

# 2023 Ontario Phragmites Working Group Meeting

The 2023 OPWG conference theme is **Building Resilient Communities!** This year we will showcase a community approach to Invasive Phragmites management through building resilient communities and broadening perspectives to foster coordinated action towards the control and management of this invasive plant.

This year's conference will encourage people to work together towards healthy ecosystems and biodiversity in a changing climate. It will provide an opportunity to explore strategies, programs, partnerships, knowledge and research that shape and build resilient management of Invasive Phragmites.

---

## Agenda

---

**Date**                Wednesday, January 25, 2023

**Time**                9:00am-5:00pm EST

**Location**            *Virtually hosted on Remo.co (Registration required at*  
<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/2023-oipc-conference-opwg-meeting-registration-451979371467> )

---

## Schedule

Time	Speaker	Presentation Title
9:00am	System Opens	
9:10-9:30	Janice Gilbert and Gabby Nichols, Co-Chairs Ontario Phragmites Working Group  Belinda Junkin, Executive Director Ontario Invasive Plant Council  Ontario Invasive Plant Council	OIPC and OPWG Introduction and Welcome      Introduction to Remo (How-To)
9:30-9:50	Mary Lou and Dan Smoke	Indigenous Opening Prayer and Welcome
Keynote Presentation		
9:50-10:40	Rebecca Rooney, University of Waterloo	Keynote Presentation
10:40-10:50	Networking Break	
Science Update		
10:50-11:10	Michael McTavish, University of Toronto, Agriculture and Agri-food Canada	Overview of the first four years of biological control of introduced Phragmites in Ontario
11:10-11:30	Claire Schon, University of Waterloo	Biological control of invasive Phragmites australis: first-year releases and plans for long-term plant community monitoring

11:30-11:50	Jersey Allyson Fontz, University of Waterloo	Leveraging priority effects to resist biological invasion: Marsh organs
11:50-12:10	Grace Lew-Kowal, University of Waterloo	Novel approach to Invasive Plant Management
12:10- 12:40	Lunch Break and Project Slideshow Reel	
12:40-12:50	Dave Hunter, Crown Bees, Washington State	Use of Phragmites stalks as pollinator homes
Community Engagement		
12:50-1:05	Nicole Carpenter, Georgian Bay Forever	Invasive Phragmites Eradication for the Health of the Water and Wetlands
1:05-1:20	Hamsha Pathmanathan, Canadian Wildlife Service	Landscape-level management of invasive Phragmites australis on federal lands in the Long Point Region: Successes and future directions after four years of management
First Nations Engagement, Knowledge, and Perspectives		
1:20 –2:10	Panelists: Elder Lorenzo Whetung, Elder Kim Muskratt, Elder Tom Cowie, and Danalynn Williams Facilitated by: Francis Chua and Kayla Wright	First Nations interactive panel discussion
2:10-2:30	Networking Break	
Province-wide Project Updates		
2:30-2:45	Tom Cowan, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks & Jacob Kloeze, Nature Conservancy of Canada	Aquatic Extermination Permitting
2:45-3:00	Brad Hayhoe, BASF	Habitat Aqua Update
3:00-3:15	<i>Speaker TBC</i>	Roadway Management Update
3:15-3:50	Sarah Rang and Colin Cassin, Invasive Species Centre & Eric Cleland, Nature Conservancy of Canada	Green Shovels Update including genetic testing, Phragmites fund, and Phragmites guidebook.
3:50-4:05	Samantha Tank, Great Lakes Phragmites Collaborative	Great Lakes Phragmites Collaborative Update
4:05-4:30	Janice Gilbert and Gabby Nichols, Co-Chairs Ontario Phragmites Working Group  Belinda Junkin, Executive Director Ontario Invasive Plant Council	Interactive discussion & closing remarks
4:30-5:00	Mix and Mingle	
5:00	Online Meeting Closes	