

AGENDA

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SIOUX LOOKOUT

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE Council Chambers, Municipal Office Thursday, September 8, 2022 6:00 P.M.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

A. Attendance

Committee Members

Mr. George Hoggarth (Chair)
Cllr. Joyce Timpson
Cllr. Joe Cassidy
Ms. Trisha Frempong
Ms. Joanne Peacock
Mr. Bruce Van Horne
Ms. Jessi Jones
Ms. Yoko Schreiber

Staff

Mr. Jody Brinkman, Manager of Development Services
Staff Resource
Ms. Kristen Bartmann, Planning Coordinator

Excused

Ms. Anne Saltel (Vice Chair)

B. Chair to Call the Meeting to order.

C. Motion to excuse _____ from the meeting.

THAT the above mentioned members be excused from the meeting.

Moved by:
Seconded by:

2. AGENDA

a) Additions to the Agenda

b) Confirmation of Agenda

THAT the Agenda for the Environment Committee Meeting of September 8, 2022 be approved.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

THAT the Minutes of the May 05, 2022 Environment Committee Meeting be adopted as presented.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

5. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- i. Committee to discuss Green Team initiative proposed by Ms. Nazli Sharma – Service Representative – Tim Hortons
- ii. Briefly discuss report submitted by Ms. Christina Zardo – Food Cyclor
- iii. Cllr Joe Cassidy to provide notes to the Committee members in regards to the online soils webinar he attended. A discussion to follow.
- iv. Mr. Jody Brinkman to provide an update on the reasoning of lights being left on in Municipal buildings, into the late evening. Are there policies or practices in place?
- v. Discussion about environment-related by-laws as requested by Ms. Trisha Frempong from Mr. Brian MacKinnon (emailed to Committee June 3, 2022).

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

7.1 2022 Work Plan

Curbside Swap

- ❖ **Goals:** Continue promoting Curbside Swap
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Cllr. J. Timpson
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media, Municipal Website
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Biweekly (Saturday and Sundays) April through October
- ❖ **Tasks:** Ads and signs to encourage participation in Curbside Swap. Continue promoting Curbside Swap Facebook page and add link to Environment Committee's Facebook page.
- ❖ **Updates:**

Explore Composting Options

- ❖ **Goals:** To explore options for composting. To promote composting.
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Municipal World magazine
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Research and promote municipal composting options. Promote backyard composting
- ❖ **Updates:**

Communication and Education

- ❖ **Goals:** To communicate with residents and educate regarding sustainable environmental practices.
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee

- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media (Facebook), Ads
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Through a variety of media, including the Environment Committee Facebook page, educate the community regarding sustainable environmental practices of any nature.
- ❖ **Updates:**

Community Garden

- ❖ **Goals:** To establish and maintain community gardens that promote and encourage locally grown produce, food security, the reduction of carbon footprints, composting and educational opportunities.
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Ms. J. Peacock
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Municipal staff needed to help with maintenance as required.
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** April through October
- ❖ **Tasks:** Maintaining the gardens, advertising, gardening classes.
- ❖ **Updates:**

Municipal Projects Review

- ❖ **Goals:** To review municipal projects that may have an environmental impact and report on their environmental effect
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** List of Capital Projects
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Review environmental impacts of capital projects
- ❖ **Updates:**

Environmental Recognition

- ❖ **Goals:** Recognize groups or individuals for their environmentally sustainable activities/initiatives
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Ms. A. Saltel
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Recognizing groups or individuals on Social Media and distributing certificates.
- ❖ **Updates:**

Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Emergency

- ❖ **Goals:** To communicate with and educate residents about effective strategies to adapt to the effects of climate change including the impact of the environment on people's health
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media, Policies
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Present information through a variety of media and act in an advisory capacity to the Municipality.
- ❖ **Updates:**

Promotion of Locally Sourced Food and Self-Sustainability

- ❖ **Goals:** To communicate with and educate residents about access to sustainably sourced food
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media, Workspaces
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing

- ❖ **Tasks:** Present information and education through a variety of media and act in an advisory capacity to the Municipality. Promoting different gardening options (examples: raised gardens and containers). Provide support to local gardeners by providing a platform for knowledge exchange. Promote sustainably sourced food. Through education and promotion at the farmer's markets, increase awareness about sustainably sourced foods. Advertise and encourage people to share their produce through activities such as gleaning. To approach other Northern Communities for ideas related to locally sourced food.
- ❖ **Updates:**

Waste Reduction/Diversion

- ❖ **Goals:** To reduce and divert waste
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Task:** Introduce policies, practices, and by-laws to eliminate single use plastics. Advertise Waste Reduction Week. Promote reduction of litter around town. Encourage the enforcement of the existing littering By-law. Educate people on hazardous waste and how to dispose of it. To encourage households and commercial businesses to reduce the amount of recyclables thrown out with garbage
- ❖ **Updates:**

Promoting the Establishment of Natural Ecosystems

- ❖ **Goals:** To promote the use of and benefits of mow free zones. To increase mow free zones in the community on municipal properties. To encourage pollinator friendly residential yards. Create a pollinator friendly community. To support native ecosystems.
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Staff
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing

- ❖ **Task:** With the assistance of the Staff Resource, discuss potential mow free and pollinator friendly areas with the Recreation and Culture Manager for municipally owned property. To communicate with and educate residents on the benefits of mow free zones. Inform the Community of the benefits of pollinator friendly yards, and promote the growth of native species.
- ❖ **Updates:**

Eco Friendly Transportation

- ❖ **Goals:** To promote different means of eco-friendly transportation
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Social media, attend trade shows, Internet
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Task:** Research different means of eco-friendly transportation and promote them to the Community. To act in an advisory capacity to the municipality to ensure infrastructure and initiatives supporting eco-friendly transportation are being considered.
- ❖ **Updates:**

8. NEW BUSINESS

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Environment Committee is scheduled for Thursday, October 6, 2022 at Council Chambers at the Municipal Office.

