

Committee of the Whole Report

Report Number: PLAN2025-015 **Meeting Date:** March 4, 2025 Title: **Environmental Advisory Committee 2025 Work Plan Description:** Environmental Advisory Committee 2024 Achievements and 2025 Work Plan **Author and Title:** Jenna Stephens, Planning Officer, Environmental Policy **Recommendation(s):** That Report PLAN2025-015, Environmental Advisory Committee 2025 Work Plan, be received; **That**, the 2025 Environmental Advisory Committee Work Plan outlined in Appendix B to Report PLAN2025-015 be approved; and **That** this recommendation be brought forward to Council for consideration at the next Regular Council Meeting. Department Head: _____ Financial/Legal/HR/Other:

Chief Administrative Officer:

Background:

This report provides a review of the City of Kawartha Lakes Environmental Advisory Committee's (EAC) achievements in 2024 and proposes a work plan for 2025 as per the Terms of Reference – City of Kawartha Lakes Environmental Advisory Committee.

Rationale:

2024 EAC Achievements:

The 2024 EAC Achievements include public education initiatives and activities that implement the environmental goals and policies of the City of Kawartha Lakes, which are the core purposes of the Committee. Their achievements in 2024 are attached as **Appendix A**. Highlights of their achievements include:

- Signing over of the Pollinator Pathway map to the City of Kawartha Lakes;
- Opening of a native seed library at Ballyduff Trail;
- Organizing the 5th Annual Bee a Hero Contest, the Pollinator Pathway Project event, and a monarch butterfly festival;
- Assisting with the Bobcaygeon Environmental Fair to educate the public on electric vehicles;
- Receiving Bird Friendly City certification from Nature Canada;
- Having the osprey named as the City's official bird and the Bird of the Year for 2024; and
- Producing an educational brochure about the impacts of roaming cats for the Humane Society using Nature Canada funding.

2025 EAC Work Plan:

The 2025 EAC Work Plan activities include new and on-going public education initiatives and activities that will continue to implement the environmental goals and polices of the City of Kawartha Lakes, which remain the core purposes of the Committee. The 2025 EAC Work Plan is attached as **Appendix B** and requires Council approval. Highlights of the proposed work plan include:

- Hosting a spring opening event at the Broad Street pollinator garden;
- Proposing native pollinator patches at the Lindsay airport and the retired Lindsay landfill cell;
- Opening native seed libraries at Ken Reid Conservation Area and Gamiing Nature Centre;

- Hosting Pollinator Week events (6th annual Bee a Hero contest, 2nd annual kids colouring contest);
- Hosting the 4th annual Biking for Pollinators event and the Monarch Festival;
- Completing the annual Bird Friendly City report to Nature Canada;
- Taking measures to reduce the roaming and feral cat populations;
- Supporting World Migratory Bird Day activities;
- Installing turtle crossing signs; and
- Supporting the creation of the Climate Change Strategy

Other Alternatives Considered:

The submissions within this report follow policy and direction of Council with respect to Committees of Council so no other alternatives were considered.

Alignment to Strategic Priorities

For reference the four strategic priorities within the 2024-2027 Kawartha Lakes Strategic Plan are:

- 1. Healthy Environment
- 2. An Exceptional Quality of Life
- 3. A Vibrant and Growing Economy
- 4. Good Government

The work of this Committee of Council relates to the Council Adopted Strategic Plan in the areas of a Healthy Environment and An Exceptional Quality of Life. Through consultation and advice provided by local citizens passionate about the environment, Council is able to support a healthier environment and enhanced lifestyle through the delivery of various supportive programs and policy decisions.

Financial/Operation Impacts:

With the adoption of work plans and annual reports, Council has developed a way for Committees of Council to receive clear direction and be held accountable for their important work. Efforts can now be refocused from administrative (non-value added) duties to more in-depth work by the volunteers (value added). There are no financial considerations associated with this recommendation beyond the Council allocated budget of \$7000.

Consultations:

Environmental Advisory Committee

Director of Development Services

Attachments:

Appendix A – Environmental Advisory Committee 2024 Achievements



Appendix B – Environmental Advisory Committee 2025 Work Plan



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Department Head: Leah Barrie, Director of Development Services