



**York Region**  
**Water and Wastewater Public Consultation Centre**  
**Meeting Notes**

Public Consultation Centre 1, Meeting 2  
Lakeside Public School  
213 Shorecrest Road  
Keswick, Georgina, Ontario

**November 22, 2006**

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**Opening**

Ms. Anne DeCraemer (Facilitator, Hardy Stevenson and Associates Limited) welcomed the 10 attendees, described the York Region and Durham Region Water and Wastewater Master Plan and the Water for Tomorrow display boards and provided an overview of the agenda and purposes of the evening session. She also identified herself as a facilitator working for York Region.

Anne introduced York Region staff. Local municipal employees introduced themselves.

Dr. Hamid Hatami (Manager, Water and Wastewater, York Region) gave a presentation on the York Region Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update study, growth projections and changes in Provincial legislation affecting the former Master Plan (see attached PowerPoint slides).

Mr. Stan Holden, P. Eng. (Manager, MacViro Consultants, a division of GENIVAR Ontario Inc.) presented an overview of York Region's current water and wastewater system (see attached PowerPoint slides.)

## Dialogue Session

Anne DeCraemer asked for comments and advice from residents and posed four questions: 1) *How can York Region improve its water and wastewater infrastructure?* She stated, York Region has provided information about the purposes of their study and the issues they propose to study. 2) *Are there other matters they should be studying?* 3) *Have they missed anything?* The Region wants to develop sustainable infrastructure. They are thinking long-term and asking you: 4) *What would it take for York's Water and Wastewater Servicing infrastructure to be recognized as the standard of sustainability?*

A resident asked how far into the planning process the study team was.

Dr. Hamid Hatami responded that the first Master Plan was completed in 1997 and that the 2006 study is a continuation of the 1997 assessment, noting that Master Plan Updates occur about every five years. In addition, Dr. Hatami pointed out that the study team just started the study process a couple of months ago and that they are currently introducing the study to the community and seeking input on it, in order to move on to the next steps.

A resident stated that there should be cooperation with Conservation Authorities in determining the impacts of population growth on Lake Simcoe, and asked how Conservation Authorities are involved in the study.

Dr. Hatami responded that the study has a Technical Advisory Committee, which includes the Toronto and Region and Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authorities and other stakeholders. He also mentioned that every 2 months the Committee meets to review the status of the study. Additionally, he noted that the Technical Advisory Committee gives advice and recommendations to the study team.

A local councillor referred to the presentation and noted his concerns about how individual Environmental Assessments ("EAs") are related back to the master plan study and process. His underlying question was: *how do you determine the assimilative capacity of that water body? Do you do it locally, or do you do it globally and apply it locally?*

Mr. George Zukovs, P.Eng. of XCG Consultants and member of the Master Plan Study team, noted that we are taking the information from these local studies and inputting the information into our Master Plan. He noted that the study team would not re-do these local studies, but rather that the local information would be rolled up into the Master Plan Update. He also noted that the assimilative capacity for area receiving waters was assessed in a comprehensive fashion considering all relevant inputs. In particular, Lake Simcoe has been subject to

series of comprehensive studies that have recently culminated in estimates of allowable loadings at various points within the Lake and in tributary streams.

In response to George's answer, the resident noted that the study team should clearly outline how the overall study of the assimilative capacity of Lake Simcoe is taken into account in the individual EAs for the growth projections. He further noted that examining the overall studies on Lake Simcoe related to local EAs should be done by the study team, because individual municipalities do not have the resources to look at this issue.

The resident stated you should look at Lake Simcoe in a comprehensive fashion, and understand the assimilative capacity of the lake as a whole before determining where to expand supply from. The results of this investigation should be used within the context of the Water and Wastewater Master Plan.

A resident stated that the Master Plan Study should look at changing private lands back into sustainable marshlands. He noted that there should be efforts to possibly purchase private lands to make sustainable wetlands, because wetlands act as filtration within the Region. The resident noted that for him, watersheds and wetlands are important natural features that need protection within the context of the Master Plan Study Update.

A resident pointed out the need to control commercial products that are being put into the wastewater system. The resident further noted that if the study team is looking at the next 30 years, it stands to reason that an enormous amount of commercial products would be entering the waste water system and the team should have a plan in place to respond to this problem.

In response, Mr. Zukovs noted that York Region recognizes that the science of responding to this problem is evolving and that York Region has made a good effort to implement the best technologies available in its facilities (e.g. sewage treatment technology). He also noted that in Canada the regulation of product formulation falls under the jurisdiction of senior levels of government.

To close the question and answer session, Anne DeCraemer gave additional information about master plans, consultation and how people could visit the web site for information that was presented during the evening.

Notes: Mr. Sanjay Coelho

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