



## **AGENDA**

### **Regular Council Meeting**

October 12, 2021

6:00 pm

Video Conference

Click the following link:

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

**Pages**

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

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the October 12, 2021 regular Council meeting agenda be accepted as presented.

#### **4. PUBLIC INPUT PERIOD**

Public input received by the Clerks Department prior to 4:30 pm on the day of the meeting will be read aloud during this portion of the agenda.

Submissions will be accepted via email at [clerksoffice@town.stmarys.on.ca](mailto:clerksoffice@town.stmarys.on.ca) or in the drop box at Town Hall, 175 Queen Street East, lower level.

#### **5. DELEGATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AND PUBLIC MEETINGS**

##### **5.1. Giving Tuesday Committee re: Giving Tuesday**

**6**

Cindy Taylor will present from the Committee

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the delegation from Cindy Taylor regarding Giving Tuesday be received; and

**THAT** Council proclaim Tuesday, November 30, 2021 as Giving Tuesday in the Town of St. Marys.

### **5.2. Maggie Martin re: PC Connect Quarterly Update**

13

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the delegation from Maggie Martin of Perth County regarding the PC Connect transit update be received.

### **5.3. Amara Kartick re: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan**

21

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** Creating A Healthy Environment - Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan report be received; and

**THAT** the Council for the Town of St. Marys adopts the Creating A Healthy Environment - Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan; and

**THAT** the plan be referred to the Green Committee to work with the Climate Change Coordinator to develop an implementation plan and list of recommended projects.

## **6. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

### **6.1. Special Council - September 21, 2021**

124

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the September 21, 2021 special meeting of Council minutes be approved by Council and signed and sealed by the Mayor and the Clerk.

### **6.2. Regular Council - September 28, 2021**

130

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the September 28, 2021 regular Council meeting minutes be approved by Council and signed and sealed by the Mayor and the Clerk.

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

## **8. STAFF REPORTS**

None

## **9. COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

### **9.1. Operational and Board Reports**

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** agenda items 9.1.1 to 9.1.6 and 9.2.1 to 9.2.15 be received.

- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| <b>9.1.1. Bluewater Recycling Association - Coun. Craigmile</b>                 | <b>143</b> |
| September 16, 2021 Highlights   |            |
| <b>9.1.2. Library Board - Coun. Craigmile, Edney, Mayor Strathdee</b>           | <b>151</b> |
| September 9, 2021 Draft Minutes   |            |
| September 23, 2021 Draft Minutes  |            |
| <b>9.1.3. Municipal Shared Services Committee - Mayor Strathdee, Coun. Luna</b> |            |
| <b>9.1.4. Huron Perth Public Health - Coun. Luna</b>                            |            |
| <b>9.1.5. Spruce Lodge Board - Coun. Luna, Pridham</b>                          | <b>157</b> |
| June 16, 2021 Minutes   |            |
| <b>9.1.6. Upper Thames River Conservation Authority</b>                         | <b>161</b> |
| June 22, 2021 Minutes   |            |
| August 24, 2021 Minutes   |            |
| <br><b>9.2. Advisory and Ad-Hoc Committee Reports</b>                           |            |
| <b>9.2.1. Accessibility Advisory Committee - Coun. Hainer</b>                   |            |
| <b>9.2.2. Business Improvement Area - Coun. Winter</b>                          | <b>177</b> |
| September 13, 2021 Draft Minutes  |            |
| <b>9.2.3. CBHFM - Coun. Edney</b>   |            |

<b>9.2.4.</b>	<b>Committee of Adjustment</b>	<b>183</b>
	September 15, 2021 Minutes	
<b>9.2.5.</b>	<b>Community Policing Advisory Committee - Coun. Winter, Mayor Strathdee</b>	<b>186</b>
	September 15, 2021 Minutes	
<b>9.2.6.</b>	<b>Green Committee - Coun. Pridham</b>	<b>191</b>
	September 22, 2021 Minutes	
	*Recommendations from minute items 7.1 and 7.2 to be considered by Council at later dates	
<b>9.2.7.</b>	<b>Heritage Advisory Committee - Coun. Pridham</b>	<b>195</b>
	September 20, 2021 Minutes	
<b>9.2.8.</b>	<b>Huron Perth Healthcare Local Advisory Committee - Coun. Luna</b>	
<b>9.2.9.</b>	<b>Museum Advisory Committee - Coun. Hainer</b>	
<b>9.2.10.</b>	<b>Planning Advisory Committee - Coun. Craigmile, Hainer</b>	
<b>9.2.11.</b>	<b>Recreation and Leisure Advisory Committee - Coun. Pridham</b>	
<b>9.2.12.</b>	<b>Senior Services Advisory Committee - Coun. Winter</b>	<b>199</b>
	September 27, 2021 Minutes	
<b>9.2.13.</b>	<b>St. Marys Lincolns Board - Coun. Craigmile</b>	
<b>9.2.14.</b>	<b>St. Marys Cement Community Liaison Committee - Coun. Craigmile, Winter</b>	
<b>9.2.15.</b>	<b>Youth Council - Coun. Edney</b>	

**10. EMERGENT OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**11. NOTICES OF MOTION**



**12. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

\*All meetings will be live streamed to the Town's YouTube channel

October 19, 2021 - 9:00 am, Strategic Priorities Committee

October 26, 2021 - 6:00 pm, Regular Council

**13. CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW**

202

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** By-Law 87-2021, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of October 12, 2021 regular Council meeting be read a first, second and third time; and be finally passed by Council and signed and sealed by the Mayor and the Clerk.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** this regular meeting of Council adjourns at \_\_\_\_\_ pm.



## BACKGROUND ON GIVINGTUESDAY (GT) CIVIC MOVEMENT & ST. MARYS INVOLVEMENT

### BACKGROUND:

- GivingTuesday (GT) originated in the United States in 2012 as a philanthropic idea encouraging people to generously give back within communities following the intense consumer focus of Black Friday and Cyber Monday
- GT is now an annual global movement with goodwill activations in over 150 countries
- 60+ countries – including Canada - have their own national coalition
- Canada had 43 participating communities in 2020
- **GT Canada** is a not-for-profit organization that encourages goodness sharing throughout our country, however, the organization **collects no funds or products generated from either its related community partners or their respective affiliated parties' appeals**

### ST. MARYS GT INTRODUCTION & EVOLVING DIRECTION:

- Proposed by local business owner, Cindy Taylor, to St. Marys Business Improvement Area (BIA) in 2017, GT received Board-approved support based on its community-building vision
- From the beginning, local business owner Julie Docker-Johnson has been a co-driving force on this mission of connected community outreach
- In September 2020, St. Marys Giving Tuesday Civil Movement expanded to an 8-member volunteer committee consisting of local business owners (2), teachers (2) and community volunteers (3)
- 2020 GT direction changed due to COVID, one single charity and mission was executed
  - Hand drawn Christmas Cards were sold at numerous downtown merchants
  - Over \$3200 was generated for The United Way of Perth Huron with all funds staying in St. Marys

### ST. MARYS GT GROWING SUCCESS STORY:

- St. Marys has participated in GT since 2017 with 100% year-over-year participation growth\*
- St. Marys GT introduction in 2017 had 18 local pioneering partners including businesses, community organizations and DCVI high school
- Community participation doubled to 38 entities in 2018
- Involvement increased again by 100% in 2019 with close to 80 registered GT partners including more charities, not-for-profits, service clubs, churches and all area schools
- Since inception, the Town of St. Marys has recognized GT with an official Mayor Proclamation
- St. Marys GT leadership and successful community outreach model has been nationally recognized as exemplary; specific efforts have been annually highlighted on givingtuesday.ca

- For 2 consecutive years, St. Marys Giving Tuesday Civil Movement Leaders have been invited to present St. Marys story of “best practices” at the GT National Summit alongside major cities including Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, Mississauga, and Halifax
- In 2019, St. Marys was the first city in Canada to have an official Town Hall GT flag raising ceremony involving local volunteers, two elementary schools plus a Town Councillor

### **ST. MARYS GIVINGTUESDAY IS LOCALLY & NATIONALLY IMPACTFUL**

Each year, GT partners voluntarily decide how they intend to positively aid the well-being of diverse challenged persons or enhance greater St. Marys institutional support services.

GT 2019 good works summary included:

- Significant funding and product contributions generated by GT partners for several local charities and not-for-profits (NOTE: sample list of good works) including:
  - St. Marys Community Living
  - St. Marys Salvation Army
  - United Way Perth-Huron “Nourish” food program
  - VONs Perth-Huron
  - Smart & Caring Communities of Perth County
  - Stratford Hospice
  - Stratford House of Blessing
  - Emily Murphy Centre
  - Feline Friends of Stratford
  - Ronald McDonald House of London
  - Canadian Mental Health Association
- Multiple food, clothing and toy drives to directly aid socio-economically challenged persons
- Inclusively connected marginalized and advantaged people together at “free” events (i.e. St. Marys United Church Community Dinner; Emm Gryner complimentary presentation)
- Fostered interaction between youth and elderly institutionalized persons (Cubs singing and decorating Christmas ornaments with seniors at Kingsway Lodge)
- Promoted simple acts of kindness amongst St. Marys neighbours
- Unified and activated goodwill in a celebratory manner that has positively reinforced St. Marys as a caring community and truly a Town worth living in
- Served as a leading community engagement model for other places to emulate

### **ST. MARYS 2021 GIVING TUESDAY COMMITTEE INITIATIVES**

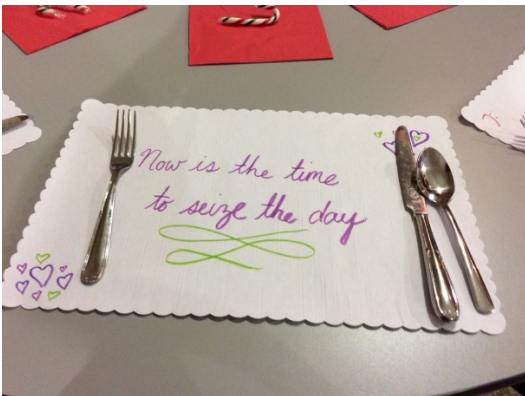
- **Marketing**
  - Informative posters will be available to all participants to display, these are being designed by Holy Name students and DCVI students
  - Social media campaign on Facebook and Instagram will highlight past success and 2021 initiatives
  - Independent Newspaper: to run ads, article and list of participating partners
  - Radio interview (TBA)
- **Strong as Stone Campaign**

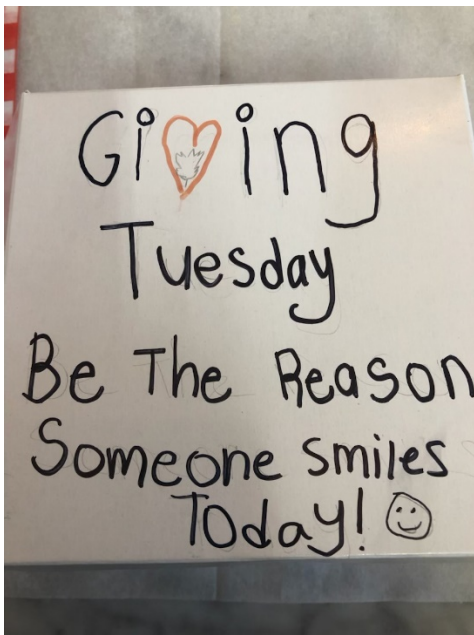
- St. Marys Cement Plant has donated 600 rocks that will be painted by both elementary school students
- Rocks will be sold on November 30<sup>th</sup> at various locations in town by volunteers
- Funds raised will go to schools charity of choice (still to be named)
- **Downtown Mural**
  - Partners in Employment have given funds to bring a large mural to downtown
  - Over 200 sheets will be coloured by seniors and then assembled in StoneTown Travels window
- **Wisdom in Placemats**
  - Stonetown Supply has donated 1,000 paper placemats that will be designed by Grade 7/8 DCVI students
  - Placements will be delivered to all food and beverage establishments
- **Corporate Outreach**
  - on September 27<sup>th</sup> letters went out to 26 businesses with information and an appeal to participate in GT
- **Window Decals**
  - Participating partners will receive a window decal that will let the public know they are participating in GT, funds generously donated by The Welcoming Committee
- **Stuff the Cruiser**
  - Local Police have moved their date to November 30<sup>th</sup> and will request feminine hygiene product donations

#### **Requested Recurring & New GT Involvement(s) for Town of St. Marys**

*Town of St. Marys can continue leading the national movement to give back to community in three visible ways:*

- 1) Council again proclaim November 30<sup>th</sup> to be Giving Tuesday in the Town of St. Marys
- 2) The official Giving Tuesday flag again be raised in November outside of Town Hall
- 3) Mayor, Councillors and Town Staff take a new leading role this November 30<sup>th</sup> by spearheading outreach activities, engaging in local appeals/friendly challenges (i.e. Stratford Mayor), and promoting Giving Tuesday as a town-wide community focused event









# GIVING TUESDAY RETURNS NOVEMBER 30TH

**Choose a cause.  
Help our community.**

TO LEARN HOW YOUR COMPANY,  
SCHOOL, TEAM, CHURCH,  
ORGANIZATION OR SERVICE CLUB  
CAN HELP CONTACT  
CINDY TAYLOR OR JULIE JOHNSON.

cindylaurataylor@gmail.com  
johnsonjulie@rogers.com

September 22, 2021



We would like to invite you and your employees to participate in Giving Tuesday on Tuesday, November 30, 2021. More than 70 businesses and organizations in the Town of St. Marys have participated in Giving Tuesday over the past four years.

Last year, due to Covid 19 it looked a little "different" but this year we are back and so excited to be part of the Giving Movement! The Town of St. Marys is recognized on a national level for our participation in this worldwide one day event.

Our goal this year is to get more people, businesses and organizations involved in this very memorable day. We would appreciate if you would consider participating. The ways to participate are as varied as the individuals in your organization.

The enclosed provides general information on Giving Tuesday on a national and local level. You can also visit the Giving Tuesday web site - [www.givingtuesday.ca](http://www.givingtuesday.ca). Our committee would be happy to help you with your plans or offer ideas on how to participate. Please feel free to reach out to Cindy Taylor or myself, we would love to have you on board.

Thank you in advance for your time. I look forward to hearing from you!

Better Together,



Julie Docker Johnson  
Giving Tuesday Committee Member  
The Flower Shop and More - 519-284-1391  
[johnsonjulie@rogers.com](mailto:johnsonjulie@rogers.com)

Cindy Taylor  
Kitchen Smidgen - 647-393-3821  
[cindylaurataylor@gmail.com](mailto:cindylaurataylor@gmail.com)



**GivingTuesday is a global movement for giving and volunteering, taking place each year after Cyber Monday. The “Opening day of the giving season,” it is a day where charities, companies and individuals join together to share commitments, rally for favourite causes and think about others.**

- Last year 20,000 charities and businesses participated in GivingTuesday in 68 countries. More than 3,300 Canadian organizations took part..St.Marys had 71 partners participating in 2019.

- GivingTuesday offers companies a chance to tell their giving story to new audiences and leverage a national and global messaging campaign. GivingTuesday provides a compelling reason to engage customers, employees and others during the holiday season. .

- Participation is easy:

1. Commit to doing something on GivingTuesday and become a partner.

2. Share your story and let us share it too.

3. Celebrate your success and tell us what you achieved.

- Learn more about how to get involved by contacting Cindy Taylor or Julie Docker Johnson.

**cindylaurataylor@gmail.com**  
**johnsonjulie@rogers.com**



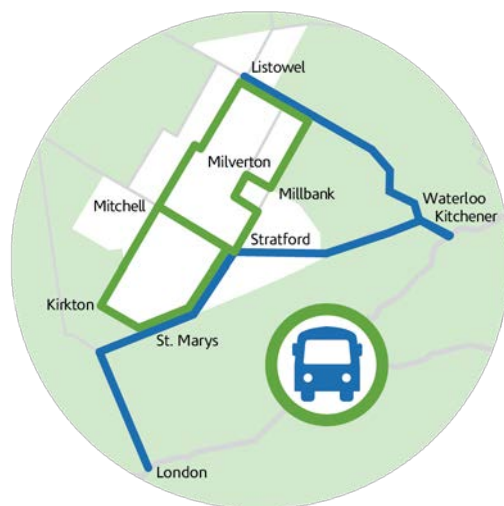
## PC Connect Service Update



PC Connect launched on November 16, 2020 and has now been in operation for approximately 10 months. To date, PC Connect has serviced a total of 970 rides, and has provided residents with an affordable method of transportation in order to access basic needs such as healthcare, employment, groceries, social services and recreational activities. In order to create the safest environment possible, COVID-19 precautions are enforced on all PC Connect buses, which includes 50% reduced capacity, mandatory face-coverings and increased sanitization practices.

### Marketing

The PC Connect team continues to advertise the service as a convenient and affordable solution to residents' transportation needs. The team has developed a number of PC Connect marketing assets, which includes educational maps, brochures (attached), and a promotional video that helps potential riders learn about the service. Additionally, the team recently concluded a paid social media marketing campaign, which was executed using a dynamic formula that determines the most effective way to communicate with our targeted demographic. All ads were optimized to drive traffic to the PC Connect webpage that is hosted on the County website ([perthcounty.ca/pconnect](http://perthcounty.ca/pconnect)), and was evaluated based on a website conversion rate. In addition to social media marketing, the team has launched a series of radio ads with The Ranch, Juice FM and 2day FM, as well as an advertisement on North Perth's new digital billboard that is located downtown Listowel. Since marketing efforts have commenced, the following metrics have been achieved:

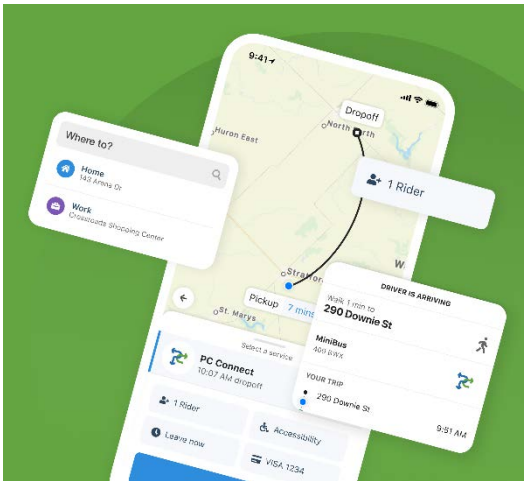


- ✓ 100% increase in PC Connect call-center volume
- ✓ 86% increase in PC Connect website traffic
- ✓ Reached 40,000 viewers in 1-month of paid social media ads

The PC Connect team is also focusing marketing and advertising efforts on community outreach. Staff are working to promote PC Connect to different service and social groups, employers, and school boards throughout the County and surrounding areas, with the goal of growing the PC Connect ridership base and becoming a key partner in organizational success. To date, staff have provided informative presentations to a variety of residents through organizations such as the Conestoga Careers Centre, Immploy, WIL Employment Connections, Avon Maitland District School Board, Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board, and the Stratford Rotary Club. Community outreach continues to be a top priority for the team.

**Booking Application**

The PC Connect team has successfully secured a booking application through a joint RFP with the Southwest Community Transit association (SCT). Once implemented, the booking application will allow PC Connect riders to digitally secure their seat, pay for their ride using a variety of different payment methods, and also get real-time updates and notifications regarding the bus’s exact location. The PC Connect team is confident that the app will enhance the overall customer experience, and will also be a vital asset in collecting thorough data that will contribute to the long-term success of the project. The app is expected to be available to riders by mid-October 2021.



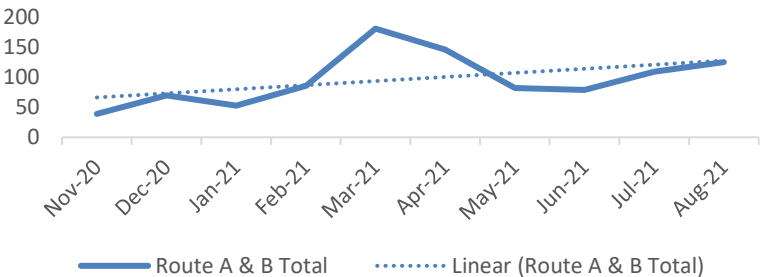
**Funding Extension**

On June 28, 2021, the County of Perth received a letter from the Ministry of Transportation to advise that the Government of Ontario is extending the Community Transportation (CT) Grant Program for an additional two years. As part of the two-year extension, the County is eligible to receive provincial funding beyond March 2023 to extend the service for 2023-24 and 2024-25 operating years.

**Ridership**

PC Connect Routes A & B have serviced a total of 970 rides, with 750 on Route A and 220 on Route B. Despite the multiple stay-at-home orders and COVID-19 restrictions, PC Connect has averaged a 25% increase in ridership month-over-month. Ridership is expected to continue at a positive growth trend as marketing and advertising efforts increase, and both COVID-19 restrictions and ridership hesitancy decreases.

PC Connect Ridership Trend



PC Connect is your fully accessible community transit bus system.

PC Connect offers 5 bus routes that travel throughout Perth County, and surrounding areas including Stratford, St. Marys, Kitchener/Waterloo and London.

Operating 8 hours every Monday to Saturday, use PC Connect to get to work, healthcare appointments, shopping, or social and recreational activities.

Ride PC Connect in 3 Easy Steps

- STEP 1 | Call 1-888-465-0783 to book your trip.
- STEP 2 | Arrive at the bus stop 5 minutes before your scheduled pick-up time.
- STEP 3 | Place your exact change in the fare box.

FARES

Prices shown are for a one-way fare.  
Exact cash is required. Drivers do not carry change.

ROUTE	Adults	Students Seniors 60+	Veterans Support Persons Children (5 & under)
A & B	\$6	\$5	Free
1, 2 & 3	\$12	\$10	Free

Rider Information

For details and additional information visit our website: [perthcounty.ca/pconnect](http://perthcounty.ca/pconnect)

**FARES:** Students, Seniors, Veterans and Support Persons must be able to provide proper identification if asked.

**CHILDREN:** Children under the age of 13 must be accompanied by an adult to ride the bus, or must provide the driver with a signed note from a parent or guardian permitting them to ride the bus without an adult.

**COVID-19:** Regulatory COVID-19 precautions are being followed.

**ACCESSIBILITY:** All PC Connect buses are fully accessible, with high floor ramp access for multiple wheelchairs. Details on our website.

**INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY:** Due to safety concerns, PC Connect will not operate if the weather and/or road conditions are deemed unsafe for vehicles to operate. In the case of inclement weather, riders are encouraged to call 1-888-465-0783 to confirm whether the service is operating. In the case of service cancellation, all riders who have pre-booked their ride will receive a phone call letting them know the service has been cancelled. Service cancellations and delays will be posted on Perth County’s Facebook and Twitter pages as soon as possible.

**HOLIDAYS & SUNDAYS:** PC Connect service runs Monday through Saturday. There is no transit service on Sundays, statutory holidays, or civic holidays.

*The PC Connect service has been provided in partnership between the County of Perth, the City of Stratford, the Municipality of North Perth, and the Town of St. Marys.*



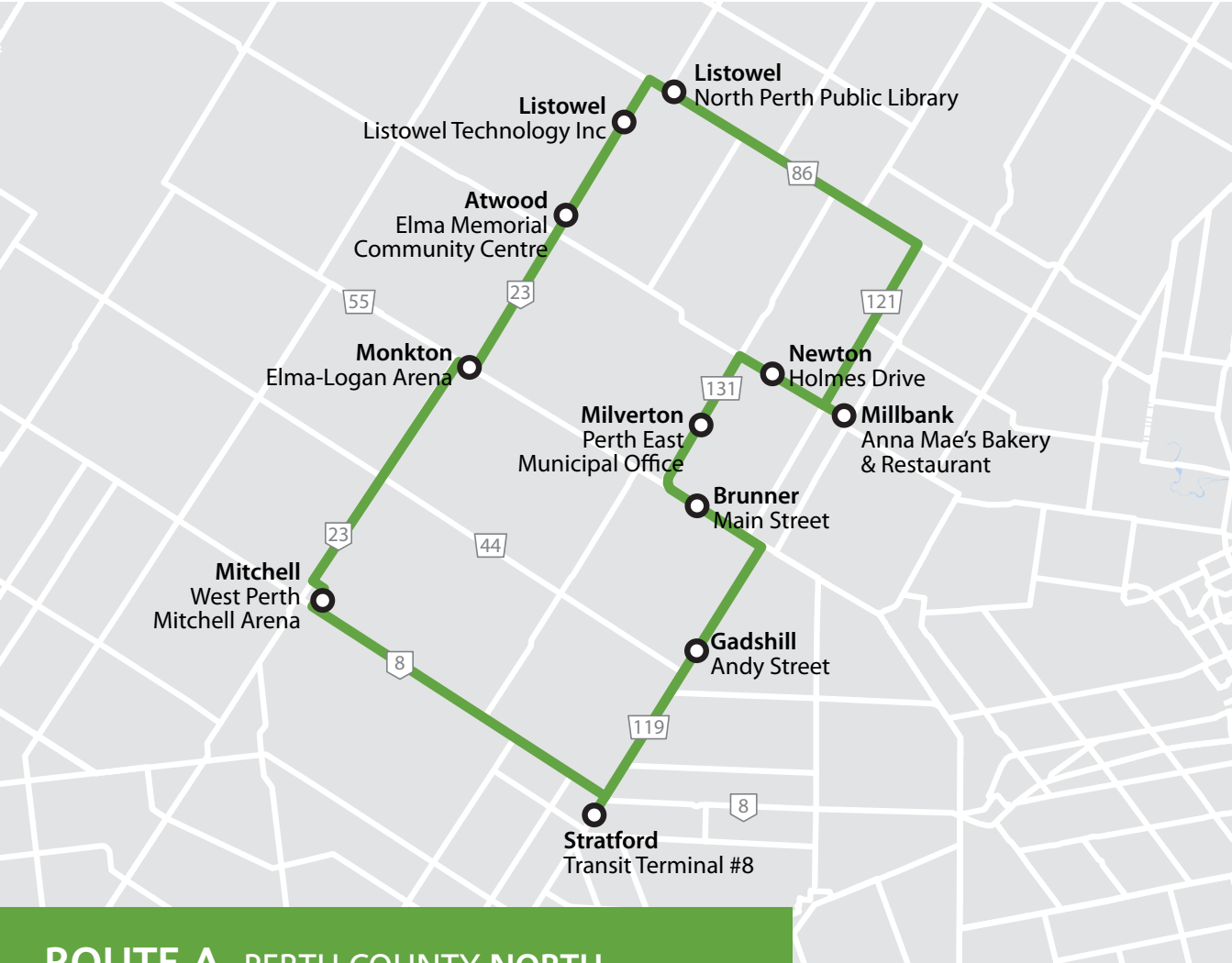
SCHEDULES & ROUTES



Getting you where you want to go!

**SCHEDULES | ROUTES | FARES**  
Call 1-888-465-0783 or visit our website [perthcounty.ca/pconnect](http://perthcounty.ca/pconnect)

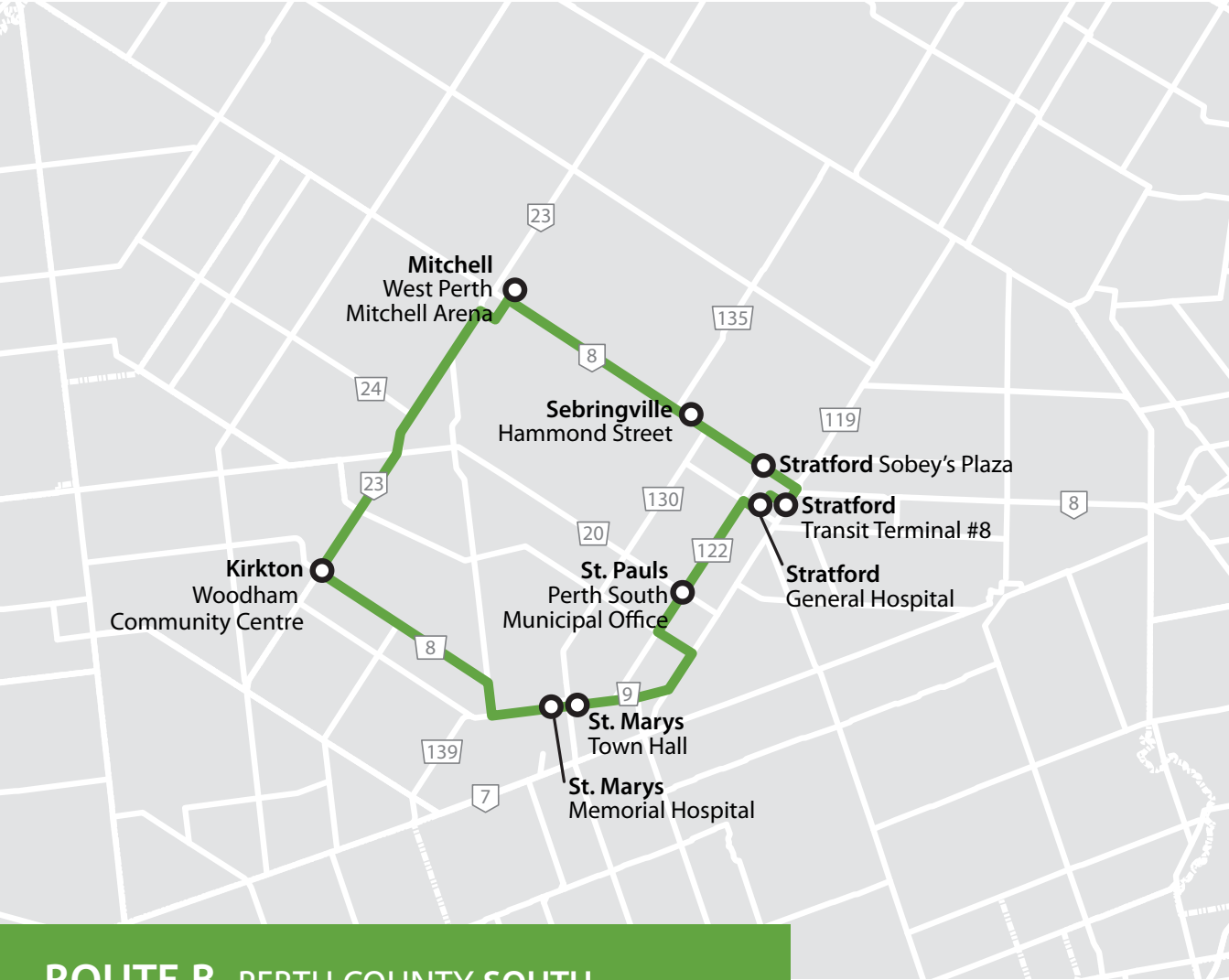
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ROUTE A PERTH COUNTY NORTH

MONDAY - SATURDAY

STOP LOCATION	↓ TRIP 1	↑ TRIP 2	↓ TRIP 3	↑ TRIP 4
Stratford: Transit Terminal #8	6:00	10:28	<b>1:00</b>	<b>5:28</b>
Gadshill: Andy Street	6:14	10:14	<b>1:14</b>	<b>5:14</b>
Brunner: Main Street	6:25	10:03	<b>1:25</b>	<b>5:03</b>
Milverton: Perth East Municipal Office	6:33	9:55	<b>1:33</b>	<b>4:55</b>
Newton: Holmes Drive	6:40	9:48	<b>1:40</b>	<b>4:48</b>
Millbank: Anna Mae's Bakery & Restaurant	6:46	9:42	<b>1:46</b>	<b>4:42</b>
Listowel: North Perth Public Library	7:10	9:18	<b>2:10</b>	<b>4:18</b>
Listowel: Listowel Technology Inc. (LTI)	7:16	9:12	<b>2:16</b>	<b>4:12</b>
Atwood: Elma Memorial Community Centre	7:23	9:05	<b>2:23</b>	<b>4:05</b>
Monkton: Elma-Logan Arena	7:35	8:53	<b>2:35</b>	<b>3:53</b>
Mitchell: West Perth Mitchell Arena	7:50	8:38	<b>2:50</b>	<b>3:38</b>
Stratford: Transit Terminal #8	8:13	8:15	<b>3:13</b>	<b>3:15</b>



ROUTE B PERTH COUNTY SOUTH

MONDAY - SATURDAY

STOP LOCATION	↓ TRIP 1	↑ TRIP 2	↓ TRIP 3	↑ TRIP 4
Stratford: Transit Terminal #8	6:00	9:25	<b>2:00</b>	<b>6:10</b>
Stratford: Stratford General Hospital	6:05	9:20	<b>2:05</b>	<b>6:05</b>
St. Pauls: Perth South Municipal Office	6:17	9:08	<b>2:17</b>	<b>5:53</b>
St. Marys: Town Hall	6:31	8:54	<b>2:31</b>	<b>5:39</b>
St. Marys: Memorial Hospital	6:37	8:48	<b>2:37</b>	<b>5:33</b>
Kirkton: Woodham Community Centre	6:55	8:30	<b>2:55</b>	<b>5:15</b>
Mitchell: West Perth Mitchell Arena	7:11	8:14	<b>3:11</b>	<b>4:59</b>
Sebringville: Hammond Street	7:23	8:02	<b>3:23</b>	<b>4:47</b>
Stratford: Sobey's Plaza	7:34	7:51	<b>3:34</b>	<b>4:36</b>
Stratford: Transit Terminal #8	7:40	7:45	<b>3:40</b>	<b>4:30</b>

PM times are BOLD





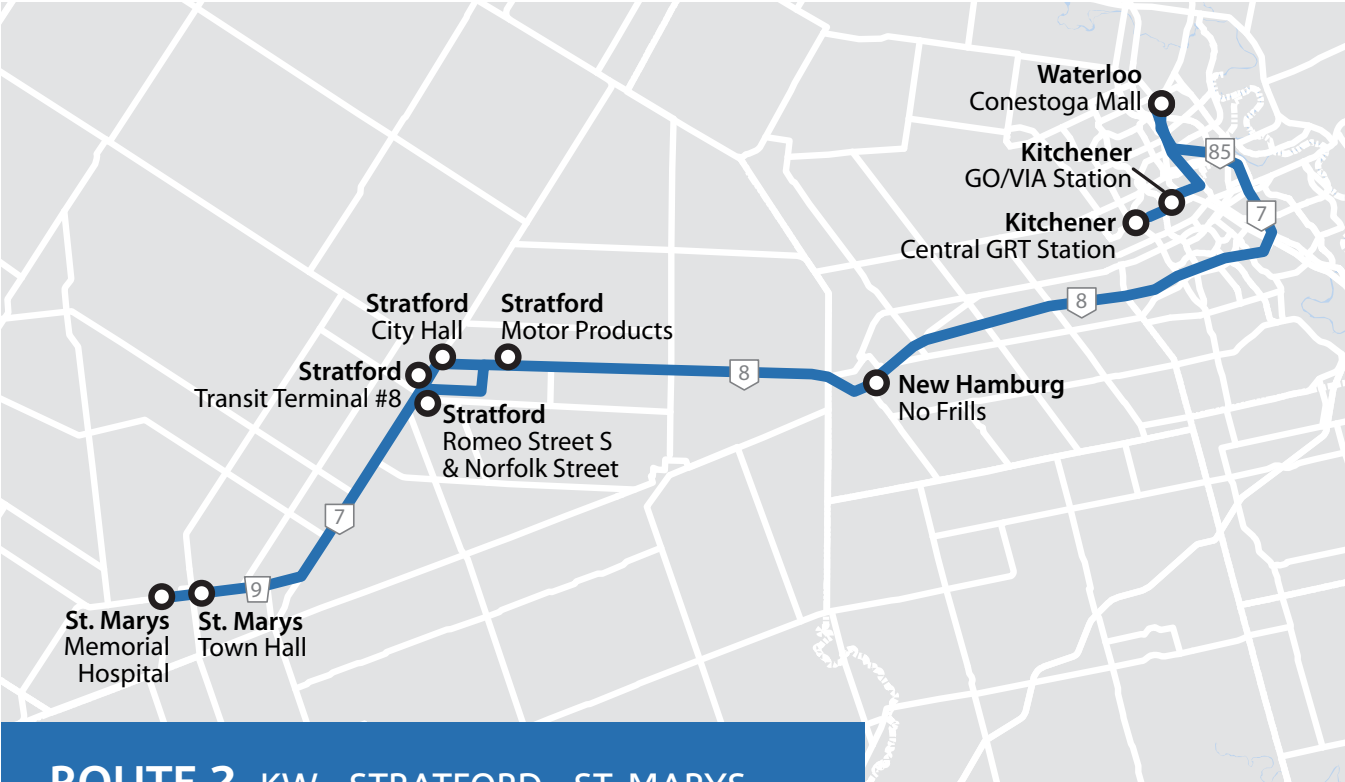
ROUTE 1 KW - ELMIRA - LISTOWEL

MONDAY - FRIDAY						
STOP LOCATION	↓ TRIP 1	↑ TRIP 2	↓ TRIP 3	↑ TRIP 4	↓ TRIP 5	↑ TRIP 6
Kitchener: Central GRT Station	5:45	8:30	8:35	11:30	<b>2:00</b>	<b>4:50</b>
Kitchener: GO/VIA Station	5:48	8:25	8:40	11:22	<b>2:05</b>	<b>4:45</b>
Waterloo: Conestoga Mall, GRT #4004	6:03	8:10	8:53	11:08	<b>2:20</b>	<b>4:40</b>
St. Jacobs: Farmer's Market	6:10	8:03	9:02	10:55	<b>2:28</b>	<b>4:30</b>
Elmira: Town Centre	6:23	7:50	9:15	10:40	<b>2:45</b>	<b>4:15</b>
Listowel: North Perth Public Library	7:00	7:13	9:50	10:05	<b>3:22</b>	<b>3:40</b>
Listowel: Listowel Technology Inc	7:05	7:10	9:54	10:00	<b>3:25</b>	<b>3:30</b>

PM times are BOLD

SATURDAY								
STOP LOCATION	↓ TRIP 1	↑ TRIP 2	↓ TRIP 3	↑ TRIP 4	↓ TRIP 5	↑ TRIP 6	↓ TRIP 7	↑ TRIP 8
Waterloo: Conestoga Mall, GRT #4004	9:00	10:59	11:00	<b>12:59</b>	<b>2:00</b>	<b>3:59</b>	<b>4:00</b>	<b>5:59</b>
St. Jacobs: Farmer's Market	9:10	10:49	11:10	<b>12:49</b>	<b>2:10</b>	<b>3:49</b>	<b>4:10</b>	<b>5:49</b>
Elmira: Town Centre	9:25	10:34	11:25	<b>12:34</b>	<b>2:25</b>	<b>3:34</b>	<b>4:25</b>	<b>5:34</b>
Listowel: North Perth Public Library	9:59	10:00	11:59	<b>12:00</b>	<b>2:59</b>	<b>3:00</b>	<b>4:59</b>	<b>5:00</b>

PM times are BOLD



MONDAY - FRIDAY

STOP LOCATION	↓ TRIP 1	↑ TRIP 2	↓ TRIP 3	↓ TRIP 3	↑ TRIP 4	↓ TRIP 5	↑ TRIP 6
Kitchener: Central GRT Station	6:00	9:40	9:45	–	2:15	2:20	6:00
Kitchener: GO/VIA Station	6:04	9:35	9:49	–	2:10	2:24	5:54
Waterloo: Conestoga Mall, GRT #4004	6:20	9:20	10:14	–	1:52	2:40	5:35
New Hamburg: No Frills	6:47	8:50	10:41	–	1:25	3:08	5:05
Stratford: Stratford Motor Products	7:07	–	11:00	–	–	3:30	–
Stratford: Romeo Street S & Norfolk Street	7:10	–	11:03	–	–	3:34	–
Stratford: Transit Terminal #8	7:15	8:20	11:06	12:00	12:55	3:38	4:35
St. Marys: Town Hall	7:40	7:52	–	12:20	12:33	4:00	4:14
St. Marys: Memorial Hospital	7:45	7:50	–	12:22	12:30	4:05	4:10

PM times are BOLD

SATURDAY

STOP LOCATION	↓ TRIP 1	↑ TRIP 2	↓ TRIP 3	↑ TRIP 4	↓ TRIP 5	↑ TRIP 6
Waterloo: Conestoga Mall, GRT #4004	9:00	11:37	11:40	2:35	3:30	6:25
New Hamburg: No Frills	9:27	11:05	12:10	2:05	4:00	5:55
Stratford: City Hall	9:51	10:46	12:35	1:40	4:25	5:30
Stratford: Transit Terminal #8	9:55	10:43	12:40	1:35	4:30	5:24
St. Marys: Town Hall	10:15	10:20	1:05	1:10	4:54	5:00

PM times are BOLD



ROUTE 3 LONDON - ST. MARYS - STRATFORD

MONDAY - FRIDAY						
STOP LOCATION	↓ TRIP 1	↑ TRIP 2	↓ TRIP 3	↑ TRIP 4	↓ TRIP 5	↑ TRIP 6
London: Masonville Place, LTC #704	5:50	8:30	8:45	11:10	<b>2:15</b>	<b>4:45</b>
St. Marys: Memorial Hospital	6:25	7:55	9:20	10:35	<b>2:50</b>	<b>4:10</b>
St. Marys: Town Hall	6:35	7:45	9:25	10:30	<b>2:55</b>	<b>4:05</b>
Stratford: Wright Business Park #1	6:50	—	9:40	—	<b>3:10</b>	—
Stratford: Wright BusinessPark #2	6:55	—	9:45	—	<b>3:15</b>	—
Stratford: Transit Terminal #8	7:05	7:15	9:55	10:00	<b>3:25</b>	<b>3:30</b>

PM times are BOLD

SATURDAY						
STOP LOCATION	↓ TRIP 1	↑ TRIP 2	↓ TRIP 3	↑ TRIP 4	↓ TRIP 5	↑ TRIP 6
London: Masonville Place, LTC #704	9:00	11:05	11:10	<b>1:15</b>	<b>3:30</b>	<b>5:45</b>
St. Marys: Memorial Hospital	9:33	10:32	11:43	<b>12:42</b>	<b>4:03</b>	<b>5:12</b>
St. Marys: Town Hall	9:37	10:28	11:47	<b>12:38</b>	<b>4:07</b>	<b>5:08</b>
Stratford: City Hall	9:58	—	<b>12:08</b>	—	<b>4:28</b>	—
Stratford: Transit Terminal #8	10:00	10:05	<b>12:10</b>	<b>12:15</b>	<b>4:30</b>	<b>4:45</b>

PM times are BOLD



## FORMAL REPORT

<b>To:</b>	Mayor Strathdee and Members of Council
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Amara Kartick, Climate Change Coordinator
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	12 October 2021
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Creating A Healthy Environment - Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan</b>

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present the final draft of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan to Council for review and adoption.

### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT** Creating A Healthy Environment - Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan report be received; and

**THAT** the Council for the Town of St. Marys adopts the Creating A Healthy Environment - Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan; and

**THAT** the plan be referred to the Green Committee to work with the Climate Change Coordinator to develop an implementation plan and list of recommended projects.

