



– SEPTEMBER 2016 –

ONGOING INITIATIVES

1. Communications

A. Marathon Refinery

The office Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, responded to the Mayor of the City of Windsor on the topic of the proposed Marathon Refinery expansion. The letter noted that the Marathon proposal has been amended since the Mayor's office raised the point, but that the Government of Canada will continue to monitor the situation and work on reducing transboundary pollution from the United States.

B. Idling

At the meeting of July 18, 2018 the Council of Essex reviewed correspondence on the possibility of a regional idling standard and voted in support of the proposal. No other County initiatives or issues of support have been announced to date.

C. Presentations

Lee Tome is meeting with representatives from Health Canada and other participants in the mock disaster on Thursday, September 29. He has agreed to share the assessment with WECEC on Thursday, November 24.

D. Microplastics

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities has adopted the following resolution, and has written to the federal government calling for action on microplastics:

BE IT RESOLVED, That FCM urge the Government of Canada to prohibit, through the list of toxic substances (Canadian Environmental Protection Act), the manufacture, use and sale of personal care and cleaning products containing plastic microbeads.

Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative have adopted the following resolution and have contacted the federal government:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative calls on the government of Canada to implement legislation banning the production and distribution of products containing microbeads as soon as possible;

The Association of Municipalities Ontario is not presently involved in Microplastics issues.

There exists no information on microplastics initiatives on the websites of Sustainable Cities International or the Regional Public Works Commissioners of Ontario. Inquiries have been sent regarding how these organizations hope to address the issue of microplastics, but so far answers have not been forthcoming.

WECEC BUDGET - SUMMARY

2016 Budget			
Expense	Credit	Expenditure	Status
2016 Budget	\$8,000.00		
Pat on the Back		\$2,400	Spent
Green Speaker #1		\$1,000	Spent
Green Speaker #2		\$425	Spent
Green Speaker #3 (&4)		~\$1,575	Proposed
Website Hosting Fee		\$400	Committed
Website Domain Renewal		\$28.25	Committed
Earth Day		\$35	Spent
EAC Symposia		\$615	Spent
TOTALS	\$8,000	\$6,478.25	
ESTIMATED SPENT		\$4,475	
ESTIMATED COMMITTED SPENDING		\$428.25	
ESTIMATED PROPOSED SPENDING		\$1,575	
ESTIMATED NON-ALLOCATED REMAINING			\$1,521.75

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WECEC Work Plan 2016

Strategic Direction #1 – Profile of WECEC		
GOALS	ACTIONS	TIME FRAME
Goal: Improve relationships with City and County Councils.	Prepare an annual report of accomplishments and send to City and County Councils, environmental organizations, boards etc.	Yearly
Goal: Improve relationships with other organizations, committees.	Hold a meeting with other environmental organizations and committees to share information; Continue to pursue opportunities for partnering on community education/public awareness; Hold annual Pat on the Back Awards presenting \$2,000 to local environmental organizations and schools.	Yearly Ongoing Yearly
Strategic Direction #2 – Advocacy		
GOALS	ACTIONS	TIME FRAME
Goal: Provide advice on environmental issues to the City of Windsor, County of Essex and its area municipalities.	Assess issues referred from City and County Councils and respond with suggested recommendations; Provide recommendations to City and County Councils on environmental matters identified through our own initiative.	Ongoing Ongoing
Goal: Advocate for environmental groups in Windsor Essex County.	Accept delegations from environmental groups and advocate on behalf of these groups to City and County Councils.	Ongoing
Goal: Provide advice to City and County Council related to Federal and Provincial initiatives.	Develop recommendations related to Federal and Provincial plans, policies and initiatives to be forwarded to City and County Councils.	Ongoing
Strategic Direction #3 – Public Engagement and Education		
GOALS	ACTIONS	TIME FRAME
Goal: Increase awareness of WECEC by the public.	Maintain a website and Facebook page; Strategically identify and attend community events; Maintain a professional display for participation at community events.	Monthly Ongoing Ongoing
Goal: Increase engagement of public on environmental issues	Develop environmental education campaigns and messaging to help inform Windsor Essex County residents about environmental issues; Host free Green Speaker Series events with environmental experts highlighting environmental issues.	Ongoing Ongoing

List of Priorities (including but not limited to)

- Greening the City – specifically more green roofs and other types of green infrastructure
- Walkability, complete streets, trails, active transportation
- Review of existing tree cutting bylaw
- Pollution issues, cancer causing environmental issues
- Right to Know by-law
- Parkway natural areas
- Know Your City tour
- Information sharing about what other municipalities are doing
- Invasive species control
- Youth engagement
- Anti-Idling
- Bike Lanes

Current List of Subcommittees

1. Air
2. Environmentally Sensitive Lands and Issues