

Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM REGION ROUNDTABLE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

April 16, 2021

A regular meeting of the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change was held on Friday, April 16, 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
B. Bridgeman, CAO Alternate
Councillor Crawford, Works Committee left the meeting at 11:00 AM
C. Desbiens, Citizen Member
Regional Chair Henry attended the meeting at 10:54 AM
Councillor Highet, Planning & Economic Development Committee
J. Kinniburgh, Citizen Member
J. Koke, Citizen Member
Councillor Leahy, Finance & Administration Committee
G. MacPherson, Citizen Member attended the meeting at 10:16 AM
C. Mee, Citizen Member
R. Plaza, Citizen Member
K. Shadwick, Citizen Member
J. Taylor, Citizen Member
M. Vroegh, Citizen Member, Vice-Chair attended the meeting at 10:54 AM
***all members of the committee participated electronically**

Absent: Councillor Chapman, Health and Social Services Committee
T. Hall, Citizen Member
K. Senyk, Citizen Member

Staff

Present: S. Austin, Director of Strategic Initiatives
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
M. Kawalec, Climate Change Coordinator, CAO Office
A. Luqman, Project Planner, Planning & Economic Development Department
I. McVey, Manager of Sustainability, Office of the CAO
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 Crawford,
That the minutes of the regular Durham Region Roundtable on
Climate Change meeting held on February 19, 2021, be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Delegations

There were no delegations.

5. Presentations

A) DEAC Residents' Guide to Climate Resiliency – Jay Cuthbertson, DEAC member

Jay Cuthbertson, DEAC member, provided a PowerPoint Presentation regarding the DEAC Residents' Guide to Climate Resiliency.

J. Cuthbertson advised that the Residents' Guide to Climate Resiliency is intended to provide residents with information on how to build climate resilience into their day-to-day lives by incorporating various lifestyle choices that will contribute to a cleaner and healthier Durham. He also advised that the Residents' Guide was identified as a high priority project in the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee's 2020 and 2021 workplans.

J. Cuthbertson advised that the Residents' Guide to Climate Resiliency consists of the following eight sections:

- Your Home
- Food
- Waste
- Health and Wellness
- Transportation
- Water
- Energy
- Businesses

J. Cuthbertson briefly outlined the practical information, tips and small changes included under each section. He concluded by advising that the Residents' Guide is available on the Regional website at durham.ca/DEACguide and will be promoted through a public service announcement and social media campaign.

In response to question from the Committee regarding whether the guide could be made available through the Durham Waste app, A. Luqman advised that she would follow-up with Waste staff.

I. McVey stated this would be a great opportunity for collaboration between DEAC and DRRCC and that staff could look into arranging thematic webinars centred around this guide.

B) Food Security Task Force Update and Next Steps – June Kinniburgh, Chair
Durham Community Climate Adaptation Plan Food Security Task Force

June Kinniburgh, Chair, Durham Community Climate Adaptation Plan Food Security Task Force, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding a Food Security Task Force Update and Next Steps.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Will residents of Durham Region have access to food during and in recovery from a climate related emergency?
- Inspiring Next Steps
- Durham Community Climate Adaptation Plan
- Task Force & Working Groups
- Global Food System Complexity
- Deciding Project Scope
- Goals
- Food Task Force Objectives
- What is food security and food insecurity?
- Emergency or Transitory Food Insecurity
- Accomplishments
- Some Themes Identified
- Next Steps
- Thank You
- Proposed Motion

I. McVey, on behalf of the Committee, thanked J. Kinniburgh and the task force for their hard work on this Report.

Moved by C. Mee, Seconded by Councillor Crawford,
That the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change
Committee recommends to the Finance & Administration
Committee for approval and subsequent recommendation to
Regional Council:

That the Durham Region Food Security Task Force Report – Inspiring Next Steps be endorsed as an addendum to the Durham Community Climate Adaptation Plan (DCCAP).

