

AGENDA

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SIOUX LOOKOUT

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE Council Chambers, Municipal Office Thursday, April 3, 2025 5:00 P.M.

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

A. **Attendance**

Committee Members Mr. George Hoggarth (Chair)
 Ms. Anne Saltel (Vice Chair)
 Cllr. Joyce Timpson
 Cllr. Reece Van Breda
 Ms. Joanne Falk

Staff Mr. Jody Brinkman, Development Services Manager

Regrets Mr. Hari Sankar

Absent

Guest

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 April 3, 2025 be approved, as amended/ presented.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

THAT the Minutes of the March 6, 2025 Environment Committee Meeting be adopted as presented/amended.

Moved by:

Seconded by:

5. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

6.1 ACTION ITEMS

01-2024-01 – Committee to research if municipality has a Climate Action Plan and if so committee should review and discuss, if not committee to submit a recommendation to council to develop and implement a municipal Climate Action Plan - All Members

10-2024-02 – Prepare report for Council regarding wood chipping locally– Mr. Brinkman

10-2024-03 – Advertise Greenhouse selling on Environment committee Facebook page located at Community garden – Ms. Falk

01- 2025-05 – Advertise on the Municipal Facebook Page to offer the local public the opportunity to join the Environmental committee – Mr. Brinkman and Ms. Saltel

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

7.1 Annual Work Plan and Budget Request

Curbside Swap

- ❖ **Goals:** Continue promoting Curbside Swap
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Cllr. J. Timpson
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media, Municipal Website
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Weekly (Saturday and Sundays) April through October
- ❖ **Tasks:** Ads, signs, encourage the non-profit housing associations and others to use Curbside Swap. Better promote Curbside Swap 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:** Solicit community input on composting options through methods such as surveys.
- ❖ **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, 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. Falk
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Volunteers needed to help with setting up the gardens. 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. Seek nominations from public
- ❖ **Updates:**

Climate Action Plan

- ❖ **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, Natural Ecosystems and Eco Friendly Transportation will be incorporated into the Climate Action Plan
- ❖ **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 (Gleaning).

- ❖ **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. Reduce recycling mixed in with household and commercial garbage, which is being brought to the landfill. Advocate for the chipping of brush as a way to divert it from the landfill site.

- ❖ **Updates:**

Municipal Litter Strategy

- ❖ **Goals:** To create a Community wide Litter Strategy
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media, various local Stakeholders
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Task:** Consult with local agencies and businesses to develop an ongoing litter reduction program. Promote community pride by keeping our streets and green spaces free of litter.
- ❖ **Updates:**

7.4 Committee Budget Discussion

8. NEW BUSINESS

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Environment Committee is scheduled for 5:00 p.m on Thursday, May 8th 2025 at Council Chambers at the Municipal Office.

10. MEETING ADJOURNED

Meeting adjourned at _____.

MINUTES

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SIOUX LOOKOUT

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL OFFICE Thursday, March 6, 2025 5:00 P.M.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

A. Attendance

Committee Members

Mr. George Hoggarth, Chair
Ms. Anne Saltel, Vice Chair
Cllr. Joyce Timpson
Mr. Hari Sankar
Cllr. Reece Van Breda

Staff

Mr. Jody Brinkman, Development Services Manager
Ms. Komal Shah, Development Services Administrative Assistant

Excused

Ms. Joanne Falk

Absent

Guest

B. Chair called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

C. MEMBERS EXCUSED

Motion to excuse members: Ms. Joanne Falk

Moved by: Ms. Saltel

Seconded by: Cllr. Van Breda

CARRIED

2. AGENDA

a) Additions to Agenda

b) Confirmation of Agenda

THAT the Agenda for the Environment Committee Meeting of March 6, 2025 be approved, as presented.

Moved by: Mr. Sankar

Seconded by: Ms. Saltel

CARRIED

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Motion to Adopt Minutes.

THAT the Minutes of the February 13, 2025 Committee Meeting be adopted, as amended.

Moved by: Ms. Saltel

Seconded by: Cllr. Van Breda

CARRIED

5. DELEGATIONS

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

6.1 ACTION ITEMS

01-2024-01 – Committee to research if municipality has a Climate Action Plan and if so committee should review and discuss, if not committee to submit a

recommendation to council to develop and implement a municipal Climate Action Plan - All Members

10-2024-02 – Prepare report for Council regarding wood chipping locally– Mr. Brinkman

- Mr. Hoggarth asked Mr. Brinkman for an update. Mr. Brinkman responded that the Public Works Department is still reviewing the costing for cheaper.

