a full complement of Directors At Large

Belinda Junkin reported that work is ongoing on updating the membership and mailing lists and when that is finished, she will be able to send out the call for nomination for the fifth Director-at-large position. A notice will come to all Directors to forward to their contacts in search for nominations

ACTION: Continue to work on the membership database for renewal updates and updating the 600-person contact list.

ACTION: Finalize call for D-a-L nomination and sent to members and the contact list.

3.2 Report on Meeting with Minister Des Rosiers 27 February in Toronto (Iola Price)

See the provided report sent out with the Agenda. There will be excellent follow-up opportunities and Iola can work with local groups in the Minister's Ottawa riding to ensure invasive plants are not used in their gardens. Minister has a good familiarity with the IS Act and it seems that OMNRF is hesitant to add too many species to the regulations.

John Foster brought up the province's action to weaken the Endangered Species Act, which in turn reduces the opportunities to control invasives that impact on SAR. Jon Peter noted that we should watch this closely. Francine MacDonald was unable to comment on the issue but will speak to colleagues in another part of OMNRF regarding the potential for invasive plant species to have adverse impacts on native and endangered plants. Board members discussed and shared information about a disturbing list of actions that relate to allowing biodiversity offsetting and damage or destruction of habitat that would not necessarily benefit SAR species.

Chris Craig noted that we require more linkages particularly between biodiversity offsetting, Pathway 1, SAR and Invasives. The Ministry needs to work harder at making the linkages among these related issues for the benefit of the environment and the Ministry also needs to follow up to ensure the biodiversity offset is really working for the SAR species in question.

ACTION: Francine MacDonald to forward a question to the appropriate SAR office in OMNRF to inquire about changes to the ES Act with implications regarding negative impacts on to invasives.

ACTION: Chris Craig will contact Indigenous colleagues and draft something that the Board can review and consider ways to adapt it and subsequently making a statement.

3.3 Report on Event attended: *Shifting the Paradigm- Growing the native Plant Industry for Innovation and Collaboration* (sponsored by World Wildlife Fund Canada and Carolinian Canada)

Mike Farrell attended this event both as a representative of Hydro One and OIPC substituting for Colin Cassin on a panel on how industry can collaborate with partners. He reviewed the meeting's purpose, content and outcomes. There were about 150 people (NGOs, plant growers and sellers, municipalities (including Cara Webster, Toronto) and governments departments present. He noted the presence of social investors looking to put money into biodiversity initiatives. He provided a quick overview of the OIPC at start and then spoke regarding the role of industry related to the topic of using native species (particularly native seed) from local native plant nurseries. Hydro One is interested in exploring the use of transmission corridors to increase biodiversity and pollinator habitat. A useful perspective was provided on the utility of using regional genotypes in seed mixtures. This excellent event provided an opportunity for discussions among the attendees later.

Chris Craig reported on his work with the South Nation CA and farmers to promote use of native grasses in riparian areas (2 km of drainage ditches). Trees/shrubs are planted on one side and native

grasses along the other. The CA does the planting, the farmer collects the seed and sells it and agrees to sustain the plantings for 15 years.

ACTION: Chris to provide the board (via Belinda) a copy of the SNCA proposal on this initiative.

ACTION: Iola Price will provide a list of native grass species (Ottawa Valley area) that she uses to Chris, John Foster and Owen Williams.

4. OIPC Finances

4.1 Financial Update Third Quarter – (John Urquhart) – deferred until April.

John Urquhart explained that he can't present a quarterly update as OFAH has the data and he hasn't had the time to schedule a meeting with them to get it. He would not want to provide a written financial statement that was misleading but he is confident that our revenues and expenditures are pretty much on track (actually a bit of savings on salary).

4.2 2018-19 Draft Budget (to be presented in April)

ACTION: Third quarter Financial Statement review will be carried over to April

ACTION: Draft 2018-2019 budget to be presented in April

5. Staff Report No 26 – oral (Belinda Junkin and Colin Cassin)

5.1 It has been an extremely busy month for Belinda and Colin with lots of calls and emails asking for publications and information, preparing for the move from OFAH and setting up the new office, the Purple Loosestrife webinar and out-of-town talks. Other activities included preparing for and meeting with the Minister of NRF, preparing the Transfer Payment report, leading on Invasive Species Week (32 organizations involved), going over the OIPC financial data and staffing the Liaison position (reviewing and winnowing applications, the interviews).

