

Notes from the Dec 7th 2018 PRC Steering Committee Meeting

1. Co-Chairs Opening Remarks by Randy Hope and Mark Reusser
 - a. OFA and Cities request to Wardens for a meeting during the 2019 ROMA meeting. It creates opportunity to reach out to both the Western and Eastern Wardens. We also need to seek new partnership with some municipalities where an application under the RED program could be developed.
 - b. Ontario draft Environmental Plan was released. Staff from OFA and Cities Initiative will review and report back at next meeting based on what is relevant to our PRC objectives.
 - c. Slide Deck will be prepared to help members promote work of PRC and will be circulated along with Key Messages.
 - d. Potential to present PRC work at future Cities conference.
 - e. PRC press release was distributed and public release on December 5th. The purpose of the release is to announce the five technology companies selected from those responding to the Request for Proposal issued in July 2018.
 - f. Timing Matters, 4Rs, Mark provided an update on signing of MOU and farmer to farmer efforts.
 - g. OFA is a signatory to the extension of the Ontario 4R program, no announcement yet.
 - h. Site selection is proceeding and offers opportunity for future press releases with local elected officials
 - i. Erie Stat has issued a request for people to identify data gaps. Mark on this committee. Their objective is to populate their website. GLIN network website link will be circulated.
2. Bi-national support
 - a. Sarah Rang from Cities Initiative presented slides on the work underway. Sarah will circulate who is on committees to facilitate networking.
 - b. Mark Wales commented on International Nutrient Management Report for summer 2019 (IJC). Is an overview of nutrient management in Great Lakes and other regions. The report is finalized but needs to go through the approval process before being released. The PRC could invite IJC staff to present.
3. Project Manager Report
 - a. Integrated workplan for next quarter as currently efforts are placed on starting projects with selected companies and on communications.
4. Communications
 - a. Lois Harris presented slides on past and future communication activities., copy attached
 - b. Survey...municipal roadwork crews (Glenn Harding) Jessie Passa can connect Charlie to follow up with Chatham-Kent
 - c. Chatham Farm show is in February and we could have a display through Kent Federation. Charlie to follow up with Ron Faubert.
 - d. South West Agricultural Conference is Jan 3-4th 2019. Charlie to coordinate with Kent Federation. Also suggest that we explore presenting at next year's conference.



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- e. Public Utilities Commissions have own website (Windsor, Chatham, Sarnia, London, Woodstock, OCWA) and we need to link to those.
 - f. Discussion on why farmers are concerned of the size of their contribution to Lake Erie P problems when there continues to be bypasses etc. The PRC will explore opportunities for more clarifications from officials and possibly a presentation at future meetings. Kevin McKague will circulate a link to a U of Michigan report on modelling the Detroit River. A link will be placed on the ThamesRiverPRC.com website. The report will help put various loading sources in perspective.
 - g. When updating PRC brochure, revise organization names
 - h. Survey slide to refer to urban centers to be more generic in the future
 - i. Backgrounder document: Muddy River site will be referred to edge of stream site to distinguish from pump stations.;
5. Medway Creek
- a. Michael Funk of the UTRCA presented monitoring information for the Medway Creek. A copy is attached. Key points raised include:
 - i. BMPs for winter season that work is a must as most P is lost during this winter non-growing period. For example, about one third of annual P load occurred over three days in Feb.
 - ii. P load has been calculated
 - iii. Doing new work on P loads with cover crops and no cover crop
 - iv. Medway field loses are 0.67 lbs per acre, but there is a range.
 - v. Systems approach is planned based on BMP implementation on most farms
 - vi. Strategy is to stop sediment and then soluble P
 - vii. Surface runoff has more particulate but in end drainage water follows the same
6. Technology and Site Selection
- a. Charlie presented slides (attached) summarizing technologies and sites. It was suggested that each site be identified as to the sub-watershed and municipal drain.
 - b. There were questions about whether these were new innovative technologies and so may be eligible to be considered as part of the Regional Economic Development work.
 - c. There was discussion on best methods for permit process, and how to engage local Councils
 - d. Most felt that weather data could be used from existing weather stations and that the cost for site specific weather stations was prohibitive. We need to negotiate with Weather Information Network to access data with their participation on the PRC.
 - e. The cost/benefit of some of these technologies was questioned. As part of the report metrics to ECCC, the removal cost per kg will be developed and compared to other costs for P removal such as STP.
7. Huron Project
- a. Mel Luymes presented a project of the Huron Soil and Crop Association to instrument a farm with extreme topography. Work will be completed in 2019 followed by monitoring.
8. Round Table



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- a. Owen Steele offered to share their monitoring protocol to help develop a PRC monitoring protocol. Charlie noted that we will be developed a monitoring protocol for each site.
- b. Mark Peacock raised questions on metrics used in the project (efficiency of intervention versus P removal). We will also need to have P concentration measurements at all sites, so that P load reduction measures can be made. Some sites are fully instrumented and so will enable calculation of both.
- c. There was a question about the ability for natural systems such as wetlands to also reduce P, and it was suggested to contact Tom Dick at Chatham Kent.
- d. Jennifer Richards offered to find the link to the St Clair Conservation Authority presentations at a recent watershed planning event. There were several excellent presentations.
- e. Brad Glassman offered to circulate the link to an upcoming webinar with respect to Erie Stat and market driven instruments.