

Sustainable Peterborough 2017 Report Card



Caring communities balancing
prosperity, well-being and nature.

Our future...
Our legacy

sustainable
Peterborough

A Note from our Chair:

It's hard to believe that 2017 marked the 10th anniversary of Sustainable Peterborough! In 2007, the City of Peterborough, the County of Peterborough, its eight Townships, two First Nations and community partners established Sustainable Peterborough. This solid foundational partnership and collaboration has secured over \$1,000,000 in external funding for projects such as the Healthy Kids Community Challenge and the Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) for the Greater Peterborough area. The CCAP identifies targeted GHG reductions for both our corporate operations and our individual communities. We are also so very proud that Curve Lake First Nation and Hiawatha First Nation are the first two First Nations Communities in Canada to participate in and achieve milestones 1, 2 and 3 of the Partners for Climate Protection program!

This annual report card provides a glimpse into some of the initiatives in support of sustainability across our region – there are so many that we don't have the space to acknowledge them all. Know that every little thing you do in support of our community benefits us all!

I see 2018 as a transition year - that will map our direction forward but one that also continues to embrace our commitment to our vision of "caring communities balancing prosperity, well-being and nature".



Sheridan Graham, Chair, Sustainable Peterborough


2017 Highlights:

While we can only highlight some of the achievements, a comprehensive listing of all accomplishments reported by our partner organizations can be seen on our website.

Note: Bolded names throughout this Report Card denote **Sustainable Peterborough (SP) partner organizations**. To become a SP partner please contact us.

Agriculture & Local Food

Eating local foods encourages sustainable agriculture, supports local food growers and producers, and benefits the local economy.

Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough, Peterborough Pollinators, GreenUP, Nourish Project and community volunteers established the Tallwood Community Garden, which incorporates a pollinator garden. 

Elmhirst's Resort held the "295 Block Party" in partnership with Otonabee Meat Packers, Harley Farms and **Chick-A-Biddy Acres**, showcasing traditional cooking techniques in homage to the agricultural history of the 295 telephone exchange area.

2017 saw the creation of the **Peterborough Regional Farmers Network**, a farmer-driven not for profit organization that supports the needs and interests of local farmers.

Rocky Ridge Drinking Water built a lasagna garden with vegetables, fruit trees, and sunflowers. 



Locavorest supports **27 producers** all within **75 kms** of Peterborough. In 2017, they've put over **\$8,000** back in the hands of local producers.

Try this:

- ✓ Plant a garden
- ✓ Shop at farmers' markets
- ✓ Join a local farm's Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program



Curve Lake First Nation established **2** new community gardens.

Climate Change

Reducing our contributions to climate change while increasing our ability to adapt to climate change conditions will contribute to a sustainable and resilient community.

The Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) updated the baseline inventory for 2012-2015 municipal and community actions to compare against local GHG emission reduction targets. CCAP also launched the Dashboard tool.



Peterborough Museum and Archives joined the Coalition of Museums for Climate Justice.

The **Township of Douro-Dummer** purchased a new snow plow truck with anti-idling technology.

Try this:

- ✓ Reduce your energy usage
- ✓ Eat local food
- ✓ Plant trees
- ✓ Drive less

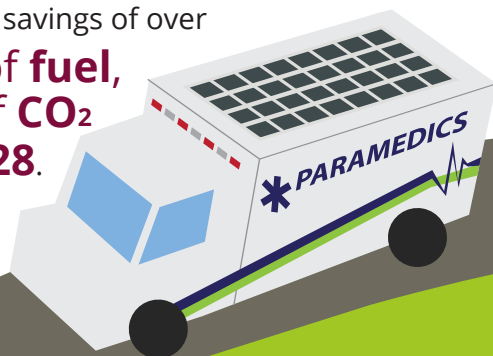
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Greater Peterborough Area residents signed the CCAP pledge to reduce their greenhouse gases.



Peterborough County/ City Paramedics ran a pilot program where they installed solar panels on one ambulance. Combined with eco-drive, that initiative resulted in annual savings of over

3727 litres of fuel,
16,937 lbs of CO₂
and \$3,728.



Sustainable Peterborough



@sustainableptbo

Cultural Assets

Preserving and protecting our history, heritage and diverse local cultures is a necessary foundation for building sustainable communities.



Over **20 youth** participated in a canoe trip organized by **Camp Kawartha** and the Rotary Club of Peterborough-Kawartha, learned about First Nations history and fostered cross cultural understanding.

Lang Pioneer Village Museum completed a **\$60,000 restoration** on its 1921 Sawyer-Massey Steam Engine.

Through "Acknowledging Canada's 150th through Stories of Place and Belonging", the **Kawartha World Issues Centre** project, **Seeds for Justice**, youth gathered local stories of land, food and water from Indigenous, settler and newcomer perspectives.

The **Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan** hosted the 1st Annual Greenbridge Celtic Folk Fest.

