

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON



CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE

HELD WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2022

COUNCIL CHAMBER (OKANAGAN ROOM) at 4:00 PM

PRESENT: Barry Dorval, Seaton Secondary Teacher & Support for Youth
Councillor Brian Quiring
Ed Wilson, Community at Large
Jenn Comazzetto, SD#22 Board Rep
Jeremy Fyke, Science and Technology
Mary Stockdale (Chair), Educators & Educational Institution
Mayor Victor Cumming (Alternate Member)
Stan Eaman, Health and Social Services

ABSENT: Bill Darnell, Community Stewardship
Brian Guy (Co-Chair), Business and Commercial Services
Colleen Marchand, OKIB Representative
Nia Hill, Youth Member
Quinn Soon, Youth Member

STAFF: Laurie Cordell, Manager, Long Range Planning & Sustainability
Barbara Everdene, Long Range Planner
Jack Shipton, Environmental Planning Assistant

GUEST: Bill Darnell, Community Stewardship (**Via Zoom**)

ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 4:04 PM

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: *As Chair of the City of Vernon's Climate Action Advisory Committee, and in the spirit of this gathering, I recognize the City of Vernon is located in the traditional territory of the Syilx people of the Okanagan Nation.*

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA Moved by E. Wilson, and seconded by S. Eaman:

THAT the agenda of the Climate Action Advisory Committee meeting for Wednesday, January 26, 2022, be adopted, as amended.

CARRIED.

Moved by S. Eaman, and seconded by J. Fyke:

THAT the minutes for the Climate Action Advisory Committee meeting of October 27, 2021, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED.

INTRODUCTION

Introduction of J. Shipton, Environmental Planning Assistant, City of Vernon.

CO-CHAIR REPORT

M. Stockdale, updated the Climate Action Committee on their work since October 2021 as follows:

- Two missed meetings since October 27, 2021.
- All the new teams will meet and report back at the monthly CAAC meetings with status updates.
- Looking to prioritize returning to regular meeting flow.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

TEAM REPORTS

- **Metrics and Reporting**
 - Team members are; L. Cordell, B. Everdene, Mayor Cumming and J. Fyke.
 - The team is looking at gauging climate action plan implementation metrics, how to measure success, failures, and outcomes. Looking to ground truth the metrics.
 - The team wants to explore measures of success using a measure of activities vs. outcomes.
 - Exploring quantitative vs. qualitative metrics and where they are most useful.

- Measuring complex outcomes may prove challenging – the team is working on how to determine measures of success in these scenarios.
- Metrics outcomes are contingent on the findings of the implementation team. Next step is engaging with and working alongside this team.
- **Community Engagement**
 - Team members are; L. Cordell, B. Darnell, S. Eaman, B. Guy, and M. Stockdale.
 - Have met three times since October 2021, including with the 'Climate Ambassadors' in November 2021.
 - The team is looking to gear up community engagement over the course of the next few months.
 - It was noted that making information on the climate action plan community friendly and accessible is key.
 - An upcoming workshop in March will aid in prioritizing community outreach. This workshop will help the team make use of community volunteers to strategize on the engagement.
 - Recruiting and training climate ambassadors will commence in April, with the goal of having ambassadors working with the public by June.
 - The aim is to make clear, concise, simple educational tools available on the City of Vernon website would be useful for the public at large.
 - There is an opportunity for significant community engagement with upcoming sustainability initiatives.
 - It was discussed that utilizing broad modes of engagement are critical for the success of this team and that two-way engagement is important and necessary.
 - The team is awaiting guidance on the carbon footprint calculator tool.

- **Youth Engagement**
 - Team members are; B. Everdene, J. Comazzetto, B. Dorval, A. Gee and N. Hill.
 - The team has met a few times since October.
 - The teachers felt that actions outside of curriculum can put an onerous burden on students – incorporating/tweaking course structures to confront these issues were possible is a more viable approach.
 - There are 4 classes that will have climate action integrated into their curriculums.
 - Looking at using the CAP and UN sustainability goals foundational doctrines and learning tools for course integration.
 - Students will be able to participate in climate action projects. Brainstorming possible actions that are connected at addressing objectives of the CAP. Hoping to kick off on March 7, 2022.
 - Teachers suggested that relevant hands-on work is likely the most effective way forward in educating students.
 - Exploring more effective methods of engaging with youth, in a manner that is holistic and connects into the framework of the implementation teams' objectives.
 - The Team commented that they will need support with funding – up to \$26,000.
 - The availability of funds for these projects was discussed and it was noted that sustainability grants may be a fit. Further, that further that matching timing and flexibility in accessing funds is critical.
 - Funding or budget allocation for renting facilities and presenters would be useful for the team.
 - The team noted that there is an oncoming youth symposium mid-late February.
 - The viability of exploring business partnerships was mentioned.

