

# Canadian Municipal Water Efficiency Network

Tuesday August 28, 2012  
11:00 am – 2:00 pm

York Region Administration Building  
Room 22180  
17250 Yonge St, Newmarket

## Meeting Notes

Action By

### 1. Review of June 13, 2012 Meeting Notes

2. Additions to the Agenda – None.

### 3. Administration

#### -Affiliation – CWWA MOU -

–not meant to be binding, to be used on a semi-formal basis. No questions.

#### -AWE site CMWEN Web Page-

–ready to go. Just need to let AWE know it can go live. Format is simpler than the rest of the AWE site because we don't want to go to the expense of hiring the AWE's web designer. CWWA would provide a link to our page when they announce their 2013 Conference later this week. Mary Ann said it takes 24 hours to propagate our webpage via the web. Kathy asked that it go live now in that case. Naomi asked if we have a separate e-mail. Mary Ann said the other committees do not. For the time being, include Kathy's e-mail.

#### -Finances –

–Johann circulated a financial summary and the group reviewed it. On the accountant's recommendation Johann suggested that a 10% admin fee be paid to CMWEN for all projects. Johann asked people to consider funding existing and to propose new research projects. She noted that Green Plumbers will require more money to complete as envisioned. Steve said he heard from Cate that we can secure \$30,000 in matching funding for Green Plumbers which CMWEN should be able to match (see number 6 below for more on Green Plumbers). Mary Ann stated that the Home-Water Works update will not include Flash, so Cdn data will be added at this time (some time late Fall).

### 4. Water Partner Advisory Committee/Water Stewardship Council – Johann -

- Ten priorities had originally been identified by the committee, WaterSense was one of them. COF has condensed this to 3 priorities, WS and Canada Water Week are not among them. Of the 10 priorities The Value of Water/Telling the Canadian Water Story, Drinking Water for Rural Communities, and Wastewater are the three they chose. Some members of the WPAC are not pleased with this direction.

## 5. CSA B128.3 Standard – Performance of Non-Potable Water Treatment Systems (Greywater Reuse):

-June Conference Call update

-B128.3 is done and waiting for publishing to become an NFC.

Expect to be released by October 2012. See link to document at

<http://shop.csa.ca/search?q=B128.3&categoryPathRefs=shop>

Cate

## 6. CMWEN Projects:

### 2013 CWWA Conference –

-Kathy spoke to Robert Haller. He is keen on Calgary as the location. She talked about the week of October 13th as the proposed week. Robert suggested that the theme be the water/energy nexus. CWWA will be merging their Water Efficiency and Energy Committees in the near future. Johann asked that Kathy ask CWWA to develop a critical path so we know what their timelines for the Conference are. Kathy will follow-up with Robert.

Kathy

### Green Plumbers (GP) Canada -

-Steve said progress is being made. GP and Niagara Conservation (NC) have sent out a joint Press release in the U.S. It appears that NC is focusing on direct installation work under the GP banner. Steve is reviewing GP's 400 page training manual. He has a summer student detailing what work has to be done to convert it for Cdn users. We would have to enter into an agreement to use the GP manual here, cost is underdetermined as is the line between the not for profit and not for profit dividing lines within GP U.S. is unclear. The training component under IAPMO, is Not for Profit. GP staff stressed that we need a lead instructor and that LV is best location to obtain it at a cost of \$600. Cost may be waived if the person attends in LV. There are potential training candidates (eg. college instructors). Johann emphasized that we need a strong partner first and foremost. Wayne previously pledged to approach the Walkerton Clean Water Training Centre as they are a not-for-profit training centre. Steve said that IAPMO can help to administer, but we have to have a Cdn contact to be on the front line. John asked if CIPH could fill that role. They have a linkage with IAPMO. May be better to have Doug Kirk (GP Trainer) come here to train our trainers, get a lot more people.

-Cate said that CMHC wants to see a literature review of all green plumbing programs globally prior to linking to GP. Have to bring in CIPH or other plumbers group.

