



**– FEBRUARY, 2012 –**

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## **ONGOING INITIATIVES**

### **1. Provincially Significant Wetlands Subcommittee**

The subcommittee asked for a deferral of the follow-up report from the Planning department regarding the Ojibway Shores property. At the Environment and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> the report requested by WECEC to the Planning Department regarding re-zoning City property adjacent to Ojibway Shores from industrial to natural heritage was discussed. From this discussion a motion was made to investigate the benefits to linking existing Natural Heritage areas with the Detroit River. The subcommittee will fight for the property again when this new report is brought forward.

The sub-committee has now received a draft copy of the Lake Erie Costal Stewardship Trail concept and will offer any comments to Carolinian Canada.

### **2. Regional Integrated Community Sustainability Plan**

Contact has been made with members from the Inter-Municipal Planning Consultation Committee (IMPCC) to begin discussions with the group regarding a Regional Sustainability Plan.

### **3. Renewable Energy Media Campaign with Generator Design**

Letters requesting support for the renewable energy campaign have been sent to various solar companies in Windsor as well as the Economic Development Corporation and the Regional Chamber of Commerce. Mark Bartlett plans on following up with these companies and agencies in order to discuss our project in more detail with them.

The campaign message still needs to be finalized and approved by the Committee before our campaign will launch.

### **4. Student Representatives**

An updated Terms of Reference for our Committee has been approved by City and County Councils along with our recommendation to replace the City and County Citizen positions with Student positions.

The format for the St. Clair student representative has been determined. The elected student government president will be put forward to sit on our Committee. This has been written into the duties of the student government president. By the middle of March, 2012 student government elections will be complete and we will receive an application and resume from the president. She/he will be recommended to the Standing Committee and will hopefully have approval from the City and County by May 1<sup>st</sup> when her/his term begins. We will hopefully have a student from St. Clair at our monthly meeting in May. Their term will be one year until the next student government elections which occur on a yearly basis.

A similar request has been made of the University of Windsor student government. Our proposal has been received by the student council president and we are awaiting his response.

**5. Water Quality Subcommittee**

This subcommittee met for the first time this month. We talked about a variety of issues including non-point sources of phosphorous loading into the Detroit River, a possible Provincial Algal Bloom Strategy, public awareness campaigns etc. We would like to engage authorities such as the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), the Ministry of the Environment (MOE), and the Essex County Federation of Agriculture (ECFA). We also hope to produce a “fact sheet” detailing the issue.

**6. Transportation Subcommittee**

The subcommittee has received information from Brian Masse’s office regarding the high speed rail campaign and will continue to work with the Chamber of Commerce to formulate a united request to the Province in support of high speed rail.

**IMPORTANT UPDATES AND INFORMATION**

**1. Earth Day 2012**

Earth Day 2012 will take place on Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at Mic Mac (displays and activities) and Malden (native plant garden) Parks. The theme this year is local food – “I like my food naked, near and natural”. The Committee has purchased a booth and so will need volunteers during the day from 10am until 3pm.