Activities in the coming month include attending the Invasive Species Forum, attending the EDRR meeting on April 4, leading the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid bus tour to visit an infested site in Rochester NY (an EDRR event). We plan to have an Open House at the new office and this would be an opportunity for a face-to-face board meeting.

Colin thanked the board for the gift of a turtle night light for his new child, Ellie.

Belinda presented a draft Excel spreadsheet with OIPC planned activities; Directors are encouraged to input their activities into it and return it to her on a monthly basis. This will form part of the background data for our Annual Report. John Foster wondered if the spreadsheet could be posted on our website

ACTION: Consider developing a way to put this on our website and ensure that Directors keep it up to date

6. Committee Updates

No updates.

7. New Business & Board Member Activities

7.1 Owen will be speaking at the Niagara Woodlot Association in April;

Owen mentioned a new approach to social funding, originated by Carolinian Canada, and now being rolled out by London-based Pillar non-profit support organization. The city of London ON is still pursuing

the potential to have Hypena moths reared and released and SilvEcon is waiting to hear if the Invasive Species Centre will provide a grant this year for work on DSV and Phragmites biocontrol. They are hoping to get OMAFRA involved in the funding; the project is delayed because Trillium is revising the grant process.

ACTION: Owen and Sandy to continue providing updates on the biocontrol projects in London and the social enterprise funding initiative.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:05 am.

Next meeting: April 19, 2018.

Agenda item No.	Details of Action to be taken	Who - Lead/Assisting	Due
September 2017			
5	Post approved invasive plant management strategies on website when ready	Colin	When they are ready and available
6.2	Look into Great Lakes and IJC funding	Kellie	In progress
7.1	Find a replacement for Karen Hartley	Iola Price and Francine MacDonald	ASAP in progress
October 2017			
4	Create a list of stakeholders and funders and when and how we need to communicate with them	Belinda and Colin	December
10	Begin creating an elevator speech and PowerPoint presentation so each board member can use it to show case OIPC	Belinda and Colin	December
November 2017			
7.3	Follow-up with Volunteer Ottawa re: training webinar, time, cost etc.	Iola	December Completed
8.1	Send link to Big Picture Strategy	Owen	December
December 2017			
3	Post some AGM comments on the website	Colin	January
5	Kellie and Chris to continue potential workshop	Kellie and Chris	Ongoing
January 2018			
3	Follow-up with Volunteer Ottawa re: training webinar, time, cost etc.	Iola	January Completed
5	Letter to Kathryn McGarry offering congratulations on move to Minister of Transport and note importance of controlling <i>Phragmites</i> and other invasive plants along Ontario's highways		March
5	Municipal Strategy Workshop & Hemlock Woolly Adelgid tour. Send information to Board	Colin	January

	members so that they can forward this information onto key contacts.		
February 2018			
3	Prepare the call for nominations for the 5 th Director at large position, circulate nominations to the Executive for review and prepare the ballot with an explanation about acclimation of John Urquhart and Owen Williams as two D-a-Ls	Iola Price and Belinda Junkin	ASAP
4	Present Third Quarter Financial Statement review	John Urquhart	March meeting
7.2	Report on meeting with OMNRF Minister Des Rosiers	Iola Price	March meeting
7.5	Report on CCC initiatives including proposal for <i>Hypena</i> moth release	Owen Williams	Ongoing
March 2018			
3.1	Continue to work on the membership database for renewal updates and updating the 600-person contact list for use in sending out call for D-a-L Finalize call for D-a-L nomination and sent to members and the contact list.	Belinda Junkin, Colin Cassin Belinda Junkin, Colin Cassin	Ongoing/ASAP
3.2	Forward a question to the appropriate SAR office in OMNRF to inquire about changes to the ES Act with implications regarding negative impacts on to invasives.	Francine MacDonald	April
3.2	Contact Indigenous colleagues and draft something that the Board can review in regard to SAR and biodiversity offsetting etc. and consider ways to adapt it and subsequently making a statement.	Chris Craig	April
4.1	Third quarter Financial Statement review will be carried over to April	John Urquhart, Belinda Junkin	April
4.2	Draft 2018-2019 budget to be presented in April	John Urquhart, Belinda Junkin	April
5.1	Consider developing a way to put this on our website and ensure that Directors keep it up to date	Belinda Junkin, Colin Cassin	May
7.1	Owen and Sandy to continue providing updates on the biocontrol projects in London and the social enterprise funding initiative	Owen Williams, Sandy Smith	Ongoing