### BACKGROUND

The Partnership for Climate Protection (PCP) program is based on a five-milestone framework that involves completing a GHG inventory and forecast, setting a GHG reduction target, developing a local action plan, implementing the plan, and monitoring progress and reporting results. These types of measures also reduce operating costs, help municipalities maintain and plan for future community services, protect public health, support sustainable community development, increase community resilience and reduce a community's vulnerability to environmental, economic and social stresses.

Since 2019, the Town of St. Marys has joined the PCP agreement with Municipality of North Perth, Municipality of West Perth, Township of Perth East, Township of Perth South, County of Perth, and City of Stratford to commit to adopt a community GHG reduction target including the development and implementation of a community-wide GHG emission reduction plan.

Of the five milestones under the PCP program, the following three have been completed:

- Baseline emission inventory and forecast created
- Emission reduction targets guidelines set
- Local action plan developed to achieve emission reduction target

## REPORT

During July 2021, the plan was shared and presented with the project steering committee and elected member of the PCP program. The feedback from this review was adopted in drafting the final document.

The next steps of the plan once adopted by Council will include a survey of the current projects and inventories in the Town of St Marys to account towards the reduction target. This will assist in understanding direction of the implementation stage and prioritizing projects to reach the reduction target for 2030.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None at this time. Costs may be incurred to implement the plan, and initiatives will be brought to Council on a project by project basis, after vetting by the Green Committee.

## SUMMARY

Creating A Healthy Environment - Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan addresses the distinct rural needs of the agricultural communities of Perth County, while also speaking to the priorities of the urban communities of Stratford and St. Marys, who more heavily rely on their tourism and industrial sectors to support their economies. This plan identifies various actions and strategies to move forward on increasing adaptability and reducing greenhouse gas emissions within the community.

## STRATEGIC PLAN

☒ This initiative is supported by the following priorities, outcomes, and tactics in the Plan.

- Pillar #1 Infrastructure
  - Municipal infrastructure needs in St Marys will require a focus on sustainability and growth, while balancing these activities against anticipated changes in provincial legislation (for example, AODA and the new climate change plan).

## OTHERS CONSULTED

Project Steering Committee (Mayor Strathdee represents the Town of St. Marys)

## ATTACHMENTS

- Perth County Greenhouse Gas Emission Plan
- Town of St. Marys Town Council Presentation

## REVIEWED BY

### Recommended by the Department

Amara Kartick  
Climate Change Coordinator



CREATING A HEALTHY  
ENVIRONMENT

# Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan

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AMARA KARTICK

# Introduction

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Federation of Canadian Municipalities funding Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program (MCIP)

2019 joined Perth County, North Perth, Perth East, Perth South, West Perth, Stratford and St. Marys



FEDERATION  
OF CANADIAN  
MUNICIPALITIES



FÉDÉRATION  
CANADIENNE DES  
MUNICIPALITÉS

PARTNERS FOR **CLIMATE PROTECTION**

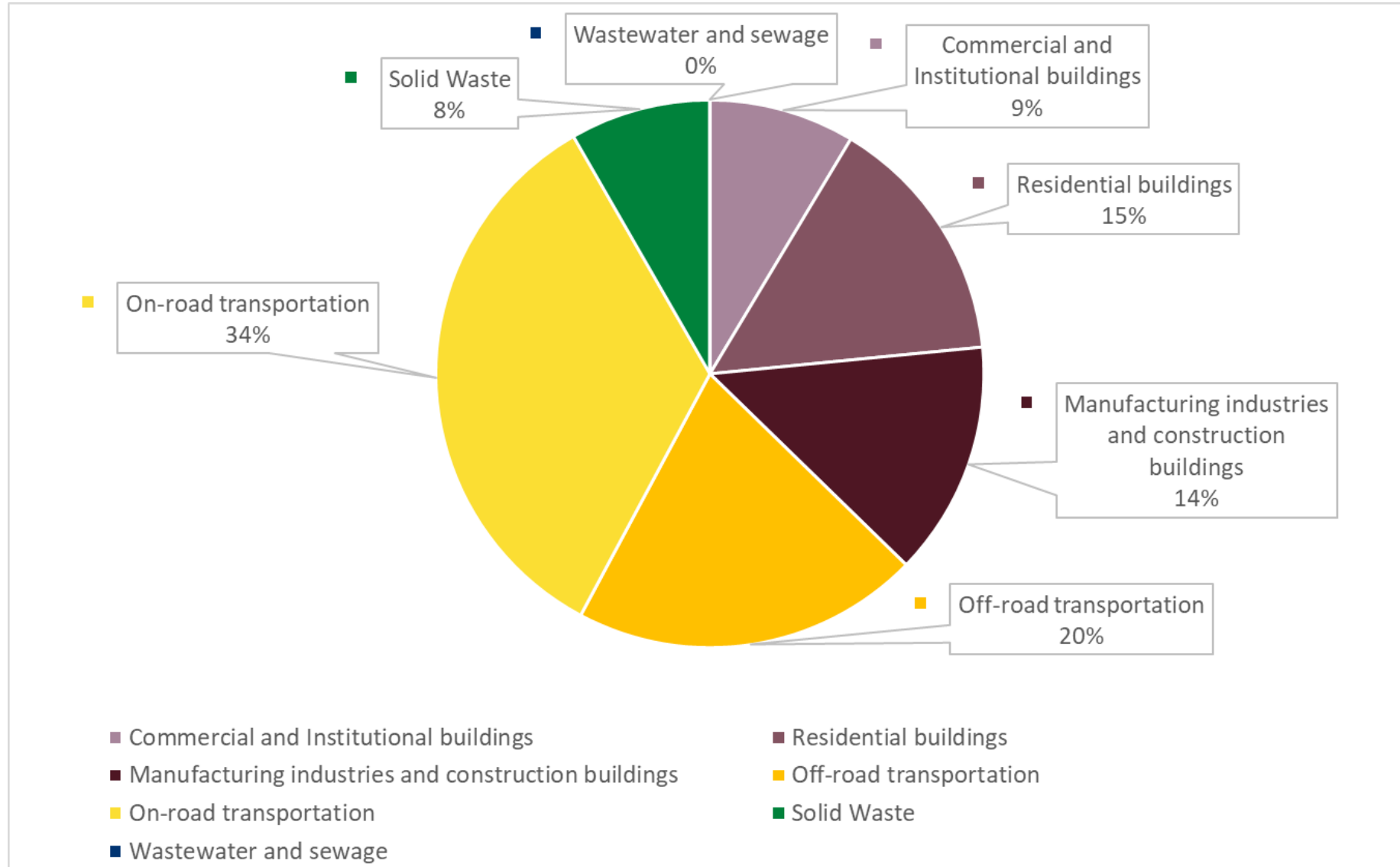
# PCP Milestones

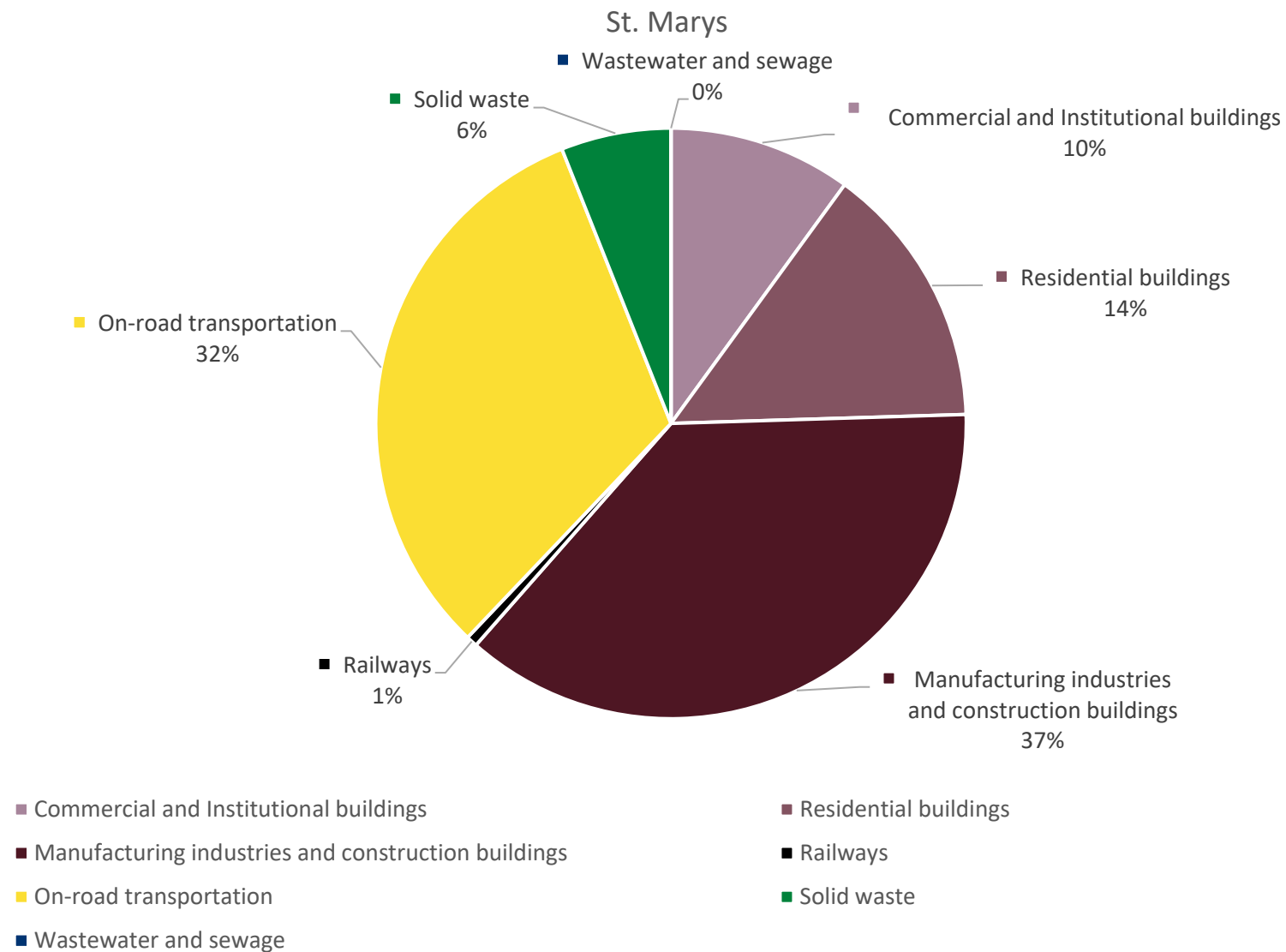
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- ✓ Create Baseline Emissions Inventory & Forecast
- ✓ Set Emissions Reduction Targets
- ✓ Develop a Local Action Plan
- Implement the Local Action Plan
- Monitor Progress and Report Results



## TOTAL COMMUNITY EMISSIONS OF PERTH COUNTY

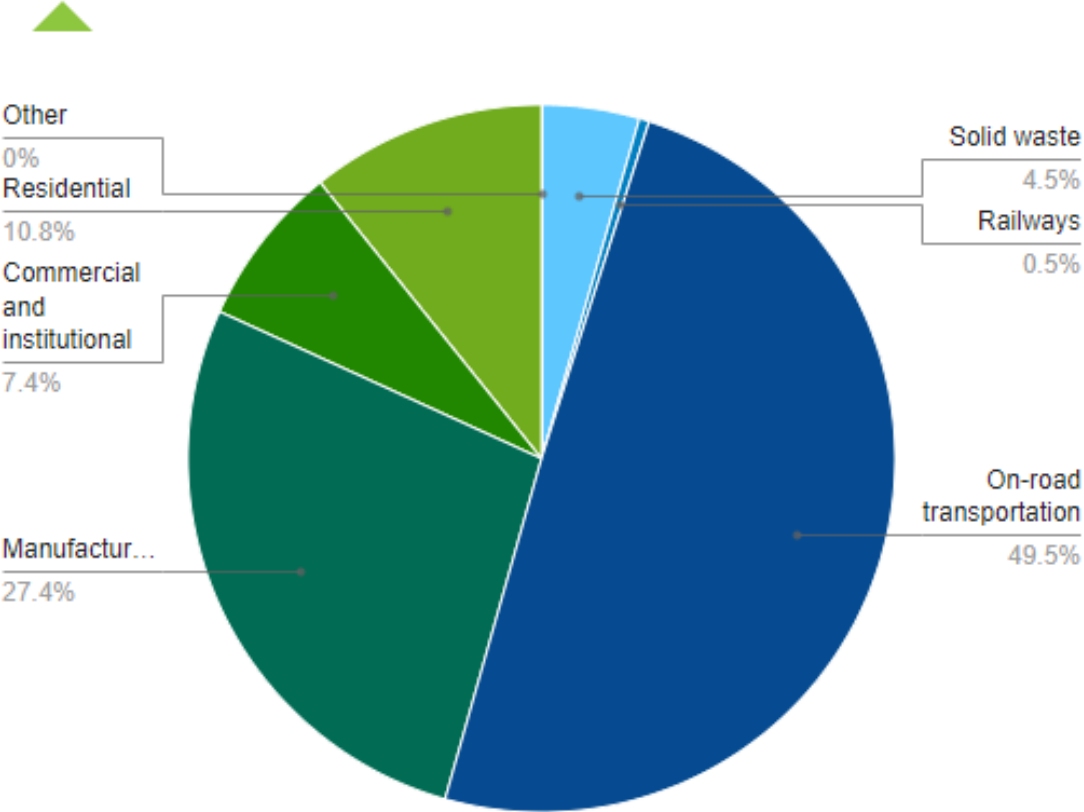




## GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FOR TOWN OF ST MARYS

# Greenhouse gas emissions (tCO2e) by sector

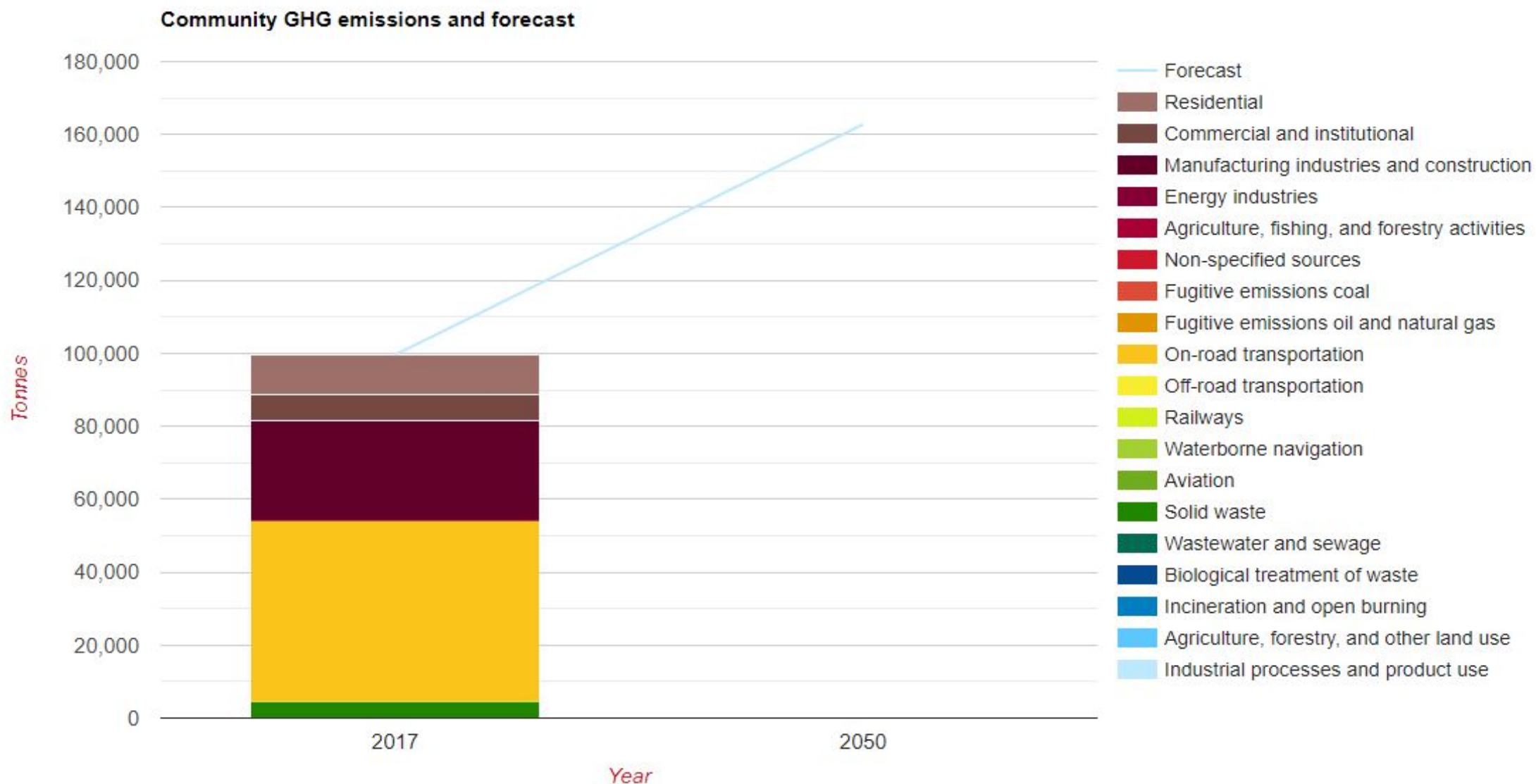
Chart Data



Sector	Emissions (tCO2e)	Energy (GJ)
Residential	10,761	290,581
Commercial and institutional	7,431	176,490
Manufacturing industries and construction	27,433	764,881
On-road transportation	49,491	0
Railways	453	0
Solid waste	4,470	0
Wastewater and sewage	1	0

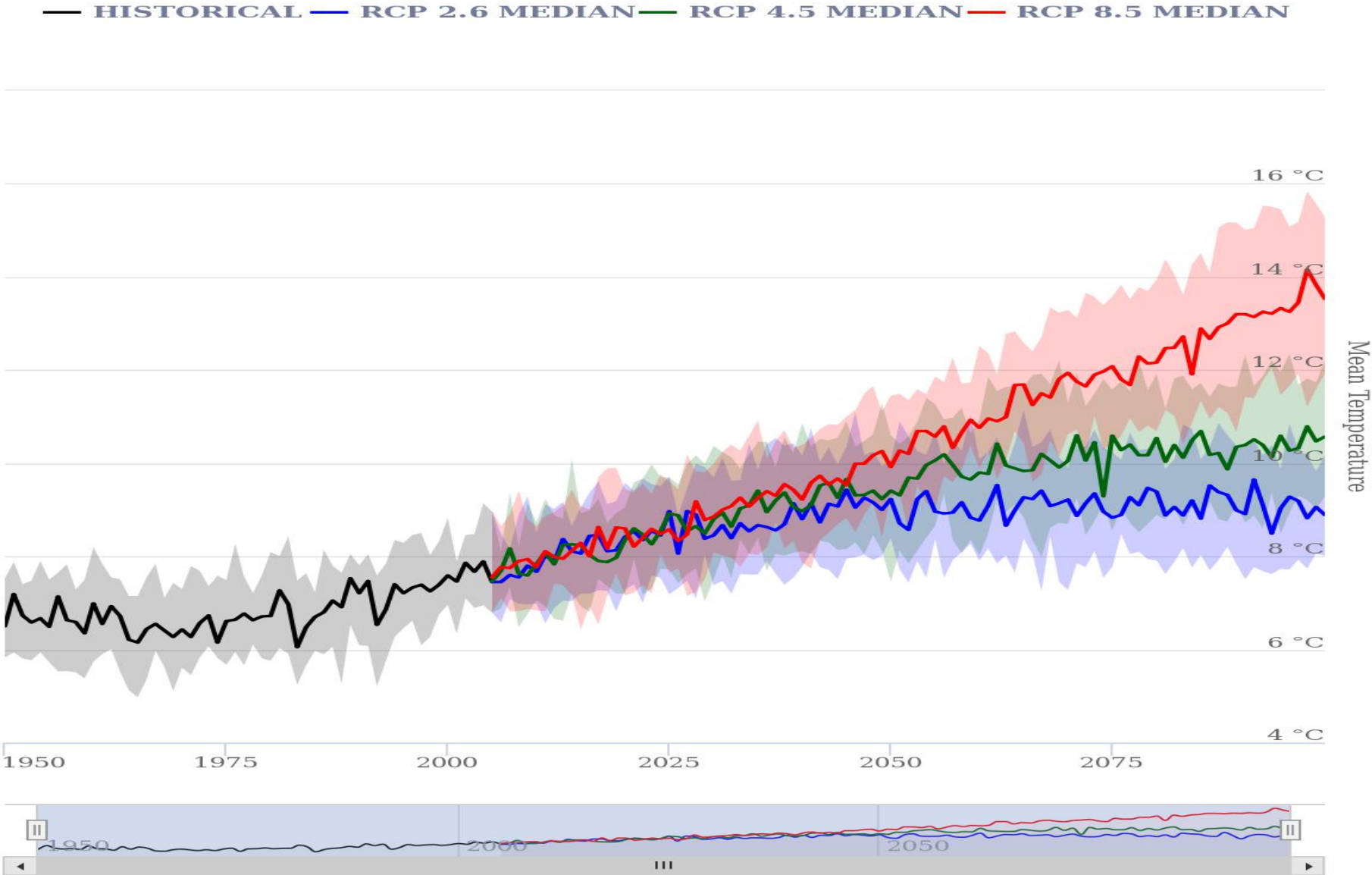
BREAKDOWN OF 2017 BASELINE EMISSIONS FOR THE TOWN OF ST MARYS BY SECTOR USING PCP MILESTONE TOOL



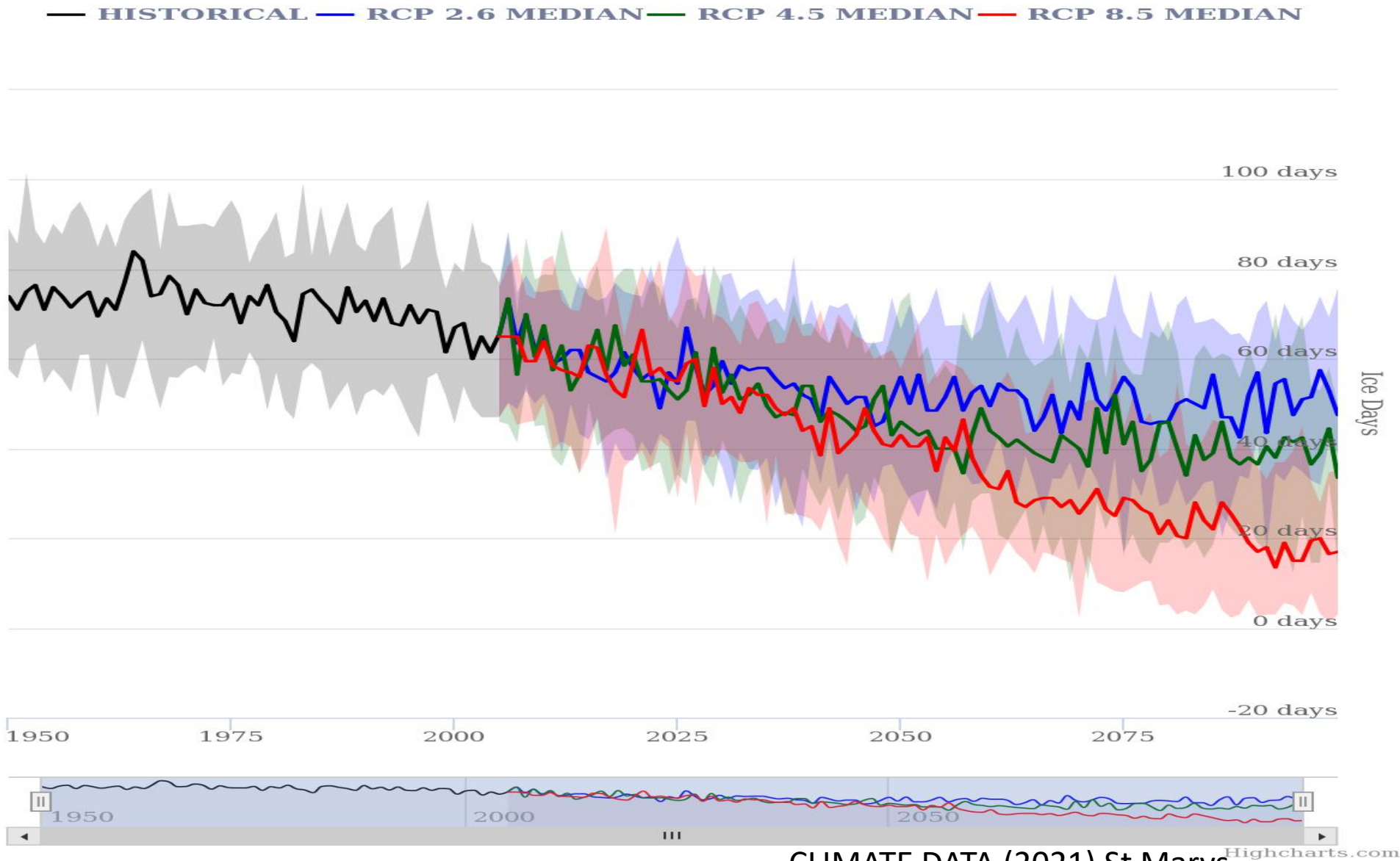


ST MARYS COMMUNITY GHG EMISSION ABSTRACTED USING PCP MILESTONE TOOL

PROJECTED AVERAGE YEARLY TEMPERATURE FOR ST MARYS



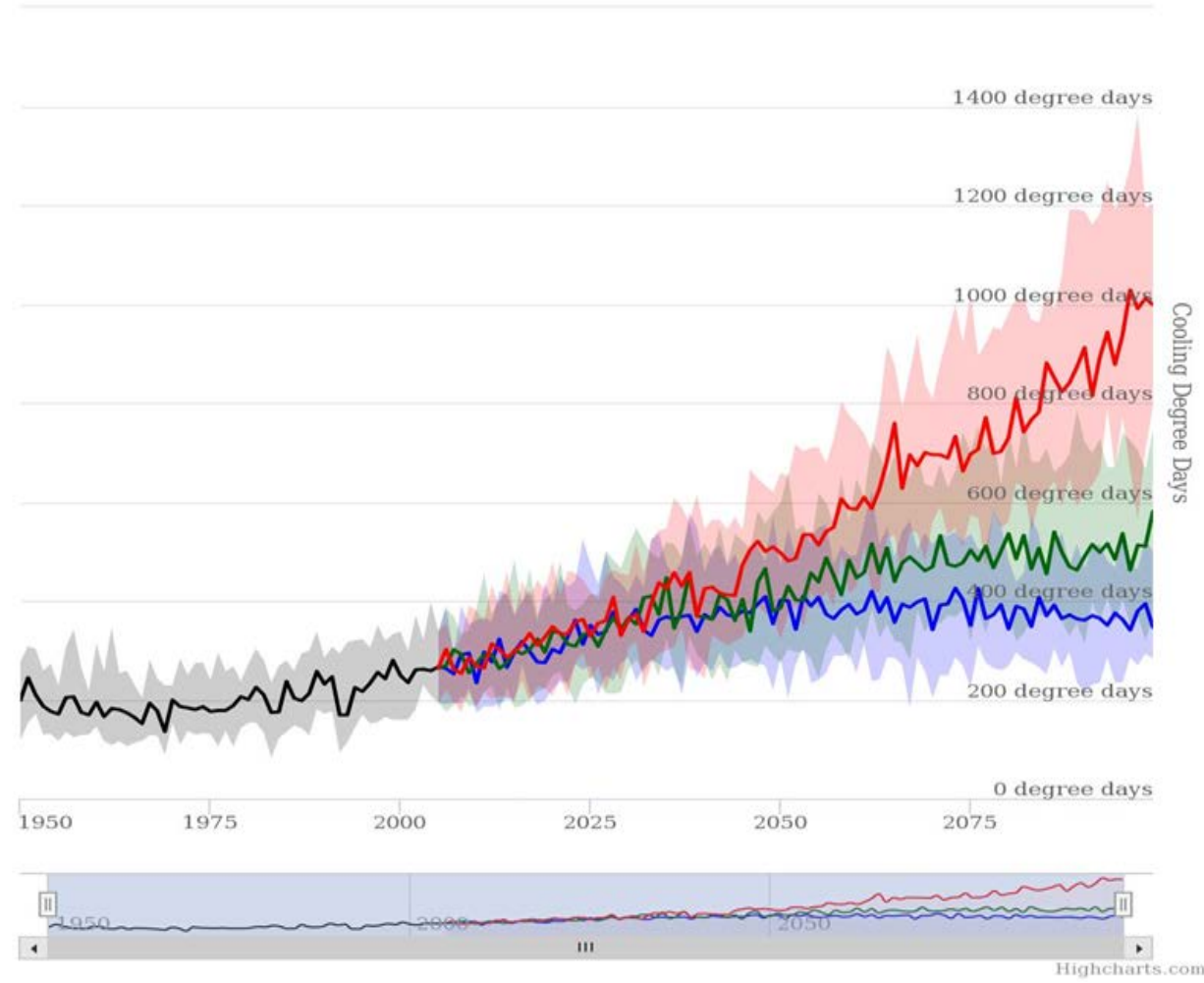
PROJECTED AVERAGE YEARLY ICE DAYS



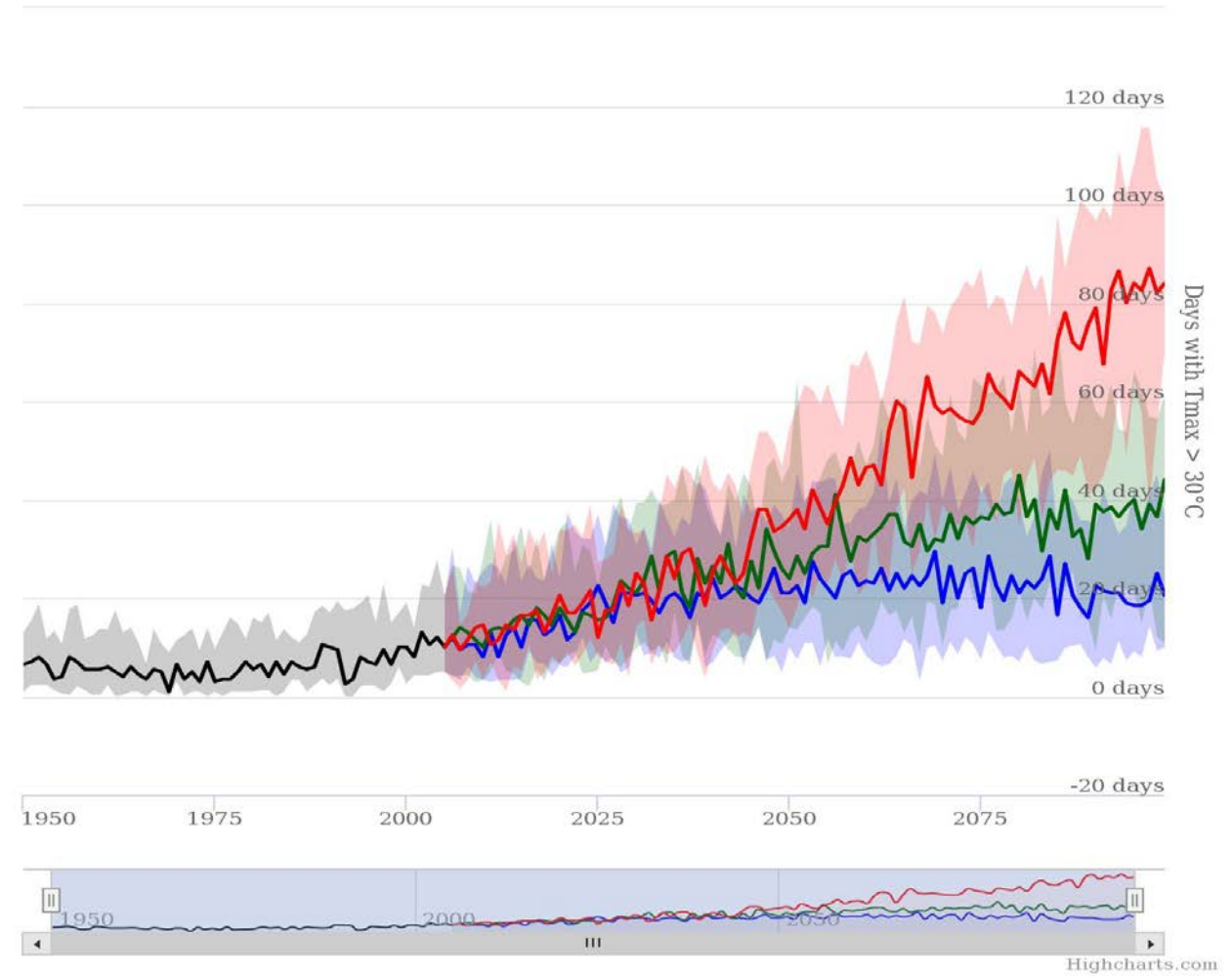
CLIMATE DATA (2021) St Marys

## PROJECTED COOLING DEGREE DAYS & DAYS WITH MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE AT 30°C

— HISTORICAL — RCP 2.6 MEDIAN — RCP 4.5 MEDIAN — RCP 8.5 MEDIAN



— HISTORICAL — RCP 2.6 MEDIAN — RCP 4.5 MEDIAN — RCP 8.5 MEDIAN



CLIMATE DATA (2021) St Marys

# APPROACH TO CLIMATE ADAPTATION PLAN



- Long & Short Range Planning



- Mainstreaming climate into practices, plans and decisions across utility functions



- Collaborative effort between key stakeholders & community



- Action 1: Adopt Climate Lens
- Action 2: Develop an education and awareness page and campaign
- Action 3: Develop a corporate-level climate change plan
- Action 4: Develop a climate change adaptation plan

**Government**



- Action 1: Sustainable Building Standard
- Action 2: Develop a Deep Retrofit Program/Guidelines
- Action 3: Offer LIC or PACE financing to assist in deep retrofits

**Building & Land Use**




- Action 1: Start/join/support a local Green Business Hub
- Action 2: Sustainability toolkit for small/local businesses

**Business & Industry**



- Action 1: Implement a Transportation Master Plan
- Action 2: Develop better connectivity and promote active transportation
- Action 3: Install charging stations
- Action 4: Implement an anti-idling by-law

**Transportation**




- Action 1: Implement a Waste Management Master Plan
- Action 2: Implement an Organics Program

**Waste**



- Action 1: Increasing naturalization projects and planting projects on public and private spaces
- Action 2: Partner on a tree management and resilience plan to increase canopy coverage
- Action 3: Develop more LIDs throughout municipalities and on municipal property

**Natural Environment**



- Action 1: Develop a Perth County Clean Water Project
- Action 2: Form an Agriculture Committee

**Agriculture**




## Government

- Embed climate considerations into all municipalities and provide educational resources

## Building & Land Use

- Create greener, more sustainable, accessible and energy efficient neighbourhoods

## Business & Industry

- Support sustainability and climate action in local businesses

## Transportation

- Support and plan for future transportation changes, needs and priorities

## Waste

- Reduce waste going to landfill to become a Zero Waste community

## Natural Environment

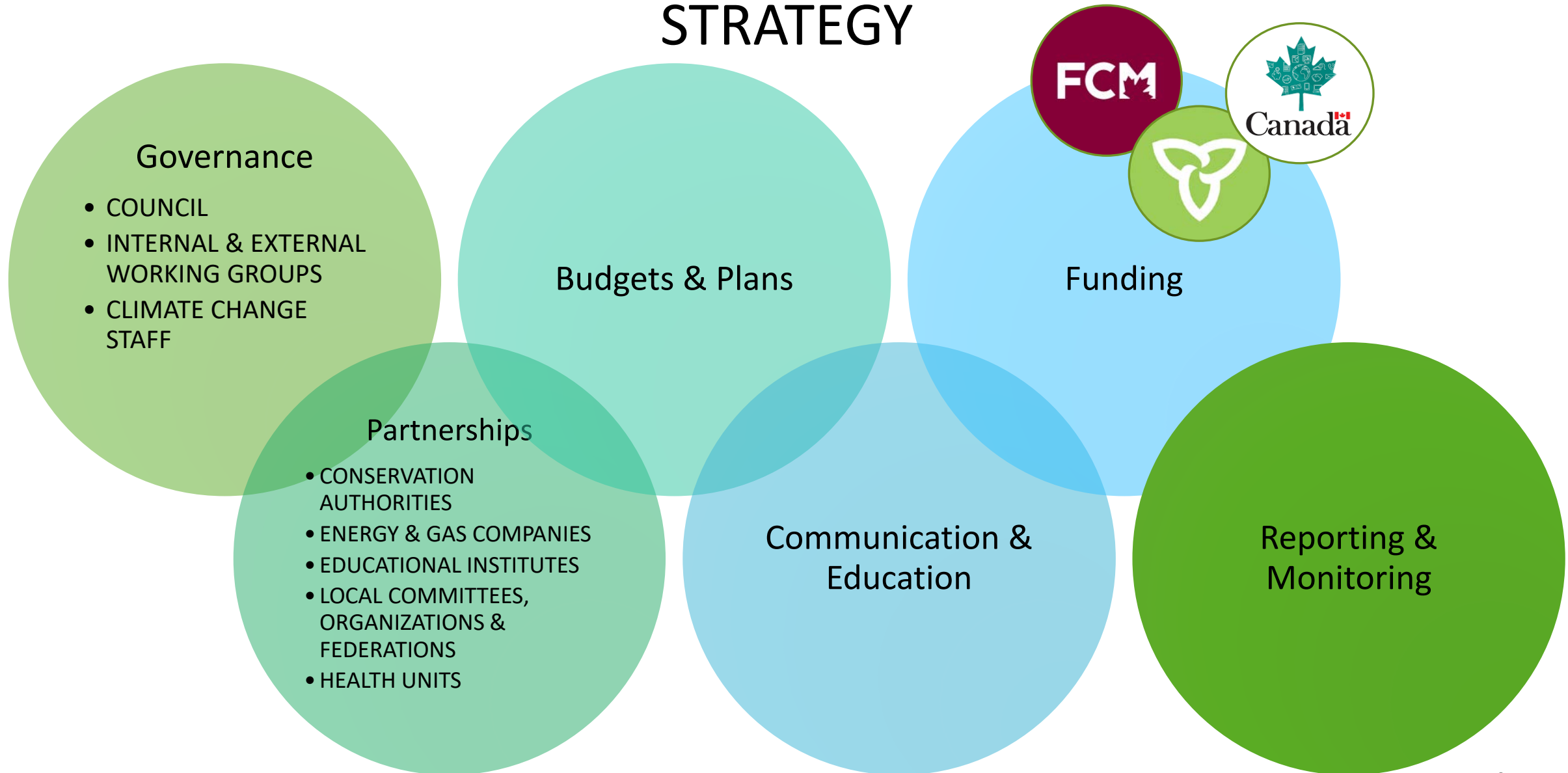
- Preserve and improve natural ecosystems and assets

## Agriculture

- Support local Agriculture resiliency and mitigation projects

# REDUCTION IN ST MARYS GHG EMISSIONS

# IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY





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# Thank You

**Amara Kartick**

**E: [akartick@northperth.ca](mailto:akartick@northperth.ca) Tele: 519-444-4098**



# CREATING A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan

Rebecca Garlick & Amara Kartick

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This plan is intended to be a starting point in local climate action.

This is a living document and should be reviewed and updated regularly to prioritize local goals and needs.

This plan will require collaborative efforts to see successful implementation, and should be viewed as a guide.

August 2021



## Executive Summary

### Purpose of the Plan

Climate is something that impacts our day to day lives. Locally, each municipality has faced the impacts of severe weather, flooding, and increased hot and cold days. The world is on its way to reaching and surpassing the 1.5°C threshold that has been identified as the upper limit of global temperature increase to keep us within a safe range of climate change impacts<sup>1</sup>. The world has to stay below this threshold and lower emissions 40% to 50% by 2030, or effects will be long lasting or irreversible<sup>1</sup>.

Perth County, North Perth, Perth East, Perth South, West Perth, and Stratford and St. Marys decided to partner together to address the risks and take action on climate change within the communities. There is a mutual understanding that each municipal action impacts one another, so it is important to work together to address the greater impacts that climate change will bring. This plan identifies various actions and strategies to move forward on increasing adaptability and reducing greenhouse gas emissions within the community.

This is a community plan, therefore it requires teamwork and action from everyone and every sector. Everyone plays a role in supporting the community and creating a healthier environment.

### Development of the Plan

This plan is unique in that it converges the needs of diverse economies and municipalities. This plan addresses the distinct rural needs of the agricultural communities of Perth County, while also speaking to the unique priorities of the urban communities of Stratford and St. Marys, who more heavily rely on their tourism and industrial sectors to support their economies.

The Plan was developed over two years under the guidance of the Climate Change Coordinator who was hired through funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program (MCIP). The mitigation planning followed the guidelines from the FCM Partners for Climate Protection's (PCP) five-milestone framework. This plan was developed with the input and contributions of many community members and groups, such as representatives from the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority, the Upper Thames Conservation Authority, the Perth County Federation of Agriculture, Climate Momentum, and various other municipal environmental groups and individual community members.