10. MEETING ADJOURNED

Meeting adjourned at _____.

MINUTES

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SIOUX LOOKOUT

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING THURSDAY, May 05, 2022 6:00 P.M.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER/CHAIR'S INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

A. Attendance

Committee Members

Ms. Anne Saltel, Vice Chair
Cllr. Joyce Timpson
Ms. Trisha Frempong
Ms. Joanne Peacock
Ms. Jessi Jones
Mr. Bruce Van Horne
Mr. George Hoggarth
Cllr. Joe Cassidy
Ms. Yoko Schreiber

Staff

Ms. Grace Malcolm, Development Services Administrative Assistant

Excused

Cllr. Joe Cassidy

Absent

B. The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm.

C. MEMBERS EXCUSED

Motion to excuse members.

Moved by: Mr. Bruce Van Horne

Seconded by: Ms. Jessi Jones

CARRIED

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Motion to Adopt Agenda

THAT the Agenda for the Environment Committee Meeting of May 05, 2022 be adopted, as presented.

Moved by: Mr. Bruce Van Horne

Seconded by: Ms. Jessi Jones

CARRIED

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Motion to Adopt Minutes.

THAT the Minutes of the April 07, 2022 Environment Committee Meeting be amended and adopted as discussed.

Moved by: Ms. Anne Saltel

Seconded by: Ms. Joanne Peacock

CARRIED

5. DELEGATIONS

- i. Ms. Nazli Sharma – Service Representative for Tim Hortons.
Ms. Nazli Sharma spoke to the Committee Members and stressed that she very much wanted to help with the littering situation. Tim Hortons has replaced the garbage bins and signs are to be placed welcoming and reminding the good citizens of Sioux Lookout to be kind and toss their litter in the garbage bins. Ms. Nazli Sharma stated that she has

noticed that there is not a 'Green Team' in place in Sioux Lookout. Mr. George Hogarth asked Ms. Nazli Sharma to explain what the 'Green Team' was like in Winnipeg. She then gave a brief description of what a 'Green Team' was. Basically it is a volunteer organization that is looked after, at some level, by the Town Council and is called 'Winnipeg Take Pride' which is a very ambitious project which commenced a few years ago. The project encourages citizens to take pride. One arm of the organization is anti-littering. The organization also spearheads many other projects. An example of the anti-littering project is to approach a neighbourhood school by a Tim Hortons Representative and put a team together to clean a designated area and keep it clean. Ms. Nazli Sharma said she wasn't certain if there was interest in Sioux Lookout but believed, as a member of Tim Hortons, this was something she couldn't start herself, it must start with Town Council. Ms. Nazli Sharma said that Tim Hortons would be happy to support such a project, have volunteers for it and do the volunteer work. Ms. Nazli Sharma suggested she prepare a proposal for a 'Green Team' and declare what Tim Hortons involvement would be. Ms. Nazli Sharma gave an example of what could be proposed: A high school team, students needing volunteer hours in order to graduate, 15 hours of volunteer work. After every two hours of work they could stop in at Tim Hortons and get a treat. A treat would be whatever was agreed on and appropriate like a cold drink, sandwich or donut.

The anti littering project is just one of many other initiatives within Tim Hortons to try and do better by the environment. Tim Hortons tries to use recyclable items such as straws, eating cutlery and packaging.

Towards the end of her presentation Ms. Nazli Sharma asked the Committee if they had any questions and also reminded everyone that although she does live in Winnipeg she would come to Sioux Lookout, on demand.

Mr. George Hogarth was reminded of a pilot project that took place in Toronto a couple months ago. The idea was to have reusable mugs or containers that would be 'rented out', so to speak. Mr. George Hogarth was understanding that they cleaned and sterilized the mugs and would give you a replacement mug. Mr. George Hogarth asked Ms. Nazli Sharma if she was familiar with the program. She responded by saying that it wouldn't be a Tim Hortons thing during COVID because it would be too hard to manage. Ms. Nazli Sharma asked if this was a Tim Hortons initiative and Mr. George Hogarth confirmed that it was. Ms. Nazli Sharma did confirm that you can bring your own mug into Tim Hortons. They will rinse the mug, fill it and return it to the customer. This is the standard operational procedure at this time but they will not take a customer's mug and keep it in the restaurant.

Mr. George Hogarth replied that when he has brought his own mug in they fill a paper cup to the correct level, pour it into the mug and throw the paper cup into the garbage. Ms. Nazli Sharma confirmed that Tim Hortons has stopped this practice because it was adding to the problem. Ms. Anne Saltel had a question regarding recyclable items, and pointed out that the items used would be tainted and could not be recycled. Ms. Anne Saltel then verified that the Green Team would only be picking up garbage. Ms. Nazli Sharma confirmed.

