

Environment Committee (EC) Report  
HCCA  
Presented for information to April 6, 2020 Board of Directors' Meeting

At the November 2019 meeting, the HCCA agreed to strike an Environment Committee (EC). The EC's inaugural meeting was held Jan. 27, 2020 where it focused on three areas:

1. To agree on how we will work together as a committee
2. To review the scope of HCCA and within that, the scope of the EC
3. To decide on committee objectives and initial action steps

The committee made good headway in all areas. It was agreed the EC efforts would need to be tightly focused since 'environment' can have many interpretations. It was agreed climate change would be a key focus including how we can contribute to limiting climate change and its adverse impacts, engaging people, increasing awareness and highlighting mitigation actions in our community. There was agreement we also want to learn more about impact of emissions, the flood plain, water management and greening of the city. Committee members took on various tasks where they agreed to actions, follow ups and timing for completion. We initially want to understand who is doing what in terms of the environment. Since the meeting in January members of the committee have attended meeting of OSEAN (Ottawa South Environment Action Network), the People's Plan event, connected with CAFES (Community Associations For Environmental Stability) , drafted an initial terms of reference (attached for information), contacted RPCA (Riverside Park Community Association) about opportunities to work together and made contact, through Councillor Brockington, to city staff in the areas of the Climate Change Master Plan and Urban Forest Management Plan to arrange for them to make a presentation (see below). The committee agreed we would re-visit the draft terms of reference at our next meeting which to be held mid-March when the city presentation and other information had been gathered . The EC meeting scheduled for mid-March was postponed in light of the global pandemic. We will be looking at holding a virtual meeting in the next while.

On March 9, 2020 Jen Brown and Emma Langham from the Climate Change and Resiliency Team and Martha Copestake, Lead, Urban Tree Forest Management Plan made a presentation to a group of approximately 25 assembled at the HCRPCC. Thank you to members of the EC and to the members of the Board who were able to attend. The audience was very engaged. The presentation is attached for information. During follow up city staff were open to doing another presentation, perhaps focused on some specific areas, at some point in the future as well as consider our neighbourhood as a potential site for a pilot project under the plan (s). They have been also asked follow up questions about emission information from natural gas for our area and the energy efficiency of two city buildings (HCRPCC and the fire station) in our area. A response from the city is pending.

Barb Shea (Chair)