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<sup>1</sup>IPCC (2018) Global Warming of 1.5°C. Retrieved from <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/>

## Community Emissions

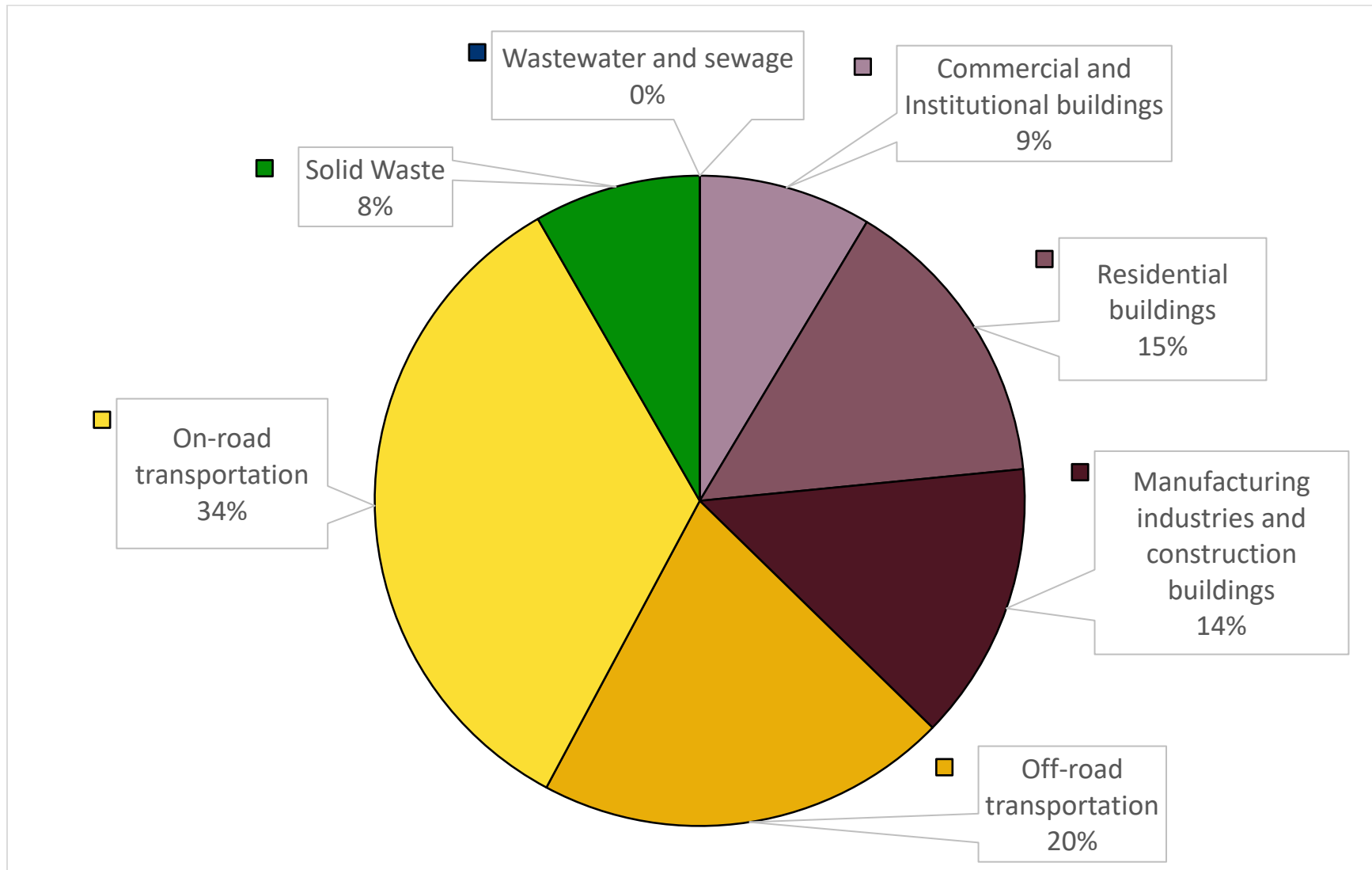


Figure 1 Emission Snapshot

*Figure 1* shows the total combined contribution of each sector. This graph represents all municipalities' emissions, which includes North Perth, Perth East, Perth South, West Perth, St. Marys and Stratford.

The greatest contribution to local emissions is a combination of all transportation. This includes on-road transportation (i.e. Personal vehicles) and off-road vehicles (i.e. Tractors, and other agriculture-related vehicles). This makes up approximately 54% of the total emissions.

The second largest contributor in the area is the buildings sector. This makes up approximately 38% of the total emissions. Majority of emissions from this source come from the natural gas, propane and fuel oil which is consumed to heat buildings. A small portion of emissions from buildings comes from electricity, as Ontario's electricity grid is considered quite clean because most electricity production has been transitioned away from coal burning to nuclear and hydroelectricity.

The third contributor of emissions is from solid waste. Solid waste emissions in the area are produced generally by the more urban municipalities, as the rural towns tend to not send as much tonnes of waste to the landfill. Regardless, biodegradable materials constitutes approximately 40% of residential waste<sup>2</sup>. Therefore, communities must establish effective waste management solutions for both urban and rural areas within the communities.

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<sup>2</sup> Environment Canada (2013) Technical Documentation on Municipal Solid Waste Organics Processing. Retrieved from [https://www.ec.gc.ca/gdd-mw/3E8CF6C7-F214-4BA2-A1A3-163978EE9D6E/13-047-ID-458-PDF\\_accessible\\_ANG\\_R2-reduced%20size.pdf](https://www.ec.gc.ca/gdd-mw/3E8CF6C7-F214-4BA2-A1A3-163978EE9D6E/13-047-ID-458-PDF_accessible_ANG_R2-reduced%20size.pdf)

## Vision, Goals and Actions

### **Vision:**

We will mitigate climate change risks by ambitiously reducing local greenhouse gas emissions, and will ensure a more resilient and healthy future for our communities.

The vision will be supported through the proposed goals and strategies for action throughout this plan. The goals and strategies are supported through this plan with education, financing and partnership opportunities and suggestions, while also explaining the potential greenhouse gas reduction or social impacts of each goal and strategy. Next steps will be to solidify the suggested partnerships for action.

The vision will aim to work towards achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These will help to focus climate actions in a more holistic approach, and will encourage Council, staff, and the community to consider all aspects and impacts related to climate change, ensuring a fair and just approach to implementation on climate action.

## Sustainable Development Goals

In order to ensure that this greenhouse gas reduction plan is also addressing social and economic issues, it will consider how each action meets a sustainable development goal. There are 17 sustainable development goals that this plan will be aiming to target in one form or another, so that each municipality can be part of the advancement of the UN SDGs and help in transforming our world.

The sustainable development goals were developed by the United Nations to develop a “universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and improve the lives and prospects of everyone, everywhere.”<sup>3</sup> These were developed and adopted by UN Member States in 2015, and are intended to be achieved by the year 2030.



Figure 2 UN SDGs (2015) Retrieved from: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/blog/2015/12/sustainable-development-goals-kick-off-with-start-of-new-year>

<sup>3</sup> United Nations (2020) The Sustainable Development Agenda. Retrieved from: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/>

Table 1 Themes, Goals and Actions

Theme	Goals	Actions
<b>Government</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embed climate change actions and considerations into all plans and policies</li> <li>• Support and educate the local economy and citizens in their transition to a sustainable and climate-ready future</li> <li>• Ensure health, and well-being of the community through the preparation of climate change related health concerns and impacts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a corporate-level climate change plan</li> <li>• Provide financing options/support (homes, agricultural project support)</li> <li>• Embed climate considerations into inspections, maintenance and designs of municipal assets (roads, bridges, culverts, buildings, etc.)</li> <li>• Develop education and awareness programs and strategies</li> <li>• Support businesses and tourism in their adaptation to climate impacts</li> <li>• Hire climate change team to focus on implementation and continued development</li> <li>• Adopt the use of a climate lens</li> <li>• Actively work with the Huron Perth Public Health Unit to create strategies for mitigating climate risks and protect residents and vulnerable populations</li> </ul>
<b>Buildings and Land Use</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase energy efficient new builds and sustainable neighbourhoods</li> <li>• Create neighbourhoods that discourage urban sprawl and create greater connectivity</li> <li>• Increase green infrastructure and reduce hardscapes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a sustainable building standard for residential/commercial/industrial new builds to encourage energy efficiency and climate resiliency</li> <li>• Offer LIC or PACE financing to assist in retrofits in communities to increase efficiency and climate resiliency in existing buildings</li> <li>• Land-use policies should promote compact neighbourhoods that integrate residential, office, retail developments and promote transit use and active transportation options</li> </ul>
<b>Businesses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase and support sustainability practices in local businesses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start/support/join a local Green Business Hub</li> <li>• Develop a small/local business sustainability toolkit with BIA</li> </ul>



Theme	Goals	Actions
<b>Agriculture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase local resiliency to sustain long-term food security</li> <li>• Enhance agricultural best management practices</li> <li>• Increase capacity for energy production</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a Perth County Clean Water Project to improve efficiency and resiliency, which will also assist in removal and storage of GHG emissions in soils</li> <li>• Explore feasibility and programs to support biogas implementation in local grid</li> </ul>
<b>Natural Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look after and improve natural environment assets and ecosystems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decrease lawn cutting and maintenance by increasing naturalization projects and planting projects on public and private spaces</li> <li>• Partner on a tree management and resilience plan to increase canopy coverage</li> <li>• Increase urban forestry projects</li> <li>• Develop more Low Impact Developments (LIDs) throughout municipalities and on municipal property</li> <li>• Protect local woodlots</li> </ul>
<b>Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the use of sustainable and low-carbon transportation options</li> <li>• Reduce the risk of transportation interruptions caused by severe weather events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement a Transportation Master Plan</li> <li>• Develop better interconnectivity by improving walkability of neighbourhoods</li> <li>• Support the interest and purchasing of electric/low-emission vehicles through installation of charging stations</li> <li>• Promote and support the use of public transportation</li> <li>• Work collaboratively on active transportation strategies</li> </ul>
<b>Waste</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase waste diversion from the landfill</li> <li>• Become a Zero Waste Community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a Waste Management Master plan to set yearly targets and goals and long term goals</li> <li>• Implement organics/green bin program to further reduce GHG producing waste going to landfill</li> </ul>

## Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

Table 2 Sustainable Development Goals

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	Actions that Meets SDG
Goal 1: No Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring affordable, low-energy homes are built</li> <li>• Encouraging less urban sprawl for those who cannot afford vehicles and increasing accessibility through other means of transportation</li> <li>• Creating jobs through deep retrofit programs</li> <li>• Increasing local food resiliency and supporting farming community/agri-business</li> <li>• Supporting local businesses in resiliency and sustainability</li> </ul>
Goal 2: Zero Hunger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting local food resiliency and food security through the Clean Water Project</li> <li>• Supporting access to food through community gardens</li> </ul>
Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with Huron Perth Public Health unit to address climate-related health concerns</li> <li>• Create more walkable communities through reduction of urban sprawl</li> <li>• Affordable housing that is retrofitted for energy efficiency means better air quality in the home</li> <li>• Encouraging uptake of electric vehicles improves local air quality</li> <li>• Increasing green spaces/naturalization projects and planting projects brings community together</li> </ul>
Goal 4: Quality Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating a page on official websites to promote climate actions and provide climate education</li> <li>• Create a public forum for climate conversations to continue so new ideas and knowledge can be shared</li> <li>• Develop a community stakeholder group to share ideas and create collaborative relationships</li> </ul>
Goal 5: Gender Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and remove barriers to ensure participation of all people as projects continue to develop</li> <li>• Ensure a diverse stakeholder group is established</li> </ul>

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	Actions that Meets SDG
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When possible, host town halls and in-person consultation events along with online events</li> </ul>
Goal 6: Clean water and Sanitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanding green infrastructure to reduce flood risk</li> <li>• Continue partnership for drinking water source protection</li> <li>• Implementing a Clean Water Project to support the Agriculture community</li> </ul>
Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offering financing options for retrofits to ensure affordability</li> <li>• Encouraging new builds to be energy efficient</li> <li>• Develop a sustainable building standard</li> </ul>
Goal 8: Decent work and Economic Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encouraging sustainable builds and deep retrofit programs offers new job opportunities</li> <li>• Increasing number of charging stations requires new forms of maintenance</li> <li>• Partnering with surrounding counties and municipalities to create a rural EV network to bring in greater tourism</li> <li>• Supporting local agricultural sector to ensure long-term resiliency</li> </ul>
Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embedding climate considerations for municipal/county inspections, maintenance and designs of municipal assets using the climate lens</li> <li>• Help local industry to adapt to and mitigate climate change impacts by expanding membership of Carbon Footprint Initiative or joining and starting a local Green Economy Canada Hub</li> <li>• Help local business to learn of funding opportunities to assist in R&amp;D for sustainable projects</li> </ul>
Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementing a bus system to reduce the need for vehicle ownership</li> <li>• Creating affordable houses that are energy efficient to reduce energy bills</li> <li>• Creating better connected neighbourhoods to allow for walkable and accessible communities</li> </ul>
Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connecting communities with sustainable transportation options (buses, walking, electric vehicles, biking infrastructure, etc.)</li> </ul>

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	Actions that Meets SDG
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve low income housing options through energy efficient new builds</li> </ul>
Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moving to a zero waste community</li> <li>• Implementing a circular economy</li> <li>• Implementing a Clean Water Project to help with more sustainable food production and assist in cleaner water</li> <li>• Work with local manufacturers to implement more sustainable/low emitting tactics</li> </ul>
Goal 13: Climate Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing the greenhouse gas reduction plan and implementing meaningful actions</li> <li>• Establishing a corporate-level climate plan</li> </ul>
Goal 14: Life below Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions helps to reduce the threat of ocean acidification (Act Local, Think Global)</li> <li>• Reducing waste production will help in ensuring less waste travels outside the country</li> <li>• Moving to zero waste means less plastic pollution that is often disposed in our local lakes</li> </ul>
Goal 15: Life on Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving naturalization throughout each municipality</li> <li>• Increase canopy coverage and reforestation to increase biodiversity</li> <li>• Develop LIDs to create more habitat for local wildlife</li> </ul>
Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and collaborate with all institutions to ensure an inclusive approach to climate change</li> <li>• Development of collaborative relationships with stakeholders</li> </ul>
Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborating with local stakeholder groups to ensure successful implementation</li> </ul>

## Implementation

The plan has effective steps to take to implement the actions within the plan. This will help to ensure that the outcomes are realized, and will be widely supported by all key stakeholders and the community.

The plan is community-wide and will need coordination and collaboration of everyone, including staff, local organizations and individuals throughout each community. The plan explains the tactics that will need to be used to allow all stakeholders to work together successfully to implement the various projects and strategies. By working together, successful implementation will be possible, and impressive reductions in greenhouse gas emissions will be inevitable. Successful implementation will ensure that communities will decrease their contributions to the changing climate.

## What is Climate Change?

The Earth's climate has fluctuated naturally for centuries, however, the world is experiencing a rate of global changes to the climate that it has never experienced before due to human activities. These have caused changes to the natural environment, with the reduction of natural carbon absorbers like forests and wetlands and the increased concentration of greenhouse gases (GHGs) from burning fossil fuels like gasoline, natural gas, coal, oil and propane.

As carbon dioxide concentrations continue to rise in the atmosphere, the world is seeing a substantial increase in the global average temperature. The increase in average temperature has been and continues to lead to major global impacts, some of which include: extreme rain and snow, changes to precipitation patterns, increased temperatures and greater number of heat waves, which ultimately have led to droughts and wildfires, less snow and ice, thawing of permafrost, sea level rise, warming oceans, changes to plant life cycle, changes to animal migration patterns and more vector borne diseases.

Canadians continue to emit greenhouse gas emissions on a daily basis through burning fossil fuels to heat, cool and power homes, businesses and vehicles; Vehicles that transport not only ourselves but the goods that we consume. The Earth's atmosphere traps these greenhouse gases, which increases the Earth's temperature, which is referred to as the greenhouse effect. The primary greenhouse gas emissions that cause the

greatest impacts include Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), and Nitrous Oxide (NO<sub>2</sub>). To accurately compare these emissions, they are converted to their global warming potential (GWP), which converts them to what their value would be as carbon dioxide emissions (Table 3).

*Table 3 Global Warming Potential*

Primary GHG Emissions	Global Warming Potential (GWP)
Carbon Dioxide	1
Methane	25
Nitrous Oxide	298

While this table shows that methane and nitrous oxide are both far more powerful in their global warming potential, it is important to note that these greenhouse gases have a shorter lifespan in the atmosphere than carbon dioxide. This means that carbon dioxide has the greatest long term impact on the climate and causes the atmosphere to warm for a longer period than methane and nitrous oxide. Methane and nitrous oxide add fuel to the ever burning fire that carbon dioxide keeps burning in the atmosphere, compounding the concerning issues that come along with climate change.

The last five years have been the hottest on record, and global average temperatures are only expected to increase with the



given rate of global emissions<sup>4</sup>. While climate change is often thought to be a problem of the future, it is becoming more obvious that increased major climate events are happening now.

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<sup>4</sup> World Meteorological Organization. (2020) New climate predictions assess global temperatures in coming five years. Retrieved from: <https://public.wmo.int/en/media/press-release/new-climate-predictions-assess-global-temperatures-coming-five-years>

## Climate Change Mitigation

Climate change mitigation focuses on the minimization or prevention of climate change and its impacts. It means actions must be taken to reduce the sources of climate change impacts, therefore decreasing GHG emissions. Mitigation of climate change can be realized by reducing the burning of fossil fuels that are currently used to heat buildings or to run gas or diesel fueled vehicles and equipment. Preserving, planting and restoring natural carbon sinks, such as wetlands, forests, trees and soil, will also help to remove excess emissions from the atmosphere.

The County and each municipality have made the decision to focus, initially, on climate change mitigation actions. The focus of this plan will be to assist in mitigating or reducing climate change impacts through the reduction of greenhouse gases.

Mitigation is an important action to take, as it will help limit and reduce the carbon dioxide and other heat-trapping greenhouse gases being released into the atmosphere. These gases are playing the biggest roles in the climatic changes that are currently being witnessed. While it is crucial that greenhouse gases are reduced significantly over the next ten years, it is equally as important to ensure that citizens are prepared for the impacts that can no longer be reversed by addressing the need for adaptation actions.

## Climate Change Adaptation

Climate change adaptation is acknowledging that climate change is happening, and that certain impacts are inevitable or likely to become worse, and there is a need to adjust the way people perform their everyday activities. Adaptation is planning and preparing for climate change impacts. These actions include responses to protect homes from things like flooding, improving emergency response, and upgrading infrastructure so that it can handle future projected climate impacts.

While this plan's focus is on mitigation actions, there are often actions that combine the benefits of both approaches to climate change, and create shared value. Some proposed actions in this plan will overlap and ensure that resilience of the community is achievable, while also reducing climate impacts.

Future planning will include more adaptation projects to protect the local communities from experiencing major disruptions due to climate change. It is necessary moving forward to begin planning adaptation actions to ensure the protection and well-being of the community.

## Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Report

In 2018, the United Nation's IPCC report stated that global warming must be limited to a 1.5°C limit, opposed to the previously stated limit of 2°C<sup>1</sup>. The 1.5°C limit would ensure that society is more sustainable and equitable for all. Currently, we are seeing negative impacts due to a 1°C increase in global average temperature in the forms of increased extreme weather events, rising sea level and decreasing sea ice, just to name a few<sup>1</sup>. The IPCC states that limiting warming to 1.5°C versus the 2°C would help in avoiding major climatic impacts<sup>1</sup>. An example of the difference between the 0.5°C temperature changes, is that the coral reefs are likely to decline by 70% to 90% with global warming at 1.5°C, where under a 2°C increase in global average temperatures, virtually all coral reefs will be lost<sup>1</sup>.

The IPCC has stated that by 2030, emissions must be reduced by nearly 50% from 2010 levels, then by 2050 the world must reach net-zero emissions<sup>5</sup>. Net-zero emissions means that any emissions that are being released from human-sources are being balanced out by the process of removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere<sup>6</sup>. The important first step, however, is to remove as much of our emission sources as possible, which

means moving away from burning and using fossil fuels. It was recorded during the pandemic emissions decreased around the world, but this was only temporary. Emissions continued to be emitted through the lockdown period because industry continued to burn fossil fuels to generate power and create products. Now is the time to re-establish priorities on the environment and make choices for a better and more resilient future.

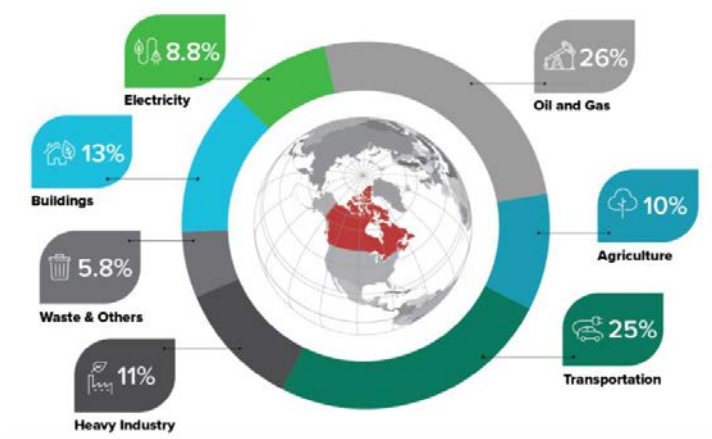
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<sup>5</sup>IPCC (2018) Summary for Policymakers of IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C approved by governments.  
<https://www.ipcc.ch/2018/10/08/summary-for-policymakers-of-ipcc-special-report-on-global-warming-of-1-5c-approved-by-governments/IP>

<sup>6</sup> Oxford English Language (2021) Net Zero. *Google Dictionary*.

## Federal Climate Change Approaches

Canada's emissions are categorized into seven separate categories. Emissions in Canada come from Electricity, Oil & Gas, Buildings, Waste & Others, Heavy Industry and Agriculture. A breakdown of the emissions are as follows: Electricity emits about 8.8% of total emissions, Transportation contributes 25% of emissions, Buildings contribute 13%, Oil & Gas emit 26% of the total, Waste & Others emit 5.8%, Heavy Industry emits approximately 11% and Agriculture emits a total of 10% of the total Canadian emissions<sup>7</sup>. Currently, the Federal government is taking climate action in these various sectors to reduce Canadian's emissions, and adapt effectively to the inevitable changes in climate.



The Federal government is making plans to help in the reduction of emissions from homes through various approaches. These will include things such as: supporting home and building retrofit programs across Canada, investing in energy efficient social housing, developing model codes for new and existing buildings to improve energy efficiency, there has been more development in energy efficient appliance standards and programs, and a focus has been made on supporting Indigenous communities and governments to help improve energy efficiency of homes and buildings<sup>7</sup>. Another support that is being provided to aid in efficiency in homes is the phasing out of hydrofluorocarbons that are currently used in refrigerators and air conditioning units, which have been previously linked to the hole in the ozone layer.

The federal government is putting an emphasis on transportation emissions with the release of funding for Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure to further the feasibility of

<sup>7</sup> Government of Canada. (2019a) Departmental Results Report 2018 to 2019: Department of Environment, chapter 3. Retrieved from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/corporate/transparency/priorities-management/departamental-results-report/2018-2019/results.html>

communities transitioning to electric vehicles<sup>8</sup>. The federal government is committing to more investments in public transit, as well as creating more stringent standards for vehicle emissions so that they can support the development of cleaner fueled vehicles.

With Industries being the backbone of Canada's economy, it also is a major contributor the most to Canada's emissions. The federal government is assisting in the reduction of industry emissions by investing further into clean technology and business solutions, pricing industrial emissions, pushing for a reduction in methane in the oil and gas sector by 40-45%, implementing a Clean Fuel Standard, as well as improving energy efficiency<sup>9</sup>.

The forestry, agriculture and waste sector are also a focus of reduction. Assistance for reduction will be in the form of support for renewable fuels and bio products, developing cleaner innovative agriculture practices, such as zero till agriculture, climate resilient crops, or precision agriculture<sup>10</sup>.

There will be support in conserving more nature for carbon sequestration, reforestation and reducing waste which most recently will be targeting plastic pollutions.

Canada is going to reduce emissions from electricity by phasing out the pollution from coal-fired electricity, investing more into renewable energy, investing more into transmission lines and smart grids, and finally, supporting rural and remote communities so reliance on diesel is reduced<sup>11</sup>. The goal for Canada is to have 90% of electricity coming from non-emitting sources<sup>11</sup>.

Canada's reduction target is set to reduce emissions by 30% below 2005 levels by the year 2030, and have set the target to become a Net Zero country by the year 2050<sup>12</sup>.

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<sup>8</sup> Government of Canada (2019b) Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program. Retrieved from: <https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/energy-efficiency/energy-efficiency-transportation/zero-emission-vehicle-infrastructure-program/21876>

<sup>9</sup> Government of Canada (2019c) Clean Fuel Standard. Retrieved from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/managing-pollution/energy-production/fuel-regulations/clean-fuel-standard.html>

<sup>10</sup> Government of Canada (2020) Agriculture Clean Technology Program. Retrieved from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2020/10/agricultural-clean-technology-program.html>

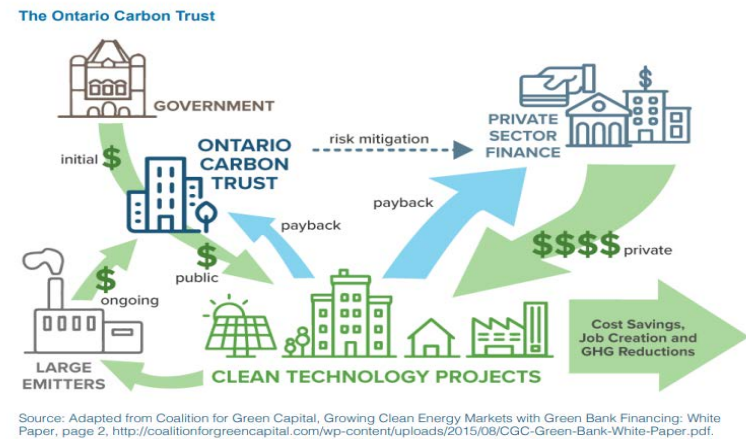
<sup>11</sup> Government of Canada (2018) Canada's coal power phase-out reaches another milestone. Retrieved from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/12/canadas-coal-power-phase-out-reaches-another-milestone.html>

<sup>12</sup> Government of Canada (2020b) Progress towards Canada's greenhouse gas emissions reduction target. Retrieved from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/environmental-indicators/progress-towards-canada-greenhouse-gas-emissions-reduction-target.html>

## Provincial Climate Change Approaches

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has released their Ontario Environment Plan to tackle the climate change issue<sup>13</sup>. The new Made in Ontario Environment Plan addresses both the importance of mitigation and adaptation approaches to ensure cost savings for Ontarians, the protection of natural resources and the well-being of Ontario's population. The Provincial government has set out various priorities which involve ensuring clean air and clean water for the province. The priorities will be targeted through actions such as reducing emissions from heavy-duty vehicles, strengthening collaboration to reduce air pollution that comes from outside of Ontario, continuing to restore and protect the Great Lakes, and helping people to conserve water to reduce their costs and even helping to improve municipal wastewater and stormwater management and reporting methodology<sup>13</sup>. Ontario is still on target to achieve the Paris Agreement Target, which was set to reduce Ontario's emissions by 30% below 2005 levels by the year 2030. The closure of coal plants within Ontario has helped substantially to reduce emissions, and with the continued actions being proposed, such as low carbon vehicles, clean fuels, natural gas conservation, and the promotion of

innovation within Ontario, this target can be easily achievable.



Ontario has set plans to make polluters accountable, which is particularly important because the industrial sector accounted for nearly 30% of Ontario's emissions in 2016<sup>13</sup>. The Province will hold industry accountable for their emissions through an emission performance standard, which will ensure that they achieve a greenhouse gas reduction through demonstrated compliance on a regular basis<sup>13</sup>. This proposed program will likely also include compliance flexibility, which could include offset credits or payment of an amount to achieve compliance.

The provincial government has set out a plan to activate the private sector to encourage more innovative clean-tech to help in the transition to a low-carbon economy. They will also strive to enable consistent disclosures about financial risks associated

<sup>13</sup>Government of Ontario (2018) Made in Ontario Environment Plan. Retrieved from: <https://prod-environmental-registry.s3.amazonaws.com/2018-11/EnvironmentPlan.pdf>



with climate change. There are also plans to launch an emission reduction fund called The Ontario Carbon Trust, which will implement a reverse auction to encourage the investment in clean technology solutions<sup>13</sup>.

Another major area that the province is focusing their resources on is to address the solid waste issues that are occurring across the province. The goal is to develop a specific day where schools, businesses and the general public go out and clean up and reduce the litter in parks and other public spaces in the hopes to raise awareness of the littering issues and the major environmental impacts that littering has<sup>13</sup>. The Province has stated that they will make producers responsible

for their products and the disposal of their products, which will further reduce unnecessary resource use, and reduce the issues that Ontario is facing in disposing waste. Recently, the Ontario government has announced that they will be implementing a consistent recycling program across the province, as well. The logical next step is to ensure that Ontario is keeping their recycling inside of the province, which ensures a consistent market and ability to implement a stable recycling program across the province. The province is also encouraging that the Federal government create a consistent program across the country, because currently 89% of Canadian plastics put in the recycling bin are being sent to the landfill<sup>14</sup>.

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<sup>14</sup> Recycling Council of Ontario. (2019) <https://rco.on.ca/canada-recycles-just-9-per-cent-of-its-plastics/>

## Current Climate and Future Projections

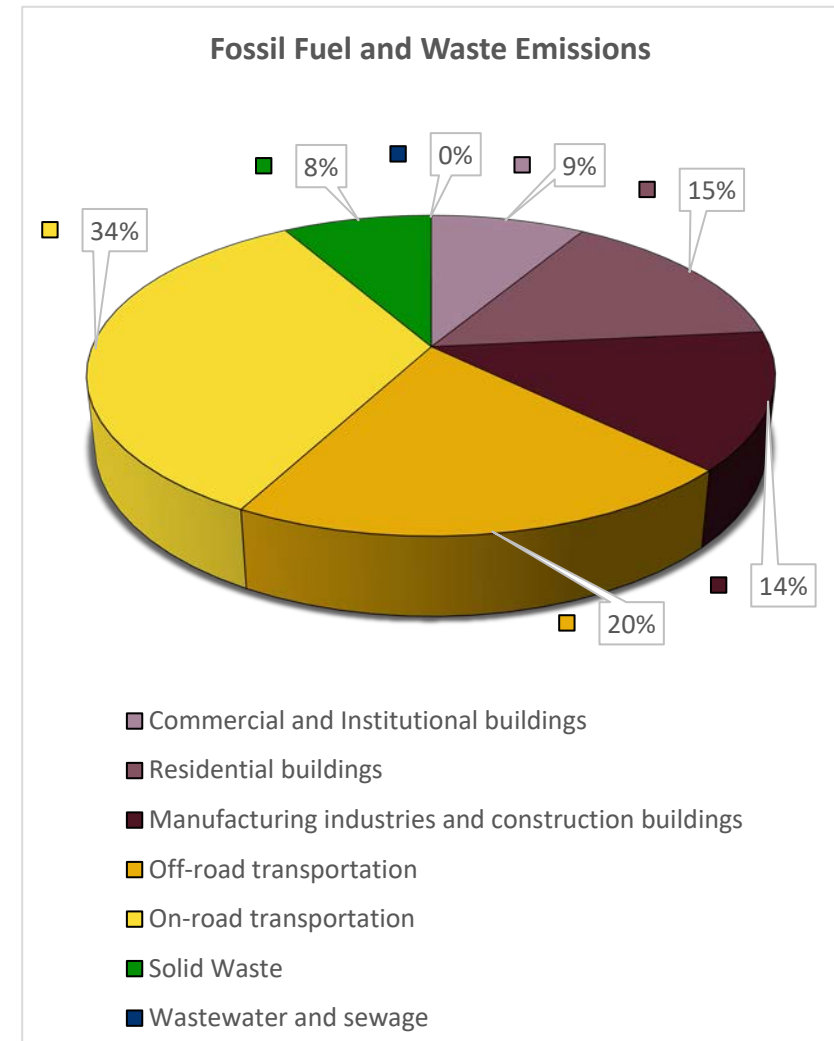
The inventory for each municipality was completed for the year 2017. In 2017, the municipalities within the county emitted approximately 706,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases. In 2017, there were approximately 76,796 residents within the geographic boundary of Perth County, Stratford and St. Marys included. This means that each resident emitted approximately 9.19 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e each in 2017. This total includes emissions from electricity and fuel consumption of buildings and transportation, and waste generated within the municipal boundaries.

The population is growing across the County which means that there is likely going to be an increase in emissions due to new builds, more single-occupancy vehicles and more waste production. While it is important to address the initial baseline emissions, it is also important to put in place actions that will prevent emissions from increasing due to this projected growth.

The agricultural emissions will be reviewed later in this document. This sector is an important part of the local economy and will be a major part of sequestering and reducing emissions across the County.

It is becoming increasingly important for all municipalities across Canada to start taking meaningful actions to reduce emissions. Canada has set a target to be Net Zero for 2050, and in order for the country to achieve this target, municipalities

need to be the leaders. Without the help of local governments, the provinces and the country will continue to see an increase in emissions and negative impacts of climate change.

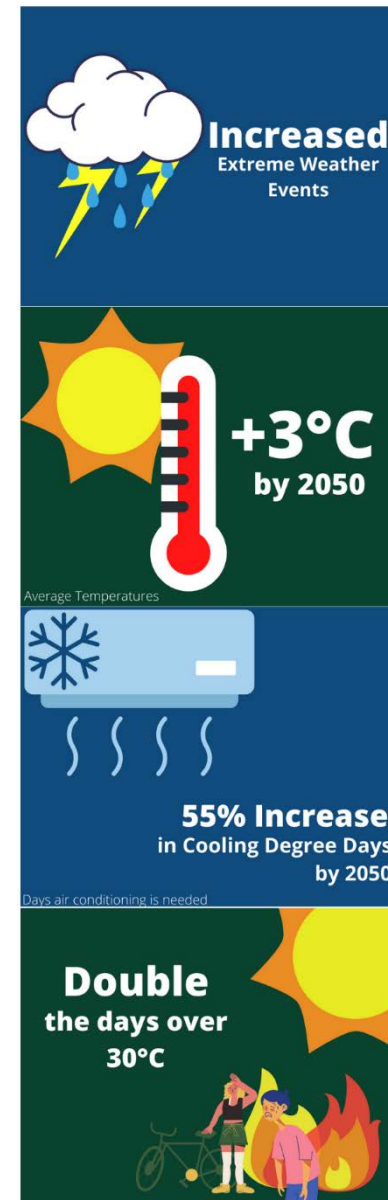


If the local municipalities do not take action to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and set significant reduction targets, substantial changes in the local climate are expected. The projections for future climate changes for the year 2050, if no action is taken to reduce local emissions are:

- Increasing temperatures
- Temperature extremes, both hot and cold
- Increased invasive species, diseases and viruses
- Frequent and intense rainfall
- Extreme weather events (heat days, freezing rain, ice storms, etc.)
- Increased growing season and stress on water supplies

These changes in the climate will ultimately impact all areas of the municipality's economy, recreation and tourism industries and result in the following:

- Lower crop yields
- Damage to infrastructure like roads, culverts or bridges
- Damage to power lines, or other power system failures
- Public building and facility closures
- Runoff from agricultural land, increasing nutrient, sediment and contaminant loads in the rivers and lakes
- Increased need for salting, leading to increased wear on infrastructure
- Loss of outdoor winter recreation activities





## Introduction

Climate change impacts are becoming more apparent around the world, across Canada, throughout Ontario and within Perth County. The time for action and avoiding serious climate impacts is narrowing, the effects are already being seen with increased droughts, heat waves, flooding, severe storms, and widespread loss of plant species and animals. Canada has been increasing in temperature twice as fast as the rest of the world, and the urgency for action is greater than ever before<sup>15</sup>. To stay below the 1.5°C threshold that scientists and the United Nations deem to be the 'safe' upper limit for global warming, emissions must peak and decline within the next 10 years, globally<sup>1</sup>.

This plan is intended to assist the municipalities and the County in doing their part in ensuring that emissions are reduced, and that all residents are able to live in a healthy and thriving environment for many years to come.

## Commitment

The municipalities within the county have all joined the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP), and have committed to reducing their emissions by following along with the PCP Milestones.



Figure 3 Partners for Climate Protection Milestones

There are five milestones that need to be completed within the next 10 years. Each municipality and the County have completed the first three Milestones through the PCP Milestone program, and are well on their way to completing Milestone 4 and 5.

The municipalities and the County partnered together to hire their first Climate Change Coordinator through funding from the Municipal Climate Innovation Program (MCIP) provided by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). In April 2019, the municipalities joined the commitment to develop their greenhouse gas reduction plans through the PCP Program.

<sup>15</sup> Government of Canada (2019) Canada's climate is warming twice as fast as global average. Retrieved from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2019/04/canadas-climate-is-warming-twice-as-fast-as-global-average.html>

# Goals, Actions and Targets

## Government

In order for this plan to be successfully implemented, it will need the support and assistance from the local governments. Each municipality and the County have committed to addressing climate change, and will play a critical part in the success of the climate change plan.

It is well-known that local governments will be the biggest change makers when it comes to implementing climate actions. They are the front line workers and are responsible for a wide array of decisions that impact provincial, national and even international strategies on climate action. The UNDP estimates that more than 70% of climate mitigation and up to 90% of adaptation measures are taken at the local level of government<sup>16</sup>. It is important that municipal and local governments are the ones assisting in implementation as they have an understanding of the local concerns, limitations and abilities, so solutions can be better tailored for effective results.

Municipal and County governments are also capable of effectively engaging the local community on climate change, local action and resiliency projects. The local government can properly engage the community so that they are able to make real change and be part of the decision making within their community. Often, at international climate conferences, local communities are not able to be actively involved or considered, so allowing them to have a voice on actions that immediately affect them at the municipal level will be more impactful. The local government can be the missing link between those international conversations and the community, ensuring priorities are set to succeed through broader, international and national support. If local governments receive national and international support, especially financially, this can make projects easier to develop and implement. Projects like green infrastructure or green energy developments can require substantial financial investments, but they also help to reduce local emissions and create more jobs, creating a stronger and more diverse economy, and with funding or grants from upper level governments, it makes ambitious and necessary projects more feasible on the local level, where the real changes happen.

There are many goals that the local governments need to support within the community, and should also implement within their own priorities and plans as well.

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<sup>16</sup> The Guardian (2015) Local authorities are the real trailblazers in the fight against climate change. Retrieved from: <https://www.theguardian.com/public-leaders-network/2015/dec/10/local-authorities-climate-change-fight-paris-agreement>

### Action 1: Adopt the use of a climate lens tool

A climate lens tool is designed to assess municipal decisions and how they impact the climate and if the decision will be affected by climate change (ie. Increased temperatures or extreme weather events). The Clean Air Partnership has developed a climate lens tool that allows all staff to be able to assess their decisions, even if they do not have expertise in climate change. This tool provides resources to ensure proper considerations are made to assess all climate impacts associated with decisions<sup>17</sup>. The tool is important to use if the municipalities and the County are planning to continue to prioritize climate change. This does not provide a detailed qualitative analysis, but provides a high-level probability evaluation of the decision that is being made, and encourages discussions between departments so climate change is considered throughout the organization<sup>17</sup>. This will also allow senior staff and management to review decisions so that they can implement climate related decisions that align best with their departmental priorities. It will also be important to assess the positions within each department and evaluate how the work will impact the climate and how their work will be impacted by climate change.

### Action 2: Develop an education and awareness page and program for the community

A simple but effective way to get more education out and to continue to garner support from the community is through the creation of a climate change page on the official municipal and county websites. This page should communicate climate change actions, the progress that is going on surrounding the climate change plan, and should provide education, suggestions and resources for actions. This page should provide easy tips for residents to get started on their climate action journey, and should provide insight on how this will help them and their community and to reach the reduction target. This page should communicate the successes the municipality and the County are experiencing with implementation of the climate change plan, and how it has helped reduce emissions, reduced costs and has pushed them forward to reaching or even surpassing their GHG reduction target. The page should also provide links to programs that the municipality and County are offering to help support local businesses, community members and the agri-business sector. There should be resources available on this page for all members of the community to explore to learn of funding opportunities for home upgrades, vehicle upgrades, any webinars or new resources, from the local government, provincial government or the federal government. Another key feature of this page should be a carbon footprint calculator. This will allow individuals to keep track of their own actions and how they contribute to their local emission count.

### Action 3: Develop a corporate-level climate change plan

With municipalities being leaders in climate action, it is also important to develop a focus on corporate actions to combat climate change and increase local resiliency. Municipal services will all be impacted by climate change, and have the potential to also

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<sup>17</sup> Clean Air Partnership (2020) Municipal Climate Lens Tool. Retrieved from: <https://www.cleanairpartnership.org/projects/climatelens/>



contribute to local emissions, therefore making a corporate climate change plan a priority moving forward. All levels of staff need to be engaged on this topic, and an understanding of climate impacts should be well integrated into each department. This corporate climate change plan should focus on mitigation and adaptation to prepare the municipalities and County for reducing their own emissions while also ensuring they are considering actions to protect their assets and assess areas of vulnerability within their work and services. This will also allow the municipalities to gain a greater understanding of their own climate change impacts and how their services can better support the implementation of the community climate change plan.

#### Action 4: Develop a community adaptation plan

The initial focus of this plan is to speak to greenhouse gas reduction opportunities, and did not explore a vulnerability assessment to see the areas of major concern across the county. Developing or adding to this plan to put more focus on adaptation and the vulnerabilities across the county is an important step when dealing with climate change. This will ensure that actions and considerations are taken to reduce the risks that are going to be associated with climate change. Due to the emissions that have been released over the past decade, there are impacts that are going to be inevitable, and it is crucial that the municipalities and the County be prepared and prepare their citizens for those inevitable impacts. Ensuring that all vulnerabilities are being assessed and actions to protect citizens are successfully implemented, Perth County and the municipalities within the boundaries of the county can be more resilient to climate impacts long term.

Goal: Embed climate considerations into all municipalities and provide educational resources

Action	Timeline	Cost	Indicators of Success
Adopt Climate Lens	Ongoing	No cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Considering climate change while making municipal/county decisions</li> </ul>
Develop an education and awareness page and campaign	Ongoing	Low cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased numbers of online traffic to webpage</li> <li>Increased uptake of sustainable and climate change actions</li> <li>Public use of the online GHG Calculator</li> </ul>
Develop a corporate-level climate change plan	Short term to ongoing	No/Low cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adoption of climate plan</li> <li>Implementation of internal climate strategies</li> </ul>
Develop a climate change adaptation plan	Short term to ongoing	No/Low cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adoption of climate plan</li> <li>Implementation of adaptive strategies to increase adaptive capacity</li> <li>Decrease in vulnerability</li> </ul>

## Buildings and Land Use

As local populations continue to grow in municipalities across the county, new homes will continue to be built. It is the role of the municipalities to ensure compliance with the Ontario Building Code (OBC) while these new homes are being built, but imagine if they took it a step further and made even better, more sustainable, more energy efficient homes. Over the years, the OBC has updated their requirements for energy efficiency, through actions such as an increase of 15% efficiency, and rough-ins for electric vehicle stations in new homes and non-residential buildings, but much of the OBC is still considered as the minimum effort in regards to energy efficiency<sup>18</sup>. This sector emitted a total of approximately 262,800 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions.

### Residential Buildings

In 2016, there were a total of 38,350 single family homes and about 9,585 attached dwellings (townhouses, apartments, etc.)<sup>19</sup>. Residential buildings emitted approximately 104,600 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e in 2017, about 100,600 tonnes of those came from single-detached homes, while the other approximately 4,000 was emitted from the attached dwellings. There are opportunities to reduce energy consumption from residential buildings through small fixes, and through larger investments. Approximately 40% of emissions from buildings come from the residential sector, mainly from the natural gas, propane and fuel oil consumption across the county. Electricity production in Ontario is known to be clean, therefore emissions associated with this source of energy are low.

Improvements that provide the biggest reductions typically come with a higher cost, but also provide greater savings. Projects such as replacing the siding on your home and adding more insulation in the walls prior to recladding help significantly to reduce your need for heating and cooling. If you combine this with a new heating system, like ground-sourced heat pumps, air-sourced heat pumps or a high efficiency furnace, this helps to nearly eliminate emissions from heating.

### Commercial/Institutional Buildings

The community attracts over a million visitors every year, which contributes greatly to the local economy. The arts and tourism sectors represent around 4,000 jobs. This sector of buildings includes the associated tourism-related infrastructure, the University of Waterloo's campus, local schools, and other shopping centres like grocery stores and small businesses.

