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**Meeting Minutes**

Monday, May 13, 2024, 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Cisco Webex

**Present**

Barry Duffey, Chair

Bruce Newbold, McMaster University

Dennis Corr, Corr Environmental

George McKibbon, McKibbon Wakefield

Howard Pakosh, Piera Systems

Kristina Rudzki, MECP

Julie Wedzinga, Stelco

Lucas Neil, Stantec

Manal Chaudhry, City of Hamilton

Mackenzie Whitten, Green Venture

Matt Parsons, Environment and Climate Change Canada

Nathan VanBelois, BASES

Nancy Hurst, Ward 12 Councillor Office

Natalie Stacey, MECP

Pascale Marchand, Ward 4 Councillor Office

Phoebe Tung, Health Canada

Sally Radisic, City of Hamilton

Sandy Herkimer, Niagara College

Sara Yonson, Hamilton Port Authority

Shelley Rogers, City of Hamilton

Tara Barrows, Health Canada

Tim Hung, MECP

Trevor Imhoff, City of Hamilton

Zoe Davis, Environment and Climate Change Canada

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](https://www.hamilton.ca/sites/default/files/media/browser/2021-01-29/land-acknowlegement-toolkit-guide-2021.pdf)).

**Presentations:**

1. **Organic compound monitoring from biomass burning (20 minutes) Dr. Arthur Chan, University of Toronto**

* Is the data on third hand smoke published?
  + Links to published studies:
  + <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2950362024000031>
  + <https://pubs.rsc.org/en/content/articlelanding/2023/ea/d2ea00155a>
* Have any studies looked at metal particles from vaping? As vape pens age or if they are badly made, they may shed metals
  + The study was limited for metals since participants were asked to bring in their own device
* The US EPA has done research on at-home filters for wildfire smoke. Has your team or others at UofT done similar research?
  + We should study while we are coming up with solutions
  + We know that homemade air purifiers work, we can start promoting these
  + VOCs are harder to remove from the air, these are removed using charcoal that removes VOCs
* Comment from Health Canada
  + There are wildfire resources that will be coming out soon from Health Canada
  + The best match for an air purifier is to look out for one that addresses cigarette smoke, as this will apply to wildfire smoke. Keep in mind the price as well as the room area that the purifier is used in
  + The number of filter changes will depend on the location
* Were residents of Fort McMurry in 2016, were directives provided for how to clean their homes?
  + A lot of guidance came from Canadian Red Cross using FireWash to clean
  + Additional stories came out of duct cleaning companies that did not clean properly
* Have you or anyone else looked at mercury release levels
  + Colin Cooke at Alberta Environment and Parks has looked at mercury release from wildfires

**Discussion Items:**

1. **Community Experiences: an opportunity to share local air quality experiences, All (10 minutes)**

* Piera Systems has began to put in smoke and vape detectors into hotels for monitoring of healthy spaces

1. **Roundtable Updates: an opportunity to share with CAH participants events or updates that relate to CAH and that you are engaged in, All (10 minutes)**

* Barry Duffey
  + Upwind Downwind is in June, so the next Clean Air Hamilton meeting will be in July
  + There will be a survey sent to gauge interest in returning meetings to in-person
* Links from Health Canada:
  + <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/air-quality/indoor-air-contaminants/choosing-portable-purifier.html>
  + <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/health/healthy-living/environment/air-quality/wildfire-smoke/protecting-your-physical-mental-health.html>
* Trevor Imhoff:
  + Upcoming open streets events with OCCI booth in Hamilton, linked here <https://www.hamilton.ca/home-neighbourhood/getting-around/streets-sidewalks/open-streets>
  + The Ontario geo-thermal association is having a conference on Wednesday May 29th at Mohawk college, linked here: <https://ogaconference.com/sponsors/>
* Tim Hung:
  + Figures for 2022 data from MECP should be available soon
* Mackenzie Whitten:
  + Green Venture is hosting Clean Air Day on June 5th at Hamilton Central Library

**Next meeting**

**July 8th, 2024 3:00-5:00pm City Hall & WebEx**