

# Agenda

## Windsor-Essex County Environment Committee

Held on September 19, 2019

Meeting at 5:00 p.m. at the Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **ELECTION OF CHAIR**

3. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT**

4. **MINUTES**

Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held July 4, 2019 - emailed separately

5. **BUSINESS**

5.1 WECEC Report No. 103: Temporary road closure at the Ojibway Nature Complex

5.2 Priorities & Subcommittee's discussion - **attached**

6. **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

6.1 Air - **attached**

6.2 Environmentally Sensitive Lands and Issues

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

7.1 WECEC Mandate & Terms of Reference review - **attached**

7.2 WECEC 2020 Budget Request - **attached**

7.3 Green Speaker ideas

7.4 Eliquid Invoice - **attached**

8. **COMMUNICATIONS**

8.1 The Windsor Star article dated September 9 2019 entitled "City Council again delays decision on road closures to protect at-risk snake species"- **attached**

8.2 CBC article dated September 10 2019 entitled "Ojibway Park roads won't be closed for fall migration" - **attached**

**9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 14, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. at the Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

## **WECEC Priorities Identified at the April 25, 2019 Meeting**

- Planting trees in the community (WECEC tree planting?)
- Sandpoint beach
  - Checking water for E.coli levels
  - Sprucing it up
- Single use plastics ban
- Declaring a climate emergency - what have other cities done?
- Strengthen City of Windsor emissions reduction target
- Waste diversion education
- Following the development of the Climate Change Adaptation Plan
- Public Engagement
- Green development
- Transit electrification
- Camera controlled smart intersections (improve efficiency)
- Shade along riverfront
- Change mentality on biking
- Lids on recycling bins
- Endangered species protection/education around the Ojibway Nature Complex

### **Next Steps September 19, 2019**

1. Further refine and prioritize actions
2. Form subcommittees

## AIR SUBCOMMITTEE -SEPTEMBER 19, 2019

### Climate Change Emergency Declaration:

**WHEREAS** the most recent report by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate change (IPCC) has indicated that within less than 12 years, in order to keep the global average temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius and maintain a climate compatible with human civilization, there must be a reduction in carbon emissions of about 45% from 2010 levels, reaching net zero carbon emissions by 2050; and

**WHEREAS** based on current projections of the future impacts of human caused climate change, climate change will adversely impact Windsor-Essex's local economy, damage local infrastructure and property, put a strain on municipal budgets and result in significant economic and health burdens for the constituents of Windsor-Essex, particularly our vulnerable populations; and

**WHEREAS** climate change will jeopardize the health and survival of many local plant and animal species as well as their natural environments and ecosystems; and

**WHEREAS** Windsor-Essex is already experiencing large and increase climate change impacts including but not limited to overland flooding, heavy rain event flooding, emergence of invasive species, an increased number of high heat days, the rise of vector borne diseases, the re-emergence of blue-green algae and harmful algal blooms in our lakes and rivers; and

**WHEREAS** municipalities are understood to produce and/or have regulatory jurisdiction over approximately 50% of carbon emissions in Canada; and

**WHEREAS** the County of Essex and the City of Windsor join the Government of Canada and 444 Canadian municipalities (including Vancouver, Ottawa, Montreal, and 18 other Ontario municipalities, among them Chatham-Kent, Sudbury, Sarnia, Guelph, and Kingston) that have declared climate emergencies, some of which are also implementing strategic plans in order to help reduce global carbon emissions and mitigate the impacts of climate change; and

**WHEREAS** the City of Windsor, the Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA) and the Windsor Essex County Health Unit (WECHU) are committed to and currently undertaking city and regional climate change planning, encompassing both mitigation and adaptation, in partnership with others; and

**WHEREAS** this emergency is an opportunity to bring together County, City and Town governments as well as regional stakeholders to work together on climate change planning and implementation with the aim of protecting our region and contributing to greater national and global climate change response; and

**WHEREAS** implementing climate action and making a transition to a low-carbon economy also represents a significant opportunity to stimulate economic growth, increase job opportunities and develop new technologies;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that both the City of Windsor and the County of Essex declare a Climate Emergency in the knowledge that this is an emergency with no foreseeable conclusion which will require robust and permanent changes in how the City and County conduct their business; and further,

That in response to this emergency, the need to reduce overall emissions from the City of Windsor and the County of Essex as well as continue to prepare for Windsor□ Essex County's climate future are deemed to be high priorities when considering budget direction and in all decisions of council; and further,

That City and County administrations **BE DIRECTED TO PREPARE REPORTS** for consideration by their respective Councils within 90 days containing recommendations for priority actions items, implementation measures and cost requirements to accelerate and urgently work towards the reduction of emissions and preparing for our climate future.

