

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

October 11, 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 October 11, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

Present

Members: Zabe MacEachren, Faculty of Education, Queen's University
Kathy Moulton, Hydro One
Iain Munroe, Sustainable Kingston
Paula Murray, Trustee (Alternate)

Officials: Michele Babcock, Supervising Principal
Dave Fowler, Manager of Facility Services
Dan Hendry, Sustainable Initiatives Coordinator
Joe Hendry, Energy/Environmental Technologist
Alec Ross, Trustee (Co-Chair)
William Sanderson, Student Trustee

Regrets: Stana Luxford Oddie, Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority
David Jackson, Trustee
Tom Carpenter, SWITCH
Roger Healy, KCAT
Robin Hutcheon, Parent Involvement Committee (Co-chair)
Linda Malcolm, KFL&A Public Health
Tracey McKenzie, County of Lennox & Addington
Kelly Pender, County of Frontenac
Mara Shaw, Loving Spoonful
Beth Sills, St. Lawrence College

Guests: Lilith Wyatt, Loving Spoonful

Recorder: Liz Strange, Records Management Coordinator

1. Welcome

Trustee Ross welcomed those in attendance to the meeting.

Approval of Agenda

MOVED BY: Trustee 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

Queens University, Faculty of Education

Z. MacEachren reported that the EcoBlast Event held in June went well. This event was part of the new extended Teacher's program, which involves a 12-hour Outdoor Education component.

A few teachers expressed concerns over the timing of the event due to their being multiple school events in the month of June, but the date is assigned through Queen's.

The program included three levels with age appropriate activities, and included a physical activity component.

Hydro One

Hydro One is in the final phase of their 'Move to Mobile' project. This program is moving to automated orders to all work crews, which will reduce fuel consumption and truck rolls. Telematics will be installed in all trucks, with the new process to officially start in January.

The company's Greener Choices group (employee-run initiative) has partnered with their Charity Trust campaign. The current initiative is selling reusable water bottles. Hydro One's Charity Trust raises over a million dollars each year for charity.

A biodiversity GIS portal is being developed, which will share information about things happening in the area where work is being performed, including a listing of plant/wild life concerns, and bird areas.

The Cable Locates initiative is working closely with other infrastructures to share information about conditions in work areas to help eliminate unnecessary duplication of inspections, etc. This will also help to prevent unnecessary truck rolls.

County of Frontenac

Representative not present at the meeting.

KFL&A Public Health

Representative not present at the meeting.

KCAT

Representative not present at the meeting.

SWITCH

Representative not present at the meeting.

The County of Lennox & Addington

Representative not present at meeting.

Sustainable Kingston

I. Munroe shared an overview of the organization's Mission, including its focus on the four key areas of social, cultural, economic and environmental objectives. It strives to make Kingston the most sustainable city in Canada.

The organization has partnered with several community agencies, and is always looking for ways to build new connections.

Green Economy Kingston, Sustainable Kingston's program for organizations looking to measure, report, and set targets on their carbon emissions, recently held a low carbon economy event at St. Lawrence College.

In moving forward, the organization is looking to create a community hub, and is now sharing space with OPIRG and Informed Opinions at their new location.

Information about upcoming events can be found on the website.

Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority

S. Luxford-Oddie provided the following report:

- We are in the final stages of putting together our work plan which will guide CRCA objective in to 2020
- We are also putting together Lake Reports for 50 lakes in the CRCA jurisdiction. There is great info about lake health, depths, invasive species and info on good shoreline practices etc. We hope to have them published on our website in the new year.
- We also have started a new green team committee (last spring 2016). The committee is focused on getting quotes to convert the Outdoor Centre external lighting to LED. We are also doing an Eco Survey with staff to ask about their "green" workplace practices. The aim of the committee is to keep projects focused and achievable.
- We working on introducing a Forest Therapy Walks program inspired by the Japanese practice of Shinrin-yoku which translates to "Forest Bathing". The plan is to roll make this program available to residents within our watershed.

