



Agenda
Windsor-Essex County Environment Committee
held on November 17, 2020
Meeting at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT

3. MINUTES

Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held November 14, 2019 – *attached*

4. BUSINESS ITEMS

4.1 WECEC 2020 Operating Budget

The current balance is \$6,072.

4.2 Update: WECEC Report 105: Declaring a Climate Emergency

4.3 Windsor's Climate Change Adaptation Plan

4.4 Tree Purchase for Earth Day 2020

4.5 Confirm and Ratify E-mail Poll

University of Windsor sponsorship "The City's Broken Promise – Confronting anti-Black racism across Canada landscape in the amount of \$1,500.

4.6 Confirm and Ratify E-mail Poll

E-liquid website domain renewal in the amount of \$28.25

4.7 Confirm and Ratify E-Mail Poll

Air Quality Sub-committee "Draft Phase-Out Gas-Fired Electricity Generation Resolution" which will go as Report No. 107 to the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee and City Council.

5. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

5.1 Air

5.2 Environmentally Sensitive Lands and Issues

5.3 Public Engagement

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Essex Region Energy Plan

6.2 Town of Essex – Climate Change Adaptation Plan

6.3 City of Windsor Carbon Budget

6.4 Advancing WECEC priorities

6.5 University of Windsor Cities and Climate Action Forum - Windsor Essex Youth Climate Council

7. COMMUNICATIONS

7.1 Windsor Star Article – September 23, 2020: Urban design expert addresses anti-Black racism across city landscapes – *attached*

7.2 CTV Article – October 27, 2020: Greenhouse light pollution bylaw approved by Kingsville council – *attached*

7.3 Government of Canada – October 7, 2020 Canada one-step closer to zero plastic waste by 2030 – *attached*.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 City of Windsor – Global Covenant of Mayors

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting to be determined.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Windsor Essex County Environment Committee
Meeting held November 14, 2019

A meeting of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee is held this day commencing at 5:00 o'clock p.m. in the Board Room, Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant, there being present the following members:

Councillor Chris Holt, Chair
Keri Banar
Derek Coronado
Rosanna Demarco
Katie Kuker
Michael Schneider
Richard St. Denis

Regrets received from:

Councillor Kieran McKenzie
Leo Meloche, Deputy Mayor, Town of Amherstburg
Jerry Zhu

Guest in attendance:

Kingsville Deputy Mayor Gord Queen

Also present are the following resource personnel:

Averil Parent, Environmental & Sustainability Coordinator
Karina Richters, Supervisor Environmental Sustainability & Climate Change
Meraal Yared, Environmental & Sustainability Coordinator, Acting
Karen Kadour, Committee Coordinator

1. Call to Order

The Chair calls the meeting to order at 5:05 o'clock p.m. and the Committee considers the Agenda being Schedule A attached hereto, matters which are dealt with as follows:

2. Declaration of Conflict

None disclosed.

3. Minutes

Moved by R. St. Denis, seconded by R. Demarco,
That the minutes of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee of its meeting held September 19, 2019 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.
Carried.

4. Business Items

4.1 WECEC Green Speaker Series: Mitigating Species at Risk Road Mortality

A. Parent advises the recent Green Speaker Series was well received with approximately 60 people in attendance. She adds Councillor McKenzie presided as Master of Ceremonies for the event.

Moved by R. St. Denis, seconded by K. Banar,
That **APPROVAL BE GIVEN** to an expenditure in the upset amount of \$1,480.07 for costs associated with the Green Speaker Expert Panel Series entitled “Mitigating Species at Risk Road Mortality” held October 30, 2019 at the Ojibway Nature Centre.
Carried.

4.2 Update WECEC Report No. 105: Declaring a Climate Emergency

A. Parent reports WECEC Report No. 105 – Declaring a Climate Emergency was discussed at the meeting of the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee on October 23, 2019. The report was approved and amended to delete any reference to the County of Essex.

Moved by K. Banar, seconded by R. St. Denis,
That the update by the Environment & Sustainability Coordinator relating to WECEC Report No. 105 – Declaring a Climate Emergency **BE RECEIVED**.
Carried.

5. Subcommittee Reports

5.1 Air

No report.

5.2 Environmentally Sensitive Lands and Issues

No report.

5.3 Public Engagement

No report.

