

## **Regional Municipality of Durham**

### **MINUTES**

#### **DURHAM REGION ROUNDTABLE ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

**October 15, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change was held on Friday, October 15, 2021 in the Council Chambers, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 10:00 AM. In accordance with Provincial legislation, electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

#### **1. Roll Call**

Present: D. Hoornweg, Citizen Member, Chair  
E. Baxter-Trahair, CAO  
Councillor Chapman, Health and Social Services Committee  
P. Cohen, Youth Citizen Member  
Councillor Crawford, Works Committee  
C. Desbiens, Citizen Member  
T. Hall, Citizen Member  
Regional Chair Henry attended the meeting at 10:17 AM  
Councillor Highet, Planning & Economic Development Committee  
J. Kinniburgh, Citizen Member attended the meeting at 10:08 AM  
Councillor Leahy, Finance & Administration Committee  
G. MacPherson, Citizen Member attended the meeting at 10:14 AM  
C. Mee, Citizen Member  
R. Plaza, Citizen Member  
K. Senyk, Citizen Member attended the meeting at 10:08 AM  
K. Shadwick, Citizen Member  
J. Taylor, Citizen Member  
M. Vroegh, Citizen Member, Vice-Chair  
**\*all members of the committee participated electronically**

Absent: None

Staff

Present: S. Austin, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Office of the CAO  
B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development  
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT  
M. Kawalec, Climate Change Coordinator, Office of the CAO  
I. McVey, Manager of Sustainability, Office of the CAO  
J. Sochacki, Superintendent, Facilities Maintenance, Works Department  
S. Glover, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

#### **2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. Adoption of Minutes**

Moved by Councillor Highet, Seconded by Councillor Chapman,  
That the minutes of the regular Durham Region Roundtable on  
Climate Change meeting held on September 17, 2021, be adopted.  
CARRIED

**4. Delegations**

There were no delegations.

**5. Presentations**

A) Richard Carlson, Director, Energy Policy, Pollution Probe re: Enbridge 2022-27 Demand Side Management (DSM) Plan for Ontario Municipalities

Richard Carlson, Director, Energy Policy, Pollution Probe provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Enbridge 2022-27 Demand Side Management (DSM) Plan for Ontario Municipalities. A copy of the Enbridge 2022-27 Demand Side Management (DSM) Plan for Ontario Municipalities - Public Release Report was provided to the Committee before the meeting.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- About Pollution Probe
- The Problem
- Why We Are Doing This Project
- What We Are Doing
- Ontario Energy Board (OEB) DSM Proceeding Update (1)
- OEB DSM Proceeding Update (2)
- OEB Hearing Process
- OEB Participation Options
- Incremental Program Ideas

R. Carlson responded to questions from the Committee regarding what participation options are available with Pollution Probe; and whether it is time for municipalities to start indicating to the community that new houses should not be built with gas stoves or natural gas supplied to the house.

J. Taylor advised that she works at a Local Distribution Company (LDC) and went through a rate application and received comments from Pollution Probe which were extremely helpful to her as an internal team member looking to advocate for pushing things further.

Concerns were raised regarding Enbridge's Line 3 and Line 5 that have experienced several spills and leaks of drilling fluid affecting surrounding wetlands and Indigenous communities. Further concern was raised regarding

Enbridge's violation of its agreement with Michigan State with respect to Line 5 and which has ordered the pipeline to be shut down.

B) Mary Anne Martin, Trent University & Jenelle Regnier-Davies, Ryerson University re: Durham Food Policy Council – Food Systems Research & Report Card

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Mary Anne Martin, Trent University & Jenelle Regnier-Davies, Ryerson University presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Durham Food Policy Council – Food Systems Research & Report Card.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- How Did We Get Here?
- Why is this Research Important?
- Purpose of this Food Systems Research for Durham Region
- Project 1 – The Food System Environmental Scan: An Analysis of our Food System Right Now
  - Purpose
  - Reports
  - Survey
- Project 2: Building a Cross-Durham Region Food System Report Card
  - Phase 1
  - Phase 2
  - Using a Food Sovereignty Framework
- What is Food Sovereignty?
  - Food Sovereignty and its Pillars
  - Inclusion Criteria for Data Collection
- Cross-Durham Region Food System Research
- How can you be Involved?

