



**Ontario Invasive Plant Council
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2016 3:00 to 4:00 pm**

<p><u>Present</u> Iola Price, President & Director at Large Ken Towle, Vice-President & Conservation Ontario John Foster, Director at Large Suzanne Hanna, Ontario Horticultural Association Kellie Sherman, OIPC Staff Colin Cassin, OIPC Staff Dawn Sucee, Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters Stephanie Burns, Forests Ontario Kristina Pauk, Canadian Food Inspection Agency Jeanine West, Landscape Ontario Jon Peter, Royal Botanical Gardens Francine MacDonald, Biodiversity - OMNRF Jeremy Downe, OMNRF Paula Berketo, Ministry of Transportation Mike Farrell, Hydro One John Benham, Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association Cara Webster, City of Toronto Kristie Clarke, MNRF</p>	<p><u>Regrets</u> Prabir Roy, Parks Canada Sandy Smith, University of Toronto (pre-arranged) Mackenzie Lespérance, OMAFRA (pre-arranged) Michael Irvine, OMNRF – Crown Forests and Lands Policy Branch – Forest Guides and Silviculture Karen Hartley, OMNRF – Conservation Policy Branch - Protected Areas John Urquhart, OIPC Treasurer & Director at Large Mhairi McFarlane, Nature Conservancy of Canada (pre-arranged) Owen Williams, Past President/Secretary & Director at Large (pre-arranged) Allison Marinich, OIPC Staff</p>
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1 Approval of Agenda

Motion: Moved by Iola Price that the agenda be approved. Seconded by John Foster. [All in favour.]
Carried.

2 Approval of last meeting minutes (September 2016)

Motion: Moved by Iola Price that the minutes be approved. Seconded by John Foster. [All in favour.]
Carried.

3 Review of last meeting’s action items (see background document)

ACTION: All to review the last meeting’s action items and email Kellie if you have completed any.

4 Invasive Species Act discussion with Jeremy Downe, Invasive Species Program and Policy Advisor, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

- There were 25 comments submitted on the last EBR posting. Half were from individuals, half were from other organizations.
- Most comments were generally supportive, but there was a strong desire to add other species and there are concerns of species in trade such as parrotfeather, as well as infrastructure concerns around depositing and releasing species.

- Recommendations are now with the Minister's office, with some proposed changes to some regulations. No new species will be added at this time, but they will consider suggested ones for future risk assessments.
- The regulations will be filed on or before November 3 2016.
- The next step is to hold another public consultation opportunity in an effort to identify the next round of species that should undergo a risk assessment and possibly be listed, as well as comments on potential carriers.
- The MNRF is exploring the idea of forming advisory councils for various purposes suggested, like identifying next species to be listed, provincial management plans etc.
- The initial 16 species listed as prohibited were from the Council of Great Lakes Governors least wanted list. Initial first step and the restricted species were listed because of the widespread awareness of them.
- There are no decided timelines as to when and how often new species will be added.

In the MNRFs risk assessment description, they said they are going to make a list of potential invasive species, but there are lists that already exist. Will OIPC have an opportunity to comment on this new list?

- There are many lists out there, the MNRF needs to identify these and the gaps, and which species should be prioritized for listing. Any species that is considered to be listed must have a risk assessment completed for it as well, and they are a lot of work. The MNRF is going to try and work with as many partners as possible to help with this.
- The goal is to get a large list in manageable format, then a plan for which species to undertake a risk assessment-
- A discussion paper will be put forth to stakeholders and the public in the future (late Fall 2016) requesting thoughts on how listing future species will take place
 - o Jeremy noted that at this time the intent is to list somewhere near 20-30 species annually

Are the risk assessments for the listed species thus far available?

- The intent is to post summaries of them on the government website soon, but have hit some roadblocks.

ACTION: Jeremy to send these to the OIPC and we can share them with whomever, but not to post online yet.

In regards to the restricted species, it's not clear of whether or not the MNRF is going to force anyone to control these, since they're so widespread, is the MNRF working on a plan to determine when enforcement would require removal?

- The MNRF is working on some internal policy as to when they would enforce removal or provide support where removal should occur. In the second EBR posting, stakeholders were asked to specifically comment on whether or not the Invaded Place Order should be assigned to the restricted species. If it was, it would mean enforcement would have the authority to issue an order to someone to remove a restricted species. However, based on feedback, most were not in favour of this, so it is unlikely this will occur.

How is the Act going to coordinate with other Acts, like the Weed Control Act and the Noxious Weed list?

