



– JUNE 2012 –

ONGOING INITIATIVES

1. Provincially Significant Wetlands Subcommittee

Due to a previous agreement between the City of Windsor and the Windsor Port Authority, the City is required to service the Port Authority property (Ojibway Shores) through the city owned property. With this realisation, it would be unreasonable for the City to rezone Ojibway Shores as natural heritage. Currently, the announcement of the new bridge has stalled any future development on the property, as well as any talk of another land swap with the city. The committee will prepare to comment on the Environmental Assessment for the new bridge once it is released.

A draft report prepared by city administration regarding the Natural Heritage/Open Space designation around the airport woodlots has been circulated. The area in between the woodlots has the potential to be used as a green infrastructure storm water management feature. A meeting to discuss this possibility will be held on Wednesday July 4th with representation from city and airport administration, ERCA and the PSW Subcommittee. A verbal update will be provided at the July WECEC meeting.

2. Renewable Energy Media Campaign with Generator Design

Our campaign advertisements and editorial content ran in the County papers, Windsor Star Online as well as Windsor This Week during the weeks of June 11th and June 18th. Additional information about the campaign was available on our webpage, and a media conference was held on Friday, June 22nd at the Lakeshore Studio. Many media outlets attended the press conference including but not limited to, the Windsor Star, CBC, AM 800, Blackburn News and Windsor this Week. In addition, campaign members talked about the benefits of solar energy on AM 800's Experts on Call show on Saturday June 23rd. This first chapter in our Renewable Energy Media Campaign was successful, and WECEC has about \$1,000 to begin the next part of our campaign to focus on another renewable energy technology.

3. Water Quality Subcommittee

The subcommittee has discussed the potential for an agricultural drain buffer strip pilot project on airport property. Funding opportunities for this project are being considered and applied to by ERCA. There is the potential for partnerships with the University of Windsor or Guelph.

The subcommittee is also interested in producing a PSA video to highlight the causes and potential solutions to algae issues in Lake Erie. In addition, the subcommittee would like to see the third "Green Speakers Series" event centre around water quality and be held in Kingsville during the migration festival October 19th-21st. The group is in the process of securing a speaker.

4. Provincial Environmental Advisory Committee Symposium

An email was sent to gauge interest in the 2012 Provincial EAC meeting being held in Windsor in October/November. There is enough interest to move forward and the event planning will likely commence in the early fall.

IMPORTANT UPDATES AND INFORMATION

1. Pat on the Back Awards

The winners of the Pat on the Back Awards will be announced at the July WECEC meeting. Similar to last year, four \$500 awards will be given out to local sustainability projects. The Pat on the Back Award Ceremony takes place on July 4th, 7-9pm at the Ojibway Nature Centre where the top seven applicants will present their projects to the judging panel. These applicants include Amherstburg Public School, Walkerville Collegiate Institute, Princess Elizabeth Public School, Windsor Islamic Association, St. Joseph Elementary School, Al-Hijra Academy and St. Maria Goretti Elementary School. The judges will deliberate and then present the awards by the end of the evening. Members of the public are encouraged to attend the event free of charge. The ceremony has been promoted to the media as well as on our website and Facebook page.