



Agenda Green Committee

June 23, 2021

5:30 pm

Video Conference

Click the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzuUpFqxcEl8OG-dOYKteFQ>

Pages

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

3. AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the June 23, 2021 Green Committee agenda be accepted as presented.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

4.1. Krysanne C Klassen re: St. Marys' Canopy Trees

3

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the correspondence from the Krysanne C Klassen regarding St. Marys' Canopy Trees be received.

5. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

8

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the May 26, 2021 Green Committee minutes be approved and signed by the Chair and Committee Secretary.

6. STRATEGIC ITEMS - PROGRESS UPDATE

11

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the June Green Committee Strategic Priorities Table be received for information.

7. REPORTS

RECOMMENDATION

THAT PW 51-2021 Green Initiative Education Program Framework report be received: and,

THAT the Green Committee recommend to Council:

THAT Council approves the Green Initiative Education Program Framework;

THAT the program launches in February 2022; and,

THAT as it relates to the Green Initiative Education Program, Council names the Green Committee as its designate.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

9. UPCOMING MEETINGS

September 22, 2021 at 5:30 pm (Virtual)

October 27, 2021 at 5:30 pm (Virtual)

10. ADJOURNMENT

RECOMMENDATION

THAT this meeting of the Green Committee adjourn at p.m.

St Marys' Canopy Trees

June 16 2021

Members of the Green Committee

Re: St Marys' Canopy Trees

On behalf of a number of concerned St Marys residents I am writing to ask your help in protecting St Marys tree canopy.

Our immediate concern is a number of rare and slow-growing native Kentucky coffee bean trees on the road allowance on the west side of James Street North immediately north of where the developers have just removed all trees and shrubs.



Our larger concern is our threatened urban forest. Without prompt action, further removals, neglect and accelerated replacements will leave us exposed to all the dangers of a treeless environment.

The Green Committee has made remarkable progress during difficult times, though not enough people are aware of it or its achievements. The Forestry Plan provides a great deal of good information but is unfortunately limited to public trees. However, the times are changing so fast and furiously that some of us are concerned that St Marys urban forest stay ahead of the game or at least not fall back irretrievably. St Marys has become the most beautiful town in Ontario through hard work by a lot of people preserving our amazing heritage architecture. Now we need to do the same for our trees.

Development and individual owner priorities, neglect and negligence are removing the town's irreplaceable canopy trees even as we speak. The canopy cannot be replaced in our lifetime. Once it is gone, the town may never see it again, even with extreme measures and huge investment. There is a small window of opportunity now.

We believe these actions are required:

1. New planting placements should be mandated:
 - a. Where shade coverage is already lacking in established parts of town
 - b. On each new house site a minimum of:
 - i. At least two in front (town)
 - ii. At least two on side or back (owner)
 - iii. In significant green spaces within a determined short distance like entrance to the development etc. (We assume green space is mandated for each new residential development.)
 - c. The same for all existing houses where the minimum does not exist
 - d. On every new or existing industrial or commercial site to minimize the impact of urban blight on the prettiest town in Ontario
 - i. Minimum of x trees per square foot of lot size
 - ii. A TBD percentage at the front of the site
2. Better publicized and funded programs to encourage and facilitate tree care, maintenance and plantings
 - a. Memorial tree plantings
 - i. Coordination with nearby hospitals, funeral homes and churches and businesses
 - b. Honorary tree plantings for living contributors to St Marys life
 - c. Neighbourhood programs
3. Creative funding to raise awareness
 - a. Collection boxes at all town events, the Beer Store, LCBO, businesses, library and museums
 - b. Campaigns addressed to nearby homeowners and businesses
 - c. Contests with tree prizes
 - d. Coordination with utilities like Festival Hydro, Quadro, etc.
4. For every mature tree which has already been removed or is determined to need to be removed in future, replacements are:
 - a. Multiples of 10, 20 or even 100 based on the years of tree growth lost
 - b. A mix of fast and slow growing native varieties
5. Maintenance of existing canopy trees must be prioritized to:
 - a. Avoid pruning that will spell the accelerated death of the tree

- b. Understand that dead and dying trees still provide benefits to the environment and other healthy trees and wildlife
 - c. Wait until the last possible moment before removing a tree
 - i. Be creative about sustaining it until replacements are established
 - ii. Don't be too quick to solve any problems that arise by removing a tree any more than you would tear down a house because the roof was bad or the foundation sprang a leak
 - iii. Consider that the value of a mature tree is beyond calculation; less expensive to move the sidewalk or install a traffic obstacle or light
6. A moratorium on tree removal until a firm set of severe criteria and a permit process can be:
- a. Developed
 - b. Applied
 - c. Enforced

Your response is eagerly awaited.

