



## Notice of Meeting

### Hamilton Region Source Protection Authority

Thursday, November 5, 2026

5:00 p.m.

Hamilton Conservation Authority conducts meetings in a hybrid format via an in-person and WebEx platform.

All hybrid meetings can be viewed live on HCA's You Tube Channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/HamiltonConservation>

**1. Call to Order**

– Brad Clark

**2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

**3. Approval of Agenda**

**4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

4.1. Draft Minutes, Hamilton Region Source Protection Authority Board, April 2, 2026

Page 1

**5. Business Arising from the Minutes**

**6. Staff Reports/Memorandums**

Items to be received

6.1. Source Protection Program Update

– Martin Keller

Page 5

Reports for approval

6.2. Section 34 Proposed Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Plan Amendment

– Martin Keller

Page 9

**7. In-Camera Items**

**8. Next Meeting – To be determined**

**9. Adjournment**



### 3. Approval of the Agenda

The Chair requested any additions or deletions to the agenda. There were none.

**SP 2601**                      **MOVED BY: Jeff Beattie**  
                                 **SECONDED BY: Craig Cassar**

**THAT the agenda be approved.**

**CARRIED**

### 4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (November 6, 2025)

**SP 2602**                      **MOVED BY: Jeff Beattie**  
                                 **SECONDED BY: Craig Cassar**

**THAT the minutes of the Hamilton Region Source Protection Authority meeting held on November 6, 2025, be adopted as circulated.**

**CARRIED**

### 5. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was none.

### 6. Staff Reports/Memorandums

#### Items to be received

#### 6.1. Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Program Update

Martin Keller provided an overview of the memorandum and answered members' questions. The memorandum highlighted the progress made on Section 34 Source Protection Plan amendment, noting that engagement with the Ministry is nearing completion after which the document will be circulated for public consultation. The final package will be presented to the Source Protection Authorities in the fall of 2026.

**SP 2603**                      **MOVED BY: Lisa DiCesare**  
                                 **SECONDED BY: Craig Cassar**

**THAT the Hamilton Region Source Protection Authority receives for information the memorandum entitled "Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Program Update"**

**CARRIED**

Items to be approved**6.2     Halton-Hamilton Source Protection – Annual Progress Report 2025**

Martin Keller provided an overview of the report and answered members' questions. The annual progress report demonstrates the progress made in implementing policies that protect Lake Ontario and groundwater municipal drinking water sources in the region. An update on the progress of the source protection policies and potential threats that were identified was provided, noting that many of them have been addressed or will be in 2026 as part of the septic inspection cycle.

**SP 2604**

**MOVED BY: Craig Cassar  
SECONDED BY: Susan Fielding**

**THAT the Hamilton Region Source Protection Authority  
approves the submission of the Annual Progress Report 2025  
for the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Plan to the Ministry  
of the Environment, Conservation and Parks;**

**AND THAT the Hamilton Region Source Protection Authority  
receives for information the staff report entitled "Halton-  
Hamilton Source Protection Annual Progress Report 2025**

**CARRIED****7. In-Camera Items**

There were no in-camera items.

**8. Next Meeting**

Next meeting – to be determined.

**9. Adjournment**

On a motion, the meeting adjourned.

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**Memorandum to:** Hamilton Region Source Protection Authority Board

**Approved for Circulation By:** Lisa Burnside, CAO

**Reviewed By:** T. Scott Peck, MCIP, RPP, Deputy CAO/Director, Watershed Management Services

**Prepared By:** Martin Keller, Senior Manager, Watershed Planning and Source Protection, Conservation Halton

**Meeting Date:** November 5, 2026

**Subject:** Source Protection Program Update

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## **Executive Summary:**

Robert Edmondson was re-appointed as Chair for the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee. Work panning for the next transfer payment agreement is underway. Legislative and regulatory changes have been announced changing aspects of the source protection program. Program Managers will meet this fall to discuss program challenges and opportunities for the source protection program. Technical work is ongoing and education and outreach events scheduled for fall 2026 have been completed.

## **Staff Comment / Discussion:**

### Appointment of Chair to the Source Protection Committee

On June 19, 2026, Robert Edmondson was re-appointed by the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) as chair of the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee for a two-year term. His current term will expire on June 18, 2028, among eleven other committee chairs in the province. Seven source protection regions/areas are still without a Minister appointed chair at this time.

### Work planning for TPA

The current drinking water source protection transfer payment agreement expires on

March 31, 2027. In consultation with municipal staff, staff has started discussing potential source protection program work in the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Region for the next funding round. Staff awaits guidance and direction from the MECP on planning for the upcoming transfer payment agreement.

#### Conservation Authority Amalgamation and Implications for Source Water Protection

Legislative and regulatory amendments have been announced October 22, 2026 that will address implications of the Conservation Authority (CA) amalgamation, including governance aspects and identification of a new Source Protection Authority. The proposals also include amendments to the Clean Water Act that would maintain the current 19 Source Protection Committees (SPC) until watershed councils are established by the regional CAs, at which point certain SPC responsibilities under the CWA would be fulfilled by watershed councils, supporting continued local collaboration in the protection of drinking water sources. With the completion of the Section 34 Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Plan amendment staff now focus on work planning for 2027 to ensure continuity of services and program delivery.

#### Upcoming Program Manager's Meetings

Staff will be attending in-person Drinking Water Source Protection Program Managers Meetings on November 16 and 17, 2026 at Credit Valley Conservation. The meetings are chaired by Conservation Ontario and are an opportunity for Program Managers and source protection staff from across the province to discuss current challenges and opportunities for the Source Protection program. The November 17 meeting will also include Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks staff.

