

REPORT NO. 202 of the
ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC SAFETY
STANDING COMMITTEE
of its meeting held April 23, 2014

Present:

- Councillor J. Gignac**
- Councillor A. Halberstadt**
- Councillor R. Jones**
- Councillor H. Payne**
- Councillor F. Valentinis, Chair**

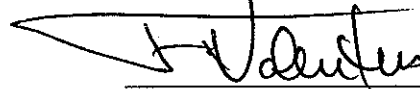
That the following recommendations of the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee **BE APPROVED:**

Moved by Councillor Halberstadt, seconded by Councillor Gignac,
THAT the minutes of the Windsor-Essex County Environment Committee meeting held January 9, 2014 **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried.

Councillor Payne was absent at the time the vote was taken.

Clerk's Note: The minutes of the Windsor-Essex County Environment Committee meeting held January 9, 2014 are attached as background information.



CHAIRPERSON



SUPERVISOR OF COUNCIL SERVICES

NOTIFICATION:

Name	Address	Email Address	Phone	FAX

KK/
Windsor, Ontario January 9, 2014

A meeting of the **Windsor Essex County Environment Committee** is held this day commencing at 5:30 o'clock p.m. at the Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant, there being present the following members:

Councillor Alan Halberstadt, Co-Chair
Charlie Wright, Co-Chair
Eileen Chen (non-voting)
Pauline Cheslock
Derek Coronado
Rick Coronado
Theresa Czerwinski
Roger Dzigan
Jesse Gardner Costa
Paul Henshaw
John Miller (arrives at 5:42 p.m.)
Mike Nelson
Lindita Prindi
Tamara Stomp
Radwan Tamr (arrives at 5:43 p.m.)

Regrets received from:

Councillor Hilary Payne

Guests in attendance:

Ian Naisbitt, Chair, Little River Enhancement Group
Kathryn Arthur, Management Biologist, ERCA
Caroline Biribauer, Outreach Coordinator, ERCA

Also present are the following resource personnel:

James Bryant, County Engineering Department
Averil Parent, Environment & Sustainability Coordinator
Karen Kadour, Committee Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Halberstadt, Co-Chair calls the meeting to order at 5:32 o'clock p.m. and the Committee considers the Agenda being Schedule "A" **attached** hereto, matters which are dealt with as follows:

2. **ADDITION TO THE AGENDA**

Moved by P. Cheslock, seconded by J. Miller,
That Rule 3.3 (c) of the Procedure By-law 98-2011 be waived to add the following addition to the Agenda:

- 9.2 Discussion regarding paperless minutes and agendas.
Carried.

3. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT**

None disclosed.

4. **MINUTES**

Moved by C. Wright, seconded by P. Cheslock,
That the minutes of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee at its meeting held December 5, 2013 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.
Carried.

5. **PRESENTATIONS**

5.1 **Ian Naisbitt, Chair, Little River Enhancement Group Phase Three – Connecting the Windsor Airport Swamps Spring 2014**

Ian Naisbitt, Chair, Little River Enhancement Group is present. The ERCA “Windsor Airport Swamp Restoration (2014) map” is distributed and **attached** as Appendix “A”. The “Little River Enhancement Group (Lil’ Reg) Delegation to WECEC” document is distributed and **attached** as Appendix “B”.

As outlined in the “Lil’ Reg” document, the following history of the organization is as follows:

- Since 1989, the Group has participated in 35 river cleanup events.
- As of 1990, the Group has participated in 82 planting events – in excess of 29,000 trees have been planted.
- The Group adopted the Little River Watershed in 1991. (Windsor International Airport is located in the Little River Watershed).
- The Group has a keen interest in the three Provincially Significant Wetlands on the airport lands.
- Phase 1 – trees and shrubs were planted on airport on Earth Day 1997
- Phase 2 – the process of connecting the 3 swamps began on June 4, 2013
- Phase 3 – swamp wetland restoration project – YQG

- Goals in Phase 3 include: continue ecological connection of fragmented Provincially Significant Wetland Swamps at Windsor International Airport
- Develop and test a green infrastructure concept for storm water retention utilizing a continuous tree and shrub covered swamp while mitigating for wildlife attraction from large waterfowl and gull species.
- Project elements include: identify boundaries for the next phase of planting (approximately 2 to 3 hectares/5 to 7.5 acres);
- Engineer earthworks to create vernal pools within the next phase of planting, with the pools linking to drainage for the first 3-4 years until vegetation becomes established;
- Undertake earthworks to create vernal pools and temporary water relief;
- Develop a species list of hydrophilic Carolinian zone trees and shrubs;
- Plant species, both upland and wetland to the site as the water characteristics dictate;
- Monitor the site for wildlife attraction and planting success.