Cllr. Joyce Timpson asked that Ms. Nazli Sharma put together a proposal for the Committee to discuss at the June meeting and possibly introduce it to council. Cllr. Joyce Timpson was doubtful that this project would happen this summer but confirmed

that it was important to have it started. Ms. Nasli Sharma stated that with introducing a Green Team she felt it was something the Town would really embrace. Cllr. Joyce Timpson informed Ms. Nasli Sharma that Sioux Lookout does have an Environment Committee Face Book page and that a resident added a message that he would like to get some people together to pick up garbage. Mr. George Hogarth thought that the single individuals that pick up garbage would like to form a team and possibly get some recognition and some free goodies at Tim Hortons. He also suggest that they enlist students as Ms. Nasli Sharma pointed out because it has been done before. Ms. Nasli Sharma will put together a small report on the Green Team for Cllr. Joyce Timpson to add to the Environment Committee Facebook page. Cllr. Joyce Timpson will add an explanation with the report as to the Committees commitment to the idea of a Green Team. Mr. Bruce Van Horne asked if Tim Hortons had a plan in place for the leftover food waste other than sending it to the Landfill. Ms. Nasli Sharma responded that it was unfortunate but they did not.

- ii. Ms. Christina Zardo – Manager, Municipal Solutions – Presented the Committee Members on the use of a Food Cyler and shared a Power Point presentation. Ms. Christina Zardo met Cllr. Joyce Timpson at a NOMA conference in Fort Frances and discussed food waste solutions.

Food Cyler is a Canadian company based in Ottawa and was founded in 2011. Food cyler is a food composting alternative. It is sold directly through consumers with great partnerships such as Vitamix and Breville. The Company provides technology to Municipalities to divert food waste from landfill and reduce the green house gas emissions that are associated with waste. Presently they have 40 Municipalities that have signed on to their Food Cyler program. Some of the Municipalities that have signed on in Northwestern Ontario are Kenora, Neebing, Fort Frances and Terrace Bay.

Once her presentation was complete, Ms. Christina Zardo was open to questions. She also suggested that she could put a report together for the Environment Committee to bring it back to council. Ms. Anne Saltel had a comment and a question. Ms. Anne Saltel shared her experience with her food cyler that she has owned for years and uses it all the time. She does put fish and chicken bones into the cyler but finds that sometimes they do retain the aroma. Ms. Anne Saltel loves her food cyler and in the end only has a small paper bag of garbage. Mr. Bruce Van Horne asked how many cycles the Food Cyler will go through before it breaks. He also asked if the Food Cyler accepted foods such as a fish carcus and bones. Ms. Christina Zardo replied that in small quantities because although the food cyler has a balanced diet, if overloaded with any one item the by-product may come out looking a little off.

Ms. Yoko Schreiber use for product as many people would be taking it to the landfill. As for the methane emitions as for the food cyler is the same as the wet weight? Are these available in commercial size. Answers – if you send the by product to the landfill it would still emit the same amount methane as it would in its liquid form which would be the least ideal situation for the byproduct. If you don't have a garden or you produce too much an idea would be to set up a community initiative. A type of sharing ie. Farmers, avid gardens and people that do not have a food cyler.

There are larger commercial cyclers that start at 80 liters in size go to 1500 in size. Tim Hortons use of an 80 liter size would be perfect.

Mr. George Hogarth asked what the final cost per individual would be? Ms. Christina Zardo gave Fort Frances as an example – the initial cost is \$500.00 for the food cyclor. The company than applies a \$200 dollar discount bringing the cost down to \$300. They recommend that the Municipality subsidizes the cost at \$125 per unit. The resident would then pay \$175.00.

Cllr.Joyce Timpson asked what the cost to the Municipality would be after 100 people signed up to purchase a Food Cyclor. The total subsidized cost would be \$14,000.00. Ms.Yoko – if people aren't interested in composting – with food cyclor – how do you keep it in winter—put it into a 5 gallon pail over winter. Cllr.Joyce Timpson – asked for a report to present to council. Ms.Christina Zardo replied social media, they would help with promotional & marketing materials etc. The largest part of the process on the administrative end would be to receive the units and distribute. At the end company does a report and survey.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Moved by:

Seconded by:

CARRIED

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

The Committee discussed the draft 2022 Work Plan:

7.2 2022 Draft Work Plan

Curbside Swap

- ❖ **Goals:** Continue promoting Curbside Swap
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Cllr. J. Timpson
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media, Municipal Website
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Biweekly (Saturday and Sundays) April through October

- ❖ **Tasks:** Ads and signs to encourage participation in Curbside Swap. Continue promoting Curbside Swap Facebook page and add link to Environment Committee's Facebook page.
- ❖ **Updates:** The curb side swap will commence the weekend of May 14th, 2022 and will run bi-weekly.

Explore Composting Options

- ❖ **Goals:** To explore options for composting. To promote composting.
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Municipal World magazine
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Research and promote municipal composting options. Promote backyard composting. To act in an advisory capacity to the municipality to ensure infrastructure and initiatives supporting eco-friendly transportation are being considered.
- ❖ **Updates:** A presentation was made by Christina Zardo, Manager of Food Cyclers.

Communication and Education

- ❖ **Goals:** To communicate with residents and educate regarding sustainable environmental practices.
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media (Facebook), Ads
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing

- ❖ **Tasks:** Through a variety of media, including the Environment Committee Facebook page, educate the community regarding sustainable environmental practices of any nature.
- ❖ **Updates:** Committee members mentioned the article on the Community Garden in the Sioux Lookout Bulletin, April 27, 2022 – see below

❖ Give gardening a try at the Sioux Lookout Community Garden

❖ Mike Lawrence - Staff Writer

❖ The Sioux Lookout Community Garden is hoping to be open to the public once again, as soon as snow levels drop enough to allow for some after winter maintenance to occur. While many may be eager to get their garden started, as Joanne Falk-Peacock, Community Garden Coordinator, notes, “We usually plant the first part of May, but looking at it now, it might be June!”

