

**Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Limestone District School Board**

May 6, 2015

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 Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

Present

Members: A. Mack, Co-chair of the Parent Involvement Committee
L. Malcolm, KFL&A Public Health
T. Carpenter, SWITCH
R. Healey, KCAT
K. Moulton, Hydro One
M. Shaw, Loving Spoonful
Z. MacEachren, Faculty of Education, Queen's University

Officials: A. Ross, Co-Chair
D. Hendry, Sustainable Initiatives Coordinator
J. Hendry, Energy/Environmental Technologist
S. Lehman, Supervising Principal

Regrets: M. Sewell, Program Leader, Skills Training & Technology
K. Pender, County of Frontenac
V. Paquin, Sustainable Kingston
B. Stills, St. Lawrence College
T. McKenzie, County of Lennox & Addington
D. Jackson, Trustee
P. Murray, Trustee
D. Fowler, Manager of Facility Services
S. Luxford Oddie, Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority

Guests:

Recorder: L. Strange, Records Management Coordinator

1. Welcome

Trustee Ross welcomed those in attendance to the meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED BY: M. Shaw that the agenda, as distributed, be approved. Carried.

3. Approval of the Minutes – April 1, 2015

MOVED BY: M. Shaw that the minutes of April 1, 2014, as distributed, be approved. Carried.

4. Business Arising From the Minutes

Trustee Ross brought forward an update on the possible inclusion of an Aboriginal Community Member on ESAC. Supervising Principal Lehman had reviewed the ESAC Terms of Reference, which does allow for one community member not associated with a local organization.

Concerns were raised about the specific focus on an Aboriginal Community representative, in that such action seemed to assign an environmental sensibility to an entire cultural segment of the population.

It was raised that the inclusion of an Aboriginal Community representative would align with Ministry's directive to include indigenous themes across the curriculum.

By consensus it was decided that the specific person being considered would be invited as a 'community member' representative of ESAC.

5. Community Organizations Updates

Queens University, Faculty of Education

Z. MacEachren stated that she will be teaching an environmental course as part of the Bachelor of Education curriculum, beginning in June of 2016. All teacher candidates enrolled in the summer semester will take the course, and it will include a half-day to visit local schools to help with ongoing projects.

Hydro One

K. Moulton shared that it is arbor week, and that Hydro One has several Arborists make presentations to schools. At present the LDSB is not taking part in these activities, but could participate in the 2015-16 school year.

The company is always trying to tie ongoing business activities to environmental initiatives, such as through their re-evaluation and re-assignment of 'truck rolls'.

Hydro One also has a Volunteer organization called Greener Choices, which includes members of their staff.

All new HYDRO One buildings will be LEAD certified, such as the recent build in Picton.

County of Frontenac

Representative not present at meeting.

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KFL&A Public Health

The KFL&A Public Health is offering bike safety classes, including helmet fitting, for schools. To date 40 classes have signed up.

200 + students have signed up for the upcoming Water Festival, which will include 19 stations and is being opened by a local Aboriginal Community leader.

KFL&A Public Health is supporting cycling week by promoting the wearing of reflective bracelets.

Trustee Ross inquired about the Clean Air Day posters reported at the previous meeting. L. Malcolm stated she would circulate copies to the ESAC members.

KCAT

R. Healey reminded the ESAC members about the upcoming transportation event being held at Henderson P. S on May 30, 2015.

On June 7, 2015 a Bicycle day is being held in S. Frontenac, beginning at Loberough Public School.

SWITCH

T. Carpenter reminded ESAC members that SWITCH is a network of approximately 140 private and public institutions and individual members representing many facets of the sustainable energy community. At present the focus of their work is on Solar and Wind Energy development. Solar Farms and Wind Energy facilities continue to be established and grow in the SE Ontario region.

T. Carpenter asked the members to consider how the LDSB Board's environmental interests intersect with the Board, and suggested that SWITCH acting in its advisory could facilitate bringing issues to the City's attention for possible assistance and partnership opportunities.

The County of Lennox & Addington

Representative not present at meeting.

Sustainable Kingston

Representative not present at meeting.

Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority

Representative not present at meeting.

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Loving Spoonful

M. Shaw reported that Loving Spoonful has been focused on Homelessness and Food Security, aligning with one of the six key initiatives of the City of Kingston. The local Community Foundation has also identified food security as an issue.

The after school Healthy Cooking classes are continuing and 7 school-based grow garden are underway.

Loving Spoonful is bringing in local Farmers to schools to speak with students.

Lord Strathcona P.S. is establishing the newest grow garden in the LDSB. This will be celebrated at the upcoming Family Festival on June 13 with an official opening of the garden and acknowledgement of the adoption of School Grow Gardens policy.

Members from KFL&A Public Health, the Heart & Stroke Foundation and local government have been invited.

St. Lawrence College

Representative not present at meeting.

LDSB Update

D. Hendry provided an update on some of the things happening in the LDSB:

- Reworking the recycling systems at: Elginberg, JR Henderson, RG Sinclair, Frontenac PS, Central, Sydenham HS, LCVI, Calvin Park, Rideau Heights PS, Sir John A Macdonald PS.
- Establishing a Transpass Program for Board employees
- One Earth One Chance occurred April 22nd
- Evergreen for School Yard Naturalization Programs
- Pitch In occurred April 24
- Commuter Challenge will take place on May 31-June 6
- The Great Lake Waster Festival for grade 4s occurring June 4
- Lord Strathcona School Garden opening on June 13

6. Facilities Energy Presentation

J. Hendry, Energy/Environmental Technologist, provide a report on the LDSB's Utility Data Usage and Reporting. It was explained that all public entities (schools, municipal government, hospitals) must report annual utility consumption to the Ministry of the Environment. This includes natural gas, fuel oil, electricity and propane.

As per the regulation the Board must make this information available to the public (i.e website and hard copy available on request). School Boards report on the school year (other agencies by calendar year). Reports are due each July 1st

As part of the regulation the Board must also create an "Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan" which is to be submitted/published, also by July 1st. This plan is

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to include the Board's conservation goals and objectives which is to be approved by Senior Staff.

The LDSB continues to engage in various endeavours to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reduce energy consumption, including: energy audits, high efficiency heating plants, ventilation control, Building Automation Control Systems, upgraded lighting systems (i.e. LEDs), educational programming (i.e. ecoSchools etc.), building envelope upgrade (roofing, windows, doors), reduction of portables, and computer shutdown software. The Board also belongs to the Catholic School Board Services Association (CSBSA) for purchasing electricity.

The Limestone D.S.B. has a number of renewable energy technologies installed at their schools, including:

- 6 – Grid Tied Photovoltaic Systems
- 7 – Solar Hot Water Systems
- 4 – Ground Source Heat Pumps
- 1 – Biomass Boiler.

In setting targets for reduction in energy consumption the LDSB forecasts for maintenance/repairs, and include estimates as to how the repairs/upgrades will effect energy consumption, i.e installation of new windows, roofing.

7. Environmental Sustainability 2015/16 Calendar

The members in attendance at the meeting provided information about planned events that would occur during the 2015-16 school year. D. Hendry will follow-up with members that were unable to attend the meeting and will produce a Calendar of Events to be shared at the first ESAC meeting in the fall of 2015.

8. Next Steps

D. Hendry will reach out to member organizations for confirmation of participation for the next year.

9. Other Business

No other business was discussed at this time.

10. Next Meeting Date

October 13, 2015 at 6 p.m.

11. Adjournment

MOVED BY: T. Carpenter that the meeting be adjourned. Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.