-John said GP U.S. has modified the Australian program dramatically, he knows of no other program that is as in-depth

-John said that in the 20 workshops that he did, half of the attendees were facilities plumbing staff

-John said it is a big financial investment for the plumber, but once early adopters succeed, others will see the benefits

-Cate asked that the pertinent codes be included

-John related that plumbers find homeowners know more than the plumber, therefore this sells GP to the plumber

-Aaron said we need to be careful about what we advocate beyond code.

-Glen asked Aaron how these plumbers support Calgary's HET rebate program which goes beyond code.

-Aaron said it took time for plumbers to embrace HETs

-Cate related that there will be province to province tweaking required

- Kathy asked what the limitations of CMHC's money are
- Cate said that she needs a statement of work to ensure that a review of global programs is included and can that statement of work be consistent with municipal funds
- Kathy said this will go back to CMWEN's sub-committee for further discussion
- Steve said it'd help if municipalities started advertising GP and perhaps requiring GP certification for our contractors
- Johann said that the subcommittee must first review the training manual to determine its relevance
- Steve said we need an electronic copy

**AWE Home Waterworks Website** – Mary Ann asked that we pass on any other suggestions.

### **7. Ontario Building Code Conservation Advisory Council**

- Glen said that a company making drain pipe heat recovery systems is pushing to have this product put in Code
- there is significant push back on this from BCCAC members.

All

### **8. Research Projects – Status Report – Bill Gauley -**

- REUWS** - The monitoring in Peel and Waterloo should begin next month. Data should be available to this committee ahead of final report. Steve said they received tabulated survey results (350/1000). Hot water recirculation systems appeared out of proportion to what staff expect to find. Bill asked if people were asked if they would allow a hot water meter installed.
- Steve said Waterloo Residents have yet to be asked.
- Bill said insurance has dictated that Aquacraft staff drive their specially equipped van along with a Gauley Assoc. staff person.
- they expect to do 25 homes per day which Bill thinks is ambitious.
- Steve said they mapped the houses and they are very scattered so demographics are good, travel will be challenging.
- Johann said that there will be a conference call next week to discuss details and define the scheduling of the monitoring.

#### **-The Bahamas School Program**

- A brand new program. Students that participate in the mandatory course, will have their homes audited and water use changes quantified.
- Bill asked if any Committee member has used the Pacific Inst. Water/Energy calculator. No one has.
- Bill suggested that the one he developed and put it up on the AWE website is better as it's easier to use.
- Johann asked that Bill present it at our next meeting
- PERC has concluded research, John is writing final report to be ready October 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Steve spoke on water softeners. He had a meeting with the Cdn Water Quality Association (CWQA), they scrutinized Steve's research. They sent a letter to ask that the Waterloo research be pulled off website. Results were removed, but may be re-posted
- problem began when one unit outperformed the rest and that manufacturer began marketing it as the Region of Waterloo's #1 choice.
- NSF's test protocol is different from Waterloo's which enabled CWQA to

Bill

question Waterloo's results.

-Steve said once their benchmark is established, they will only publish those units that pass their MaP test

## 9. New Info:

**B.C. Alberta, Manitoba, OWWA, MOE, Quebec, CWWA**

### Quebec update:

1 - Modification proposal to the ASME 112.19.2-2008/CSA B45.1-08 standard that was rejected

Article 8.6.4 Performance

Remove the words "or 3.8 Lpf (1.0gpf) for low-consumption urinals".

Rational: In 2008, 13 Lpf toilets were removed from the standard. Many provinces in Canada are now limiting toilets consumption to 4.8 Lpf to promote water economy and you can now find on the market 3.0 Lpf toilets. We also have waterless urinals now.

For the reasons mentioned above, it doesn't make sense to keep 3.8 Lpf urinals on the market when a 1.9 Lpf is available. Quebec next plumbing Code will limit water consumption of urinal to 1.9 Lpf. Other provinces have already modified there regulation to limit urinals at 1.9 Lpf.

2 – Answer from Statistics Canada to the question : Are you considering to assume the Municipal Survey tasks that Environnement Canada dropped ?

