



## **Agenda Green Committee**

April 17, 2019

5:30 pm

Municipal Operations Centre

408 James Street South, St. Marys

Pages

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**
3. **AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the April 17, 2019 regular Green Committee agenda be accepted as presented.

4. **DELEGATIONS**
5. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

3

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the March 20, 2019 regular Green Committee minutes be approved and signed by the Chair and Committee Secretary.

6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**
7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **7.1 John Stevens re: Notes re: St. Marys Green Expo**

7

Member J. Stevens has started reaching out to members of the public to discuss the feasibility of hosting a Green Expo in the Town of St. Marys.

Member J. Stevens has hosted some meetings, and has forwarded the notes from those meetings for the Committee's information. Depending on the outcome of future meetings J. Stevens will bring a proposal to the Green Committee to consider recommending to Council.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Correspondence from Member J. Stevens regarding the current status of hosting a Green Expo be received.

**8. REPORTS**

**8.1 PW 23-2019 TEXTILE RECYCLING**

10

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** Report PW 23-2019, Textile Recycling be received; and

**THAT** the Green Committee recommend to Council that a textile recycling program at the St. Marys Landfill Site be adopted in partnership with Diabetes Canada.

**9. OTHER BUSINESS**

**10. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

April 17, 2019 - 6:20 pm, Green Committee walking tour of Sparling Bush, Waterloo Street entrance of Sparling Bush (weather dependent)

May 22, 2019 - 5:30 pm, Green Committee, Municipal Operations Centre

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** this meeting of the Green Committee adjourn at \_\_\_\_\_ pm.



## **Minutes**

### **Green Committee**

March 20, 2019

5:30 pm

Municipal Operations Centre  
408 James Street South, St. Marys

Members Present: Lynette Geddes, Chair  
Katherine Moffat, Vice-Chair  
Fred Stam  
John Stevens  
David Vermeire

Members Absent: Councillor Craigmile

Staff Present: Jed Kelly, Director of Public Works  
Morgan Dykstra, Committee Secretary

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 PM.

#### **2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None received.

#### **3. AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Resolution: GC-2019-03-01**

**Moved By** F. Stam

**Seconded** By D. Vermeire

**THAT** the March 20, 2019 regular Green Committee agenda be accepted as presented.

**Carried**

**4. DELEGATIONS**

None received.

**5. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

The Committee discussed the previous month's minutes.

The Committee inquired about the status of the tree species list and when they should expect to review a second draft. Staff acknowledged they are waiting for the forestry tender to be approved by Council so that arborist comment can be received. Staff intends to present the second draft to the Committee at the May meeting.

The Committee inquired about the status of the newsletter and the topics the newsletter will cover. Staff met with the Communication's department and are drafting a newsletter what will mention the directives of the Committee. The Public Works Department will be releasing the newsletter in April via an insert in The Independent, and online.

**Resolution: GC-2019-03-02**

**Moved By** J. Stevens

**Seconded By** F. Stam

**THAT** the February 20, 2019 regular Green Committee minutes be approved and signed by the Chair and Committee Secretary.

**Carried**

**6. REPORTS**

**6.1 PW 20-2019 Sparling Bush Action Items**

J. Kelly spoke to PW 20-2019 Sparling Bush Action Items and responded to questions from the Committee.

The Committee agrees that establishing a designated trail access to Sparling Bush is a priority to preserve Sparling Bush but to also enhance the active transportation network. The Committee discussed various materials Public Works may use for the trail; the Committee will further debate at the April 17, 2019 meeting during the Sparling Bush walking

tour. The Committee also agrees that before the installation, the Town should consider initiating contact with the adjacent property owners who will be affected by the trail installation.

The Committee noted encroachment is a serious issue and liked the boundary markers that Public Works will install along the Sparling Bush perimeter. The Committee asked if there are any other methods to deter encroachment – the Committee will discuss further during the walking tour in April.

The Committee discussed inviting Ron Aitken and the other members of the defunct Friends of Sparling Bush Committee to participate in the walking tour and provide historical context. Chair Geddes will contact Ron Aitken.

**Resolution: GC-2019-03-03**

**Moved By** L. Geddes

**Seconded By** K. Moffat

**THAT** PW 20-2019 Sparling Bush Action Items be received for information;

**THAT** the Green Committee participate in a walking tour of Sparling Bush at its next regular meeting on April 17, 2019 (weather permitting);

**THAT** the Green Committee invite Ron Aitken and previous members of the Friends of Sparling Bush to join the April 17, 2019 walking tour of Sparling Bush; and

**THAT** the Public Works Department explore installing an access trail to Sparling Bush off of Sparling Crescent.

**Carried**

## **6.2 Bluewater Recycling Association Presentation**

J. Kelly and M. Dykstra presented a condensed version of the 2019 Bluewater Recycling Association General Membership presentation and responded to questions from the Committee.

