

Municipality Of Chatham-Kent

Community Development

Planning Services

Information Report

To: Members of the Natural Heritage Advisory Committee of the Whole

From: Gabriel Clarke, MES, BA
Manager, Growth & Sustainability, Planning Services

Date: December 6, 2021

Subject: Summary of Tree and Woodlot Related Information Presented in 2020 & 2021

This report is for the information of Council.

Background

Throughout Council's current term, a number of Motions have been approved directing administration to undertake various research and data collection efforts regarding trees, forests, and woodlots. These Motions include:

- A Motion regarding [Tree Cover in Chatham-Kent](#) approved on November 4, 2019.
- A Motion to [Develop and Implement a Street Tree Cover Policy](#) approved on May 25, 2020.
- A Motion regarding [Woodlot Preservation](#) approved on April 26, 2021.
- A Motion directing [the creation of the Natural Heritage Committee of Whole](#) on August 23, 2021.

The information generated in response to these Motions has been communicated to Council and the public through a series of Reports that are publicly accessible on the www.chatham-kent.ca municipal website. However, given the volume of information generated and the number of Reports through which it is communicated, this Information Report was prepared for ease of reference to provide a high level summary of the information produced in 2020 and 2021 on trees, forests, and woodlots in Chatham-Kent.

Comments

Report: Rural and Urban Tree Cover in Chatham-Kent

Date Presented: September 21, 2020

Web Link: <https://www.chatham-kent.ca/localgovernment/council/meetings/Documents/2020/September/Sept-21-12a.pdf>

Report Contents:

- Discussion and analysis on planting 1 million trees.
- Proposed approach for urban street trees.
- Results from previous tree planting and environmental stewardship efforts.
- Best Management Practices (BMP) review on reforestation.
- Review of existing tree and forest By-Laws from other Municipalities.
- Review of existing forest-related incentive programs available in Chatham-Kent.
- Overview of community-based stewardship and reforestation partners.

Report: Community Engagement Process to Support Council's Motion on Woodlots

Date Presented: June 14, 2021

Web Link: <https://www.chatham-kent.ca/localgovernment/council/meetings/Documents/2021/June/Jun-14-15c.pdf>

Report Contents:

- Description of the planned community engagement process.
- Description of the planned community awareness and outreach campaign.

Report: Woodlot Preservation Motion

Date Presented: August 23, 2021

Web Link: <https://pub-chatham-kent.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=587>

Report Contents:

- Description the various steps and results of the community engagement process.
- Analysis of comments received from the community.
- Discussion of existing forest-related incentive programs available in Chatham-Kent.
- Discussion on the planning and legislative framework on natural heritage in Ontario.
- Best Management Practices (BMP) Review on incentive programs and woodlot preservation approaches across Ontario.
- Overview of tree planting activities in Chatham-Kent.
- Overview of the implementation status of the 2014 Natural Heritage Implementation Strategy (NHIS).

- Next steps: recommended formation of the Natural Heritage Committee of the Whole.

Report Appendices:

- [Appendix A](#): Temporary Clear-Cutting Bylaw Extension.
- [Appendix B](#): Ethelo Woodlot Engagement Summary Report.
- [Appendix C](#): Letters and Written Submissions Received from the Community.
- [Appendix D](#): Ethelo Woodlot Engagement Security Analysis Report.
- [Appendix E](#): Examples of Projects Under Chatham-Kent's Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) Program.
- [Appendix F](#): Natural Heritage Implementation Strategy Status Report.

Report: Natural Heritage Committee of the Whole Terms of Reference

Date Presented: September 27, 2021

Web Link: <https://pub-chatham-kent.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=749>

Report Contents:

- Description, purpose, mandate and composition of the Natural Heritage Committee of the Whole.
- Terms of Reference.

Report: Introduction to the Natural Heritage Committee of the Whole

Date Presented: November 1, 2021

Web Link: <https://pub-chatham-kent.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=3268>

Report Contents:

- Overview of the trajectory of Natural Heritage matters in Chatham-Kent.
- Overview of issues to be brought to the Natural Heritage Committee of the Whole over time.
- Discussion on First Nations engagement.

Report: Meeting Framework and Public Participation

Date Presented: November 1, 2021

Web Link: <https://pub-chatham-kent.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=3269>

Report Contents:

- Proposed meeting schedule and meeting content.
- Proposed framework for public participation.
- Committee procedure.

Report: Conservation Authorities Land Stewardship Programs: 2014-present

Date Presented: November 29, 2021

Web Link: <https://pub-chatham-kent.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=3426>

Report Contents:

- Overview of stewardship activities undertaken by Conservation Authorities.
- Summary of stewardship funding.
- Summary of stewardship implementation.
- Summary of donated lands.

Report: Mapping Project of Forest Cover and Natural Heritage Features

Date Presented: November 29, 2021

Web Link: <https://pub-chatham-kent.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=3427>

Report Contents:

- Overview of the forest cover and natural heritage features mapping project.
- Description of project scope and methodology.
- Statistical results of the mapping project.
- Next steps: Recommended peer review of the results.

Report: 2021 Woodlot Public Engagement Survey and Analysis of Survey Results

Date Presented: December 13, 2021

Web Link: TBD

Report Contents:

- Overview of Municipal instruments to achieve policy objectives in the community.
- Structure of the 2021 woodlot community survey.
- Segmented analysis of the results of the 2021 woodlot community survey.

Report: Natural Heritage Planning under the Provincial Policy Statement

Date Presented: December 13, 2021

Web Link: TBD

Report Contents:

- Overview of provincial policy related to natural areas.
- Expectation of Chatham-Kent to address provincial policy in future planning.

Consultation

There was no consultation required for the preparation of this Report.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications resulting from this Report.

Prepared by:



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Reviewed by:



Ryan Jacques MCIP, RPP
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Attachment: None

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