



Covia Canada Ltd / Covia Mine Advisory Committee (CMAC)

Date: October 28, 2025

To: CMAC Members

Copies: NSO Covia Canada

CMAC Meeting minutes to be posted on www.CanadianNepheline.ca website

Subject: Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday October 28, 2025

Time: 1:00pm – 2:00pm

Location: Blue Mtn main office conference room

Kasshabog Lake Representative Attendees:

Dawn Mitchell - Member at Large

Rick Rye - Kasshabog Lake West

Robert Milne - Kasshabog Lake West

Peter Patterson - Kasshabog Lake East

Robert Cosgrove - Kasshabog Lake East

Jim Martin - Twp of Havelock, Belmont & Methuen

Regrets: Jim Brickell – online via Teams

Covia Canada Representative Attendees:

Cale Reeder – Covia CMAC Facilitator

Dan Lyon – Covia - Director of Operations

Brett Jeffs – Covia Manager of Health and Safety

Krystle Vermilyea – Covia Senior HR Business Partner

Carol DeNure – Covia Administration

Regrets: Michele Oxlade

Agenda Items:

- Safety Share
- Review minutes from last meeting
- Terms of Reference Review
- Operations update
- Environmental update
- Other business

Safety Share

Dawn Mitchell and Robert Milne both had a safety share for us. Dawn reminded all of us to get our snow tires on. Robert reminded all of us to make sure to wear all our safety PPE when at home due to a recent incident he had while installing his metal roof and how fast accidents can happen.

Review of April 2025 Meeting Minutes

Nothing was noted. Minutes are to be deemed approved once CMAC members review and sign off on the draft minutes circulated after a meeting. The subsequent CMAC meeting is utilized to re-affirm and document that approval. The approved minutes are to be posted on the company's web site.

CMAC Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference were reviewed, all terms agreed on.

Cale Reeder indicated that the Ministry had not approved or signed off on the new Terms of Reference but that it had been sent through to them. It is not expected that any significant issues with the revised Terms of Reference will be flagged, nor any specific wording changes requested (and this may be the reason why the Ministry's response has been delayed).

Dawn Mitchell – Will we have to approve again after the Ministry?

Cale Reeder – No. Legal reviewed all and said that there were no issues getting approvals.

Dawn Mitchell – They have to come out for the acoustic testing so maybe ask them at the same time.

Cale Reeder – I am just expecting an email one day approving them. We will review the Terms of Reference annually with the CMAC Team.

Plant Operations Update:

Dan Lyon – Our volumes are down 10% versus budget, and we are projecting that we will see similar demand in 2026. The tariffs are hurting us more with respect to bringing parts in to Canada than shipping our product out of Canada. The business uncertainty generated by the US Trade policy is definitely a factor.

We continue to spend capital on upgrading the Blue Mountain plant and continue to make operational improvements.

Robert Milne – At the last meeting, you indicated the Covia was waiting for new equipment in your baghouse for improved dust control, did that come in and are you now able to enter without a dust mask?

Dan Lyon – We continue to upgrade the dust control modifications. We have spent \$440,000 on elements of the dust control program. The North tower dust collection project is complete. Some areas we can now enter without dust mask protection.

Brett Jeffs – We now have a dedicated dust collector specialist with one of our staff to lead the dust collection projects. He is doing really well and we are seeing a lot of improvements in this area.

Robert Milne - Are you now fully under the Canadian Mexican Trade Agreement (USMCA) allowing its established rules to help offset some of the US/CDA trade uncertainties?

Dan Lyon – Yes, we are.

Jim Martin – On a municipal level, tariffs are affecting the cost of new equipment.

Dan Lyon – Covia has purchased 3 new pieces of mobile equipment and didn't see a huge difference. Ongoing supply lines can be a concern however.

Cale Reeder – The political unknown is the problem and just have to wait and see what is going to happen.

Dawn Mitchell – If the housing market in the US picks up, will that help you?

Dan Lyon – No way to tell, but we are hopeful.

Dan Lyon – We recently completed our contract negotiations with the Nephton plant and we will be doing a layoff effective November 3, 2025 with the potential return date in January 2026, the specific date unknown at this time. We will be keeping 10 employees in the maintenance department working to maintain the Nephton site. And some current Nephton staff employees will be moving temporarily over to help at the Blue Mountain plant during the layoff.

We will be permanently transferring 4 more Nephton employees to the Blue Mountain Plant, and looking at offering a severance package to 9 of the most senior employees. Head count at the Nephton plant in 2026 will be potentially around 30 employees only.