Staff noted that there will be changes to the MHSW program that the Green Committee will need to address at a future date. The Committee asked questions about organic diversion requirements. Staff will look into organic waste programs and provide an update to the Committee.

## **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **7.1 Earth Day Initiative**

M. Dykstra asked the Committee if they would like to promote or participate in an Earth Day activity on April 22, 2019.

The Committee determined that they would like to promote available online tools like Recycle Coach to better educate the public on what is recyclable and what is not. Staff will reach out to the Communications Department to issue a social media post noting available online tools to ensure proper recyclable sorting.

## **8. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Next meeting to be held on April 17, 2019 at 5:30 PM.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution: GC-2019-03-04**

**Moved By** L. Geddes

**Seconded By** K. Moffat

**THAT** this meeting of the Green Committee adjourn at 7:38 p.m.

**Carried**

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Lynette Geddes, Chair

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Morgan Dykstra, Committee Secretary

## Notes re. St. Marys Green Expo

Background: As comments about reducing plastics in St. Marys proliferated on the St. Marys Life Facebook page, it was determined that a second page – Make St. Marys Greener – was called for. It was on that page that the idea of a “green expo” was born. The concept was to provide residents with some practical information about how to participate in the fight against climate change and plastic pollution. John Stevens has also raised the idea of an expo with the St. Marys Green Committee and it was well received.

For inspiration: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1159842904180881>

Resources mentioned in FB Messenger and elsewhere:

<https://twitter.com/NYCzerowaste/status/1064231933427818498/photo/1>

<https://www.greenpeace.org/canada/en/story/481/greenpeaces-new-open-project-your-plastic-free-future-toolkit/?fbclid=IwAR1OyWiYfpH4vKxasGWZxf1WdP9XDAP7VDyMBIm1eYjIKDS28gJWhNH9nfw>

<https://www.perthsouth.ca/en/living-here/environment-and-sustainability.aspx?fbclid=IwAR3gp72UC-D5jr4yzkhTVyqjDWWFb8BeLF8lNEpVphsescuFTYpgycWlpAc#>

[http://greencommunitiescanada.org/?fbclid=Iwar0\\_yyzn05t1m55oirhmvqgoxtb-ey\\_dxmazbq93hpciaht\\_ypqo5o2kca](http://greencommunitiescanada.org/?fbclid=Iwar0_yyzn05t1m55oirhmvqgoxtb-ey_dxmazbq93hpciaht_ypqo5o2kca)

<https://caroliniancanada.ca/expo> (Note list of exhibitors)

<https://www.greenlivingshow.ca/> (Note list of exhibitors)

[How do I house-proof for climate change? | The Star](#)

<https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/1456940099835>

Ideas from FB Messenger

- Beekeeper to talk about pollinators, etc.
- Have practical experience booths, making DIY earth-friendly things like cleaner, weed killer, beeswax food wrap, gardening, etc.
- Have people speak about local foods grown in Ontario and how shopping local is earth-friendly. [We have a great example in McCully's Hill Farm.]
- Clothing swaps & community "free" market.
- Have local businesses show what they are doing to be good earth neighbors. For example, Pass It On is a reuse and recycle store, Barista's serves organic fair trade coffee and uses locally grown ingredients, Snapping Turtle sells earth friendly products etc.
- Funding - town and municipality, Stratford Perth Community Foundation, local business sponsors, other funding for green initiatives such as TD Friends of the Environment

Notes on the meeting held March 26:

