

Thames River Clear Water Revival –  
**First Nations Engagement Committee Meeting # 14**  
**Draft Minutes**

**HOST:** Aamjiwnaang First Nation  
**DATE:** Tuesday November 10, 2015 from 10:00PM – 2PM  
**LOCATION:** Maawn Doosh Gumig Community and Youth Centre  
1972 Virgil Avenue  
Sarnia ON N7T 8E5

**Attendance (11 confirmed):**

Christine Rogers (Aamjiwnaang First Nation)  
Courtney Jackson (Aamjiwnaang First Nation)  
DanaLynn Williams (Aamjiwnaang First Nation)  
Dave Depuydt (Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry)  
Eleanor Heagy (Upper Thames River Conservation Authority)  
Larry French (Councilor - Chippewas of the Thames First Nation)  
Maryjo Tait (Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry First Nation Liaison)  
Murray Blackie (Upper Thames River Conservation Authority Director)  
Sharilyn Johnston (Aamjiwnaang First Nation)  
Tara Tchir (Upper Thames River Conservation Authority) – Project Manager

**Regrets:**

Aimee Johnson (Walpole Island First Nation) Pat Donnelly (City of London)  
George Henry (Chippewas of the Thames First Nation)  
Jeremy Shute (Walker Industries)

**Unconfirmed:**

Bonnie Plain (Aamjiwnaang First Nation)  
Chief Louise Hillier (Caldwell First Nation)  
Dean Jacobs (Walpole Island First Nation)

**Purpose of Meeting**

- Discuss Work plan for 2016 First Nation Youth Stewardship Program
- Discuss First Nation Water Declaration for the Thames River Water Management Plan

**AGENDA**

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Review of September 22, 2015 Minutes**
- 3. Landfill update – Jeremy Shute, Walker Industries**
  - Unable to attend but did send the following update:  
“The amendment to the Terms of Reference was submitted to MOE in May 2014. The Minister will either decide to approve the TOR and allow Walker Industries to proceed with the consultation and studies outlined in the TOR, or decide to deny the TOR. It is unknown when the Ministry will make a decision but at that time all stakeholders will be informed right away.”

**4. Discussion of 2016 First Nation Youth Stewardship Program**

- list of tasks and important milestones,
- list of “needs” that could have targeted funding,
- list of other program structures,
- administration of the program
- council schedules for presentations
- budget considerations (what was spent, what is left over, are there outstanding deliverables or obligations, is there reimbursement for on-going youth involvement)
- progress on final report
- how do we transfer the field equipment to UTRCA?
- Job descriptions for youth leaders with designated tasks and responsibilities (e.g. organization of food and equipment, transportation logistics, setting up training)
- Letters of recommendation for group leaders and for the student participants
- Better option for electronic storage of documents (Google Docs / Drive?)
- Include Moravian township in the program
- Need to have more community involvement in the program

**5. Collective statement about the importance of the Thames River to the First Nations**

- Philosophical
- Spiritual
- Natural law
- Personhood
- Youth
- Restoration
- Water Declaration

**6. First Nation community involvement**

- Revisit the engagement document?

**7. Updates and sharing**

- Lake Erie student conference
- UTRCA full staff meeting (November 26, 2015) request for FN youth stewardship presentation and presenters
- Cultural workshop (Aamjiwnaang) on Thursday November 12 from 9:30 – 3pm