

Environment North Minutes  
Of July 9, 2014

Location: Scott Harris home – 510 Ryerson Cr.

Board Members:

Lea Matyuska - Chair	Lucy Laframboise	Scott Harris
Susan Grinstead	Roopa Rakshit	Graham Saunders

Board Business

**The agenda was approved as amended.**

Moved by: Lucy           2<sup>nd</sup> by: Roopa           carried

**The June 2014 minutes were approved.**

Moved by: Roopa       2<sup>nd</sup> by: Lucy           carried

**The Treasurer's Report was approved.**

Moved by: Lea           2<sup>nd</sup> by: Graham       carried

Board Business

Lake Superior Day – July 20th

EN will have a display table in the Baggage Building @ Marina Park from 12 noon until 4pm. Scott has the display board and will be taking care of the table for this event.

Ontario Field Naturalists

The \$1,000 cheque presentation from EN to the Field Naturalists for the purchase of Lake Superior shoreline will be a photo opportunity with the large display cheque. CJ and other media will receive notification and will be posted on our website. Lucy and Graham will co-ordinate this.

Nuclear Waste

The Nipigon nuclear waste protest was attended by well over 1,000 people. It was a peaceful walk along Highway 11/17 with no shut down, only a slow down on this major and only highway across the Nipigon River. Aboriginal groups, CUSP, EN and many other organizations participated. There was a feast at the lodge for everyone hosted by Red Rock Treaty 44 (Lake Helen Band). Nipigon City Council voted "NO" to becoming a nuclear waste storage site. They reported that the survey conducted in the area was 85 % rejecting the storage site proposal. There were also a lot of letters to the editors of various newspapers on this subject.

CJ Article

The July article will be about bees. Slate Rive Valley has had a major loss of beehives due to neonicotinoids being used in pesticides and a very long and cold winter. Keeping beehives and hosting wild varieties will be addressed. The August article may be about solar hot water heaters.

International Joint Commission

The IJC is an agreement between Canada and the USA regarding the waters that are shared by both countries. During the Rainy River flood in June 2014, the IJC toured the Fort Frances/Rainy River District to assess the problem and take immediate action.

Since Rainy River was already flooding, the dam at Fort Frances wasn't allowed to release any extra water. The River Road Park was almost 1 metre underwater and most of the shoreline was devastated. Ducklings and goslings were washed downstream and separated from the parents.

The IJC determined that since this was the 3<sup>rd</sup> major flood in 12 years in the area, it was likely a result of climate change. River Road between the park and the town would be made into a raised berm road that would also become a protective dike for the town. This decision was made on the shoreline within a ½ hour and impressive to watch.

#### Remedial Action Plan (RAP)

The contaminated lagoon in the north harbour has been studied as to its clean-up options. The sediment committee favours the removal of the contaminated sediment and transportation to the lagoon at the south end of the harbour near the former Mission Paper Mill. Environment North is not pleased with this option. For more information go to [www.infosuperior.com](http://www.infosuperior.com)

#### Energy East Pipeline

Although the Northern Ontario Municipal Association minutes are not made public, NOMA voted pro for the Energy East Pipeline. There is a coalition of 14 First Nations, 4 Metis groups, Council of Canadians (CoC), Ontario Nature (ON), Citizen's United for a Sustainable Planet (CUSP), and Environment North (EN) who are opposed.

**A letter of support from Environment North to express our opposition to the Energy East Pipeline is to be sent to the above named coalition members, NOMA and our city council.**

Moved by: Scott      2<sup>nd</sup> by: Lucy      carried

#### Citizen's Climate March

A Citizen's Climate March is planned for Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014. Details will follow.

Next Meeting    Wed. Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014      5:15 – 7:30 pm  
Lea's House on Lake Superior    8 Cottage Drive East, Neebing