

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

January 6, 2016

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, January 06, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

Present

Members: L. Malcolm, KFL&A Public Health
K. Moulton, Hydro One
Z. MacEachren, Faculty of Education, Queen's University
K. Pender, County of Frontenac
I. Munroe, Sustainable Kingston
S. Luxford Oddie, Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority
B. Sills, St. Lawrence College
R. Healy, KCAT
R. Hutcheon, Parent Involvement Committee

Officials: A. Ross, Co-Chair
P. Murray, Trustee (Alternate)
D. Hendry, Sustainable Initiatives Coordinator
J. Hendry, Energy/Environmental Technologist
S. Lehman, Supervising Principal
D. Fowler, Manager of Facility Services
M. Sewell, Program Leader, Skills Training & Technology
D. Jackson, Trustee
T. Mahoney, Trustee

Regrets: M. Shaw, Loving Spoonful
E. McAuley, Student Trustee
T. McKenzie, County of Lennox & Addington
T. Champagne, SWITCH

Guests:

Recorder: L. Strange, Records Management Coordinator

1. Welcome

Trustee Ross welcomed those in attendance to the meeting.

Approval of Agenda

MOVED BY: P. Murray that the agenda, as distributed, be approved. Carried.

2. Business Arising From the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. Community Organizations Updates

Parent Involvement Committee

The committee is working on how to complete finances in an environmentally friendly way.

Queens University, Faculty of Education

No update at this time.

Hydro One

The LDSB has been contacted about the opportunity for Hydro One to provide an arborist presentation and their 'Hazard Hamlet', which is about electrical safety.

The organization continues with its Greener Choices program (ride sharing, etc).

At present the organization is installing Telematics in all trucks, which will measure speeds and fuel consumption, and greenhouse gases emissions. A new process for more efficient meter reading is also being developed.

County of Frontenac

The County of Frontenac continues to work on the extension of the K&P trail, which begins at Wolfe Island and is now opened to Tichborne. The plan is to get the trail as far as Sharbot Lake in the near future. This trail is near several LDSB school properties.

The annual Sustainability Breakfast will take place on May 8, 2016 in Sydenham.

Food, trips and trails, and recreation and active lifestyle, remain as priorities for the county.

The County of Frontenac is currently working with South and North Frontenac Community Services on new transportation opportunities, which would allow area residents to have easier access to Kingston and other areas. At present families comprise 40% of riders.

The County is also presently working with City of Kingston on transportation issues.

KFL&A Public Health

The KFL&A Public Health recently finished a video supporting active school travel. It will be creating a package to send to all schools in the area.

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L. Malcom is working with students from Holy Cross Secondary School to raise funds for new bike racks for the school. The students have also approached the City about getting bike lanes on busy streets near the school.

The Adult team is providing input to the City of Kingston City on their Master Plan.

KCAT

The organization is helping to encourage Kingston residents to use active transportation, including Kingston Transit.

Henderson Public School was assisted by KCAT for their Walking School Bus program in spring 2015.

KCAT has contributed to the City of Kingston's Master Plan, which includes an Active Transportation Master Plan.

KCAT has been consulted about the HWY 15 expansion, which will effect LaSalle S. S. and other public schools in the area.

The Wolfe Island Ferry is in the 2nd phase of their renovation plan, which is looking at different scenarios to provide service to the Island's residents. A possible second ferry or one larger ferry are both being considered. A second ferry would allow service to run every half hour.

SWITCH

Representative not present at the meeting.

The County of Lennox & Addington

Representative not present at meeting.

Sustainable Kingston

The organization is looking to build to the point of not needing City funding over next 2 years. The four pillars are: economic, cultural, social and environmental.

Recently two full time staff have been hired, and will be working on the Green Economy Kingston initiative. The focus of the program is to help to set greenhouse gas emissions targets, and the organization is interested in partnering with LDSB to help the Board meet regulatory requirements.

Ruth Nordegraaf has been hired as the new Executive Director.

A Capacity Building workshop is taking place in January. More information can be obtained from I. Munroe.

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On March 19 the organization will be hosting its 'Kingston Unplugged' concert, which uses only wind and solar power.

Sustainable Kingston will be helping facilitate 'Pitch In Kingston'.

Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority

Copies of 'Cat Tales' were shared with the members.

The Little Cat Creek Conservation Area continues to work with the LDSB to provide outdoor education opportunities for students.

The Tree Planting initiatives often partners with Secondary school students, and the CRCA is open to Co-op placements.

Maple Sugar Bush volunteers are needed, and could be an opportunity for students to obtain some of the mandatory volunteer hours.

The CRCA took part in the Water Festival in June 2015.

Loving Spoonful

Representative not present at meeting.

