



## PUBLIC AGENDA

### SASKATOON ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2015, 11:30 A.M.  
COMMITTEE ROOM A, SECONND FLOOR, CITY HALL

Dr. M. Hill, Chair  
Ms. K. Aikens, Vice-Chair  
Councillor M. Loewen  
Mr. S. Homenick  
Ms. A. Bugg  
Ms. N. Kochar  
Mr. B. Latimer  
Dr. D. McGrane  
Ms. A. Garg  
Mr. B. Sawatsky  
Mr. S. Moshiri

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA**
3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**
  - 3.1 Minutes of regular meeting of the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee held on January 8, 2015.
4. **REPORT OF THE CHAIR (File No. 175-9)**
  - 4.1 *Verbal Update – K. Aikens, A/Chair*  
  
**Recommendation**  
That the information be received.
5. **REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION**
  - 5.1 Environmental and Corporate Initiatives Update (File No. CK. 7550-1)  
*Verbal Update – B. Wallace*  
  
**Recommendation**  
That the information be received.

**6. 2015 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES (File No. CK. 175-9)**

Attached is an excerpt from minutes of meeting of the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee, dated January 8, 2015, the Committee resolved to draft a letter to the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities and Corporate Services presenting them with the Committee's 2015 goals and objectives. Also attached is the "draft" copy of the above-noted letter for review and approval by the Committee.

**Recommendation**

That the direction of the Committee issue.

**7. 2014 ANNUAL REPORT – Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee (File No. CK. 430-19)**

Attached is a "draft" copy of the 2014 Annual Report of the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee as prepared by Committee Chair, Dr. Michael Hill and Vice-Chair, Kathleen Aikens for review and approval prior to forwarding to the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities and Corporate Services to submit to City Council.

**Recommendation**

That the direction of Committee issue.

**8. Letter from Darrin Qualman, Saskatchewan Citizens' Hearings on Climate Change Dated January 15, 2015 (File No. CK. 375-5)**

Attached is a copy of the above-noted letter requesting to meet with the Committee to discuss climate change.

**Recommendation**

That the direction of Committee issue.

**9. STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES (File No. CK. 1704-5)**

Attached is a current Statement of Expenditures.

**Recommendation**

That the information be received.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

6.

The following is an excerpt from the minutes of meeting of the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee (Open to the Public) held on January 8, 2015:

**6. 2015 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES (File No. CK. 175-9)**

An informal planning meeting was held Wednesday, January 7, 2015 with Michael Hill, David McGrane, Brian Sawatzky, Angie Bugg, Kathleen Aikens and Councillor Loewen in attendance.

A summary of the planning meeting was circulated to Committee Members at the onset of the meeting. Five main priorities were identified:

1. Greenhouse Gas Reductions
2. Organic Waste Diversion
3. Policies and reports such as Dark Sky Policy and Wetlands Policy
4. Development of a greater linkage with City Council's Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities and Corporate Services
5. Festival Sustainability

Discussion ensued regarding prioritization.

**Moved By:** Councillor Loewen

1. That the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee draft a letter to the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities and Corporate Services presenting them with the Committee's 2015 goals in order to promote a closer reporting relationship with the Standing Policy Committee; and
2. That the direction of the Committee issue.

**CARRIED**

Ms. Aikens volunteered to draft the above mentioned letter and present it to the Committee for review at their next meeting.

3 February 2015

The Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee presents as formal communication to the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities and Corporate Services the following goals and priorities for the 2015 calendar year.

In 2015, the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee (SEAC) will:

- 1) Support greenhouse gas (GHG) targets and reduction strategies for the City of Saskatoon (corporate), industry, and community, through the following channels:
  - A) Advocate for, and support the facilitation of, public stakeholder consultations regarding targets for GHG emissions for corporate (City of Saskatoon), community, and industrial sector.
  - B) Advocate for an updated GHG inventory, as more recent inventory was completed in 2005.
  - C) Request information on the Solar City Initiative, which was removed from Council's 2015 (budget), and depending on information/recommendations received, advocate for inclusion of the Initiative in the 2016 Council budget.
  - D) Identify areas of greatest leverage for GHG reductions, such as increasing energy efficiency of buildings and homes through bylaws, and/or incentive programs.
- 2) Support city-wide organic waste diversion, through formal advocacy (e.g. providing letters of support), and support of public consultation on organic waste diversion options.
- 3) Continue to monitor progress of, and provide support for, previous reports and policies, including Dark Sky Policy and Wetlands Implementation Guide.
- 4) Develop greater linkages with Council's Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities, and Corporate Services, through the provision of regular, in-person reports of SEAC to the Standing Policy Committee, and formal communication of annual goals.
- 5) Continue to support the SEAC Subcommittee on Event Sustainability, including the festival audit recommendations submitted by the subcommittee in 2014, in partnership with Environment and Corporate Services.