With respect to Project 1, M. Martin advised that they are looking for opinions on what the strengths and weaknesses of the food system are and ideas for changes that would boost food security and resilience in Durham; and with respect to Project 2 and building a food system report card for Durham Region, M. Martin stated that they are looking for ideas of what indicators would be the most informative, and suggestions of data sources that can provide reliable measurements of these indicators.

M. Martin & J. Regnier-Davies responded to questions from the Committee regarding including food banks, churches and other organizations that are providing food to the most vulnerable in future outreach activities, and whether there have been any particular takeaways after discussions with local farmers.

Concerns were raised regarding the formation of the working group and the composition of the roundtable attendees with respect to compiling literature,

reports, and data for the development of a Cross-Durham Region Food System Report Card.

I. McVey advised that he would email Committee members the materials regarding the two projects the Durham Food Policy Council (DFPC) has underway. Project 1 is the Food System Environmental Scan and Project 2 is the Food System Report Card.

C) Ian McVey, Manager of Sustainability, Durham Region re: Climate and Sustainability Program Update

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Ian McVey, Manager of Sustainability, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding a Climate and Sustainability Program Update.

I. McVey provided updates on the following projects:

- Update Items
  - Energy & Emissions
- 2019 vs 2020 Corporate Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Footprint – DRAFT
- Durham Home Energy Savings Program – Timelines and Next Steps
- DCEP Implementation Governance
  - Examples from other Municipalities/Regions
- DCEP Governance – Community Task Force
- Other For Your Information (FYI)s

Chair Hoornweg on behalf of the Committee thanked I. McVey for his Climate and Sustainability program update.

**6. Items for Information and Discussion**

A) Open Discussion on DRRCC Priorities and Goals for Remainder of the Committee Term

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Discussion ensued regarding what the Committee felt that the priorities and goals should be for the remainder of the DRRCC term; how the DRRCC could play a more active role in advising the Region/Sustainability Office on a variety of topics/issues; and, how the DRRCC might evolve in the future.

Discussion also ensued regarding establishing a sub-committee to discuss the priorities and goals, or the possibility of hosting a facilitated session/workshop to help guide the Committee in these discussions.

E. Baxter-Trahair advised that a review of all advisory bodies will occur at the end of the next term of Council, and that relentless implementation has been the current goal of the Sustainability Office.

Staff responded to a question from the Committee regarding whether the Sustainability Office would be receiving additional staff support and noted that it will be looked at during the 2022 budget process.

It was the consensus of the Committee to refer this matter back to I. McVey and staff to look at the opportunities to host a facilitated session in the New Year to discuss the priorities, goals, and future of the DRRCC.

B) New IESO Report: Decarbonization and Ontario's Electricity System:  
Assessing the Impacts of Phasing out Natural Gas Generation by 2030

A copy of the New IESO Report: Decarbonization and Ontario's Electricity System: Assessing the Impacts of Phasing out Natural Gas Generation by 2030 was provided to the Committee members prior to the meeting and received.

C) Town of Whitby Climate Change Adaptation Plan – IseeChange Platform

A copy of the Town of Whitby's Climate Change Adaptation Plan – IseeChange Platform was provided to the Committee members prior to the meeting and received.

I. McVey advised that the Town of Whitby is currently in the process of creating a Climate Change Adaptation Plan and is looking to gather community member experiences with respect to the environment.

I. McVey advised that he would follow-up with J. Schofield, Project Manager – Sustainability & Climate Change, Town of Whitby, and connect her with P. Cohen on how Climate Justice Durham could help the Town of Whitby's efforts to spread the word through their social media channels.

**7. Correspondence**

There were no communication items to be considered.

**8. Other Business**

There was no other business to be considered.

**9. Date of Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change will be held on Friday, November 19, 2021 starting at 10:00 AM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

**10. Adjournment**

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Highet,  
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:33 AM.

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D. Hoornweg, Chair, Durham Region  
Roundtable on Climate Change

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S. Glover, Committee Clerk