- The MNRF has begun discussions with OMAFRA about this.
- Within agricultural areas, the go to Act will still be the Weed Control Act.
- Where it's a natural area, the Invasive Species Act will be enforced.

There is a lot of municipal land in Ontario, how are municipalities being engaged?

- The largest issue when it comes to municipal support, engagement and action is funding.
- The MNRF is going to continue to provide support to OIPC to host municipal training workshops.
- There is a lot of pressure from municipalities, but the focus is to continue to provide them with tools, like BMPs.

- There was not a lot of engagement for the first proposed list of species, but there will be more moving forward.

HydroOne has 130, 000 km of right-a-ways for management (legally required mandated responsibilities). Will there be some support to help them comply with the Act? There was a lot of support provided when the Species at Risk Act was implemented.

- There will not be specific sector BMPs, but this is something to consider for the future. Not specific sector BMPS, but can look at it
- If conflicts arise, there are a few ways to mitigate these through prevention and response plans.
- Will need to continue conversations as to how we can all work together

Can OIPC help develop more specific BMPs?

- There are some policies in the works; they are waiting to see the final draft of the regulations. The MNRF is going to want to consider more specific BMPS for clean equipment, time of year for management etc.

- The CFIA has completed a number of RAs completed for various plant species and are willing to share these with the MNRF.

5 Annual Audit Update

- The audit will not be available in time for the AGM and OIPC is going to provide a statement to this effect on the 26th.
- Iola has provided a statement to be placed in the annual report.
- The auditor has completed the majority of the work, but the person who is actually finishing the writing of it is not available.

6 Face to face Meeting at the AGM

- Everyone to think about whether or not the executive can do more to make the experience as a board member more meaningful
- **ACTION:** Kellie to bring consolidated staff reports for the meeting.
- The idea is to have fun!

September/October Action Items

Agenda item No.	Details of Action to be taken	Who - Lead/Assisting	Due
September			
2	Edit minutes to include that Mhairi MacFarlane provided comments on the Strategic Plan.	Kellie	Complete
3	Send Ottawa pollinator garden information to Suzanne Hanna.	Iola	Complete
5.1	Send ideas for new BMPs to Kellie	All	ASAP
5.1	Revise the corporate funding proposal and send to the whole board for review	Kellie	Complete
5.1	Send a notice to the members asking for volunteers to sit on the fundraising committee. Include a description of what's required of someone sitting on a committee.	Kellie	ASAP
5.1	Discuss the fundraising-committee at the AGM.	Iola	At the AGM
5.1	Email Kellie and Iola Price if you are interested in assisting with the fundraising committee.	All	ASAP
5.1	Send out the prioritized list of granting resources	Kellie	ASAP
5.1	Check the strategic plan re: a list of funders	Iola	ASAP
5.2	Send the communications template to the whole board	Kellie	Complete
5.2	Please take some time to fill in the communications template as much as you can. We will revisit this at our face to face meeting at the AGM	All	ASAP
5.3	Finalize AGM section of the website	Kellie	ASAP
5.5	Please send any proposed bylaw changes to Kellie and Iola	All	For next year's AGM
5.6	Review some of the past shipping costs and decide on a minimum number of copies that someone would be charged for	Kellie, Colin and Allison	By next meeting
5.7	Find final copy of OIPCs biofuel response from 2012	Kellie	Complete, cannot find
5.7	Start a small working group around this and include someone from OMAFRA, as they do support production of plants like Miscanthus for biofuel. Owen Williams will take the time to see what's new around this issue and send out to anyone interested in the working group.	Owen Williams	ASAP
5.8	Place lobbying file in policy folder on OIPC computer file.	Kellie	Complete
5.8	Contact Owen Williams and cc Kellie Sherman to join this WG.	All	Anytime

5.9	Setup doodle poll for a meeting for the GH working group	Kellie and John Foster	ASAP
5.9	Add OPWG link to the committee web page	Kellie	Complete
5.9	Look into how we can send automatic web changes notices to members.	Kellie	ASAP
6.3	Submit EBR #012-8310 comments to Kellie by September 23	All	September 23
7	Send questions re: staff updates to Kellie	All	Anytime
October			
3	Review September action items and send complete notice to Kellie	All	By next meeting
4	Send risk assessments to OIPC	Jeremy	ASAP
6	Bring consolidated staff report to board face to face	Kellie	Complete

Time adjourned: 3:55 pm

Next meeting: November 17, 2016