The **Township of North Kawartha** participated in National Canadian Film Day 150, the world's largest one-day film festival ever hosted.

The **Township of Selwyn** adopted a bylaw for a Heritage Tax Relief Program to help owners maintain their heritage properties.

Hiawatha First Nation hosted their **23rd Annual Pow Wow**.

The newly renovated **Peterborough Public Library** is fully accessible and incorporates an abundance of natural light.

The **Canadian Festival of Spoken Word** partnered with **40** businesses and agencies and gathered over **150** poets from across Canada, with **22** teams from **7** provinces competing, and **400** people in attendance.

Try this:

- ✓ Visit local libraries, galleries and museums
- ✓ Attend a First Nation's Pow Wow
- ✓ Attend local music festivals

Economic Development and Employment

Supporting existing local businesses, attracting new businesses, maintaining and growing local employment are all critical in building a strong, sustainable, resilient community.

Chimp Treats held a job fair with Community Living Peterborough, providing jobs for three individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The **Peterborough Airport** businesses employ over **400 people**, an estimated GDP of **\$66 million**.

Peterborough & the Kawarthas Economic Development won a provincial award from Economic Developers Council of Ontario for their video series that promoted the local food and agriculture sector.



Farms at Work supported **5 farms** with producing business plans.

Kawartha Local Marketplace only sells products where the company, manufacturing and materials are located within a **50-kilometer radius from Peterborough**.



The **Peterborough Downtown Business Improvement Area (DBIA)** reports that 2017 saw more than **170,000 people** attending over **30 events** in downtown Peterborough.



Try this:

- ✓ Shop local
- ✓ Use Kawartha Loons

Energy

It is important to reduce our energy consumption and maximize the production of renewable energy to reduce our impact on climate change.



In partnership with Ryerson University, **Endeavour Centre** built Zero House - a home that featured **zero** net energy use, carbon footprint, fossil fuel use, toxins and construction waste!

Hiawatha First Nation secured funding from the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) to complete a Community Energy Plan, which commenced in 2017.

The **Township of Asphodel-Norwood** replaced the parking lot and exterior lighting at the Community Centre with LED.

The **Township of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen** replaced streetlights, outdoor public works facility & transfer station lighting with LED, to an estimated **savings of 146,160 kWh and \$15,626**.

Try this:

- ✓ Turn off lights
- ✓ Unplug electronics
- ✓ Use LED lightbulbs
- ✓ Install a programmable thermostat



Peterborough Utilities Group distributed **100 clotheslines**, saving an estimated **85,000 kWh**.

Healthy Communities

A sustainable community is one where everyone has the opportunity and support to achieve their physical, social, mental, emotional and spiritual potential.



In 2017, the Healthy Kids Community Challenge promoted two themes, "Water Does Wonders" and "Choose to Boost Veggies and Fruit".

17 Child Care Programs

participated in the "raised garden bed" pilot project, reaching **500+** children.



48 Student Nutrition Programs

in Peterborough City and County received equipment and fresh produce, helping provide nearly **16,000** students with fresh fruit and vegetables.

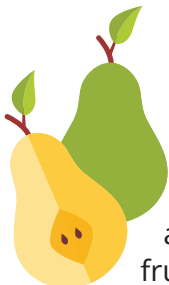


70 families participated in healthy eating workshops.



23

youth sports teams took part in the Healthy Halftime Snacks Challenge and committed to offering fruit, vegetables and water for sideline snacks.



Over **100** Vital Conversations saw more than **700** people using the **Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough's** Vital Conversations Card Game.

The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education ranked **Fleming College** as **5th overall** and **2nd best** in Ontario in its 2017 Sustainable Campus Index.



With support from an anonymous donor, **Kyoto Coffee** gave away **100 cups of coffee** on Common Kindness Day.

By Matthew Hayes and **Free Food Films**, Pushback is a film about homelessness, addiction and poverty in Peterborough through the lens of the Warming Room.

The Mane Intent Inc. received the **Peterborough Chamber of Commerce** Health and Wellness Excellence Award.

The inaugural **Peterborough VegFest** was attended by over **2,000** people who learned about and celebrated the health and environmental benefits of a vegan diet.

The first regional Peterborough/Kawartha's/Northumberland Region Envirothon was hosted at **Fleming College** and held in partnership with Sustainable Peterborough, **Otonabee Conservation**, **Peterborough County Stewardship**, Forests Ontario, and Think Outside.



The **Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan** installed a sidewalk connecting Monaghan Court senior apartments to the commercial district in Keene.

Trent University placed **#73** out of 619 universities in the 2017 Green Metric.



Try this:

- ✓ Teach children environmental literacy and stewardship skills
- ✓ Use green cleaning supplies
- ✓ Spend time in nature



Land Use Planning

Planning policies and decisions must preserve the environment while also supporting the building of sustainable, healthy and diverse communities.

