

Windsor, Ontario December 1, 2011

A meeting of the **Windsor Essex County Environment Committee** is held this day commencing at 5:30 o'clock p.m. in the YQG Windsor International Airport Board Room, there being present the following members:

Charlie Wright, Co-Chair
Councillor Alan Halberstadt, Co-Chair
Shahbaz Ahmed
Dean Clevett
Derek Coronado
Rick Coronado
Roger Dzugan (alternate for Mark Bartlett)
Karen Fallon
Paul Henshaw (arrives at 5:39 p.m.)
John Miller (arrives at 5:34 p.m.)
Juliet Mohammed
Phil Roberts
Tamara Stomp (arrives at 5:34 p.m.)

Regrets received from:

Mark Bartlett
Pauline Cheslock
Radwan Tamr

Guests in attendance:

Ayesha Drouillard
Bernie Drouillard
Kim Deyong
Heather Gingerich
Sandra Hogan
Donna Mayne
Daniel Ure

Also present are the following resource personnel:

Averil Parent, Environment and Sustainability Coordinator
Karen Kadour, (A) Committee Coordinator

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

C. Wright, Co-Chair calls the meeting to order at 5:30 o'clock p.m. and the Committee considers the Agenda being Schedule "A" **attached** hereto, matters which are dealt with as follows:

2. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

None.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT**

P. Roberts declares a conflict on matters pertaining to airport woodlots as he is employed by the YQG Windsor International Airport.

4. **MINUTES**

Moved by J. Mohammed, seconded by M. Child,
That the minutes of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee at its meeting held November 3, 2011 **BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED** to delete the "e-bike" prize to be awarded at the Enviro Expo.
Carried.

5. **PRESENTATION**

Environmental Effects of Adding Fluoride to City of Windsor Drinking Water

Heather Gingerich, Director, International Medical Geology Association and Kim De Yong, Fluoride Action Network – Windsor Chapter are present to provide information relating to the environmental effects of adding fluoride to the City of Windsor drinking water. The PowerPoint presentation entitled "Artificial Water Fluoridation – Environmental Effects & Legal Implications" is **attached** as Appendix "A". The salient points of discussion provided by the presenters relating to artificial water fluoridation are as follows:

- City of Windsor began fluoridating the water with sodium fluoride in 1953 and then changed to hydrofluorosilicic acid (a hazardous toxic waste product) in the early 1960's.
- Hydrofluorosilicic acid is a hazardous toxic waste product derived from scrubbers of phosphate fertilizer industries and it is against the law to dump this toxin into the environment.

- In terms of Calcium Fluoride versus Hydrofluosilicic Acid – *Calcium Fluoride* is naturally occurring, safe to hold with bare hands, sparingly soluble in neutral pH water and fluoride toxicity reduced by calcium. *Hydrofluosilicic Acid* is man-made toxic waste product, highly corrosive liquid that requires full personal protective equipment to handle legally and fluoride toxicity is enhanced by co-contaminants.
- W.U.C. currently fluoridates to a level of 0.52-0.75 ppm (taken from the 2010 Annual Water Report). This is in violation of the Species at Risk Act which states 0.12ppm as the upper threshold for Fluoride in the environment. Fluoride is not removed by wastewater treatment and disrupts the food web of protected species.
- Water fluoridation increases toxic elements in municipal water.
- The Windsor Utilities Commission has the power to end artificial water fluoridation under the Clean Water Act of 2006
- The Fluoride Action Network requests that the City of Windsor, Town of LaSalle and the Town of Tecumseh cease fluoridation of the drinking water

C. Wright, Co-Chair advises that the Town of Leamington does not fluoridate their water supply. He notes that the H.J. Heinz Company (located in Leamington) will not use fluoridated water in their baby food.

In response to a question asked by S. Ahmed asking if the presenters are advocating the use of a different fluoride versus no fluoride, H. Gingerich responds they are advocating no fluoride.

Moved by T. Stomp, seconded by R. Coronado,
That the Councils of the Town of Tecumseh, the Town of LaSalle and the City of Windsor **BE URGED** to create a by-law to cease fluoridation of the water system as there are valid concerns regarding the potential adverse impact of fluoridation on the environment.

Carried.