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<sup>18</sup> Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (2016) Supplementary Standard SB-12 "Energy Efficiency for Housing" Amended on July 7, 2016. Retrieved from: <http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page15256.aspx>

<sup>19</sup> Statistics Canada (2020) Census Profile, 2016 Census. Retrieved from: <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&Geo1=CD&Code1=3531&Geo2=PR&Code2=35&SearchText=Perth&SearchType=Begins&SearchPR=01&B1=All&GeoLevel=P&R&GeoCode=3531&TABID=1&type=0>

The commercial and institutional emissions generated within this sector totaled approximately 60,600 tonnes of greenhouse gases, which is approximately 23% of the total building emissions, and 7% of the total emissions. Similar to the residential sector, there is an opportunity for retrofits and upgrades to take place, whether they are small projects or something more major.

#### Industrial/Manufacturing buildings

There is a unique set of manufacturers within the area, these include automotive equipment, feed and animal pharmaceuticals, architectural and structural metals, concrete, metal fabrication, engineering and machining, green products and technology, Agri-food products and textiles<sup>20</sup>. Perth County also has a strong Agri-business sector where they have food processing and handling facilities, farm equipment and part manufacturing, green energy and bio-crops, bio-based materials and product manufacturing and genetics and research facilities.

The industrial and manufacturing sector emitted approximately 67,600 tonnes of greenhouse gases, which represents 37% of the total emissions from buildings, and about 12% of total emissions within the county.

Energy efficiency for the industrial sector is known to improve by 1 to 2% in Canada per year because of continued education and training programs, networking programs, and capacity-building opportunities. It will be important for the community to ensure that industrial and manufacturing companies are being held accountable, and are being open and honest about their emissions and are actively reporting and working towards lowering their emissions to help with community reduction targets. It is strongly recommended that a relationship be established with industrial, manufacturing and commercial industries in the municipalities to keep an open relationship on sustainability efforts and greenhouse gas reduction strategies.

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<sup>20</sup> Perth County (2017) Community Profile. Retrieved from: <https://www.perthcounty.ca/en/doing-business/resources/files/Accessibility-Update---Edited-PDFS/Business/Perth-County-Community-Profile---accessibility.pdf>

## Emissions from Buildings

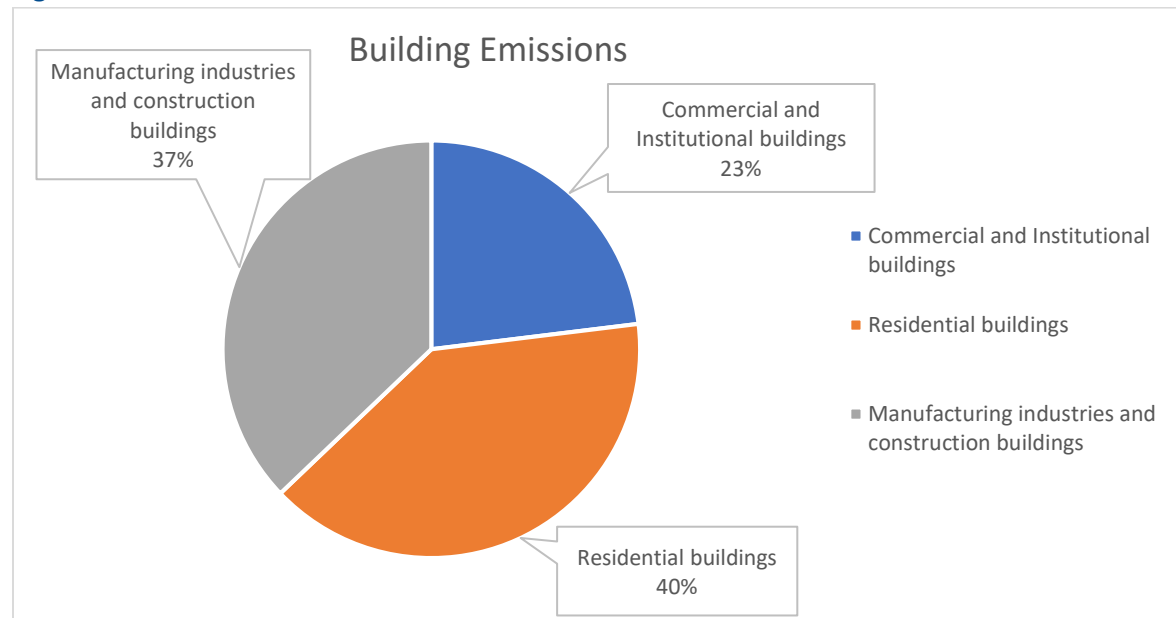


Figure 4 Building Emissions

In the community, building emissions make up approximately 32% of the total emissions. These building emissions include the residential, commercial, institutional and industrial buildings. However, it is important to note that some consumption data is missing for the emissions, as propane, fuel oil and other types of fuels apart from natural gas and electricity do not provide overall consumption data for municipalities. Therefore this sector likely emits more emissions than this initial calculation. Future exploration will need to be done to establish more accurate emissions counts.

As mentioned previously, the residential buildings across this community make up approximately 40% of the emissions from

buildings, and 14% of the total emissions. Small improvements such as sealing or caulking areas of leakage which are typically found around windows will substantially reduce heat loss, adding insulation to your attic, or an unfinished basement will also reduce heat loss. These small improvements are known to not only reduce emissions, but also reduce your energy consumption and therefore your bills. Old gas hot water heaters are also known to consume a substantial amount of energy within the home. There are new and efficient alternatives to heating hot water, things that include solar hot water heaters which preheat the water while using your electric or gas hot water heater, which results in greenhouse gas reductions as well.

### Action 1: Sustainable Building Standard

As populations continue to increase within the municipal boundaries, housing development continues to rise. Across Ontario, housing has been proceeding at increased rates, sprawling communities continue to sprout up all across Southern Ontario, and increased need for a vehicle continues to climb.

These new homes have impacts on more than just local land use, they consume energy and water and generate waste, pollutants and greenhouse gases, and also increase stresses on the local municipal energy infrastructure. Knowing that new homes contribute to the climate challenge but are often not thought about or considered, it is important for local municipalities to address this area of future emissions. New builds create the best opportunity to address future emissions. Often the focus is on how emissions can be lowered through retrofits, rather than building energy efficient homes and buildings in the first place. As building stocks increase, many without zero or low carbon performances, the municipality will have to invest more into these homes to retrofit them in the future, which is more costly and difficult.

A Green Building Standard creates the opportunity to guide developers in creating homes that are more efficient than those that strictly follow the Ontario Building Code. The ability for municipalities to use their guidance in local economic development provides them the means to have authority over local planning decisions, making them a key leader in this action. A Green Building Standard not only helps to boost the local economy, but also addresses the priorities that have been set through the development of this plan: air quality, energy efficiency, water quality and solid waste. The development standard usually promotes adaptive measures that ensure long term infrastructure resiliency, increases the number of energy efficient homes, promotes building smart, dense and mixed-use neighbourhoods to reduce urban sprawl reducing the need for vehicles, and helps increase green infrastructure and reduces hardscapes, which not only improves stormwater management but also reduces the impacts of the heat island effect. The heat island effect is caused by large surfaces of concrete that hold heat and release it in local neighbourhoods, which leads to increases in local temperatures.

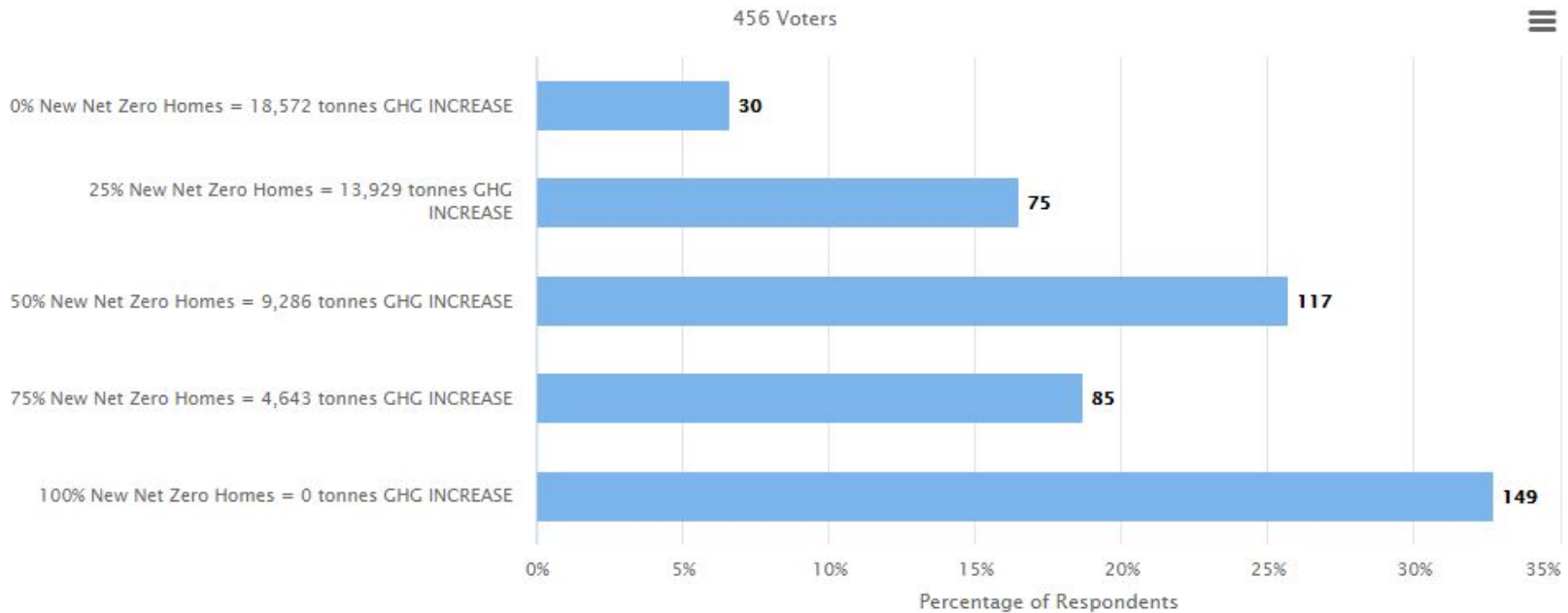
As the community continues to grow, it is important to consider more than the typical considerations of new development, it is necessary to be considering public health, climate change, energy consumption and consumption of resources. The Clean Air Partnership has developed a tool that helps municipalities develop their own Green Development Standard.<sup>21</sup> This tool was created

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<sup>21</sup> Clean Air Partnership (2020) Why Standards for Green Development Should be a Standard Part of Municipal Climate Action. Retrieved from: <https://www.cleanairpartnership.org/why-standards-for-green-development-should-be-a-standard-part-of-municipal-climate-action/>

to push the considerations around growing a healthy, well-designed community that is well integrated with greenspaces, pedestrian and transit networks, while also providing a variety of housing options, transportation, services and employment options<sup>21</sup>. The tool will remove pressures from population growth and urbanization by ensuring resource efficiency<sup>21</sup>.

**How many new builds would you like to see follow a new green building standard in the next 10 years?**





## Action 2: Develop a Deep Retrofit Program/Guidelines

The residential, commercial and institutional buildings have an opportunity to improve their efficiencies through a voluntary retrofit program. A program that allows the building owners to decrease energy consumption and associated emissions with financial assistance. These programs are appealing to those that are looking to reduce energy costs and improve property value while also increasing their energy efficiency. The program is what is referred to as a deep retrofit program, which assesses the energy performance of the entire home/building versus addressing incremental changes, which leads to significant energy savings. Improvements that this program usually targets focus on heating, cooling, insulation and water heating.

A deep retrofit program can help in managing heat loss in homes and businesses and, reduce energy consumption and help integrate automated controls. It also explores the opportunity to consider elements such as solar PV/thermal, ground source heating, and other features like this to reduce traditional energy usage. This would also help to supplement the local energy supply to not overload the current system with increased electricity consumption. Adding renewables or biofuels will help to transition the community to a more resilient and low emitting community. There is increasing information surrounding biofuels as a great alternative for energy production for rural communities, through burning of wood pellets and other wood or sawdust developed products. Biofuels are a great low-cost alternative, as switching to electricity without renewable supplementation is a costly decision to make in Ontario, currently.

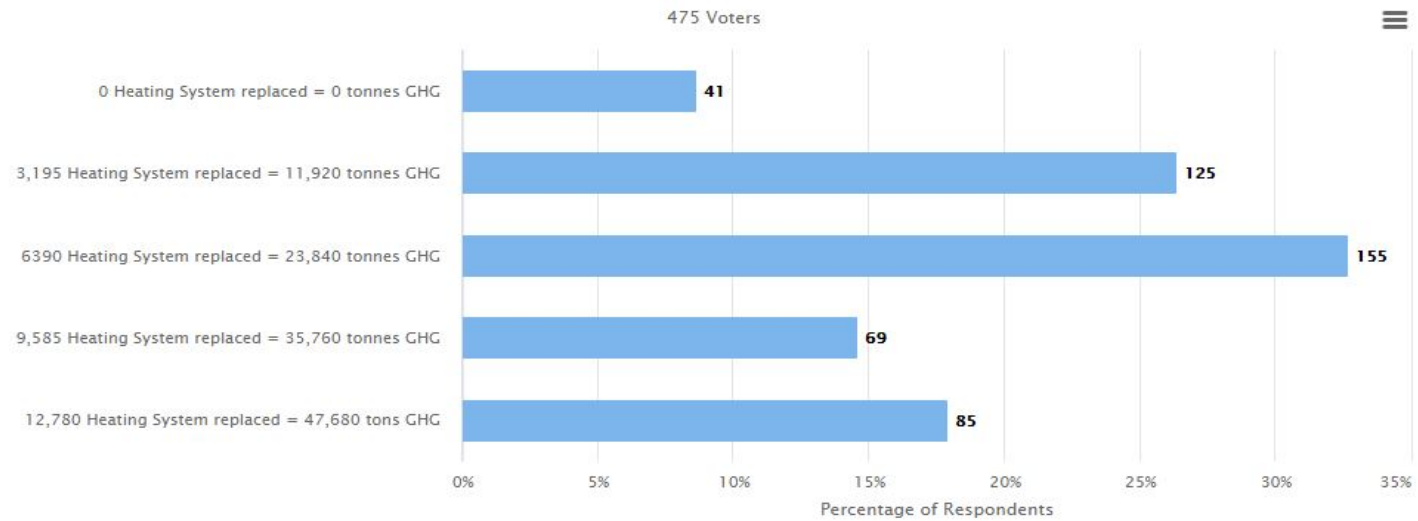
A deep retrofit program will also improve the resiliency of the community, and help reduce urban heat island effect and reduce flood risk by reducing runoff. These programs have included projects like rain gardens, backwater valves, sump pumps, downspout disconnect, regrading or even permeable pavements, which further help with sequestration and adaptation.

The program should also include an energy performance label to showcase the success of this project. This also allows homeowners or those selling property an opportunity to showcase the efforts they put in to increase the efficiency of the home, justifying higher property values.

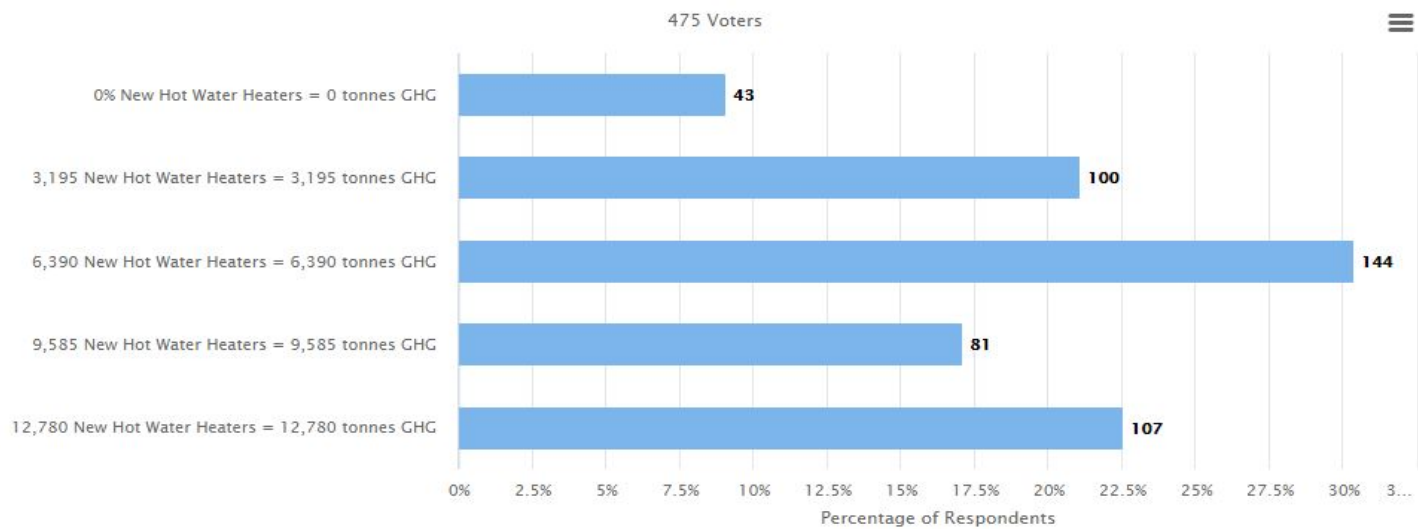
Developing a program like this, allows local contractors, home and business owners the opportunity to explore areas that will not only help them reduce their energy consumption but will also improve the local community and their well-being.

There should also be an assessment of local knowledge on these programs and upgrades so that contractors can implement these more technical renovations. By doing this, it also offers the opportunity for job creation and ultimately feeding more into the local economy.

How many single family homes do you think the residents of Perth County can and should plan to retrofit?



How many single family homes do you think we should or could retrofit with new electric or solar hot water heaters in the next ten years?



### Action 3: Offer LIC or PACE financing to assist in deep retrofits

The municipalities have an opportunity to explore the feasibility of implementing a program that helps residents perform the deep retrofits that will help to significantly reduce local emissions. Reducing emissions from homes through retrofits is difficult and can be expensive, and it also requires a large number of participants to see a significant impact.

Many municipalities and regional governments are offering what is called a Local Improvement Charge (LIC), or Property-Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing program. These are a temporary charge that is typically added to the homeowners property tax bill so that they may pay for the improvements that benefit the property owner. This means that the municipality helps in paying for the energy retrofit upfront, and the homeowner pays for it over the time of the loan period, therefore operating at no net cost to the municipality while also not using taxpayer money to provide the program. These loans are typically tied to the property, but there are other options that the municipalities can explore as they assess the feasibility of implementing this kind of program.

Municipalities are being offered assistance to implement this program that helps their local communities to complete the deep retrofits that are necessary to achieve ambitious reduction targets. The Clean Air Partnership partnered with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to provide a toolkit and funding to assist in the development and implementation of this type of program.<sup>22</sup> The current toolkit and funding focuses on residential buildings and how municipalities can implement a program that assists homeowners to improve the efficiency of their home.

Offering this program will ensure that homeowners are resilient to the upcoming and inevitable climate change impacts, while also bringing older homes up to current Building Codes, reducing energy bills and helping to improve property value and quality of life. These improvements also encourage residents to stay within the community due to the affordability of owning their updated homes. The retrofit projects are typically designed to match loan payments with savings on energy bills, which means it is typical to see no increase in monthly bills, meaning it is more accessible to those living with lower incomes. It also helps to provide increased comfort in the home and living space, which leads to healthier and happier residents.

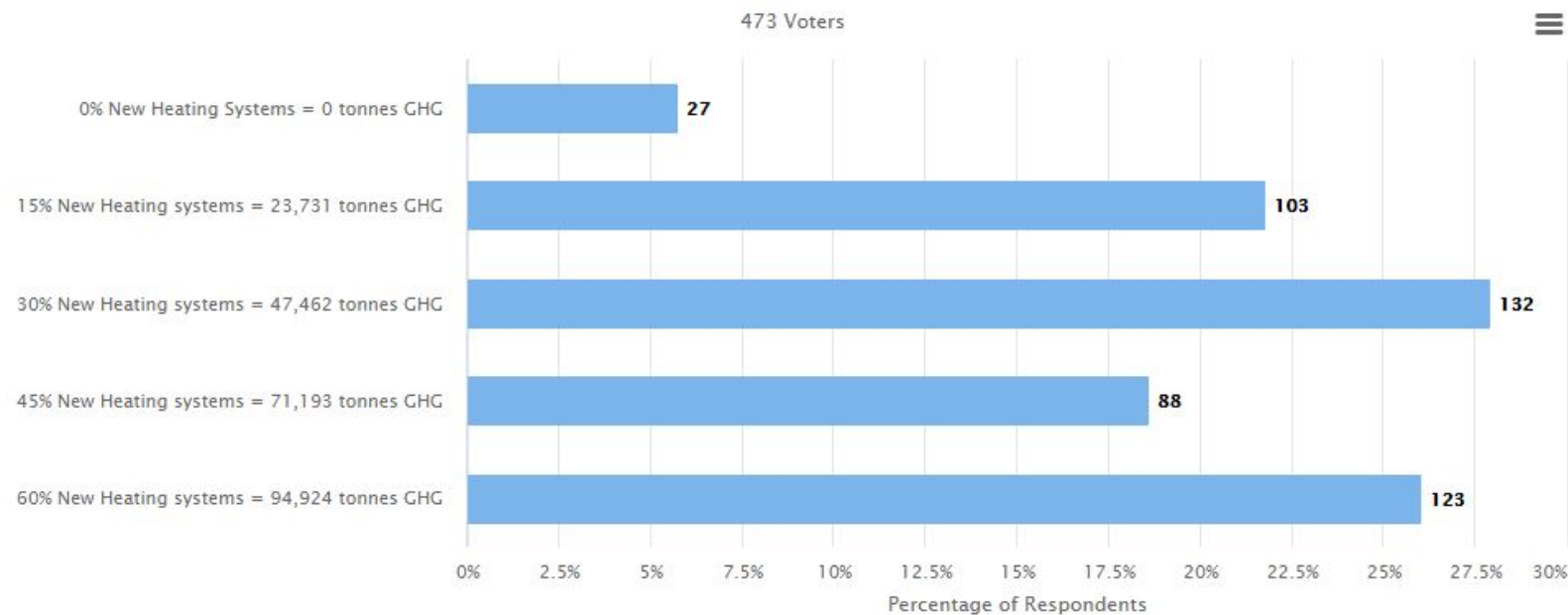
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<sup>22</sup> FCM (2020) Learn how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through energy efficiency retrofit programs. Retrieved from: <https://fcm.ca/en/case-study/mcip/tool-and-case-study-climate-resilient-home-adaption-toolkit>

The exploration of this program is necessary to ensure residents are capable of making impactful changes. Performing a feasibility study is the first step in assessing how this program can be successfully implemented in a low-risk manner. Partnerships should be explored for successful development and implementation of the program.

Future exploration in offering this program to commercial buildings through a C-PACE program should be reviewed. As more national targets are set, it is likely that more grant and funding opportunities will arise to help municipalities implement other ambitious projects like a C-PACE program.

**What percentage of emissions do you think we can and should attempt to cut in the next 10 years from the commercial, institutional and industrial buildings, and operations in Perth County?**



Goal: Create greener, more sustainable, accessible and energy efficient neighbourhoods

Action		Timeline	Cost	Indicators of Success
Sustainable Building Standard		Ongoing	No cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrate adaptive measures into construction of new buildings, retrofits, and the maintenance of existing infrastructure</li> <li>• Increase the number of new construction and existing infrastructure that are highly energy efficient</li> <li>• Smart, dense, mixed-use growth to reduce sprawl</li> <li>• Increase green infrastructure and reduce hardscaping to improve stormwater management, and reduce the heat island effect</li> <li>• Lower to no new residential emissions</li> </ul>
Develop a Deep Retrofit Program		Ongoing	High cost (grants available)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decrease in residential emissions from current housing stock</li> </ul>
Offer LIC or PACE financing to assist in deep retrofits		Ongoing	High cost (grants available)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community use and buy-in</li> <li>• Lower residential emissions</li> </ul>

## Businesses/Industry

Businesses are known to contribute a substantial amount of emissions throughout their supply chains, and more pressure is being put on them to improve their sustainability initiatives. Locally, the buildings owned by businesses contribute 19% of total emissions, but are about 60% of emissions associated with buildings across the county. These emissions do not include emissions associated with their manufacturing processes, the vehicles they use for shipping or any other emissions associated with their supply chains. It is the responsibility of local businesses to assess their emissions and to consider sustainable business actions where possible. It is known that implementing sustainable actions into businesses improves business, improves efficiency and reduces costs overall. Of course examples of sustainability initiatives can be seen across the County with sustainability related positions who track and report and engage staff and internal practices, and those who have joined groups such as the Carbon Footprint Initiative, which is a local group of businesses looking to improve their sustainability and measure and reduce their personal impacts.

As mentioned previously, industry/manufacturing is known to be the largest contributor to Canadian emissions. Across the County there are many industrial/manufacturing organizations who contribute to emissions locally and nationally. For emissions to downtrend, it will be important for industrial/manufacturing facilities to work to reduce their emissions throughout their facilities and to keep track and report on their emissions. With the new Federal targets being set, industrial and manufacturing facilities will need to be ambitious and actively work towards reducing and offsetting their emissions. Typically, the Federal government provides training and resources to manufacturing and industrial organizations to assist in reducing emissions, but it is crucial for them to also take the necessary steps in taking their own actions to reduce these emissions in the most impactful manner.

### Action 1: Start/join/support a local Green Business Hub

Within the Maitland Watershed there is currently a group of local organizations that have joined together under the guidance and leadership within the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority, to create the Carbon Footprint Initiative. This group is open to all types of organizations, like businesses, companies and municipalities within the Maitland watershed<sup>23</sup>. In order to join, the organization must prepare a carbon footprint strategy and provide updates on their continued progress towards their targets. The organization must also participate in sequestration activities like planting projects and restoration projects.

In surrounding communities there are similar groups to the Carbon Footprint Initiative. These have been started through the organization Green Economy Canada<sup>24</sup>. There are many hubs across Ontario and Canada that are working with local businesses to reduce their carbon footprints and reduce their environmental impacts. Green Economy Canada works with local organizations to launch their own hubs to help support local businesses become more sustainable, they will provide resources and tools for measuring impacts and work to create a larger sustainable community. In London and in Waterloo Region, hubs already exist to help support their businesses transition to sustainable practices. These hubs exist only because of local interest and support, so if there is a desire within the municipalities across the county to improve business practices, there is opportunity to join this growing group of hubs, and to act as leaders not only in Ontario but across the country. Collectively the hubs have helped businesses to reduce about 200,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases and helped them to see the co-benefits of integrating sustainability<sup>24</sup>. This also offers the opportunity for local industrial/manufacturing organizations to join, assess and work towards reducing their greenhouse gases and environmental impacts in a more holistic manner, considering the social, environmental and economic impacts of sustainability integration.

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<sup>23</sup> Maitland Valley Conservation Authority (2020) The Carbon Footprint Initiative Story. Retrieved from: <http://www.mvca.on.ca/stewardship-programs/carbon-footprint-initiative/#:~:text=The%20Carbon%20Footprint%20Initiative%20is,towards%20reducing%20their%20carbon%20footprint.>

<sup>24</sup> Green Economy Canada (2020) Green Economy Canada. Retrieved from: <https://greeneconomy.ca/>



## Action 2: Sustainability toolkit for small/local businesses

The municipalities can help to support their local businesses by working with them and the BIA to develop a toolkit on sustainability. It will allow conversations to flourish around what partnerships and support can be developed to improve access to sustainability initiatives that fit within the unique approaches of each organization. Across the county there are many different types of small and local businesses that need to start considering sustainable actions to help in reducing their environmental impacts, reduce operation costs and ensure a continued social license to operate. The municipality and businesses can work together to create a toolkit to support the transition to sustainable business operations for all. This toolkit can help local businesses to implement projects to improve their sustainability initiatives and provide them with resources and links to funding and grants. A sustainability toolkit can also offer solutions for adaptation to businesses, so that they are less vulnerable to climate change impacts; this involves assessing the supply chains and the structures in which businesses are running. A toolkit like this offers a transition for many businesses to start the conversation, where they can then assess if joining a local green business hub would offer that extra help in involving their business in more sustainable opportunities.

An example of a sustainability or climate change toolkit can be found through the Sustainable Hamilton Burlington's website, where they showcase their Business Climate Action Toolkit<sup>25</sup>. This toolkit lays out the steps to assess the businesses' climate impacts and ways to move forward in addressing those. Following a similar path for local businesses in Perth County will hold the various organizations accountable for their local impacts. It will be crucial for local businesses to be part of the development of this toolkit so that it can be tailored to the abilities and various types of businesses across the county and in individual municipalities.

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<sup>25</sup> <https://businessclimateactiontoolkit.ca/>

Goal: Support sustainability and climate action in local businesses

Action	Timeline	Cost	Indicators of Success
Start/Support/Join a local Green Business Hub	Short term	No cost to Low cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased membership in Carbon Footprint Initiative</li> <li>• Development of other Green Business Hubs</li> <li>• Increased sustainable business</li> </ul>
Develop a small/local business toolkit	Ongoing	No cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completion of toolkit</li> <li>• Increased sustainable business practices (reduced emissions and environmental impacts)</li> </ul>

## Transportation

Transportation is one of the largest contributors to local greenhouse gas emissions. There is an opportunity to push the reduction of this sector of emissions through supportive actions and policy implementation.

Recently, the County partnered with other municipalities to develop a new transit system called Perth County Connect (PC Connect)<sup>26</sup>. In November of 2020, PC Connect launched to better connect residents within Perth County, Stratford and St. Marys with each other and surrounding Southwestern Ontario municipalities. The launch offered five fixed routes, with one bus servicing each route. Prior to this launch, Perth County's transit system was non-existent and created issues for residents and those trying to commute throughout the County and outside of it. The Greyhound stopped operating within Perth County, and Via Rail services became limited, therefore the County, Stratford and St. Marys realized the importance of providing transit services for improving local economic development. The City of Stratford already had bus services available within the City limits, which allowed for those living within Stratford to move more easily within the City limits. The City has also made the move to implement On-Demand Transit for Sundays, which allows residents more flexibility and will help to meet the transit demands in a more accessible manner<sup>27</sup>. Transit is one of those key features within communities that is known to reduce local greenhouse gas emissions, increase movement and accessibility within the community and help in the investment of local businesses.

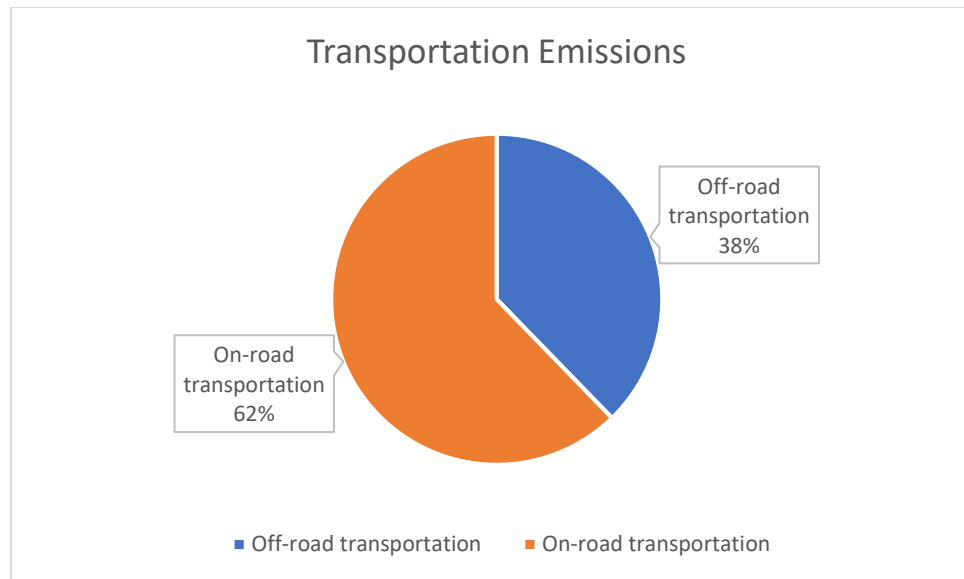
Perth County, Stratford and St. Marys need to prioritize encouraging residents to take advantage of this new transit system to help reduce local transportation emissions. Another area that needs prioritizing is active transportation; active transportation includes walking, biking, wheeling, in-line skating, skateboarding, and skating in any form. This can be encouraged through better connectivity throughout the municipalities and interconnecting between municipalities.

Encouraging the purchase of electric vehicles is also an opportunity for significant GHG reduction. The common fear when thinking of purchasing an EV is range anxiety and lack of charging infrastructure. This presents an opportunity for the municipalities to invest in infrastructure. Increased accessibility for charging stations will not only ease the range anxiety for residents, but will also encourage tourists to come and explore your local municipality. This is an economic development strategy that is worth exploring.

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<sup>26</sup>Perth County (2020) PC Connect – Your Community Transit System. Retrieved from: <https://www.perthcounty.ca/en/living-here/community-transportation---perth-county-and-stratford.aspx>

<sup>27</sup> <https://www.stratford.ca/en/live-here/transit.aspx>



Transportation in Perth County, Stratford and St. Marys makes up approximately 61% of the local fossil-fuel and waste-related emissions. About 62% of that comes from personal-vehicles across the County, and 38% of that from off-road vehicles such as combines and tractors.

As mentioned previously, there are many opportunities to reduce emissions from the transportation sector. As residents continue to upgrade their vehicles over the coming years, it will be important to transition to low emitters like Hybrid/Hybrid Electric and Electric Vehicles (EVs). Over the next few years, it is anticipated that the prices of electric vehicles will continue to lower, the number of electric vehicles and used electric vehicles

are expected to increase, and to add to that there are many manufacturers who have committed to phasing out internal combustion vehicles in their line of vehicles. Municipalities have limited control over what their residents will purchase in the future, but they are set to provide support in a few different ways. The County and the municipalities will have to play a major role in reducing the number and length of single-occupancy vehicle trips through a transit system, supporting and encouraging carpooling, and ensuring the active transportation options are safe and convenient. This ultimately will lead to better air quality, less congestion and an overall better quality of life for residents.

### Action 1: Implement a Transportation Master Plan

All residents need to get around the county and municipalities, and it is the job of the municipality and the County to make sure that the necessary local travel is as simple and safe as possible. A transportation master plan is intended to guide work and direction on how local travel options can be improved by focusing on pedestrian, cycling, and transit and roadway infrastructure. This plan will help prepare the community for a well integrated system that includes the various travel options available across the county. The goal of a Transportation Master Plan is to reduce emissions, improve local air quality, increase alternative travel/commute choices, lower the cost and energy consumption of personal transportation options, improve the community's health, and to reduce the need to unsustainably expand roadway infrastructure. This plan can also help address any needs related to parking infrastructure due to increased levels of tourism.

The Transportation Master Plan will help the County and municipalities know when and how to invest in the proper infrastructure to ensure traveling throughout the County and municipalities is as smooth as possible. This ensures that the demands for travel now is being met, while also preparing for future demands. Having a set plan also ensures that trends within transportation are being assessed and new technologies can be considered where feasible and reasonable.

Mobility is something that impacts everyone, residents, businesses and visitors, this is why a plan around transportation is crucial for the well-being and economic success of the County and municipalities. This will allow for each municipality to begin focusing on sustainable development within their boundaries, and will support sustainable growth in the rural and urban areas of the County, Stratford and St. Marys. The plan should also include a risk assessment to transportation infrastructure so that the municipalities and the County can work to reduce the increasing threat of transportation related interruptions due to climate change and the associated severe weather events. More resilient infrastructure can be explored and smarter and climate-ready investments can therefore be made.

Typically these include a plan for changes over the next few decades, which should encourage ambitious targets and changes to the local transportation options, and will showcase to the community that municipalities and the County are ready to support ambitious and meaningful climate change actions.

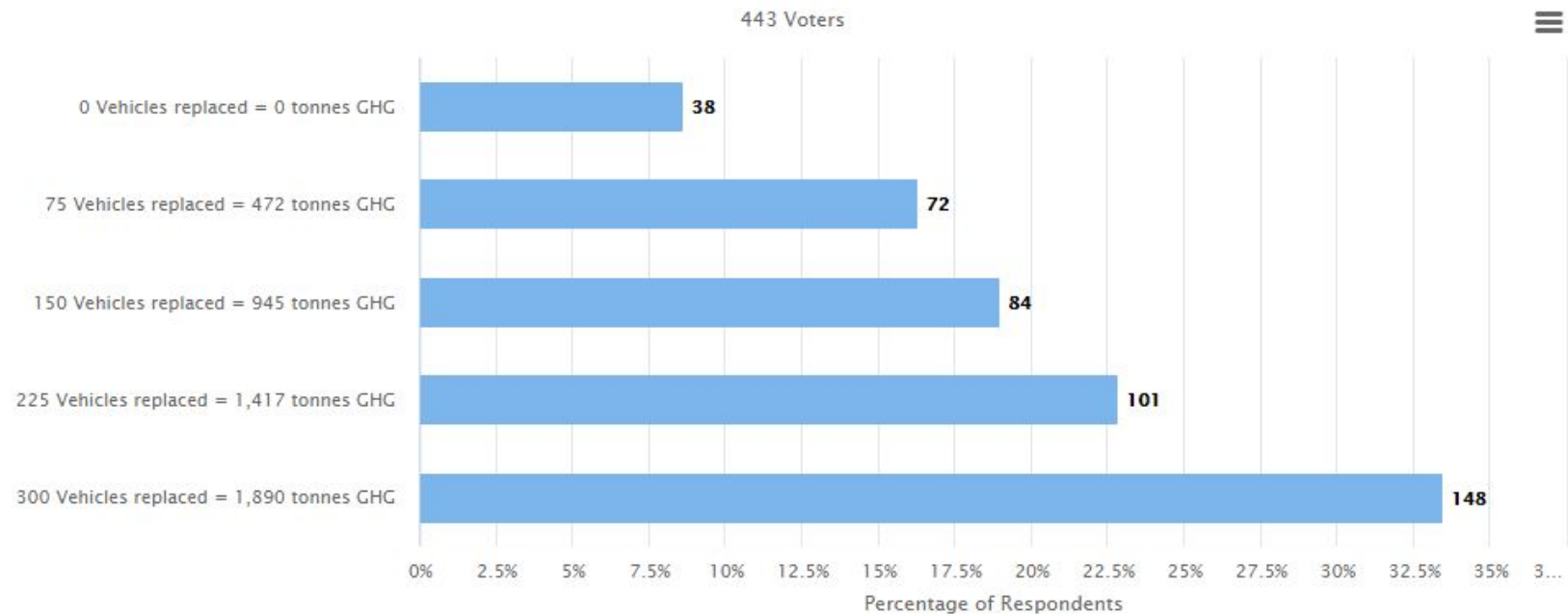
## Action 2: Develop better connectivity and promote active transportation

Encouraging the uptake of cycling, walking, or any other form of active transportation will be a necessary step in reducing local greenhouse gas emissions. By promoting neighbourhoods to be built with sidewalks and bike lanes that connect to the inner city areas and main city centres, and connecting to parks and other outdoor destinations will allow for local residents to safely walk/cycle/etc. throughout the municipalities and county. The implementation of bike lanes between the municipalities and within the municipal boundaries also presents an opportunity to explore more businesses and attractions. There are many cyclists in each municipality and if residents do not need a vehicle to explore surrounding areas, it will help to promote the use of active transportation options.

This action will not only help to reduce local emission sources, but will also help to improve local air quality, and improve the health and well-being of the local community. A priority within the Perth Huron Health Unit is to encourage the uptake of active transportation and working to make this safer and a more viable option. The Health Unit, the municipalities and County should work together to encourage active transportation, and develop a strategy for successful implementation. Active transportation is not only good for the local environment, it is also good for local health and wellness, and it encourages an active lifestyle for families, and encourages residents to explore alternative means of transportation. As work is done to encourage active transportation options, a more in-depth exploration is needed to ensure it is inclusive to all residents to ensure there are no barriers for anyone to participate.

During the pandemic, record bike sales were recorded. Community members were choosing to bike to work, avoiding transit systems and were overall looking for an opportunity to spend time outdoors in an entertaining and healthy way. If the community continues to invest in ways that better connect their residents to one another, it will also encourage the uptake of cycling throughout the county and can encourage growth in the cycling movement. This is not only a positive experience for those living within the municipalities, but it will also encourage greater numbers of tourists and cyclists to travel throughout the community. Knowing there are safe routes connecting cyclists and other active transportation users to various destinations makes those trips much more desirable and well known within the cycling and active transportation groups.

### How much do you think we should increase cycling infrastructure?





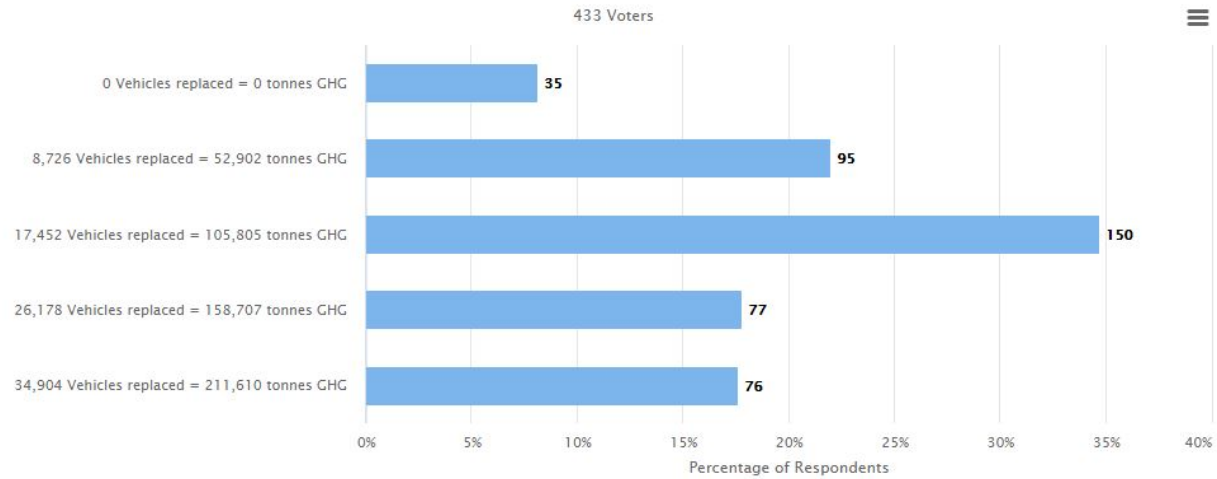
### Action 3: Install charging stations

In order for the municipalities and the County to support an uptake in electric vehicle use, there is a need to increase investment in electric vehicle charging stations. A common fear amongst those who do not have EVs is the issue of range anxiety and the lack of charging infrastructure in their communities and places of work. An easy way to solve this is through the investment of charging stations, and there are many opportunities for municipalities to increase their charging capacity.