St. Lawrence College

General Overarching Direction, Leadership and Broad Engagement:

- SLC became members of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability for Higher Education (AASHE) and the S Sustainability Tracking Assessment Rating System (STARS).
- Formed a Green Team on the Kingston campus
- Awarded the Greater Kingston Chamber of Commerce Business Achievement Award for Sustainability
- Developed materials (green campus guideline for each campus; and a green map for each campus) to engage new students in sustainability and to allow them to understand the sustainability features on their campus.
- Through the footprint Facebook page communicated with students and staff about sustainability issues; issued monthly sustainability themed calendars on-line.

Waste Management:

- Conducted waste audits (tri-campus).
- Hosted outreach events (tri-campus) to collect insights from staff and students regarding our waste management successes and challenges.
- Developed and implemented a low-cost tri-campus waste minimization (increase diversion from landfill) marketing campaign (posters, improved waste/recycling signage). Used positive messaging to encourage recycling and use of refillable bottles/mugs.
- Worked with the Kingston Green Team to outreach to students and staff.

Energy and Climate Change:

- Complied data and conducted analysis to determine the energy consumption, expenditure and greenhouse gas emissions for the past 5 years on each campus.
- Signed onto the Canadian College and University Presidents Climate Action Commitment
- Developed and delivered a Climate Change Presentation (global, national, provincial and local impact and opportunities).
- Developed and delivered an engagement program (staff and students) to increase awareness of climate change and the impact of the COP21 submit in Paris. This involved a commitment pledge tri-campus that was delivered to Earth Day Canada – and became part of the Canadian COP21 presence.
- Through Enactus initiated the Grounds to Energy project whereby coffee grounds are collected, pelletized and used in a standard pellet stove (at the Energy House).

Sustainable Procurement:

- Integrated sustainability requirements and rating in large SLC requests for proposal.

LDSB

Manager Fowler reported that the new Molly Brant Elementary School construction is underway, and is expected to open in the Fall of 2016.

The new Intermediate/Secondary School design is near completion, and construction should begin in the summer of 2016.

Facility Services is working on school replacement needs (windows, roofs, etc). The province provides approximately \$4 million funding for maintenance on buildings to the LDSB each year, though there is about \$300 million in backlog needs.

Energy monitoring has been implemented in some LDSB schools, and the information collected is shared with students for learning opportunities.

D. Hendry reported that:

- 2127 Kingston Transit Bus Passes have been given out to LDSB secondary students this year
- Slow Cookers for Kids program has been delivered at JG Simcoe, Rideau Heights, First Ave., Frontenac Public Schools
- Recycling systems has been installed at LCVI/Calvin Park, Bayridge PS, Enterprise PS, Amherstview PS, Sir John A. Macdonald PS
- EcoSchools – 4 schools have applied
- Staff Kingston Transit Pass Program will be available for LDSB employees soon

5. Evergreen Update

Manager Fowler provided an update on the plan to engage Evergreen for an LDSB school yard naturalization project. It has been an ongoing challenge do to the requirement of the Board to follow public sector guidelines, which requires an RFP process with 3 quotes.

A decision has been made to engage Evergreen to develop a master plan for Sydenham Public School. The scope of the work will include:

- Site visit and analysis, asset mapping and analysis of existing features, challenges and opportunities – base map preparation
- Meetings with school design committee (min. 3 meetings)
- Presentation of images for brainstorming
- Developing vision, goals, and expectations
- Establish key program drivers with design committee
- Create a preliminary master plan concept for feedback
- Produce a final master plan - a completed concept plan
- Provide a digital file for printing and distribution for fundraising purposes

6. Opportunity for Queen’s Faculty of Education students in LDSB Schools

Z. MacEachren, Faculty of Education, Queen’s University shared that 350 teacher candidates will be available to work in local schools to run environmental-based activities on June 15, 2016. She asked for the members input for a name for the event.

The initiative may be delivered in conjunction with another department(s) at Queen’s, such as dance, or music.

Trustee Ross inquired about the possibility of coordinate with County of Frontenac to get teacher candidates to rural school sites. This will be explored.

It was suggested that the communication out to teachers needs to include a reply by date for planning purposes. Teachers/Administrators should also be aware that it will be on a ‘first come, first serve basis’ for participation.

Members were asked to consider how their respective organizations could help support the event.

It was suggested the event should include Daily Physical Activity components.

More information will be available at the next ESAC meeting.

7. School Generated Projects

D. Hendry is developing plans to have Jeremy DaCosta provide an Active Transportation Presentation for interested school communities. DaCosta is a Transportation Manager with Kingston Transit, and has experience helping schools develop these types of plans.

8. Other Business

Members agreed that the Calendar of Events should be updated and shared at each ESAC meeting. New information about upcoming events should be given to D. Hendry.

The first week in June is the Commuter Challenge (Public Health). D. Hendry will explore ways for LDSB students to participate.

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9. Next Meeting Date

March 8, 2016 at 6 p.m.

10. Adjournment

MOVED BY: R. Hutcheon, that the meeting be adjourned. Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.