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

**TO:** Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities & Corporate Services  
**FROM:** Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee  
**DATE:** February 12, 2015  
**SUBJECT:** 2014 Annual Report – Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee  
**FILE NO.** (CK. 430-19)

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**RECOMMENDATION:** That the information be received and forwarded to City Council as information.

### Purpose

The function of the Committee is to provide advice to Council on policy matters relating to the environmental implications of City undertakings, and to identify environmental issues of potential relevance to the City. The Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee (SEAC) was formed in 1973 by City Council, and has been actively pursuing its mandate since that time, with the expertise of a dedicated, diverse, and knowledgeable roster of members.

SEAC has established that they will:

1. Be aware of the resources available to the City of Saskatoon for dealing with environmental issues.
2. Prepare and publish an annual report on the activities of the Committee over the past year.
3. Encourage liaisons between the City of Saskatoon and environmental agencies serving higher levels of government.

### Reporting Relationship

The Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee reports to the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities and Corporate Services.

### Composition

The Committee consists of 11 members, including one City Councillor, one representative of the Saskatoon Health Region, and nine additional members appointed by City Council.

Members are appointed for two-year terms, which are renewable up to six years. In the event that a member fails to complete his/her term, a replacement may be named to complete that term. New appointments are made by City Council upon resignation of a member and on expiration of the term of public appointments.

## **Meetings**

The Committee meets at 11:30 a.m. on the second Thursday of each month except for July, August and December.

## **THE YEAR IN REVIEW**

### **Appointments and Reappointments made by City Council for 2014**

Councillor Mairin Loewen  
Ms. Kathleen Aikens, representing the general public  
Ms. Angie Bugg, representing the general public  
Mr. J. Michel Fortier, representing the general public  
Dr. Michael Hill, representing the general public  
Mr. Sean Homenick, representing the general public  
Ms. Namarta Kochar, representing the general public  
Ms. Heather Landine, representing the general public  
Dr. David McGrane, representing the general public  
Mr. Jeffrey Smith, representing the general public  
Mr. Brent Latimer, representing the Saskatoon Health Region

Administrative and City of Saskatoon staff support was provided by Ms. Brenda Wallace, Director of Environmental & Corporate Initiatives; Ms. Kathy O'Brien, Ms. Rhonda Rioux, and Ms. Debby Sackmann, City Clerk's Office, and Councillor Mairin Loewen.

### **Focus of SEAC in 2014**

Due to the growing complexities of environmental issues that are being dealt with by the City, SEAC held a task group meeting to establish specific Goals and Objectives for 2013. These were submitted to City Council as information, in a report dated February 2014, (Attachment No. 1).

### **Summary of Actions from SEAC Meetings for 2014**

#### **January 2014:**

- Dr. David McGrane was introduced as a new member to SEAC.
- Dr. Michael Hill was appointed Chair and Mr. Jeffrey Smith was appointed Vice-Chair.
- Brenda Wallace, Director of Environmental & Corporate Initiatives; Amber Jones, Education and Environmental Performance Manager, and Katie Burns, Environmental Coordinator; Environmental & Corporate Initiatives were in attendance and provided updates and answered subsequent questions on event sustainability and a performance plan for the Environmental & Initiatives Division was being devised and should be

ready for circulation by the next meeting of the Committee.

- Ms. Katie Burns, Environmental Coordinator, Environmental & Initiatives Division, requested that the Committee select a representative to serve on the evaluations for the 2014 Environmental Component of the Community Cash Grants Program. Mr. Jeffrey Smith agreed to serve as the SEAC representative.
- An informal planning meeting to set SEAC Goals and Objectives for 2014 was held on Tuesday, January 7, 2014 with Michael Hill, David McGrane, Kathleen Aikens, Michel Fortier and Jeff Smith in attendance. A summary of the planning meeting was circulated to Board Members by email prior to the meeting of the Committee. Key objectives were identified; discussion ensued regarding prioritization.
- Dr. Michael Hill committed to drafting the 2013 annual report for SEAC.

#### **February 2014:**

- No meeting was held because of lack of quorum.