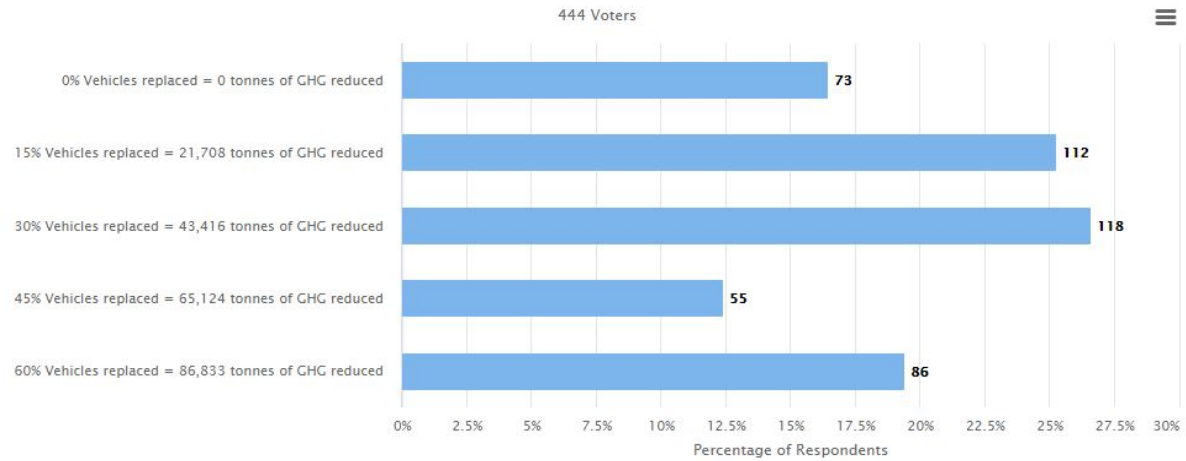
There are countless benefits that come along with public charging stations in municipalities. The increase in tourism and economic development is the first and most important municipal benefit. With the installation of Level 2 and fast/Level 3 charging stations, these often require EV owners to stop by and charge for an hour or so, and sometimes just to top up on their trips, but these encourage the municipality to be a destination choice for EV owners. This allows those who need to charge their vehicles the opportunity to explore the municipality, whether it be for a quick shopping trip or a bite to eat, it all helps to invest in the local economy and the small local businesses. This is a particularly interesting idea for more urban centres where tourists can walk freely, or in areas where there are parks and walking trails. Currently, there is an opportunity to partner with some surrounding municipalities and Counties, to work towards developing a rural EV corridor for improvements to tourism. This will also offer the opportunity to lower the overall cost of implementation of EV charging stations, while also increasing the desirability for tourism. There is a gap in southern Ontario in EV charging stations, and this results in being a deterrent for tourists with EVs to drive through the local municipalities. Taking the opportunity to explore a regional network and working collectively on this corridor will not only increase tourism, but will significantly reduce emissions. This opportunity will also explore opportunities for collaboration with Conservation Authorities, and the local utility companies, and other private industries for economic support. The utility companies should be consulted in the manner of what is the local energy capacity, answering questions like how much capacity can the local grid hold for charging station installation, are there any areas that should be avoided when installing chargers due to cost, and how do we increase local capacity in a sustainable manner, just to name a few considerations.

When choosing the locations of the charging stations, it will be important to speak to the public about the best and most desirable locations as well. If the expectation is for community members to transition to EV's, then it is important to consult with them to understand the places they feel would be most beneficial to have charging stations to reduce any range anxiety or fear of not being able to charge when they need to. This will ensure that all areas that are possible for charging stations can be considered fairly.

### How many vehicles should and could we switch to electric within the next 10 years?

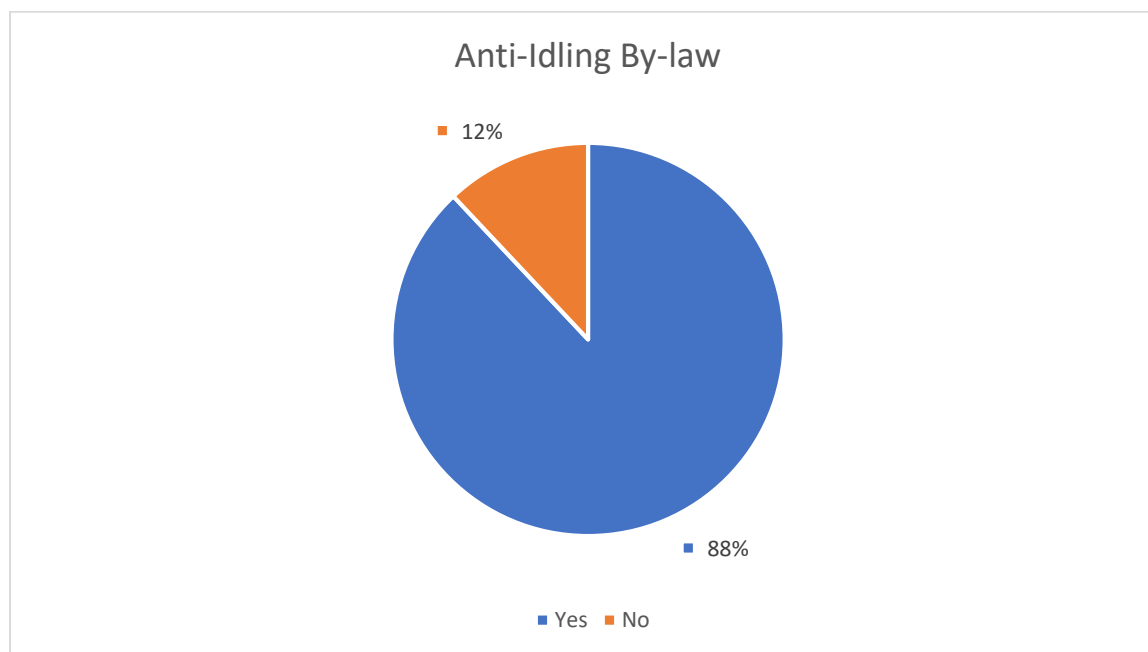


### How much do you think we could and should decrease emissions from farm vehicles?



#### Action 4: Implement an anti-idling by-law

Idling contributes substantially to emissions across Canada and in the local community. It substantially contributes to lowering the local air quality as well. Natural Resources Canada has stated that if Canadians avoided idling for only three minutes everyday for one year, it would reduce national emissions by nearly 1.4 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>. Most commonly, idling is seen on school properties as parents drop off or pick up their children. The local Health Unit has expressed how this could cause concern for children and their health and well-being. Air pollution is known to cause many health-related issues, particularly in the most vulnerable age groups, such as youth and the elderly. It has been attributed to headaches and anxiety, impacting the central nervous system, irritation to the nose, eyes and throat, it leads to breathing problems, cardiovascular issues, it has even led to issues with the spleen, kidneys, blood and the reproductive system.<sup>28</sup> There are many serious impacts related to not only the health and wellness of the community but also related to the natural environment and habitats. It is well known that the burning of fossil fuels adds to environmental impacts and increases climate change impacts, therefore lowering the possibility for more fossil fuels to burn is a key step in combatting climate change. Implementing an anti-idling by-law is a quick and easy way to discourage residents from leaving their cars running unnecessarily.



<sup>28</sup> <https://www.mfe.govt.nz/more/environmental-reporting/air/air-domain-report-2014/why-good-air-quality-important>

Goal: Support and plan for future transportation changes, needs and priorities

Action	Timeline	Cost	Indicators of Success
Develop and Implement a Transportation Master Plan	Ongoing	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation and support of plan</li> <li>• Regular updates based on shifting priorities</li> </ul>
Develop better interconnectivity and promote active transportation	Long term	Mid to high	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased uptake of active transportation</li> <li>• Increased connection between homes and major local destinations</li> </ul>
Install charging stations	Medium to long term	Mid to high (grants, funding and partnerships available)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased charging stations</li> <li>• Increased use of charging infrastructure</li> <li>• Increased number of tourists</li> </ul>
Implement an anti-idling bylaw	Short term	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced idling, particularly in areas like school zones</li> </ul>

## Waste

Waste emissions across the county make up approximately 7% of the total emissions. Emissions from waste are generated by sending organic materials to the landfill. Landfills are anaerobic, meaning there is no oxygen in them, and so when organic material breaks down in the landfill, it does so through an anaerobic process which is what creates methane and the smell. It also takes a long time for organic material to break down in a landfill because of the lack of oxygen, which shortens the lifespan of the landfill as it fills quicker. The process of closing and opening a new landfill is incredibly difficult and creates a lot of environmental and economic issues. Locating a new space, digging a new landfill and closing an old landfill is an incredibly costly thing for municipalities to do, and is also incredibly damaging to the local ecology. Landfills are very large and require a lot of space around them, therefore locating a new space for the landfill removes quality ecosystems, and often pushes municipalities to the edge of their boundaries to find the appropriate location. Landfills cannot be too close to residential buildings due to the risk of leaking leachate, the smell and the noise associated with the work.

Over the past couple of years, Canada's recycling issues have come to light, with other countries closing their borders to plastic waste. This heightened issues with local recycling programs as it limited the types of plastics that could be accepted in recycling programs. Ultimately the ideal solution in this scenario is creating local markets, or moving to a zero waste community and supporting a transition to a circular economy. Municipalities are not able to deal with their plastic waste and often it is sent to the landfill because there is no other way to deal with the waste that is currently building up across Canada. With work, the community can support the move to zero waste, while also considering the needs of those who require tools like plastic straws or other typically disposable items.

Producer responsibility will help with the recycling-related issues but this does not address food waste or organics going to the landfill and producing methane emissions. It's important to realize that as more people move into the community, the more waste is expected to increase. This creates an opportunity for municipalities to develop new and innovative programs that help divert waste from landfills.

### Action 1: Implement a Waste Management Master Plan

The development and implementation of a Waste Management Master Plan will specifically help to target and plan for waste related changes and projects into the coming years in each municipality. This plan helps to set targets for waste diversion and waste reduction, which are both crucial in reducing the waste that goes into the landfill. Landfills are known to emit greenhouse gases due to the organic waste (food, leaf and yard waste) that is often sent to the landfill where it breaks down and releases methane. The ideal goal of the waste management plan should be to focus on ways that the municipalities can reach zero waste and implement a circular economy.

By reviewing this document every year, the municipalities can explore opportunities to assist residents in reducing their waste, therefore reducing emissions associated with this sector. By committing to review resources and opportunities every year, it will allow the community to be leaders in ambitious and innovative approaches to waste management and reduction. Priorities within the Province and the Country are changing and targets for waste minimization are increasing in their ambition, therefore municipalities need to be ready for the upcoming changes.

As the community continues to grow, and more variations of multi-residential buildings are put up, it will be important to ensure that those living in multi-residential buildings have the opportunity to participate in the waste diversion programs. This will also offer the opportunity to explore options for those living in multi-residential buildings, who often are left out of conversations surrounding organics programs. Often, this is an area where many have to throw their food waste into the garbage and send it to the local landfill, but if there is an alternative composting option that works for small units, then this should be explored. Multi-residential buildings are known to often be excluded from municipal waste diversion programs due to the difficulty of monitoring and implementation, and how contracts work on private properties. This plan will need to ensure inclusive and comprehensive education is offered to all residents.

This plan should also focus on how to support producer responsibility to ensure that all waste entering the municipality is properly disposed of and not simply sent to the landfill. The municipalities and County can advocate for broad implementation of a producer responsibility program, which will ensure local residents have the opportunity to buy better made or packaged products that are less wasteful.

## Action 2: Implement an Organics Program

An organics program can look different for every municipality. Knowing that the City of Stratford has implemented a new green bin program and watching the success of diversion, and ultimately lowering the emissions associated with their landfilled waste, it only makes sense for those municipalities still sending organics to their landfill to implement solutions that their residents can easily use. Landfills release emissions due to organic materials being sent to the landfill by residents. Therefore it is important for each municipality to encourage and measure the success of their diversion programs, like an organics program.

The City of Stratford implemented a new organics green bin program in early 2020, with the plan to move forward on the development of a renewable natural gas facility. Regular monitoring in Stratford is being done on the diversion of organic waste, which will significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions coming from Stratford's landfill long term. It is expected that through Stratford's implementation of an organics program that emissions related to waste will decrease substantially, moving closer to the reduction target.

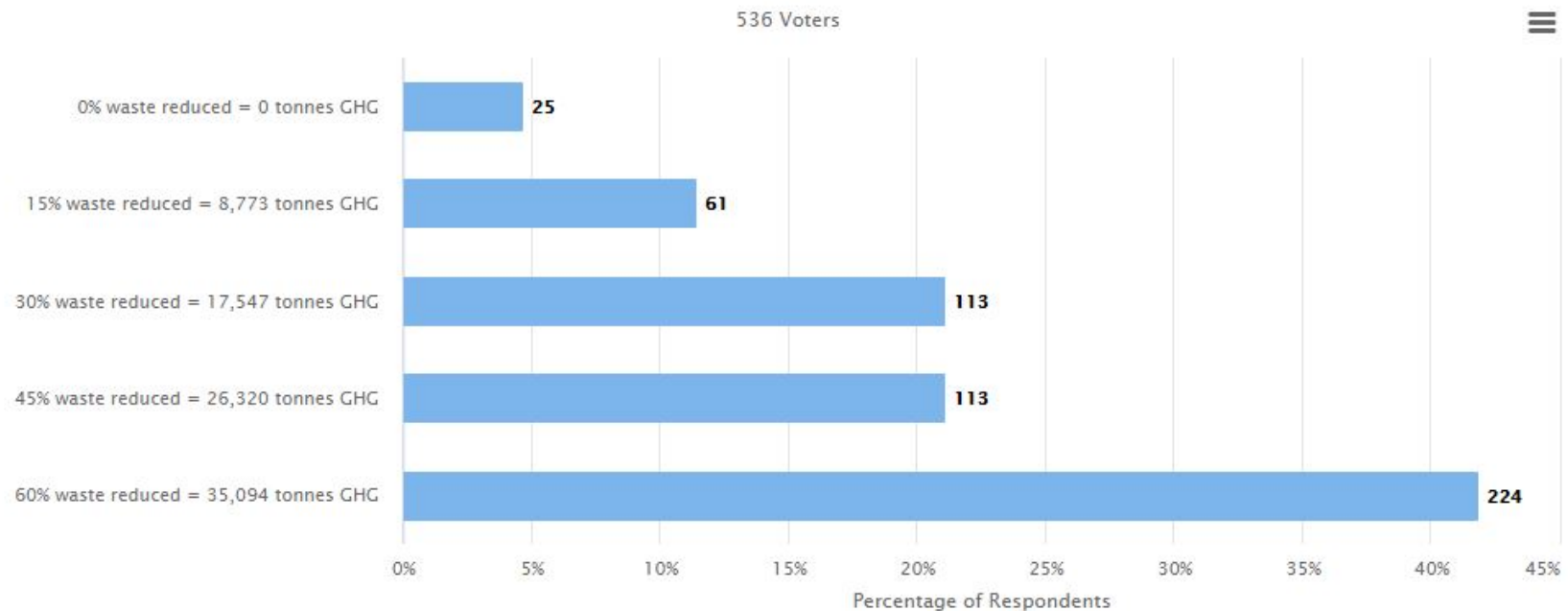
As new residents continue moving into the county, expectations for organics programs continue to mount. There has been an increase in residents moving from larger surrounding cities that already have organics programs implemented, and they look for that continued program in their new home, as there is an understanding of the benefits and they have chosen to make it part of their everyday habits. The implementation of a program like this will also help the community move towards a goal of becoming zero waste. As organics programs become more and more popular, there are many more options available to tailor to the diverse needs within each municipality.

This can either be a county-wide initiative, where municipalities work together to implement a successful organics program, or the municipalities can independently assess the feasibility of an organics program within their own municipal boundaries. If a county-wide approach is taken, a larger organics facility could be explored, where organic material collected throughout the County is taken to a local facility, and compost could be created through this process and given back to residents and the local farmers to encourage a cyclical approach to local waste disposal. Further exploration of this type of facility is needed, and a feasibility study can be completed to assess the effectiveness of this type of program. Individual municipal options vary greatly, and can still offer the same cyclical understanding of food waste. There are new technology options available that allow individuals to create their own nutrient-rich soil

amendments that they can use at their own homes, in their own gardens, or this at home product can be picked up or dropped off at a facility for bulk processing<sup>29</sup>.

Another opportunity is to explore partnerships with local farmers who already use their own organic waste on their own property. This could be another opportunity to produce biogas at a local level, developing a cleaner grid and also supporting the development of the local economy. Mixing manure and food waste in a co-digester is known to increase the production of methane, and be a more stable process than using just food waste in a digester to create bio-gas<sup>30</sup>. This is known to be a more efficient method and should be further explored with the local agriculture community to further gauge possible partnerships and interest in this type of project.

#### How much do you think our county can and should increase composting?



<sup>29</sup> Food Cyler (2021) Food Cyler. Retrieved from: <https://www.foodcycler.com/>

<sup>30</sup> <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-017-15784-w>



Goal: Reduce waste going to landfill to become a Zero Waste community

Action	Timeline	Cost	Indicators of Success
Develop and Implement a Waste Management Master Plan	Ongoing	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Implementation and support of plan</li><li>• Regular updates based on shifting priorities and goals</li></ul>
Implement an Organics Program	Medium-term	Mid to high (grants, funding and partnerships available)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reducing the organics going to landfill</li></ul>

## Natural Environment

While it is first and foremost important to reduce the emissions by ending the burning of fossil fuels, it will also be important to sequester the emissions already released in the community and work to sequester emissions that just cannot be stopped yet. The environment and the biodiversity within the County is important to preserve, and also to restore. It is common practice for people to remove the naturally growing native species of plants to put in lawns, or more traditional flower gardens, however, these native species are meant to grow in our local climates, they are meant to be resilient and ensure strong biodiversity across the county. Society needs to learn to listen to the Earth and understand what it needs to prosper. Taking on a more holistic lens will be important moving forward on climate actions.

There are many projects that could be implemented across the region to increase naturalization and sequestration opportunities. Planting and re-naturalizing have many co-benefits. For example, when planting next to rivers and lakes, this helps to stop the banks from eroding as the soil quality improves in those areas due to a strong root system, this also helps reduce nutrient runoff from agricultural lands which are known to add high levels of phosphorus and metals, which can sometimes lead to water contamination issues. This will also help to keep rivers and lakes cool, which also leads to increased dissolved oxygen levels in the water which is important for aquatic animals and habitats to thrive. Naturalizing is also an effective way to implement flood risk management, with increased root systems throughout the municipalities, this significantly reduces the risks associated with flooding. Not only that, but naturalizing parks and municipally owned properties also leads to reduced lawn maintenance. That leads to less mowing, which means less fossil fuel burning equipment for municipalities.

Other opportunities for planting projects could be related to community gardens. A community garden is a great way to not only help in sequestering emissions, but also a great way to build community, improve access to food, improve local intake of fruits and vegetables, and reduces health risks through increased activities and access to fresh produce. This is a great opportunity to allow those who are lower income to have improved access to fresh produce. There are so many more benefits related to how the community feels as well, it helps to improve mental health and promotes relaxation in caring for this space. This type of project also encourages useful ways to fill vacant land in the municipality.

The local Conservation Authorities advocate for another type of natural or green infrastructure, which is a Low Impact Development (LID). These are defined as being systems or practices that tend to mimic natural processes and lead to infiltration, or evapotranspiration. They can also use stormwater, which assists in protecting water quality and the aquatic habitat. There are a few LIDs around the municipalities, typically seen in the form of stormwater ponds. Examples of LIDs that can be put on private property

or in parks around the municipality could be in forms of rain gardens, permeable pavement or rainwater catchment systems. LIDs are known to help increase property value, and are known to lower costs associated with government clean-ups after flood events.

Not only will this help to reduce the cost of clean up, increase property value, but it also helps to improve mental health and wellness. Increasing the number of plants throughout the community helps them to be more beautiful and appealing to live in, which also encourages an increase in local property value. Increasing naturalization across the county will benefit everyone, the environment, and native species.

### Action 1: Decrease lawn cutting and maintenance by increasing naturalization projects and planting projects on public and private spaces

In parks across the county, the main form of vegetation is grass. Grass requires a lot of maintenance like mowing, which burns a substantial amount of fossil fuels per year. A quick way to reduce the lawn maintenance is to move towards implementing naturalization projects in public parks. This would help municipalities reduce their costs associated with lawn maintenance practices and begin to put a focus on ways to continue to beautify and naturalize more of the municipality. It allows opportunity for education as well, as it showcases what kind of plants and species are native to the local area, and can showcase biodiversity and natural ecosystems. Naturalization projects can often be assisted by local schools to encourage a deeper connection to the environment and allows an opportunity to teach about biodiversity and land use. The naturalization of spaces is important as it allows for the natural and native biodiversity and ecosystems in the community to return and thrive. Ecosystems and biodiversity are incredibly important and have intrinsic value, as they provide ecological life support, provide clean air and water and many other ecosystem services. Biodiversity also provides local resiliency and allows for quick recovery in cases of a variety of disasters, such as flooding for example.

### Action 2: Partner on a tree management and resilience plan to increase canopy coverage

Canopy coverage across the county is known to be low. This raises concerns for municipalities because of the many issues with low levels of green space and trees and the associated socioeconomic and environmental impacts that come along with a lack of natural space. The natural habitat of southern Ontario is a more naturalized, wooded, swamp/marshland, so increasing canopy coverage and protecting naturalized land is very important for local biodiversity and ecosystems. Trees help to improve local air quality by removing carbon, they improve soil quality by adding nutrients into the ground, they help in replenishing groundwater, they provide natural fertilizer and habitat through the loss of their leaves and needles, and improve the well-being of the local community.

The municipalities have their own tree planting programs, but forested areas have not been actively protected, and canopy coverage has not grown. Priorities should be on preservation of forested land and protecting trees and growth throughout the municipalities, while also continuing to plant new but native species of trees. Municipalities should partner together to create an overarching goal of canopy coverage, and work together on developing bylaws for protecting trees. Exploration of a local private tree by-law should also be done to protect native species on private land.

This program needs to ensure that native species are only considered for planting, and there is a management program for trees that are diseased. This should be consistent across the county.

### Action 3: Develop more LIDs throughout municipalities and on municipal property

A way for municipalities and the county to increase local resiliency and sequestration is through the development of more low impact development (LID) projects. LIDs can vary greatly in project types, but are known to be a land use planning and engineered design to manage storm water runoff. LIDs can be small projects that residents can have on their properties, or can be larger projects that the municipalities or the County can invest in. Working with the local Conservation Authorities on locations and best practices for increased LID projects is a crucial partnership to maintain. LIDs not only help to increase the local community's resiliency to climate change impacts by reducing risks associated with flooding, they usually help to increase sequestration, particularly when implementing LIDs like rain gardens, but they also help to benefit the municipality and county in other ways as well. Other benefits from LIDs are things like infrastructure savings, improved tourism and recreation opportunities, reduced heat-island effect, and increased public health, livability and walkable communities<sup>31</sup>. In the neighbouring Region of Waterloo, an organization called Reep Green Solutions, which is an environmental not-for-profit, helps local residents put rain gardens on their properties to increase local resiliency and beautify neighbourhoods.

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<sup>31</sup> City of Hamilton (2017) Low Impact Development (LID) – Stormwater Management. Retrieved from: <https://www.hamilton.ca/home-property-and-development/water-sewer/low-impact-development-lid-stormwater-management>

Goal: Preserve and improve natural ecosystems and assets

Action	Timeline	Cost	Indicators of Success
Increase naturalization projects	Ongoing	Mid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increased naturalized spaces</li><li>• Increased number of native species</li></ul>
Increase canopy coverage	Ongoing	Mid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Higher percentage of canopy coverage across the county</li></ul>
Develop more LIDs	Ongoing	Mid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increased number of LIDs</li></ul>

## Agriculture

Agriculture is a large part of the local economy and culture of the county. In 2016, there were approximately 2,231 farms with a total of approximately 518,023 acres, this sector produced over \$838 million in cash farm receipts.<sup>32</sup> Agricultural land has decreased across the province due to increased urbanization, which continues to increase this sector's vulnerability.

Farmers are known to be environmental stewards because of their reliance on the environment and climate for success of their business. The agri-business sector has had to adapt and change their practices to be more resilient to adjust to the changing climate. Technology associated with this sector has also seen substantial improvements which has also led to a reduction in emissions.

Climate change creates not only risks for the agricultural community, but also opportunities. It is well-known that increasing temperatures means a longer growing period, however this also leads to risks of water stress due to increased risk of flooding and drought. Increased temperatures may lead to longer growing seasons, but this can also mean problems for those who have livestock. Livestock, such as chickens and cattle can be very sensitive to temperature changes, which ultimately can impact the bottom line of many farmers, and risk the well-being of the livestock. The agri-business sector in Perth County will have to explore more adaptive measures to ensure their resiliency. Adaptive measures that are currently in place, are things such as crop selection, and soil and water management, all of which have helped many farms in the area in the past. However, more measures will need to be explored as the climate continues to change. The agricultural community has continued to adapt their best management practices and will need to do so to promote enhanced production, resiliency and efficient use of their resources.

This community will be an imperative part in the fight against climate change. Farmers are already taking action through best management practices like reduced tillage, expanding their crop rotations, planting cover crops and reintegrating livestock into crop production systems. These and many other best management practices, currently being done across the county, are known to reduce emissions associated with agriculture practices that burn fossil fuels, but also help to improve soil health, and increase the ability to grow food locally into the future. These practices also help to sequester emissions from other industries as well. It is important for the municipalities and the County to gain a better understanding of the current efforts going on within the county so that measurements on sequestration can be done.

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<sup>32</sup> Perth County (2017) Perth County Community Profile. Retrieved from: <https://www.perthcounty.ca/en/doing-business/resources/files/Accessibility-Update--Edited-PDFS/Business/Perth-County-Community-Profile---accessibility.pdf>

Another opportunity that the agriculture community presents is the increasing feasibility and ease of using methane capture systems and using the biogas to generate energy and electricity. Currently, across the US, there are many farmers who utilize methane capture systems, such as digesters, and it is widely recognized as efficient, effective and even revenue-generating for farmers. With the right partnerships, the agricultural sector can more easily explore digester usage as a feasible option. Digesters are known to be costly, but there are many businesses in the US that partner with farmers to assist them with projects like this. They help supplement the upfront costs and find funding opportunities for farmers to have greater access to implementing these types of emission reducing and energy producing projects. This creates an opportunity within the county to utilize the strong livestock sectors to generate electricity in a way that is considered to not have emissions associated with it, referred to as a biogas. Biogas is considered to be a carbon-neutral gas, but only if it is captured and used for energy sources.

Over the coming years, more funding opportunities will arise as Canada's ambitions to become Net Zero continue. It is expected that an increase in resources and funding will be available to help support the agriculture community continue to be leaders in climate change actions.

It is important to note that agriculture emissions and the calculations associated with them have high levels of uncertainty, as there are many variables to consider, for example, how livestock plays a role in the natural carbon cycle, if a farm tills or does not, the type of crops that are grown or if cover crops are used, and the list goes on. Continued research on the differences between biogenic methane and fossil fuel produced methane is being done, and how biogenic methane is viewed as cyclical, while fossil fuel methane is a one way trip to increased emissions and climate impacts<sup>33</sup>. This is why the emission total is not included in the main inventory. More data collection on the local level needs to be done to understand the level of sequestration the farming community already does. It is also crucial that the focus be on the fossil fuel consumption of the community first and foremost, while supporting the agriculture community in assisting with sequestration efforts.

This community has shown that they are capable of making the necessary changes to increase resiliency while ensuring the viability of their business. However, it is important to offer further support if they are also expected to take on more action across the county to help with increased sequestration. These actions will help the agricultural community reduce their emissions related to fossil fuel burning, while also increasing their capacity in sequestering emissions from other sectors' fossil fuel burning sources.

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<sup>33</sup>AgriLand (2020) Latest science on methane emissions 'ignored' by media – Dr. Mitloehner. Retrieved from: <https://www.agriland.ie/farming-news/latest-science-on-methane-emissions-ignored-by-media-dr-mitloehner/>



### Action 1: Develop a Perth County Clean Water Project

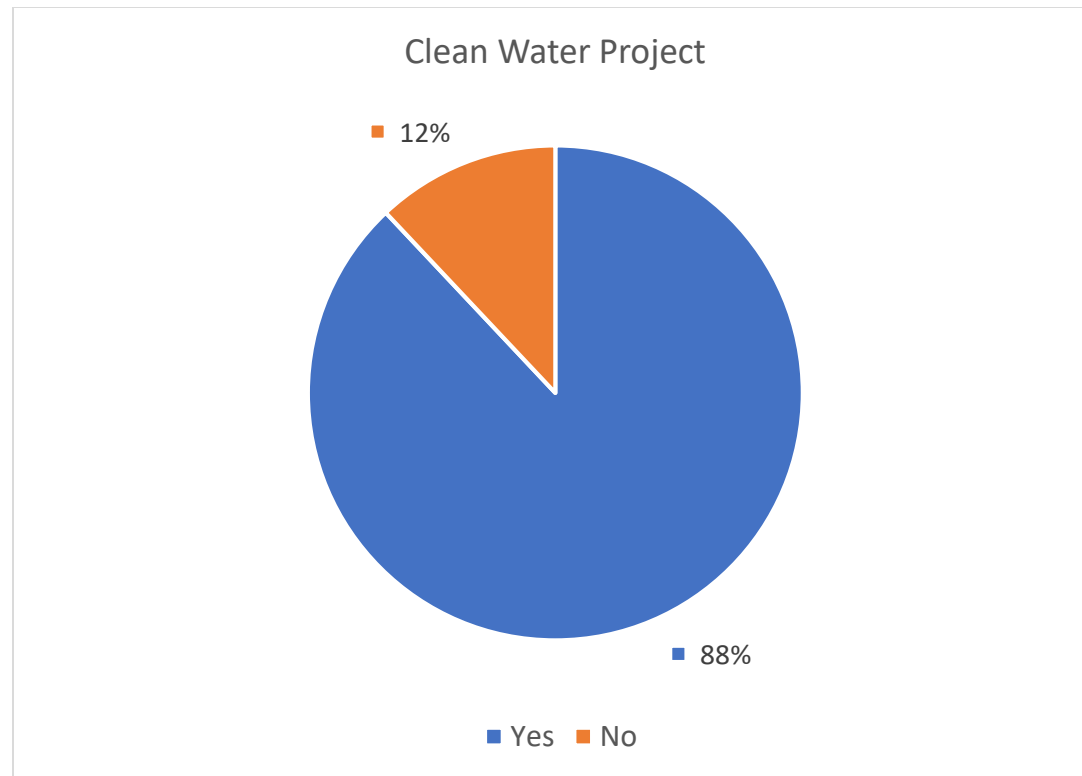
Currently, across Ontario there are a number of programs in place to ensure the farming community has access to funding and resources to implement resiliency projects, projects that reduce runoff and in turn improve local water quality. These programs are offered through partnerships with the local Conservation Authorities and the municipalities or the County. There is currently a clean water program that is strictly offered by the local conservation authorities in Perth County, but there is an opportunity for the County and municipalities to take action and help to offer greater support to this sector.

The neighbouring Counties of Huron, Wellington and Dufferin, have developed and successfully implemented their own Clean Water Projects in partnership with their local Conservation Authorities. They have seen many successful projects, such as tree planting programs, windbreaks, upgraded wells, decommissioning of unused wells, decommissioning of liquid manure storage, erosion control projects, Forest Management Plans, livestock restriction fences around streams, and cover crop plantings. These programs offers financial and technical assistance to implement successful projects.

Projects that are being considered in Perth County should be reviewed and assessed with the local Conservation Authorities, and the farmers living within the County. These projects will not only ensure long term resiliency of the agricultural community within Perth, but will also help to remove greenhouse gases and improve the agri-business community, economically. These projects also help to ensure that the community will have long term food-security.

This is a program that is reliant on farmers to move forward and implement on their properties, so collaboration and consultation will be necessary for effective development and implementation. Developing a stakeholder group on how this could be successfully developed and implemented will be necessary to meet the needs of local farmers.

The Clean Water Project will work with the Conservation Authorities and the local farming community to maximize the local best management practices to implement successful sequestration and resiliency projects. The local Conservation Authorities have many resources and knowledge to share to support these agriculture best management practices, and the local farming community also has the resources and knowledge to put these practices into action in the most impactful manner.



*Figure 5 Survey responses for the development of the Perth County Clean Water Project*

## Action 2: Form an Agriculture Committee

To ensure the successful development and progression of the Clean Water Project, and any future agriculture-related programs or policies, it is important to develop an agriculture committee. There are many benefits associated with the development of this committee. Benefits include an increase in information and data sharing to better understand the work already being done within the agriculture community to sequester emissions, an increase in programs and policies to support this part of the local economy, an increase in the number of farms being able to participate in best management practices that increase carbon sequestration and improve soil health, providing resiliency to the farming community against climate change impacts, and an increased likelihood of government support and funding. Understanding the local needs of the agricultural community will ensure long term food security, long term economic success and improved relationships and partnerships. There is a vast wealth of knowledge of environmental best practices that the farming community has, and allowing the opportunity to use that knowledge and support its successful implementation will not only help the local economy, but will also help in ensuring resiliency of this important local sector. Perth County relies on the success of their farmers, and involving them in this type of work within the community is incredibly critical to long term success and economic stability. The agricultural community is part of the solution, and should be actively involved and consulted.

Goal: Support local Agriculture resiliency and mitigation projects

Action	Timeline	Cost	Indicators of Success
Develop a Perth County Clean Water Project	Ongoing	Mid to high Assess and split between municipalities, County and Conservation Authorities <i>Assess yearly</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buy-in from local farmers</li> <li>• Use of the program</li> </ul>
Form an Agricultural Committee	Ongoing	No cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local farmers joining</li> <li>• Shared data and information on local best practices</li> <li>• Increased resiliency and lowering risk to local farmers</li> </ul>

## Reduction Target

The minimum reduction target that should be achieved by 2030, is 10% below the 2017 baseline year. This reduction target was set in consideration of the Paris Agreement targets and goals.

Based on the results of the survey, the community is supportive of a 30% reduction target for 2030 (based on the 2017 baseline emissions). This is an ambitious target, and will require strong community involvement and support from community leaders if the community plans to actively work to achieve this target by 2030.

Long term targets need to be assessed and set as progress is made towards the initial greenhouse gas reduction target.

The ideal long term target is to reach Net Zero by or before 2050, to help in ensuring the global target of not surpassing 1.5°C.

Exploration of developing a Carbon Budget would be a good next step to assess the rate at which the partners should be reducing their emissions to the 2050 target, with interim targets set between. This will ensure an equitable approach to reducing emissions across the county.

## Implementation Strategies

This greenhouse gas reduction plan was created to guide each municipality and the County, as well as their communities to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and create a healthier and prosperous place to live. There are many steps involved with successful implementation of this plan, and will need strong collaborative relationships in order to be successful.

## Governance

This plan is intended to be a support for the community to lead in climate action, and led by the municipalities. This implementation strategy will allow the municipalities and the County to be leaders in the climate actions, while also allowing for shared responsibility of implementation. It will be important to leverage the capacity, knowledge and capital of the community for any strategies that are beyond what the municipality or the County can be responsible for.

## Council

Council is responsible for the approval and adoption the plan. Council will also be responsible for approval of future annual work plans as they are developed. Members of Council should also be included in the review of future work plans to provide feedback based on local needs and priorities.

### External Working Group

A working group should be formed to assist in the continued implementation of projects and goals. This group should include individuals from those that will play key roles in implementation of the plan's strategies. These could include members from staff, conservation authorities, utility companies, members from the school board, members from any municipal environmental committees, members from the OFA, OMAFRA and the Perth County Federation of Agriculture, Builders Associations, Rotary Clubs and many other local stakeholder organizations, and should also welcome those members of the general public who are interested in local climate change action. The working group should be facilitated by the climate change staff to ensure realistic and achievable work plans are formulated, and actions for the year work synergistically. The climate change staff will also have a better understanding of funding availability and can therefore assist further in the implementation.

This group should meet periodically throughout the year to develop their work plan for the year and to report on the progress that they are making. It is anticipated that at minimum, this group should meet twice a year, however to start the steps towards successful implementation, meetings should be more frequent to establish clear goals and a work plan for the coming year.

It will also be important to form working groups for many of the separate actions throughout the plan, because implementation will be made easier with groups of relevant stakeholders for those actions. As implementation moves forward, this can be assessed on an action by action basis depending on the needs associated with it. This decision to form smaller and separate working groups should be collaboratively decided based on the actions being implemented year by year by the working group.

### Internal Working Group

Each municipality and the county should organize an internal working group. People in this group should be from the Public Works, Finance and Asset Management, Parks and Recreation, Building and Planning, and Transit/Transportation departments, or any other individuals within the municipality that are interested in working on ways to reduce municipal and county energy consumption and reduce GHG emissions. This group should be working to be champions for the Conservation and Demand Management plans, and should work on reducing municipal energy consumption. The CAO should also be a member in this group, and should champion the movement to reduce corporate energy and emissions.

### *Climate Change Staff*

To ensure success in the implementation of the plan and ensure future iterations of the climate change plan, it is recommended that new climate focused positions be put in place across the partners. It is recommended that three new positions be created to maintain and ensure climate actions are continuing into the future across the county. The scope of the work across the municipalities is large, and will therefore need resources to ensure success. The extra staff members may not be necessary for the first few years of implementation, but will be necessary for long term success and commitment in ensuring a climate-ready community. Performing a cost-benefit analysis as the plan moves forward into implementation will be necessary to evaluate when to bring in a larger team, and developing a business plan and case around these roles should be developed. These roles can and should be shared amongst the partnering communities to ensure broad and successful implementation while keeping costs at a manageable and low level.

### *Climate Change Coordinator*

The Climate Change Coordinator will be the lead staff member on climate change projects. They will ensure that the Engagement Coordinator and the Energy Manager are moving forward in their actions and projects, and will be in charge of setting scope and goals for each municipality and the County. This role will also be the collaborative point of contact between the Engagement Coordinator and Energy Manager, and will ensure corporate and community plans are organized and completed in a comprehensive and interconnected manner. This position will be in charge of the main interactions with decision makers and presenting plans and updates to Council, to ensure that progress is continuing.

The Climate Change Coordinator will be in charge of completing the community greenhouse gas inventories, and collecting data and submitting progress through the PCP Tool. They will be the lead on updating future iterations of the greenhouse gas reduction plan, and will also begin the process of developing an adaptation plan for each of the communities, and assess their vulnerability and each municipality and their assets with collaboration within each municipal department.

The Climate Change Coordinator will also be in charge of identifying funding opportunities for projects and plans to increase the likelihood of successful implementation. This role will also be required to work with the working groups and committees to communicate priorities, and provide updates on progress, and will be the key communicator for all climate work.

### *Engagement Coordinator*

The Engagement Coordinator is crucial for community and corporate plan development and implementation. Having a role to focus on engaging staff and community members in climate actions will ensure that climate change considerations are embedded and

considered in everyone's decisions and actions. This role will help to keep climate change action at the top of mind and will focus on ensuring equitable involvement for the community.

The Engagement Coordinator will be in charge of facilitating and leading working group meetings. This role will act as the main liaison between the general public and the climate change staff team. This position will also be in charge of developing outreach and education content with the public and staff to ensure thorough engagement and input is completed.

#### *Energy Manager*

The Energy Manager position is an important role for ensuring the assessment and completion of a corporate climate change plan. This role will assist in the integration of climate action into processes within the municipalities and the county.

The Energy Manager will focus on corporate emissions and assist in corporate decisions to reduce emissions in buildings and fleet. This position will be in charge of keeping track of the municipal and county corporate emissions, and completing the emissions inventories for each municipality and the County. The person in this role will be in charge of assessing corporate owned buildings and their efficiencies, and will provide recommendations on ways to decrease energy consumption and increase sustainability.

This role will have a strong understanding of building science and how energy systems work within buildings, to assist further in yearly reporting and internal energy saving and emission reducing actions.

#### *Importance of Partnerships*

With this greenhouse gas reduction plan having a focus on the community, it is important that the municipalities and the County rely on the expertise of external organizations to partner with to ensure successful implementation. Not every action relies solely on the role of the municipality, so it's important to identify key players that could take on lead roles in particular actions.

A list of partners should be thoroughly developed when moving forward on implementing actions. These partners could and should include:

- Conservation Authorities
- Enbridge
- HydroOne
- Festival Hydro



- Erth
- IESO
- Perth County Federation of Agriculture
- Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
- Ontario Soil and Crop Association
- Conestoga College
- University of Waterloo
- The Huron Perth Public Health Unit
- Environment and Energy Committee
- Trails, Forestry and Environment Committee
- Green Committee, etc.
- Building associations

#### Integrating with Business Plans and Budgets

Climate change impacts the way governing bodies can deliver services. Understanding that it takes time to integrate these strategies into the municipal and county plans and budgets, it will be important to identify those first few steps that can be implemented at no or low-cost, so implementation can begin right away. It is also important to identify those actions that need more budgeting so they can be prioritized to include in the upcoming budget cycles. It will be up to the municipalities, the County and other lead partners to identify the cost of strategies and actions proposed in this plan, as there may be funding and partnership opportunities to assist in implementation in the coming years.

#### Integrating Municipality, City & Township Plans and Policies

Municipal and County staff should take this opportunity to identify strategies on how to integrate this plan into their own plans, policies and initiatives. This could be seen in many facets:

- Reassessing procurement processes to understand GHG emissions and the climate risks associated with particular products, services and vendors, so that supply chains support the climate change objectives
- Adding low carbon, climate resiliency considerations and plans for any expansion of EV charging infrastructure development and development applications into Official Plans

- Integrate ecosystems and green infrastructure into Asset Management Plans
- Integrate climate risks and strategies into Emergency plans and procedures
- Incorporating climate change projections and any flood risks in the Stormwater Management planning
- Train staff on climate change and how it impacts their jobs and community

#### Potential Funding Avenues

Federation of Canadian Municipalities (Green Municipal Fund)

Canada Revenue Agency tax incentive for industrial investments in energy conservation and clean energy generation

Infrastructure Canada

IESO (Conservation Fund)

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

The Federal Canadian Industry Program for Energy Conservation

Federal Governments Climate Action Fund

EcoAction Community Funding Program (to partner with community groups/not-for-profits)

Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Funding Programs

#### Communication and Education

In order to ensure successful implementation occurs, it will be important to engage the communities (community groups, residents, visitors, staff members) in the climate change conversation, and how reducing impacts will help in improving their own and their community's well-being. Effectively communicating the benefits of climate action will ensure long-term success of implementation of projects and other future actions. It is important to continue to educate both the community and staff on how to decrease their impacts on the environment, and what kinds of risks will be associated with the changing climate.

The community should be actively involved in the conversation of this plan and the yearly planning goals for the continued implementation process of the plan. It is important to let the community know what kind of progress is being made on this plan and where targets will be set for future years.

## Reporting and Renewal

There will always be changes to governments, population growth projections and technological advances, so it is important to continue to update this plan to change with those variations. The plan should be renewed the year following a municipal election to ensure that new targets and actions can be developed for the following four years.

The plan's progress should be reported to Council by the External Working Group and their reporting process that they will have established. This progress report should indicate what has been done, and how these actions have assisted in GHG reductions, and what next steps will be taken to further reduce emissions.

