



## ***Making The Most of Ontario's Environmental Assessment Process***

<b>DAY 1: Wednesday October 26</b>			
<b>#</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Speakers</b>
1	9.00-9.15	<b>Conference Overview:</b> Framing the discussion	François Bregha, OAIA President
2	9.15-10.30	<b>Setting the Scene</b>  What has changed since the <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i> was proclaimed 35 years ago? (e.g., Sector and location-specific plans and planning processes now play much of the role formerly envisaged for EA). Are the assumptions, principles and approaches underlying the EA Act still valid or should they be changed to ensure EA is being used to its best advantage? What should an effective EA system look like?	Steven Rowe, MCIP, RPP, Environmental Planner  Dr. Kevin Hanna, Associate Professor, Wilfrid Laurier University  <i>Moderator: François Bregha, OAIA President</i>
	10.30	Refresh and network	
3	10.50-12.15	<b>The Challenges Ahead</b>  Ontario's population is expected to increase from 13 million today to almost 18 million in 2036, much of it in the Greater Toronto Area and southwestern Ontario. The potential cumulative effects of infrastructure, land use and economic decisions, along with climate change, are likely to create significant challenges in planning a sustainable future. EA can be an important part of meeting those challenges.	Jamie Austin, Manager, Growth Policy, Ministry of Infrastructure  Erin Mahoney, Commissioner of Environmental Services The Regional Municipality of York  <i>Moderator: Stephen Hazell, OAIA Board member</i>
	12:15 -	Lunch	
		<b>Risk Assessment Under Climatic and Regulatory Uncertainty - A Matter of Timing</b>	Dr. Rodney White, Professor Emeritus, University of Toronto  <i>Moderator: Simon Miles, OAIA Board member</i>
4	1:45 - 3:00	<b>How does EA match up to its potential today?</b>  EA seems to work well where the assessment is focused, there is political and administrative commitment to the process, the objectives are clear and adequate resources are available. However, EA is having difficulty addressing cumulative effects, community reaction, climate change and the health impacts of projects. This session will review where EA works well and why, and where EA needs to improve.	Gord Miller, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario  Douglas Thomson, McCarthy Tetrault  <i>Moderator: Phil Brennan, OAIA Board Member</i>
	3:00	Refresh and network	
5	3:20 - 4.40	<b>Improving Practice: Public and Stakeholder Engagement in EIA and EA</b>  Using case studies, speakers will examine lessons learned from various public engagement efforts, including how to implement outcomes arising from public consultation.	Karla Kolli, Dillon Consulting Ltd.,  Anneliese Grieve, SENES Consultants Ltd.  <i>Moderator: Dianne Damman, MCIP, RPP, D.C. Damman and Associates</i>
	5.00	Network at Granite Brewery (Mt Pleasant and Eglinton)	

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October 26 and 27, 2011**

DAY 2: Thursday October 27			
#	Time	Topic	Speakers
	8.30-9.15	<b>OAIA AGM</b>	Francois Bregha, OAIA President
6	9.15-10.30	<b><i>Improving Practice: Process and Agency Coordination</i></b>  Using case studies, speakers will examine recent changes to Municipal Class EA and how EA and Planning Act approvals can be better integrated.	Steve Willis, MCIP, RPP, Vice President, Planning and Sustainable Communities, MMM Group  Janet Amos, MCIP, RPP, Amos Environment + Planning  <i>Moderator: Ariane Heisey, OAIA Board Member</i>
	10.30-	Refresh and network	
7	10.50-12.15	<b><i>Improving practice: Adaptive Management</i></b>  Speakers will address the following questions: What is adaptive management and what is its role in EA? How can EA processes address issues such as climate change adaptation? Are legislative changes required to make adaptive management more effective? What implications does the implementation of adaptive management approaches have for government resources and responsibilities (e.g., monitoring)?	Marc Rose, Senior Environmental Planner, AECOM  Ken Dion, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority  <i>Moderator: Steve Rowe, OAIA Board Member</i>
	12.15	Lunch / Recognition of winning student poster	<i>Susan Ma, OAIA Board Member</i>
8	1.30-2.45	<b><i>Improving practice: Cumulative effects</i></b>  Many Ontario communities face common issues related to the ever expanding urban landscape, including balancing changing and conflicting demands for services and land uses with the need to protect the environment. How can EA better address cumulative effects? What tools are being developed?	Tom Wlodarczyk, Senior Consultant, AECOM  Judi Brouse, MCIP, RPP Director of Watershed Programs, District Municipality of Muskoka  <i>Moderator: Janet Amos OAIA Board Member</i>
9	2:45 – 4:00	<b><i>Towards a Revitalized EA process</i></b> Environmental assessment has the potential to contribute to the management of the many challenges posed by continued growth. What should a new vision for EA in Ontario include?	Break-out groups  <i>Facilitators: Ariane, Francois, Janet &amp; Steve - OAIA Board Members</i>