



## **Agenda**

Coordination Committee

Monday, May 8, 2023, 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Online, Cisco Webex

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### **Present**

Dr. Bruce Newbold (Chair), McMaster University  
Abigail Amponsah, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Alison Carlyle, Planning and Economic Development, City of Hamilton  
Dr. Charles Hostovsky, Citizen  
Dr. Denis Corr, Corr Research  
Gas Gebara, ArcelorMittal Dofasco  
Geoffrey Knapper, Hamilton Industrial Environmental Association  
George McKibbon, McKibbon & Wakefield Inc.  
Grace Higgins, Healthy and Safe Communities, City of Hamilton  
Ian Borsuk, Environment Hamilton  
Julie Wedzinga, Stelco  
Kerry Leclair, Ward 3 Councillor Nann's Office, City of Hamilton  
Liesel Knight-Messenger, Green Venture  
Lucas Neil, Ausenco  
Mackenzie Whitten, Green Venture  
Natalie Stacey, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Nico Strabec, Mohawk College Centre for Climate Change Management  
Olivia Crowdy, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Pascale Marchand, Ward 4 Councillor Hwang's Office, City of Hamilton  
Phoebe Tung, Health Canada  
Reed Ciarloni, McMaster University  
Sally Radisic, Healthy and Safe Communities, City of Hamilton  
Sara Yonson, Hamilton Oshawa Port Authority  
Stefanie Ferraro, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Timothy Hung, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks

### **Regrets**

Barry Duffey, Citizen  
Matthew Lawson, Healthy and Safe Communities, City of Hamilton  
Shelley Rogers, Healthy and Safe Communities, City of Hamilton  
Trevor Imhoff, Planning and Economic Development, City of Hamilton

## 1. Introductions & Welcome

## 2. Land Acknowledgement

The City of Hamilton is situated upon the traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Mississaugas. This land is covered by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, which was an agreement between the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabek to share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. We further acknowledge that this land is covered by the Between the Lakes Purchase, 1792, between the Crown and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.

Today, the City of Hamilton is home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island (North America) and we recognize that we must do more to learn about the rich history of this land so that we can better understand our roles as residents, neighbours, partners and caretakers ([source](#)).

## 3. Approval of April 17, 2023 Minutes

Approved

### Presentations:

#### 4. Active Transportation and Air Quality Awareness (20 minutes), Reed Ciarloni, McMaster University



Ciarloni, Reed-CAH  
Presentation.pdf

### Discussion

- [Portland State University initiative](#) for bicycle and pedestrian innovation was recommended as a model for similar work.
- What was the sample size for the survey? 200 – it was a volunteer sample, disseminated through posters around the city and advertised online.
- Comment that a generation ago air quality was a much more significant concern – has it improved so much that cyclists don't even think about it?
- Was socioeconomic status taken into consideration? Some people will bike or walk to work regardless of AQHI, might not have another means of transportation. Most of the sample was higher earning and well-educated, did not find correlation between socioeconomic status and AQHI checking.
- Are there online tools for individuals to determine the lowest pollution route of choice? Used to be a mapping tool in Vancouver that's not longer funded. London, England has [an app for residents](#) to determine least polluted route. Google map layer with AQHI is available in US but not Canada.

5. [Fresh Air for Kids 2022 Project Report](#) (20 minutes), Liesel Knight-Messenger & Mackenzie Whitten, Green Venture

**Discussion**

- A kit is also being developed at the provincial level with Green Communities Canada but not yet launched.
- Reminder that Clean Air Day will be held on June 7 from 4-7 pm at Bernie Custis Secondary School, students have made videos that will be screened and there will also be guest speakers.
- Discussion regarding challenges of enforcing idling by-laws in Hamilton as well as Toronto.

6. **Overview of MECP Air Monitoring Data Review (20 minutes), Natalie Stacey, Abigail Amponsah & Tim Hung, MECP**



MECP Air  
Monitoring Data Ov

**Discussion**

- Just before Easter the province released [proposed 2023 Provincial Planning Statement](#) which revises many policies with respect to land use compatibility with one of the key issues being public health and safety. It seems some exceedances would have public health and safety implications. Any considerations for how municipalities could use this data to implement public health and safety requirements of Provincial Planning Statement guidelines? Can the exceedance counts be used to assess land use compatibility required in various draft PPS 2023 policies?
  - Exceedance counts are used to get a sense of trends and level of exceedances. In a given area even if the exceedance level is low, if number over time are increasing it will be flagged to district and focus will be made on that area to determine issues.
  - MECP is not lead for PPS, so not a lot of involvement but will take it back. Although information is publicly available, the data it is very focused on Hamilton's industrial area. Data is collected from MECP on ambient locations, but the info is quite different than the exceedance counts Abigail outlined. Would be a great opportunity potentially to speak to for the future. The focus of this presentation is more on industrial data and the info at ambient locations will differ significantly.
- Clarification that HAMN is an independent third party, with assistance provided by Rotek.
- What were the three criteria that are evaluated when determining when to issue a low poor air quality notification? AQHI above a set threshold, whether or not the number is driven by level of particulates and if it is, confirming meteorological

conditions to determine whether an inversion is occurring in Hamilton during that period.

