

Meeting Notes
Private Drinking Water Protection Committee
Greater Sudbury Watershed Alliance

26 February 2015, 1:30 pm to 2:30
Sudbury & District Health Unit (SDHU)
1300 Paris Street, Sudbury, ON

Present: SDHU: Stacey Laforest, Burgess Hawkins, Richard Auld, Julie Arlt,
CS: Judy Sewell, Melanie Venne,
GSWA: Lesley Flowers, Lilly Noble, Richard Witham, David Young, David
Furino, Linda Heron
Regrets: Margaret McLaughlin

1. Overview & Objectives

- To protect and improve private drinking water
- Explore a funding program along the lines of the Huron Model
- GSWA would partner with Conservation Sudbury (CS)
 - GSWA would seek funding, administer funds and report to grantor
 - CS would run and administer the program
- Develop a Pilot Stewardship Program modeled after the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program
 - Grants to fund septic system repair or replacement
 - Volunteer participation - carrot would be grant dollars
 - Grant 50 to 80% of cost – cap of \$5,000 to \$7,000
 - Open to homeowners within City of Greater Sudbury
 - Septic systems within 200m of a water body
- Funding – could start small at \$100,000
- Potential funding partners
 - City of Sudbury
 - Ontario Trillium Foundation
 - GSWA would seek charitable status to open up funding opportunities

2. Roundtable Discussion

- How much additional work would Stewardship Program mean for SDHU
- Dependent on types and range of issues to be addressed
- Must define focus and scope
 - Do we want to include small repairs, pump-outs and malfunctions
 - Too many applications would make program unmanageable
- Could focus on septic systems leaching effluent into environment
 - Would narrow scope and be more manageable
 - Would require a site visit to verify necessity of contractor recommendation
 - Once SDHU confirms a leaking septic system they have authority to ensure homeowner replaces or repairs it – a permit is required
 - Permit costs \$750
 - Permit would cover cost of site visits
- Consider a ceiling on maximum grant payout per project
 - Allows for better planning based on available funds
- Question of how many septic systems would require replacement

3. **Next Steps**

- SDHU requested a formal proposal for consideration
- Linda will arrange a meeting with CS and our PDWPC to define our focus and prepare a formal proposal