#### **March 2014:**

- Ms. Angie Bugg was introduced as a new member to SEAC.
- Ms. Savage presented information regarding Wild About Saskatoon Festival. The Committee learned that the cost of hooding parking meters to provide bike valet service for festivals is cost prohibitive. SEAC resolved that a memo be sent to the Administrative and Finance Committee regarding the possibility of waiving the cost of hooded meters for the use of bike valets for festivals.
- The Chair advised that he had been working on the 2013 Annual Report of the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee and hoped to have it before the Committee in due course.
- Ms. Amber Jones of the Environmental & Corporate Initiatives Division was in attendance to provide an update on the 25 Year Water Strategy for Saskatchewan.
- Ms. Twyla Yobb of Environmental & Corporate Initiatives Division provided a PowerPoint presentation entitled "*What is the City of Saskatoon Environmental Mandate?*"
- The Administration circulated a copy of report entitled *Stormwater Management and Green Update* and answered questions put forth by Committee members.

#### **April 2014:**

- The Chair advised that he hoped to have the 2013 Annual Report ready for the Board's approval at the next meeting.
- Sean Homenick presented the report from the Event Sustainability Task Group, dated April 10, 2014, which had been provided to Committee members, and answered questions. He explained that it may not be possible for Enactus to provide people to do solid waste audits at festivals because the program is a project for fourth year students and as a result,

there is a possibility that anyone involved in the program will be applying for jobs outside of the city and will no longer be available. Mr. Homenick explained that they will be meeting with festival organizers throughout the month of April. It was suggested that if an audit of festivals is done, that organizations that have not agreed to work with Enactus be audited rather than those who have, as the results may produce different results.

- Environmental & Corporate Initiatives Director Wallace was in attendance and provided an update. The Chair also requested that Ms. Wallace provide information regarding the newspaper article entitled, *Citywide Compost Next Recycling Fight*. Discussion followed regarding advising City Council of the Committee's support of a city-wide compost program and it was decided that the Committee send a letter of support as soon as possible, and that a representative from the Committee be chosen to speak at the Council meeting at the time they consider the report.
- It was resolved that Dr. David McGrane draft a letter to City Council, advising that the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee supports the City exploring a city-wide organics diversion program, and circulate it to Committee members by email for approval.
- SEAC also requested that the Administration provide a power point presentation on the preliminary results of the work completed regarding the city-wide organics diversion program at the June 12, 2014 Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee meeting.
- The Chair provided background information regarding the Dark Sky Initiative and advised that the Administration had been asked to provide information regarding areas to assist in moving the initiative forward. Environmental & Corporate Initiatives Director Wallace advised that the Administration is unable to identify anything at this stage and that staffing is not available at this time to work on the initiative.
- Mr. Richard Huziak, representing the Saskatchewan Light Pollution Abatement Committee, was present and spoke regarding the initiative. He provided a copy of a brochure entitled, *"Dark Skies through Light Pollution Abatement"*.
- Councillor Loewen advised that the City is reviewing digital billboard standards, and she will ensure that anything that comes forward is referred to the Committee. It was decided that the Building Standards Branch and Planning and Development Branch be asked to meet with the Committee to discuss possible changes to the zoning bylaw, etc., and to provide direction.
- The Chair advised that the Committee has a budget of \$6,800 for 2014 and had discussed the possibility of hiring a student. Discussion followed, including having the student do festival sustainability audits throughout the summer. Ms. Wallace advised that they could look at cost sharing with the Committee, and that they would also be willing to be involved in the hiring. Kathleen Aikens advised that if there were an opportunity to be involved in supervising, she would be interested. Discussion also took place with respect to where the student would be located.



**May 2014:**

- No meeting was held because of lack of quorum.

**June 2014:**

- Environment & Corporate Initiatives staff member Josh Quintal provided a presentation on a city-wide organics diversion program. Environment & Corporate Initiatives director Brenda Wallace indicated that this item will be put before the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities & Corporate Services in September 2014 and that the Letter of Support submitted by the Committee will be put forward at the same time as the report on the matter.
- Environment & Corporate Initiatives provided SEAC members with a copy of the publication "*Our Environment – The City of Saskatoon's 2014 Environmental Leadership Report.*"
- A draft of the 2013 Annual Report of the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee, prepared by Chair Dr. Michael Hill, was approved by the Committee. The Committee resolved that the report be forwarded through the Standing Policy Committee on Environmental, Utilities and Corporate Services for submission to City Council.
- The Committee discussed a proposed budget for 2015 and resolved to request \$6,800, allocated in the following amounts: Publications/Reports (\$100); Public Education and Information Gathering (\$6000); Conferences/Workshops (\$ 500); and Membership Fees (\$ 200).
- The Committee resolved to provide financial support to the Student Action for a Sustainable Future (SASF) education program, in the amount of \$1,800.
- Mr. Brent Latimer, Committee member representing Saskatoon Health Region, provided information on an initiative to monitor ambient air quality in Saskatoon.

