



Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee Memo

Report To: Mayor Finch and Members of South Huron Council

Meeting Date: February 20, 2022

From: Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee

Report: CCAAC 01-2022

Subject: Summary of Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee

Recommendations:

That correspondence from the Climate Change Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee be received;

That South Huron Council recognizes the dedication and efforts from all members of the Committee; and

That South Huron Council approves the dissolution of the Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee as the mandate outlined in the Committee Terms of Reference was fulfilled, effective March 1, 2022.

Purpose:

Summary of Committee Outcomes and Approval to Dissolve Committee

Background and Information:

At the Regular Council meeting on October 7, 2019 South Huron council approved the six (6) members of the CCAAC.

As outlined in the Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee Terms of Reference (ToR), the purpose of the Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee (hereafter referred to as 'the Committee') is to:

- *Advise Council, Administration and Consultant/Project Management Team on specific matters as they pertain to the Municipality's Climate Change Adaptation Plan.*
- *The Committee will share opinions and perspectives and offer collective advice to staff and Consultants/Project Management Team.*

The Committee was created based on the approved workplan for the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy project. Public consultation plays an important part in the corporate decision-making process by providing a means for staff and Council to receive the views and advice from citizen members on a variety of matters.

The Committee's input has enabled a planning process that is open, transparent and meaningful to the community.

The Committee met regularly from December 2019 until July 2021 with the following notable achievements to satisfy the Committee ToR:

- Provided significant input into shaping South Huron's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy.
- Planned, developed and published a seven (7) episode, climate change video series focused on various topics and expert opinions, as determined by the Committee.

The following is a high-level summary of the Committee meeting outcomes:

Committee Meeting	Meeting Outcome(s)
December 5, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointment of Chair Steve Boles and Vice Chair Ryan Munn • Understanding of the role of the Committee • Understanding of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
January 9, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee milestones and tasks defined • Committee input and review of draft impact statements • Understanding of risk assessment (next steps)
February 6, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion of additional impacts statements posed by Committee Members • Preliminary Risk and Vulnerability results review and discussion • Climate Change Adaptation Strategy Vision and Goals exercise • Review of South Huron's Changing Climate visual
March 5, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and discussion of strategy draft goals and associated impacts • Review and discussion of strategy actions • Approval of South Huron's Changing Climate visual • Resolution referral decision to include single use plastics action item in strategy

October 8, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final South Huron Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and associated webpage materials presented to the Committee • Committee workplan discussed to implement assigned action items
November 24, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee workplan discussed to implement assigned action items – Community Forum ideas discussed in detail and members assigned topics of interest
February 4, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Forum discussed in detail; members provided update on scoping of topics, potential speakers and scope.
March 18, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication Strategy reviewed and discussed by members • Community Form planning and execution details discussed • Confirmation that Council authorizes the intent of the Community Forum
April 29, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Example of video presented to members for discussion • Community Forum updates from members on individual topics • Communication Strategy for Community forum was approved by the Committee • Update from Municipal staff on action implementation
May 27, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Communication Strategy and progress on workplan. • Video approved by the Committee.
June 24, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Communication Strategy and progress on workplan. • Video approved by the Committee. • Overview of potential analytics summary for video series available to evaluate success
July 22, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Communication Strategy and progress on workplan. • Video approved by the Committee. • Overview of potential analytics summary for video series available to evaluate success
August 2021 – February 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four remaining videos were reviewed by the Committee; no objections identified.

Summary of South Huron's Climate Change Video Series

South Huron's Climate Adaptation Strategy has a vision of "A future-ready South Huron that is resilient to the impacts of a changing climate." The strategy is comprised of eight goals to help achieve the vision. The video series is an action item under Goal 2: Support municipal and community resilience awareness and action in which the Committee was assigned lead of implementation on. The videos created will be utilized by the Municipality beyond their initial release and provide an ongoing benefit to the community.

