

**Combined Sewer Overflow Master Plan
Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC)
Meeting #3 Notes**

Wednesday, January 28, 2014, 4:00 PM – 6:30 PM
Carol Shields Auditorium, Millennium Library, 251 Donald Street

In Attendance:

Ani Terton	Manitoba Eco-Network
Dale Karasiuk	Chalmers Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation
Carmine Militano	Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce
Colleen Mayer	Old St Vital Biz
Colleen Sklar	Lake Friendly Manitoba; Partnership of the Manitoba Capital Region
Joy Kennedy	Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship (Water Quality)
Siobhan Burland Ross	Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship (Environmental Approvals)
Yvonne Hawryliuk	Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship (Environmental Compliance and Enforcement)
Andrew McMillan	City of Winnipeg – Water and Waste
Patrick Coote	City of Winnipeg – Water and Waste
Tiffany Skomro	City of Winnipeg – Water and Waste
Michelle Kuly Holland	Facilitator
Dennis Heinrichs	Consultant – Dillon
David Marsh	Consultant – Dillon

Regrets:

Chris Lorenc	Manitoba Heavy Construction Association
Henry David (Hank) Venema	International Institute of Sustainable Development
Gloria Desorcy	Consumer Association of Canada
Julie Turenne-Maynard	Rivers West
Dorothea Blandford	Winnipeg Rowing Club

Agenda:

1. Session opening & administrative items
2. Licence background and context from regulator
3. City of Winnipeg update and presentation of animation video
4. CSO Symposium details review and feedback
5. Session wrap up and next steps

1. Session opening & administrative items

Introductions were given. Administrative items were noted. The previous meeting's notes were adopted via email.

Meeting #3 Purpose:

- To clarify the intent and details of CSO licence;
- To have an update on the CSO Master Plan;
- To review and discuss an outline of the Symposium event.

SAC members were asked what their personal objectives were for the meeting. Answers included:

- Looking forward to hearing from the Province in regards to the licence and getting additional detail
- Understanding the format of the Symposium, and obtaining additional detail

The Facilitator proposed to amend agenda to flip Agenda Items #2 & #3 in terms of order, which was accepted by the SAC members.

2. City of Winnipeg update and presentation of animation video

The City provided an introduction on the animation video, providing background for why it was created. The intent of the animation is provide the general public with a high level overview of CSOs, history of combined sewer systems, what a CSO event is, and how a CSO event occurs. The animation explains in additional detail the physical components of the CSO system and its operation in dry weather in light rain or snow melt and in heavy rain or snow melt.

The animation was presented to the SAC members, who had the following comments and observations:

- Is the animation available to the public and can it be shared? The City indicated that it will be available in the immediate future, as there are some minor technical issues being resolved. The intent is for the animation to be shared, and the City encourages this, with proper attribution.
- Animation indicates that 32% of the City by area is located in CS districts. Has this gone down, and wasn't this originally higher? The City explained that some districts have been 'decombined' (separated), and that the overall percentage has lowered as City infrastructure improvements.
- Nutrient loading is indirectly indicated in the animation, including its impacts downstream on Lake Winnipeg. Will there be any explanation about nutrient loading, and what other cities, towns, and industry are doing?

- Animation is good at indicating that CSOs are one of multiple sources that impact river water.

The City indicated that the animation would be shown at the Symposium event, and the SAC members would be informed via email when the animation is publically available.

3. Licence background and context from regulator

Siobhan Burland Ross (MB Conservation & Water Stewardship) delivered a presentation regarding CSOs, regulations, and background behind the City's Environmental Licence. A copy of the presentation was distributed to the SAC members in advance of the meeting, and is on the website.

During the presentation the Province indicated that two other jurisdictions in Manitoba have combined sewer systems, but not at the scale of the Winnipeg system. It was also indicated that the Licence is in essence a 'licence to plan', and that a new licence will be issued after the CSO Master Plan has been submitted and reviewed. Conditions and terms of the existing licence will be revisited and altered then. The Province also indicated the need for flexibility in the final plan to adapt and grow as knowledge of the combined sewer system expands and experience of the success of solutions is incorporated back into the plan.

