



## Agenda Green Committee

January 26, 2022

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. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** \_\_\_\_\_ be appointed as the Chair of the Green Committee effective immediately to November 14, 2022.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** \_\_\_\_\_ be appointed as the Vice-Chair of the Green Committee effective immediately to November 14, 2022.

4. **AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the January 26, 2021 Green Committee Agenda be accepted as presented.

5. **DELEGATIONS**

None.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- 6.1. Jordan Partridge, St. Marys Youth Council re: Spring Environmental Programs 3

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the correspondence from Jordan Partridge, Chair of the St. Marys Youth Council requesting the Green Committee's assistance for the Youth Council's proposed environmental programs be received.

7. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES 4

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** The November 24, 2021 Green Committee minutes be approved and signed by the Chair and the Committee Secretary.

8. STRATEGIC ITEMS - PROGRESS UPDATE 9

**RECOMMENDATION**

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

9. REPORTS

- 9.1. PW 04-2022 CURBSIDE WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE DELIVERY 12

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** report PW 04-2022 Curbside Waste Collection Service Delivery Investigation be received for information.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

11. UPCOMING MEETINGS

February 23, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom

March 23, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom

12. ADJOURNMENT

**RECOMMENDATION**

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

Received on January 10, 2022 at 3:12 P.M. via Email

Hello Councillor Pridham,

I hope this email finds you well. I'm Jordan Partridge, the Chair and representative from the St. Mary's Youth Council, and I'm reaching out to you on the subject of the coming spring season. We know that late spring is gardening season, and we're all very enthusiastic about environmental improvement on our council, so we'd like to work with you and the Green Committee on some ideas for this upcoming spring.

Our plan is to create posts on our Instagram about composting and planting, to promote youth to get out and help our environment. We will hopefully be able to plan a flower pot painting event as well, to get youth engaged in planting and give them something to grow a plant in.

We were hoping you could give us some tips and guidance on our plan, and provide us with some of your findings about getting people involved. We would also appreciate some advice on composting, and ways to make it easier for people in St. Mary's and the surrounding area.

Thank you for your time.

- Jordan Partridge



## **Minutes**

### **Green Committee**

November 24, 2021

5:30 pm

Video Conference

Click the following link:

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

Member Present	Lynette Geddes, Chair Katherine Moffat Councillor Pridham Fred Stam John Stevens David Vermeire
Staff Present	Jed Kelly, Director of Public Works Morgan Dykstra, Committee Secretary Erica Martin-Coddington, Public Works and Planning Assistant
Others Present	Amara Kartick, Climate Change Coordinator

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

Chair Geddes called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

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

None declared.

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

Fred Stam entered the meeting at 5:31 P.M.

**Resolution: GC-2021-08-01**

**Moved By** John Stevens

**Seconded By** Councillor Pridham

**THAT** the November 24, 2021 Green Committee agenda be accepted as presented.

**Carried**

#### **4. DELEGATIONS**

##### **4.1 Creating a Healthy Environment - Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan**

Amara Kartick, Climate Change Coordinator for the Town of St. Marys presented the Creating a Healthy Environment Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan (the “Plan”) and responded to questions from the Committee.

Amara Kartick advised the Committee that she is currently drafting an implementation work plan that will detail how the actions described in the Plan will be executed. The Committee sought clarification regarding how they will participate in the work plan creation process. Jed Kelly, Director of Public Works proposed that Town staff create a preliminary work plan detailing the action items, and their status, the Green Committee can assign a priority status to each action item. The Green Committee was of the consensus that the proposed approach is agreeable.

The Committee recommended that other strategic documents like the Community Safety and Well-being Plan be considered while creating an implementation work plan.

The Committee discussed how the Plan will be rolled out to the public and how it can be simplified for general consumption. Jed Kelly advised that the work plan will address this concern.

Councillor Pridham inquired if Amara Kartick has prepared any responses to the questions posed by Council at the October 12, 2021 Regular Council Meeting. Amara Kartick responded that she hopes to have a response to Council by the end of the year.

The Committee discussed the importance of having a tool that can calculate greenhouse gas emissions, and how that tool could measure

how each proposed action item will decrease greenhouse gas emissions in St. Marys to determine overall impact.

The Committee inquired how the emissions data included in the report was collected. Amara Kartick responded that the data is derived from the St. Marys Emission Profile using 2017 as the baseline year. Amara Kartick further advised that she is currently collecting the 2020 and 2021 emissions data.

**Resolution: GC-2021-08-02**

**Moved By** Fred Stam

**Seconded By** David Vermeire

**THAT** Creating a Healthy Environment – Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan report be received.

**Carried**

**5. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

**Resolution: GC-2021-08-03**

**Moved By** John Stevens

**Seconded By** Fred Stam

**THAT** the September 22, 2021 Green Committee minutes be approved and signed by the Chair and Committee Secretary.

**Carried**

**6. STRATEGIC ITEMS - PROGRESS UPDATE**

Morgan Dykstra and Jed Kelly presented the November Green Committee Strategic Priorities Table and responded to questions from the Committee.