**September 2014:**

- Director of Environment & Corporate Initiatives Wallace advised the Committee that the City will be preparing a discussion paper regarding performance targets around the environment. She asked the Committee if they would be interested in participating in the process by acting as hosts during public consultations with stakeholders regarding waste diversion and gas emissions. The Committee resolved to defer decision on its participation until the October 2014 meeting when Director Wallace would present a proposed engagement plan.
- Committee members received copies of the Festival Sustainability Report 2014, as prepared by Rebecca Anderson and provided by Environment and Corporate Initiatives. The Committee resolved to defer any decisions regarding the recommendations in the "*Festival Sustainability Report 2014*" to October 2014 meeting, and invite representatives from participating festivals present to participate in the discussions.
- The Committee Secretary distributed a memo dated August 29, 2014 from

the Deputy City Clerk, advising that City Council considered the Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee's 2013 Annual Report at its meeting held on August 21, 2014, and resolved that the information be received. The Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee's 2013 Annual Report was received by City Council at its meeting held on August 21, 2014.

**October 2014:**

- Committee Chair, Dr. Michael Hill informed the committee of a recent information request regarding progress on the Dark Sky Initiative. The Committee resolved to compose a memo to the Administration asking for clarification on the current policy regarding Dark Sky Initiative.
- Director of Environmental & Corporate Initiatives Wallace informed the Committee that an interdepartmental steering committee is preparing a Request for Proposal on Wetland Policy implementation.
- Director Wallace provided the Committee with a draft copy of the Proposed Engagement Plan for Stakeholder Consultations on Corporate Performance Targets (Waste Diversion and Greenhouse Gas Emissions). The Committee decided to accept the invitation to act as facilitators for the proposed engagement plan for stakeholder consultations on the corporate performance targets of waste diversion and greenhouse gas emissions.
- The Event Sustainability subcommittee reported on a meeting with festival representatives, subcommittee representatives, and Environment and Corporate Initiatives staff. The subcommittee noted that discussions were positive, but that greater resources needed to be dedicated to support waste diversion and other sustainability initiatives at large events.
- Mr. Brad Sylvester of the Optimist Club was in attendance to speak on the topic of festival sustainability. Mr. Sylvester spoke to the Committee from the perspective of a food vendor in regards to food services and public health at festivals and events.
- The Committee noted that City Council had proclaimed October 26-November 1, 2014 in Saskatoon as Right to Healthy Environment.

**November 2014:**

- Mr. Richard Huziak of the Saskatchewan Light Pollution Abatement Committee and members of Building Standards Division and Development Review were present to discuss Dark Sky Lighting. Mr. Huziak provided a draft policy copy entitled, "*Responsible Outdoor Lighting Policy*" and presented an overview of the policy. The Committee asked that the Development Review Section Manager, Mr. Dawson, provide, in the first quarter of 2015, an analysis of the current bylaws affecting outdoor lighting; and information on Dark Sky compliance in new neighborhoods.
- Mr. Nathan Ziegler of Saskatoon Light & Power was in attendance and presented the Committee with a power point presentation on the Power Generation Portfolio. The presentation included the City's vision and goals for creating new sources of green energy where feasible.

- Environmental & Corporate Initiatives Director Brenda Wallace informed the Committee that the Proposed Engagement Plan for Stakeholder Consultations on Corporate Performance Targets (Waste Diversion and Greenhouse Gas Emissions) had been postponed until 2015.
- Director Wallace additionally informed the Committee that the City-wide Compost Program was presented to the Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities and Corporate Services, at their meeting held October 14, 2014. The Administration was not comfortable going forward with the program at this time, and a new report would be forthcoming in 2015.
- The Event Sustainability sub-committee put forth recommendations for event sustainability. These recommendations were made with consideration to the Festival Sustainability Report 2014 by Rebecca Anderson and input from festival stakeholders. The Committee resolved to accept the recommendations of the Event Sustainability subcommittee, with the omission of the recommendation to extend waste diversion audits to additional interested festivals.
- The Committee approved a schedule of meeting dates for the 2015 calendar year.

