



– JUNE 2017 –

ONGOING INITIATIVES

1. Updates

A. Green Speaker Contest

WECEC has proposed turning one of the Green Speakers into a contest for quality environmental research being conducted in Windsor Essex County. Students conducting research could apply to be part of the contest and deliver a brief presentation about their research. WECEC members would then award a winner with funding. The University of Windsor has been approached and is eager to partner with WECEC through hosting the ceremony, providing free advertising as well as providing judges for the competition. WECEC members helping to coordinate this event include Jesse and Edwin. This event could likely take place in September or October. A motion is needed to support this contest – estimated costs include \$1,000 in prize money and \$500 in incidentals – room rental (possibly sponsored by the university) for a total of \$1,500.

B. Canada 150 and Windsor 125 Celebrations

The Mayor's office has been contacted to see about WECEC participating in these celebrations. They will keep WECEC in mind for partnership on events or presentations as they develop. The 2015 and 2016 WECEC annual reports have been sent over to the coordinator so that she has a better understanding of WECEC initiatives.

C. New County Council Appointments to WECEC

The County Clerk's office has been approached about allowing the County Councilors to have alternates attend WECEC meetings when they are unavailable. The County Clerk prepared a report that went to the April 5th County Council meeting to instead appoint two new members of County Council to WECEC since Joe and Gary both have ongoing conflicts with the meeting time of WECEC meetings. The new members have been appointed by County Council and will be Town of Amherstburg Mayor Aldo DiCarlo and Town of Kingsville Mayor Nelson Santos.

D. Pat on the Back Awards

The WECEC Pat on the Back Awards successfully awarded 4 applicants with \$500 prizes towards their environmental projects. The awards were announced at the Pat on the Back ceremony on June 1st at the Ojibway Nature Centre. Project winners will be announced at the June 8th WECEC meeting. Thanks to Jesse and Mike for their help with the Pat on the Back Awards.

E. Potential Green Speakers for 2017

- Partnership with EnDesign currently offering a series of 7 talks about sustainable cities.
- Water Brothers.
- John Hartig – Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge has published a recent book titled Bringing Conservation to Cities: Lessons from Building the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge.
- Alice Grgicak-Mannion – researcher and professor at GLIER has done some great mapping of contaminants and other information specific to Windsor/Essex.

2. Reports to Council

January 26th 2017 - Report 95 of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee

Your Committee submits the following recommendation:

Moved by D. Coronado, seconded by R. Tamr,

WHEREAS the Ojibway Prairie Complex is our most iconic green space in the city, and one of the most biodiverse areas in all of Canada as well as a hotspot for Species At Risk; and

WHEREAS despite the importance of the area and excellent stewardship by the City and its employees, the Complex is still under threat from roadways as a result of habitat fragmentation and road mortality; and

WHEREAS evidenced by the report in 2016 by local expert Jonathan Choquette of a one-day kill tally of 91 dead snakes around the Ojibway Complex and LaSalle woodlot;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City Council **BE REQUESTED** to consider initiating an environmental assessment to explore solutions to species crossings on Matchette Road,

And further, that City Council **BE REQUESTED** to consider approving a pilot project to test the effectiveness of a seasonal road closure of Matchette Road between Titcombe Road and Sprucewood Road in May and June and in September and October of 2017 to coincide with turtle nesting and snake migration periods.

Carried. Councillor Francis voting nay.

This report was deferred to City Council at the February 22nd Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee meeting. It then went to City Council on May 8th, where after many delegates and discussion it did not pass.

WECEC BUDGET – SUMMARY

2017 Budget			
Item	Credit	Estimated Expenditure	Status
2017 Budget	\$8,000.00		
Pat on the Back		\$2,500	Committed, need motion
Green Speaker Research Competition		\$1,500	Proposed, need motion
Green Speaker		\$1,000	
Green Speaker		\$1,000	
Website Hosting Fee		\$400	Committed, need motion
Website Domain Renewal		\$50	Committed, need motion
TOTALS	\$8,000	\$6,450	
NON-ALLOCATED REMAINING		\$1,550	