The municipalities and the County should hold a yearly event surrounding the accomplished climate actions, and to celebrate the continued progress of the municipality/county and its community members. This would also offer opportunity for public input on future goals and actions for the following years.

All municipalities and the County should work together to make this a large community event to ensure everyone is included in celebrating progress and supporting future climate change actions. It is important to showcase how the communities are all connected and working together to create a healthier and more prosperous future. Individual municipalities may also host their own events to celebrate actions and to gather information directly related to their municipalities and their goals for reducing emissions and increasing resiliency.

## Municipal and County Emission Breakdown

Geographic Perth County

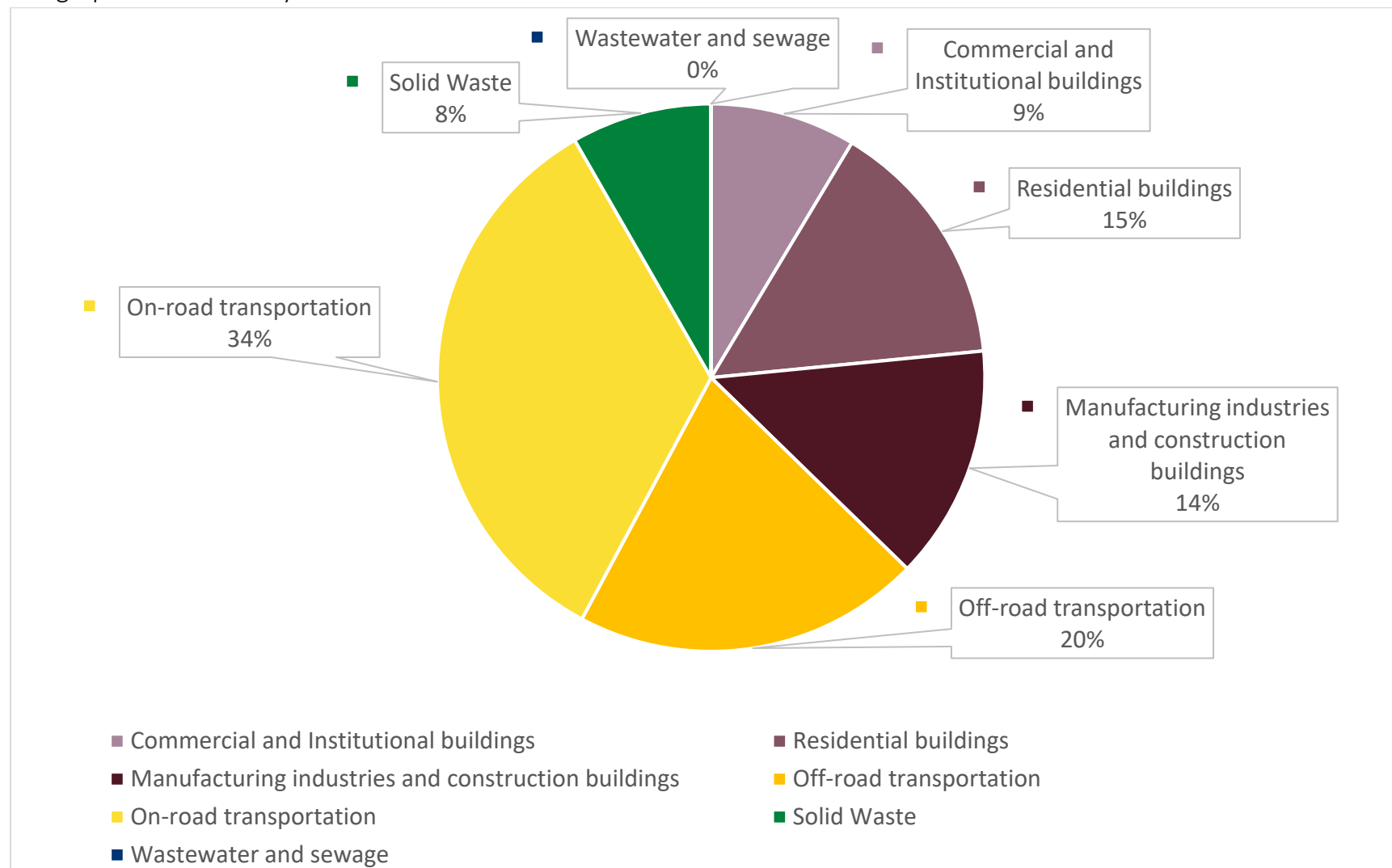
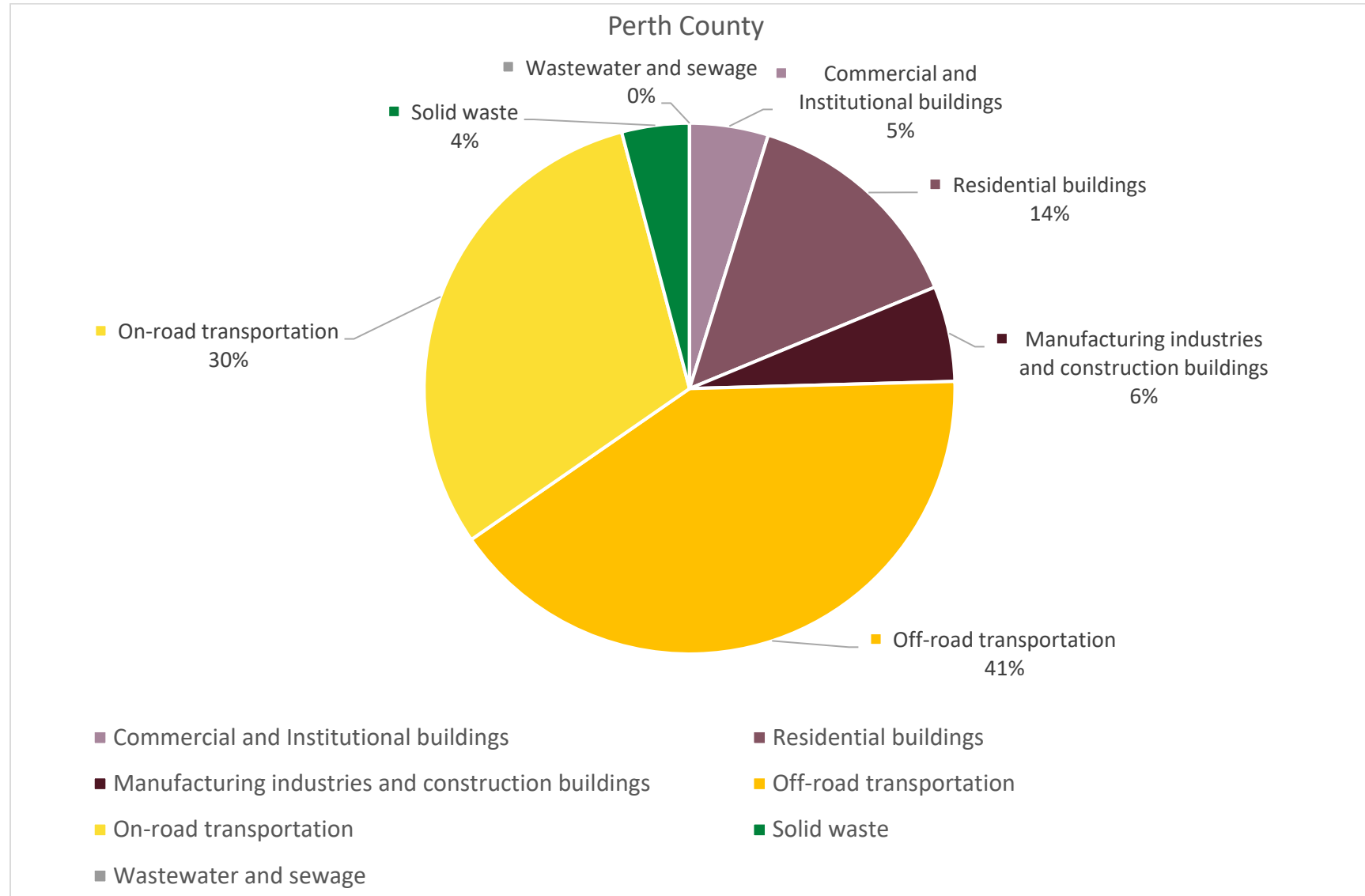
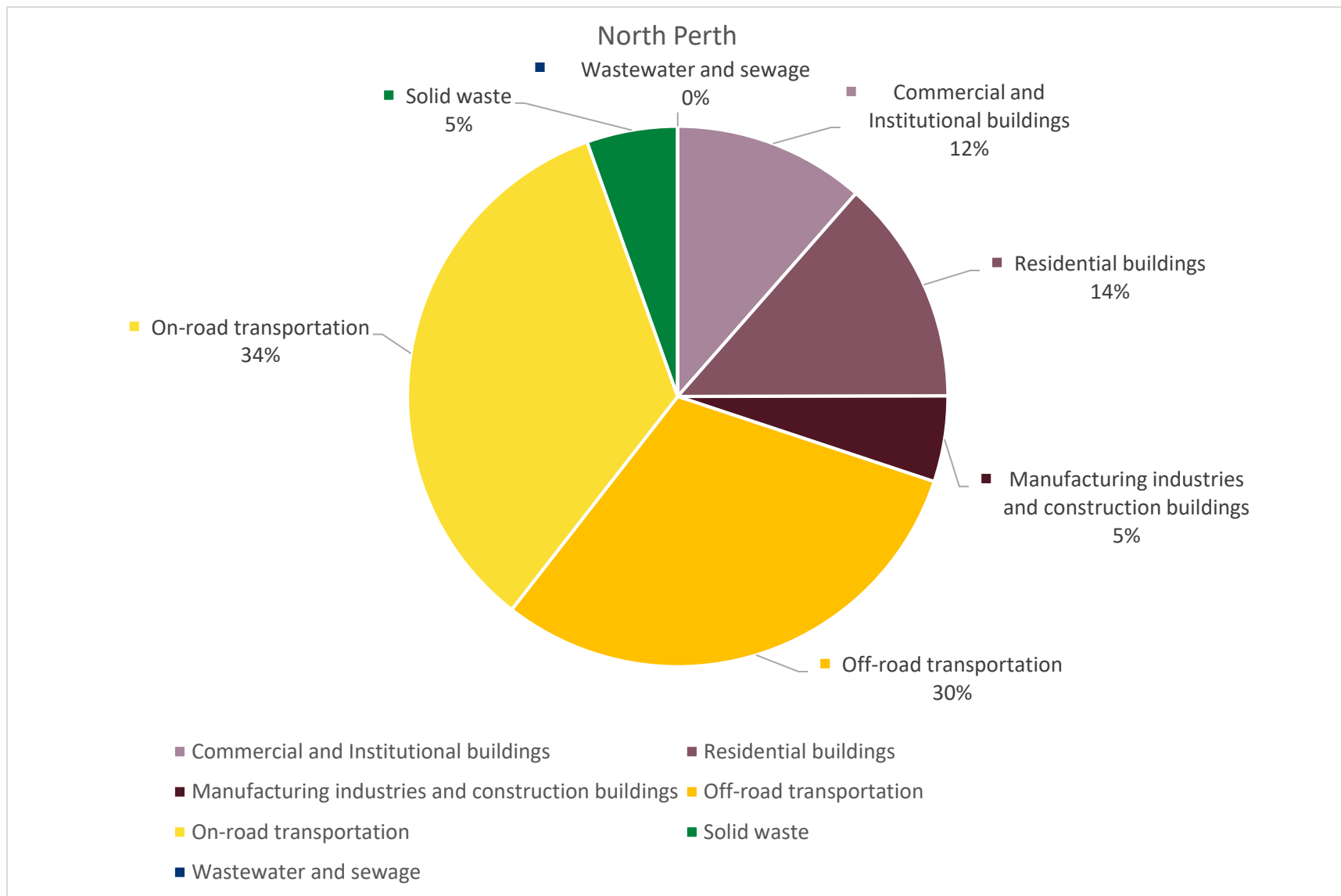


Figure 6 Regional Emission Contributions

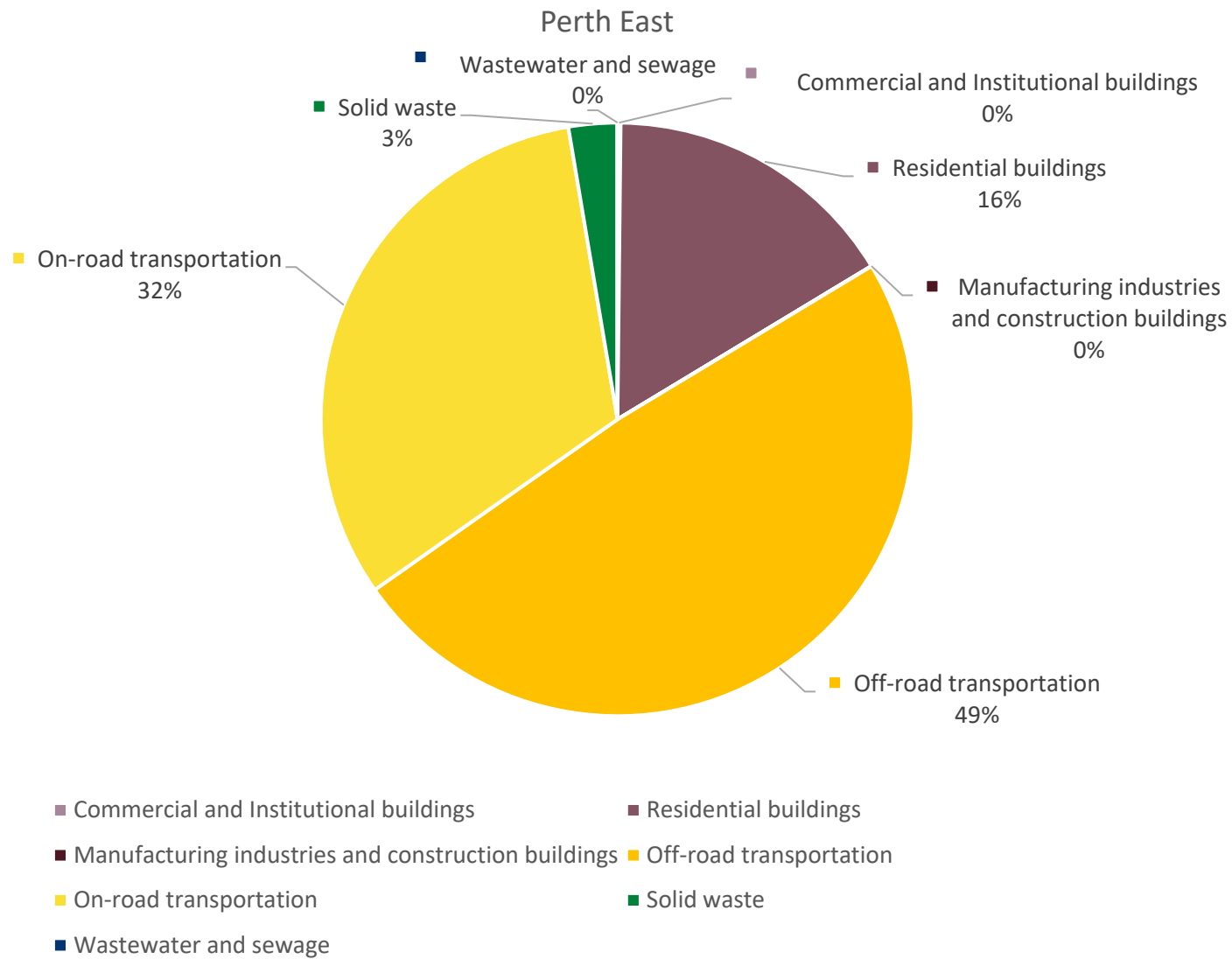
## Perth County



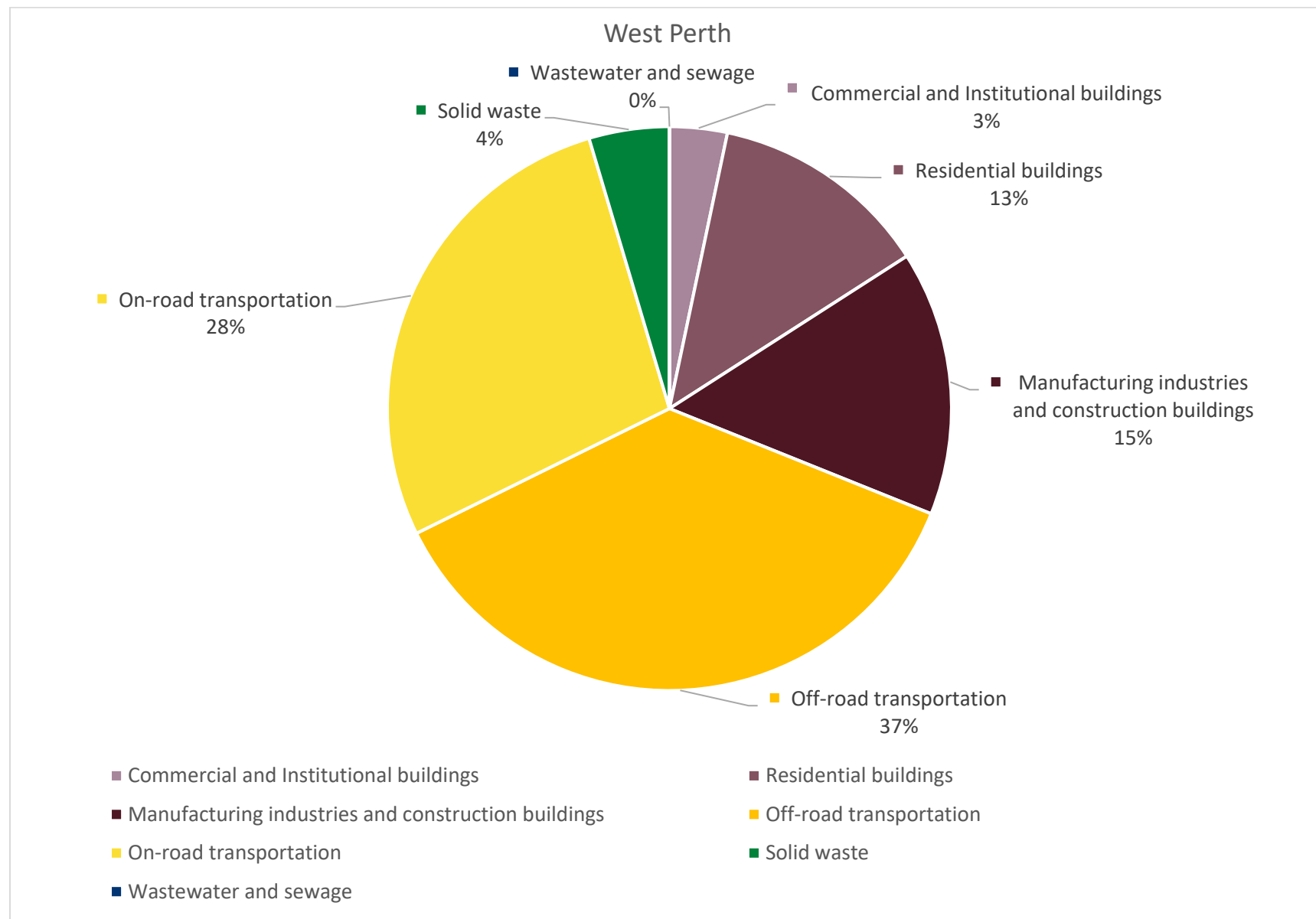
## North Perth



## Perth East

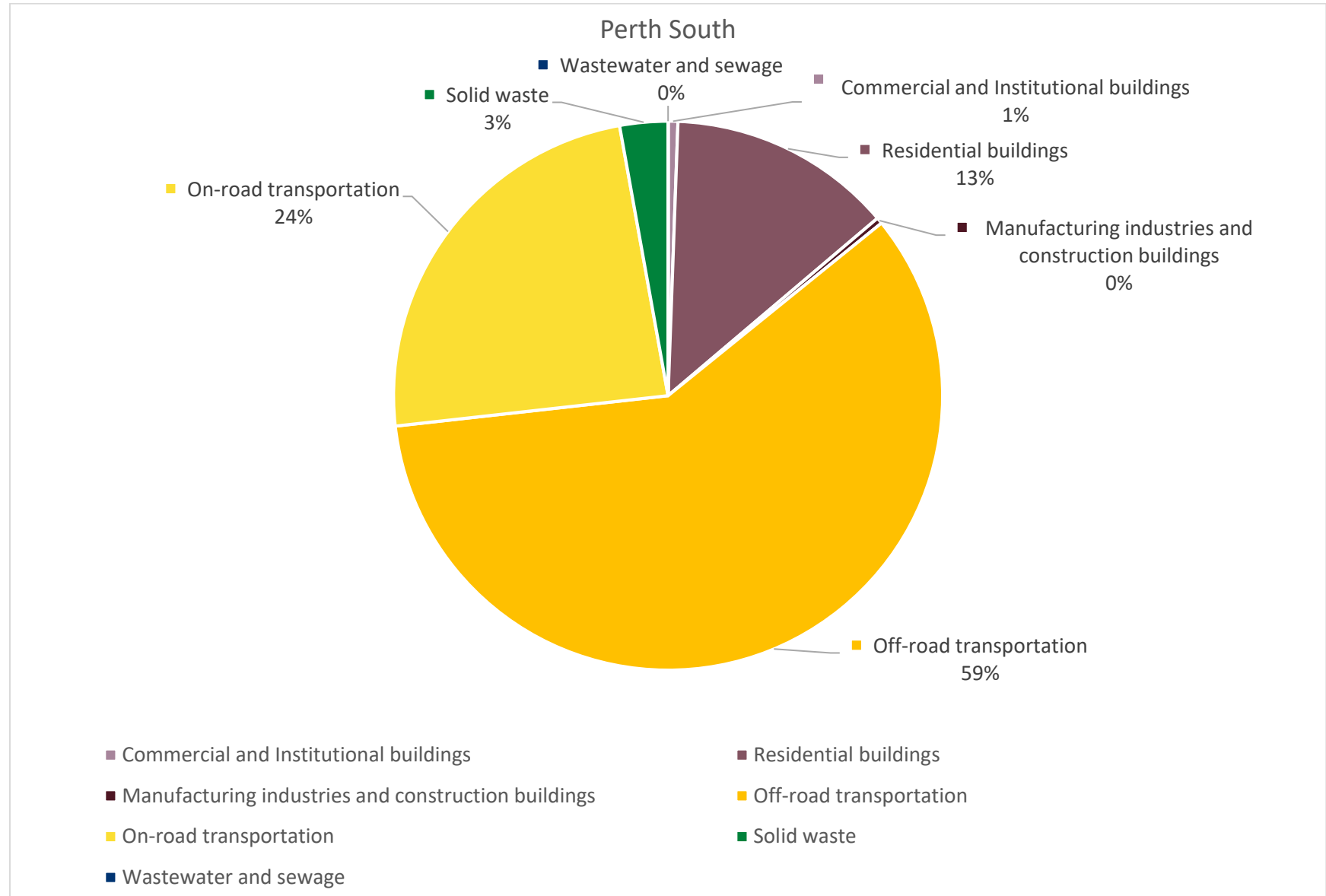


## West Perth

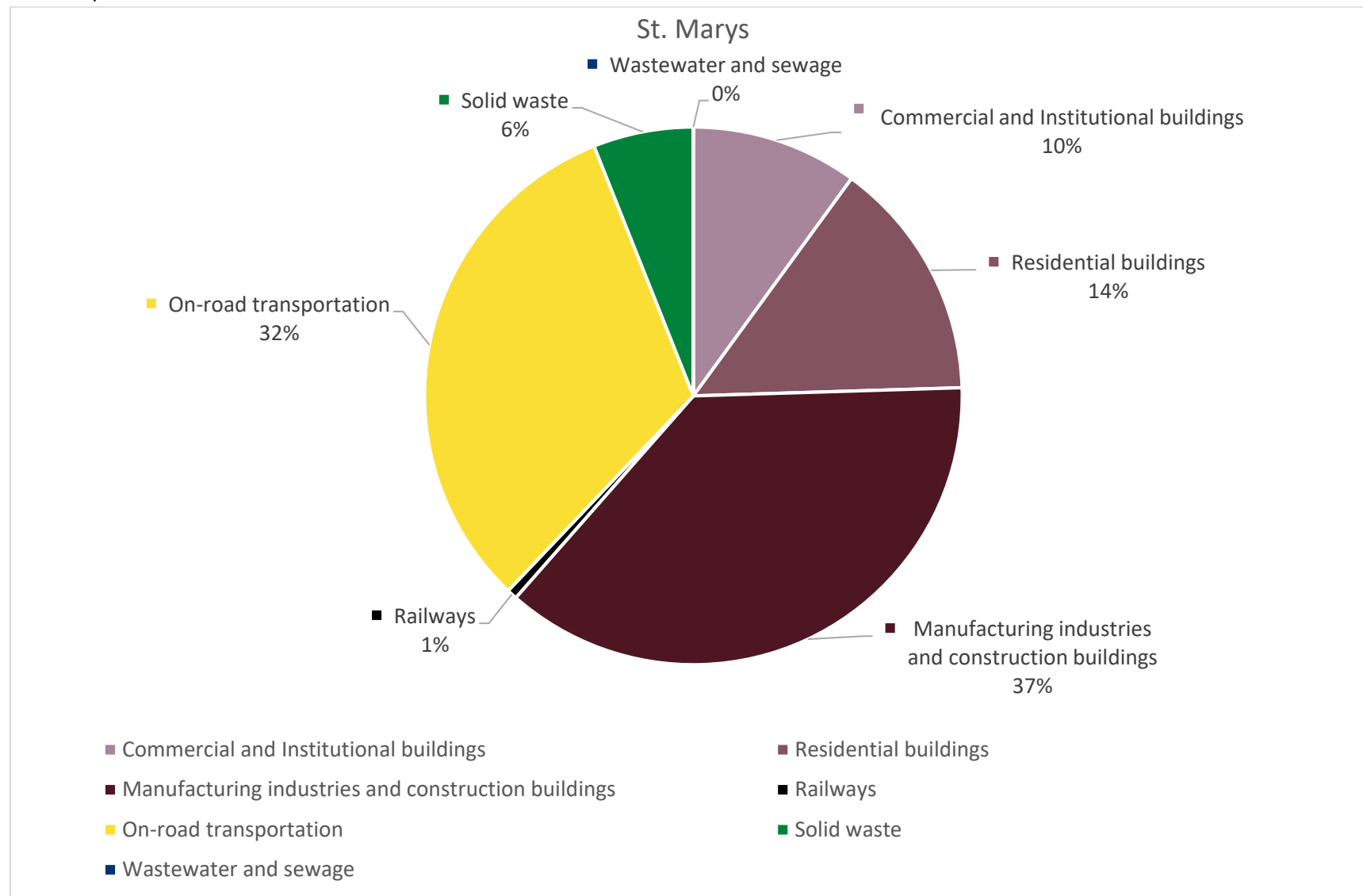


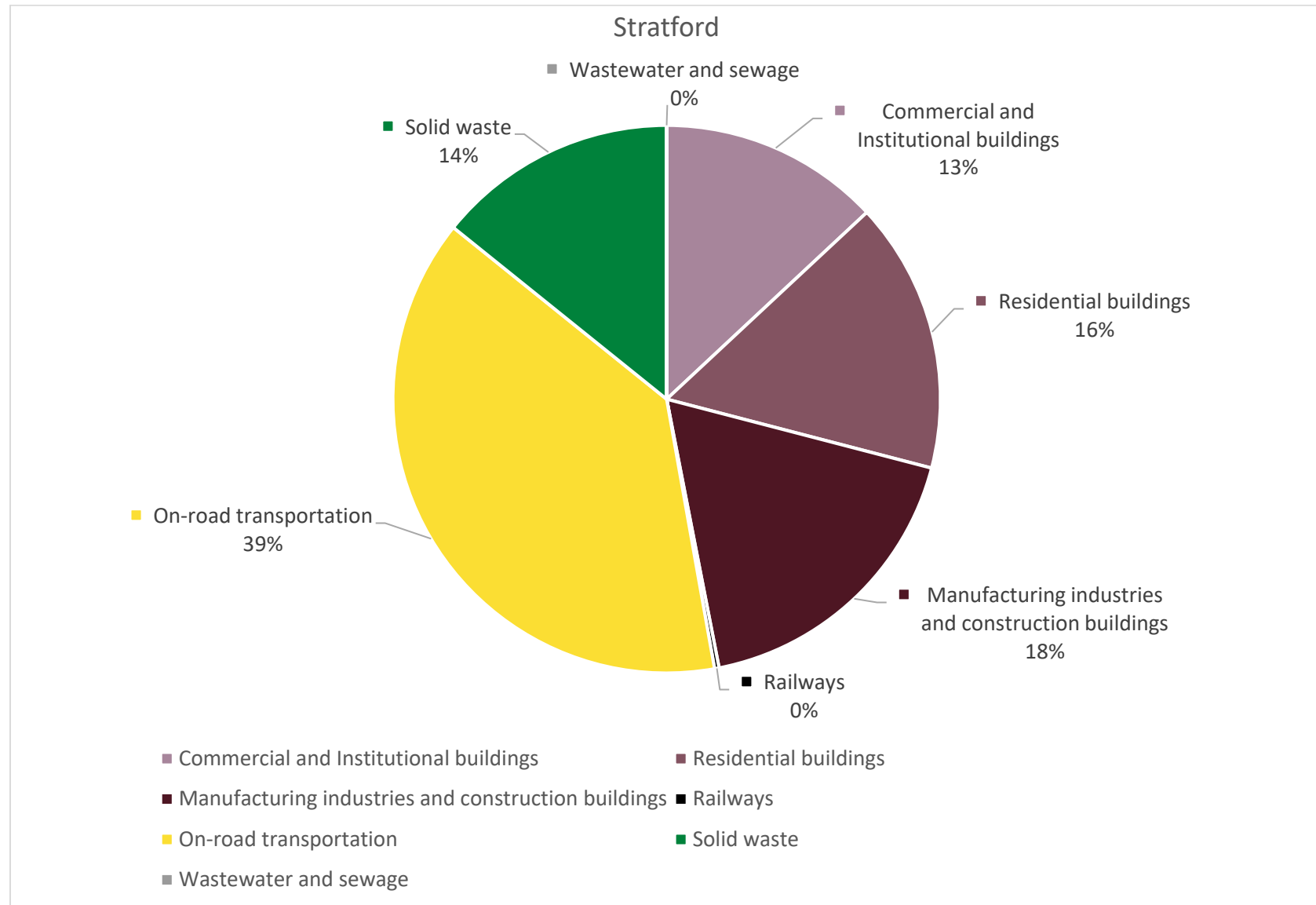


## Perth South



## St. Marys







## **MINUTES Special Council**

September 21, 2021  
6:00pm  
Town Hall, Council Chambers

Council Present: Mayor Strathdee (in-person)  
Councillor Craigmile (in-person)  
Councillor Edney (in-person)  
Councillor Hainer (in-person)  
Councillor Luna (in-person)  
Councillor Pridham (in-person)  
Councillor Winter (in-person)

Staff Present: **In-Person**  
Brent Kittmer, Chief Administrative Officer  
Jenna McCartney, Clerk  
**Conference Line**  
Grant Brouwer, Director of Building and Development  
Stephanie Ische, Director of Community Services  
Jed Kelly, Director of Public Works  
Lisa Lawrence, Director of Human Resources  
André Morin, Director of Corporate Services / Treasurer  
Dave Blake, Environmental Services Supervisor

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

Mayor Strathdee called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

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

None.

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

#### **Resolution 2021-09-21-01**

**Moved By** Councillor Edney

**Seconded By** Councillor Luna

**THAT** the delegation from St. Marys Social Tennis Club and the associated content within agenda item 5.1 be tabled.

**DEFEATED**

**Resolution 2021-09-21-02**

**Moved By** Councillor Craigmile

**Seconded By** Councillor Pridham

**THAT** the September 21, 2021 special meeting of Council agenda be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. DELEGATION**

**4.1 St. Marys Social Tennis Club**

Don Van Galen presented the delegation on behalf of the St. Marys Social Tennis Club.

**Resolution 2021-09-21-03**

**Moved By** Councillor Pridham

**Seconded By** Councillor Winter

**THAT** the delegation from St. Marys Social Tennis Club be received.

**CARRIED**

**5. SPECIAL MATTERS OF COUNCIL**

**5.1 ADMIN 41-2021 Report Back on Budget Impact of Council Identified Priorities**

Brent Kittmer presented ADMIN 41-2021 report.

**Resolution 2021-09-21-04**

**Moved By** Councillor Craigmile

**Seconded By** Councillor Hainer

**THAT** Council authorize \$3,000 to paint additional pickleball courts immediately; and

**THAT** Council direct staff to further explore the future needs of racket sports in St. Marys

**CARRIED**

**Resolution 2021-09-21-05**

**Moved By** Councillor Edney  
**Seconded By** Councillor Craigmile

**THAT** the cost of an Active Transportation Master Plan be included as a development driven study cost in the next DC study beginning late 2021; and

**THAT** the Active Transportation Master Plan be included as a 2023 capital budget study.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution 2021-09-21-06**

**Moved By** Councillor Pridham  
**Seconded By** Councillor Luna

**THAT** the 2022 draft operating budget be prepared to include \$10,000 to hire a third-part firm to assist in administering by-law enforcement.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution 2021-09-21-07**

**Moved By** Councillor Edney  
**Seconded By** Councillor Luna

**THAT** the portage route initiative proceeds in 2022, to be funded through the 2022 base operating budget.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution 2021-09-21-08**

**Moved By** Councillor Edney  
**Seconded By** Councillor Craigmile

**THAT** the 2022 draft operating budget be prepared to include \$20,000 to extend the Climate Change Coordinator Contract.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution 2021-09-21-09**

**Moved By** Councillor Edney  
**Seconded By** Councillor Luna

**THAT** the 2022 draft operating budget be prepared to reflect the 2021 policing service level.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution 2021-09-21-10**

**Moved By** Councillor Edney

**Seconded By** Councillor Craigmile

**THAT** the 2022 draft operating budget be prepared to include \$2,000 to increase the service level of the Yak Shack program from 6 days per week to 7 days per week.

**CARRIED**

Upon Councillor Luna's request to discuss United Way Perth Huron annual funding, Councillor Edney declared a conflict of interest.

**Resolution 2021-09-21-11**

**Moved By** Councillor Luna

**Seconded By** Councillor Craigmile

**THAT** the draft 2022 municipal budget be prepared to include a \$1.50 per resident contribution to the United Way Perth Huron; and

**THAT** a 10% annual increase be applied to the base rate of contribution to the United Way Perth Huron.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution 2021-09-21-12**

**Moved By** Councillor Edney

**Seconded By** Councillor Pridham

**THAT** ADMIN 41-2021 Report Back on Budget Impact of Council Identified Priorities report be received.

**CARRIED**

Council took a brief break at 10:51 am.

Mayor Strathdee called the meeting back to order at 11:00 am.

**5.2 PW 65-2021 Lead Sampling and Service Replacement Policy**

Dave Blake presented PW 65-2021 report.

**Resolution 2021-09-21-13**

**Moved By** Councillor Winter

**Seconded By** Councillor Craigmile

**THAT** report PW 65-2021, Lead Sampling and Service Replacement Policy, be received; and

**THAT** Policy PW4305, being a policy regarding Lead in Drinking Water within the Town of St. Marys be endorsed as amended.

**CARRIED**

**5.3 PW 66-2021 Sodium Levels in Drinking Water Communication Policy**

Dave Blake presented PW 66-2021 report.

Councillor Hainer departed the meeting at 11:28 am.

**Resolution 2021-09-21-14**

**Moved By** Councillor Edney

**Seconded By** Councillor Pridham

**THAT** report PW 66-2021, Sodium Levels in Drinking Water Communication policy be received; and

**THAT** Policy PW4306, being a policy regarding the Communication of sodium levels in drinking water for the Town of St. Marys be endorsed by Council.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution 2021-09-21-15**

**Moved By** Councillor Edney

**Seconded By** Councillor Craigmile

**THAT** the 'Lead Sampling and Service Replacement' policy, PW4305, be amended to include testing of all fountains owned by the Town of St. Marys and water at the Fire Hall in the municipal lead sampling and monitoring program.

**CARRIED**

**6. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Mayor Strathdee reviewed the upcoming meeting as presented on the agenda.

**7. BY-LAWS**



Councillor Hainer returned to the meeting at 11:31 am.

**Resolution 2021-09-21-16**

**Moved By** Councillor Pridham

**Seconded By** Councillor Luna

**THAT** By-Law 81-2021, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of the September 21, 2021 special meeting of Council, be read a first, second and third time; and be finally passed by Council, and signed and sealed by the Mayor and the Clerk.

**CARRIED**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution 2021-09-21-17**

**Moved By** Councillor Craigmile

**Seconded By** Councillor Luna

**THAT** this special meeting of Council adjourns at 11:32 am.

**CARRIED**

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Al Strathdee, Mayor

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Jenna McCartney, Clerk



## **MINUTES Regular Council**

September 28, 2021

6:00pm

Town Hall, Council Chambers

Council Present: Mayor Strathdee (in-person)  
Councillor Craigmile (in-person)  
Councillor Edney (in-person)  
Councillor Luna (in-person)  
Councillor Pridham (in-person)  
Councillor Winter (in-person)

Council Absent: Councillor Hainer

Staff Present: **In-Person**  
Brent Kittmer, Chief Administrative Officer  
Jenna McCartney, Clerk

### **Conference Line**

Richard Anderson, Director of Emergency Services / Fire Chief  
Grant Brouwer, Director of Building and Development  
Stephanie Ische, Director of Community Services  
Jed Kelly, Director of Public Works  
Lisa Lawrence, Director of Human Resources  
André Morin, Director of Corporate Services / Treasurer

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

Mayor Strathdee called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

Councillor Craigmile declared a perceived conflict of interest for agenda item 5.2, St. Marys Healthcare Foundation delegation.

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

Councillor Pridham provided a summary of the Town's intentions to support the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation on September 30, 2021.

### **Resolution 2021-09-28-01**

**Moved By** Councillor Edney  
**Seconded By** Councillor Craigmile

**THAT** the September 28, 2021 regular Council meeting agenda be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. PUBLIC INPUT PERIOD**

Nothing received.

**5. DELEGATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AND PUBLIC MEETINGS**

**5.1 Public Meeting - 615 Queen Street East**

**Resolution 2021-09-28-02**

**Moved By** Councillor Luna  
**Seconded By** Councillor Pridham

**THAT** the September 28, 2021 regular Council meeting be adjourned at 6:12 pm to hold a statutory public meeting as required under the *Planning Act*; and

**THAT** a Public Meeting to consider a planning application for 615 Queen Street East be opened at 6:12 pm.

**CARRIED**

Mayor Strathdee stated "*This Public Meeting is being held in accordance with Section 34 of the Planning Act, RSO 1990.*

*The purpose of tonight's Public Meeting is to solicit the public's comments with respect to a proposed Zoning By-law Amendment by 2398315 Ontario Limited for 615 Queen Street East.*

*The purpose and effect of the application is to amend the Town's Zoning By-law to change the zoning from "Residential Zone Three (R3)" to "Residential Zone Four (R4-14)" to permit the conversion of the main floor of the existing building from an office unit to a residential dwelling unit with special zoning provisions.*

*Tonight's meeting is the mandatory Public Meeting held under the Planning Act. Council will make a decision regarding this matter this evening or at a future Council meeting.*

*As a reminder, when using the video conference, to participate and make a comment please select the "raise hand" feature at the bottom of your screen to be placed in queue. The moderator will unmute you and acknowledge your presence when it is your turn to speak.*

*When using the telephone conference, to participate and make a comment press \*9 on your keypad to be placed in queue. The moderator will unmute you and acknowledge your presence when it is your turn to speak.*

*Alternatively, during the meeting you can email*  
[clerksoffice@town.stmarys.on.ca](mailto:clerksoffice@town.stmarys.on.ca)

*If you wish to be notified of Council's decision, please contact the Clerk, Jenna McCartney, at [clerksoffice@town.stmarys.on.ca](mailto:clerksoffice@town.stmarys.on.ca)*

*I will now ask Ms. McCartney to advise how notice was given and provide a summary of the comments received regarding the Application."*

*Jenna McCartney stated "Notice was given by first class mail to the owners of all properties located within 120 metres (400 feet) of the subject property, to those agencies as prescribed by Regulation, and signage advertising tonight's meeting was posted on the subject property.*

*Special instructions for attending this online meeting and/or providing comments were provided in the notice and on the Town's Current Planning / Development Applications webpage.*

*Both the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority and the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation have indicated no objection to the Application.*

*One comment was received from the owners of 593 Queen Street East objecting to the proposed change to the Zoning By-law due to concerns that an apartment building could be built on the property. Town staff provided a response noting that the proposed change to the Zoning By-law would limit the number of dwelling units to three and an apartment building would not be a permitted use."*

*Councillor Hainer confirmed that the Planning Advisory Committee endorsed the Application in principle and recommended that Council proceed with the statutory public meeting under the *Planning Act*.*

*Mayor Strathdee invited Mark Stone, Planner to provide additional information regarding the proposed Application.*

Mr. Stone provided an overview of the Application.

Mayor Strathdee invited the applicant's agency to speak to the Application.

Caroline Baker provided an overview of the Application on behalf of her client.

Mayor Strathdee asked if there were any questions from Council.

Councillor Luna inquired whether there was a heritage designation on the property.

Ms. Baker confirmed there is not.

Upon Mayor Strathdee inquiring whether there were any members of the public with comments, Ms. McCartney confirmed there were no callers, emails or persons present on the webinar wishing to comment.

Mayor Strathdee thanked those who participated in the meeting and confirmed that if Council proceeds with passage of the Zoning By-law Amendment, notice will be provided as prescribed by the *Planning Act* and a 20-day appeal period to the Ontario Land Tribunal applies

**Resolution 2021-09-28-03**

**Moved By** Councillor Pridham

**Seconded By** Councillor Edney

**THAT** this Public Meeting be adjourned at 6:23 pm; and

**THAT** the September 28, 2021 regular Council meeting reconvene at 6:23 pm

**CARRIED**

**5.2 St. Marys Healthcare Foundation re: Hospital Renewal Project**

Councillor Craigmile declared a perceived conflict of interest regarding this agenda item at the beginning of the meeting.

Ken McCutcheon on behalf of St. Marys Healthcare Foundation presented the hospital renewal project to Council.

Mr. McCutcheon confirmed that this request is in addition to the annual \$50,000 request and stated that the hospital renewal project request is related to capital upgrades.

**Resolution 2021-09-28-04**

**Moved By** Councillor Luna

**Seconded By** Councillor Edney

**THAT** the delegation from St. Marys Healthcare Foundation regarding the hospital renewal project be received; and

**THAT** Council forward the financial information to staff for further consideration during the 2022 budget process.

**CARRIED**

**5.3 St. Marys Minor Ringette Association re: Town's Enhanced Vaccine Measures**

Lori Black representing St. Marys Ringette Association presented Council with the effects of the Town's enhanced vaccine measures on the Association.