- In attendance: John Stevens, Ken Telfer, Pat Morden
- John noted that three people were not enough to plan and execute the kind of event we had in mind – we agreed that we would need to gather more info, then hold another meeting to see who else might be willing to help. John was clear that he wants to be involved, but not to lead the project.
- We talked about the shape of the event – possibly a Friday night event with a speaker, followed by an expo (perhaps with workshops) on Saturday.
- Ken pointed out that we could reach out to exhibitors at other green expos, including the upcoming Go Wild, Grow Wild event in London (although it has a specific focus) and the recent event in Toronto.
- There are also several local businesses with expertise that fits. For example, Forman Electric has extensive experience with solar power.
- We discussed potential revenue and expenses.
  - The community room at the PRC would cost \$700 to rent, but we might be able to avoid the fee if we are partnering with the municipality.
  - Promotional costs would be minimal, using social media etc. (although posters would be a good idea too)
  - Revenue could include grants, sponsorships, and fees for exhibitors.
  - We felt admission should be free for the initial event.
- Timing was also discussed – September earliest, perhaps later. Ken will explore with Brent Kittmer when the new Climate Change Coordinator is expected to start work, as a partnership with her or him would be a big help.
- Ken noted that his daughter Lindsay Telfer is National Project Director for the Canadian Freshwater Alliance and has had a long career as an environmentalist. She might be an ideal keynote speaker.
- Lindsay's bio:
  - Lindsay Telfer has over two decades of experience establishing and managing nonprofit and charitable associations and social enterprise initiatives. She currently heads up a national initiative advancing freshwater health across Canada that doubles as a non-profit coaching service supporting a robust and well managed sector. She is also a social enterprise mentor at Georgian College working alongside the Henry Bernick Entrepreneurship Centre, the Social Enterprise Network of Central Ontario and the Centre for Changemaking and Social Innovation.

Lindsay has a Masters degree in Environmental Studies from York University and has experience working at the international, national and local levels. She has worked on a diversity of projects, including: as a member on the Canadian Delegation for the 1st meeting of the parties of the Kyoto Protocol; in multi-stakeholder public consultation for the Province of Alberta; leading community engagement initiatives for Western Universities' sustainability strategy development; and most recently developing the Freshwater Alliance's successful grassroots capacity building program, trainings, and public engagement coaching practice.



Lindsay was a founding board Member for a number of organizations and initiatives including: Energy Action (renamed PowerShift Network), Keepers of the Athabasca Watershed Council, Freshwater Future Canada and the Canadian Freshwater Alliance. In addition, Lindsay has been senior executive for a number of non-profit initiatives including: Sierra Youth Coalition, Sierra Club Canada Prairie Chapter, Alberta Environmental Network, as well as the Canadian Freshwater Alliance and is an associate member for Sustainability Solutions Group – a leading-edge cooperative working on global sustainability projects. (WOW!)

#### Other Ideas:

- Involve Bullfrog Power, Ontario's only provider of green energy through the existing grid
- Involve Upper Thames River Conservation Authority, maybe Ausable Bayfield CA too (Mary Veliz works at ABCA, lives just outside town.)
- Get David Suzuki or Al Gore to speak (not likely, but Dalton McGinty is now being referred to as "Ontario's Al Gore"! <https://lfpres.com/news/local-news/ontarios-al-gore-dalton-mcguinty-brings-post-politics-passion-to-london-speech>)
- Include a company with expertise in geothermal heating
- Involve construction companies that are building or retro-fitting low-carbon housing (maybe Green Terra Homes?)
- Workshop on vegetable gardening for people who don't know how
- Could also consider screening some of the great films on climate change and other environmental issues
- Maybe have some local growers of native trees and shrubs sell stock (helps to encourage tree planting, a big part of the climate change solution)

#### Next steps:

- Ken to talk to Brent Kittmer (He did and Brent suggested working through the Green Committee—sounds like the PRC might be available at no cost that way.)
- Notes to be circulated to those who are interested (that's what I'm doing now!)
- Call another meeting in May
- Determine date, format, etc.
- Begin inviting exhibitors



# FORMAL REPORT

**To:** Chair Geddes and Members of the Green Committee

**Prepared by:** Dave Blake, Environmental Services Supervisor

**Date of Meeting:** 17 April 2019

**Subject:** **PW 23-2019 TEXTILE RECYCLING**

## PURPOSE

To present the Green Committee with information regarding a potential textile recycling program for consideration at the St. Marys Landfill Site in collaboration with the Diabetes Canada.

## RECOMMENDATION

THAT Report PW 23-2019, Textile Recycling be received; and

THAT the Green Committee recommend to Council that a textile recycling program at the St. Marys Landfill Site be adopted in partnership with Diabetes Canada.

## BACKGROUND

On September 11, 2018 Town staff presented Council with a Waste Reduction and Diversion Assessment. The Report identified the various waste reduction and diversion programs currently being administered by the Town as well as potential diversion programs that were not currently implemented within the Town (Appendix B of the Waste Reduction and Diversion Assessment).

