



**CLIMATE ACTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2019 - OKANAGAN LAKE ROOM – 3:30 p.m.**

**AGENDA**

1. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**
2. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**
  - a) November 13, 2019 (attached)
3. **PRESENTATION** – **Julia Payson** – Canadian Mental Health Association  
(30 minutes)
4. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
  - a) Council Update (Staff)
  - b) Other action items
  - c) Support request – Amandeep Singh (summary attached)
5. **NEW BUSINESS:**
  - a) Climate Action Plan process – Check-in
  - b) Climate Adaptation Mini Workshop: Impact and Actions Review and Refinement  
(75 minutes)
  - c) Working Group Updates
    - Mitigation:
      - .
    - Adaptation:
      -
    - Engagement:
      - SD 22 curriculum development - update
      - SD22 delegation November 20
      - Climate Ambassador Program – program coordination and upcoming presentations
    - Youth
      - Student Lunch
      - Earth Day April 22
6. **INFORMATION ITEMS:**
  - a) Council Reports – Committee Members and Compost Pilot
7. **NEXT MEETING:**

Tuesday, January 21, 2020 @ 3:30 p.m.
8. **ADJOURNMENT**



## **THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON**

### **MINUTES OF THE CLIMATE ACTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**HELD**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2019**

**PRESENT:** VOTING

Brian Guy (Co-Chair), Science, Technology & Environmental Services

Bill Darnell, Community Stewardship (Co-Chair)

Mayor Victor Cumming (4:41 pm)

Ayesha Sheikh, Youth Member

Stan Eaman, Health & Social Services

Ed Wilson, Community at Large

Colleen Dix, Utility Services and Providers

Kevin McCarty, Business & Commercial Services (4:36 pm)

Melissa Kriening, Youth Member

**GUESTS:** Amandeep Singh  
Suzanna Singh  
Jeff Quibell

**ABSENT:** Alan Gee, Educators and Educational Institutions  
Hayden Catt, Youth Member

**STAFF:** Laurie Cordell, Manager, Long Range Planning & Sustainability/Staff Liaison  
Daniel Sturgeon, Long Range Planner  
Janice Nicol, Legislative Committee Clerk

**ORDER** The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m.

**ADOPTION OF  
AGENDA** Moved by Stan Eaman, seconded by Ed Wilson;

THAT the agenda of the Climate Action Advisory Committee meeting for Wednesday, November 13, 2019 be adopted.

**CARRIED.**

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved by Stan Eaman, seconded by Colleen Dix;

THAT the minutes for the Climate Action Advisory Committee meeting of October 22, 2019 be adopted.

**CARRIED.**

**PRESENTATION – AMANDEEP SINGH**

Amandeep Singh, local Vernon resident presented on the potential for neighbourhood-scale renewable energy building retrofits.

Moved by Stan Eaman, seconded by Colleen Dix;

THAT the Climate Action Advisory Committee receives the presentation by Amandeep Singh on the potential for neighbourhood-scale building energy retrofits, for information.

**CARRIED.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**COUNCIL UPDATE**

At the November 12, 2019 Council meeting:

- Early budget approval was received for the Climate Action Acceleration Resources (\$115,000)  
Compost Pilot Program – pilot has been wrapped up, very enthusiastically received. Administration is looking at Phase 2
- Additional staff of water engineer request is part of the 2020 budget
- The budget intergrates a number of items to improve the community including \$50,000 for better grit on roads and a proposal to purchase a new vacuum truck

**DISTRIBUTION  
'BUILDING  
CLIMATE  
RESILIENCE IN  
THE OKANAGAN'**

- Ed had recommendations for a distribution strategy
- Ambassadors could distribute, also have at the school and public library, school environmental groups
- Since document is available online, should be promoted
- Laurie to check to see if this has been distributed to local realtors.

**OTHER ACTION ITEMS**

none

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**CLIMATE ACTION  
PLAN PROCESS –  
CHECK-IN**

The following update was provided:

- A general update was provided, but details were discussed under Working Group Updates

**WORKING GROUP  
UPDATES**

**Mitigation**

- Reviewed outcomes with Peter Robinson
- Next stage is actions which have been requested by this Friday
- Will be sent to mitigation working group, meeting to happen as soon as possible
- Actions to be proposed once feedback received
- Modelling can be done to see how much greenhouse gases can be eliminated with each action
- Will come back to Committee as a final version
- Suggestion to extend invitation to Committee members if they would like to join.
- Meeting to happen on November 25.

