



Friends of the Porcupine River Watershed
2 June 2021 - Meeting Minutes
Approved October 14th, 2021

Mission: The stated mission of the Friends of the Porcupine River Watershed is to educate, influence, promote and support community-based stewardship of natural resources in the Porcupine River watershed, and to provide community-based guidance for the good management, enhancement, and utilization of healthy, sustainable, aquatic, and terrestrial ecosystems.

Acknowledgement: The Friends of the Porcupine River Watershed members recognize and acknowledge that the Porcupine River Watershed is situated on Treaty #9 territory and on the traditional territory of Indigenous nations including the Mushkegowuk (Cree), Anishinabewaki and Métis.

Date: Wednesday, June 2nd, 2021 **Time:** 7:00 pm
Location: Video Conference (*Zoom*)

Attendance:

Board Members Present: Brenda Torresan, Meaghan Stringer, Rick Cecconi, Angie Corson, Roxane Filion
Graham Campbell (Community Advisory Member), Michel Dupuis (Community Indigenous Representative)
Board Members Regrets: Karlie Maki, Kaileigh Russell, Cristina Colantonio

Welcome members.

- We open this meeting with a minute of silence in remembrance of the 215 children discovered at the site of former residential school in Kamloops and for all the other indigenous children who never got to come home.

Approval of Agenda and last meeting minutes:

- Approval of Today's Agenda (with deferred items from May 5). Addition of Funding opportunity, youth in policing, memorial tree location at Porcupine Lake. **Moved as amended:** by Rick Cecconi, **Seconded** by Angie Corson
- Approval of last meeting minutes (May 5, 2021) **Moved** by Rick Cecconi, **Seconded** by Meaghan Stringer.
- Approval of agenda and last meeting minutes: **Carried**. Can now be posted.

Incoming-Outgoing mail: N/A

Treasurer's Report - Current balance \$5215.81

Board Reports

▪ **President: Updates/Discussion:**

- FPRW request for a new interim member for Treasurer Position.
- Updates: PLC council presentation has been done, PS4 target: end of June- update due next week, New Bridge - schedule will not cause fish spawning disturbance, New Splash Pad - work ongoing, Ratcliffe Property- FPRW will discuss possible remediation plan - accessible and safe fishing and resting spot.
- From PLC meeting: Bypass reports for March (4 bypasses that were previously not reported are now reported online) City will now report bypasses that occur during the 12 months of the year - inclusively.
- City planning report for residential building (up to 31 lots available) around Porcupine Lake Area.
- Stakeholder information: Newmont, City, MRCA partnership for beaver dams (2) locations & removal or opening allowing for better fish spawning (completed) and water flow at the area behind the old museum and ambulance service buildings.
- Replanting of the Milkweed patch that was lost during the construction for the declining Monarch Butterflies. City is committed to do this at the completion of PS4.
- Question/request from member of the community re: Hallnor property expansion: - June 8 meeting planned. Expansion involves mineral extraction which includes soil extraction expansion. (Photos shared) Impact to the Porcupine River tributary should be evaluated.

▪ **Vice President:**

- Crawford Nickel Project - 42 kilometres north of Timmins, (Crawford and Lucas Townships). Communication with the FPRW to share information, request for input regarding watershed health priorities. Area sitting outside the Porcupine River Watershed but if discharges are planned, community input is important. FPRW to learn more.

▪ **Secretary**

- June newsletter to include Litter Warrior Challenge, iNaturalist project (1 year old this month) to be completed, sent to members, and posted on website.
- Education and outreach: Porcupine Lake spring birding hikes (OFO, Wintergreen) had to be cancelled due to Covid-19.

▪ **Indigenous Member Report**

- Video sent for reflection

▪ **Communication/Web Site Co-Ordinator**

- All updates requested have been completed.
- Future publication for website should be all the same fonts to facilitate posting.
- Strategic Plan can be found under ABOUT section.

FPRW Discussion Topics:

- 2021-23 FPRW Strategic Plan completed. FPRW to begin implementing this guiding article.
- Ontario Environmental Funds - Good opportunity to apply for one of our strategic goals: to re-evaluate and update the watershed's remedial action plan (RAP 3).
- Youth in Policing initiatives: requested to partner with FPRW for 8 weeks of community programming. Monday afternoons-July and August 2021.
- No community consultation for 31 new residential lots around Porcupine Lake as approved by planning at council meeting April 27.

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- FPRW is looking for a designated property/area where community members can plant a memorial tree in remembrance of a loved one. Will consult with MRCA and Wintergreen.
- FPRW has been looking for a designated area for a future healing garden that would include culturally significant plants and resting/sharing area in collaboration with local Indigenous members.
- Request to stakeholders for prizes for Litter Warrior Challenge.
- Next PLC- June 28 - submit agenda items.

Next FPRW board meeting: July 7th at 7:00pm (videoconference)

Next PLC meeting: June 28, 2021, 10 am (Videoconference online)

Adjournment: 9:30pm