6. New Business

6.1 City of Windsor Climate Change Adaptation Plan

The “Draft” Climate Change Adaptation Plan: Degrees of Change dated November 13, 2019 is distributed and **attached** as Appendix “A”. A. Parent provides an overview of the document and adds it will be reviewed at the November 20, 2019 Environment, Transportation & Public Standing Committee and then tabled for 60 days to allow for public comment. It is suggested WECEC provide comments at its next meeting to be held on January 23, 2020.

Moved by R. Demarco, seconded by R. St. Denis,
That the “Draft” Climate Change Adaptation Plan: Degrees of Change – dated November 13, 2019 **BE RECEIVED**.

6.2 WECEC Year End Report

A. Parent reviews the WECEC 2019 Annual Report.

Moved by R. St. Denis, seconded by D. Coronado,
That the WECEC 2019 Annual Report **BE RECEIVED**.
Carried.

6.3 WECEC 2020 Work Plan

A. Parent provides a cursory review of the WECEC 2020 Work Plan.

R. St. Denis reports 2020 will mark the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day.

Moved by R. St. Denis, seconded by D. Coronado,
That the WECEC 2020 Park Plan **BE RECEIVED**.
Carried.

6.4 Remaining 2020 Budget

A. Parent provides an update relating to the surplus WECEC 2019 Operating Budget in the amount of \$1,728.63.

Discussion ensues regarding the purchase of WECEC promotional items as give-aways at events.

Moved by K. Kuker, seconded by D. Coronado,
That **APPROVAL BE GIVEN** to an expenditure in the upset amount of \$1,728.63 for the purchase of 2020 promotional items as give-aways at the Earth Day event with the purchase of trees as a priority.
Carried.

Moved by R. Demarco, seconded by D. Coronado,
That **APPROVAL BE GIVEN** to an expenditure in the upset amount of \$406.80 payable to eliquidMEDIA for hosting fees for the WECEC website from November 16, 2019 to November 15, 2020.
Carried.

7. Communications

Moved by R. Demarco, seconded by D. Coronado,
That the following Communications **BE RECEIVED**:

- 7.1 CTV News Article – Green Speaker Series discusses eco passages and at risk species
- 7.2 AM800 News Article – Expert says eco passages are working in Long Point Bay
- 7.3 Notice of Environmental Assessment – Wyandotte and Jarvis
- 7.4 Notice of Oldcastle Stormwater Master Plan Environmental Assessment

Carried.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 5:00 o'clock p.m. at the Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant.

9. Adjournment

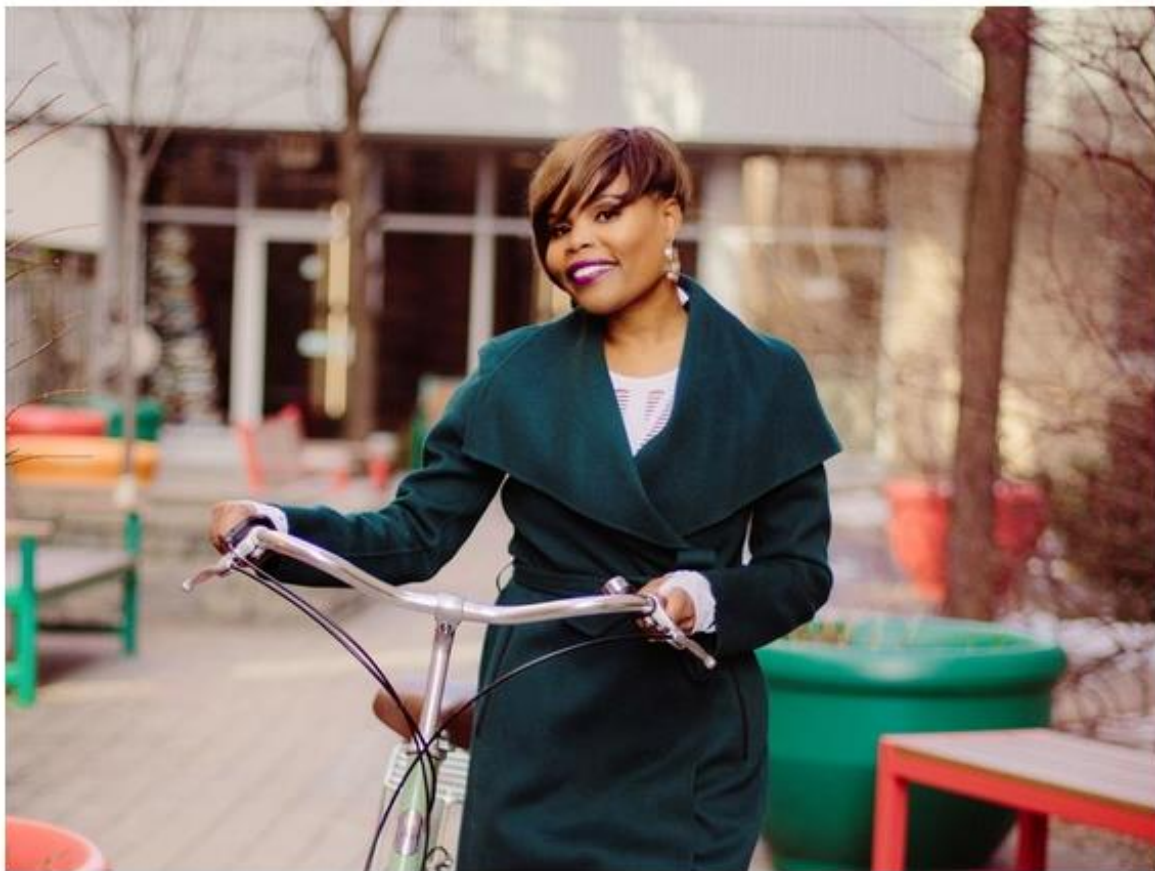
There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 6:00 o'clock p.m.