Falk-Peacock continued, “I usually try to open May long weekend, but who knows when that will happen this year, as I need to get some municipal workers to come in and repair some of the beds. Just from the weight of the snow and everything, sometimes they split on the corners. So, they have to come in to repair them and that’s all got to do with when they’ve got time, so it’s the weather and repairs.”

First opened in 2006, the Community Garden has been a resource to area residents ever since, and as Falk-Peacock explains, grew out of an idea first formed by the Sioux Lookout Environmental Committee.

“When I first joined the Municipal Environment Committee, community gardening was one thing we wanted to get started on. We were working in partnership with the Northwestern Health Unit, and I was on the Environment Committee as a Health Unit employee. That’s why I got involved in the Environment Committee, through the Health Unit. It took us a while to find a piece of property, so we approached the municipal council and asked if there was a piece of land somewhere that we could have to open a garden and they gave us the piece that we have right now. Things just took off from there. We got some funding from the Municipality, so we did have some money to get things moving. When we first opened, I think we only had 15 beds, but over the years we’ve added to that, and we now have 26 beds.”

As with many grass roots projects, the creation of the garden became a community affair, with several groups pitching in to get the project off the ground. “We had partnerships with the Queen Elizabeth District High School woodworking class, and they built the first 15 beds for us.” Falk-Peacock continued, “They also built our shed. We paid for the materials, and they built the shed, so that was absolutely amazing. That was when Katimavik was still coming to town, so they built our composter for us, then we got our main signage and bulletin board up. Our most recent purchase was a greenhouse on site.”

Garden plots are available to rent for the season for a small fee, which this year

was increased slightly due to rising costs associated with running the program. A plot rental fee of \$30 covers the growing season and covers a \$5 key deposit. When keys are returned at season's end, the deposit is refunded.

"The space is available to anyone. Usually, it's first come first served. Some people message me in January asking to be put on the list. I only have five beds left right now."

The garden also has a supply of gardening tools available for use on site. As Falk-Peacock notes, having those items available allows those individuals just getting started to try gardening without a large investment in equipment. Once you've paid for your plot, all you need to supply is the seeds, and the time.

Several of the beds are also set aside for other community programs. Falk-Peacock notes, "We do a children's program through the Northwestern Health Unit. I partner with them so we can do a kid's gardening program where kids come once a week and we start from scratch. They learn about gardens. They learn about planting, maintaining, and harvesting. Sometimes, if time permits, we do gardening crafts and such as well. I also reserve eight beds that I do the gardening in, and I donate the food to the Out of the Cold shelter and the food bank. It's basics like potatoes, carrots, beans. Things they can use for soups or with a meal. Sometimes the food bank freezes them to hand out to folks who come to the food bank, or they give them out fresh also."

One thing Falk-Peacock has come to realize is that sometimes individuals who start out renting beds at the Community Garden, then wind-up gardening at home as well. As Falk-Peacock relates, "I've noticed over the years, people will come, really enjoy the gardening, and then they make their own gardens at home. This way, they can come and get a taste of it, see if they like it, then they can do it at home. Whether it's a big bed or growing in pots and containers, it's also good physical activity. It's great for socializing, and it's also good mental therapy, to get outside and do something."

Individuals interested in securing a garden plot for the upcoming season are encouraged to message Joanne Falk-Peacock on Facebook.

As well an article was submitted by Ms. Trisha Frempong on Earth Day in the April 20, 2022 edition of the Sioux Lookout Bulletin, see below:

Earth Day 2022 – Invest in Our Planet

This year, Earth Day falls on Friday, April 22. Earth Day is a global occasion that has been celebrated for over 50 years. It seeks to raise awareness on environmental issues ranging from climate change to air pollution, to deforestation, to many more environmental issues. The theme for this year is 'invest in our planet'. The theme emphasizes the creation and implementation of solutions to address climate change by everyone - individuals, businesses and governments - to do their part for a better future for the planet. Our actions and choices have a ripple effect on our ecosystems. Therefore, we all have a collective responsibility to ensure practices, behaviours, and structures shift towards a green economy that brings back the health of the planet and protects species. A more sustainable world starts with all of us.

Earth Day can be essentially every day when we adapt to more environmentally friendly ways of living! Wondering how you can make a difference every day of the year? Here are some ideas:

- Pick up trash while you run
- Minimize your plastic consumption
- Switch to reusable bags
- Compost
- Minimize your carbon footprint
- Switch to online billing
- Use a reusable water bottle
- Grow an organic garden
- Turn off lights when not in use

The Sioux Lookout Environment Committee is a group of citizens and municipal councillors who are dedicated to issues pertaining to the betterment of the environment and climate crisis. Our purpose is to report on important, 'big ideas' about climate change and other environmental issues, as well as practical ways citizens can address the climate crisis. Follow us on Facebook 'Sioux Lookout Environment Committee'.

What will you do this Earth Day to 'invest in our planet?'