# **Windsor Essex County Environment Committee (WECEC) - Terms of Reference and Mandate - July 2015**

## **Introduction/Preface**

The purpose of the WECEC is to provide advice on environmental issues to the City of Windsor, County of Essex and its area municipalities.

## **Mandate**

- WECEC was established as a volunteer advisory committee through resolutions of Windsor City Council and the County of Essex within the meaning of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2005, c.25 (the 'Act')
- WECEC receives referrals to address specific environmental concerns from the City of Windsor, County of Essex and its area municipalities, as well as,
- WECEC is proactive and will advise on matters identified through its own initiative.
- All recommendations will be approved by City/County Council prior to making any recommendations to a third party and/or private agency.

### **Review:**

The Terms of Reference will be reviewed on an annual basis as part of the establishment of the annual work plan. Any changes will be put forward as recommendations to City and County Council for approval.

## **Composition/Membership**

WECEC will be comprised of eleven (11) members of which two (2) members will be from County Council and two (2) members will be from City Council.

## **Duties and Responsibilities**

The scope of WECEC will include activities of primary responsibility for which an annual work plan will be developed, such as:

- developing policies for consideration by the City and County regarding ongoing environmental concerns,
- develop responses related to Federal and Provincial actions in public and private undertakings affecting the ecosystem to be forward to City and County Councils,
- identify and examine issues and new alternatives of an ecological nature that may affect the natural environment of the region and to advise City and County Councils on such matters,
- review and provide advice regarding the environmental implications of studies, plans, proposals and other documents as may be referred to the Committee,
- to advise on and recommend studies that could assist in increasing awareness of environmental concerns; solutions to environmental problems and/or enhance environmental conditions in the region,

- report annually on the state of the regional environment, and provide the report to City and County Council,
- liaise with other organizations, committees, and agencies with similar interest in protecting and preserving the natural environment of Windsor and the County of Essex,
- coordinate partnership funding by collecting funds from organizations, committees and agencies to further collaborative environment projects for Windsor and Essex County,
- participate in other committees where WECEC is required or suggested by the City of Windsor and County of Essex and its area municipalities.

The scope of WECEC may include activities of secondary responsibility that will be conducted in partnership with other organizations, committees and agencies, such as:

- identify and implement community outreach activities which support the growth of environmental awareness and appreciation,
- provide advice on regional environmental resources,
- provide advice on regional environmental data.

### **Appointment and Term**

In Accordance with Section 22.2 of the Procedure By-Law 98-2011, Appointment of members to Committees may be for any duration up to and including the full term of the Council, or until their successors are appointed.

### **Absenteeism**

Any member who is absent from 3 consecutive meetings without expressing regrets will be deemed to have resigned from the Committee.

### **Agenda and Minutes**

In accordance with the City Of Windsor's Procedure By-Law 98-2011, the Committee Chair will review, identify, and prepare agenda items and priorities prior to each meeting. Though the Committee Chair is responsible for conducting meetings and providing direction, they are to ensure a fair and open discussion of agenda items, enabling members to suggest items for the agenda.

Minutes shall be taken of all Committee meetings by a designate of the City Clerk who shall subsequently distribute them as soon as possible to all Committee members.

All matters related to recording and distributing the Minutes shall comply with the City of Windsor Policies governing the recording and distribution of the Minutes of a Committee of City Council.

### **Rules of Order/Operations of the Committee**

Elections and meetings will be conducted in accordance with Bourinot's Rules of Order and the City of Windsor's Procedural By-Law 98-2011.

- In camera discussions will only be held in strict compliance with procedural bylaws.

- WECEC will see to achieve consensus on decisions. Recommendations are "carried" if supported by a majority. Only resolutions as they appear in the adopted minutes may be considered as officially representing the position of WECEC.
- WECEC will advise respective staff of the City of Windsor and County of Essex by resolution on matters that were referred to them.

### **Reporting Structure/Frequency of Meetings**

The Windsor Essex County Environment Committee (WECEC) reports to the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee and *Essex County Council*.

Meetings will be held bi-monthly and are open to the public. Additional meetings can be called by the Chair.

### **Resources to the Committee**

- The Committee will have an annual budget comprised of contributions from the City of Windsor and the County of Essex.
- Administrative Support will be assigned through the City of Windsor, Council Services.

### **Remuneration**

Advisory Committee members receive no compensation for their service on the City's Advisory Committees.

### **Quorum**

The Quorum of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee is 6 members.