



**Covia Canada Ltd. / Public Liaison Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

**May 14, 2021**

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Date: May 27, 2021  
To: PLC Members  
Copies: Blue Mountain Modernization PLC Engagement Files; posted on [www.CanadianNepheline.ca](http://www.CanadianNepheline.ca) website  
Subject: Public Liaison Committee Meeting

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Meeting Date: Friday, May 14, 2021

Time: 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Location: Zoom Call

Attendees:

Kasshabog Lake Representatives: Rick Rye – Mike Delsey – Janet Humber

Township of Havelock Belmont Methuen: Jim Martin

Covia Canada Ltd: Alex Vanags, Shane McShane, Michele Oxlade, Cale Reeder

Regrets: Dawn Mitchell, John Davidson

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Agenda Items:

1. Safety Share
  2. Review Minutes from the last meeting
  3. Modernization Update
  4. NSO Turtle project
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## **1. Safety Share**

Shane completed the safety share with regards to him blowing a tire while driving down the road. We should always inspect our tires on a regular basis to see if there is any noticeable damage that may cause the tire to blow out.

## **2. Review Minutes from Last Meeting**

The minutes were reviewed. No edits were requested Covia or PLC team. Carol emailed all members the minutes.

## **3. Modernization Update**

Building and construction is going well and going as planned.

Shane opened up the meeting showing everyone the drone presentation that we have completed. Explaining in detail each new part of the project that has been affected and the changes that are being made.

Shane started the drone photos from the new parking lot, to the layout of the new Office Administration Building and how far the building has come, explained in detail, the new SAC structure and how it will function, the new warehouse and shipping area to the new drier and explained how the material is fed into the plant after it has been crushed.

Janet Humber: Has the construction slowed due to Covid?

Covia: The project is still running to schedule, there have been interruptions with the start and stops due to Covid and there have been a few disruptions with our supply chain, but a lot of our equipment was bought and shipped prior to Covid.

Janet Humber: Are you still looking at September 2021 for completion?

Covia: We announced to the Union member that the date has been extended to December 2021 so that is an additional 3 months extension.

Jim Martin: Are the increased building costs affecting you?

Covia: We are certainly glad that we are not using a lot of wood for our project. The new construction is mainly steel. The costs of our wood pallets for shipping our product has been affected. We use approximately 20,000 skids per month so that cost has increased substantially.

Covia: Our rail line has not been affected due to the new construction; we are still running 3 rail lines.

The new drier has been installed and the members saw the new drier and all of the piping that has been installed within the drone presentation. Michelle explained that the new drier is the piece of equipment that triggered the permit.

Janet Humber: Did the new drier get its permit?

Michele Oxlade: The drier passed the initial test in the technical section, but it cannot be turned on as of yet. The Amendment was drier specific, everything else was permitted.

The high voltage wiring has been encased in yellow as a warning to all construction workers.

#### **4. NSO Environmental Programs**

Cale Reeder informed everyone that the Turtle Program is starting up here on site in June and that this will be our 4<sup>th</sup> year that we have been doing this project and have learned a lot over the years. We will be surveying all access roads, collecting, incubating on site and hatching the eggs as we have done in the past. Last year we noticed that there were more nests but they were mainly painted turtles not the Blanding turtles or the snapping turtles.

Janet Humber: Are the turtle nests getting larger?

Covia: Last year there were less eggs hatched but, one of the nests had 50 eggs in it and all hatched.

Cale is not sure why there were not as many nests. We did encounter some of the nests were not fertile and this is due to the turtles laying dummy nests to keep us and other predators away.

Jim Martin: I think that the Local newspaper would be really interested to hear everything that Covia is doing and getting it out to the public. You will need to contact Elmer Buchanan.

Mike Delsey: Are you talking about the Havelock Railway paper?

Jim Martin: Yes.

This winter we built nests for the Wood ducks as their nests are hard to access in the summer. We built 10 nests for them and there were 5 that actually had eggs in them. We have also installed game cameras and we will be using a canoe to get

out and retrieve the cameras. We will share whatever pictures that we obtain with the Kasshabog Lake Committee.

Cale Reeder did reach out to Kasshabog Lake and informed them that the Loon survey will be taking place this year and he will let everyone know when that will be.

Mike Delsey: The Kasshabog Lake Association will be starting our own Turtle Monitoring Program this year lead by Cynthia Cole. The Turtle group will be very similar to the Loon group that we have.

Cale Reeder: Feel free to contact me and I will help the group any way that I can. We can help or supply the nest covers for you. We can hold a training session as well if you feel that would help. I have a great presentation that was given to me by the MNR and I would be happy to train and share that information.

## **5. Other**

Rick Rye: I am very impressed with how everything is coming along and thank you all for sharing.

Jim Martin: How did you make out getting the pumps going? Did you have any problems with the early thaw?

Covia: We are more prepared with each year and getting better equipped

Covia: We are still looking into details on how we can hold virtual Open House this year but will keep everyone posted.

## **6. Closing**

Alex reminded everyone that May 24 is finally here, there will be more traffic than normal, more visitors. We have started to reduce the hours to stay ahead of the noise. Please let the team know if you hear any complaints from anyone we are here to help and fix any issues you may have.

Is the Cottage Association still meeting?

Mike Delsey: We are holding our Annual General Meeting by Zoom again this year. We are not getting as many members on zoom but all of the cottagers are kept informed.

Alex Vanags closed the meeting thanking everyone for their attendance. It was nice to reconnect finally. Lets keep it up!

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:30 pm. Next proposed meeting to be held July 6th, 2021 at 2:00pm.