## **ATTACHMENT**

1. Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee 2015 Goals and Objectives

Written By: Michael Hill and Kathleen Aikens

Approved By:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Hill, Chair  
Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee  
Dated: February 12, 2015

## SEAC Goal Setting meeting

January 7, 2015, 5-6pm

In attendance: Michael Hill (Chair), David McGrane, Brian Sawatsky, Angie Bugg, Kathleen Aikens, Mairin Loewen (Councillor)

### Priority areas identified:

- 1) Greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions
  - Identified as high priority area
  - Corporate strategy (City of Saskatoon) is relatively well-developed; Community/Industry Strategy is under-developed.
  - Several possible avenues of action or advocacy were proposed:
    - A) Follow-up on GHG targets (corporate and community/industry) consultation meetings with stakeholders
    - B) Encourage/advise GHG inventory: the last inventory was completed in 2005
    - C) Follow-up on Solar City initiative (Solar Grant program removed from this year's budget)
    - D) Identify areas of greatest leverage for GHG reductions, such as:
      - Increasing energy efficiency of buildings and homes through bylaws, and/or incentive programs.
- 2) Organic waste diversion
  - Continue to advocate for organic waste diversion
  - Support public consultation
- 3) Previous policies and reports
  - Follow up on outstanding policies and reports, especially Dark Sky Policy and Wetlands Policy
- 4) Develop greater linkages with Council's Standing Policy Committee on Environment and Utilities,
  - Have SEAC members attend/present at monthly meetings as necessary.
  - Consider submitting annual SEAC goals as item of information for Committee
- 5) Festival sustainability
  - Continue with SEAC subcommittee and audits as per recommendations.

CLIMATE  
CHANGE

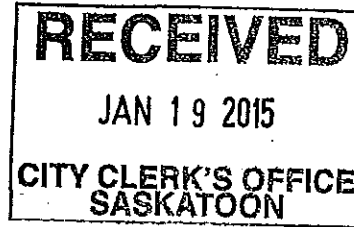
CITIZENS'  
HEARINGS

Saskatchewan Citizens' Hearings on Climate Change  
<http://skclimatehearings.org/>  
(306) 492-4714 [darrinq@sasktel.net](mailto:darrinq@sasktel.net)

375-5  
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January 15, 2015

Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee  
c/o the City Clerk's Office  
City Hall  
222 3rd Ave North  
Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5



Dear Environmental Advisory Committee members:

On behalf of the organizers of the Saskatchewan Citizens' Hearings on Climate Change, I write to request a meeting with your Committee in early 2015 to discuss climate change and how the City of Saskatoon can take leadership in averting the worst impacts of this economic, social and environmental calamity.

In late 2013, the Saskatchewan Citizens' Hearings on Climate Change brought together hundreds of experts, educators, policy-makers, citizens, and activists to discuss climate change and the risks it creates for this province. For two days, participants considered and debated the critical actions that citizens and governments at all levels will need to take in order to safeguard our society, ecosystems, and economy.

Four Commissioners oversaw the Hearings and listened to presentations by experts and comments from the public. Many presentations focused on our city—on transportation, outside lighting, natural spaces, energy efficiency, and alternative energy production. The Commissioners synthesized what they heard into a 70-page report that includes important Saskatchewan- and Saskatoon-specific recommendations. In April 2014, that Report was released at a very well attended public launch in Saskatoon. The report is available online at <http://skclimatehearings.org/the-final-report/>

Those who organized and participated in the Citizens' Hearings would like to meet with your Committee at your earliest convenience to discuss the City's various reports on climate change, its targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and, especially, strategies for reducing emissions—from the City as a corporation, and also from the community as a whole.

I hope we can soon meet to exchange information and to discuss ideas, strategies, and priorities for lowering greenhouse gas emissions in Saskatoon.

I look forward to hearing from your Committee. You can reply via mail to Darrin Qualman, Box 84, Dundurn, SK S0K 1K0; or via email to [darrinq@sasktel.net](mailto:darrinq@sasktel.net) [the seventh letter is a 'Q'].

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Darrin Qualman".

Darrin Qualman

On behalf of the 13 member Organizing Committee for the Citizens' Hearings, the four Commissioners, and the hundreds of people who attended the Hearings.

01-5536-103 ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (2015)

DATE	NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	Total Committee Expenses			G/L
			DEBIT	CREDIT		
		Opening Balance			6,800.00	
					6,800.00	x
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2014 Budget: \$6,800

- Publications/Reports: \$100
- Public Education, Information Gathering: \$6,000
- Conferences/Workshops: \$500
- Membership Fees: \$200
- Total

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