Sincerely,

Krysanne C Klassen

k_klassen@live.com

189 Elizabeth Street

St Marys ON

N4X0B5

Phone 226-661-0274

Additional Data

Suggested Criteria for Tree Removal:

From the Forestry Plan p. 7

"The tree is dead or dying";

- only if
 - all measures to save have been exhausted
 - there is some real threat to people if it remains in place that cannot be managed with a warning sign
 - it threatens the life and health of nearby trees

"The tree causes a hazard and needs to be removed to mitigate risk";

- Hazard needs to be better defined and demonstrated that it cannot be managed

"Emergency work";

- Much more definition required

"Installation or reconstruction of Town infrastructure"; or

- Much more definition required

~~"At the discretion of the Director of Public Works, or their designate"~~

- ⊖ Too open to abuse

Places for Shade Tree Planting

Existing residential areas

- Church Street south of Park Street
- Elgin Street east and west
- George Street between Park Street and Victoria Street
- Jones Street and the area east of the Kingsway
- Ontario Street South, up to Elgin Street West
- Station Street from Church Street up to Egan Avenue where the street becomes James Street North.
- Salina Street South
- Tracy Street south of Victoria

New residential developments

New and existing commercial and industrial sites

Some Sources Consulted

https://www.townofstmarys.com/en/town-services/resources/Documents/ToR-Green-Committee-2018.pdf?fbclid=IwAR2FXSoRz9CxjdvngplvX87Y2bHm8DieKxozwOU_G1q-xYjrLmWd2ESdQxE

<https://www.townofstmarys.com/en/town-services/resources/Documents/8.1-FORESTRY-MANAGEMENT-PLAN.PDF?fbclid=IwAR1mkYZp7SUFv25OYw7e5WRWUt5NUQfc4fL7rgabij-VK74wEVDjCHwySXA>

https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/S17010?fbclid=IwAR1bb7bA--uQjIYOQsup9yQ5KxWhdgDmcjOcqHA_Xs7CAhoQh2Hoy-rAetg

<https://www.townofstmarys.com/en/town-services/strategic-plan.aspx>

https://www.perthcounty.ca/en/living-here/forestry-services.aspx?fbclid=IwAR1nYrmXAUTAdBSQhw_CEUIRCpu51NIcsfYjQcJYFkFFIIN5zeXqq9mWqwl#

<https://greeninfrastructureontario.org/app/uploads/2016/06/UF-Toolkit-Part-I-Communicating-Benefits-Bulletin-Final.pdf>

<https://treecanada.ca/engagement-research/canadian-urban-forest-strategy/>

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1618866720307184?dgcid=author>



Minutes

Green Committee

May 26, 2021

5:30 pm

Video Conference

Click the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzuUpFqxcEI8OG-dOYKteFQ>

Member Present	Lynette Geddes, Chair Councillor Pridham Fred Stam John Stevens David Vermeire
Staff Present	Jed Kelly, Director of Public Works Morgan Dykstra, Committee Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None.

3. AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Resolution: GC-2021-05-01

Moved By John Stevens

Seconded By Fred Stam

THAT the May 26, 2021 Green Committee agenda be accepted as presented.

Carried

4. DELEGATIONS

None.

5. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Resolution: GC-2021-05-02

Moved By Fred Stam

Seconded By Councillor Pridham

THAT the April 28, 2021 Green Committee minutes be approved and signed by the Chair and Committee Secretary.

Carried

6. STRATEGIC ITEMS - PROGRESS UPDATE

Morgan Dykstra spoke to the Strategic Priorities Table for May and responded to questions from the Committee.

Resolution: GC-2021-05-03

Moved By Fred Stam

Seconded By John Stevens

THAT the May Green Committee Strategic Priorities Table be received for information.

Carried

7. REPORTS

7.1 PW 43-2021 Administering a Green Recognition Program

Morgan Dykstra and Jed Kelly spoke to the report.

The Committee discussed the questions contained within the report and asked that staff bring forward a framework at the next Green Committee meeting.

Resolution: GC-2021-05-04

Moved By Fred Stam

Seconded By John Stevens

THAT PW 43-2021 Administering a Green Recognition Program report be received; and,

THAT Staff bring forward a green recognition program framework at the next Green Committee meeting.

Carried

8. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

9. UPCOMING MEETINGS

June 23, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. (Virtual)

September 22, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. (Virtual)

10. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution: GC-2021-05-05

Moved By Councillor Pridham

Seconded By Fred Stam

THAT this meeting of the Green Committee adjourn at 6:28 p.m.