*Stan Eaman left the meeting at 4:39 pm.*

**Adaptation**

- Workshop on Tuesday, November 19 at Lakers Clubhouse, please let Laurie know if you are attending
- Melissa and Ayesha may be able to attend for short time.
- 

Feedback on impacts and vulnerability ratings from the Adaptation Workshop #1 moved to end of meeting.

**Engagement**

SD 22 curriculum development

- In the works, gone back to Superintendent.

SD22 delegation November 20

- Youth members of the committee have organized presentation, will be presenting to School Trustees, have requested students from Earthstrike and Fridays for Future attend event.
- Suggest that engagement continue with School District
- A Trustee recommended that CAAC delegation should stay until motion passed by School Board
- Delegation is at the beginning of the meeting.
- Important to work closely with the School District
- Suggest another meeting with the Superintendent

- Engagement working group meeting to occur this Friday, Nov. 15.

Climate Ambassador Program

- No report.

**Youth**

Earth Day April 22

- 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- Some talk about bringing together schools and regional district
- Bill Darnell to follow up.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

- Regional District of Central Okanagan is hosting a climate event on Wednesday, February 26, 2020 at UBC Okanagan.
- Tour of Duteau creek water treatment plant – suggest that Committee may want to tour the first week of December, please contact Brian Guy if you would like to attend.

Feedback on vulnerability ratings from Adaptation Workshop:

Daniel reviewed the vulnerability assessments with a focus on adaptation/impacts and the Committee provided input based on the ranking. The following was noted:

- Under Warmer winters – 4 indicates that city is fairly vulnerable – satisfactory ranking
- Shorter lifespans of infrastructure and increase in maintenance costs – 4, again indicates that city is fairly vulnerable – satisfactory ranking
- Water supply – less water available for storage, deficit time earlier and longer – 5, satisfactory ranking
- Decreased water quality and more bacterial growth – Committee felt this was ranked too high
- Increased intensity frequency of precipitation, increased storms – 3, information needed from Serge Kozin, Manager, Water Reclamation Centre before determining accurate ranking
- Landslides and erosion impacting water supply infrastructure – 2.5 – more information needed
- Hotter, drier summers – greater per capita water use, increased demand for spray irrigation – 2, need more information, would warrant higher sensitivity ranking

**CLIMATE ACTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES NOVEMBER 13, 2019**

- Increased costs of water treatment and increased boil water advisories as turbidity and sedimentation increases– ranking needs to be higher
- Transportation – increased storms, increased disruptions to public transit – 3, satisfactory ranking
- Hotter drier summers, warmer winters, utilization of bikes

*Colleen Dix left the meeting at 5:32 pm.*

- Higher water table – more sewer backups verify – 5, need more information, to be verified with Serge Kozin
- Impact to septic fields – 3.5 ranking not accurate.

As many members had to leave, spreadsheet will be emailed to Committee. Input requested by Friday, November 15, 2019.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next regular meeting of the Climate Action Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at 3:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting of the Climate Action Advisory Committee adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

**CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Co-Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ Co-Chair

December 9, 2019

Climate Action Advisory Committee  
City of Vernon, 3400 30 St.  
Vernon, B.C. V1T 5E6

Dear Members of the Climate Action Advisory Committee,

Upgrading our homes to use renewable energy is an expensive proposition, given the large capital outlay required. A typical clean energy geothermal system can cost \$35,000 to install. Repayment of a 35k loan would take 30 years to pay back if the homeowner more than doubles their monthly natural gas bill to serve as payments. Furthermore, the homeowner has to take a significant investment risk as the capital may not be recouped when they sell their home. High cost is the main barrier holding up these clean renewable energy upgrades. Vernon has approximately 10,000 single family homes. Impactful government subsidies would be very expensive, and will eventually be borne by higher taxes for residents.

An alternative is to create a non-profit community based entity to upgrade single family homes and other buildings on a neighborhood scale. This entity would buy equipment in large volumes to save costs and use optimized business processes to carry out the upgrades. Our initial research has shown that cost savings are significant. In addition, by tying the payments to a home instead of the homeowner, upgrades can be financed by monthly payments that are equivalent to utility bills. The homeowner is protected from rising energy costs, and does not have capital risk when selling their home. Governments will not have to outlay large sums for rebates.

I have brought together a team of renewable energy engineers, installers, and business owners to carry out a feasibility study. This study will bring together detailed costing, homeowner offerings, grid planning, deployment stages, and risk mitigation at a cost of \$24,192. The results of this study will lead to detailed plans for deployment.

The Committee is requested to endorse the concept for neighborhood scale retrofits. This will be followed by a presentation to City Council and a request for funds to one of many grant agencies funding climate change initiatives.

Thank you,  
Amandeep Singh

Vernon Resident