Loving Spoonful

L. Wyatt attended the meeting on behalf of Loving Spoonful. She provided information on the Food Reclamation program, which delivers food donated by

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restaurants/grocery stores to shelters, meal programs, and social service organizations. In the previous year 70 thousand pounds of food was reclaimed and distributed.

Loving Spoonful is mindful that food access is a fix for today, and that the key issue is a stable and adequate income. The organization engages in advocacy and community engagement by hosting events about food security, income, etc.

The Food Skills programs assists with community kitchens.

The Grow Gardens program assists elementary schools in developing a garden space on their sites. Staff provides workshops about the gardens that are integrated into the school curriculum and helps students and staff learn about community, food security, and growing your own food.

L. Wyatt shared that Loving Spoonful is looking at a possible expansion of the Food Reclamation program to provide donations to schools, and inquired about the best way to access information about what meal programs or cafeterias are in LDSB schools. Manager Fowler stated that the Finance department would have information about how many students a cafeteria feeds. Student Trustee Sanderson offered to provide contact information for each of the secondary schools, who could then provide information on food sharing programs that may be running in individual schools.

St. Lawrence College

Representative not present at the meeting.

LDSB

Student Trustee Sanderson shared information about his recent Antarctic Trip, where he spent 2 weeks learning about climate change with a small group of students. Since returning from the trip he has spoken to about 1500 students about his experience, and how climate change effects all people.

The members discussed how environmental issues are integrated into the curriculum. Grade ten science provides a climate change unit and the Gould Lake Outdoor Centre offers many worthwhile programs. At present there is no specific course or directions on curriculum components related to environmental issues.

Student Trustee Sanderson shared that recycling and green initiatives are most successful with a passionate student and/or teacher team leading it.

Z. MacEachren suggested that an Environmental Education curriculum checklist could be developed by ESAC to share with the Ministry of Education at an upcoming Ministry/Faculty Forum.

ACTION: Add Environmental Education curriculum checklist to the January 17, 2017 agenda.

D. Hendry provided the following LDSB update:

DreamRider Productions worked with Limestone District School Board (with funding from the TD Friends of the Environment Fund) to deliver the Planet Protector Academy climate action program in local schools between January and July 2016. We engaged a total of 423 elementary students and their families to take action on climate change:

THE RESULTS:

- Delivered over 1,500 participant hours of inspiring enviro ed!
- 52% of families now switching off lights more
- 50% taking shorter showers
- 52% idling less, 47% speeding less, 42% driving less
- 100% of teachers agreed that the resource helped develop students' motivation and personal responsibility for protecting the planet

The following events/initiatives have or will occur in the near future:

- Late May/June Bus Passes were provided for students not going to post-secondary school
- The Great Lake Water Festival, **June 2**
- Green Teacher Canada Slow Cookers for Kids Webinar, **Sept. 27**
- All high schools in the City of Kingston received onsite bus orientation and passes for grade 9s
- Met with MP Joyce Murray from the parliamentary secretary to Treasury Board
- Continued recycling system expansion – Centennial, Storrington, Centreville and Odessa
- Continued work with Evergreen
- 15 representatives to EcoSchools workshop, **Nov. 9**

J. Hendry shared that many projects and initiatives within Limestone D.S.B. which aim to improve building comfort and reduce energy consumption, occurred over the summer months, including:

- Roofing Projects (increased insulation)
- Window Replacement Projects (improved efficiency)
- Lighting Retrofits – LED lighting projects – Lower wattage T8s are standard
- Install CO2 sensors to better control ventilation requirements at schools
- Upgrading to more efficient heating systems
- Upgrading heating and cooling control systems

5. Environmental Sustainability 2016/17 Calendar

Members provided information about their organization's events, which D. Hendry will collate into a 2016/17 calendar.

6. Election of Community Co-Chair

Deferred.

7. Other Business

There was no other business as this time.

8. Next Meeting Date

January 17, 2017.

9. Adjournment

MOVED BY: Iain Munroe, that the meeting be adjourned. Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.