**Resolution 2021-09-28-05**

**Moved By** Councillor Craigmile

**Seconded By** Councillor Pridham

**THAT** the delegation from St. Marys Ringette Association regarding the Town's enhanced vaccine measures be referred to agenda item 8.2.2 for further discussion.

**CARRIED**

**6. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

**6.1 Regular Council - September 14, 2021**

**Resolution 2021-09-28-06**

**Moved By** Councillor Winter

**Seconded By** Councillor Edney

**THAT** the September 14, 2021 regular Council meeting minutes be approved by Council and signed and sealed by the Mayor and the Clerk.

**CARRIED**

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

**7.1 Stop Violence Against Women (VAW) re: Request for Community Support**

**Resolution 2021-09-28-07**

**Moved By** Councillor Edney  
**Seconded By** Councillor Luna

**THAT** the correspondence from Stop Violence Against Women regarding a request for community support be received.

**CARRIED**

**7.2 St. Marys Optometry and Lifetime Vision Care re: Optometrists  
Withdrawal of OHIP insured services**

**Resolution 2021-09-28-08**

**Moved By** Councillor Winter  
**Seconded By** Councillor Pridham

**THAT** the correspondence from St. Marys Optometry and Lifetime Vision Care regarding optometrists withdrawal of OHIP insured service be received; and

**THAT** Council support the local optometrists of St. Marys by forwarding a letter of support to the appropriate levels of government.

**CARRIED**

**8. STAFF REPORTS**

**8.1 Building and Development Services**

**8.1.1 DEV 44-2021 September Monthly Report (Building &  
Development)**

**Resolution 2021-09-28-09**

**Moved By** Councillor Luna  
**Seconded By** Councillor Craigmile

**THAT** DEV 44-2021 September Monthly Report (Building and Development) be received for information.

**CARRIED**

**8.1.2 DEV 45-2021 Application for Zoning By-law Amendment (Z03-  
2021) by 2398315 Ontario Limited (KLM Properties) for 615  
Queen Street East**

**Resolution 2021-09-28-10**

**Moved By** Councillor Edney

**Seconded By** Councillor Craigmile

**THAT** DEV 45-2021 regarding an Application for Zoning By-law Amendment (Z03-2021) by 2398315 Ontario Limited (KLM Properties) for 615 Queen Street East be received;

**THAT** Council approve the Application for Zoning By-law Amendment (Z03-2021) for 615 Queen Street East; and,

**THAT** Council enact Zoning By-law Z145-2021 for 615 Queen Street East.

**CARRIED**

**8.1.3 DEV 43-2021 Municipal Operations Centre Boiler Replacements**

**Resolution 2021-09-28-11**

**Moved By** Councillor Luna

**Seconded By** Councillor Edney

**THAT** DEV 43-2021 Municipal Operations Centre Boiler Replacements report be received; and

**THAT** Council approve the pre-budget amount of \$34,000.00 for the purchase of three replacement boilers at the Municipal Operations Centre and authorize staff to procure replacements immediately.

**CARRIED**

**8.2 Administration**

**8.2.1 ADMIN 42-2021 September Monthly Report (Administration)**

**Resolution 2021-09-28-12**

**Moved By** Councillor Luna

**Seconded By** Councillor Craigmile

**THAT** ADMIN 42-2021 September Monthly Report (Administration) be received for information.

**CARRIED**



### **8.2.2 ADMIN 43-2021 Proof of Vaccination – Implications to Ice Users**

Councillor Luna requested a recorded vote for resolution 2021-09-28-13.

#### **Resolution 2021-09-28-13**

**Moved By** Councillor Pridham

**Seconded By** Councillor Winter

**THAT** ADMIN 43-2021 Proof of Vaccination – Implications to Ice Users be received; and

**THAT** Council grants an exemption to the Town's enhanced proof of vaccination requirements for youth/minor participants, subject to organizations complying with: (i) Any applicable proof of vaccination requirements of their respective governing bodies; OR (ii) Any applicable Provincial regulations for proof of vaccination (and any future amendments thereof); whichever may be the more restrictive.

Support (1): Councillor Pridham

Oppose (5): Mayor Strathdee, Councillor Craigmile, Councillor Edney, Councillor Luna, and Councillor Winter

**DEFEATED**

### **8.3 Community Services**

#### **8.3.1 DCS 29-2021 September Monthly Report (Community Services)**

##### **Resolution 2021-09-28-14**

**Moved By** Councillor Winter

**Seconded By** Councillor Edney

**THAT** DCS 29-2021 September Monthly Report (Community Services) be received for information.

**CARRIED**

### **8.4 Corporate Services**

#### **8.4.1 COR 32-2021 September Monthly Report (Corporate Services)**

##### **Resolution 2021-09-28-15**

**Moved By** Councillor Edney  
**Seconded By** Councillor Luna

**THAT** COR 32-2021 September Monthly Report (Corporate Services) be received for information.

**CARRIED**

**8.5 Fire and Emergency Services**

**8.5.1 FD 13-2021 September Monthly Report (Emergency Services)**

**Resolution 2021-09-28-16**

**Moved By** Councillor Winter  
**Seconded By** Councillor Pridham

**THAT** FD 13-2021 September Monthly Report (Emergency Services) be received for information.

**CARRIED**

**8.6 Human Resources**

**8.6.1 HR 14-2021 September Monthly Report (Human Resources)**

**Resolution 2021-09-28-17**

**Moved By** Councillor Luna  
**Seconded By** Councillor Edney

**THAT** HR 14-2021 September Monthly Report (Human Resources) be received for information.

**CARRIED**

**8.7 Public Works**

**8.7.1 PW 71-2021 September Monthly Report (Public Works)**

**Resolution 2021-09-28-18**

**Moved By** Councillor Pridham  
**Seconded By** Councillor Luna

**THAT** PW 71-2021 September Monthly Report (Public Works) be received for information.

**CARRIED**

### **8.7.2 PW 63-2021 Park Street Bridge Repairs Tender Award**

#### **Resolution 2021-09-28-19**

**Moved By** Councillor Edney

**Seconded By** Councillor Pridham

**THAT** PW 63-2021 Park Street Bridge Repairs Tender Award report be received; and,

**THAT** the tender for repairs to the Park St. Bridge be awarded to Across Canada Construction Ltd. for the bid price of \$213,733.85, inclusive of all taxes and contingencies; and,

**THAT** Council consider By-Law 84-2021 and authorize the Mayor and the Clerk to sign the associated agreement.

**CARRIED**

### **8.7.3 PW 67-2021 Freedom Mobile Proposal**

#### **Resolution 2021-09-28-20**

**Moved By** Councillor Craigmile

**Seconded By** Councillor Luna

**THAT** report PW 67-2021, Freedom Mobile Proposal, be received; and

**THAT** Council direct staff to enter discussions with Spectrapoint, on behalf of Freedom Mobile Inc. to investigate the feasibility of additional communications equipment on the water tower; and,

**THAT** Council direct staff to enter discussions with Spectrapoint, on behalf of Freedom Mobile Inc. to draft a lease Agreement with respect to their proposal to install cellular communication antenna and supporting equipment at the St. Marys Water Tower should it be deemed feasible; and,

**THAT** staff bring back a further report to Council detailing the feasibility of the proposal and a finalized Agreement for Council's consideration.

**CARRIED**

### **8.7.4 PW 68-2021 Automotive Materials Stewardship Inc. Agreement**

#### **Resolution 2021-09-28-21**

**Moved By** Councillor Pridham  
**Seconded By** Councillor Edney

**THAT** report PW 68-2021, Automotive Materials Stewardship Inc. Agreement, be received; and

**THAT** Council consider By-Law 82-2021, being a by-law to execute the agreement with Automotive Materials Stewardship Inc. and to authorize the Mayor and the Clerk to execute the agreement.

**CARRIED**

#### **8.7.5 PW 69-2021 Award of Wood and Brush Grinding Services**

##### **Resolution 2021-09-28-22**

**Moved By** Councillor Craigmile  
**Seconded By** Councillor Luna

**THAT** Report PW 69-2021, Award of Wood and brush Grinding Services, be received; and,

**THAT** the procurement for wood and brush grinding be awarded to Sittler Grinding Inc. for the procured price of \$36,408.60, inclusive of all taxes and contingencies; and,

**THAT** Council approve the unbudgeted amount as identified in PW 69-2021 report; and,

**THAT** Council consider By-Law 83-2021 and authorize the Mayor and the Clerk to sign the associated agreement.

**CARRIED**

#### **9. EMERGENT OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

#### **10. NOTICES OF MOTION**

None.

#### **11. BY-LAWS**

##### **Resolution 2021-09-28-23**

**Moved By** Councillor Edney  
**Seconded By** Councillor Craigmile

**THAT** By-Laws 82-2021, 83-2021, 84-2021 and Z145-2021 be read a first, second and third time; and be finally passed by Council, and signed and sealed by the Mayor and the Clerk.

**CARRIED**

**11.1 By-Law 82-2021 Agreement with Automotive Materials Stewardship Inc.**

**11.2 By-Law 83-2021 Agreement with Sittler Grinding Inc.**

**11.3 By-Law 84-2021 Agreement with Across Canada Construction Ltd.**

**11.4 Z145-2021 Zoning By-law Amendment 615 Queen Street East**

**12. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Mayor Strathdee reviewed the upcoming meetings as presented on the agenda.

Council took a brief break at 8:16 pm.

Mayor Strathdee called the meeting back to order at 8:28 pm.

**13. CLOSED SESSION**

**Resolution 2021-09-28-24**

**Moved By** Councillor Luna

**Seconded By** Councillor Edney

**THAT** Council move into a session that is closed to the public at 8:28 pm as authorized under the *Municipal Act*, Section 239(2)(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees, and (d) labour relations or employee negotiations.

**CARRIED**

**13.1 Minutes CLOSED SESSION**

**13.2 ADMIN 44-2021 CONFIDENTIAL Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination Policy – Employee Relations Matters**

**14. RISE AND REPORT**

**Resolution 2021-09-28-25**

**Moved By** Councillor Edney

**Seconded By** Councillor Luna

**THAT** Council rise from a closed session at 9:32 pm.

**CARRIED**

Mayor Strathdee reported that a closed session was held to consider one matter. There is nothing further to report at this time.

**15. CONFIRMATORY BY-LAW**

**Resolution 2021-09-28-26**

**Moved By** Councillor Luna

**Seconded By** Councillor Edney

**THAT** By-Law 85-2021, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of September 28, 2021 regular Council meeting be read a first, second and third time; and be finally passed by Council and signed and sealed by the Mayor and the Clerk.

**CARRIED**

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution 2021-09-28-27**

**Moved By** Councillor Craigmile

**Seconded By** Councillor Luna

**THAT** this regular meeting of Council adjourns at 9:34 pm.

**CARRIED**

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Al Strathdee, Mayor

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Jenna McCartney, Clerk

**Board of Directors Meeting Highlights  
Held on September 16th, 2021 at 8:30 AM  
as a Virtual Meeting**



### **NWRA Issues Policy Position on Extended Producer Responsibility**

NWRA released its policy position on extended producer responsibility (EPR). Challenges with recycling have resulted in increased efforts to pass legislation at both the federal and state level advocating for EPR. While well intentioned, many of these bill fail to address the root of the problems and also overlook existing recycling programs and their achievements.

NWRA identified five significant issues currently facing recycling:

- Insufficient demand for some recyclables
- Low prices for the combined recycling stream
- Consumer behavior challenges
- Public concern over plastic in the environment
- Inexpensive virgin resources

The last 25 years of legislative history on recycling has been focused primarily on creating supply—without consideration of adequate end markets. Given that, our recycling system has been set up to continuously generate material even when demand falls and prices drop. Any legislation that proposes to address recycling issues needs to first focus on correcting this problem by incentivizing the demand for recyclables, rather than continuing to focus only on adding supply.

### **NWRA asks municipalities to encourage worker vaccinations**

The association has sent a letter to city and county officials urging the use of the vaccination to combat COVID-19.

The National Waste & Recycling Association (NWRA), Arlington, Virginia, sent a letter to city and county officials around the country, urging them to vaccinate their workers against COVID-19 and the Delta variant. On Aug. 23, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for individuals 16 years and older.

“Just as NWRA has encouraged the private waste and recycling industry to get vaccinated, we call on our municipal colleagues to do the same,” says Darrell Smith, CEO and president of the NWRA. “With the full approval of the Pfizer vaccine, we ask that every state, county and municipality encourage or require their workers to be vaccinated, especially their municipal solid waste staff.”

NWRA’s request also comes after seven of the nation’s top organizations, including those representing industrial hygienists, epidemiologists, infectious disease physicians, pharmacists, school nurses and occupational health and safety scientists called on governors to encourage or require vaccinations for government employees.

## ISRI Updates Product Stewardship Position to Reflect Ever-Evolving Industry

The private sector recycling infrastructure in the U.S. touches almost every part of the economy – from retail stores, office complexes, residential neighborhoods and schools, to factories, industrial operations including construction and demolition sites, and even military bases. Reflecting the essential role of recycling in the economy, ISRI updated its policy position on product stewardship.

Recycling in the United States depends upon a market-based system -- through which obsolete, previously used, off-specification, surplus, or incidentally produced materials are processed into specification-grade commodities and consumed as raw-material feedstock in lieu of virgin materials in the manufacture of new products.

To address facilitation of the proper recycling of difficult to recycle items, ISRI supports consideration of policies that are temporary in nature to support markets for recycling of those items until the markets mature, and that require consumers and manufacturers to:

- Provide a collection mechanism for difficult to recycle items which could be accomplished through manufacturer facilitated collection systems developed in cooperation with retailers or other entities, and/or
- Compensate municipalities / recyclers for costs associated with separate collection, transportation, and processing systems for difficult to recycle items.

Further, should an EPR scheme be proposed in a state legislature for residential recycling that incorporates a producer responsibility organization (PRO) structure, to ensure ISRI has a seat at the table so as to protect the interests of the recycling industry, ISRI would evaluate the state's proposal for an EPR program and seek to ensure industry's interests are considered.

This position is one element of ISRI's policies, it's that it's resilient and adaptable.

From China's Operation Green Fence in 2013 to its National Sword in 2017 to the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, material recovery facility (MRF) operators and community recycling programs have adapted to reflect evolving consuming market demands at home and abroad, the changing material stream and operational changes related to social-distancing during the pandemic.

With the decline in secondary commodity values brought on by the glut of paper and plastic scrap in the U.S. after China started restricting or outright stopping imports of some grades of these materials, MRF operators began instituting processing fees. While markets for mixed paper, old corrugated containers and various postconsumer plastics are stronger today, one can argue that such fees remain necessary. Waste management isn't free, so why should recycling be given the extensive infrastructure required to support it? America's MRFs increasingly are sophisticated manufacturing facilities producing commodity-grade raw materials for consumption by companies in North America and beyond. But, unlike other manufacturers, these facilities have little control over their infeed materials.

It's no surprise, therefore, that MRF operators cited contamination as a primary concern, ranking second after rising insurance costs. Contamination also is a concern for government officials and haulers.

Recycling is essential, and so are you.



## Seven pilot projects aim to expand beverage container deposits in Quebec



The Legault government is launching seven pilot projects to pave the way for its major plan to expand the deposit system in Quebec to cover virtually all beverage containers, including water and wine bottles.

The objective is to test which system will be the most effective. Eventually, Quebec estimates that 4 billion containers (from 100 ml. to 2 liters) will be recovered annually.

These seven pilot projects will be spread over six cities: Granby, Châteauguay, Trois-Rivières, Mont-Laurier, Terrebonne and Montreal.

In these locations, citizens can return all types of beverage containers to the same place; they do not need to bring their wine bottles to the SAQ and their empty water bottles to the supermarket.

The projects were presented by Benoit Charette, Minister of the Environment and the Fight against Climate Change, and Sonia Gagné, President and CEO of RECYC-QUÉBEC, at a Maxi supermarket in the Ahuntsic district of Montreal.

Machines capable of accepting all kinds of bottles were installed near the entrance of the supermarket. They recognize the container inserted thanks to the barcode on the label. After the deposit is made, the machines provide a paper receipt that can be exchanged for money at the cash registers.

Due to space constraints, some machines will be installed in locations such as parking lots.

In the pilot projects, only aluminum cans, plastic and glass soft drink bottles, and beer bottles will be refunded — as is already the case.

But new types of containers are being added. Wine and liquor bottles, water bottles, and juice or milk containers are accepted in the pilot, but will not be reimbursed at this time. However, they will be reimbursed in 2022.

## **Composting guide for farmers published in Alberta**

The Recycling Council of Alberta (RCA) has released An Introductory Guide to On-Farm Composting for farmers, ranchers and landowners interested in learning more about the opportunities they have to build processing capacity for organics generated by municipalities and businesses.

This project aims to connect urban and rural communities, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions created by organic waste while building soil health.

Approximately 2.2 million tonnes of organic waste is sent to landfills each year by Canadians (Love Food Hate Waste, 2019). If Albertans diverted their food scraps to be composted, there would be an estimated 238 thousand tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emission savings annually – the equivalent of taking 52,000 passenger vehicles off the road each year.

The guide establishes basic information about setting up an on-farm composting operation, including the regulations to follow, and processes for managing organics. By applying compost, farmers can reduce the use of synthetic fertilizers, increase crop yields, and improve overall soil quality.

## **Waste Connections Launches RecyclePlus Program in Vancouver, WA**

Waste Connections recently launched RecyclePlus. For \$10 a month, RecyclePlus collects batteries, light bulbs, textiles, plastic bags, Styrofoam/block foam and clamshells every other week for customers within Vancouver city limits. RecyclePlus is Waste Connections' answer to Ridwell, a Seattle-based company that began pickups here in June. "We're going to do our best to be competitive," said Derek Ranta, district manager for Waste Connections of Washington, which provides garbage and recycling services throughout Clark County. "We want to own the waste stream at all levels."

Local governments — Clark County and its cities — contract with Waste Connections for weekly residential pickup. RecyclePlus is a service that Waste Connections is selling directly to households. While Waste Connections customers currently have the option of placing batteries in sealed, clear plastic bags on top of recycling carts as part of their municipal service, the other categories collected by RecyclePlus can't go in the usual blue bins. "These items have to be handled independently and can't run across our big sort line," Ranta said.

Those who sign up for RecyclePlus will receive a durable, lidded box and reusable cloth bags in which to place the items — much like Ridwell customers do. The categories of items collected are a bit different, however. Ridwell collects batteries, light bulbs, plastic bags and textiles, and a rotating fifth category (for example, corks or bike accessories) for upcycling or donation to local nonprofits. Ridwell charges \$12 to \$16 a month for pickups every two weeks (with the lowest price for those who pay ahead for a whole year) and an extra \$1 for a bag of clamshells or \$9 for a bag of Styrofoam. Ridwell serves not only Vancouver, but also Hazel Dell and Salmon Creek.

## UK hairdressers are creating a circular economy out of old hair



The hair and beauty industry might seem like a frivolous one, but hundreds of hairdressers are working to change that. By diverting easily recyclable materials, such as hair foils and hair itself, they are turning hairdressing into a circular economy.

The Green Salon Collective, founded by environmental experts, hairdressers and eco campaigners, says that hairdressing produces enough waste each year to fill 50 football stadiums. The vast majority ends up in landfill, including toxic hair colour and used foils.

But in its first year alone the collective of 600 hairdressers or salons has recycled almost 500 kilos of hair and 3.5 tonnes of metal. Any profits made from recycling are donated to charity.

The collective also empower salons and other hairdressing businesses with the knowledge to operate more sustainably.

Cut off hair, it turns out, has many uses.

As a lipophilic material, hair repels water but actively absorbs oil. So it is a very efficient way to clean up oil spills, preventing the oil from damaging the environment. A kilogram of hair can absorb up to eight litres of oil, according to experts.

The idea of using hair filters originated in the United States and has already been tested in real disasters, such as when a Japanese tanker sank off the coast of Mauritius a year ago.

While hair can also make garden compost, chemical waste is turned into energy with the help of the collective.

### **'A sendoff back to nature': Montreal cemetery offers green burials**

Gabriel Safdie's only son, Jason Safdie, is buried near hockey legend Maurice Richard at Notre-Dame-des-Neiges cemetery.

The younger Safdie, who passed away at age 49 in July, was a huge fan.

But seeing his son near the graves of other famous Montrealers, like former Montreal mayor Jean Drapeau, in the Montreal section of the burial ground isn't the only reason Gabriel is glad where his son is.

It's Jason's resting place that makes him smile.

His son's ashes are fertilizing a new hackberry tree, planted as a memorial to him in a new space, next to the Montreal section, called Remembrance Grove.

Planting trees instead of tombstones is a new service offered by the cemetery. According to officials, it came about partly from a demand by clients who wanted something more environmentally-friendly than placing a coffin or other receptacle in the ground.

There is space for thousands of trees in this cemetery, the biggest in Canada. Only five trees have been planted so far.

Environmentalists point out that given the climate crisis, more people are thinking about the environmental impact of human burials — for example, the seeping of toxic embalming fluids into groundwater.

David Fletcher, vice-president of the environmental group Green Coalition, thinks the cemetery is taking a step in the right direction. But he thinks it falls short of what could be done, since cremation requires combustion, which creates emissions.

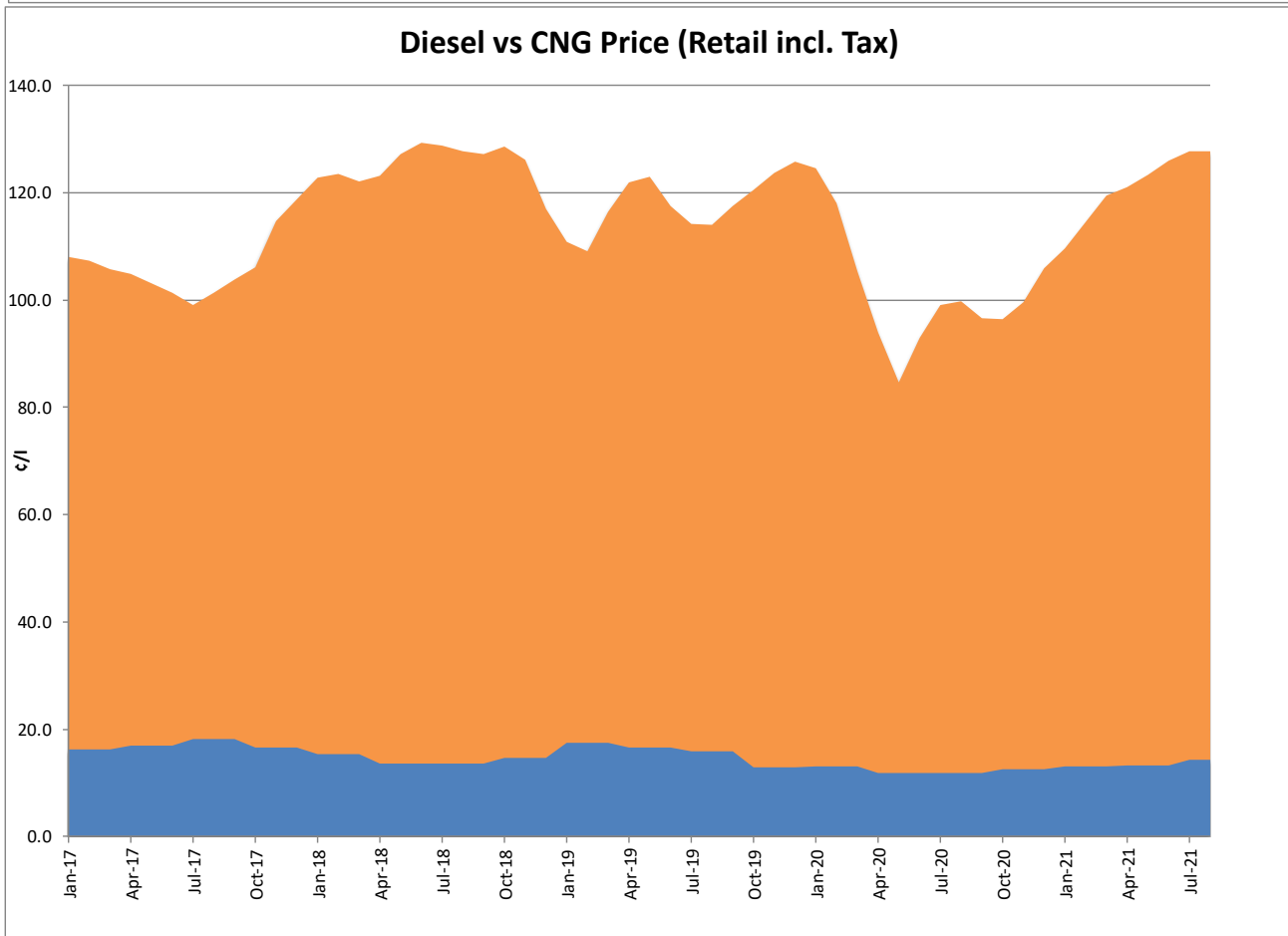
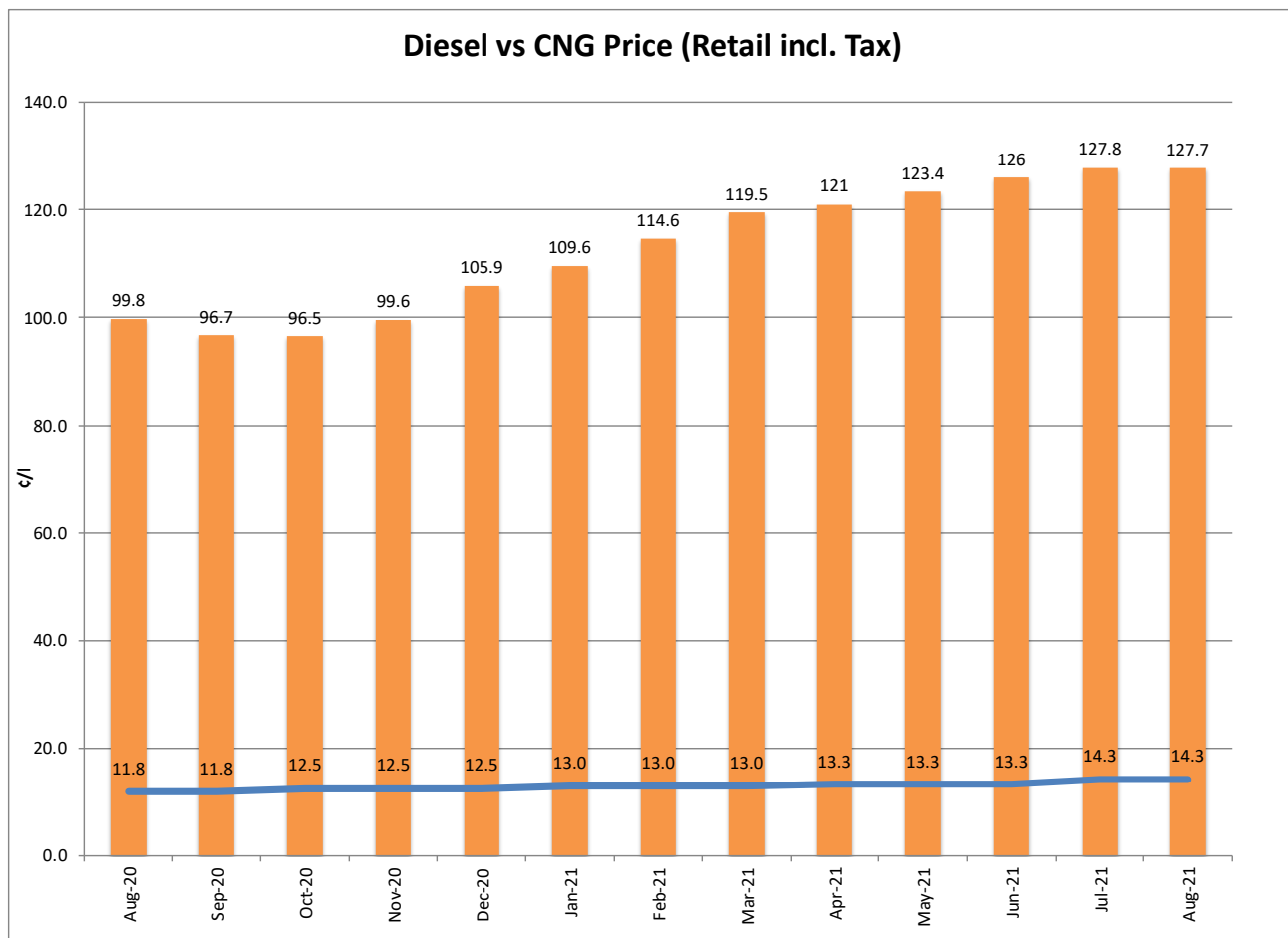
"In my view, we should be composting people and there's precedence now," he pointed out.

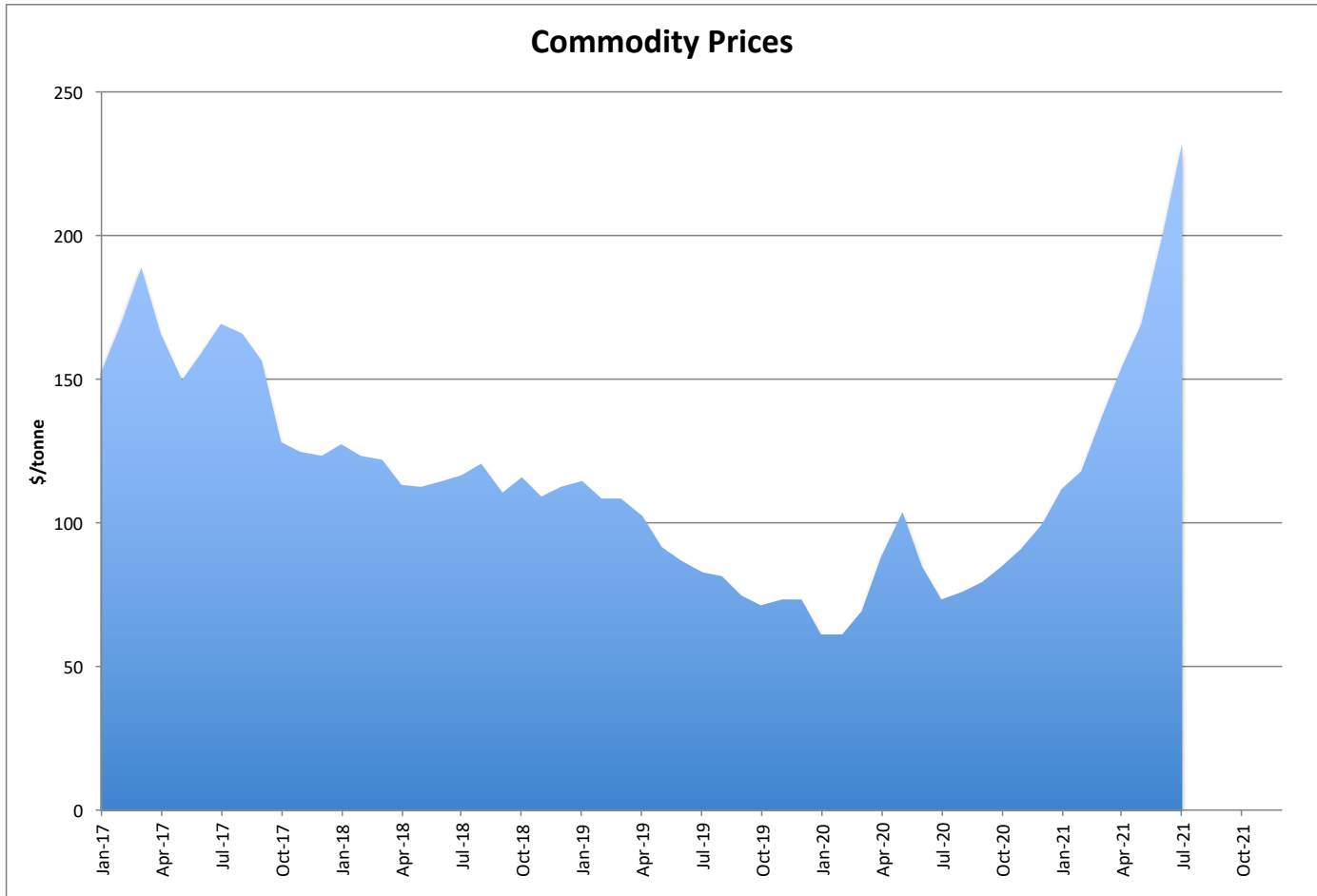
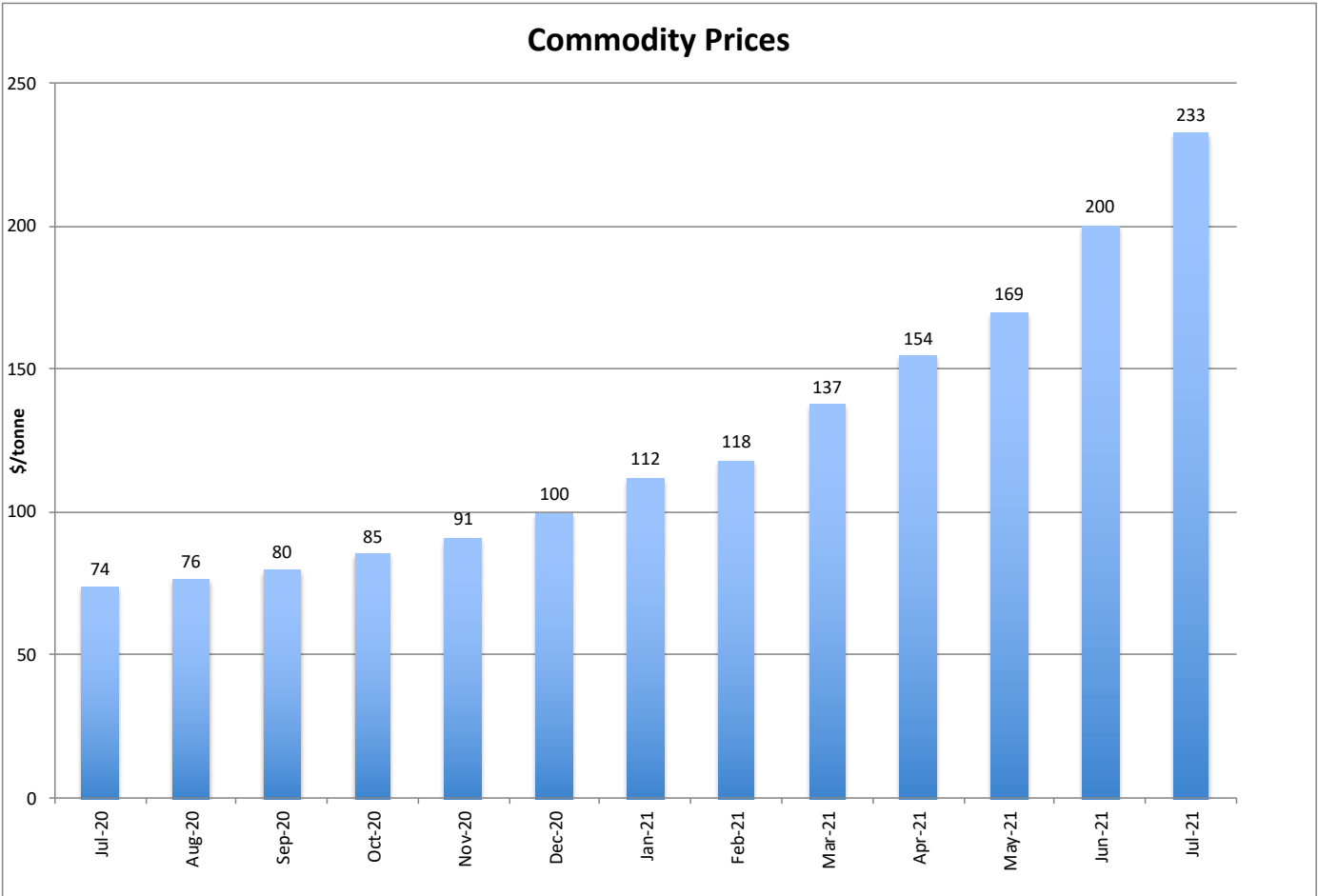
"Belgium seems to be moving in that direction and Washington state."

Officials at the cemetery in Montreal said they have no plans for that now and pointed out that there would be public health issues to consider.

Safdie likes his son's tree, even if it's not being grown from his son's composted body.

For him, that's monument enough.







## **Minutes**

### **Library Board**

September 9, 2021

6:45 pm

Video Conference

Click the following link:

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

Member Present	Mayor Strathdee, Councillor Craigmile, Councillor Edney, Barbara Tuer, Melinda Zurbrigg, Reg Quinton, Joyce Vivian
Member Absent	Cole Atlin, Lynda Hodgins
Staff Present	Rebecca Webb, Staff Liaison, Sarah Andrews, Library CEO

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

The September 9, 2021 Regular Meeting of the St. Marys Public Library Board was called to order at 6:55pm by R. Quinton.

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

None declared.

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

**Moved By** Councillor Edney

**Seconded By** Mayor Strathdee

That the agenda for the September 9, 2021 regular meeting of the St. Marys Public Library Board be approved as presented.

**Carried**

**4. DELEGATIONS**

None present.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Moved By** Councillor Edney

**Seconded By** Councillor Craigmile

That consent agenda items 5.1 through 5.3 be approved as presented.

**Carried**

5.1 Acceptance of Minutes

5.1.1 Minutes of the June 3, 2021 Meeting

5.1.2 Minutes of the August 19, 2021 Meeting

5.2 CEO Report

5.2.1 CEO Report (September)

5.2.2 Adult Learning Report (September)

5.3 Library Statistics

5.3.1 Stats Infographic (July in Review)

5.3.2 Stats Graphs (July in Review)

**6. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

6.1 COVID-19 Update

CEO S. Andrews gave the Board a verbal update about COVID-19 policy and procedure as it pertains to the Library.

6.2 Draft Budget

**Moved By** Reg Quinton

**Seconded By** Joyce Vivian

That the 2022 Draft Budgets for the Library and Adult Learning Programs of Perth be forwarded, as presented, to Council for consideration.



**Carried**

6.2.1 Draft Library Budget

6.2.2 Draft Adult Learning Budget

6.3. Donation Information

**Moved By** Reg Quinton

**Seconded By** Joyce Vivian

That Board approve the donation and forward it to the AODA committee, appropriate Town departments, and Council.

## **7. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

7.1 Friends of the Library Report

R. Quinton reported that the Friends of the Library assisted with the survey efforts of the CEO over the summer. The FOL have received several large donations and are on track to reach their \$10,000 fundraising goal.

7.2 Non-Traditional Collection Fines

Library staff discussed with the Board for future planning, the circulation issues specific to non-traditional collection items.

## **8. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

The next regular meeting of the St. Marys Public Library Board will take place on October 7, 2021 at 6:45pm.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved By** Reg Quinton

**Seconded By** Melinda Zurbrigg

That the September 9, 2021 regular meeting of the St. Marys Public Library Board be adjourned at 7:49pm.

**Carried**

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Chair

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Board Secretary



## **Minutes**

### **Library Board**

September 23, 2021

6:45 pm

Video Conference

Click the following link:

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

Member Present      Mayor Strathdee, Councillor Craigmile, Councillor Edney,  
Barbara Tuer, Cole Atlin, Lynda Hodgins, Melinda Zurbrigg, Reg  
Quinton, Joyce Vivian

Staff Present      Rebecca Webb, Staff Liaison, Sarah Andrews, Library CEO

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

The September 23, 2021 meeting of the St. Marys Public Library Board was called to order at 6:44pm by Board Chair C. Atlin.

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

None declared.

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

**Moved By** Reg Quinton

**Seconded By** Councillor Craigmile

That the agenda for the September 23, 2021 meeting of the St. Marys Public Library Board be approved as presented.

**Carried**

#### 4. DELEGATIONS

Lisa Lawrence, HR Director for the Town of St. Marys was present at the meeting.

#### 5. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

##### 5.1 Review and Adoption of Mandatory COVID Vaccine Policy

**Moved By** Reg Quinton

**Seconded By** Councillor Edney

That the Library Board accept and adopt the Town of St. Marys [HSY-P-023 Mandatory COVID -19 Vaccination Policy and Testing procedure](#) as presented and

That the motion be adopted as of September 30, 2021.

**Carried**

#### 6. UPCOMING MEETINGS

The next regular meeting of the Board will take place on November 4, 2021 at 6:45pm.

#### 7. ADJOURNMENT

**Moved By** Reg Quinton

**Seconded By** Lynda Hodgins

That the September 23, 2021 meeting of the St. Marys Public Library Board be adjourned at 7:07pm.

**Carried**

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Chair

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Board Secretary

**SPRUCE LODGE**  
**Board of Management Meeting**  
**June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**Present:** *Peter Bolland, David Schlitt, and Jennifer Facey*  
**Councillors:** *Jim Aitcheson, Rhonda Ehgoetz, Danielle Ingram, Marg Luna, Kathy Vassilakos*  
**Regrets:** *Councillor Fern Pridham*  
**Guests:**

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*Chairperson Councillor Kathy Vassilakos brought the meeting to order.*

Moved by Councillor Ingram  
Seconded by Councillor Vassilakos

**That the agenda for June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 be approved as presented.**  
**CARRIED**

➤ Declaration of pecuniary interest.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Moved by Councillor Ingram  
Seconded by Councillor Aitcheson

**That the minutes of May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 be approved as presented.**  
**CARRIED**

**Business Arising:** *None noted.*

**New Business:**

**Ratification of Accounts:**

Moved by Councillor Luna  
Seconded by Councillor Ingram

**That the May 2021 accounts in the amount of \$301,727.65 to be ratified.**  
**CARRIED**

**Financial Report:**

The Business Manager presented the financial report for the period ending April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 for review and discussion. The negative variance in resident revenue is driven by an occupancy rate of approximately 92%. A report was sent to the Ministry for occupancy from January to April, so a refund is anticipated over the summer. Containment funding continues. The PSW wage enhancement program has been extended to August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. There continues to be a Registered Staff shortage. Associations are advocating to no avail. Funding continues based on 100% capacity.

Moved by Councillor Aitcheson  
Seconded by Councillor Luna

**To accept the Spruce Lodge Revenue and Expenses for the period ending April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 prior to audit as presented.**  
**CARRIED**

## **SPRUCE LODGE - Continued**

### **Board of Management Meeting**

**June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

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#### **Administrator's Report:**

##### **Occupancy:**

The third bed in ward rooms still must remain empty, and there is no word on plans from the Ministry of Health. The Administrator reached out to enquire about the possibility of adding rooms, but it is against policy, and redevelopment funding cannot be used. If the province ops not to re-open, there might be an opportunity to look at creative solutions.

There are two (2) short stay beds that cannot be occupied, and four (4) others for isolation. Occupancy is at 91%, with full occupancy anticipated by September 1<sup>st</sup> when we can free up isolation beds, although we would have to factor not being able to fill ward rooms.

Funding from the federal government was allocated to HVAC systems, which are not as much a priority at Spruce Lodge. We anticipated being able to use those funds add rooms to Cottage C, but the proposal was not accepted.