Appendix B7 identified Textile Recycling as a potential Waste Reduction and Diversion Program and identified Near Term, Mid-Term and Long-Term initiatives for consideration. The Mid-Term initiative stated the following:

*“Consideration should be given to developing a textile diversion program to collect and divert material that is not suitable for donation. The Town should seek municipal partnerships and or public private partnerships for an economically sustainable program delivery”.*

In February of 2019, Town Staff were contacted by Diabetes Canada about their desire to implement a textile diversion program at the St. Marys Landfill Site.

## REPORT

According to Value Village, North Americans send more than 10.5 million tons of wearable waste to landfills each year (Source: <https://www.valuevillage.com/rethinkreuse>). The vast majority of which can be diverted for recycling or reuse.

Diabetes Canada has been collecting clothing to fund important research into diabetes for over 30 years through an exclusive partnership with Value Village. As part of the Towns Waste Reduction and Diversion Assessment, Textile recycling was identified as a program for consideration to enhance waste diversion within the Town. In February 2019, Diabetes Canada approach the Town about expanding their collection sites into the St. Marys Landfill at no charge while also working to reduce the volume entering the landfill site for final disposal.

Diabetes Canada is currently running textile diversion programs in neighbouring municipalities such as, but not limited to: Bruce County, Oxford County, City of London, City of Stratford, etc.

As part of the Diabetes Canada textile donation program, the following items are accepted:

Accessories and bags, all type of clothing, curtains, towels, blankets, sheets, shoes, boots and sleeping bags.

Please refer to *Attachment No. 1* for additional information regarding the program and program containers.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications related to the proposed textile recycling program at the St. Marys Landfill Site.

## **SUMMARY**

Based on information detailed within this report, a review of the proposed textile recycling program and in consultation with neighbouring and surrounding municipalities, staff is recommending that the Green Committee recommend to Council that a textile recycling program be implemented at the St. Marys Landfill site in partnership with Diabetes Canada. The diversion program has been identified as a potential waste diversion stream through the Waste Reduction and Diversion Assessment for the Town, is supported by the Towns Strategic Plan and would help to reduce the overall volume of waste entering the landfill for final disposal while ultimately controlling costs to the Town.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN**

- ☒ This initiative is supported by the following priorities, outcomes, and tactics in the Plan.
  - Pillar # 1 – Infrastructure, Waste Management Plan:
    - Outcome: With anticipated proactive measures for growth (residential, commercial and industrial), there will be a need for active consideration of optimizing landfill services, but with a view to controlled costs and forward thinking environmental initiatives.
    - Tactic(s): Plan for a new long-term review of waste management, taking account of new and more prescriptive provincial standards. Explore alternatives to status quo waste management with a view to reduction and recycling initiatives for all residential, commercial and industrial properties.

## **OTHERS CONSULTED**

Morgan Dykstra, Public Works Coordinator – Town of St. Marys

Jed Kelly, Director of Public Works – Town of St. Marys

Kim Vanstone, Territory Manager Western Ontario – Diabetes Canada

City of Stratford

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment No. 1 – Drop Box Flyer – Textile Recycling

## REVIEWED BY

### Recommended by the Department



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Dave Blake, C.E.T.  
Environmental Services Supervisor



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Jed Kelly  
Director of Public Works

## Why partner with us?

- Regular scheduled pick-ups
- Clean site around box
- National leader of clothing recycling since 1985
- Operating in 2,500 communities across Canada
- 100 trucks
- Safe, insured and convenient

## Stronger together!

**100%** OF NET PROCEEDS SUPPORT  
DIABETES CANADA

- Research** Contributed more than \$5 million last year
- D-Camps** 2,400 children, youth and families living with type 1 diabetes
- Advocacy** Working with governments to create positive change to benefit people living with diabetes

## Each year, Diabetes Canada

- Diverts** 100 million+ pounds of clothing and household items from landfill
- Saves** 1 billion+ kWh of energy
- Reduces** Our donors' carbon footprint by 280 million+ pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

**declutter.diabetes.ca | 1-800-505-5525**



## Outdoor Bins:

- Build brand loyalty
- Increase customer traffic
- Be a community leader
- 67" height x 45" width x 39" depth





## Indoor Bins:

Condos, Apartments,  
Commercial

- Reduce garbage costs
- Convenient recycling
- Divert from landfill
- Be a community leader
- Easy way to show environmental and recycling commitment
- 100% free



## Partnerships:

Schools, Community Groups,  
Corporations

- Fundraising
- Employee engagement
- Increase diabetes awareness
- Be a community leader
- Easy way to show environmental and recycling commitment



Join the movement to end diabetes!

[declutter.diabetes.ca](http://declutter.diabetes.ca) | 1-800-505-5525