



**IJC Science Advisory Board – Science Priority Committee
Thirty Fifth Meeting
Videoconference Meeting Summary**

February 3, 2021 – 9:00am-10:30am Eastern Time

U.S. Members	Canadian Members	Commission Staff
Carol Miller (Co-Chair)	Jeff Ridal (Co-Chair)	Matthew Child (Secretary)
Mike Murray	Karen Kidd	Victor Serveiss
Mic Isham	Jerome Marty	Rob Phillips
Lucinda Johnson	Gail Krantzberg	Li Wang
Joe DePinto	Maggie Xenopoulos	Mark Burrows
Drew Gronewold	John Livernois	David Burden
Mike Slimak	Nandita Basu	

Guest: Jen Vanator

1. Welcome and Introductions, and Approval of Draft Agenda

The Canadian Co-Chair chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone to the videoconference. Maggie Xenopoulos was congratulated on her (forthcoming) Tier 1 Canada Research Chair appointment, and Nandita Basu as a fellow for the 2021 North American Cohort of the Earth Leadership Program.

The draft agenda was approved by consensus.

2. Ongoing Project Updates

Great Lakes Early Warning System – Phase 2 (Lucinda Johnson)

The work group has been meeting with an initial focus on identifying examples of stressors in the five stressor classes, to develop a long list from which three case studies will be selected for deeper analysis. The project is on track to be completed by December 2022.

Action: Members are requested to send examples of existing early warning systems.

Nutrients Synthesis (John Livernois and Mike Murray)

The work group has been meeting to provide input and guidance to the contractor on the completion of a literature review and summary of previous IJC recommendations. The project is being coordinated with Annex 4 and related project work by the RCC and WQB. The project is on track to be completed by March 2022.

Great Lakes Science Plan (Gail Krantzberg)

Two rounds of online surveys have been completed, and preliminary results reporting prepared by the contractor. Survey results will inform two virtual workshops; an April 8+9, 2021 workshop will have a disciplinary focus, and an April 15+16 workshop will have a lake-by-lake focus. The workshops will explore research questions and gaps, and related operational considerations. Science Priority Committee members will receive an invitation to the workshop. The project is on track to be completed by December 2021.

HPAB's Harmonized Fish Consumption Advisory (Jeff Ridal)

The work plan activity on synthesizing fish population and fish consumption advisory information is being completed by a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Windsor. Engagement with the Akwesasne community has been delayed due to the pandemic, although a virtual meeting with Akwesasne Council is scheduled.

RCC's Connecting Channels (Jeff Ridal)

The work group is currently finalizing its work group report, which will incorporate earlier input from SAB members. The final draft work group report will be sent to board members for review, prior to transmitting it to the Commission for approval.

RCC's Hydrological Model (Drew Gronewold)

The project is advancing through regular work group meetings, and all of the IJC's Great Lakes advisory boards are represented on the work group. The project is expected to develop a framework for understanding modeling needs that couples surface water and groundwater at a basin scale, and to develop a conceptual model.

WQB's Great Lakes Horizons (Lucinda Johnson and Gail Krantzberg)

The work group has received an initial briefing on the project, and additional information on the scope of the project is expected.

3. Traditional Ecological Knowledge Work Plan

The work group Co-Chairs provided an overview of the draft work plan, which was distributed with the meeting agenda.

In the discussion that followed, a number of suggestions were made:

- it would be helpful if the project output includes practical guidance on data sovereignty.
- It would be helpful if the project outputs could define what successful integration of both ways of knowing looks like.
- the work plan could initially focus on Great Lakes examples and analysis, and be broadened to a larger geography as required. It was acknowledged that TEK varies between geographies.
- the contractor that eventually gets selected for the project is likely to have insights into the project approach and methods.
- the proposed project Indigenous advisory committee strikes a good balance between capacity and ensuring crucial access to Indigenous perspectives.

It was noted that selection of an appropriate contractor will be essential to project success, and suggestions of Indigenous-led contractors were received. Additional suggestions would be welcomed.

Action: SPC members are requested to suggest Indigenous-led contractors.

4. Other Activities and SPC Involvement

2020 Triennial Assessment of Progress Commitments

The 2020 TAP report includes three follow-on activities for the IJC, which were described in an attachment to the meeting agenda. An approach to fulfilling those activities is still in a preliminary stage of development, including the scope of each follow-on activity. Board members who are interested in contributing to one or more of the activities are requested to self-identify.

There was general agreement that moving forward to TAP 2023 and beyond, a key role of the SAB is to advise Commissioners on their advice to the Parties, and thus input on TAP is crucial.

Monitoring and Sensing Systems Priority

A small work group is being formed to advance the multi-board work, as described in an attachment to the meeting agenda. It was noted that considering data management and communication is crucial. It was also noted that the IJC work is complementary to, and should be coordinated with, the Great Lakes Observing System's Smart Great Lakes Initiative.

Joe DePinto and Drew Gronewold volunteered to represent SPC on the work group.

SPC Membership

Jeff Ridal's term as Canadian Co-Chair will end soon, and all members enthusiastically thanked Jeff for his many years of service, outstanding leadership, and substantial contributions to the work of the Board since his appointment in 2008. Our paths will cross again Jeff!

Potential candidates to fill the anticipated Canadian vacancy were identified.

5. Other Business & Adjournment

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

*Meeting record prepared by Matthew Child and reviewed by Carol Miller and Jeff Ridal.
Please forward any errors or omissions to childm@windsor.ijc.org*