



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – May 7, 2024

Roll Call:

Members:	Staff:
S. Luxford-Oddie, Cataraqui Conservation (Co-Chair) G. Hendry, Sustainable Kingston H. McGregor, Queen's University C. Fox, Student J. Hook, St. Lawrence College P. Bearse, KFL&A Public Health R. Healey, Kingston Coalition for Active Transportation S. Morency, Student	A. McDonnell, Superintendent of Education D. Hendry, Sustainable Initiatives Co-Ordinator D. Fowler, Manager of Facility Services Regrets: P. Szlachta, St. Lawrence College J. Salter-Keane, City of Kingston L. MacDonald, Loyalist Township C. Bevens-Leblanc, PIC Representative E. MacEachren, Queen's University Faculty of Education
Trustees:	
J. Morning (Co-Chair) R. Hutcheon	
Guests:	Recorder:

1. Call to Order

Stana Luxford-Oddie, Community Co-chair called the meeting to order.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Adoption of agenda moved by Heather McGregor that the agenda presented, be approved.
Carried.

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest declared.

4. Approval of Minutes

Adoption of minutes moved by Joy Morning that the minutes as presented, be approved.
Carried.

5. Welcome And Introductions

Stana Luxford-Oddie, Co-Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

6. Community Presentation – Dr. Patricia Collins – Summary of School Street Pilot at Winston Churchill PS

Patricia talked about the objectives of the school street project, their methods and findings and some implications and future considerations of other school streets. There are a multitude of benefits that active school travel provides, both to students and our broader community. The Public Health Agency of Canada reported that more than half of kids are using passive modes of travel, so they are either being driven to school by private car or by school buses. This is creating a problem in terms of children's physical activity and traffic around school entrances. School streets offer one solution for both of those problems. School streets temporarily blocks vehicular access to streets adjacent to school entrances during drop off and pick up times. The goal is to improve the safety of the children while making walking, biking or rolling to school a more convenient option.

7. Community Presentation – Chris Carleton – Vermicomposting Project at Winston Churchill PS

Chris started this project with the guiding questions of how can students learn about soil health and be a part of improving it in a fun and interactive way? He did some research and discovered a gentleman who has what they call a box of life program which is a vermicomposting kit that allows homes or classrooms to vermicompost. They approached Winston Churchill and had their first meeting in September where they explained the program to the teachers and reiterated that it is an optional program. Every teacher wanted to join in. The grade 5 & 6 classes built the boxes with the instructions that were provided. Each class received a worm parenting guide to make sure their worm friends were safe. Queen's staff at food services provided the organic waste for the first few months to feed the worms until the classrooms were able to use their own food waste. Teacher candidates from Queen's were able to visit every classroom to do hands-on educational experiments with the children.

8. Reports For Information (Community Organizations' Updates)

- Sustainable Kingston – G. Hendry

Geoff shared that commuter challenge will be running the first week of June which coincides with World Cycling week. He is hoping to have something to announce in the next few days in regard to a sustainable Kingston recycling event. Nominations will be going out for the Sustainable Kingston Awards. The idea is to have the award ceremony in mid to late September.

- Queen's University -H. McGregor

Faculty of Education is partnering with the Youth, Image the Future project. They are hoping to do a Queen's Imagine the Future initiative so that the teacher candidates will be engaged. Heather is trying to think of a way to have artworks and the stories that are produced by youth or teacher candidates as jumping off points for lessons about environmental or climate education. Queen's is undergoing a significant building renovation so many of the programs that they would like to run are on hold until the renovation is complete.

- St. Lawrence College – J. Hook

St. Lawrence College has been working on sustainable transportation in June and celebrating Pride month.

- Limestone District School Board – D. Hendry

Limestone District School Board has once again partnered with No. 9. Ernestown Secondary School and some students from Odessa Public School were able to receive experiential education around architecture and reimagining a sustainable future. The students brought their ideas to Loyalist Township Council and they are going to implement some of the student's ideas. On May 1st, Bayridge Secondary School held their One Earth, One Chance conference. There were about 150 youth from Grade 7 to Grade 12 participating. Dan has been working with Kingston Transit in order to continue the youth-based programming.

- Limestone District School Board – A. McDonnell

Nothing to report but wanted to thank Dan for the phenomenal work happening in Limestone and with our community partners. Alison also thanked the two presenters this evening.

- Limestone District School Board – Trustee J. Morning

Nothing to report.

- KFL&A Public Health – P. Bearse

KFL&A are working with school boards and the City of Kingston to create some parking maps that will better reflect the no stopping areas and no parking areas that the City is putting in and around the schools. This resource can be handed out to parents so they will be able to see where they can and cannot park.

- Kingston Coalition for Active Transportation – R. Healey

KCAT has been working on two areas of North Kingstown Secondary Plan which will involve a few schools in our district. They have gathered all of the input from the community and are now cleaning up the plan. Roger had traveled to Edmonton and attended the Winter Cycling Congress. This is a world wide event. Alberta but especially Calgary and Edmonton have a very active school travel program. Roger is looking forward to collaborating with Sustainable Kingston's transportation efforts.

- Student Representative – S. Morency

Nothing to report

- Cataraqui Conservation - S. Luxford-Oddie

Last time we met, they were in the middle of Maple madness which has now wrapped up for the season. Stana shared that it is the Cataraqui Conservation's 60th anniversary so they are ramping up for the celebrations. The website has various events listed that will be happening between now and December. Students from Limestone and Algonquin District School Board have been visiting Cataraqui Conservation to experience the spring awakening that you cannot experience in the classroom.

- Student Representative – C. Fox

Nothing to report.

- Limestone District School Board – J. Dooley

Nothing to report.

9. Unfinished Business

No unfinished business reported.

10. Next Meeting

TBA Fall 2024 (MS Teams)

11. Adjournment

Stana Luxford-Oddie adjourned the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m.