

**AGENDA
PITSAC MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2016
11:00 AM – 2:00 PM
MUNICIPALITY OF LEAMINGTON OFFICE, WEST END COMMITTEE ROOM
111 ERIE STREET NORTH, LEAMINGTON**

Attendees

Tom Bain, Warden Essex County PITSAC Chair
Rick Masse, Mayor Pelee Twp
Wayne Miller, CAO Pelee Twp
John Paterson, Mayor Municipality of Leamington
Peter Neufeld, CAO Municipality of Leamington
Nelson Santos, Mayor Kingsville
Peggy Van Mierlo-West, CAO Kingsville
Jennifer Graham Harkness, Regional Director MTO
Steve McInnis, Manager of Operations MTO
Kevin Boudreau, Regional Contracts Engineer MTO
Richard vandenBoorn, Regional Operations Officer MTO

Agenda Items:

1. Review of June 2016 minutes
 - Tom Bain welcomed the attendees and began the meeting with a review of the June 2016 minutes.
2. Update on New Vessel Build
 - Schedule update for new vessel build – Kevin Boudreau shared shipyard photos illustrating new vessel build progress.
3. Schedule update for new vessel build
 - Kevin Boudreau shared that the New Vessel is anticipated to be delivered to Leamington in late spring/early summer of 2018.
 - Following delivery of the new vessel to Leamington, a number of tasks will have to be completed before the vessel can join the Pelee Island Ferry Service, such as vessel inspections and crew familiarization voyages, etc.
4. Dry dock plans for both vessels:
 - MV Pelee Islander – will go to dry dock in spring 2017. The MV Jiimaan will start the 2017 ferry service while the MV Pelee Islander is at dry dock.
 - MV Jiimaan – will go to dry dock in fall 2017. The MV Jiimaan will tentatively be taken out of service by mid-November of 2017, which is traditionally the date published in the sailing schedule for the MV Jiimaan to end it's sailing for the season.
 - Mayor Masse shared that a request was made by the Deputy Mayor of Pelee Island along with agricultural representatives from Pelee

Island to meet with Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Ministry of Transportation and Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

- Discussion items include the dry dock of the MV Jiimaan in fall of 2017 and impact to agriculture commodity (fall harvest), update on new vessel build, adjustments to current ferry sailing schedule and new vessel arrival celebrations. **Update** – Meeting took place on January 10, 2017.

5. Update on Leamington Breakwater Study

- Richard VandenBoorn shared that the Transportation Environmental Study Report (TESR) is expected to be filed in spring 2017. The Municipality of Leamington will be contacted to arrange a final review before the Report is filed by MTO.
- The removal of the Leamington Breakwater is the preferred option.
- Peter Neufeld explained that the Municipality of Leamington supports the removal of the breakwater provided wave action mitigation measures for the municipal marina and property owners adjacent to the marina, are addressed in the Report.
- Peter Neufeld offered to share messaging regarding the filing of the TESR through Municipal communications.

6. Communications/Customer Service

- Nothing new to report.

7. Municipalities to provide update for their Contingency Plans

- Mayor Masse advised that the Pelee Township administration has been recently tasked with the development of a contingency plan for Pelee Island.

8. Other items

- Future considerations for movement of Pelee Island Agricultural Commodity – Richard vandenBoorn shared that with advancements in the agricultural industry related to crop yield, additional pressure is added to the ferry service in order to ship agricultural commodity off Pelee Island. The trucking industry and the also grain elevators have an obligation to keep up with this increasing demand. This issue will be discussed further at the January 10, 2017 meeting with the various ministries and Pelee representatives.
- Pelee Unplugged Event – MTO is currently working with event organizers to develop a ferry schedule that will meet demand for this event weekend. MTO has proposed that the MV Pelee Islander be pulled from the Sandusky service on the Saturday and Sunday of this event weekend to support the passenger demand.
- Pheasant Hunt – MTO recently requested 10 years of historical data related to the number of licenses sold for the Pelee Island Pheasant Hunt. Over the past 10 years, the number of licenses sold has declined by about 1/3. MTO will formally request that the Township consider ways to better utilize the ferry service during the hunt so that some agricultural commodity can be moved off the Island.

9. Round Table Questions/Concerns

- Steve McInnis shared comments that our service provider had profiled Pelee Island as a tourist destination at the Canadian Ferry Operators Association conference, held in Ottawa in September 2016. **Update** - Richard circulated the advertisement to the group.

10. Future Meetings

- TBD