

**ZWATeam Meeting Minutes
Bare Point Water Treatment Plant
May 21, 2008 2-3:30pm**

In Attendance:

Lynn Duffield, Chair; Randy Mehagan Vice-Chair; Janice Horgos, Administration / Community Relations; Cathy Sawicki, Membership; Lenore Buzzi, Ex Officio; Bill Deadman, ExOfficio; Councillor Rebecca Johnson; Sarah Kerton, EarthWise Co-ordinator; Mary Nucci, Advisor, Materials Management; Patrick Fenlon, Pack Pros Plus; Jane Oldale, EcoSuperior; Frank Ilczyszyn, Frank's Alternate Energy; Jane Todd, Ontario Power Generation; Lynne Lessard, Recool; Tanya Shutte, St. Joseph's Care Group; Kirsti Tasala, PARO Centre; Brendan Hughes, Lakehead University; David Hardick, City of Thunder Bay; Mike Bazdarick, City of Thunder Bay; Kerri Marshall, City of Thunder Bay; Stacey Ball, Intercity Shopping Centre; Shelby Mikulinski; L. Ratana-Rueangair, Bombardier; Robbie England, Bombardier; Ruth Merkley, Concerned Citizen; Tina Gibson, LCBO; Gary Butler, LCBO; Jim Squier, Lakehead University; Charles Campbell, EarthWise Steering Committee Chair and the Superior Renewable Energy Co-op; Martin Nantel, Environment Canada; Carl Rose, Citizens Concerned About Pesticides; Sarah McKittrick

1. Welcome and Introductions – Lynn Duffield

Lynn thanked Carl Goodwin and Jim Vukmanich for hosting the meeting and providing a tour of the facility.

Educational Presentations

Tour of Bare Point Water Treatment Plant – Carl Goodwin

Carl Goodwin provided a brief process overview of the water treatment plant. After the overview, the plant tour was started. During the tour, questions were answered from the floor.

Intake Study – Jim Vukmanich, Chief Chemist, Environment Division

Jim discussed the Source Protection Plan for the City of Thunder Bay's Bare Point Water Treatment Plant. The purpose of the plan was to assess the vulnerability of Bare Point's water sources. An assessment was administered through the Lakehead Regional Conservation Authority. The purpose of the risk assessment was to grade the risk to source water as low, medium or high. Threats to water resources were inventoried and assessed. The plan recognizes that a need exists to protect intake by setting boundaries. The conclusion of the plan was that the risk to water intake was low. It was noted that Thunder Bay's assessment was straightforward compared to other regions.

Well Aware Program – Lucie Lavoie for Jane Oldale, EcoSuperior

Jane will do home visits to inspect wells and provide homeowners with information to ensure safe, clean drinking water. (\$10.00 fee to cover transportation costs) All information gathered is strictly confidential. The Well Aware Guide is available at the EcoSuperior office. For more information please visit their website at <http://www.ecosuperior.com>.

Safe Disposal of Out-of-Date Pharmaceuticals – Lucie Lavoie, EcoSuperior

Forty-six percent of Canadians dispose of pharmaceuticals by flushing them down toilets or washing them down sink drains. Waste water treatment technology does not remove dissolved pharmaceuticals from drinking water. Dissolved pharmaceuticals affect animal reproductive systems endangering the balance between the number of males and females emerging within populations. Environment Canada is funding a take back program with EcoSuperior for the safe disposal of pharmaceuticals. The purpose of the program is to encourage people to bring their medicines back to pharmacies for correct disposal.

Bottleless Water Coolers – John Bell, AquaCare

John introduced a bottleless water cooler which currently being distributed by Aqua Care. The coolers are intended to compete with bottled water. John highlighted a number of concerns with bottles including: Bpa found in bottles is considered to be a health hazard, an equivalent of ¼ of the volume of oil for each bottle is required to produce a bottle, 82% of water bottles end up in the landfill. The benefits of a bottleless water cooler were stated to include: filtered water is cheaper than bottled water, water is filtered and is as pure as bottled water and less energy is required to deliver the water to the consumer. Tanks are rented for \$37.90 per month. Rental fees do not include filters. Filters will clean approximately 1,500 gallons of water. The water coolers use a “folded filter” technology. Jane Oldale cautioned the audience that folded filter technology is not suitable for use with well water systems.

Presentation of Zero Hero Award – Lynn Duffield

Lynn Duffield presented a Zero Hero award to Bombardier in recognition of their comprehensive waste diversion program. Lindsay Ratana-Rueangair and Robbie England received the award on behalf of Bombardier.

Presentation of Honourary ZWATeam Membership – Lynn Duffield

Lynn Duffield congratulated Lenore Buzzi upon her retirement with the City of Thunder Bay’s Home for the Aged, and presented her with Honourary ZWATeam Membership for her exceptional contributions to the growth and development of the ZWATeam.