D. Coronado reports he toured the 2013 planting area and commends Mr. Naisbitt, ERCA and the volunteers for the number of trees that were planted.

Kathryn Arthur, Management Biologist, ERCA and Caroline Biribauer, Outreach Coordinator, ERCA advises the trees will be ordered by March 2014 and the staff to plant the trees will be hired in April/May 2014. It is noted 5,000-6,000 seedlings will be planted. C. Biribauer states students from David Suzuki School will be invited to plant the seedlings.

Moved by T. Stomp, seconded by J. Miller,
That City Council and the YQG Board of Directors **BE REQUESTED** to endorse Phase 3 (Swamp Wetland Restoration Project on the YQG Airport lands) submitted by the Little River Enhancement Group.
Carried.

The Chair thanks Ian Naisbitt for his presentation.

5.2 Averil Parent, City of Windsor Environmental Coordinator – 2013 Report on the State of our Environment

The highlights of the 2013 Report On the State of the Environment are as follows:

- As part of the City of Windsor's Environmental Master Plan (EMP) Implementation, a number of environmental indicators are tracked over time which include –
 - Improve Our Air & Water Quality
 - Create Healthy Communities
 - Green Windsor
 - Use Resources Efficiently
 - Promote Awareness

- A report on the State of the Environment is to be completed every four to five years as a way to report on the environmental indicators being tracked.

In response to a question asked by Councillor Halberstadt regarding the increased use of pesticides, A. Parent responds the increased use of pesticides is weather related and is also dependent on the number of parks.

P. Henshaw indicates the "brownfields" (*abandoned, idled or underused properties where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by a real or perceived environmental contamination as a result of historical industrial or commercial land use practices*) have increased over the since 2005. A. Parent states a Brownfields Community Improvement Plan was undertaken in 2010 and notes the Planning Department is actively working to increase brownfield conversion.

D. Coronado expresses concern the State of the Environment Report was not vetted by WECEC before proceeding to the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee.

The Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee at its meeting held November 20, 2013 approved the following motion:

*Moved by Councillor Payne, seconded by Councillor Halberstadt,
THAT the report authored by the Environmental Coordinator dated October 29, 2013 entitled "Report on the State of our Environment 2013" BE RECEIVED for information, and further*

THAT an additional report BE PROVIDED with possible general next steps that could be taken to reverse negative environmental results as listed in the 2013 Report on the State of Our Environment, including identifying costs and investment to date.

Carried.

Moved by C. Wright, seconded by R. Dzugan,
That the City of Windsor's ROSE: Report On the State of our Environment dated 2013 BE RECEIVED, and further, that the "Review of the Report On The State Of the Environment 2013 submitted by the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee – Air Subcommittee BE PROVIDED at the February 6, 2014 meeting.

Carried.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.1 Tree By-law Update

No report.

6.2 Invitation to Dr. Saad Jasim, Director, International Joint Commission to discuss Algae Bloom Toxins

A. Parent indicates WECEC has already undertaken the production of a video relating to algae blooms. It is noted Dr. Jasim is no longer the Director of the International Joint Commission.

6.3 Green Speaker Series

R. Dzugen announces Chris Hadfield, former Astronaut will be coming to Windsor on June 5, 2014. He notes the cost to retain Mr. Hadfield as a Green Speaker is approximately \$30,000.

In response to a question asked by Councillor Halberstadt, Co-Chair regarding how Mr. Hadfield as a Green Speaker relates to the environment, T. Stomp responds the air quality of the planet is an environmental theme and indicates Mr. Hadfield is a very engaging speaker.