- **Fundraising**
 - Team members are; B. Darnell, J. Fyke, B. Guy, and M. Stockdale.
 - The team last met on November 24, 2021.
 - Creating a framework on how to outline and organize fundraising objectives is the team's current priority.

- **Implementation Prioritization**
 - Team members are; L. Cordell, B. Everdene, N. Hill and M. Stockdale.
 - The team last met on December 2, 2021.
 - Meeting have been centered around the menu of implementation and the organization of items of actions.
 - Likely will be wrapping up this group shortly.

- **Retrofit Research**
 - Team members are; Councilor Quiring and E. Wilson.
 - The team had one meeting in November and are hoping to meet again soon, specifically on working towards putting together a framework.
 - B. Quiring has been researching this topic and has ideas for the next steps the team can take.
 - There is a need to focus on tools that suit City of Vernon's capacity at present and if there is an ability to highlight/encourage/attract suppliers, builders, architects, and engineers to become involved.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Team Organization**
 - Team organization flowchart presented.
 - Discussed feedback loops, longevity of certain teams, and connections between groups.
 - The aim is to make youth feel like they are part of something bigger than school could be beneficial, youth engagement needs to be linked.
 - It was noted that CAAC can act as a both a resource (professional and financial) as an advocate/celebrator for youth engagement. It can be used to foster community connections.

- **Looking Ahead**

Work planning to June. The timeline and associated dates to be finalized at the next CAAC meeting (see Appendix 1 – Timeline and Deliverables).

Items include the following:

- Monitoring and Evaluation Plan;
- Community Engagement Strategy;
FEBRUARY
- Recruiting, Training, Mobilizing CA's;
VARIABLE
- Carbon Footprint Calculator
- Climate Curricula and Coursework
- Trello Portal;
- Menu of Climate Action Items; and
- Retrofit Research.

ACTION: Teams to bring their timeframes to the next meeting.

- **Menu of Implementation** - Actions were presented to group. Discussion Questions for Committee Round-table discussion were as follows:

1. How can we use this menu to inspire and support community climate action?
2. Are there any major actions missing?
3. Do the criteria resonate?
4. What might a useful resource look like?

Comments received from the Committee were as follows:

- A suggestion was received to create a goal tracker for actions within the plan might be useful for the public and the metrics team.
- Quick accessible climate change actions should be used as a guiding tool with a list of actual actionable items available as examples.

- There is a need to step back and look at the proposed actions from a group perspective rather than just an individual one. Competition could be a negative pathway for some. Pushing the importance of collective actions may be more useful.
- The presented list of actions may be a little long and intimidating for the public. Staff confirmed that the list will not be public, but rather be transformed into a friendly document. It was discussed that perhaps the list could be a selective tool, 'choose your own adventure' – a filter.
- There is a need to sort through adaption and mitigation strategies as well as prioritize certain actions. The idea of 'climate change trading cards' to engage youth. Additional goals would be to create community cohesion, relationships, and connection.
- CAAC should distinguish between city and community criteria, and was asking for more information about the inclusion of reducing water consumption. Particularly since Vernon does not have water quantity issues like other areas of the Okanagan.
- It was noted that the best ideas are the ones that people are actually excited to work on.
- It was discussed that these actions can be seen as a pathway to change and emphasized the importance of presenting this information inclusively. And further suggested that the actions could be ranked by both impact and accessible (simplicity) of actions.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- The City endorsed the advance implementation of the BC Energy Step Code at the January 10, 2022 meeting – Part 9 Buildings are enacted and Part 3 will be in the spring.
- Councilor Quiring spoke to the significance of the City of Vernon adopting advance step code measures.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting for the Climate Action Advisory Committee is set for **Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 4:00 PM in Council Chamber at City Hall.**

Moved by Mayor Cumming, and seconded by E. Wilson.

THAT the Climate Action Advisory Committee meeting of January 26, 2022, be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting of the Climate Action Advisory Committee adjourned at 6:03 PM.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


_____ Chair

Appendix 1

Deliverables	Timeline (CAAC Mtg)
Monitoring & Evaluation Plan with Key Progress Indicators	
Community Engagement Strategy	February
Recruiting, Training, Mobilizing Climate Ambassadors -November 16, 2021 Event -March 3, 2022 Workshop -April 2022 Ambassador Training -May-June 2022 Ambassador Outreach/Mobilization	June
Carbon Footprint Calculator	
Climate Curricula and Coursework -Youth Global Citizens Symposium (Feb.2022)	
Trello Portal for Funding Opportunities	
Menu of Climate Action Items	
Retrofit Research	