2. Approval of March 26, Meeting Minutes

Minutes were approved with the following corrections. Bill Deadman was not present at the meeting. The date was incorrectly recorded on the minutes.

3. Reports

Membership – Cathy Sawicki

Cathy advised that invoices for membership were sent out this week to all current members. Lynn Duffield recommended that the use of name tags at meetings be introduced given the dramatic increase in attendance at ZWATeam meetings.

Correspondence/Community Relations – Janice Horgos

- On May 8th Lynn Duffield and Janice Horgos made a presentation to Leadership Thunder Bay.
- On May 15th a presentation was made to members of the Women's Institute.
- The ZWATeam will be staffing a table at the Chamber of Commerce, May "After Business" meeting to be held May 21, 2008 at Confederation College
- Janice thanked Ontario Power Generation for their generous donation to the Thunder Bay Tree Stewardship Program. Jane Todd from Ontario Power Generation challenged other businesses to also make a financial contribution in support of the program.

4. Community Updates

EarthWise Thunder Bay – Sarah Kerton, Earthwise CEAP Co-ordinator

Public consultations are now complete. The consultations were a success with approximately 400 individuals attending the presentations. The draft EarthWise plan will be unveiled at public presentation on June 18th. Members are encouraged to visit <http://www.earthwisethunderbay.com> for details.

Energy Conservation Week - Sarah Kerton, EarthWise CEAP Co-ordinator

May 25 – 31, 2008 is Energy Conservation Week. The Ontario Power Authority (OPA) is spearheading the conservation initiatives. EarthWise has put together a calendar of events to raise awareness of the need for conservation and to save energy. Please visit <http://www.earthwisethunderbay.com> for details.

5. New Business

ZWATeam Chairperson Position – Lynn Duffield

Lynn Duffield will be stepping down as Chair of the ZWATeam as of September, 2008. Patrick Fenlon, Pack Pros Plus, has agreed to assume the chair for the final year of Lynn's term.

Exceptional Achievement Award, Janice Horgos – Lynn Duffield

Lynn announced that Janice Horgos was recognized for her contribution to ZWATeam with an Exceptional Achievement Award presented to her on April. 29, by the City of Thunder Bay.

Reusable Bag Community Challenge – Janice Horgos

Janice advised the average family brings home 1,000 plastic bags each year. That amounts to about 55 million bags every year in Thunder Bay. The province of Ontario has stated a goal of reducing the use of plastic bags by 50% by 2012. If this goal is not achieved voluntarily, Premier McGuinty has announced that the Province can introduce fees and bans. The ZWATeam agreed to take the lead in forming a Plastic Bag Reduction Committee to raise awareness and promote the ZWATeam/EcoSuperior "Take An Old Bag Shopping" Campaign. The committee's first initiative is a Community Challenge to "only use reusable bags during Canadian Environmental Week, June 1-7." ZWATeam members are encouraged to participate in the Challenge and display posters in their workplace. A media launch of the Challenge will be held on Tuesday, June 2 in the Food Court, hosted by Stacey Ball, Marketing Director for the Intercity Shopping

Centre. Please contact Janice for “Take An Old Bag Shopping” bumper stickers and posters for your workplace.

Arbor Day in the Park – Janice Horgos

Arbor Day will be celebrated on Sunday, May 25th 1-4pm at Waverly Park. Activities will be hosted by Trees Thunder Bay & City of Thunder Bay Parks and will highlight the work of the Tree Stewardship Program. The stewardship program is a cost shared program aimed at accelerating the rate at which trees are planted on city boulevards. Citizens and businesses are invited to contribute \$125 to plant a tree on a city boulevard. Donations are matched by Ontario Power Generation and the City of Thunder Bay. To date, the program has funded 100 trees. For more information please visit <http://www.treestewardship.com> for details.

6. Other

Natural Habit – Tina

Natural Habit will begin carrying bulk soaps and cleaning products this summer. Members are encouraged to visit their store located at 279 Bay Street to view and purchase eco-friendly soaps and cleaning products. Members are encouraged to visit <http://www.naturalhabit.ca> for details.

Lake Superior Place – Brendan Hughes

Lake Superior Place will be holding a fundraiser at Ruby Moon on Tuesday, June 3rd. Members are encouraged to attend the event. The cost will be \$100 per person and will feature a five course meal. Lake Superior Place will realize \$25 for every ticket sold. Proceeds will go to the construction Lake Superior Place. For more information please call (807)629-2938 or email: info@lakesuperiorplace.org.

Community Partners - Lynn Duffield

Lynn Duffield, Janice Horgos and Patrick Fenlon represented ZWATeam at a Community Partners meeting with the City of Thunder Bay. Meetings will continue to be held on a quarterly basis. When minutes are available from the meeting they will be circulated to members.

7. Next Meeting

September 17 from 2-3:30pm. Location to be announced.