Submitted by Trisha Frempong - Sioux Lookout Environment Committee member

Community Garden

- ❖ **Goals:** To establish and maintain community gardens that promote and encourage locally grown produce, food security, the reduction of carbon footprints, composting and educational opportunities.
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Ms. J. Peacock
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Municipal staff needed to help with maintenance as required.
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** April through October
- ❖ **Tasks:** Maintaining the gardens, advertising, gardening classes.
- ❖ **Updates:** Ms. Joanne Peacock commented that she is patiently waiting for the snow to melt. She currently has a list of gardeners and once the weather permits she will give an orientation andstart gardening!

Municipal Projects Review

- ❖ **Goals:** To review municipal projects that may have an environmental impact and report on their environmental effect
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** List of Capital Projects
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Review environmental impacts of capital projects
- ❖ **Updates: None**

Environmental Recognition

- ❖ **Goals:** Recognize groups or individuals for their environmentally sustainable activities/initiatives
 - ❖ **Lead Person:** Ms. A. Saltel
 - ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media
 - ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
 - ❖ **Tasks:** Recognizing groups or individuals on Social Media and distributing certificates.
- Updates: None**

Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Emergency

- ❖ **Goals:** To communicate with and educate residents about effective strategies to adapt to the effects of climate change including the impact of the environment on people's health
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media, Policies
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Present information through a variety of media and act in an advisory capacity to the Municipality.
- ❖ **Updates:** None

Promotion of Locally Sourced Food and Self-Sustainability

- ❖ **Goals:** To communicate with and educate residents about access to sustainably sourced food
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media, Workspaces
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Tasks:** Present information and education through a variety of media and act in an advisory capacity to the Municipality. Promoting different gardening options (examples: raised gardens and containers). Provide support to local gardeners by providing a platform for knowledge exchange. Promote sustainably sourced food. Through education and promotion at the farmer's markets, increase awareness about sustainably sourced foods. Advertise and encourage people to share their produce through activities such as gleaning. To approach other Northern Communities for ideas related to locally sourced food.

- ❖ **Updates:** Ms. Anne Saltel informed the Committee that the Agri-Tech North facility in Dryden are selling subscriptions for a box of 'leafy' things starting in May and is advertised on their Face Book page. They will deliver to your door and it is fresh. An open house was held on Easter Monday.

Waste Reduction/Diversion

- ❖ **Goals:** To reduce and divert waste
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Task:** Introduce policies, practices, and by-laws to eliminate single use plastics. Advertise Waste Reduction Week. Promote reduction of litter around town. Encourage the enforcement of the existing littering By-law. Educate people on hazardous waste and how to dispose of it. To encourage households and commercial businesses to reduce the amount of recyclables thrown out with garbage
- ❖ **Updates:** Ms. Christina Zardo made a presentation on a food processor – reducing food waste to landfill sites. The Committee is requesting that Town Council participate in the food cycler program.

Promoting the Establishment of Natural Ecosystems

- ❖ **Goals:** To promote the use of and benefits of mow free zones. To increase mow free zones in the community on municipal properties. To encourage pollinator friendly residential yards. Create a pollinator friendly community. To support native ecosystems.
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Staff

- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Task:** With the assistance of the Staff Resource, discuss potential mow free and pollinator friendly areas with the Recreation and Culture Manager for municipally owned property. To communicate with and educate residents on the benefits of mow free zones. Inform the Community of the benefits of pollinator friendly yards, and promote the growth of native species.
- ❖ **Updates:** Ms. Trisha Frempong discussed hosting different events that could take place between the Environment Committee and Friends of Cedar Bay. One idea was to host a kid friendly activity ie. seed bombs. Ms. Trisha Frempong wished to plan this activity for the May long weekend and to be held at Cedar Bay.
Mr. George Hogarth inquired as to what kind of seeds would be used on the seed bombs and where they were coming from. Ms. Trish Frempong suggested that the seed bombs be comprised of wild flower seeds and local mud. This would promote more variety in our gardens.

Mr. George Hogarth spoke on an article that he had read suggesting the importance of having a variety of bee friendly plants in our yards rather than large lawn areas. The focus being on local plants that are bee friendly. One issue on the no mow lawns was that it was being promoted by honey bee producers. Mr. Bruce Van Horne and Mr. Jody met with Mr. Rony Chakraborty to discuss reducing the amount of zones that are cut within the Municipality. There will be a follow up, on the discussion, at the June meeting.

Eco Friendly Transportation

- ❖ **Goals:** To promote different means of eco-friendly transportation
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Social media, attend trade shows, Internet
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Task:** Research different means of eco-friendly transportation and promote them to the Community. To act in an advisory capacity to the municipality to

ensure infrastructure and initiatives supporting eco-friendly transportation are being considered.

Updates: A short discussion was held on the existing bike rack situation and to determine if they need to be moved or if more have to be added. The bike rack at the Centennial Centre and at the Red Apple parking lot are taken out during the winter months to avoid damage. They are then returned to their original locations in May. Further discussion to had at the June meeting.

Mr. Bruce Van Horne brought up a topic for the June meeting discussion – If the town is going to purchase new vehicles or replace old vehicles that an option may be to see if electric vehicles is a possibility. He wanted direction as to how to present this to Council. Ms. Trisha Frempong was in support of the suggestion to encourage the Municipality to purchase Eco friendly vehicles. Mr. George Horgarth gave an example of Thunder Bay purchasing electric trucks and buses and the federal government it promoting such.

Mr. George Hogarth thought that it was a good idea to present this to Council and Cllr. Joyce Timpson suggested drawing up a resolution. The idea was to create a policy for the purchase of vehicles in the future. Policy entailing that replacement vehicles be electric. She believes that the way the economy is going that electric vehicles will cost less and the Municipalities will be urged to purchase electric vehicles by the government.