10-2024-03 – Advertise Greenhouse selling on Environment committee Facebook page located at Community garden – Ms. Falk

12-2024-04 –Present the report to the council, requesting that Municipality of Sioux Lookout become a Blue Community – Mr. Brinkman

- Mr. Brinkman informed the committee members that the Municipality of Sioux Lookout is ineligible to be considered a Blue Community because our town uses Northern Water Works services. Additionally, the town has a policy stating that if the water bill is not paid on time, the water supply may be disconnected. Ms. Saltel added that the money the town uses to contract with Northern Water Works comes from taxpayer funds, which is why we can consider it a 'Blue Community.' Mr. Brinkman also checked with the Finance Manager, Ms. Collins, who confirmed that the policy states water service can be disconnected if the bill remains unpaid each month. The committee decided to consider this action item complete unless further changes to the policy occur.
- Completed.

01-2025-06 – Advertise on the Municipal Facebook Page to offer the local public the opportunity to join the Environmental committee – Ms. Saltel and Mr. Brinkman

- Ms. Saltel suggested to Mr. Brinkman that he reach out to Mr. Pollard and post the advertisement on Facebook to offer the public an opportunity to join our committee. Mr. Brinkman will look into it.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

7.1 Annual Work Plan and Budget Request

Curbside Swap

- ❖ **Goals:** Continue promoting Curbside Swap

- ❖ **Lead Person:** Cllr. J. Timpson
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media, Municipal Website
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Weekly (Saturday and Sundays) April through October
- ❖ **Tasks:** Ads, signs, encourage the non-profit housing associations and others to use Curbside Swap. Better promote Curbside Swap Facebook page.
- ❖ **Updates:** None

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:** Ms. Saltel mentioned that Mr. Tyler Bernier will be starting the small composting project soon and will share more information.

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:** None

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. Falk
- ❖ **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. Falk encouraged seniors at the senior's center to get garden beds, as mentioned by Ms. Saltel.

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:** Mr. Brinkman shared information about a new company that Municipality of Sioux Lookout working with to secure funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) for energy monitoring in our buildings, especially Memorial Arena, as it has the highest energy

consumption in town. The company has installed sensors to track energy usage, and through this process, they have provided us with customized solutions to reduce energy consumption. This system will provide real-time data, allowing us to monitor energy usage and predict when equipment may fail. Mr. Brinkman also mentioned that, hopefully, our town will receive funding for this initiative.

- ❖ Mr. Brinkman also mentioned that there are no energy auditors in our town, and the closest ones are in Thunder Bay. This results in additional costs for conducting audits in Sioux Lookout. To address this, Mr. Andrew Culham and Mr. Jody Brinkman will receive in-house training to become certified energy auditors and will then be able to provide audits locally. This initiative will benefit the citizens of Sioux Lookout, and the public will be eligible to apply for provincial funding.

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:** Ms. Saltel posted on Facebook to see if anyone was interested or knew someone who needed to be recognized by the Environmental Committee. However, no response was received on this matter.

Climate Action Plan

- ❖ **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, Natural Ecosystems and Eco Friendly Transportation will be incorporated into the Climate Action Plan
- ❖ **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
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- ❖ **Updates:** None

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. Reduce

recycling mixed in with household and commercial garbage, which is being brought to the landfill. Advocate for the chipping of brush as a way to divert it from the landfill site.

- ❖ **Updates:** According to the data provided by Mr. Brinkman regarding hazardous waste collection, the amounts are as follows:

- 2020: 7,431 KGS
- 2021: 5,799 KGS
- 2022: 4,250 KGS
- 2023: 3,482 KGS
- 2024: 6,411 KGS

The year 2023 saw the lowest amount of hazardous waste collected by Public Works, as it occurred with very short notice. Ms. Saltel recommended that education on hazardous waste is key. The committee decided to issue continuous monthly reminders about hazardous waste on Facebook to raise awareness, so people can save their items for the designated collection day.

Municipal Litter Strategy

- ❖ **Goals:** To create a Community wide Litter Strategy
- ❖ **Lead Person:** Environment Committee
- ❖ **Resources Needs:** Internet, Social Media, various local Stakeholders
- ❖ **Date Due or Frequency:** Ongoing
- ❖ **Task:** Consult with local agencies and businesses to develop an ongoing litter reduction program. Promote community pride by keeping our streets and green spaces free of litter.
- ❖ **Updates:** Cllr. Van Breda advised that a designated person should be allocated from each business in town for informal, non-scheduled meetings, and to help arrange a municipal-wide cleanup strategy with a scheduled pickup. The list of businesses and their contact details can be obtained through the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Hoggarth will participate in this meeting and will arrange a separate meeting to discuss it further. Mr. Sankar also mentioned the participation of Winks students in the municipal-wide cleanup.

7.4 COMMITTEE BUDGET

Committee have 2500\$ for year 2025.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Committee members decided to arrange an information-sharing meeting for NWMO to give a presentation on nuclear waste management. This will take place without municipal participation, as concluded by the members.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Environment Committee is scheduled for Thursday, April 3rd 2025, at 5:00 pm in Council Chambers at the Municipal Office.

10. MEETING ADJOURNED

Meeting adjourned at 6:02 pm.