CHAIR

COMMITTEE COORDINATOR

Urban design expert addresses anti-Black racism across city landscapes

Julie Kotsis • Windsor Star
Sep 23, 2020 • Last Updated 1 minute ago • 3 minute read



Jay Pitter, an award-winning placemaker and author whose practice mitigates growing divides in cities across North America, is shown in this handout photo. Pitter gave a virtual keynote address – called “The City’s Broken Promise – Confronting anti-Black racism across Canadian urban landscapes,” to several University of Windsor groups Sept. 22, 2020. Windsor Star

In 1954, African American civil rights activist Mary McLeod Bethune walked into Windsor’s Prince Edward Hotel. She was denied a room.

McLeod Bethune was speaking the next day at Windsor’s annual Emancipation Day celebration along with then U.S. First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt.

Roosevelt was offered a room in the hotel. She declined the offer and both women opted to stay in Detroit for the night.

“That will be shocking to our sensibilities as Canadians because we would think that story would work the other way,” Jay Pitter said before speaking to a virtual audience Tuesday evening through a University of Windsor lecture on Zoom.

“Windsor has a proud history of (helping enslaved African Americans fleeing from the United States via the Underground Railroad) — and it should be proud of this,” said Pitter, whose presentation was entitled *The City’s Broken Promise — Confronting anti-Black racism across Canadian urban landscapes*.

“It is also true, Windsor also participated in segregation as well.”



August 4, 1954: “Emancipation celebrations concluded at Jackson Park last evening with a speech by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, as the highlight of the program. Seen above in discussion are, left to right, Mrs. Roosevelt, Mr. Hugh Graybiel, president of the Windsor Star, and Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, founder of the National Council of Negro Women, who also attended the four-day Emancipation celebrations.” McLeod Bethune was denied a room at Windsor’s Prince Edward Hotel. PHOTO BY STAR ARCHIVES /Windsor Star

Pitter is a Toronto-based author and award-winning placemaker — a person who leads the design, planning and programming of public spaces. Her academic background and research is focused on urban design and social justice, something she said is unusual within land-use planning or development.

“Urban planning or land use tends to focus on form or function — buildings, infrastructure — and rarely on social issues such as gender or race,” Pitter said.

“We often have conversations about race and class without having those conversations within the context of place. And place is very important for understanding those issues.”

Pitter said racism has played an integral role in land use and the design of urban centres, heralding back in history to public auction sites where enslaved people were sold.

“We would see people bought, sold and beaten and sexually violated at auction block sites,” she said, stressing that “the where (or place) of the injustice is as egregious as the injustice itself.”

“The auction block is Black people’s first introduction to the public realm (across Canadian cities). That is a very violent and precarious beginning or introduction to public life and public space.”

Pitter said society has “underestimated the impact of normalizing the sale and the beating and the sexual violation of Black bodies just in everyday life, out in the open,” attributing this to Black people often feeling a lack of belonging or a sense of heightened vigilance when out in public.

“And non-Black people often suspect Black bodies, Black people in public and that is due to hundreds of years of conditioning.”