Carried

Lynette Geddes, Chair

Morgan Dykstra, Committee Secretary

Green Committee Strategic Priorities Status (June 2021)

Priority	Item	Status	
Forestry Management	Revise tree species list		Complete
	Engagement and education opportunities	A new Forestry Management webpage has been created, outlining the contents of the Forestry Management, Town Operations, Tree Donation Program and Natural Areas.	Complete
	Tree donation policy	Revised Tree Donation Program Policy was approved by Council on June 8, 2021. Program will launch to the public in July of 2021.	Complete
	Seedlings transplant area	Council approved the Committee's recommendation. The Town will not establish a seedlings transplant area.	Complete
	Gypsy Moth Infestation	Information campaign completed.	Complete
Naturalization	Public Engagement re: naturalization	The Town is implementing the Sparling Bush Management Plan. Sparling Bush Management Plan items for 2021 have been incorporated into the 2021 Capital Budget. 15 trees, and 130 bushes planted in May to encourage internal growth, collaboration between Town, UTRCA and Rotary.	Implementing
	Recommend areas for naturalization		
	Recommend policies to establish natural areas and how to maintain areas		
	Investigate the feasibility of creating a wildflower meadow	Pollinator Garden/Wildflower Meadow planted on June 4, 2021. New webpage created to feature the garden, and social media campaign to begin. Depending on the success the Town will seek to submit a second application to TD FEF to increase the pollinator garden.	Complete
Active Transportation Master Plan	Review existing active transportation network	Town Staff are collecting data. Due to recent public feedback additional signage is being ordered for along the Grand Trunk Trail. Grant application for GTT staircase has been denied, reviewing next steps.	Implementing
	Seek public feedback re: active transportation network	Public Survey	Complete

	Recommend an Active Transportation Master Plan	Request to Green Committee to include procuring the services of a Consultant in its 2022 Capital Budget. Report to Committee in September.	Research
Waste Reduction & Diversion (Following the Waste Reduction and Diversion Assessment)	Review Solid Waste Management By-law		Complete
	Textile recycling program	RFP in spring 2019 deemed incomplete. This project has been deferred until the Environmental Assessment Process for the landfill site.	Pause
	Mattress and box spring diversion	Green Committee recommended (June 2019) Incorporated in Solid Waste Management By-law (Fall 2019) Develop policy and review other municipal programs. Might be a component of the Environmental Assessment Process once the Town has received approval for expansion.	Pause
	All other recommendations from WRDA	Awaiting approvals from the Ministry of Environment for the Town of St. Marys Landfill Site. Once approvals have been completed the review of existing program at the site can be reviewed.	Pause
	Green Initiative Recognition Program	Follow up report being presented to Green Committee at the June meeting.	Implementing
	Waste Reduction Week		Complete
	Municipal Hazardous Waste Program	Municipal Hazardous Waste Program has transitioned to depot event delivery model. When dates are available, they will be circulated to the public.	Complete



FORMAL REPORT

To:	Chair and Members of the Advisory Committee
Prepared by:	Morgan Dykstra, Public Works and Planning Coordinator
Date of Meeting:	23 June 2021
Subject:	PW 51-2021 Green Initiative Education Program Framework

PURPOSE

To create a consensus among Committee Members regarding the proposed Green Initiative Education Program Framework and make a recommendation to Council.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT PW 51-2021 Green Initiative Education Program Framework report be received: and,

THAT the Green Committee recommend to Council:

THAT Council approves the Green Initiative Education Program Framework;

THAT the program launches in February 2022; and,

THAT as it relates to the Green Initiative Education Program, Council names the Green Committee as its designate.

BACKGROUND

The Green Committee has been discussing the creation of a recognition program to recognize green initiatives within St. Marys. At its last meeting the Committee made the following recommendation:

Resolution: GC-2021-05-04

Moved By Fred Stam

Seconded By John Stevens

THAT PW 43-2021 Administering a Green Recognition Program report be received; and,

THAT Staff bring forward a green recognition program framework at the next Green Committee meeting.

Carried.

REPORT

The report proposes a framework, please see **Attachment A: Green Initiative Education Program Framework** to view the framework that will be discussed throughout the report.

The framework attempts to address all of the Committee's comments through various meetings. Compromising in areas where there has been no consensus. The proposed framework is in draft form, and is open to changes at the recommendation of the Committee.

Program Title:

A fundamental change has been the title of the program, the term “recognition” has been used in past conversations and has been the source of confusion whether the program is an award or education program. Most of the Committee agrees that the purpose is to educate, staff thought it might be best to change program title to “Green Initiative Education Program Framework” to dispel any confusion regarding the purpose of the program.