Rick Rye – Will you have troubles starting back up after being off that long?

Dan Lyon – Due to weather that time of year there is always a chance of having issues.

Robert Milne – There was recently noise complaints from MacDonald Bay. It was a metallic banging sound. Was it confirmed that this was just the sound of tailgates on the large trucks banging as the new elevated tailing/settling ponds are being created?

Cale Reeder – Yes, it was logged into our complaint data base and it was found to be 99% that the noise was due to tailgate slamming shut while during construction. That construction is now nearing completion (expected by Dec) and the noise will be gone.

Rick Rye – Time of year has a lot to do with noise due to leaves gone, etc.

Environmental update:

Cale Reeder – the required MECP noise abatement survey is currently scheduled to be completed in of the spring of 2026. We will be finalizing some of the facility equipment upgrades before then, and will be requesting bids from environmental consultants to undertake this noise audit. There are a lot of pieces to the puzzle that have to be completed before they can complete it, and we have to wait until the last piece of equipment is installed and operating. Some of the operating equipment has been changing over time, and new equipment added so the audit completion timeline has been moved out into 2026.

Robert Milne – With regards to the previous noise abatement, will they be using the same sampling locations to allowing an “between years” comparison?

Cale Reeder – Yes, we will be testing in some of the same locations.

Dawn Mitchell – You can’t use the same company

Cale Reeder – No, it will be a new company performing the audit. They will have access to the last noise abatement report.

Dawn Mitchell – With the lack of rain this year and your irrigation systems, did you take water out of Kasshabog Lake?

Cale Reeder – No, we do have a permit to take water out of Big Mountain Lake and Barrett Lake - but because we recycle water in our process wherever possible, we don’t take a lot of additional water. We are going to renew the permit to take water as we do each year. We do monitor all lake levels from which we have permits to take water from. In the 10 years I have been monitoring lake levels, we have never come close to our permitted limit to take water – even in dry years.

We are also part of the Crowe River Conservation team that measures water levels on a scale 1-5 and we are only at a level 3 currently and they have never been worried that we are taking or going to be taking more water than we would be permitted to take.

We did see a 30% reduction in Kasshabog lake water levels, but that isn’t due to Covia taking any water.

Open House 2025:

Cale Reeder – Our Open House went well and had a good turn out this year. Being only 1 day this year, we thought that there would be more but still a good turn out. The purpose of the Open house is not for political reasons its intention is just to keep the community involved and informed.

Dawn Mitchell – we missed having the Turtle Trauma center there!

Cale Reeder – We will contact them early next year to see if we could possibly get them back to the Open house 2026.

Cale Reeder – this year we collected 116 turtle eggs, that is 7 nests and we had a 96% success hatch rate. One of the nests was the rare Blanding turtle nest, and we have not had one for about 4 years now.

Trent University / Microplastics Study: Update

Robert Milne – the student undertaking the study took a total of 120 samples, including water column, sediment and air samples. They currently have an estimated 600 hours of lab work to analyze which is probably going to take about 6 months to complete. There was nothing showing right off that there were any problems evident in the lake.

Summary of New Action Items for next meeting:

Cale Reeder : To see if he can get the noise abatement survey presentation ready for next meeting?

Carol DeNure : To ask Corporate about the Canadian Nepheline website and is it still active?

- **I did find out and yes, that website is still active and can be posted to.**

Carol DeNure: to post the Open House presentation on the Canadian Nepheline website.

- **Yes, sent to Corporate to do that November 7, 2025**

Other Business:

Robert Cosgrove raised a concern regarding truck traffic and speeding on County Rd 46 with no regard to school bus safety and speed control zones. He was wondering if we could talk to our truck drivers and ask them to be mindful of school buses on the road and speed limits.

Cale Reeder: Unfortunately, the truck drivers are not employees of Covia, all of our customers hire their own transport companies and we never know who is coming. If anyone has a specific truck they want to report they should take down the license plates and call the police department.

Brett Jeffs: I will contact the County and see if we can get additional signage put up as reminders.

Jim Martin: There are small cameras that can be installed in certain problem areas. I will look into that as well.

Closing

Dan thanked everyone for their time

Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:30pm

Tentative Next Meeting Time: Tuesday April 14th, 2026 @ 1:00pm

Reminder: If the team wants a specific item discussed, that the member email Carol DeNure prior to the next meeting, and she will be able to place the item on the meeting agenda. Please email Carol:

carol.denure@coviacorp.com