

International Joint Commission
Canada and United States



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IJC Science Advisory Board Meeting Summary

April 10, 2024 – 1:00-4:00 pm
Melrose Georgetown Hotel
Washington, DC

Canadian Members

Gail Krantzberg (SPC Co-Chair)
Karen Kidd (virtual)
John Livernois
Jérôme Marty
Maggie Xenopoulos
Eric Boisvert
Jason Borwick
Lynn Bouvier
Sergio Paulo
Jennifer Winter (virtual)
Ram Yerubandi

U.S. Members

Lucinda Johnson (SPC Co-Chair)
Chris Winslow (RCC Co-Chair)
Drew Gronewold
Laura Johnson
Donna Kashian
Margaret Noodin (virtual)
Bob Sterner
Sandra Eberts
Val Klump
Debbie Lee
Carl Platz

Binational Members

Micheal Twiss

Commission Staff

Heather Stiratt (GLRO Director)
Antonette Arvai (virtual)
Mark Burrows
Matthew Child (SPC Secretary)
Rajendra Poudel (virtual)
Lyne Sabourin
Li Wang (RCC Secretary)
Jo Werba
John Wilson (virtual)
Rachel Wyatt
Allison Voglesong Zejnati (virtual)

Guests

Vianey Rueda

Regrets: Mike McKay, Nandita Basu

1. Welcome, Introductions, and Approval of Draft Agenda

The SAB Co-chairs welcomed everyone to the hybrid meeting and members introduced themselves. The October 17, 2023, SAB meeting summary was acknowledged. The draft agenda was accepted with no additions or changes.

2. Great Lakes Science Plan

Members were briefed on recent activities of the Science Plan Collaborative which has been established and held two meetings to-date. A series of six convenings will be held with the first scheduled for June in Windsor. The GLRO is also exploring different ways to support the Collaborative including the possible hiring of a Sea Grant Fellow in partnership with the Great Lakes Commission (GLC).

One of the next steps is to conduct a stakeholder analysis to identify organizations, agencies, etc. that should be engaged or involved in some or all parts of the project. GLRO communications staff briefed members on a proposed approach to conduct the network analysis. Members discussed the proposed approach and were asked to provide any further feedback or suggestions to the project lead and communications staff for consideration.

Members were informed that the first convening will focus on governance and were briefed on the details developed to-date including content, attendance, etc.

3. Strategic Priorities

Both the SPC and RCC held meetings prior to the full SAB meeting. During those meetings, each committee identified a number of strategic priorities that they plan to present to Commissioner for discussion during their respective appearances the following day.

The SPC identified and discussed the following priorities with group:

- Value of service of SAB members to the IJC – Need to develop a mechanism for the IJC to assist board members in receiving recognition from their own organizations and institutions for the work they do for the SAB.
- Transnational board – need to expand engagement with indigenous communities and increase diversity and inclusion efforts.
- Communications and outreach activities – promote the work of the committee beyond just webinars.
- Enhanced engagement with early career researchers

The RCC identified and discussed the following priorities with the group:

- Early career researchers engagement
- Improved knowledge transfer – increased engagement where appropriate outside of current efforts
- Department of State contracting mechanism – limitations of the process and how to improve it.
- Elevate the Science Plan
- Coordinating role of the RCC – connect with agencies more regularly, develop internal project identification and selection process, evaluate involvement and role Cooperative Science and Monitoring Initiative (CSMI) and Great Lakes Association of Science Ships (GLASS) programs.

Members discussed where the committees' lists overlapped and decided to split them between the two groups to reduce duplication when presenting to the Commissioners.

4. New Work Plans & Ongoing Projects

Members were briefed on the following new proposed projects and their work plans that were included in the GLRO's recent budgetary submission to Commissioners for approval.

- Great Lakes Early Warning System (GLEWS) Pilot Project
- Climate Migration Impacts on Great Lakes Water Quality

Other potential new projects were also discussed very briefly, and members were informed that the SPC has a few ideas that they are considering moving forward and that the RCC is going to focus on all of its existing efforts.

Members were also given an opportunity to discuss ongoing projects and briefly identify any potential issues that may be of interest to the SAB.

- Community Science – the next phase of the project will fall to the SAB to socialize the products from the first two phases of the project.

5. SPC & RCC Appearance

Members were reminded that Commissioners had requested that the boards limit their presentations to approximately 20 minutes to leave the rest of their time for discussion of strategic priorities.

In order to coordinate messaging on joint SAB projects, it was decided that each committee would present the following:

- SPC
 - Great Lakes Winter Science
 - Microplastics
 - Great Lakes Atlas Scoping
- RCC
 - GLEWS project – Phase 2 and Phase 3 Pilot Project
 - Great Lakes Science Plan

6. Other Business

No other business was discussed.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.