George was under the impression that there may be federal funding to subsidize the purchase of electric vehicles.

Committee would like to make a recommendation that the Municipality consider the purchase of electric vehicles.

Ms. Anne Saltel thought that it would be easier to access Hybrid as the majority of Municipal vehicles do not leave the town limits. Most of the energy being used should be electric.

Motion:

That the Environment Committee recommends that any further additional/replacement to the municipal vehicles be electrically powered or Hybrids.

Moved By: Mr. Bruce Van Horne

Seconded By: Ms. Joanne Peacock

Carried

8. NEW BUSINESS

Cllr. Joyce Timpson introduced a discussion on the Nuclear Waste Management Organization. The NWMO is quickly approaching their deadline to make a decision as to where the nuclear waste plant is to be situated. Ignace being one of two. In 2016 the Environment Committee requested that Council invite NWMO to come to Sioux Lookout to be a participant in a learn more program for the purpose of engaging the community of Sioux Lookout in education and awareness. The hope was to have a Nuclear Scientist who would be an informed body. NWMO did not want to go this route with the Environment Committee. Cllr. Joyce Timpson spoke with a representative at a recent conference and explained that this was something that the Environment Committee wanted to do in 2016 and the representative seemed open to it. In order for this to take place, Council has to invite them. We need to specify that we want persons with varied opinions so that it can be a mature back and forth discussion. There are a couple groups that are against nuclear waste and they have become quite active and vocal. The general population are quite confused about it and there are some against and some for it. Cllr. Joyce Timpson prepared a resolution which was distributed amongst the Committee members. The suggestion was made to create a report to take to council for the June 2022 Council meeting.

The process as to who would be invited to sit on the panel was unclear, an alternate route would be to invite the citizens group (located in Dryden). Having the citizens group present would be helpful for the public.

A vote amongst the committee members was held on Cllr. Joyce's recommendation to council. *Included is the resolution submitted by Cllr. Joyce Timpson on behalf of the Environment Committee.

RESOLUTION – Request by Council to Nuclear Waste Management Organization for Panel Discussion on Nuclear Waster repository in Northwestern Ontario

Whereas, the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) for over a decade has been studying the suitability for building a Nuclear Waste repository close to Ignace;

Whereas, the area near Ignace under consideration is one of 2 sites being studied by NWMO for the location of this repository for which a decision will be made in 2023;

Whereas, many citizens in Sioux Lookout and other Northwestern Ontario locations have expressed numerous concerns about the safety of this project specifically, the potential for contamination of the water table, transportation of the spent fuel from its present location in Southern Ontario, and plans for the monitoring of the repository after the specified time of 100 years;

Whereas, prior to 2016 several presentations were made in Sioux Lookout and area by both opponents and proponents of the project but in 2016 NWMO denied a request by the Sioux Lookout Municipal Environment Committee to sponsor a panel discussion that included scientists with diverse opinions on the storage of nuclear waste; and

Whereas, correct information on the storage of nuclear waste is essential for the public to receive,

Be Resolved that the Environment Committee request that the Council of the Municipality of Sioux Lookout make a formal request to the NWMO to sponsor a panel discussion in Sioux Lookout that includes a diversity of opinion from experts in the field of nuclear waste management.

May 5, 2022

Motion:

To present Resolution to Council

Moved By: Mr. Bruce Van Horne

Seconded By: Ms. Jessi Jones

Carried

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Environment Committee is scheduled for Thursday, June 02, 2022 at 6:00 pm via Zoom.

10. MEETING ADJOURNED

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.



FOODCYCLERTM MUNICIPAL SOLUTIONS

We bring solutions to the
table.



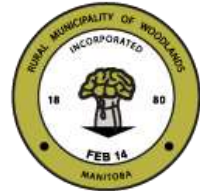
ABOUT US

- Canadian company based out of Ottawa, ON
- Founded in Cornwall in 2011 – Company is 100% focused on Food Waste Diversion Solutions
- Products available in North America through FoodCycler Municipal / Vitamix and internationally through network of distributors & OEM partners
- Semi-finalists in Impact Canada's *Food Waste Reduction Challenge*
- Selected as one of the 2021 Deloitte Fast 50 CleanTech award winners
- # 81 on Globe & Mail's Canada's Top Growing Companies for 2021



TRUSTED CANADIAN SOLUTION

FROM COAST TO COAST TO COAST



Thirty-Seven Canadian Municipal Partners
... and counting!

THE PROBLEM – FOOD WASTE

- **63%** of food waste is avoidable
- Household waste is composed of **25-50%** organic waste
- Food waste weight is up to **90%** liquid mass (which is heavy)
- The average Canadian household spends **\$1,766** on food that is wasted each year
- Each year food waste in Canada is responsible for **56.6 Million tonnes of CO2** equivalent of GHG



MUNICIPAL IMPACT

WASTE MANAGEMENT IS A MUNICIPAL RESPONSIBILITY

LANDFILL + WASTE COSTS

- ~**25-50%** of household waste is organic waste
- Landfills are filling up fast, creating cost and environmental issues
- Hauling, transfer, and disposal services are a major cost factor and environmental contributor

ENVIRONMENT

- Landfilled organic waste produces methane, which is **25 times** more harmful than CO₂
- 1 tonne of food waste is equivalent to 1 car on the road for one year



COMMUNITY

Food in the garbage:

- More frequent collection or trips to the disposal site
- Unpleasant odours
- Animals, pests & other visitors



Removing food waste from garbage:

- Volume is reduced by up to 50%
- Less frequent collection, fewer trips to disposal site, save on bag tags
- Keeps odours out, makes garbage much less “interesting” for animals

HAVEN'T WE SOLVED THIS ALREADY?