Video Title and Description	Release Date	Viewer Statistics
<p>Introduction to South Huron's Video Series <i>Rising to the Challenge</i></p> <p>Video Description: Join South Huron's Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee Chair Steve Boles and Stacey Jeffery from the Municipality of South Huron as they set the stage for South Huron's video Series <i>Rising to the Challenge</i>.</p>	June 18, 2021	Views to date: 71
<p>Trees, Stewardship, Grants and Preparing for the Future</p> <p>Video Description: Ian Jean, Forestry and Land Stewardship Specialist with the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority will be highlighting how tree planting, forest management, and stewardship – with grant and staff support – can reduce our impact on climate change and help us build resiliency and help South Huron to adapt to weather extremes and our changing climate.</p>	June 25, 2021	Views to date: 90
<p>Valuing Green Infrastructure</p> <p>Video Description: Building, protecting and enhancing South Huron's natural environmental features to help us adapt to extreme weather and our changing climate as presented by Hope Brock, Healthy Watersheds Technician; and Tommy Kokas, Water Resources Engineer, both with the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority.</p>	July 23, 2021	Views to date: 86
<p>Home Flood Protection</p> <p>Video Description: South Huron's climate is changing, and an increase in high-intensity rain events is one of the impacts that our community is vulnerable to. Basement floods are predicted to increase in line with the high-intensity rain events and will impact our residents' physical health, mental stress, property loss, and cost of insurance. Join Cheryl Evans from the Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation and</p>	September 24, 2021	Views to date: 72

Larry Freiburger from AET Group as they uncover some of the common myths about home flooding and the many actions that residents can take to reduce the impact of flooding on their properties.		
Opportunities to Reduce Your Waste Video Description: This week is the 20th anniversary Waste Reduction Week in Canada (October 18-24, 2021) - a great opportunity to have a conversation about waste! Join our experts to learn more about why it is important to know what to put in your recycling bin (Francis Veilleux from Bluewater Recycling Association), how you can reduce the amount of waste you produce in your personal life (Eco Exeter) and how businesses might incorporate waste reduction into their daily practices (Michael and Lindsay Groot from Wholesome Pastures). Waste reduction doesn't have to be complicated - this video will show you where to start!	October 22, 2021	Views to date: 30
Strang Farms: Conservation and Innovative Farming Practices Video Description: Mike Strang of Strang Farms will be discussing Strip tillage and minimum tillage. Mike holds a B.Sc. in Agronomy from the University of Guelph, he is a member of the innovative Farmers Association of Ontario, and he is a specialist in pest control and precision farming practices. The Strang Family farms 2500 acres near Exeter. They employ conservation practices, crop sciences, and advanced technology into their business.	Anticipated February 14, 2022	N/A
Energy Efficiency Video Description: Reducing your home energy use is the single most effective way to save money while reducing your home's contribution to climate change. Join our informative conversation as we share tips, and strategies for achieving energy efficiency, ranging from simple, everyday cost-effective DIY solutions, to energy audits.	Anticipated February 28, 2022	N/A

Committee's Role in Strengthening South Huron's Climate Adaptation Efforts

Throughout the duration of the Committee's meetings, the following action items were strongly supported by the Committee members and identified as being important items to be addressed immediately:

1. Include climate change consideration section in staff reports to Council
2. Develop a qualitative climate lens tool to guide staff and Council decision-making

3. Develop a process to ensure climate change adaptation is considered during review of existing and development of new policies and plans for South Huron
4. Develop a naturalization strategy focused on riparian areas located on municipal properties. (In particular, MacNaughton Park was discussed)

Municipal staff have been working to plan and implement the action items, as outlined in the adaptation Strategy. Related to the above, it should be noted that:

- Action items 1-3 listed above are being considered during the Procedural By-law review.
- Action item 4 listed above has been initiated through Council's approval of a grant submission to the Intact Foundation for the re-naturalization pilot. The grant application has been formally submitted for this project.

It is important to recognize the dedication and efforts from all members of the Committee and work in positioning South Huron as a regional leader in adapting to climate change. The achievements as identified will be used to guide the actions of the municipality for the next several years and will produce lasting impacts.

Communications:

Official records of the Committee will remain on *SouthHuron.ca* ([Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee - South Huron](#)).

Related Documents:

- Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee Terms of Reference (July 2019)

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Boles, Chair/Public Representative

Councillor Vaughan, Council Representative