

To: Members of the Sustainable Peterborough Coordinating Committee (SPCC)

From: Anca Pascalau, Sustainable Peterborough Coordinator

Meeting Date: March 7, 2022

Subject: Staff Report

Purpose

A report to advise the SPCC on the activities of the Sustainable Peterborough Coordinator.

Recommendation

That the report be received for information.

Budget and Financial Implications

Momentarily no impact on the overall Sustainable Peterborough budget in 2022 has been specifically identified. However, it is anticipated there will be costs associated with the new website/SDG tracking tool that we will incur in 2022. When these costs are identified, an amended 2022 budget will be forwarded to SPCC for approval.

Details

Sustainable Peterborough Coordinating Committee

Ongoing administrative support including communications, meeting preparation and schedule management, minute taking, website maintenance, budget management, information sharing, etc.

We are now ready to proceed with working on the objectives identified in the Strategic Plan, starting with Actions 1.1 and 1.2 – Review the structure of the SPCC to provide expert knowledge and input, to oversee, support, and assist with the guidance and implementation of the new SP Plan. Update the SPCC Terms of Reference accordingly.

In order to formalize SPCC recruitment and selection, and to ensure inclusivity, completeness and diversity of skills, knowledge and representation across sectors, and for improved alignment with PKED, I adapted the Skills Matrix that PKED uses to recruit and select members for their Board of Directors to reflect the needs of Sustainable Peterborough going forward (many thanks to Rhonda and PKED for graciously sharing and allowing us to adapt their Skills Matrix to reflect our unique needs!). The draft Skills Matrix was approved by the SP Executive Committee and was included with the pre-meeting package for discussion and approval at today's meeting.

Composition, role, expectations, meeting schedules, etc., of the SPCC going forward will also be discussed and approved at today's meeting, and will inform the new Terms of Reference which I will subsequently draft and submit for feedback and approval.

Sustainable Peterborough Executive Committee

Ongoing administrative support including communications, meeting preparation and schedule management, information sharing, etc.

Sustainable Peterborough Strategic Plan

The Sustainable Peterborough Strategic Plan 2021-2031 was approved by the SPCC at the October 5, 2021 meeting, and the PKED BOD at the November 25, 2021 meeting. SP and PKED are issuing a joint media release introducing the new strategic plan on Earth Day – April 22nd, 2022. The new Strategic Plan is also being presented for information and support to County Council and the City's Environmental Advisory Committee on April 20th, and to City Council on May 2nd. Tegan Moss has graciously offered SP the opportunity to introduce the new Strategic Plan to the community by writing a guest column as part of the GreenUP article series published in Peterborough Examiner and KawarthaNOW, to be published late May.

The Strategic Plan will serve as the basis for the new SP Plan/SDG tracking framework, which will be created once the new SPCC structure is in place. One or several SP Subcommittees may be formed at that time to work on specific projects, such as creating the SDG tracking and reporting framework, localizing indicators, marketing and communications, community engagement, etc. The Subcommittees may be tasked with some hands-on work and participation in virtual meetings, but their role will be mostly advisory/overseeing/guiding/approving SP Coordinator's work who will continue to do most of the heavy lifting. We may evaluate the need of attaining SDG specific expertise, seeking deeper partnerships with Trent, Fleming, CICan, etc., attaining more students/interns, and/or SDG focused consultants.

I have been researching various SDG tracking and reporting frameworks and methodologies, including partnership opportunities, and am hoping to be ready with a proposal for SPCC discussion and approval in late spring. I have also attended various forums, conferences, webinars, and workshops on localizing the SDGs, including the SDG Localization Community of Practice hosted by SDSN Canada and Tamarak Institute, which presents a wonderful opportunity to learn from other communities that worked on localizing the SDGs, or are in the process of localizing the SDGs and/or conducting Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs); it is also an exceptional resource for knowledge and information sharing, and community building. I met with several communities who have or are in the process of localizing SDGs and/or creating VLRs, and attended the 2022 Together/Ensemble SDG Conference.

I have been supervising Connor McCaskill, a student who SP attained through the Trent School of the Environment doing his field placement with the County of Peterborough and tasked with Sustainable Peterborough project work. Connor has been doing some great work creating a comprehensive SDG Indicators and Targets spreadsheet that we can use as a template to localize indicators. He is also in the process of researching and writing a report on other Canadian communities that are undergoing SDG tracking and advancing work, in an attempt to learn best practice examples.

Website

I am performing web content management updates, calendar updates, web maintenance and back-ups on an ongoing basis.

Submitted by,

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