M. Child, D. Clevett and S. Ahmed voting nay.

C. Wright leaves the meeting at 6:22 o'clock p.m.

Councillor Halberstadt, Co-Chair assumes the Chair.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.1 Regional Integrated Community Sustainability Plan

A. Parent states 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.

6.2 Speaker Series – Elizabeth May, Leader, Green Party of Canada

A. Parent indicates that Elizabeth May has agreed to speak in Windsor on January 28, 2012. She suggests registrants pay a \$5.00 fee (to offset the cost of the food) and David Suzuki School as a venue for the “Green Speaker Series” event. M. Child suggests that the event should be free to the public. It is agreed that this decision can be made during the January meeting.

Moved by D. Clevett, seconded by T. Stomp,

That **APPROVAL BE GIVEN** to an expenditure in the upset amount of \$2,000 for the facility rental, hotel accommodations for Elizabeth May, and other associated costs including food for the Green Speaker Series to be held on January 28, 2012.

Carried.

T. Stomp suggests St. Clair College for the Arts for the venue as it offers a view of the Detroit River. A. Parent suggests the Dr. David Suzuki public school. A. Parent will bring a budget and event details back to the Committee in January.

6.3 Financial Summary

Councillor Halberstadt, Co-Chair reiterates that City Council has requested a 10 per cent reduction in advisory committee budgets and he asks that this be reflected in WECEC’s 2012 budget submission. He also lists previous budget amounts given to the committee since 2002:

Previous Budget Amounts			
Year	Annual Budget	Transfer from Reserve Account	TOTAL
2002	\$5,714.00	\$3,253.00	\$8,967.00
2003	\$4,800.00	\$5,449.00	\$10,249.00
2004	\$29,600.00	\$0.00	\$29,600.00
2005	\$27,202.00	\$29,399.00	\$56,601.00
2006	\$0.00	\$46,736.00	\$46,736.00
2007	\$0.00	\$13,750.00	\$13,750.00
2008	\$8,908.00	\$7,096.00	\$16,004.00
2009	\$8,208.00	\$7,000.00	\$15,208.00
2010	\$8,208.00	\$12,719.00	\$20,927.00
2011	\$8,208.00	\$10,021.00	\$18,229.00

6.4 New WECEC Appointments

Councillor Halberstadt, Co-Chair states that Durham Region has full-voting youth members on their Environment Committee.

Moved by K. Fallon, seconded by R. Dzugan,
That administration **BE REQUESTED** to contact the University of Windsor, St. Clair College and the high schools to enlist two youth members to sit on the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee.
Carried.

7. COORDINATOR'S REPORT

A. Parent reports that the Town of Oshawa has contributed a great resource throughout the province by creating an EAC website. www.eacs.ca is a website designed for all environmental advisory committees in Ontario.

M. Child advises he will provide Natural Heritage Site Maps to A. Parent to potentially add them to the WECEC website.

8. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

8.1 Air

D. Coronado states that A. Parent is authoring a letter to the Environmental Protection Agency regarding the Detroit Incinerator.

8.2 Transportation

The minutes of the Transportation Subcommittee at its meeting held November 29, 2011 are distributed and attached as Appendix "B".

Bernie Drouillard, member of the Transportation Subcommittee suggests that the Transit Windsor budget be increased by 10% rather than decreased by 10% as mandated by City Council.

Councillor Halberstadt, Co-Chair questions whether the request to increase Transit Windsor's budget is within the purview of WECEC's mandate.

Moved by R. Coronado, seconded by T. Stomp,
That City Council **BE REQUESTED** to consider increasing the budget for Transit Windsor in order to increase public transit service in Windsor and further, that the summer schedule for Transit Windsor **BE ELIMINATED** as it limits ridership.
Carried.

8.3 Provincially Significant Wetlands

No report.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.2 Lake Erie Algal Blooms

Item deferred to the January 5, 2012 meeting.

9.1 Renewable Energy Media Campaign with Generator Design

Moved by T. Stomp, seconded by D. Clevett,
That **APPROVAL BE GIVEN** to an expenditure in the upset amount of \$4,518.87 for renewable energy marketing services in Windsor-Essex by Generator Design of Canada Inc., Windsor, Ontario.
Carried.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

10.1 EWSWA Public Information Survey

The EWSWA Public Information Survey is received for information.

10.2 WindsorOntarioNews.com Article

The WindsorOntarioNews.com article dated November 24, 2011 entitled “No de-icing airplanes...at an airport” is received for information.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 5, 2012 at 5:30 o'clock p.m. in the YQG Windsor Airport Board Room.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 7:30 o'clock p.m.

CHAIR

(A) COMMITTEE COORDINATOR