**Resolution: GC-2021-08-04**

**Moved By** Councillor Pridham

**Seconded By** Fred Stam

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

**Carried**

## 7. REPORTS

### 7.1 PW 81-2021 Request to Expand St. Marys' Pollinator Garden

Morgan Dykstra and Jed Kelly spoke to the report and responded to questions from the Committee.

The Committee asked if the wildflowers will continue to spread, Morgan Dykstra responded that she will need to confirm, and will present the response to Council.

The Committee asked if pollinator gardens can be planted in new developments. Jed Kelly responded that new developments can be reviewed, along with the St. Marys Cemetery.

**Resolution: GC-2021-08-05**

**Moved By** Katherine Moffat

**Seconded By** David Vermeire

**THAT** PW 81-2021 Request to Expand St. Marys' Pollinator Garden report be received; and

**THAT** the Green Committee recommend to Council:

**THAT** Council approve the action to expand the St. Marys' Pollinator Garden located in the Sparling Bush trail triangle by 96m<sup>2</sup> square meters; and,

**THAT** Council direct staff to pursue grant funding to fund the pollinator garden expansion.

**Carried**

### 7.2 PW 82-2021 Green Initiative Awareness Program (February 2022)

Morgan Dykstra and Jed Kelly presented the report and responded to questions from the Committee.

**Resolution: GC-2021-08-06**

**Moved By** John Stevens

**Seconded By** Fred Stam

**THAT** PW 82-2021 Green Initiative Awareness Program (February 2022) report be received; and

**THAT** the program requirements February 2022 call for submission be:

- Small businesses (2 to 15 employees) shall be the eligible submitters, and,
- The submissions should be waste reduction related initiatives.

**Carried**

**8. OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

**9. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

January 26, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. (Virtual)

February 23, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. (Virtual)

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution: GC-2021-08-07**

**Moved By** Katherine Moffat

**Seconded By** Councillor Pridham

**THAT** this meeting of the Green Committee adjourns at 6:34 P.M.

**Carried**

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Lynette Geddes, Chair

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Morgan Dykstra, Committee Secretary



## Green Committee Strategic Priorities Status (January 2022)

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	Program launched early October 2021. Donations are being received and will be utilized in Spring of 2022.	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
	Forestry Management Plan Review	On November 8, 2021, Council directed the Green Committee to amend specific sections of the Forestry Management Plan. Intend to begin amendment process in 2022.	Research
	Tree Subsidy Program	Tree Subsidy Program approved by Council at the December budget meeting.  Program to be offered in September 2022 – UTRCA is on board to help implement the program.	Implementing
Naturalization	Public Engagement re: naturalization	Need to review Sparling Bush Management Plan and determine if a secondary plan is required.	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. Grant Funding report submitted to TD Friends of the Environment Foundation on January 14/2022.	Complete
		Council approved Green Committee request to expand pollinator garden.  Application to TD Friends of the Environment Foundation has been submitted. Funding decision expected in April 2022.  Plug packages are on order via UTRCA's vendor of record.	Implementing

	Meadowridge Park Naturalization Project	Project approved by Council.  Planted 450 trees with UTRCA and the Rotary the week of October 25, 2021. Using private donation funds, and Rotary donation. UTRCA and Town staff speculate that the area will be complete by the end of 2022. Might need to consider an expansion.	Complete
Active Transportation Master Plan	Seek public feedback re: active transportation network	Public Survey	Complete
	Review existing active transportation network	Capital Item Budget for 2022 to hire a Consultant to draft an Active Transportation Master Plan.	Complete
	Recommend an Active Transportation Master Plan	Active Transportation Master Plan has been paused.  Development Charges Study to be drafted to including funding mechanisms for active transportation.	Pause
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 Awareness Program	Town staff working internally to set up the February launch of the program.	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

Green House Gas Reduction Plan	Implementation Plan and Recommended Projects	<p>Climate Change Coordinator presented GHG Reduction Plan on November 24, 2021.</p> <p>Town Staff are working to bring forward a report back to the Committee regarding the GHG Reduction Plan</p>	Research
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# INFORMATION REPORT

<b>To:</b>	Chair and Members of the Advisory Committee
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Dave Blake, Environmental Services Supervisor
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	26 January 2022
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>PW 04-2022 CURBSIDE WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE DELIVERY</b>

## INFORMATION

This report is presented to the Green Committee to provide information related to current or potential curbside collection programs for solid waste management across the Town for review and discussion.

## RECOMMENDATION

**THAT** report PW 04-2022, Curbside Waste Collection Service Delivery Investigation be received for information.

## BACKGROUND

The Town of St. Marys currently offers residents a variety of curbside collection programs related to solid waste management consisting of the following:

### Residential Curbside Waste Collection:

The Town of St. Marys provides all single family residential homes with weekly curbside collection of refuse (garbage). Refuse is subject to non-collectable waste provisions set out in the Town's By-Law No. 101-2019 which includes various items which are not permitted within the curbside collection program such as but not limited to auto parts, white goods, tires and household hazardous waste.