That history also led to laws and bylaws to govern Black people’s movements and enjoyment in the public realm, she said.

For example, anti-vagrancy laws that were established “to keep people in their place and to maintain social hierarchies,” and today give “police far too much power to approach, harass and sometimes sadly execute people on the street who they deem to be out of place.”

Pitter said racist housing covenants prevented Blacks, Jews and Indigenous people from living or owning property in some areas, creating segregated neighbourhoods across Canadian cities.

She hopes that by raising awareness around these issues, local leaders and politicians will reassess the ways in which they conduct public consultation and regular citizens will take action for change.

“I’m hoping everyday folks will use the information and feel embolden to get involved in the processes around land use and placemaking – everything from formal land use processes to being a really good neighbour.”

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Greenhouse light pollution bylaw approved by Kingsville council

CTVNewsWindsor.ca Staff
[Contact](#)

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Volume 90%

[Kingsville issues greenhouse glow by-law](#)



NOW PLAYING

Kingsville town council has unanimously passed a by-law to stop light pollution coming from area greenhouses.

SHARE



WINDSOR, ONT. -- Kingsville is cracking down on greenhouse operations that emit so-called "light pollution" and odors from cannabis growers.

Kingsville council unanimously passed a bylaw to limit night glow from greenhouses in Kingsville.

"It's a challenge we're all trying to address across the region," Kingsville mayor Nelson Santos said. "It impacts our community. It impacts our neighbouring communities. We're trying to find a mechanism that deals with the complaints we're getting within the county and even internationally with the calls we're getting from Michigan and Ohio."

The bylaw also deals with odours and it takes effect immediately.

“Ten months have now passed. We’ve seen some enhancements, we’ve got some players here in our municipality that have certainly led the way,” Santos said. “They’ve identified and advocated for other growers to protect the skies and let’s do the right thing for the community.”

Greenhouse operators were pushing to defer the bylaw. Mucci farms, Kingsville's largest operator, spoke to council Monday and requested the deferral.

Bert Mucci says they are compliant for the most part, but asked for more time to consult on the bylaw and also that it be split up to deal with the issues separately.

"We need to take that same path too," says Mucci. "We all live in the community. I see it every morning when I get up. I'm like, this is not good, this is not good for the community, this is not good for everybody, our kids, everybody that lives here. So we need to take proper measures."

Mucci says in the last three years they have spent nearly \$5.5 million putting in curtains, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, have faced challenges getting materials from overseas along with getting installers to do the job.

Now, all greenhouses within Kingsville will have to make the investment or risk fines ranging from \$1,000 to \$100,000.

Mayor Santos says the town is willing to work with growers which show progress towards compliance.

“We don’t want to be over punitive at the same time, but recognize that if we don’t do something it’ll just be standard fare,” he said. “We lay the charges and see where the courts take us.”

But Mucci sees another problem with the bylaw. It calls for 100 per cent light abatement — which he argues won't let the crop grow properly.

“One hundred per cent compliance is 100 per cent not doable,” he said. “I can tell you that much. We need to vent, we need to gap at least 10-15 per cent or more, depending on the outside temperature, so there has to be some give and play here.”

Mucci says that's the resolution he struck for his greenhouse operations in Ohio.

- With files from CTV Windsor's Rich Garton.

Canada one-step closer to zero plastic waste by 2030

From: [Environment and Climate Change Canada](#)

News release

October 7, 2020 – Gatineau, Quebec

Comprehensive plan includes banning harmful single-use plastic items like bags and straws

Plastic is polluting our rivers, lakes, and oceans, harming wildlife, and generating microplastics in the water we use and drink. Every year, Canadians throw away 3 million tonnes of plastic waste, only 9% of which is recycled, meaning the vast majority of plastics end up in landfills and about 29,000 tonnes finds its way into our natural environment. Canadians expect the Government to take action to protect the environment and to reduce plastic pollution across the country.

Today, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, the Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, announced the next steps in the Government of Canada's plan to achieve zero plastic waste by 2030. The plan will protect wildlife and our waters, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and create jobs.

A key part of the plan is a ban on harmful single-use plastic items where there is evidence that they are found in the environment, are often not recycled, and have readily available alternatives. Based on those criteria, the six items the Government proposes to ban are plastic checkout bags, straws, stir sticks, six-pack rings, cutlery, and food ware made from hard-to-recycle plastics.

