



To: Members of the Sustainable Peterborough Coordinating Committee (SPCC)
From: Anca Pascalau, Sustainable Peterborough Coordinator
Meeting Date: March 7, 2023
Subject: Staff Report

Recommendations

- a) That the SPCC receives the presentation from the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) for information; and,
- b) That the SPCC approve Sustainable Peterborough (SP) moving forward with the purchase and use of the IISD Tracking Progress Tool to serve as the SP SDG tracking framework and website moving forward.

Budget and Financial Implications

The initial development cost is estimated to be around \$15,000, which includes programming, training, hosting and maintenance for the first year. The annual membership fee thereafter is estimated around \$1,500, and will include hosting, maintenance, some technical support, training. In the future IISD might provide additional services (for a small fee) such as auto upload and interpretation of Statistics Canada data, etc. These funds have already been allocated and can be accommodated in the approved 2023 budget, as SP has been building a healthy reserve fund in anticipation of these expenditures.

Details

The [International Institute for Sustainable Development \(IISD\)](#) is a Canadian award-winning independent think tank working to create a world where people and the planet thrive; their work centers around shaping and informing international policy on sustainable development governance, and advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Founded in 1988, IISD has become Canada's voice for sustainable development around the world. IISD has three locations in Canada, Winnipeg (head office), Toronto, and Ottawa, as well as an office in Geneva, Switzerland.

IISD's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) program provides information and analysis in support of the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the 17 SDGs. Their work seeks to enhance and facilitate SDG implementation. As such, in recognizing that collecting, tracking, and mapping data is essential in tracking progress towards the SDGs, and in order to help communities track and map data and issues that matter to them, as well advance the SDGs, they developed the [Tracking Progress Tool](#), an online Community Indicator System, a data portal that communities can customize to collect and visualize data.

Countries, regions, and communities are increasingly using the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a framework to track progress towards sustainability. Their inclusive, holistic, and

adaptable nature make the SDGs easy to connect to community priorities while adopting shared ambitions and terminology used by people around the globe.

Tracking Progress sites were designed to assist this step of SDG localization, sharing data that connect abstract global targets with meaningful localized indicators, and recognizable, actionable local challenges. Whether using thematic areas pulled from the 17 SDGs or including descriptions that highlight an indicator's place in the SDG framework, the tool makes it easy for communities to engage in the global drive toward the 2030 deadline to achieve the Goals. Through the growing Tracking Progress network, communities with similar challenges can share lessons learned or identify areas for collaboration.

As Sustainable Peterborough's new Strategic Plan is centered around helping the Peterborough & the Kawartha community learn about, track, and make progress towards advancing the SDGs, the IISD Tracking Progress Tool will greatly assist us achieve our strategic objectives. The website is versatile, customizable, visual, and already used by numerous communities in Canada and beyond, including the [Global Tracking Progress Tool](#); moreover, it is a budget friendly, established option, preferable to building our own proprietary framework from scratch. Moreover, we can largely benefit from IISD's wealth of knowledge and expertise, ongoing support and training, access to the Tracking Tool users community through peer exchange sessions where Tool users can collaborate, share information, experiences, and learn from each other.

I presented the IISD Tracking Progress Tool as a preferred option for SP to the SP Executive Committee last year. They issued their support in SP using the Tracking Tool moving forward, pending Coordinating Committee approval following a presentation and demo delivered by IISD.

Submitted by,

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