

Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee March 10, 2020
Meeting Minutes
Limestone District School Board

A meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee was held in the Barry C. O'Connor Board Room at the Limestone Education Centre, 220 Portsmouth Avenue, Kingston, Ontario on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

Present

Members: Brooke Gilmour, St. Lawrence College
Stana Luxford-Oddie, Cataraqui Conservation
Roger Healey, KCAT
Linda Malcolm, KFL&A Public Health
Jennifer Ruddy, Loving Spoonful

Staff: Michele Babcock, Superintendent
Dave Fowler, Manager of Facility Services
Dan Hendry, Sustainable Initiatives Coordinator
Robin Hutcheon, Trustee
Joy Morning, Trustee
Cedric Pepelea, Energy/Environmental Technologist

Regrets: Kristin Mullin, Sustainable Kingston
Zabe MacEachren, Faculty of Education, Queen's University

Guests: Patricia Collins, Queen's University
Leslie Myles, Limestone Learning Foundation

Recorder: Liz Strange, Records Management Coordinator

1. Welcome

Trustee Hutcheon read the Indigenous Greeting:

"The Limestone District School Board is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee. We acknowledge their enduring presence on this land, as well as the presence of Métis, Inuit and other First Nations from across Turtle Island. We honour their cultures and celebrate their commitment to this land."

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED BY: L. Malcolm, that the agenda of March 10, 2020, as presented, be approved.

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3. Business Arising From the Minutes

None at this time.

4. Community Presentation – Leslie Myles, Limestone learning Foundation

Leslie Myles, Managing Director of the Limestone learning Foundation, attended the meeting to provide information about a new LLF initiative. Instead of the usual process for schools to submit applications for individual projects, this year each LDSB school will be receiving \$1000. This money is for the school to use for a project related to climate action. Information about this will be going out to schools in the near future, with a launch time to align with Earth Day in April.

5. Community Presentation – Patricia Collins, Queen’s University

Patricia Collins, Associate Professor, Queen’s University, attended the meeting to provide a presentation on a partnership proposal with the LDSB for promoting Active school Travel. The proposal would include running pilots at various LDSB schools for ‘School Streets’.

A School Street is a section of street in front of a school which is closed to vehicular traffic before and after the school day. They promote safer and cleaner active transportation for children. These initiatives are popular in Europe and are beginning to appear in Canada. Most programs start as a pilot project and, if successful, can become permanent.

Examples of successful implementations of School Street projects from other countries were shared with the members.

There are many benefits to School Streets in addition to promoting Active School Travel, such as safety, better air quality, improved health, student independence, cohesion, flexibility and less congestion.

A Community Engagement plan for the projects has been developed in partnership with KCAT, Kingston Gets Active and the City of Kingston. A research and ethics application has been made to Queen’s university for the project, with approval expected for the end of March. An application will then be made to LDSB for approval to conduct the project with LDSB sites.

6. Community Organization Updates

Queens University, Faculty of Education

Not present at meeting.

KFL&A Public Health

L. Malcolm shared that the Health unit is tied up with COVID-19 issues. An Assessment Centre will be set up for testing of the virus in the near future. Currently all school programming is on hold.

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KCAT

R. Healy shared that KCAT is hoping to be part of the implementation team for School Streets project. KCAT is also busy preparing for the Eastern Ontario Active Transportation Summit on June 3.

Sustainable Kingston

Not present at meeting.

Cataraqui Conservation

S. Luxford-Oddie shared that the Maple Madness program is currently happening. There have recently been 2 teacher candidates from Queen's working on making outdoor learning spaces more accessible for teachers.

Loving Spoonful

J. Ruddy introduced herself as the new Executive Director. GROW garden planning is in process.

St. Lawrence College

B. Gilmour shared that the College is partnering with the Behavioural Faculty to improve the amount of plant-based food available on campus. On March 17, Random Acts of Green will happen, which acknowledges positive action for climate change.

There will be a Tri-Campus e-waste event on March 21. There will also be a textile waste drop-off and a cell phone collection initiative in the near future.

LDSB

D. Hendry shared that LDSB schools will take part in earth hour events on Friday March 27. Bayridge S.S. is running a Sustainable Youth conference April 21. Bus planning for fall is underway, with extra attention for students going to new Kingston S.S.

C. Pepelea shared that 14 schools have completed their initial review for Eco Schools certification.

Four placement students from the Business Analytics Program were at LDSB from March 9th – April 17th. Two placement students from the Energy Systems Engineering Technology Program were at LDSB from March 23th – April 17th.

7. Brainstorm Potential New Members

The Committee reviewed the membership of ESAC and brainstormed possible additional organizations. Board staff will extend invitations for the May 12 meeting with information about ESAC. The Committee encouraged staff to be geographically representative.

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8. Other Business

None at this time.

9. Next Meeting Date

May 12, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

10. Adjournment

MOVED BY: R. Healy, that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.