GREEN BINS

- Preferred solution for **larger cities** where **dense housing** and large processing facilities generate **economies of scale**
- **Contamination** is an ongoing challenge
- GHG emissions from curbside collection
- **Safety** concerns from additional trucks on the road



BACKYARD COMPOST

- **Cost-effective** but can be **labor-intensive** also
- May attract pests/animals or create unpleasant **odors**
- Most users **do not compost in winter** or inclement weather
- **Adoption rates are relatively low and stagnant**



LANDFILL

- **Easiest solution** and often perceived as the most cost-effective in the short term
- Waste is typically **out of sight and out of mind** for consumers
- High levels of GHG emissions, particularly **methane**
- Long-term **environmental hazard** requires monitoring / maintenance

THE SOLUTION? THE FOODCYCLER



90% FOOD WASTE REDUCTION

1 KG (2.5L) of wet,
smelly food waste



4-8 HOURS + 0.8 kWh
<10 cents / cycle

100 G of dry, sterile &
odorless soil amendment



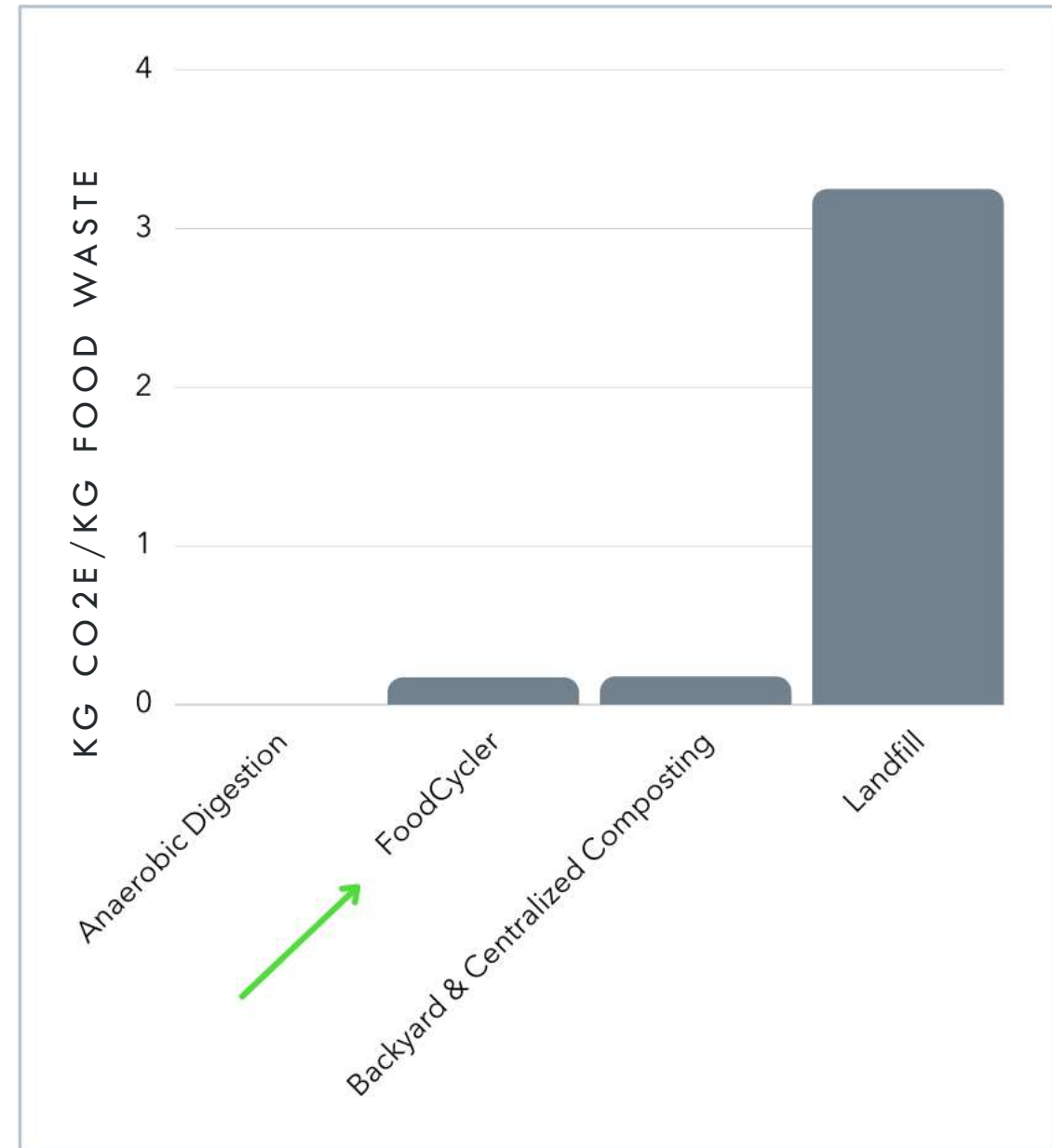
IMPACT

ENVIRONMENT

FOODCYCLER IS COMPARABLE TO:

- Central composting (with no transportation emissions)
- Backyard composting (if done correctly)
- **FoodCycler offers >95% reduction in CO₂E vs. sending food waste to landfill**