CARRIED

C) Ontario Power Generation Climate Change Plan – Jennifer Knox, Public Affairs Manager OPG

Jennifer Knox, Affairs Manager, Ontario Power Generation (OPG), provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding OPG's Climate Change Plan.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Who We Are
- Our Assets
- Positioned to Lead
- Setting a Global Example
- Our Goals
 - Our Climate Goals
- Defining Net-Zero
- Our Guiding Principles
- Our Climate Actions
 - Mitigate
 - Adapt
 - Innovate
 - Lead
- Our Key Initiatives
 - Small Modular Reactors
 - Electrification
 - Darlington Refurbishment
 - Hydro Upgrades
 - Non-Hydro Renewables and Storage
 - Negative Emissions Technologies
 - Gas Generation
 - Adaptation and Asset Resiliency
 - Our Assumptions
 - Our Levers to Achieve Targets
- Our Action Plan
- Watch our Video
- Thank You

J. Knox responded to questions from the Committee regarding being a catalyst for change now as opposed to in 2050, as stated in the presentation; and, developing nature-based solutions for current buildings.

With respect to the nature-based solutions, I. McVey advised that it would be a great opportunity for the Region and OPG to collaborate, as well as connect with other OPG environment groups.

Discussion ensued regarding charging for employee parking at office buildings as a deterrent to driving to work as OPG could be a factor in the increase in greenhouse gas emissions; and, that it will be critical to get the

message out that greenhouse gas emissions will increase in the next to 5-10 years due to the closure of the Pickering nuclear site.

J. Knox advised that she would be able to provide a more fulsome update next year to the Committee.

D) Climate and Sustainability Program Update – Ian McVey, Manager of Sustainability, Durham Region

I. 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 and Emissions
 - Adaptation and Resilience
- Energy Emissions
 - Approve Corporate GHG Reduction Targets
 - Carbon Budget Management Process
 - Corporate Climate Action Plan – Next Steps
 - Durham Home Energy Savings Program
 - E-Mission
 - District Energy Opportunity Analysis
 - Clarington Energy Park
- Climate Resilience
 - Flood Risk Assessment
 - Tree Planting Programs

I. McVey advised that next steps for the Corporate Climate Action Plan would include developing a project-level carbon accounting and forecasting tool; formalizing key performance indicators in collaboration with departments; advancing social housing retrofit demonstration projects; developing an investment-ready, portfolio-wide facility retrofit approach; and, working with departments to develop projects for ad hoc funding opportunities as part of the 2022 budget cycle.

6. Items for Information and Discussion

A) ONTech University Brilliant Energy Institute – Executive Director Recruitment

The ONTech University Brilliant Energy Institute – Executive Director Recruitment posting was provided as a link to the Committee for information.

Chair Hoornweg provided a brief explanation of the position.

B) Envision Durham Municipal Comprehensive Review – Proposed Policy Directions

The Envision Durham Municipal Comprehensive Review – Proposed Policy Directions was provided as a link to the Committee for information.

I. McVey advised that the comment period will remain open until June 30, 2021. He also advised that Planning staff could bring a presentation to the next DRRCC meeting to provide an overview of the proposed policy directions and the Committee could then discuss any comments they may have or any input they would like to provide.

C) Report #2021-A-3: 2021 Climate Change Update and Durham Region Corporate Climate Change Action Plan

Report #2021-A-3 of the Chief Administrative Officer was provided as a link to the Committee for information.

D) Report #2021-COW-3: Regional Submission to the Ministry of the Environment Lake Simcoe Protection Plan 10-year Review

Report #2021-COW-3 of the Commissioner of Planning & Economic Development and the Commissioner of Works was provided as a link to the Committee for information.

7. Correspondence

A) Correspondence from the Town of Ajax dated February 24, 2021, re: Gas-Fired Electricity

Moved by J. Taylor, Seconded by Regional Chair Henry,
That the correspondence from the Town of Ajax dated February 24, 2021, re: Gas-Fired Electricity be received for information.
CARRIED

8. Other Business

There was no other business.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change will be held on Friday, May 21, 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 11:28 AM.

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

S. Glover, Committee Clerk