#### Technical Work Update

Staff continues to make progress on the technical work outlined in the current Transfer Payment agreement. Technical water quality assessments to support potential wellhead protection area delineations or revisions have been completed for the City of Hamilton's Freelon and Greensville drinking water systems and are underway for the Region of Halton's Campbellville system. Technical work for the Tier 2 Water Budget reassessment of the City of Hamilton's Carlisle system is ongoing and will be finalized by end of February 2027.

#### Engagement Activities

Staff and Source Protection Committee members participated at the Halton Children's Water Festival from October 5 to 8, 2026, engaging with 40 Grade 3 class groups about groundwater. They also hosted a booth at the Ancaster Fall Fair from September 24 to 27, 2026, engaging with 390 people. The outreach focused on sharing information

about the Source Protection Region, potential threats to sources of drinking water, and raising awareness about resources available from Halton Region and Hamilton Region Conservation Authority, including financial assistance programs for landowners to improve water quality on their own properties.

**Strategic Plan Linkage:**

The initiative refers directly to the HCA Strategic Plan 2025 – 2029:

- **Strategic Priority Area – Water Resources Management**
  - Focused on safeguarding the health of the watershed and protecting people and property from natural hazards.

**Agency Comments:**

Not applicable

**Legal / Financial Implications:**

There are no financial impacts resulting from this report.

**Related Reports and Appendices:**

Not applicable

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**Report to:** Hamilton Region Source Protection Authority Board

**Approved for Circulation By:** Lisa Burnside, CAO

**Reviewed By:** T. Scott Peck, MCIP, RPP, Deputy CAO/Director, Watershed Planning and Engineering

**Prepared By:** Martin Keller, Senior Manager, Watershed Planning and Source Protection, Conservation Halton

**Meeting Date:** November 5, 2026

**Subject:** Section 34 Proposed Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Plan Amendment

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**Recommendation:**

**THAT the Hamilton Region Source Protection Authority directs staff to submit the Section 34 Proposed Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Plan Amendment to the Ministry of the Environment Conservation and Parks for approval**

**Executive Summary:**

Revisions and amendments have been made to the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Plan, including policy updates to align with the 2021 Technical Rules, as well as including the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and the updated Woodward intake protection zone two. Necessary engagement and consultation have been undertaken. The Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee reviewed the consultation results, endorsed the proposed plan amendment, and has released the Proposed Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Plan to the Hamilton Region Source Protection Authority for submission to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) for approval. Included in the submission package are also policy revisions required under Ontario Regulation 210/26 that prescribe how risks to drinking water sources can be managed using prescribed instruments. Following the Source Protection Authority meetings, staff will finalize the submission package and submit it to the MECP.

## **Staff Comment / Discussion:**

Since the approval of the Section 36 amendment of the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Plan in November 2022, staff has undertaken further revisions and amendments to the plan. Plan amendments include updates based on the 2021 Technical Rules, as well as new and updated technical work. The results of the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and the updated Woodward intake protection zone two have been added to the Hamilton Region assessment report. Editorial revisions to improve clarity and readability have also been completed (Attachments 1 to 4).

Staff conducted early engagement with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks (MECP) between January and March of 2026. The Ministry reviewed and supported the technical work and provided editorial feedback on reports to ensure clarity of process and results.

Pre-consultation began on April 28, 2026 to provide municipalities and ministries affected by the amendment an opportunity to comment. Council resolutions were received from six municipalities in the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Region in support of the amendment. One comment was received from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness (OMAFRA).

Public consultation occurred between July 22 and September 22, 2026. The proposed draft source protection plan amendment and associated documents were posted on [protectingwater.ca](https://protectingwater.ca) and property owners in the Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Region that may be impacted by the amendment were notified by mail. Property owners were invited to a live webinar on August 6, 2026 explaining the proposed changes and were encouraged to provide comments via email or through a short digital survey. The webinar was recorded and posted online for public access throughout the remainder of the public consultation phase. Two comments were received during the public consultation phase.

The Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Committee has reviewed the results of the consultation, has endorsed the proposed plan amendment at its meeting on October 19, 2026, and released the Proposed Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Plan to the Hamilton Region Source Protection Authority for submission to the MECP for approval. The Hamilton Region Source Protection Authority may include any comments it wishes to make, along with the submission package, as outlined in O. Reg. 287/07.

### Regulatory Changes to direct Prescribed Instrument policy changes

In fall 2025, the Province enacted changes to the Clean Water Act, including how policies affecting prescribed instruments can be used to manage risks to drinking water sources. On June 30, 2026, Ontario Regulation 210/26 was announced that will take

effect on January 1, 2027 and includes standardizing the wording for prescribed instrument policies and the annual reporting requirements for Ministries.

O. Reg. 210/26 prescribes the changes that source protection authorities must undertake and does not include consultation with source protection committees or the public. Staff arranged with the Ministry to include the revised policies as part of the S.34 plan amendment submission.

### Next Steps

Staff will present the proposed plan amendment to the Halton Region Source Protection Authority on November 19, 2026. Following the Halton Region Source Protection Authority meeting staff will finalize the submission package with a submission timeframe to the Ministry of early December.

### **Strategic Plan Linkage:**

The initiative refers directly to the HCA Strategic Plan 2025 – 2029:

- **Strategic Priority Area – Water Resources Management**
  - Focused on safeguarding the health of the watershed and protecting people and property from natural hazards.

### **Agency Comments:**

Not applicable.

### **Legal / Financial Implications:**

Not applicable.

### **Related Reports and Appendices:**

Link to Attachments: [6 2 Hamilton Source Protection S34 Plan Amendment Attachments](#)

Attachment 1: Amended Halton-Hamilton Source Protection Plan

Attachment 2: Amended Halton Region Assessment Report

Attachment 3: Amended Hamilton Region Assessment Report

Attachment 4: Amended Explanatory Document

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