Moved by C. Wright, seconded by T. Stomp,

That **APPROVAL BE GIVEN** to an expenditure in the upset amount of \$1,000 to assist in the cost for Chris Hadfield, former Astronaut to participate in the Green Speaker Series on June 5, 2014 in Windsor, Ontario at a venue to be determined.

Carried.

P. Henshaw suggests Robert Krausz, PhD Environmental Policy and Planning be considered for the 2014 Green Speaker Series. The resume of Dr. Krausz is distributed and attached as Appendix "C".

C. Wright, Co-Chair suggests a speaker be retained to discuss nuclear waste disposal sites.

7. COORDINATORS REPORT

A. Parent states a "draft" Smog Action Plan for the City of Windsor has been completed. She notes a meeting was held with representatives from the Parks Department and indicates future meetings will be convened with the Operations Department, Human Resources and also Local 82.

8. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

8.1 Air

No report.

8.2 Transportation

No report.

8.3 Provincially Significant Wetlands

J. Gardner Costa reports a Strategic Planning meeting was recently held with the Detroit River Canadian Clean-up regarding the Ojibway Shores property. He states a petition is being circulated regarding the Endangered Species Act of Ontario and the 200 species at risk.

8.4 Water Quality

M. Nelson advises a new member will be appointed to the Subcommittee, as Chitra Gowda is no longer an employee of ERCA.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 WECEC Year-End Report 2013

M. Nelson states the WECEC Year End Report 2013 provides approvals and endorsements of WECEC along with a very good summary of accomplishments.

9.2 Paperless Agenda/Minutes

WECEC at its meeting held October 7, 2010 adopted the following motion:

Moved by S. Sawyer-Beaulieu, seconded by D. Clevett,

"That the minutes and agendas of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee BE SENT in an electronic format."

It is generally agreed the practice to send minutes/agendas electronically will continue, and further that hard copies of the agenda will be provided at the monthly meetings. If members do not require hard copies, they are requested to contact the Committee Coordinator.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

-
- 10.1 The research article published in PLOS One dated December 11, 2013 entitled "Artificial sweeteners in a large Canadian river reflect human consumption in the watershed" is received for information.

11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

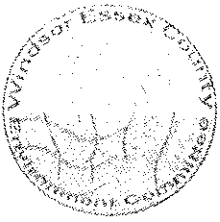
The next meeting will be held on February 6, 2014 at 5:30 o'clock p.m. at the Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 7:30 o'clock p.m.

Councillor Halberstadt, Co-Chair

Committee Coordinator



AGENDA
WINDSOR-ESSEX COUNTY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
held on Thursday, January 9th, 2014
Meeting at 5:30p.m. At the Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant (4155 Ojibway)

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

3. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT**

4. **MINUTES**

Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held December 5th, 2013 – *emailed separately.*

5. **PRESENTATION**

- 5.1 Ian Naisbitt, Chair, Little River Enhancement Group: Phase two – Connecting the Windsor Airport Swamps Spring 2014 – *attached.*
- 5.2 Averil Parent, City of Windsor Environmental Coordinator (A): 2013 Report on the State of our Environment – *attached.*

6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

- 6.1 Tree by-law update
- 6.2 Invitation to Dr. Saad Jasim, Director, International Joint Commission, to discuss the algae bloom toxins and the effects on human health as well as ways to mitigate this threat.
- 6.3 Next Green Speaker Series ideas

7. **COORDINATORS REPORT**

WECEC Coordinator Monthly Report – *attached*

8. **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

- 8.1 Air
- 8.2 Transportation
- 8.3 Provincially Significant Wetlands
- 8.4 Water Quality

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

- 9.1 WECEC year-end report 2013 – *attached.*

10. **COMMUNICATIONS**

- 10.1 Research article published in PLOS One December 11th 2013 – *Artificial sweeteners in a large Canadian river reflect human consumption in the watershed* – *attached.*