Environment Accounts and Statistics Division will continue to run the current suite of water surveys. These surveys have some limited overlap with the information previously collected by Environment Canada. The data previously collected by the Environment Canada Municipal Water/Wastewater survey fulfilled an important data gap, and Statistics Canada will explore possible alternative methods for collecting the information. For example, accessing water billing accounts in a similar way as the Households and the Environment survey accesses energy billing accounts to measure energy consumption. Statistics Canada will work with stakeholders to determine what relevant data is accessible in a timely manner and the funding requirements needed to fill data gaps in order to produce national statistics.

Contact : Terence Nelligan

Environment Accounts and Statistics Division | Division des comptes et statistique de l'environnement

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[www.statcan.gc.ca/environment](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/environment) | [www.statcan.gc.ca/environnement](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/environnement)

To receive updates on environment statistics click on the link below:

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/rss/dai-quo/1762-eng.rss>

Pour recevoir les statistiques les plus récentes au sujet de l'environnement, cliquez le lien ci-dessous :

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/rss/dai-quo/1762-fra.rss>

3 – Project with Hydro-Quebec and municipalities on a water saving kit request program:

An Excel spreadsheet is attached and shows the calculation on water, energy and CO2 savings potential for showerheads and aerators.

4 – The proposition to ban food waste disposal was removed. The other propositions are plan to be active in 2013.

5 – Quebec Water Efficiency First Year Results:

Nearly 600 of 822 municipalities completed or are completing the first 3 measures of the Strategy, which represent more than 90% of Quebec's population to be served by a municipal distribution system of drinking water. The average quantity of water distributed per person is 623 litres per person per day. Goal for 2017 is 622 lpd.

The potential water losses, including water leaks and unmeasured consumption at night, represent an average of 27% of the quantity of water distributed per person and 31m<sup>3</sup>/(d-km). Goals for 2017 are 20 % and 15 m<sup>3</sup>/(d-km).

## INTERPRETATION

Data quality improvement is probably the most impacting factor that could explain the per capita consumption drop. Other factors, such as inappropriate calibration, verification not over by the Ministry engineers, major investment in rehabilitation and replacement in the last few years, economic recession, beginning of the impact of better performance equipment such as toilet, new pipes in new residential sectors and education (proof is difficult to be done). Therefore, it is not easy to conclude quickly. To improve next year Municipal Water Form, water services cost section, flow meter calibration section and interactivity will be more accurate on procedure and recommendations.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

[http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/water-efficiency-watch-august-2012.aspx#i\\_quebec](http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/water-efficiency-watch-august-2012.aspx#i_quebec)

### **Winnipeg Update:**

2009 – 2012:

#### **Residential toilet replacement credit program**

- 2719 credits have been approved as of August 24, 2012 projections are indicating we could potentially run out of credits by November 2012  
(Note: 4500 credits available in 2012)
- Home Depot's "go low flow" toilet weekend August 18 & 19, 2012 was successful in Winnipeg. We are starting to see an increase in applications received and this surge is expected to last for the next 2 to 4 weeks.

1996 –

**Slow the Flow water education program**

- Met with FortWhyte Alive to review the 2011 / 2012 program and develop a work plan for 2012 / 2013.
- Work plan items:
  - Partnerships – Green Manitoba and Rivers West Red River Association Corridor Inc.
  - Fix a Leak week – School Leak Detector Challenge 2013
  - Youth water education workshops

2010 –

**Grey water reuse:**

- City of Guelph Final Report had great information, thank you.
- A non-potable water system guideline for homeowner's is in draft format and the goal is to have it ready once CSA B128.3 is released
- Sewer and Water Work By-law amendments are required

2010 –

**Province of Manitoba - Water Stewardship & Green Manitoba**

- Province and Manitoba Hydro continue to work on loan program for residential customers that would include toilets. Launch date unknown.

**New Items:**

- Created a leak detection handout for customers that do not access to the internet and high water bills

**10. Other Business – Sloan Flushmate Recall;** what have others experienced? Halton's legal department asked for a shortlist of residents who were rebated for said toilet. No communication with Sloan yet.

-John said only the 6L toilets affected. He said get in touch with toilet manufacturers (eg. Am Std.). There have been people seriously injured due to exploding tanks

-MaryAnn suggested Sloan is receptive to assisting water utilities with communications. Sloan contact Paul DeBoo

**11. Adjournment**