This list of items was published today in the discussion paper Proposed Integrated Management Approach to Plastic Products to Prevent Waste and Pollution. This plan also proposes improvements to recover and recycle plastic, so it stays in our economy and out of the environment. The Government of Canada is proposing to establish recycled content requirements in products and packaging. This will drive investment in recycling infrastructure and spur innovation in technology and product design to extend the life of plastic materials.

The Government wants to hear from Canadians and stakeholders on this approach to protect the environment from plastic pollution and reduce waste through a more circular economy. Comments will be accepted until December 9, 2020. Regulations will be finalized by the end of 2021.

The Government of Canada is collaborating with provinces and territories through the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment. Together, all federal, provincial and territorial governments agreed to the Canada-wide Strategy on Zero Plastic Waste that lays out a vision for a circular economy for plastics, as well as a two-phase action plan that is being jointly implemented. Provinces, territories, and municipalities are leaders in the recovery and recycling of plastic waste. The Government of Canada is continuing to work with them to strengthen existing programs and increase Canada's capacity to reuse and recover more plastics. This will include collaborating with them to develop pan-Canadian

targets to ensure that rules are consistent and transparent across the country, and make producers and sellers of plastic products responsible for collecting them.

Minister Wilkinson also took the opportunity to announce over \$2M through the Zero Plastic Waste Initiative for 14 new Canadian-led plastic reduction initiatives. These projects are led by communities, organizations, and institutions, and will promote the development of new and innovative solutions to prevent, capture and remove plastic pollution from the environment.

By improving how we manage plastic waste and investing in innovative solutions, we can reduce 1.8 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions per year and create approximately 42,000 jobs across the country.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the health and safety of Canadians is our highest priority. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) has played an important role in keeping Canadians safe, particularly our frontline health care workers. The ban on harmful single-use plastics will not impact access to PPE. The Government of Canada is also working with the provinces and territories, through the Canadian Council of Environment Ministers (CCME), and with the private sector to keep PPE out of our environment.

Quotes

“Canadians see the effects of plastic pollution in their communities and waterways and they expect the Government to take action. Our Government is introducing a comprehensive plan to get to zero plastic waste. Our plan embraces the transition towards a circular economy, recycled-content standards and targets for recycling rates. We also intend to ban plastic bags, straws, stir sticks, six-pack rings, cutlery, and hard-to-recycle take out containers. These items are harmful to our environment and their value is lost from the economy when they are tossed in the trash. This proposed ban will help drive innovation across the country as new and easier to recycle items take their place in our economy.”

– The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Environment and Climate Change

Quick facts

- On October 10, the Government of Canada will also publish a proposed Order to add “plastic manufactured items” to Schedule 1 of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999 (CEPA). This is a necessary regulatory step to managing plastic products.
- CEPA is one of the Government’s principal laws for preventing pollution and protecting the environment. CEPA includes tools to address plastic pollution at different stages of the lifecycle of plastic manufactured items, such as manufacture, import, sale, use and disposal.
- The final Science Assessment of Plastic Pollution, which was also published today, evaluates the state of the science and looks at the presence and effects of plastic pollution on the environment and human health. It confirms that plastic pollution is everywhere and is negatively impacting our environment.

- In July 2020, the second and final phase of the Canada-wide Action Plan on Zero Plastic Waste was released. The Plan outlines timelines for tangible, coordinated action to: improve consumer, business and institution awareness; reduce waste and pollution from aquatic activities including fishing and aquaculture; advance science; support prevention, capture, and clean-up of plastic pollution; and contribute to global action.
- In Canada, single-use plastics make up most of plastic litter that is found in freshwater environments.
- In Canada, up to 15 billion plastic bags are used every year and close to 57 million straws are used daily.
- Over 35 countries around the world have already taken action by banning certain single use plastics, including U.K., France, Italy.

Related products

- [Projects funded by the Zero Plastic Waste Initiative](#)

Associated links

- [Information on how to participate in the consultation](#)
- [Proposed Integrated Management Approach to Plastic Products to Prevent Waste and Pollution](#)
- [Science Assessment of Plastic Pollution](#)
- [Information on plastic pollution](#)
- [Canada to ban harmful single-use plastics and hold companies responsible for plastic waste](#)
- [Zero plastic waste: Canada's actions](#)
- [Canada-wide strategy on zero plastic waste and phase 1 and 2 of action plan](#)
- [Ocean Plastics Charter](#)
- [Canada's Plastics Science Agenda](#)

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