Source: Based on carbon intensity of power grid = 0.08 kg/kWh in Ontario
**Incorrect backyard composting can lead to methane gases and odours



IMPACT ECONOMIC

TRADITIONAL
SERVICES



+



+



=

HAULING FEE

TRANSFER STATION
OPERATION

DISPOSAL FEE

**EXPENSIVE,
ONGOING,
VARIABLE**

FOODCYCLER



=

NO TRANSPORTATION OR PROCESSING

**FIXED COST,
HIGH YIELD,
EFFECTIVE**

IMPACT

REGULATORY + SOCIAL PRESSURE

THE TIME IS NOW

- Constituents want **solutions** to reduce their environmental impact
- Waste is perceived as a government problem and **regulations** are coming
- Food waste is “low-hanging fruit” to achieving higher **diversion** and addressing the environmental impact of waste



"It alleviates a lot of the concerns that people might have with backyard composting. The time commitment, the location, pests and animals and everything like that."

- Kylie Hissa, Strategic Initiatives Officer in Kenora

"I've received a number of positive messages from residents saying, "sign me up, where can I get mine." I'm 100 per cent in favor of it."

- Deputy Mayor Lyle Warden, South Glengarry

"We were extremely happy with this program and loved that it made us aware of our daily waste."

- Program participant in South Glengarry

"It's a great tool to reduce household waste. Appreciate that the municipality is being innovative and piloting different solutions."

- Program participant in Hornepayne

THE FOODCYCLER PILOTS



>1200 Households

14 Municipalities have completed their pilot projects with overwhelmingly positive results.

Net New Diversion

Each participating household is estimated to divert between 300-400 kg of food waste annually.



“WOULD YOU RECOMMEND FOODCYCLER?”

>95% Yes

<1% No.

The rest are undecided or need more time.

★★★★☆ 4.6

Average overall user experience rating.

PILOT PROGRAM

12 WEEKS FROM START TO FINISH

PILOT TIMELINE

START

Residents purchase FoodCycler at a subsidized rate from Municipal Office (or other designated location)

12 WEEKS

Participants use the unit for a period of 12 weeks.

Number of cycles per week are tracked to estimate total diversion achieved.

END

Participants fill out an exit survey, providing their review of the program and any other feedback.

Survey results used to evaluate program success.

NEXT STEPS

Full program design and implementation.

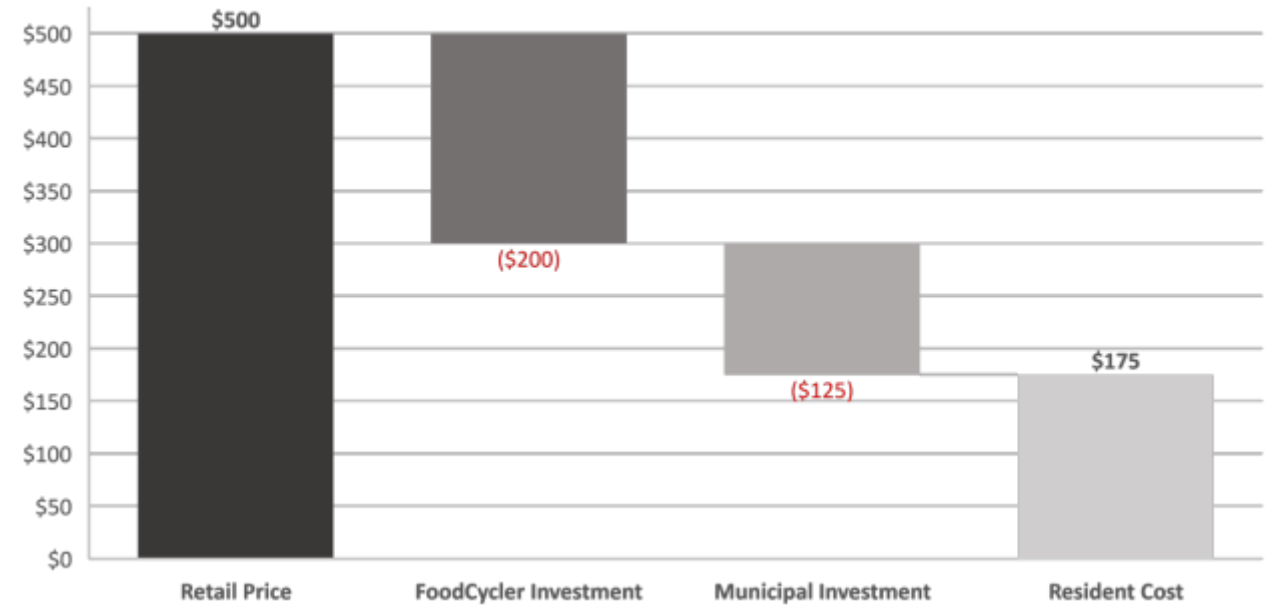
Many grants available, with support from Food Cycle Science.

SUBSIDIZED PILOT PROGRAM



Sioux Lookout →

FoodCycler Pilot Subsidy Model



Municipality Population	Pilot Scope	Municipal Investment
2500 – 10,000 residents	100 households	\$12,500

- Plus shipping costs and applicable taxes

Next Steps:

- 🌱 Receive presentation as information.
- 🌱 If interest, refer to Staff for a recommendation to Council.
- 🌱 Ask us about our Affordable Option for low-income residents, school programs, or community organizations.





THANK YOU!
ANY QUESTIONS?

Christina Zardo

Manager, Municipal Solutions

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Phone: 613-402-7999