11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

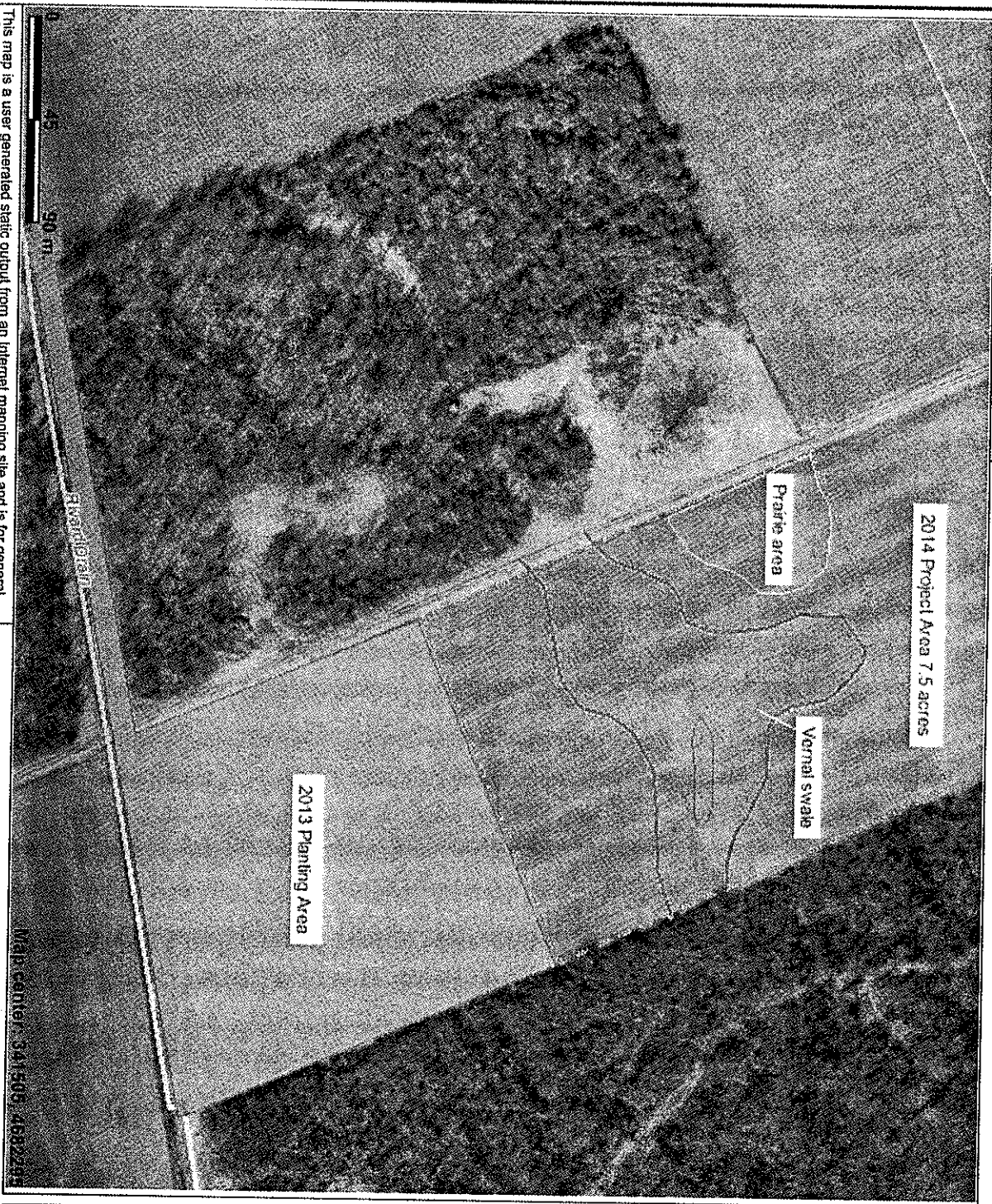
The date of the next meeting is **February 6th, 2014** at the Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant at 5:30 o'clock p.m.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

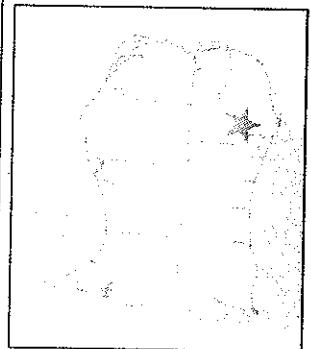


Essex Region Conservation Authority
... *OpenStreetMap*

Windsor Airport Swamp Restoration (2014)



This map is a user generated static output from an internet mapping site and is for general reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable. THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION.



