



# Clean Air Sarnia Area

Co-Chair – Sarnia Lambton Environmental Association

Co-Chair – Ontario Ministry of Environment Conservation & Parks

## Meeting Minutes

Date	Time	Location	Frequency
November 12, 2020	1400 – 1600	Virtual via MS Teams	Quarterly (3-4 per year)
Supported Technology	Attendance		
<u>Microsoft Teams</u> Audio or Video Conferencing	M. Gagnon, D. Morrison, K. Zimmer, G. Archambeault, L. Daghar, G. Prudom-Cabot, A. Graham, G. Heath, M. Jutzi, C. Lafrance, T. Lannin, R. Melzer, L. Orphan, P. Rehbein, A. Salb, S. Bisson, V. Gagner, R. Wan, C. Schofield, A. Lockridge, J. Rodey, M. Parkhouse, T. Murray, T. Munoz, J. Bennett, O. Gover, B. Attard, S. Johnston, M. McKay, J. Macbeth, J. Getty, D. Fusco, J. Gilmore, S. Odolphy Regrets: K. Lee		

### 1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 1400 hrs by Crystal Lafrance.

### 2. Confirmation of current agenda and past minutes

Crystal went over the June 18 minutes and action items. All action items were completed.

Motion carried to approve the agenda as presented and minutes of the June 18, 2020 meeting.

### 3. Ongoing work

#### a. Sarnia Area Environmental Health Study

Rachel Melzer (MECP) provided an update on the project. The project team launched the community advisory committee with the first meeting in September 2020. The project team also had the community kick-off meeting with the consultants for the project in early November 2020. There was a virtual meeting with the Aamjiwnaang First Nation community and then another meeting for the general Sarnia area community. The Aamjiwnaang meeting had more engagement with questions and comments. The project team will send out a survey to meeting participants soon to gather more comments on the meetings.

There was also an update on the medicinal plant study and the recent field work to explore the diversity and abundance of native plants for research.

Rachel discussed the framework to present information on the project to the community via the CASA website. The three parts of the project (air exposure review, medicinal plant study, quality of life impacts) will be presented on the site with background, the underlying philosophy of the project, the scope and how the project team works with the community and communication/contact information.

CASA member asked what it will mean in terms of actions after all the data is collected and analyzed. Also brought up the previous cumulative effects work that included a jurisdictional review of comparison communities, which should be included in this project for identification of comparative communities and potential actions/outcomes for the project. A lot of good work went into that and there are communities that were researched



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with strong regulatory frameworks and social justice initiatives. The Bay area (San Francisco), southern California and South Minneapolis were mentioned.

CASA member asked if the public will see the data from the plant study? The data from this part of the project is under the OCAP (Ownership, Control, Access, and Possession) principles for Indigenous communities and the decision on what information is shared, or how to share the data, is with the First Nations communities. This could mean that the data may not be published in a scientific paper if the First Nation owner does not want it published.

Also asked about studying cedar leaves and a reference to previous study. There was work on cedar in 2007. Noted that in 2007, there was no criteria for burning of cedar leaves, just for use as a tea, and potentially there was an increase in contaminants (vanadium or cadmium) which was considered unusual. As cedar is a main medicine used, the project should still consider it as a plant to do further study.

Action: **Rachel will bring this information back to the project team.**

b. Review of data from recent quarterly data updates

Mallory Jutzi (MECP) provided an update on air quality monitoring data from the stations including continuous and non-continuous data. Summaries included 2018 data for non-continuous monitoring and a summary of 2019 data for the continuous monitoring. The data is posted on the CASA website

**Action: When possible, the CASA meeting chair will share presentations prior to CASA meetings.**

c. New Airpointer® installations

Vince (SLEA) provided an update on the new sulphur dioxide Airpointers® installation and locations. The first one is running at the Corunna Legion and data is on the CASA website. Installation is ready for the Aamjiwnaang First Nation daycare, as identified by the Ministry, pending successful application by the Aamjiwnaang First Nation to Indigenous Services Canada under section 28(2) of the Indian Act. The siting of the third station was initially proposed by the Ministry to be at Hydro One property on Scott Road. After some discussion with the Ministry, SLEA received direction to locate the third Airpointer™ at the existing SLEA Scott Road air monitoring station. SLEA is now approaching the landowner of that location to receive approval to site the unit there.

#### 4. Naming of new air monitoring stations

Vince reviewed a draft procedure for station signage that was provided to the group as a pre-read. The rationale for a new signage procedure was to improve awareness and brand recognition in the community. The procedure is proposed to live as an appendix to the current CASA Terms of Reference. The procedure explains how the sign is required to be a specific size so it will not interfere with air quality monitoring and will include the CASA logo, operator of the station, location, and CASA website address.



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The procedure clarifies how the landowner initiates naming of the station which then goes through a series of review and approvals to establish a consistent and fair process. It is felt that this approach provides an opportunity for CASA to better connect to the community by naming stations after community members that made our region a better place to live through their outstanding contributions.

A comment from a CASA member suggested the landowner describe the reason for a nomination for review at CASA meetings as part of the approval process.

Vince indicated the station operator is responsible for installing/maintaining the signs.

New signs and names are optional for new and existing stations. The story of the name will be included on the CASA website.

**Action: Vince will incorporate feedback based on the discussion. The naming process will be circulated to CASA members via e-mail for comment and approval prior to the next meeting. All agreed.**

#### 5. Roundtable

Although not directly related to CASA, Vince mentioned the good work moving forward with the Remedial Action Plan for the St. Clair River and the momentum for improvements to this Area of Concern. He felt that the approach taken to assemble many different perspectives to understand and improve this regional issue was aligned with the CASA model of collaboration.

Crystal asked the group for any feedback on the CASA website and areas for improvement. A member asked about feedback from the community on the website and tracking of the website traffic since links to property line monitoring data were added. No feedback was received and yes, website traffic and use data is collected.

Vince mentioned the CASA website is a good fit for the Sarnia Area Health Study project to post information and updates on the project.

#### 6. Adjourn and Confirm Next Meeting

March 2021 is the next meeting.