The **Township of Cavan Monaghan** adopted the Detailed Streetscape & Design Guidelines for Downtown Millbrook.

The **Municipality of Trent Lakes** purchased a vacant lot in the centre of Buckhorn to be preserved as parkland.

The **County of Peterborough** received the Martha Kidd Award from the Peterborough Historical Society for the Jail Park Project. The project, designed by **Lett Architects** and completed by Shawn Sutcliffe, avoided a complete demolition of the jail and integrated remnants of the building into a new public park space.



Try this:

- ✓ Get involved in community improvement planning
- ✓ Provide feedback into municipal official plans

Natural Assets

Preserving, enhancing and restoring natural assets is essential in maintaining ecological health.



Peterborough Pollinators showcased a new initiative, "What a Grocery Store Looks Like Without Bees", at the **Purple Onion Festival**.

The **City of Peterborough** enacted two new tree by-laws to regulate the injury or destruction of healthy trees on private property.

Kawartha Land Trust managed **20** acres of invasive plants, planted **2 acres** of pollinator habitat, removed **1 km** of barrier to wildlife movement and protected **2** new properties, with the help of **110+ volunteers**.

Peterborough Field Naturalists held the **66th annual Christmas Bird Count**, the longest running wildlife survey in the Greater Peterborough Area, with over **80 participants** in attendance!

Mortlock Construction identified an endangered species of bats on a building project. Mortlock humanely displaced them, built and installed bat boxes for them.



Three Sisters created over **30 bee hotels** made with 100% re-purposed materials.

New Trees Planted:



Otonabee Conservation
30,000

Kawartha Land Trust
18,560

Township of Douro-Dummer
9,000

Township of Selwyn
1,200

Peterborough Utilities Group
6

Otonabee Conservation, City of Peterborough, Siemens, GE, Tree Canada
56

Try this:

- ✓ Boost the biodiversity of your yard by planting native trees and plants
- ✓ Plant a pollinator garden
- ✓ Become a beekeeper
- ✓ Install a bat house



Transportation

A sustainable community has an accessible transportation network that places priority on active and efficient modes of transportation, and availability of EV chargers, to reduce emissions associated with driving.

5,550 people visited **B!KE's** workshop, and **3,001** of them repaired their own bicycles!



Peterborough Mitsubishi supplied **Peterborough Random Acts of Green** with a **100% electric** Mitsubishi i-MiEV for 3 months to promote EV living.

Transition Town Peterborough partnered with the **United Way** to sponsor the new **Tour de Lion** bicycling event.



Try this:

- ✓ Carpool
- ✓ Cycle
- ✓ Walk
- ✓ Use public transit when possible

Waste

Waste management practices need to better reflect processes found in nature; we must reduce the amount of waste we generate by repairing, reusing, repurposing and maximizing waste diversion.

4th Line Theatre repurposed and reused materials to build their sets, props and costumes.

Green Eyewear Optical started offering free refills of eye glass cleaner bottles.

The New Canadians Centre collects and redistributes used goods to their clients.

The **City of Peterborough** launched a free on-line pilot Waste and Consumption Zero Heroes program for elementary school classes.

Through their recycling and waste diversion programs, such as the new clear bag program, the **Municipality of Trent Lakes** **reduced its garbage by 651 tonnes or 35%** in 2017 from 2016.

- 651 tonnes

Try this:

- ✓ Install a backyard composter
- ✓ Repair and repurpose
- ✓ Reduce consumption

Water

Water is a precious resource and we must work collectively as a community to protect its quantity and quality by conserving the amount of water we use and protecting watersheds.



Belmont Lake Brewery started re-using heat exchange water from the first brew for the second brew.

A rain garden was installed at the **Curve Lake First Nation** School.

Peterborough Utilities Group funded the creation of rainwater fed rooting beds for young trees at the **GreenUP** Ecology Park, amounting to **70% reductions in water use** during peak season.

Siemens decreased water consumption by **72%** by installing a closed loop system that re-circulates chilled water to cool production equipment.

The **Township of Asphodel-Norwood** reconstructed Flora Street with new water main, sewer main and storm infrastructure to prevent future leaks or failures.

The **Township of Cavan Monaghan** installed a water bottle filling station at Maple Leaf Park.

Try this:

- ✓ Install rain barrels
- ✓ Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth
- ✓ Install a low flow toilet
- ✓ Plant a rain garden



Who We Are...



No trees were harmed in the printing of this Report Card. Printed by **Peterborough This Week** on 100% recycled paper, using vegetable inks.



Photos throughout this Report Card courtesy of: **Camp Kawartha, Circle Organic, Curve Lake First Nation, Endeavour Centre, Farms at Work, GreenUP, Healthy Kids Community Challenge, Hiawatha First Nation, Kawartha Land Trust, Lang Pioneer Village Museum, Peterborough County Stewardship, Peterborough DBIA, Peterborough VegFest, Three Sisters, Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan.**

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