Program Authority:

The framework delegates program authority to the Town of St. Marys Council, the Green Committee is an advisory of committee of Council and therefore can only recommendations. However, the program includes the term “designate”, tonight’s recommendation asks that Council designate authority to the Green Committee to implement the program which includes determining eligibility requirements, themes, reviewing submissions, and selecting which initiatives will be featured.

Intake Periods:

In addition, staff feel it is best to have two intake periods rather than a rolling program. If there are intake periods, the program can be better advertised as communication efforts are focused on the program. The program will tie into existing environmental weeks like Earth Day in April, and Waste Reduction Week in October.

Timelines:

Staff are proposing that the Committee recommend the framework at this meeting, and it can be brought forward to Council at its August meeting. As the program is not included in the Public Works Departmental Plan, nor does the Department have the advertising budget to support the program in 2021, staff are recommending that the program launch in February of 2022. This will allow time to budget for the program and prepare all supplementary materials such as the submission form, and the design of the webpage.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There will be financial implications for advertising the programs, and then promoting the submissions, staff anticipate the annual cost to be approximately \$1000/year.

SUMMARY

Town staff have prepared a Green Initiative Education Program Framework and are requesting that the Committee review the Framework and make a recommendation to Council.

STRATEGIC PLAN

☒ Not applicable to this report.

OTHERS CONSULTED

None.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Green Initiative Education Program Framework

REVIEWED BY

Recommended by the Department

Morgan Dykstra
Public Works & Planning Coordinator

Jed Kelly
Director of Public Works



Green Initiative Education Program Framework

Policy Statement

The primary objective of this program framework is to provide the parameters and guidelines for the implementation of a Green Initiative Education Program by the Town of St. Marys.

This framework will outline the purpose of the program, and how the education program will be administered.

Scope

The education program will feature initiatives that mitigate or adapt to climate change, the program will only feature initiatives undertaken within the boundaries of the Town of St. Marys.

Purpose

The Town of St. Marys is committed to addressing climate change and can leverage its position within the community to educate the local community and feature local initiatives that adapt to or mitigate climate change.

The Green Initiative Education Program will promote local initiatives to adapt to and mitigate climate change to educate the public and bring awareness to programs and strategies, with the intent to encourage sustainability practices within the Town of St. Marys.

Guidelines

The Town of St. Marys is creating an education program to educate and bring awareness to actions that mitigate or adapt to climate change. The Town will feature actions undertaken in St. Marys.

Call for Submission

The Town will advertise for the Green Initiative Education Program twice each calendar year, in February and August, to be featured in April and October of the same year.

Those who choose to proceed will complete an application detailing their initiative and how it complies with the criteria set out in this document. The Submitter must be willing to explain their motivation for implementing the initiative, and the benefits of that initiative.

Eligibility



The Town of St. Marys Council or its designate retains the authority to determine eligibility requirements for each call for submission, this may include but is not limited to, citizens, commercial and industrial businesses, or youth.

All submissions must be for initiatives undertaken within the Town of St. Marys' boundaries.

Criteria

The Town of St. Marys Council or its designate may at its discretion set a theme for each call for submission, requiring that all initiatives meet that theme, this may include but is not limited to, solid waste initiatives, energy management initiatives, or building retrofit initiatives. Should the Town of St. Marys Council or its designate select a theme, it will clearly define the parameters of said theme when calling for submissions.

Additional criteria includes:

- It can be demonstrated that the initiative either adapts or mitigates climate change in some manner in that it reduces non-recyclable waste and/or reduces the carbon footprint.
- The initiative involves either an investment of time or money.
- The Submitter is willing to share information related to the initiative.
- Initiatives are not the result of mandated changes as required by the Province of Ontario, of the Government of Canada.

Review

The Town of St. Marys Council, or its designate shall review all Green Initiative Education submissions and determine that each submission meets the eligibility and criteria requirements as outlined within this document. During the review process, the Town of St. Marys Council or its designate may request additional information from the Submitter and confirm the accuracy of the submission.

The Town of St. Marys Council, or its designate retains the right to determine which submissions will be featured, and which submissions will not be featured.

Should a submission not be featured, the Town of St. Marys Council or its designate shall provide an explanation to the Submitter detailing why the Town is choosing to not feature their initiative.

Featuring Green Initiatives

Initiatives approved by the Town of St. Marys Council, or its designate will be featured on the Town's website, and the St. Marys Independent. Other promotional activities may be considered on a case-by-case basis.



At its discretion, the Town of St. Marys reserves the right to remove content from its website.

References

None.

End of Document

Rev #	Date	Reason	Initiated	Reviewed	Approved

DRAFT