We may need to consider opening secure units, and moving away from segregated care as 80% of residents have some sort of dementia. The onus is on us to have an appropriate program so residents don't feel restricted.

Spruce Lodge had four (4) ward rooms, but with the conversion of a private room to a semi-private, there is now only three (3).

The CMI is based on data from last March, and is down from 101% to 99%, which equates to about \$60,000 per year, so we are anticipating a funding cut of approximately \$120,000.00. The CMI reserve will cover shortfall. Spruce Lodge is looking to modernize the CMI, but the process is unclear.

##### **COVID Update:**

The Delta variant is most dominate in hot spots which has expanded to Waterloo. The Ministry is considering rolling back restrictions. Effective June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 residents who are fully immunized for 14 days can leave for social outings, and will be screened but not tested on return. Residents can request for an overnight absence, but will need PCR test on return and will be isolated pending results. All residents are reminded to wear mask and follow safety protocols. Where both residents and visitors are fully immunized, brief hugs are back and permitted.

Outbreak numbers have improved with nineteen (19) active outbreaks, and only nine (9) involving residents, but still about a half dozen resident deaths each which associated with COVID.

We are looking at returning half the curtains in COVID Care Unit (CCU), and keeping the balance for PCR testing and vaccinations.

The resident vaccination rate is at 93%. This means dining areas can be opened up with no distancing, and starting to introduce small group activities.

A new directive will be implemented July 1<sup>st</sup> where a vaccination policy is required for staff, student placements, and volunteers. Staff will be assigned to 1 of 3 categories, those being fully vaccinated, those with a medical note, and 1<sup>st</sup> dose or not vaccinated. Those in the third category will have 30 days to participate in mandatory education, and complete assigned courses.

**SPRUCE LODGE - Continued**  
**Board of Management Meeting**  
**June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

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Current vaccination rates for staff are 78% fully vaccinated, and 89% partially vaccinated. Vaccinations are now available on-site for staff, with a goal of 84% totally vaccinated. High rates are required to relax restrictions.

Essential visitor rates are 56% fully vaccinated and 88% with their 1<sup>st</sup> dose.

**Staffing:**

The PSW wage enhancement has been extended to August 23, 2021.

Spruce Lodge is looking at a new staffing model to address the ongoing need to cohort staff into smaller teams, and address IPAC concerns in our dining rooms.

We anticipate staffing levels will climb in the coming years from 2.5 hours of staff/resident time to 4 hours by 2023.

We also want to explore increasing the full-time to part-time staffing ratio to 70%.

We approached a firm that specializes in scheduling, and analysis of overtime levels. They have dealt with CUPE in other settings. Costs are approximately \$65000.00 with a 6 month time frame. Both the leadership team and C.U.P.E. felt an impartial 3<sup>rd</sup> party may result in an improved staffing model. Is the board comfortable with the involvement of a consultant? Further discussion will take place.

Moved by Councillor Ehgoetz  
Seconded by Councillor Luna

**To enter closed session at 5:41 p.m. to discuss an identifiable individual.**  
**CARRIED**

Moved by Councillor Aitcheson  
Seconded by Councillor Ingram

**To enter open session at 5:44 p.m.**  
**CARRIED**

Moved by Councillor Aitheson  
Seconded by Councillor Ehgoetz

**To accept the declaration of compliance issued pursuant to the**  
**MSAA effective April 1, 2020.**  
**CARRIED**

Moved by Councillor Luna  
Seconded by Councillor Ingram

**To accept the Administrator's report as presented.**  
**CARRIED**

**SPRUCE LODGE - Continued**  
**Board of Management Meeting**  
**June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

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**Correspondence:**

*Dress Down Days:*

The Board gave direction for the Administrator to make the draws for dress down days.

☺ *For April 2021, the lucky charitable receipt winner is Jayne Petrie!*

☺ *For May 2021, the lucky charitable receipt winner is Lily Kampferseck!*

**Other Business:** *None presented.*

Moved by Councillor Ingram

<b>That the meeting be adjourned.</b>
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**CARRIED**

**Date & Time of Next Meeting:**

***Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. – Teleconference***

**Councillor Vassilakos**  
*Chairperson*

**Jennifer Facey**  
*Secretary*

**Date**

*Sept 15/21*



MINUTES  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING  
Virtual Meeting Due to COVID-19 Pandemic  
TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 2021

The UTRCA Board Chair called the meeting to order at 9:30am.

Members Present:	M.Blosh	P.Mitchell
	A.Dale – Chair	A.Murray
	A.Hopkins	B.Petrie
	T.Jackson	J.Reffle
	S.Levin	J.Salter
	M.Lupton	M.Schadenberg
	N.Manning	A.Westman
	H.McDermid	
Regrets:	None	
Solicitor:	G.Inglis	
Staff:	J.Allain	J.Howley
	T.Annett	B.Mackie
	D.Charles	C.Saracino
	B.Dafoe	J.Schnaithmann
	J.Dony	A.Shivas
	B.Glasman	C.Tasker
	C.Harrington	M.Viglianti – Recorder
	T.Hollingsworth	

1. Approval of Agenda

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

Mover: B.Petrie

Secunder: J.Reffle

THAT the Board of Directors approve the agenda as posted.

Carried.

2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

The Chair inquired whether the members had any conflicts of interest to declare relating to the agenda. There were none.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting  
May 25, 2021

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

Mover: J.Salter

Secunder: M.Schadenberg

THAT the UTRCA Board of Directors approve the Board of Directors' minutes dated May 25, 2021, including any closed session minutes, as posted on the Members' web-site.

Carried.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. Delegations

There were no delegations.

6. Business for Approval  
6.1 20 Year Flood Control Capital Plan  
(Report attached)

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

The Board requested and received verbal updates regarding the status of Springbank Dam and the status of the Harrington Dam Environmental Assessment.

Mover: A.Westman

Secunder: M.Blosh

THAT the Board of Directors approve the recommendation as presented in the report.

Carried.

6.2 Appointment of B.Dafoe as Officer Pursuant to Section 28 of the Conservation  
(Report attached)

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

Board members requested a map to show the geographical area covered by each section 28 regulations officer.

Mover: A.Hopkins

Secunder: T.Jackson

THAT the Board of Directors approve the recommendation as presented in the report.  
Carried.

6.3 Investment Policy Review  
(Report attached)

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

Mover: S.Levin

Secunder: M.Lupton

THAT the Board of Directors approve the recommendation as presented in the report, including part b) the question of the right funding ratio be referred to the Finance and Audit Committee for a report back within a year.

Carried.

7. Business for Information

7.1 Administration and Enforcement - Section 28 Status Report – Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation (O.Reg157/06)  
(Report attached)

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

Mover: N.Manning

Secunder: H.McDermid

THAT the Board of Directors receives the report as presented.  
Carried.

7.2 Environmental Registry of Ontario Submission - Regulatory Proposal Consultation Guide: Regulations Defining Core Mandate and Improving Governance, Oversight and Accountability of Conservation Authorities  
(Report attached)

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

The Board discussed the proposed Advisory Board and members voiced questions and concerns regarding its mandatory nature, the function of the advisory Board and the cost.

Questions were raised regarding the requirements for the inventory consultations with member Municipalities, and whether the municipal consultation and subsequent agreement negotiations would happen at the upper or lower tier level for Oxford County. A Board member suggested Board members representing Oxford County encourage their Councils to seek clarity from the Province regarding whether negotiations were to happen at the upper or lower tier.

A.Murray left the meeting at 10:34am.

Questions were raised around the potential softening of the definition of natural hazards and staff clarified that updated Section 28 regulations from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry had not yet been released, but the expectation was that it would contain clarified definitions for natural hazards.

Mover: P.Mitchell

Secunder: T.Jackson

THAT the Board of Directors receives the report as presented.  
Carried.

7.3 2020 Environmental Targets Progress Report  
(Report attached)

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

A question was raised regarding the potential inclusion of the previously deferred Targets levy increase in the 2022 budget, noting the 2022 budget would be the final year to include the deferred levy increase. Staff confirmed municipal consultations for the 2022 budget had begun, and a 2021 budget update would be presented at the August meeting.

A Board member noted an error in the report on page five, holes one to seven of Cedar Creek Golf Course are not owned by the City of Woodstock.

There was discussion regarding the circulation of the Targets update to the Municipal partners. Staff confirmed various options were being considered, including tying the updates into budget presentations, and creating individual fact sheets for each Municipality to accompany the 2022 budget package.

Staff confirmed the management team was working to identify the mandatory and non-mandatory programs within each of the Targets.

Mover: B.Petrie

Seconder: J.Reffle

THAT the Board of Directors receives the report as presented.

Carried.

8. June 2021 For Your Information Report

The June FYI was presented for the member's information.

9. Other Business (Including Chair and General Manager's Concluding Remarks)

A Board member conveyed concerns received by watershed residents regarding the perceived lack of management of Giant Hogweed in the UTRCA watershed. Staff confirmed a meeting of the UTRCA invasive species team had been scheduled to discuss further hogweed management on UTRCA lands and UTRCA managed lands. Suggestions for funding the work included engaging the Province to ask for additional resources to assist, and establishing a memorandum of understanding with Municipalities to manage Hogweed on municipal lands.

Staff confirmed the letter recently received from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding the ongoing discussion with St. Marys would be included on the August agenda.

T.Annett shared a number of Provincial updates, including the announcement of Hon. David Piccini as the new Minister of the Environment, Conservation & Parks.

The Board was informed that C.Harrington, Manager of Watershed Planning, Research and Monitoring, had accepted a full time teaching job at Fanshawe College and would be leaving the UTRCA.

A.Hopkins left the meeting at 11:17am.

10. Closed Session – In Camera

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

Mover: J.Salter

Secunder: M.Schadenberg

THAT the Board of Directors adjourn to Closed Session – In Camera, in accordance with Section C.13 of the UTRCA Administrative By-Law to discuss litigation affecting the UTRCA.

Carried.

Rise and Report Progress

The Board of Directors rose and reported progress on the closed session items as follows:

10.1 Participation in Potential Litigation

Mover: A.Westman

Secunder: M.Blosh

THAT the Board of Directors approve the recommendation as presented in the report.

Carried.

10.2 Litigation Affecting the UTRCA

Mover: B.Petrie

Secunder: T.Jackson

THAT the Board of Directors receives the report as presented.

Carried.

10.3 Matter Before the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal

Mover: T.Jackson

Secunder: S.Levin

THAT the Board of Directors receives the report as presented.

Carried.

11. Adjournment

The Chair confirmed the mover was willing to let their name stand. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:16 pm on a motion by H.McDermid.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tracy Annett", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

---

Tracy Annett  
General Manager  
Att.

Minutes  
Upper Thames River Conservation Authority  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Tuesday, August 24, 2021

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Virtual Meeting Due to COVID-19 Pandemic

The UTRCA Board Chair called the meeting to order at 9:35am.

Members Present:

M.Blosh	P.Mitchell
A.Dale – Chair	A.Murray
A.Hopkins	B.Petrie
T.Jackson	J.Reffle
S.Levin	J.Salter
M.Lupton	M.Schadenberg
N.Manning	A.Westman
H.McDermid	

Regrets: None

Solicitor: G. Inglis

Staff:

J.Allain	B.Mackie
T.Annett	C.Saracino
B.Dafoe	J.Schnaithmann
B.Glasman	A.Shivas
C.Harrington	C.Tasker
T.Hollingsworth	B.Verscheure
J.Howley	M.Viglianti - Recorder

1. Approval of Agenda

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

Mover: P.Mitchell

Secunder: A.Hopkins

THAT the Board of Directors approve the agenda as posted.

Carried.



## 2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

The Chair inquired whether the members had any conflicts of interest to declare relating to the agenda. There were none.

## 3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting – June 22, 2021

A.Murray joined them meeting at 9:40am.

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

Mover: B.Petrie

Secunder: J.Reffle

THAT the UTRCA Board of Directors approve the Board of Directors' minutes dated June 22, 2021, including any closed session minutes, as posted on the Members' web-site.

Carried.

## 4. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

## 5. Delegations

There were no delegations.

## 6. Business for Approval

### 6.1. 2021 Mid-Year Financial Update and Revised Budget (Report attached)

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

Staff clarified that DMAF stands for Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund, and NDMP stands for National Disaster Mitigation Program.

Staff confirmed the Authority has received increases in property valuations and rates from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) and more are expected as they catch up with the last four year cycle. Although the total of the increases are still unknown, staff made an estimate and budgeted accordingly.

Staff confirmed the budgeting process for 2022 was underway and the Board will receive a report at the October Board.

Mover: M.Schadenberg

Seconder: A.Westman

THAT the Board of Directors approve the recommendation as presented in the report.

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Current Value Assessment (CVA) Apportionment Percentage</b>	<b>Voting Weight</b>	<b>Number Of Members</b>	<b>Weight Per Member</b>	<b>For</b>
<b>County of Oxford</b>	16.7232	23.37	5	4.67	
A.Dale					1
M.Lupton					1
P.Mitchell					1
B.Petrie					1
M.Schadenberg					1
<b>City of London</b>	64.2138	50.00	4	12.50	
M.Blosh					1
A.Hopkins					1
S.Levin					1
J.Reffle					1
<b>Lucan- Biddulph</b>	0.3434	0.48	1	0.48	1
A.Westman					
<b>Thames Centre</b>	3.2227	4.50	1	4.50	1
A.Westman					
<b>Middlesex Centre</b>	2.3789	3.32	1	3.32	1
N.Manning					
<b>Stratford</b>	7.2867	10.18	1	10.18	1
J.Salter					
<b>Perth East</b>	1.4489	2.02	1	2.02	1
H.McDermid					
<b>West Perth</b>	1.4898	2.08	1	2.08	1
A.Murray					
<b>St. Marys</b>	1.458	2.04	1	2.04	1
T.Jackson					
<b>Perth South</b>	1.2295	1.72	1	1.72	1
T.Jackson					

Municipality	Current Value Assessment (CVA) Apportionment Percentage	Voting Weight	Number Of Members	Weight Per Member	For
South Huron T.Jackson	0.205	0.29	1	0.29	1

\*Based on UTRCA share of assessment

The vote carried with 100 % support of the weighted vote.

Notes: Voting weight is capped at 50% for any municipality unless the number of its representatives exceeds 50% of the total number of municipal appointees. The voting weight of the remaining municipalities is increased proportionally.

## 6.2. Minister's Zoning Orders Preparations (Report attached)

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

The Board discussed the proposed recommendations and suggested amendments. Some felt discretion should be applied when using the proposed communication to the public, not wanting to oppose every Ministerial Zoning Order without consideration.

It was clarified that recommendation number one was meant as a way to alert staff early on potential Ministerial Zoning Orders they may not be aware of yet.

The Board discussed and agreed on two amendments to recommendation number two. That recommendation number two be amended to clarify the communication is for the public, and that the Authority is being asked to go against its legislative mandate. The recommendation now reads:

### **2. That the Board approve the following communication to the public when opposing MZOs when they are used to override natural hazard and / or heritage features.**

On [DAY MONTH YEAR], the Ontario government announced a Minister's Zoning Order (MZO) at the request of [Municipality] to expedite construction of [PROJECT]. The Planning Act authorizes the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) to issue zoning orders for regulating the use of land and the location, use, height, size, and spacing of buildings and structures. The Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) has no approval authority in the issuance of an MZO. The UTRCA was notified on [DAY MONTH YEAR] that the MZO had been posted on the Ontario government's website.

Consistent with the UTRCA's legislative mandate and Strategic Objective, the UTRCA opposes this project due to [REASON FOR OPPOSITION, e.g., involves development in wetlands, etc.]. Community concerns regarding this MZO should be provided to the Province using the contact information provided by the MMAH.

Mover: M.Blosh

Seconder: A.Hopkins

THAT the Board of Directors approve the recommendation as amended.

Carried.

## 7. Business for Information

- 7.1. Administration and Enforcement - Section 28 Status Report – Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation (O.Reg157/06)  
(Report attached)

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

The Board raised a question and discussed the permit requirements for playground equipment. Staff provided further explanation detailing the permit considerations for installation of equipment.

Mover: T.Jackson

Seconder: S.Levin

THAT the Board of Directors receives the report as presented.

Carried.

- 7.2. Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Parks Recommendations  
(Report attached)

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

The Board discussed the letter and staff report, with a lengthy discussion on recommendation four. The Board discussed the suggested change in scope to the Dam Safety Review study. It was suggested to separate out the cost of the additional work in the tender and to consider a cost sharing arrangement. Some felt the Standard Operating Procedure should be reviewed as part of recommendation number four. The importance of reaching out to the Town of St. Marys and the golf course for their interpretation of number four before going ahead with any plans was noted.

Mover: M.Lupton

Seconded: N.Manning

THAT the Board of Directors receives the report as presented.

Carried.

7.3. 2021 Agricultural Property Tender Results  
(Report attached)

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

Staff confirmed the agreements would be finalized and sent out to the successful applicants in November.

Mover: H.McDermid

Seconded: P.Mitchell

THAT the Board of Directors receives the report as amended.

Carried.

7.4. Correspondence Requesting Access to the House Located at 1424 Clarke Road, London  
(Report attached)

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

Current photos of the house were shared on screen during the introduction of the report.

After discussion, the Board determined no access should be granted because of the many known and unknown health hazards and safety risks located inside the house.

Staff confirmed they had historical information on file, including interior photos of the house, that could be shared with Maggie Whalley.

The Board identified this as an operational matter and directed staff to respond to Maggie Whalley, offering an opportunity to view the building from the outside, but not the interior. It was suggested that staff acknowledge the Board's discussion in the response letter and advise that the Authority is not in a position to spend any money on restoration. It was also suggested that staff share any historical photos / information with the London Heritage Committee.

Mover: A.Murray

Seconded: B.Petrie

THAT the Board of Directors receives the report and correspondence as presented.

Carried.

7.5. UTRCA and City of London Development Memorandum of Understanding (DMOU)  
(Report attached)

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

Mover: J.Reffle

Secunder: J.Salter

THAT the Board of Directors receives the report as presented.

Carried.

8. August 2021 For Your Information Report

The August FYI was presented for the member's information.

9. Other Business (Including Chair and General Manager's Concluding Remarks)

Staff are waiting for updates from the Province on the timeline for the proposed regulations. Any updates will be passed along to the Board as soon as possible.

The Latornell conference will be through webinars again this year, an email will be provided to members.

An update on the demolition of the Blacksmith's shop in Motherwell was provided.

Former Board member Ray Chowen congratulated the Authority, through email, on the Step Into Nature YouTube series.

Chris Harrington, Manager of Watershed Planning, Research and Monitoring will remain, part time, in his position with the UTRCA until the end of the year.

Board members discussed the resolutions being considered by the lower tier Oxford County municipalities clarifying that MOU/agreements would be negotiated at the County level.

10. Closed Session – In Camera

The Chair confirmed the mover and seconder were willing to let their names stand.

Mover: M.Schadenberg

Seconder: A.Westman

THAT the Board of Directors adjourn to Closed Session – In Camera, in accordance with Section C.13 of the UTRCA Administrative By-Law, to discuss commercial information, supplied in confidence to the Authority, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to interfere significantly with the contractual negotiations of an organization and an update on a matter before the local planning appeal tribunal.  
Carried.

### Rise and Report Progress

The Board of Directors rose and reported progress on the closed session items as follows:

- 10.1. Commercial information, supplied in confidence to the Authority, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to interfere significantly with the contractual negotiations of an organization

The Board approved the recommendation from the Finance & Audit Committee to appoint the Authority's audit firm to being the current fiscal year. Staff were directed to notify the successful and unsuccessful firms of the Board's decision.

Mover: M.Blosh

Seconder: A.Hopkins

THAT the Board of Directors approve the recommendation as presented in the report.  
Carried.

- 10.2. Update on a Matter Before the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal

The motion was amended to include direction to staff to report back in September or October on options three and five outlined in the closed session report.

Mover: T.Jackson

Seconder: S.Levin

THAT the Board of Directors approve the motion as amended in closed session.  
Carried.

A.Westman left the meeting at 12:18pm.

T.Jackson left the meeting at 12:29pm.

## 11. Adjournment

The Chair confirmed the mover was willing to let their name stand. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:33 pm on a motion by H.McDermid.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tracy Annett", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tracy Annett, General Manager  
Att.



**Minutes**  
**St. Marys Business Improvement Area Committee**  
**Regular Meeting**

September 13, 2021

6:00 pm

Video Conference

Click the following link:

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

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Members Present: Lanny Hoare (Chair), Gwendolen Boyle (Vice-Chair), Amie Rankin (Secretary), Kyle Burnside (Treasurer), Councillor Tony Winter (Council Representative)

Staff Present: Emily Taylor (Administrative Assistant)

Staff Liaisons Present: Kelly Deeks-Johnson (Tourism and Economic Development Manager)

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST / CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

None.

**3. AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chair Hoare submitted the additions of 10.3 Red Truck Discussion and 10.4 Christmas Committee to the agenda.

Moved By: Gwendolen Boyle

Seconded By: Amie Rankin

**THAT** the September 13, 2021 St. Marys Business Improvement Area Board agenda be approved as amended.

#### 4. DELEGATIONS

##### 4.1 Kelly Boudreau, Community Living St. Marys re: National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM)

Kelly Boudreau, Employment Facilitator at Community Living St. Marys & Area, presented on the Light It Up Campaign. In conjunction with Ontario Disability Employment Network, the Light It Up Campaign hopes to encourage business and town buildings to light up blue and purple, the colours that identify National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). NDEAM helps businesses and community members become more aware of hiring a person with a disability and works to assist people with disabilities to find employment in the community.

For more information, contact Kelly Boudreau at [kboudreau@clstmarys.ca](mailto:kboudreau@clstmarys.ca) or 519-284-1400 ext. 225.

Moved By: Gwendolen Boyle

Seconded By: Amie Rankin

**THAT** the verbal presentation by Kelly Boudreau be accepted.

Carried

##### 4.2 Bim Graham re: St. Marys Legion Veterans Banners

Bim Graham, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of the St. Marys Legion, presented on the veterans banners for Remembrance Day. One hundred banners will be hung on poles in the downtown and the rest will be hung in store windows. The last day to submit banners to the Legion before they are printed is September 30, 2021.

St. Marys Legion is looking for downtown stores that would be interested in hanging banners in their windows. The banners must be hung on October 25, 2021 and removed on November 12, 2021. A map of banner locations is in production as many people travel from out of town to see them hanging.

Moved By: Kyle Burnside

Seconded By: Gwendolen Boyle

**THAT** the verbal presentation by Bim Graham be accepted.

**Carried**

#### **4.3 Marketing & Communications Committee Update**

Megan Feeney and Scott McLauchlan presented on previous Marketing and Communication Committee campaigns and future initiatives. A creative brief for a BIA logo has been created and will be circulated to the Board before being added to the next agenda.

Moved By: Kyle Burnside

Seconded By: Gwendolen Boyle

**THAT** the verbal presentation by the Marketing and Communication Committee be accepted and added as an agenda item in the next Board meeting.

**Carried**

#### **5. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

Moved By: Amie Rankin

Seconded By: Councillor Tony Winter

**THAT** the July 12, 2021 St. Marys Business Improvement Area Board meeting minutes be approved by the Board and signed by the Chair and the Secretary.

**Carried**

#### **6. MEMBERSHIP INPUT PERIOD**

None.

#### **7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

##### **7.1 Request for Increased Surveillance and Patrol in the Downtown Core**

Moved By: Gwendolen Boyle

Seconded By: Amie Rankin

**THAT** the correspondence from the Town of St. Marys regarding the request for increased surveillance and patrol by police in the downtown be received.

**Carried**

**8. CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**9. REPORTS**

**9.1 Council Report**

Councillor Winter presented on highlights from Council meetings. This included; updates on the parking study being conducted, the Weir Fountain restoration, and National Truth and Reconciliation Day events.

Moved By: Councillor Tony Winter

Seconded By: Gwendolen Boyle

**THAT** the verbal Council report be received.

**Carried**

**9.2 Treasurer's Report**

Moved By: Kyle Burnside

Seconded By: Councillor Tony Winter

**THAT** the July and August 2021 Treasurer's reports be accepted as presented.

**Carried**

**10. OTHER BUSINESS**

**10.1 Board Member Absences**

Moved By: Kyle Burnside

Seconded By: Amie Rankin

**THAT** the Board Member Absences report be accepted as information;  
and

**THAT** the Board acknowledges the previous absences of Gwendolen Boyle and approves the absences.

**Carried**

## **10.2 Town Hall Bench Discussion**

There was previous discussion about sponsoring the repair of the bench outside Town Hall. A request will be submitted to the Town of St. Marys Public Works department with quotes and added to a future meeting agenda.

## **10.3 Red Truck Discussion**

The owner of the red truck informed the Chair that the truck will be put away as of November 1, 2021. If the truck is used for a BIA event, it would have to occur in the fall. The owner would not charge for the use of the truck and has contacted a photographer to see if fall portraits would be possible. This could possibly link to Doors Open St. Marys, which is occurring on October 16, 2021. The Chair will follow-up for more details.

## **10.4 Christmas Committee**

The Christmas Committee has yet to be established, therefore applications will be sent out to the membership as soon as possible. A committee will be established and present a Request for Funding at the next BIA meeting. There was also discussion into hiring another part-time seasonal employee to assist with holiday events and initiatives.

# **11. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

The next Board meeting will be held on Monday, October 18, 2021 at 6:00pm and will be live-streamed on the Town of St. Marys' [YouTube page](#).

Agenda items for the upcoming meeting include:

- Town Hall bench discussion

- Christmas Committee
- BIA logo
- Budget 2022 discussions
- Constitution discussion

## 12. ADJOURNMENT

Moved By: Kyle Burnside

Seconded By: Gwendolen Boyle

**THAT** this meeting of the St. Marys Business Improvement Area Board adjourns at 7:18 pm.

**Carried**

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Chair

---

Committee Secretary



## **Minutes**

### **Committee of Adjustment**

September 15, 2021

6:00 pm

Video Conference

Click the following link:

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

Member Present	Steve Cousins, Chair William Galloway Stephen Glover Paul King Clive Slade
Staff Present	Mark Stone, Town Planner Grant Brouwer, Committee Secretary-Treasurer Morgan Dykstra, Public Works and Planning Coordinator
Others Present	Sandra Forrester, Applicant (36 Widder Street West)

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

Chair Steve Cousins called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Chair Steve Cousins advised how the meeting will be conducted, and how members of the public can provide comments or ask questions for the planning file being considered by the Committee. The Committee meeting agenda as posted on the Town's website provided instructions on how to participate in the meeting.

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

None declared.

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

**Moved By** Clive Slade

**Seconded By** William Galloway

**THAT** the September 15, 2021 Committee of Adjustment agenda be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

#### **4. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

**Moved By** Stephen Glover

**Seconded By** William Galloway

**THAT** the July 7, 2021 Committee of Adjustment minutes be approved and signed by the Chair and the Secretary / Treasurer.

**CARRIED**

#### **5. REPORTS**

5.1 DEV 42-2021 Application for Minor Variance (File A04-2021) by D. and S. Forrester, 36 Widder Street West, St. Marys, ON

Chair Steve Cousins asked the Town's Planner, Mark Stone to speak to the Application.

Mark Stone spoke to the Application and advised that since the circulation of the agenda, the Town has received comments from the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority and Chippewa of the Thames First Nations who both indicated they have no concerns with the Application.

Chair Steve Cousins asked the Applicant, Sandra Forrester to speak to the Application. Sandra Forrester had no additional comments.

Chair Steve Cousins asked the Committee if they had any questions for the Applicant. The Committee sought clarification regarding the plans presented and lot coverage calculations for accessory buildings.

Morgan Dykstra advised that no public comments have been received regarding the Application.

The Committee made the following recommendation:

**Moved By** William Galloway

**Seconded By** Clive Slade



**THAT** the Application for Minor Variance by D. and S. Forrester, affecting land described as 36 Widder Street West in the Town of St. Marys to permit a minimum exterior side yard of 2.4 metres, be **APPROVED**, subject to the following conditions:

1. This approval is granted only to the nature and extent of this Application to permit a minimum exterior side yard of 2.4 metres for a proposed accessory building.
2. Required building permit(s) shall be obtained within one (1) year of the Committee's decision.
3. That the construction of the proposed accessory building be substantially in keeping with the plan(s) submitted with the Minor Variance Application.
4. That failure to comply with and maintain the conditions of the Committee will render the approval null and void.

**CARRIED**

**6. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Town staff will contact the Committee when an application has been deemed complete.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved By** Clive Slade

**Seconded By** William Galloway

**THAT** this Committee of Adjustment meeting adjourn at 6:19 p.m.

**CARRIED**

---

Steve Cousins, Chair

---

Grant Brouwer, Committee Secretary-Treasurer



**MINUTES**  
**Community Policing Advisory Committee**

September 15, 2021  
9:00 am  
Video Conference

Committee Members Present: Mayor Strathdee  
Councillor Winter  
Doug Diplock  
Jacqueline Hibbert  
Paul Dunseith

Stratford Police Services Present: Chief Greg Skinner  
Deputy Chief Foster  
Community Resources Officer Aaron Mounfield

Staff Present: Brent Kittmer, Chief Administrative Officer  
Jenna McCartney, Clerk

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

**2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None.

**3. AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Councillor Winter requested an addition to Other Business as item 7.3 "Staffing".

Mayor Strathdee requested an addition to Other Business as item 7.4 "COVID-19 Preparedness at Facilities"

**Moved By** Jacqui Hibbert

**Seconded By** Councillor Winter

**THAT** the September 15, 2021 Community Policing Advisory Committee agenda be accepted as amended.

**CARRIED**

#### **4. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

The Chair asked for minute item 3, Amendment and Approval of Agenda, be amended to remove Doug Diplock as the mover.

**Moved By** Paul Dunseith

**Seconded By** Jacqui Hibbert

**THAT** the June 16, 2021 Community Policing Advisory Committee meeting minutes be approved as amended by the Committee and signed by the Chair and the Secretary.

**CARRIED**

#### **5. CORRESPONDENCE**

##### **5.1 St. Marys Business Improvement Area re: Citizen Request about Increased Foot Patrol**

Councillor Winter provided the background on the correspondence from the Business Improvement Area.

Community Resources Officer Mounfield stated that he was made aware of this situation and informed the Staff Sergeant of the request for increased foot patrol.

**Moved By** Paul Dunseith

**Seconded By** Councillor Winter

**THAT** the correspondence regarding a request to increase surveillance and patrol in the downtown core be received.

**CARRIED**

#### **6. REPORTS**

##### **6.1 CRIME STOPPERS REPORT**

Chief Skinner presented the July 2021 Crime Stoppers report.

**Moved By** Jacqui Hibbert

**Seconded By** Paul Dunseith

**THAT** the July 2021 Crime Stoppers report be received.

**CARRIED**

##### **6.2 POLICE MONTHLY STATISTICS**

Deputy Chief Foster presented the June, July and August monthly police statistics.

A verbal update was provided about the Park Patrol program for 2021 with positive comments provided by all.

In response to an inquiry whether the auxiliary program has resumed, it was confirmed that progress is being made.

**Moved By** Jacqui Hibbert

**Seconded By** Paul Dunseith

**THAT** the June, July and August 2021 Police Monthly Statistics report be received.

**CARRIED**

## **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **7.1 Community Safety and Well-being Plan**

Chief Skinner and Kim McElroy presented the Community Safety and Well-being Plan.

**Moved By** Jacqui Hibbert

**Seconded By** Councillor Winter

**THAT** the presentation about the Community Safety and Well-being Plan be received.

**CARRIED**

### **7.2 Community Resource Officer Activity Update**

Community Resource Officer Mounfield provided an activity update on initiatives within St. Marys that took place over the summer.

- Conducted commercial owner vehicles in July with 20 vehicles inspected. 4 vehicles were taken off the road and 3 charges were laid.
- By-law complaints received to date.
- Resuming in-person visits at the local schools.

### **7.3 Staffing**

Councillor Winter informed the Committee that Council has begun preliminary budget conversations. Staff have been asked to report back with costing for an additional fulltime member to be located in St. Marys 24

hours a day, 7 days a week. This information will be provided in public form at the special meeting of Council on September 21.

Chief Skinner outlined the current delivery model within St. Marys for police service and highlighted that there is always one officer deployed to St. Marys twenty-hour hours a day, seven days a week with additional resources available through the Stratford Police Service dependent upon the situation.

**Moved By** Paul Dunseith

**Seconded By** Councillor Winter

**THAT** the Community Policing Advisory Committee supports further investigation of increasing police service levels in St. Marys.

**CARRIED**

#### **7.4 COVID-19 Preparedness at Facilities**

Chief Skinner confirmed that the police are not expected to conduct compliance inspections of vaccine certificates as the province has placed that responsibility on the business owner. The police are available to ensure peace and enforce the laws.

Mayor Strathdee stated that there has been some unruly behaviour at the Pyramid Recreation Centre from some members of the public that are voicing their displeasure with the recent legislation effecting users of sports facilities and asked if the Stratford Police Service could monitor as the legislation goes into effect on September 22.

Chief Skinner stated that off-duty officers could be available to provide additional support during the transition. Mr. Kittmer will follow up with details.

#### **8. UPCOMING MEETING**

The Chair reviewed the upcoming meeting as presented on the agenda.

#### **9. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved By** Jacqui Hibbert

**Seconded By** Councillor Winter

**THAT** this Community Policing Advisory Committee meeting adjourn at 10:38 am.

**CARRIED**

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Chair Diplock

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Brent Kittmer, Chief Administrative Officer



## **Minutes**

### **Green Committee**

September 22, 2021

5:30 pm

Video Conference

Click the following link:

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

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

#### **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**

**Resolution: GC-2021-07-01**

**Moved By** John Stevens

**Seconded By** Katherine Moffat

**THAT** the September 22, 2021 Green Committee agenda be accepted as presented.

**Carried**

**4. DELEGATIONS**

None.

**5. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

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

**Resolution: GC-2021-07-02**

**Moved By** Fred Stam

**Seconded By** John Stevens

**THAT** the June 23, 2021 Green Committee minutes be approved and signed by the Chair and Committee Secretary.

**Carried**

**6. STRATEGIC ITEMS - PROGRESS UPDATE**

Morgan Dykstra presented the September Green Committee Strategic Priorities Table and responded to questions from the Committee.

**Resolution: GC-2021-07-03**

**Moved By** David Vermeire

**Seconded By** Fred Stam

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

**Carried**

**7. REPORTS**

**7.1 PW 64-2021 Naturalized Areas Invasive Species Pilot Project**

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

The Committee suggested that if time permits, the Pilot Project include outdoor workshops to educate members of the public on invasive species, and that the report to Council include a cost analysis for invasive species control chemical applications in localized areas.



**Resolution: GC-2021-07-04**

**Moved By** Katherine Moffat

**Seconded By** John Stevens

**THAT** PW 64-2021 Naturalized Areas Invasive Species Pilot Project report be received; and,

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

**THAT** Council consider the Naturalized Areas Invasive Species Pilot Project during the 2022 budget deliberations.

**Carried**

7.2 PW 72-2021 Town of St. Marys Forestry Management Policies

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

**Resolution: GC-2021-07-05**

**Moved By** Fred Stam

**Seconded By** Katherine Moffat

**THAT** PW 72-2021 Town of St. Marys Forestry Management Policies report be received for information; and.

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

**THAT** the Town launch education campaigns related to forestry management for both public and private properties;

**THAT** the Town investigate subsidized tree programs for private property;

**THAT** the Town amend the Forestry Management Plan's "Appendix E: Tree Planting Locations" to consider existing residential areas with a reduced amount of shading; and,

**THAT** the Town amend Section 2.3 of the Town's Forestry Management Plan to include more robust language regarding the circumstances under which trees can be removed.

**Carried**

**8. OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

**9. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

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

November 24, 2021 at 5:30 pm (Virtual)

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution: GC-2021-07-06**

**Moved By** John Stevens

**Seconded By** David Vermeire

**THAT** this meeting of the Green Committee adjourns at 6:53 p.m.

**Carried**

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Lynette Geddes, Chair

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Morgan Dykstra, Committee Secretary



## MINUTES

### Heritage Advisory Committee

September 20, 2021

6:15 pm

Video Conference

Click the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzuUpFqxcEI8OG-d0YKteFQ>

Members Present	Al Stratthdee Councillor Pridham Barbara Tuer Clive Slade Janis Fread Michelle Stemmler Paul King Sherri Winter-Gropp Stephen Habermehl
Staff Present	Amy Cubberley, Cultural Services Supervisor
Members Absent	Michael Bolton

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Habermehl called the meeting to order at 6:15pm.

#### 2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None declared.

#### 3. AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Moved By** Sherri Gropp  
**Seconded By** Councillor Pridham

THAT the September 20, 2021 Heritage Advisory Committee meeting agenda be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. DELEGATIONS**

None.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

**5.1 Town Clerk re: Municipal Street Naming**

Staff will report back with a list of suggested street names at an upcoming meeting. The following suggestions were raised by Committee members:

- Consider names that acknowledge local indigenous heritage
- When considering people's name, take into consideration the recent calls to rename institutions due to the dark side of their history, i.e. Ryerson University.

**Moved By** Clive Slade  
**Seconded By** Janis Fread

THAT the correspondence from Town Clerk and Bonnie Hammond regarding municipal street naming be received, and;

THAT the Heritage Advisory Committee and staff liaison prepare a list of potential street names, along with the relevant history for each suggestion, for Council's consideration.

**CARRIED**

**6. AMENDMENT AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

**Moved By** Clive Slade  
**Seconded By** Fern Pridham

THAT the August 9, 2021 Heritage Advisory Committee meeting minutes be accepted as presented.

**7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

None.

**8. REGULAR BUSINESS**

**8.1 Heritage Conservation District Update**

No updates.

**8.2 Municipal Register, Part 1 - Designations/designated property matters**

No updates.

**8.2.1 Updating Designation Statements**

Paul, Clive, and Amy will make arrangements to update the designation statements for 480 Glass Street and 481 Water Street South.

**8.3 Properties of interest or at risk (not necessarily designated)**

None identified.

**8.4 Homeowner/Property owner letters**

Paul confirmed that letters have been sent to the owners of 261 Widder Street East and 260 Jones Street East, as well as the stonemasons who worked on the Lind Park wall.

No new letters to be sent were identified.

**9. COUNCIL REPORT**

Councillor Pridham and Mayor Strathdee updated the Committee on planned activities for the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30, the Weir Fountain, and pre-budget process.

The Cultural Services Supervisor informed the Committee that Council recently passed a Mandatory Vaccination Policy. This policy applies to staff, Council, committees of Council, volunteers, and contractors. Staff will reach out to the Committee with next steps in the coming days.

**10. OTHER BUSINESS**

**10.1 Doors Open St. Marys, October 16**

Staff informed the Committee that an in-person Doors Open event is scheduled for Saturday, October 16 from 10am to 4pm. The event will be smaller in scale compared to previous years, and all buildings will follow the same COVID-19 visitor protocol that is currently in place for Ontario museums.

Staff will send out a volunteer schedule for any Committee members who wish to volunteer at one of the participating historic buildings.

**11. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

October 18, 2021 at 6:15pm

Staff confirmed that the meeting is a week later than usual, due to Thanksgiving on October 11.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved By** Michelle Stemmler

**Seconded By** Mayor Strathdee

THAT the September 20, 2021 Heritage Advisory Committee meeting adjourn at 6:33 pm.

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Chair

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Committee Secretary



## MINUTES

### Senior Services Advisory Committee

September 27, 2021

1:00 pm

Video Conference

Click the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzuUpFqxcEI80G-d0YKteFQ>

Member Present      Candice Harris  
Donna Simmons  
Joyce Vivian  
Marie Ballantyne  
Owen O'Brien  
Councillor Winter  
Richard Lyons

Member Absent      Donna Kurchak

#### 1.      **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Ballantyne called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

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

None.

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

**Moved By** Joyce Vivian

**Seconded By** Rick Lyons

THAT the September 27, 2021, Senior Services Advisory Committee meeting agenda be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

**Moved By** Owen O'Brien

**Seconded By** Joyce Vivian

THAT the June 28, 2021, Senior Services Advisory Committee meeting minutes be approved by the Committee and signed by the Chair and staff liaison.

**CARRIED**

**5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

**5.1 Ontario Health**

Staff gave an update on the Huron Perth Ontario Health team. The OHT continues to meet. Staff was not present at the last meeting, however, will provide an update at the next Senior Services advisory committee meeting on the work being done by the various OHT working groups.

**6. REPORTS**

**6.1 Program Updates**

Staff update the committee on the return of programs inside the Friendship Centre. To date the following programs are running smoothly: vigorous fitness, moderate fitness, light fitness, men's strength, ballroom dancing, line dancing, Zumba, discussion groups. Staff are evaluating past programs and working on a plan to bring back modified versions of more programs that have yet to return which can following all public health guidance. Staff have revised the levels of fitness being offered in the Friendship Centre to support the various activity levels that people are returning with. This includes a seated class for those needing to return safely. Although not all programs require an active screening to attend select programs in the facility the Friendship Centre has adopted the policy that anyone entering the Friendship Centre facility actively screens to keep all programs consistent.

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

**7.1 Town of St. Marys Vaccination Policy**



Staff updated the committee on the Town of St. Marys COVID-19 vaccination policy noting that this policy will impact all current and future staff/volunteers and contractors and includes committees of Council.

Staff updated the group that the policy was implemented as per Provincial regulation beginning September 22 and has been without incident in the Friendship Centre to date.

## **7.2 Recreation Committee Update**

Committee member Harris informed the group that the Recreation Committee has not met and therefore no update was given. Staff informed the group that the Aquatic Centre has reopened, both ice pad are operational and Recreation staff are working on the re-opening of the Youth Centre.

## **7.3 Town of St. Marys Council Update**

Councillor Winter updated the committee on various Municipal projects including an update on Service Ontario.

## **8. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Staff updated the committee that Council has recently resumed in person meetings; however committees will continue to meet virtually until given the green light from the Clerks Departments.

The next Senior Services Advisory Committee will be held Monday October 21, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved By** Candice Harris

**Seconded By** Rick Lyons

THAT the Senior Services Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

**CARRIED**

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Chair

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Committee Secretary

**BY-LAW 87-2021**

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF ST. MARYS**

**Being a By-law to confirm all actions and proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Town of St. Marys at its regular meeting held on October 12, 2021**

**WHEREAS:** *The Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25, as amended, Section 5(3), provides that the jurisdiction of every council is confined to the municipality that it represents, and its powers shall be exercised by by-law;*

**AND WHEREAS:** The Council of the Corporation of the Town of St. Marys deems it expedient to confirm its actions and proceedings;

**NOW THEREFORE:** The Council of The Corporation of the Town of St. Marys enacts as follows;

1. That all actions and proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the Town of St. Marys taken at its regular meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of October 2021 except those taken by by-law and those required by by-law to be done by resolution are hereby sanctioned, ratified and confirmed as though set out within and forming part of this by-law.
2. This by-law comes into force on the final passing thereof.

**Read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 12<sup>th</sup> day of October 2021.**

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Mayor Al Stratthdee

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Jenna McCartney, Clerk