

Royal Commission on the
Future of the
Toronto Waterfront

**Memorandum
Note de Service**

Commission royale sur
l'avenir du
secteur riverain de Toronto

To: **Environmental Audit Steering Committee and Workgroups**
From: **Suzanne Barrett**
Date: **October 19 1990**
Subject: **Meeting Notes from October 12**

PRESENT: Bruce Adams Terry Allsop (for Bhartendu Srivastava)
 Suzanne Barrett Beth Benson Paul Beck
 David Carter David Charlesworth Kate Davies
 Brian Denney Byron de France Lino Grima
 Mary Hay Karl Hemmerich Laura Jones
 John Jung Sarah Kalff Joanna Kidd
 Dennis Lang Jack Lee Simon Llewellyn
 Craig Mather Gord McPherson Ed Mickiewicz
 Gavin Miller Sarah Miller John Mills
 Chris Morgan Beverly Morley Bill Munson
 Susan Richardson Lou Shenfeld Karey Shinn
 Peter Sly Elizabeth Stanley (for Jim Merrit)
 Aine Suttle Steve Tovee David Yap
 Richard Yoon Jim Young

Student observers: Richard King (York University)
Jessica Thompson (University of Toronto)

Stewardship and Accountability:

Suzanne indicated that Ron Doering (Executive Director of the Commission) has agreed to chair a workgroup to examine legislative, regulatory and institutional issues. A number of steering committee and workgroup members expressed an interest in discussing the workprogram for this group.

p.s. In subsequent discussions, Ron, David Carter and Suzanne decided to modify the approach to this topic as follows. Within the context of the Phase 2 Environmental Audit Synthesis Report, Joanna and Suzanne will explore the legislative, regulatory and public administration issues that have arisen during the Audit. We will consult with each workgroup, and with the steering committee, as we proceed. As a parallel project, Ron intends to establish a workgroup to explore these and other issues in more depth, within the broader context of the GTA Waterfront, to be published as a separate report. His group will meet with the Environmental Audit Steering Committee at the appropriate time in their program.

Natural Heritage:

Sarah Kalff, Gavin Miller and Gord McPherson presented the findings and recommendations of the Natural Heritage workgroup. There was some discussion about:

- seasonal variations in fishing success (the study was undertaken in July when fishing opportunities along the waterfront are limited in comparison with spring/fall when coldwater fish move into shore);
- requirements for a wildlife corridor (eg continuous nature, barriers, width, habitat types).

Atmospheric Environment:

Lou Shenfeld presented the key findings and recommendations of the Phase 2 study. Discussion included:

- MOE's process for recording odour complaints results in an under-representation of the problem;
- the report should include discussions of such issues as odours, emission inventory, fugitive emissions, air toxics, priorities for research and action, fragmentation of responsibilities among jurisdictions, health impacts/risks, ecosystem linkages etc.

Hazardous Materials:

Laura Jones, Aine Suttle and Julius Gorys presented some preliminary findings by the Hazardous Materials workgroup, and requested advice on the most useful way to analyse and interpret the information being collected. Comments included:

- the study should include a description of the frameworks for managing hazardous materials and for responding to emergencies (spills, fires etc.) and an independent assessment of the adequacy of these frameworks;
- Julius provided a Provincial context for the transportation of dangerous goods: the study should include similar contextual discussion for the other categories of information;
- while detailed risk assessment for specific sites would not be appropriate or feasible, a screening level risk assessment might be considered.

Water:

Joanna Kidd presented a synthesis of the work undertaken by the Water workgroup to date.

Discussion included:

- need for more information on the fate and transport model, methods of sampling storm sewers and CSOs;
- relationship between sediment guidelines and soil guidelines;
- implications of MISA for the expansion of the STP are unknown;
- need for information on Outer Harbour water/sediment quality prior to the Outer Harbour marina (MTRCA has sediment data).

Flooding:

Craig Mather, Director of Water Resources with the MTRCA, described the Don River flood risks for Ataratiri and the Port District. Under Ontario's Floodplain Planning Policy Statement, no new development will be permitted in the floodplain except in exceptional cases (eg traditionally developed area) handled through the establishment of a Special Policy Area. The floodplain is defined on the basis of the regional storm (a storm of the magnitude of Hurricane Hazel, but centred on the Don). The City of Toronto has requested SPA status for the spill zones in the

Ataratiri and Port District areas. Discussion included:

- role of dredging the Keating Channel;
- risk of flooding in relation to hazardous materials and contaminated soils on sites;
- role of a floodway/wildlife corridor;
- possible protective measures for development in the SPA.

Brian Denney offered to provide a written summary of the flood risk considerations for the EB/PIA for the Water and Sediments Technical Paper.

Built Heritage:

Jeffery Stinson provided an overview of his study of industrial heritage in the Port District (a draft report has been prepared for the THC) and a description of his planned approach to the East Bayfront.

Soils and Groundwater:

Paul Beck summarised the findings and recommendations of the Soils and Groundwater Study. Discussion included:

- should guidelines be developed specifically for the EB/PIA? What other guidelines are appropriate? The City of Toronto EPO is concerned that there is no comprehensive set of guidelines applied consistently across the city;
- difficulties in setting standards/guidelines.

Soil Clean-up Strategy:

Dennis Lang, Director of Engineering, THC, described two projects:

- a proposed Strategy for the Decommissioning of Soils in the Port Industrial District undertaken by Beak Consultants;
- a concept for a pilot project for soil remediation to treat/remove organic and inorganic contaminants.

Quality of Life/Health:

Kate Davies outlined her report on Quality of Life/Health. Discussion included:

- Ecosystem Health may be a more descriptive title for the report;
- it may be more useful to describe "risk factors" and "characteristics" as "stressors" and "effects" respectively;
- the relative importance of the different exposure pathways for human health.

Schedule:

Steering committee and workgroup members were asked to make comments on the technical papers by **26 October**. Meetings of most of the workgroups will be held during the next couple of weeks (see memo faxed to you on October 16/17).

Joanna and Suzanne will work on an outline for the Synthesis Report, with help from Beth Benson, David Carter, Kate Davies, Lynn Morrow, Henry Regier, Peter Sly and Jim Young. A first draft will be sent to the Steering Committee on **8 November**, for review at their next meeting on **November 22**. David Crombie will attend the next meeting to discuss the Watershed report.

Phase II: Environmental Audit of East Bayfront/Post Industrial Area

Oct 22/90

Time-Sheet

TASKS	October 7- 14- 21- 28- 12	November 4- 11- 18- 25- 22	December 2- 9- 16- 23- 30- ?	January 5- 12- 19- 26- -	February 3- 10- 17- 24- -	March 4- 11- 18- 25- -
Steering Committee Meetings	12	22	?			
Work Group Meetings						
Air	?					
Built Heritage	?					
Hazardous Materials	26					
Natural Heritage	24					
Quality of Life	?					
Stewardship/Accountability	?					
Soils & Groundwater	22					
Water & Sediments	22					
Technical Papers Due						
Release Technical Papers						
First Draft Synthesis Report		8				
Write, Review, & Revise Synthesis Report						
Edit Synthesis Report						
Desktop Publishing						
Print Synthesis Report						
Release Synthesis Report					*	
Public Consultation						*