The curbside collection program within the Town is administered by the Bluewater Recycling Association (BRA) whom utilizes an automated collection system for waste placement and collection. Through the Association, qualifying properties can select from three (3) container sizes to suit their needs. The three sizes for selection are 35, 65 and 95 gallon containers. An annual fee is paid by the resident based on the size of container selected.

As part of the waste collection program, the Town imposes mandatory recycling, and will not accept refuse for curbside pick-up, or at the landfill which contained more than 5% recyclable material, which is defined as any material which the Town accepts in the curbside recycling program.

### Residential Recycling Collection:

In 2008, the Town in conjunction with BRA implemented an automated, single stream collection program for recyclables. Curbside collection now occurs on a bi-weekly basis, year-round, for a total of 26 recycling collection days. Residents typically use a 95 gallon container / wheelie-bin to set out their recycling. Residents are not allowed to place overflowing carts at the curbside. Material that will not fit into the carts can be taken to a recycling depot or held onto until the next collection day.

### Leaf and yard Waste Collection:

In 2001, the Town of St. Marys introduced the yard waste collection program, which provided curbside collection of yard waste from April until November of each year. Residents were required to place collectibles in compostable paper bags, cardboard boxes, reusable containers or bundled stacks. Acceptable items include organic materials such as: yard plants, weeds, hedge and shrub trimmings, tree limbs (10 cm diameter maximum), lawn cuttings, etc.

Food wastes are not currently accepted.

Additionally, leaf and yard waste could be dropped off at the landfill free of charge. Weekly or twice weekly curbside collection was completed by the Town, depending on weekly needs.

In circa 2013, the Town reduced the leaf and yard waste program, limiting the curbside collection to 5 weeks in the spring and 5 weeks in the fall. Residents could still bring material to the landfill site free of charge. In 2014, the Town again made modifications to this program due to strong public opinion on changes implemented the prior year. The program administered in 2014 included 11 collection days, consisting of weekly collection in the spring and fall, and once per month throughout the summer. In addition to this change, the Town also opened a new convenience depot for Leaf and Yard waste material located at the Municipal Operations Centre, located at 408 James Street South where residents could drop-off acceptable material at their convenience.

In 2017, the Town made additional enhancements to the leaf and yard waste program which consisted of bi-weekly collection from May through November however was again modified in 2020 to reduce collection days to once per month throughout the summer due to declining program utilization. Yard waste is delivered to the landfill and composted in open windrows.

Compost material derived from the materials collected is stockpiled at the Site to assist in site alterations, soil additives for final cover, etc. Material generated from this program is not transported off-site.

This report provides an update on current curbside collection programs and potential service delivery modifications or enhancements in the future.

## **REPORT**

The waste management industry, and the means for material collection and diversion is in a state of flux within the Province right now. As diversion programs such as Hazardous and Special Waste, Electronic Waste and Recycling transitions to a Producer Responsibility Framework across the Province of Ontario, the delivery methods, and collection methods within the Town may need to shift accordingly.

Currently, the Town has a curbside waste collection contract in place through to November 1, 2022 with Leaf and yard Waste also being under contract through to the end of 2022. Additionally, the Town has been preliminarily notified that the target date for recycling transition to the Producer Responsibility Framework for the Town will be in 2024. As such, the current alignment of service contracts within the Town and the pending transition of recycling services to a Producer Responsibility Framework provides the Town an opportunity to review current service delivery standards and opportunities or considerations for alternative delivery methods moving forward.

Because of the intricacy of curbside collection programs across the community, any modifications to one delivery method ultimately has a ripple effect to other programs and services across the Town and it is important to look holistically at all curbside programs.

Staff have noted that as growth continues within the community, there has been an increasing trend of inquiries regarding organics collection. These inquiries have been noted to not only be from current or new residents but from third party service providers as well.

As such, Public Works Staff will be working with the Town's Corporate Communications Department over the coming weeks to develop a Community Engagement Survey related to Residential Curbside Waste Collection services across the Town. The intent of the survey would be to help judge community interest in current or potential collection methods, diversion options and economic considerations to assist in formulating a path forward for the Town related to residential curbside collection services. Once completed, a supplemental report will be developed for the Green Committee to review its findings, and service delivery options available to the Town moving forward.

When reviewing considerations for service delivery options, staff will be looking at metrics, such as but not limited to, Mandatory program utilization or voluntary enrollment, program value for service or historical participation, climate change impacts or greenhouse gas reductions, waste diversion considerations and collection frequency.

## **SUMMARY & IMPLICATIONS**

Based on the information detailed within this report, the Town's current curbside collection methods for solid waste management services remains in flux. Changes to regulatory requirements and service delivery methods over the next several years may shape the long term community delivery standards. Information obtained from the community through a community outreach survey will be used to determine interest and utilization for not only current, but potential curbside collection programs to help shape service delivery into the future.

There are no financial implications at this time.

## **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.
    - Decide on what approaches best meet long-term community ability to meet provincial standards. Build a program and identify a budget to accommodate.

## **OTHERS CONSULTED**

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

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

## **ATTACHMENTS**

None

## **REVIEWED BY**

### **Recommended by the Department**

Dave Blake, C.E.T.  
Manager of Environmental Services

Jed Kelly  
Director of Public Works