- Legend**
- Municipal Boundary
 - Limit of Regulated Area
 - Drains
 - Streets
 - Floodline
 - Regional Assessment



Scale: 1:2,615

Essex Region Conservation Authority
... *OpenStreetMap*

Lil' Reg Delegation to WECEC January 9, 2014

Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant

4155 Ojibway Parkway @ 5:30 p.m.

Introduction:

Ian Naisbitt, Chair of the Little River Enhancement Group (Lil' Reg). Our community volunteers have participated in a variety of events that have helped to improve the ecosystem health of the Little River Watershed.

Our community partnership for this project includes:

City of Windsor;
David Suzuki Public Elementary School;
Detroit River Canadian Cleanup;
Essex County Nature;
Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA);
Unifor Local 200 Environment Committee;
Windsor International Airport (YQG).

History:

Since 1989, we have participated in 35 river cleanup events. Unfortunately, these cleanups have become annual events for our community partnership. Since 1990, our group has participated in 82 planting events with over 29 000 trees and shrubs in the ground. In 1991, our group "adopted" the Little River Watershed, which drains portions of the City of Windsor and County of Essex. The Windsor International Airport is in the Little River Watershed. Specifically, we have a keen interest in the three Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSWs) on the airport property. We refer to these as the Windsor Airport Swamps as does the ON Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR).

Phase 1: trees and shrubs were planting on airport property on Earth Day 1997;
Phase 2: the process of connecting the 3 swamps began last year (June 4).

Phase 3: Swamp Wetland Restoration Project – YQG

PROJECT OUTLINE

Goals:

1. Continue ecological connection of fragmented Provincially Significant Wetland Swamps at Windsor International Airport;

2. Develop and test a green infrastructure concept for stormwater water retention utilizing a continuous tree and shrub covered swamp while mitigating for wildlife attraction from large waterfowl and gull species.

Project Elements:

1. Identify boundaries for the next phase of planting (approximately 2 to 3 hectares/ 5 to 7.5 acres);
2. Engineer earthworks to create vernal pools within the next phase of planting, with the pools linking to drainage for first 3-4 years until vegetation becomes established;
3. Undertake earthworks to create vernal pools and temporary water relief;
4. Develop a species list of hydrophilic Carolinian zone trees and shrubs;
5. Plant species, both upland and wetland to the site as the water characteristics dictate;
6. Monitor the site for wildlife attraction and planting success.

Relevant items:

- 1) the existing PSWs are swamp wetlands (OMNR 2008) and this restoration project will undertake to mimic those characteristics;
- 2) the environmental community has a need to connect the PSW swamps for their continued health and ecological diversity and we have a commitment from the Mayor of Windsor, Windsor Airport and City Administration to do so (December 2012);
- 3) the Windsor Airport has a need to look at stormwater retention features for continued development without attracting hazardous wildlife species like geese, gulls and swans;
- 4) this green infrastructure concept will not actually be required to deal with stormwater other than prove the effectiveness of the restoration concept and wildlife mitigation;
- 5) the restoration project will be funded by sources other than the City of Windsor and Windsor Airport (I can confirm that ERCA will fund all excavation and planting works required for this project);
- 6) our target date is this Spring (April or May); due to the fact ERCA needs to order the plant stock in March, so we hope this timeline can be met.

Lil' Reg is requesting that the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee endorse our project and recommend to City Council and the Windsor Airport Board of Directors to allow the restoration project to continue on airport property.

