

Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM REGION ROUNDTABLE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

November 19, 2021

A regular meeting of the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change was held on Friday, November 19, 2021 in the Council Chambers, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 10:04 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
P. Cohen, Youth Citizen Member attended the meeting at 10:07 AM
Councillor Crawford, Works Committee attended the meeting at 10:32 AM
C. Desbiens, Citizen Member
Regional Chair Henry
J. Kinniburgh, Citizen Member
Councillor Leahy, Finance & Administration Committee
C. Mee, Citizen Member
R. Plaza, Citizen Member
K. Senyk, Citizen Member
K. Shadwick, Citizen Member
J. Taylor, Citizen Member
M. Vroegh, Citizen Member, Vice-Chair
***all members of the committee participated electronically**

Absent: Councillor Chapman, Health and Social Services Committee
T. Hall, Citizen Member
Councillor Highet, Planning & Economic Development Committee
G. MacPherson, Citizen Member

Staff

Present: S. Austin, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Office of the CAO
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
K. Smith, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
L. Fleury, Legislative Officer and Deputy Clerk Pro Tem, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Leahy, Seconded by J. Kinniburgh,
That the minutes of the regular Durham Region Roundtable on
Climate Change meeting held on October 15, 2021, be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Delegations

There were no delegations.

5. Presentations

A) Ajax Green Development and Environmental Design Guidelines – Cameron Richardson, Supervisor of Environmental Sustainability & Climate Change

Cameron Richardson, Supervisor of Environmental Sustainability & Climate Change provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Green Development and Environmental Design Guidelines (GDEDG) for the Town of Ajax. A copy of the Green Development and Environmental Design Guidelines (GDEDG) for the Town of Ajax was provided to the Committee before the meeting.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Background
- Discussion
- GDEDG Steering Committee
- Phase 1
- Phase 2
- Draft GDEDG and Metrics
- Impact Categories
- Metrics
- Next Steps – Phase 2
- Next Steps – Phase 3
- Conclusions

C. Richardson responded to questions from the Committee regarding the proposed incentive design and financial incentive routine review of metrics; how public consultation will be promoted to provide input to the plan; how outreach for consultation will be targeted for youths; and suggestions to implementing a community outreach and engagement team.

B) Dan Hoornweg, Associate Dean and Professor, Faculty of Energy Systems and Nuclear Science, Ontario Tech University, and Ian McVey, Manager of Sustainability, re: Sustainability of the Great Lakes Region [Item 6. B)]

Dan Hoornweg, Associate Dean and Professor, Faculty of Energy Systems and Nuclear Science, Ontario Tech University, and Ian McVey, Manager of Sustainability provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Sustainability of the Great Lakes Region.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Global Trends (Climate Change Only One of Several)
- Policy Insights – Sustainable Great Lakes
 - Cumulative Stresses on the Great Lakes
 - Projected Geographical Shift of Human Temperature Niche
 - Bio-Physical Indicators, Great Lakes Region
 - Socio-Economic Indicators, Great Lakes Region
- Sustainability Assessment of Cities within the Great Lakes Region
- Sustainable Development Goals
- Toronto Region at a Fork in the Road
- Welcome to the Anthropocene
- Ontario's GHG Focus Needs to be Transportation
- Toronto (GGH), Canada Bio-Physical Indicators
- Toronto (GGH), Canada Socio-Economic Indicators
- Cities and Regions Now in a League of their Own

D. Hoornweg responded to questions from the Committee regarding the key factors that are deteriorating the great lakes; ways as a Region to obtain sustainable development goals through transportation, building code, and socio-economic factors; and the key indicators showing the great lakes are deteriorating.

The Committee thanked D. Hoornweg for his presentation and stated that the presentation was very valuable and to present it as many times as he can.

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

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
- Corporate Climate Action: Background
- 2025 Carbon Reduction Forecast by Major Initiative(s) – DRAFT
- CCAP Identified: Short-term Corporate GHG Reduction Priorities

- Corporate Climate Action – Next Steps
- Durham Greener Homes Program (program formerly known as D-HESP)
- DCEP Implementation Governance – Context
- DCEP Implementation Governance Taskforce
- DCEP Implementation Governance
- Envision Durham
- Durham Flood Risk Assessment Initiatives
- Examples of Two Flood Risk Assessments
- Region-wide Flooding Website
- Towards a Durham Flood Resilience Strategy
- COP26 – Glasgow Climate Pact – Local Government Perspectives

I. McVey responded to questions from the Committee regarding whether lower density or higher density homes are being pushed by the building and development industry; whether there have been presentations on the greener homes program; key ways to reduce the carbon reduction forecast; and ways to reduce GHG emissions throughout the Region

I. McVey advised he would follow up on ways to reduce GHG emissions through a forum for public, private, or small businesses to come together to share and exchange best practices.

6. Items for Information and Discussion

A) COP26 Glasgow Summit – Discussion of Key Takeaways for Durham Region

A copy of the COP26 Glasgow Summit – Discussion of Key Takeaways for Durham Region was provided to the Committee members prior to the meeting and received.

B) Sustainable Great Lakes – A Regional Assessment of Sustainability in the Binational Great Lakes Megaregion

A copy of the Sustainable Great Lakes – A Regional Assessment of Sustainability in the Binational Great Lakes Megaregion was provided to the Committee members prior to the meeting and received.

C) Sink or Swim – Transforming Canada’s Economy for a Global Low-Carbon Future – Canadian Institute for Climate Choices

A copy of the Sink or Swim – Transforming Canada’s Economy for a Global Low-Carbon Future – Canadian Institute for Climate Choices was provided to the Committee members prior to the meeting and received.

D) The \$2 Trillion Transition – Canada’s Road to Net Zero – RBC Thought Leadership

A copy of the \$2 Trillion Transition – Canada’s Road to Net Zero – RBC Thought Leadership was provided to the Committee members prior to the meeting and received.

E) Ontario Power Generation – The Climate Challengers Podcast Series

A copy of the Ontario Power Generation – The Climate Challengers Podcast Series was provided to the Committee members prior to the meeting and received.

F) The Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change – Policy Brief for Canada

A copy of the Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change – Policy Brief for Canada was provided to the Committee members prior to the meeting and received.

G) Municipal Energy & Emissions Database (MEED)

A copy of the Municipal Energy & Emissions Database (MEED) was provided to the Committee members prior to the meeting and received.

H) New Green Tech Hub Announced: EaRTH District

A copy of the new Green Tech Hub: EaRTH District was provided to the Committee members prior to the meeting and received.

I) 2022 Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change (DRRCC) Meeting Schedule

A copy of the 2022 Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change (DRRCC) Meeting Schedule was provided to the Committee members prior to the meeting and received.

Discussion ensued regarding the frequency of meetings and whether to change to meeting bi-monthly or to meet more frequently. It was the consensus of the Committee to keep the monthly meeting schedule as presented.

Moved by J. Kinniburgh, Seconded by Councillor Crawford,
That the 2022 Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change Committee (DRRCC) Meeting Schedule, as presented, be approved.

CARRIED

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, January 21, 2022 starting at 10:00 AM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

10. Adjournment

Moved by C. Mee, Seconded by Regional Chair Henry,
That the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:57 AM.

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

K. Smith, Committee Clerk