



Source Protection Committee

Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region

The Clean Water Act requires that a Source Protection Committee be established for each Source Protection Region. Ontario Regulation 288/07 (Source Protection Committees), made under the Clean Water Act, 2006, sets out the requirements for establishing a Source Protection Committee for each Source Protection Region in the Province. The Source Protection Committee for the Trent Conservation Coalition Source Protection Region will be comprised of 21 members, plus the Chair. The committee is to be composed of municipal representatives, stakeholders from the industrial/commercial sectors, and members of the community, with 1/3 of the representatives allocated to each of these sectors. In addition, three First Nations representatives may be appointed to the committee. In addition, three non-voting seats will be reserved for representatives of the Ministry of Environment, local Health Units, and Source Protection Authorities.

Municipal Representation (7 representatives)

The Source Protection Committee Regulation indicates that:

One third of the members to be appointed to the Source Protection Committee, not counting the Chair and any First Nations representative, must be persons appointed to reflect the interests of the municipalities that are located, in whole or in part, in the Source Protection Region.

The Regulation indicates that municipalities in the region are to be divided into one or more groups for the purpose of appointing members to the Committee, and that the Source Protection Authority is required to assign a number of members to be appointed to the Committee from each group. The councils of the municipalities in the group are invited to jointly submit a list of persons to be appointed to the Committee.

The Trent Conservation Coalition feels that municipal representation should be distributed across the region geographically. To achieve this, five municipal groups have been established, generally coinciding with Source Protection Areas in the region:

- One municipal representative be selected from each of:
 - Crowe Valley municipal group
 - Ganaraska Region municipal group
 - Lower Trent municipal group
- Two municipal representatives from the two larger groups:
 - Kawartha-Haliburton municipal group
 - Otonabee-Peterborough municipal group

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Industrial/Commercial Sector (7 representatives)

The Source Protection Committee Regulation indicates that:

One third of the members to be appointed to the Source Protection Committee, not counting the Chair and any First Nations representative, must be persons appointed to reflect the interests of the agricultural, commercial and industrial sectors of the source protection area's or source protection region's economy, including small business interests.

Agriculture, aggregates, recreation and general industrial/commercial activity are widespread throughout the watershed. To ensure that a range of interests are represented on the committee that reflects the region's economy, the Trent Conservation Coalition proposes the following representation:

- 3 Agricultural representatives
 - Agricultural land use is widespread across the southern portion of the Source Protection Region
 - At least half of the land within close proximity of municipal water supplies is agricultural
 - There is potential for Source Protection Plan recommendations to impact agricultural land use
 - Representatives with knowledge of agricultural practices and programs would be beneficial on the committee since agricultural land owners have a lot of experience in implementing good land stewardship practices and can play a significant role in implementation
- 1 Aggregate/Mining representative
 - Aggregates are a common land use activity in the Source Protection Region
 - Some aggregate operations are located within close proximity of municipal water supplies
 - Some mining activity occurs in the northern portion of the region
 - There is potential for Source Protection Plan recommendations to impact aggregate extraction/mining operations
 - Representatives with knowledge of aggregate extraction/mining practices would be beneficial on the committee
- 1 Recreation/Tourism representative
 - Tourism is an important part of the economy across the entire source protection region and is particularly significant in the northern areas (cottage country)
 - Resorts, camping, boating and marinas are popular activities within the Trent River system
 - Source Protection Plan recommendations could affect activities in the river, since there are a high number of surface water intakes along the Trent system; therefore involvement of this industry would be beneficial
- 1 Large Non-municipal Water User representative
 - Industrial activities occur in the areas around municipal drinking water supplies, particularly in the intake protection zones/urban areas
 - Industries that are large water takers are likely to be most affected by the recommendations of the Source Protection Plan
 - Representatives with knowledge of water taking issues could bring a perspective on water quantity issues or concerns
- 1 Economic Development representative
 - Industrial activities occur in the areas around municipal drinking water supplies, particularly in the intake protection zones/urban areas
 - A representative from an economic development committee would be able to represent the broader interests (relating to economic growth) and small business interests

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Other Interests (7 representatives)

The Source Protection Committee Regulation indicates that:

One third of the members to be appointed to the Source Protection Committee, not counting the Chair and any First Nations representative, must be persons appointed to reflect interests other than those referred to above, including, in particular, environmental, health and other interests of the general public.

To represent the broad public interests, the Trent Conservation Coalition proposes the following representation:

- 1 Environmental Non Government Organization (ENGOS)
 - ENGOS are environmental interest groups that provide programs or lobby to protect the environment. Representation from an ENGO would help bring balance to the committee, which will be made up of a number of government representatives

- 1 Waterfront Landowner (e.g. Lake Association member or other waterfront land owner)
 - Waterfront property owners (along Lake Ontario, Bay of Quinte, the Trent River system, or inland lakes within the Trent River watershed) have the potential to be impacted by recommendations in the Source Protection Plans
 - Waterfront property owners can play a significant role in implementation (e.g. stewardship activities)

- 2 Drinking Water Expert
 - These representatives would bring knowledge of municipal drinking water systems to the committee

- 1 Trent Severn Waterway representative
 - The management of the Trent Severn Waterway affects water levels and water availability within the Trent River system
 - Boating activity within the Trent System is a potential risk to water quality
 - A person knowledgeable about the system and its management would be beneficial on the committee to provide an understanding of the waterway and to help forge a link between protection of drinking water and operation/management of the system.

- 2 Public representatives
 - Two seats would be reserved for the public at large to bring different perspectives to the plan development (as “end of tap” water users and/or recreationalists)
 - One seat would be reserved for an urban resident and a second for a rural resident
 - Representatives with knowledge of the waterway, water wells, education, real estate, or environmental/engineering practices would be preferred

Ex-officio representatives: Ministry of Environment, Health Unit, and Source Protection Authority representatives