

# Ontario Invasive Plant Council

September 19, 2013

Conference Call

10:00 am – 11:00 am

## Summary Notes

### Board Members Attending:

**Hayley Anderson**, OIPC  
**Owen Williams**, Chair & Member at Large  
**Danielle Tassie**, OIPC  
**Iola Price**, Member at Large  
**Dawn Sucee**, Secretary/Treasurer & Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters  
**Lindsay Burtenshaw**, Royal Botanical Gardens  
**Dr. Robert Simmons**, Ontario Horticultural Association

**Karen Hartley**, OMNR – Parks  
**John Urquhart**, Ontario Nature  
**Jeanine West**, Landscape Ontario  
**Andrew Pitek**, Ontario Forestry Association  
**Michael Irvine**, OMNR – Forest Health and Silviculture  
**Ken Towle**, Vice-Chair & Conservation Ontario  
**Dan Kraus**, Nature Conservancy of Canada  
**John Benham**, Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association/ Wellington County  
**Elizabeth Wright**, Ministry of Natural Resources  
**Paula Berketo**, Ministry of Transportation  
**Sandy Smith**, University of Toronto

### Board Member Regrets

**Larry McDermott**, Plenty Canada  
**Diana Mooij**, Canadian Food Inspection Agency  
**Jennifer Gibb**, City of Toronto  
**Hugh Berges**, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

### Agenda items

- Review Action items from previous meeting
- Staff Updates
- ISC Call for Proposals
- New Secretary/Treasurer

### 1. Action Items from Previous Meeting

PREVIOUS ACTION: **Hayley** to clarify parts 4 and 5 of the Constitution and Bylaws before sending to **Dan**

PREVIOUS ACTION: **Hayley** to send Dan the latest version of the Constitution and Bylaws, and the Strategic Plan so that he can send to the NCC lawyer for an initial review

PREVIOUS ACTION: **Dan** to request that NCC lawyer reviews the OIPC Constitution and Bylaws.

These have all been done, Hayley clarified those sections and sent to Dan, Dan asked Howard (the NCC lawyer) to review for us. Howard has completed his review, his comments have been incorporated, and the updated version was sent to Ian Atteridge (the lawyer with experience in Constitution and Bylaws) to review so that we can have a final version in time for the AGM.

**ACTION: Hayley** to draft a response to the MNR discussion paper and send around to the board for review prior to the workshop.

We sent in our comments and they were well-received, the Plant Council represents all of the member organizations when we submit something like this, this is a good thing for the members to be sending to their organizations as well, it is a good reminder of the importance of invasive plants and what OIPC is contributing as well as what MNR is doing to address the issue. Owen requested that board members send our comments to their organizations and promote them in their networks.

**ACTION: All board members** to send our comments on the MNR Discussion Paper (final draft) around to their organizations.

**ACTION: Hayley** to attach final discussion paper comments to the minutes from this meeting

**PREVIOUS ACTION: Hayley** to send notice to general membership about BMPs and to request writers/reviewers

We have done this, there was some confusion about board members agreeing to review and not receiving the drafts. The European Alder draft is the only one that is ready for reviewing thus far, and will be attached to the email with the minutes from this meeting. The other BMPs will be ready for review within the next 2-3 weeks for expert review. Iola requested that we send out the template for future BMPs so that they can be sent around to networks and folks can add their information in each section to help write them.

**PREVIOUS ACTION: Board members** to look at the version of the Strategic Plan with Ken's comments and provide track changes to send to Hayley to send for September board meeting

**PREVIOUS ACTION: Hayley** to update the paragraph about ISC in Strategic Plan with the suggested wording

This item is currently on the backburner because of other commitments. However, if you have not yet provided comments, please do so when you get an opportunity.

**PREVIOUS ACTION: Hayley** to draft a response to CFIA regarding this framework

**PREVIOUS ACTION: Board members** are to provide comments to Hayley for inclusion in our response

Hayley has drafted a response to CFIA regarding the framework; it will be submitted next Friday. It was requested that the draft be provided in the minutes email to board members for review.

**PREVIOUS ACTION: Hayley** will send the sustainability plan to the Manitoba Council without the appendix that lists Ontario-specific donors.

Done

## 2. Staff Updates

### Danielle's Staff Update:

Presented to the Uxbridge Horticultural Society, there were about 50 people in attendance, and it was a lovely time – they were a great audience. Next week she is heading to Niagara Falls to present on the Clean Equipment Protocol with Joe Halloran (the original author of the Protocol). Owen will be

presenting on the Clean Equipment Protocol at the City of London next Monday. We attended the MNR Discussion Paper Workshop, there were no real contentious issues – everyone in attendance was in agreement with what was being suggested.

Developing a logo for the LBYL campaign to provide a brand for that campaign, similarly to the Grow Me Instead campaign, there are photo shoots coming up for the new pathways that we're focusing on this year in partnership with the Invading Species Awareness Program (these photo shoots are part of our ISC agreement to focus on 3 new pathways for LBYL: Boating, Camping, Trail Users).

BMPs: She is writing the BMPs for Wild Parsnip and Honeysuckle, she should have drafts shortly to send out to reviewers and is looking for photos, particularly of control.

Submitted Research Compendium to MNR for review, we're just waiting on word from them about their thoughts on the final product.