- Regarding managing outliers in the data set – how is that handled? There is an [Operations Manual for Air Quality Monitoring in Ontario](#) that is followed by industry and MECP and sets out steps to validate data. As far as statistical analysis, box plots are used to pin point the source. If you can't identify source of an outlier what do you do? There is a long period of data in Hamilton, so we know the standard deviation and can clearly see when there's an outlier. When there is something abnormal, contact Rotek and validate data point – is it an instrumentation issue? Is this number reasonable for this type of contaminant? Once confirmed that it is a valid number, might contact company to see if there was a spill or abnormal event for example.
- HAMN's 2021 Annual Air Quality Monitoring Report is expected to be released on their [website](#) in the next couple of weeks. There were a couple of data issues that caused a delay.
- Is the HAMN data correlated with the applicable standards? The standards are listed on the HAMN Network website, in some cases you would need to download the data and compare it yourself.
- Has CAH considered adding a health scale similar to [Clean Air Sarnia and Area's monitoring website](#)?
  - The MECP has recommended it to HAMN, it would be great to see as it makes the information more easily digestible. Would be best to contact Neil Buonocore the HAMN Administrator to discuss.
  - HAMN network operates significantly different than the CASA website, HAMN is industry partners that contract a monitoring firm to get the data. Further dialogue would be helpful, there is a challenge with HAMN not having expertise to provide level of interpretation that is provided on CASA.
- Clarification that continuous benzene monitoring was recently deployed in January 2023 to St Christopher's Park. Not publicly reported yet but the MECP is considering it as a long-term option if that monitoring station will remain in place indefinitely.

## Discussion Items:

### 7. In-person Meeting Space - Room 192/193 update (Grace Higgins)

Room 192/193 previously used by this group was recently equipped with hybrid meeting A/V equipment including microphones and video so we will be able to hold our June in-person meeting in that space with a hybrid option via Webex as usual for those who cannot attend. We will see how the June meeting goes but plan to also meet in person in September and November.

### Roundtable Updates

#### **Alison Carlyle**

- Bike Day will be held on June 1 in the City Hall forecourt. [More info.](#)

- Open streets will be held June 18. John to Gage Ave will be temporary linear urban park. [More info.](#)

#### **Denis Corr**

- Currently working in connection to new SO2 requirements and very actively involved in Fresh Air for Kids which grew out of the mobile monitoring program

#### **Charles Hostovsky**

- Will be attending 1<sup>st</sup> annual Futures Forum this Wednesday May 10 at University of Waterloo – free event, interface between public engagement and technology. [More info.](#)

#### **Gas Gebara**

- Would like to encourage dialogue and collaboration with MECP regarding continuous monitoring of benzene

#### **George McKibbin**

- Reminder regarding [proposed 2023 Provincial Planning Statement](#), comments due in June with expectation they'll be implemented in fall this year.

#### **Natalie Stacey**

- Welcome to Olivia Crowdy a co op student who will join us for future meetings.

#### **Nico Strabac**

- Homes Hamilton retrofit program approved by GIC. A loan-based financing program supported by COH that incentivizes dwellings to undertake energy efficient measures with goals of reducing GHG emissions and increasing energy efficiency and comfort. Program design and funding to support 50 home pilot program both approved.

#### **Phoebe Tung**

- New AQHI learning module available in partnership with Sports Information Resource Centre. Modules cover the impacts of outdoor air quality and how to plan outdoor sporting events <https://sirc.ca/air-quality-and-sport/>

#### **Grace Higgins**

- Hosting a Clean Air Hamilton table at Green Venture's Clean Air Day from 4:00-7:30 at Bernie Custis, anyone interested in volunteering at the table welcome to join us
- Still awaiting updates from Procurement regarding CAH Funding RFP posting, will notify all members when it is posted

#### **Next meeting**

**June 12, 2023**

**3:00-5:00pm**

**Hamilton City Hall, Room 192/193**