

2023 Ontario Phragmites Working Group Meeting

The 2023 OPWG conference theme is **Building Resilient Communities!** This year we will showcase a community approach to Invasive Phragmites management through building resilient communities and broadening perspectives to foster coordinated action towards the control and management of this invasive plant.

This year's conference will encourage people to work together towards healthy ecosystems and biodiversity in a changing climate. It will provide an opportunity to explore strategies, programs, partnerships, knowledge and research that shape and build resilient management of Invasive Phragmites.

Agenda

Date Wednesday, January 25, 2023

Time 9:00am-5:00pm EST

Location *Virtually hosted on Remo.co (Registration required at*
<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/2023-oipc-conference-opwg-meeting-registration-451979371467>)

Schedule

| Time | Speaker | Presentation Title |
|----------------------|---|---|
| 9:00am | System Opens | |
| 9:10-9:30 | Janice Gilbert and Gabby Nichols, Co-Chairs Ontario Phragmites Working Group Belinda Junkin, Executive Director Ontario Invasive Plant Council Ontario Invasive Plant Council | OIPC and OPWG Introduction and Welcome Introduction to Remo (How-To) |
| 9:30-9:50 | Mary Lou and Dan Smoke | Indigenous Opening Prayer and Welcome |
| Keynote Presentation | | |
| 9:50-10:40 | Rebecca Rooney, University of Waterloo | Keynote Presentation |
| 10:40-10:50 | Networking Break | |
| Science Update | | |
| 10:50-11:10 | Michael McTavish, University of Toronto, Agriculture and Agri-food Canada | Overview of the first four years of biological control of introduced Phragmites in Ontario |
| 11:10-11:30 | Claire Schon, University of Waterloo | Biological control of invasive Phragmites australis: first-year releases and plans for long-term plant community monitoring |

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| 11:30-11:50 | Jersey Allyson Fontz, University of Waterloo | Leveraging priority effects to resist biological invasion: Marsh organs |
| 11:50-12:10 | Grace Lew-Kowal, University of Waterloo | Novel approach to Invasive Plant Management |
| 12:10- 12:40 | Lunch Break and Project Slideshow Reel | |
| 12:40-12:50 | Dave Hunter, Crown Bees, Washington State | Use of Phragmites stalks as pollinator homes |
| Community Engagement | | |
| 12:50-1:05 | Nicole Carpenter, Georgian Bay Forever | Invasive Phragmites Eradication for the Health of the Water and Wetlands |
| 1:05-1:20 | Hamsha Pathmanathan, Canadian Wildlife Service | Landscape-level management of invasive Phragmites australis on federal lands in the Long Point Region: Successes and future directions after four years of management |
| First Nations Engagement, Knowledge, and Perspectives | | |
| 1:20 –2:10 | <i>Panelists to be announced shortly</i> | First Nations interactive panel discussion |
| 2:10-2:30 | Networking Break | |
| Province-wide Project Updates | | |
| 2:30-2:45 | Tom Cowan, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks & Jacob Kloeze, Nature Conservancy of Canada | Aquatic Extermination Permitting |
| 2:45-3:00 | Brad Hayhoe, BASF | Habitat Aqua Update |
| 3:00-3:15 | <i>Speaker TBC</i> | Roadway Management Update |
| 3:15-3:50 | Sarah Rang and Colin Cassin, Invasive Species Centre & Eric Cleland, Nature Conservancy of Canada | Green Shovels Update including genetic testing, Phragmites fund, and Phragmites guidebook. |
| 3:50-4:05 | Samantha Tank, Great Lakes Phragmites Collaborative | Great Lakes Phragmites Collaborative Update |
| 4:05-4:30 | Janice Gilbert and Gabby Nichols, Co-Chairs Ontario Phragmites Working Group Belinda Junkin, Executive Director Ontario Invasive Plant Council | Interactive discussion & closing remarks |
| 4:30-5:00 | Mix and Mingle | |
| 5:00 | Online Meeting Closes | |