She has been talking to a partner who wishes to engage agriculture/farmers in invasive plant management from the Kawartha Farm Stewardship Collaborative. She's put her in touch with Sophie at ISAP and Lauren from CSSP. This is something we may wish to focus on in the future, outreach and education for farmers about invasive plant species.

### **Hayley's Staff Update:**

AGM: We had 77 registrations as of this morning, the Carden Tour is now full, the Annual Report is complete and has been put in the registration packages, Hayley had a tour of the facility last week to work out where things will be happening and to discuss what we need with our contact at Geneva Park – the speaker gifts have been ordered, have been working on a world café style for committee breakout sessions (Sophie and I have drafted a document with questions for guided communication), there will be 4 sessions running concurrently hosted by the committee chairs, everyone will have a chance to attend 2 (each will be 30 mins)

Presqu'ile Workshop: Tuesday, SE Zone for Parks – was an excellent workshop, had representatives from the Parks within the Southeast Zone and was focused on invasive plant management, showcasing the management efforts at Presqu'ile. It was a great idea, very hands-on, and lots of learning opportunities. Hayley would like to have these with the other zones as well at Ontario Parks.

RFP for MNR: We received notification that we may have been successful in our Non-Consulting Services Contract for MNR that we submitted a bid for, as we were the only organization to submit a bid. There are some edits to be made to the original proposal, but if all goes well we should be able to do these projects and sign a contract with MNR within the next few weeks. They include a Phragmites Portal Website, 6 Training Modules for the other BMPS (similarly to what we did for Giant Hogweed) and an aquatic invasive plant BMP for 20 aquatic species (it will be about 60 pages).

Our comments for the MNR Discussion Paper have been submitted, and Danielle, Hayley and Ken attended the workshop on behalf of OIPC to provide feedback.

A few Saturdays ago, we attended the York Region Invasive Plant Workshop which we helped to plan in partnership with York Region, ISAP, and Aurora District MNR. There were 60 people in attendance who

were all very engaged, it went really well. We should consider holding future workshops there or in partnership with York Region.

We are also planning another landowner training workshop in Midhurst with County of Simcoe for the evening of October 22<sup>nd</sup> just after the AGM to further engage people in the area where we're hosting the AGM and to meet our requirements for ISC reporting on one of the other funded projects for landowner workshops.

Another ISC project is the Parks signage, Hayley talked to the rep from Ontario Parks about what they would like, they wanted to focus on Phragmites and provided wording for the sign. The draft sign has been completed, just waiting on feedback from MNR contact to further edit before we get them printed and installed.

We have an interview tomorrow for Angler and Hunter Radio with Tom Otto, for the Look Before You Leave Program.

The national group, now known as the Canadian Council on Invasive Species has mostly been inactive because of other council's lack of funding, but we have a call next week to catch up and see what other Provinces have been up to, Hayley will provide an update next meeting.

BMPs: Black Alder almost complete (in review), White Sweet Clover almost done writing

Presenting at OVMA meeting next week in Niagara Falls on Giant Hogweed Best Management Practices

Working on interim progress report for the funding we received from the Ontario Community Environment Fund from MOE for the Voyageur Provincial Park

**Owen:** Owen has developed an MOU with OIPC and the Phragmites Group, there is a conference call set up in October for that group. They are now an official part of OIPC and will have a session at the AGM during the committee brainstorming sessions in the afternoon. Danielle is co-chairing the committee so please contact her if you would like to get involved.

Iola asked about the sound bites: Hayley brought to the communications committee, we haven't gotten any feedback yet, but we will discuss them at the next communications committee meeting which is planned for Sept 26/13.

**ACTION: Hayley to ensure that the sound bites are discussed at the Communications Committee meeting**

### 3. ISC Call for Proposals

The Invasive Species Centre has opened their call for proposals for 2013/14 –OIPC needs to develop our proposal outlines for submission, based on the themes that were sent in the meeting reminder notice. They are due on October 11<sup>th</sup>. Dan has provided his feedback, and the HOC would like to submit for re-vamping the Grow Me Instead Guide, but we can submit a few more outlines and would like input from the board on what we should submit for.

EDRR: OIPC is best positioned to develop EDRR through our network for terrestrial invasive plants. We should be jumping on the opportunity to develop our partnerships and volunteers to provide on the ground support (community leads) for EDRR. We should be focusing on an enhanced role for communications, assistance by ground-proofing new infestations, and providing a boots on the ground approach. We can

focus on enhancing capacity to respond, and developing mechanisms where people who do see something can take action to prevent spread or eradicate.

Dan had suggested that he would like to see OIPC focus on engaging municipalities in invasive species prevention. Iola seconded this; she would like to see OIPC be able to assist in enhancing municipal response.

We need to ponder how we can provide materials to member organizations and community organizations for them to deliver (idea: send LBYL activity book to member organizations as part of their curriculum efforts). If the OIPC is able to describe and provide support for organizations such as stewardship councils to provide landowner workshops, for example, we could deliver materials and content to provide community training by other organizations.

**ACTION: ALL BOARD MEMBERS! We need ideas for ISC project proposals for 2014/15 by OCTOBER 4<sup>th</sup>!!**

#### **4. Invaders in our Forests**

Iola has agreed to help Alison from the Invading Species Awareness Program shoot some footage in Ottawa for Invaders in our Forests. This video will have some Look Before You Leave content, and will be able to be on our YouTube channel when it is complete.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

**October 21<sup>st</sup>2013 at the AGM!!! ☺**