Respectfully submitted,

Ian Naisbitt/ Chair
Little River Enhancement Group

Robert Krausz

358 Charlotte Street
Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 1L7
Canada
+1.506.474.9084
robert.krausz@umb.ca

Academic Qualifications:

PhD, Environmental Policy and Planning
Faculty of Environment, Society and Design
Lincoln University
Christchurch, New Zealand

Bachelor of Education
Mathematics and Sciences
University of British Columbia
Vancouver, BC, Canada

Bachelor of Engineering
Civil Engineering
McMaster University
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

Areas of Teaching and Research Interest:

- Addressing the overall questions of: *What is happening here?*, *How has it come to this?*, and *What might happen next?*
- Critical examination of assumptions and narratives in contemporary scientific, political, and environmental discourse
- Sustainability and Resilience: understanding how and why communities thrive and/or struggle
- Localization vs. Globalization: the effect of economic scale on human welfare and the environment
- Zero Waste: closing resource loops via renewable materials, and design for re-use and durability
- Food Security: land-use reform, small-scale and family farming, and urban agriculture
- Energy Use: understanding the impacts of fossil vs. renewable fuel-based economic policy
- *Homo Automobilus*: coming to terms with the nature and extent of humanity's use of and dependence upon cars...and how it has transformed the way we live
- Public Decision-Making: proportional representation, non-party electoral systems, direct democracy, and other alternative forms of governance
- Peace, Conflict Resolution, and Disarmament

Professional Academic Experience:

Doctoral Researcher, Environmental Policy and Planning
Faculty of Environment, Society and Design
Lincoln University
Christchurch, New Zealand
2009 to 2013

- ❖ Recipient of Lincoln University Graduate Scholarship (2009-2012), and Post-Graduate Writing Scholarship (2012)
- ❖ PhD thesis: *All for naught? A critical study of zero waste to landfill initiatives* ([click here for link to thesis](#))
 - Focus of study on the recurring failure of local government-sponsored zero waste to landfill initiatives
 - Research and analysis used a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods, and included case studies in Canada and overseas
 - Key theoretical concepts explored included
 - Fundamental decision-making vs. 'muddling through'
 - Planning fallacy and strategic misrepresentation
 - Technological solutionism vs. behaviour change
 - *Unacknowledged supermegaprojects*, the *planning voids* which emerge from them, and their contribution to chronic initiative failure
 - Research extends to the wider understanding of global sustainability and resilience-related initiatives
- ❖ Information co-ordinator for Lincoln University's Centre for Land, Environment and People (LEaP) (2010)

All for naught? Why Zero Waste initiatives are failing, how they might succeed, and what this tells us about modern environmentalism's need for a 'reality check'

A presentation by Robert Krausz, PhD Environmental Policy and Planning . (Photo by Messere, 2008)

Hello Paul,

My name is Robert Krausz - I am a civil engineer with a PhD in Environmental Policy and Planning, and a native Canadian with experience in university teaching and research in Canada and overseas. I recently completed a three-year research study at Lincoln University in New Zealand, on the subject of Zero Waste to Landfill initiatives launched by communities around the world. I began the study on the premise that I would identify the significant drivers which led to outcomes along the success/failure spectrum, for these ambitious environmental campaigns. My initial findings, however, confirmed that in reality there have not been any cases of successful attainment of 100% diversion of waste from landfill, nor have any such initiatives even come close to reaching their declared goals. As a result, my thesis eventually turned to the larger questions of why zero waste is a chronically elusive target, what changes would be necessary to make success possible, and how this particular issue informs the wider debate about contemporary environmentalism.

I would like to know if you would be interested in having me come and deliver a presentation on this research to your program at Windsor. My presentation would include a focus on the following topics: Why zero waste and other sustainability-themed initiatives are launched: ethical vs. other motivations. Materials selection and product design, as keys to zero waste implementation. The modern waste problem as a social justice issue. Media portrayal of zero waste and other environmental/sustainability movements. Technological solutionism vs. fundamental behaviour change. The 'recycling paradox', 'faraway utopia/dystopia', and critical investigations of other prevailing socio-ecological narratives. The concept of unacknowledged supermegaprojects, and how it applies to contemporary environmentalism. How does zero waste failure to date relate to other modern-day sustainability challenges, such as climate change mitigation, renewable vs. fossil fuel exploitation development, and wilderness conservation? For your information, here is a link to the study report: <http://researcharchive.lincoln.ac.nz/handle/10182/5301>. ; I have also attached my CV, for your perusal. Please let me know whether you would be interested in such a presentation - and if you have any questions or requests about how such a presentation could be tailored for your group, I would be happy to discuss this with you.

I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely, Rob

Robert Krausz Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada Tel: (506) 474-9084 Email: robert.krausz@unb.ca