Discussion on MB Conservation presentation and CSO Licence:

The following observations and points were made during follow up discussion with the SAC members:

- When the Province was negotiating on national standards, how was new development in CS districts addressed? There have been developments in CS districts in Winnipeg, and how were these addressed? The Province indicated that the municipal wastewater strategy was signed in 2009, and new developments are not permitted to increase CSO events. The City also indicated that their regulations require new development to be restricted to pre equals post flows, and cannot increase the overall rate of flows.
- Is the timeline shown still valid? It was indicated that the timeline is still valid.
- What is the role of the federal government in these regulations? The federal regulation requires the identification of CSO locations and monitoring of CSO events with regular reporting.
- A question was raised regarding the previous CEC report on CSOs, which identified priorities, including specifically targeting Combined Sewer (CS)

districts. Is this being addressed in the current CSO Master Plan? The City indicated yes, and that all 42 CS districts are being looked at and examined as part of the Master Plan. Monitoring and reporting has occurred since the previous CEC report, and the current CSO Master Plan will identify which CS districts should be prioritized, and with what mitigation and / or control measures.

- There are a lot of Licenses being issued to the City by the Province but are they all of equal importance? Is there anyone looking at the bigger picture of how all these are going to be prioritized?

4. CSO Symposium details review and feedback

An overview of the outline for the CSO Symposium Event was provided. The CSO Symposium is tentatively scheduled for March 5th, 2015 in the Carol Shields Auditorium.

The Symposium format proposes that the event would begin with presentations and a panel discussion, followed by a breakout session with attendees.

The City is exploring the potential for partnership with a member of the media to moderate the panel discussion and assist in promoting the Symposium prior to the event. There will also be an on-line presence for the event, placing materials online, aimed for those who are interested but cannot attend or those looking for additional information. The City is looking at potentially integrating real time voting technology for the event.

The breakout session will have discussion questions to get a greater understanding around CSO issues and how they should be approached.

The SAC members had the following comments and observations:

- Can inputs from industry be included in the overview, e.g. what is actually being discharged into the rivers? There is an education component here and there is a need to explain why this issue is important to average citizens.
- Can someone on the discussion panel address what local businesses and industries are doing to help address this issue? There is a need to emphasize that all parties are part of the solution, and government cannot do it alone. The City indicated that there are regulations for business and industrial to meet discharge standards and monitoring to assess quality. Regarding what industry was doing the City would request that this be addressed in one of the panel member presentations.
- CSOs are a complex problem, and that these types of problems require a three-headed solution working together: government, businesses, and Non-

Government organisations (NGOs). This approach is occurring in many other complex areas, and there is a need to have a conversation about this.

- Are the impacts of climate change are being considered as part of the CSO Master Plan? The City indicated that climate change was being considered. Rain events and severe weather will be more extreme, and localized, in the future. Proposed infrastructure and CSO controls must take this into account.
- There is a clear need to clearly identify the ‘why am I here’ and ‘why is this important’ in the Symposium event. This is important for the messaging of the event, and in materials in advance of the meeting.
- What does the City want and / or need from SAC members for the Symposium event? The facilitator indicated that SAC members are encouraged to attend and participate; report back to others what you heard in the discussions at the event; and that the City would request that SAC members help reach out to people and groups who should attend the event. Follow up questions were asked regarding what materials or information would assist SAC members in getting the word out, and what lead times might be required. The following ideas were provided by the SAC members:
 - Social media, email, twitter – electronic formats that are easy to distribute;
 - One-pager overview – what is this event about, timelines, why we need you to come, why is it important to you, a couple links to resources, include link to CSO animation & webpage;
 - There is still a need for hard copy materials to complement electronic formats;
 - A “Save the Date” email notice, then follow up notice with materials.
- A question was raised in regards to whether students are being engaged in the process or this event, as they are future tax payers, and whether post-secondary education institutions are being included. There was discussion about including representatives from Sustainability Offices of the post-secondary institutions, as they are often aware of the research and initiatives that are occurring on campus.
- A question was whether other environmental groups in the City would be invited, such as Save Our Seine. The City indicated that they would reach out to these groups and invite them to the Symposium.

5. Session wrap up

Future meeting dates/times/locations are as follows:

- Thursday, April 9, 2015, 3:45-6:00pm

- Thursday, May 28, 2015, 3:45-6:00pm

All meetings to be held at the Millennium Library (Carol Shields Auditorium, Buchwald or Anhang Room, 2nd Floor) at 251 Donald Street.

Attendees were thanked for their participation, and the meeting was adjourned.

6. Summary of Action Items and Administrative Follow-ups

In progress:

- All SAC MEMBERS – Provide information on any groups that should be invited to the CSO Symposium.
- CITY – Inform SAC members when CSO animation is publically available on the City's website.