



AUGUST 22, 2007

NOTICE
Committee Composition Confirmed
Ausable Bayfield and Maitland Valley Source Protection Committee (SPC)
Under O. Reg. 288/07, Clean Water Act, 2006

Summary of Functions for Committee:

As outlined in the *Clean Water Act, 2006*, the Ausable Bayfield and Maitland Valley Source Protection Committee will be created according to provincial regulation. The Source Protection Committee will oversee a science-based planning process to develop a Source Protection Plan to protect municipal sources of drinking water in the Ausable Bayfield and Maitland Valley Planning Region. The Committee, by regulation, will be comprised of 15 members, excluding the Chair. The Joint Management Committee for the Source Protection Authority, with consideration to written submissions on the committee composition, has assigned the seats to represent the multi-sectoral interests of this planning region. The Committee gave consideration to what groups impact drinking water and what groups are impacted by drinking water.

Description of Composition:

As per Section 2 of O. Reg 288/07,

- 1/3 of the members must reflect the interests of the local municipalities,
- 1/3 of the members must reflect the interests of agriculture, commerce, industry, and small business,
- 1/3 of the members must reflect other interests including environmental, health and other public interests.

The composition of the committee is listed below:

Municipal Sector
Municipal (5)

Economic Sector
Agricultural (3)
Commercial (Business/Tourism) (1)
Industry/Manufacturing (1)

Other Interests
Environmental (2)
Landowner/Property (1)
Public at Large (2)

Composition Rationale: Local municipalities reached a broad consensus that elected officials should hold the position of the one-third municipal representation. Municipalities that are located in whole in part of the Ausable Bayfield and Maitland Valley Source Protection Region agreed to divide the planning region into five regional municipal groups and have one assigned member of the Source Protection Committee for each regional group.

For the economic sector, agriculture is one of the leading economic sectors locally, representing a significant percentage of land area. This sector has expressed a keen interest in participating, offers unique expertise in land use and stewardship, and is consequently assigned three seats on the committee. Manufacturing and Industry is also a leading economic engine with specific interest and input and consequently merits its own seat on the Committee. In addition, commerce is also a major local economic sector. Small businesses have their own distinct interest related to the project and water quality is a specific interest of tourism, therefore, a seat will be reserved for the business and tourism sectors.

For other public interest sectors, one seat is allocated to the health sector because of its role in water issues and network within the community. Landowners and property associations have a vested interest in land use policies and are assigned a seat. As well, the nature of the project and need for environmental and ecological expertise merits two seats for environmental groups. Lastly, there is a seat reserved for a member of the public at-large who does not participate as a representative of a specific sector of interest.

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