



## **GREEN ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP AGENDA**

Friday, September 22, 2023 – 2:00 p.m.  
Municipal Office – Council Chambers – 217 Harper Road

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***Chair, Councillor Greg Hallam***

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. AMENDMENTS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND/OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- i) **Minutes – August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – *attached, page 4.***

*Suggested Recommendation:*

*“THAT, the minutes of the Green Energy and Climate Change Working Group Meeting held on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 be approved as circulated.”*

- 5. DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

None.

- 6. BUSINESS**

- i) **Climate Action Plan Update**

- Discussion of Asset Management Plan – Specifically pages 12-17  
<https://events.tayvalleytwp.ca/meetings/Detail/2023-09-11-1730-Special-Committee-of-the-Whole-Meeting/5d5a83f7-0a3f-4025-b2c0-b076012b428c>  
-Planner
- Preliminary Discussion on Life Cycle Assessment/Total Cost of Ownership – Planner - *attached, page 10.*
- Website Content/ Did you Know Series – Write Ups - All

ii) **Communications**

- Lanark County Climate Change Committee Update – Planner
- Streetlights that are all solar – Greg Hallam

**7. NEW/OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

**8. NEXT MEETING DATE AND PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS**

Next Meeting: October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**9. DEFERRED ITEMS**

*\*The following items will be discussed at the next and/or future meeting:*

- *None at this time*

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

# MINUTES

# GREEN ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP MINUTES

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Friday, August 11, 2023

2:00 p.m.

Tay Valley Municipal Office – 217 Harper Road, Perth, Ontario  
Council Chambers

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## ATTENDANCE:

### Members Present:

Councillor, Greg Hallam  
Councillor, Angela Pierman (left at 3:05 p.m.)  
Bob Argue  
Jennifer Dickson  
Douglas Barr  
Gilbert Rossignol  
Peter Nelson

### Members Absent:

David Poch

### Staff Present:

Noelle Reeve, Planner  
Allison Playfair, Building & Planning Administrative  
Assistant/Recording Secretary

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## 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 p.m.  
A quorum was present.

## 2. AMENDMENTS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as printed.

## 3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND/OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None at this time.

#### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

i) **Minutes – June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023.**

The minutes of the Green Energy and Climate Change Working Group Meeting held on June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023, were approved as amended.

#### **5. DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

None.

#### **6. BUSINESS**

i) **Climate Action Plan Update.**

- Draft Report Card Update

The Planner presented a draft Climate Change Report Card (see page 6) summarizing that between 2018 and 2023 GHG have increased for waste and the Township fleet. The GHG emissions for buildings appear to have declined considerably but the Working Group wanted more detailed information to determine how accurate this conclusion is.

The Working Group noted that the Glen Tay Waste Site Annual Report for 2022 indicates that waste is expected to increase by 20% between 2022 and 2041 (see Table page 7). This is the wrong direction for reducing GHGs.

The Working Group identified that increasing composting is needed to reverse this trend. A focused waste audit on organics would need to be undertaken (to supplement the free waste audit undertaken by the Province that did not include organics) to get an understanding of the impact of GHG reduction from introducing a program to promote composting.

The Planner will talk with the Public Works Manager about writing a joint report to present to Council in September describing options for instituting composting in Tay Valley Township.

The Public Works Manager has talked to Perth about the possibility of sending Tay Valley's compost to their composting facility after collecting it at our waste site(s). The Public Works Manager has also thought about the Township maintaining its own composting facility. These are options to be fleshed out in the report.

For residents who want to compost at home, the Public Works Manager has attended a workshop on dominant fungal composting as well as traditional composting and his department currently offers composting bins at cost to residents.

The Working Group emphasized that there will need to be training in composting for Waste Site Attendants to educate residents and possibly a concierge service to help people start up, like Lanark County used to provide. This may have implications for the budget which is why a report needs to go to Council in September e.g., if free composter distribution at the landfills was an initiative.

The Planner noted that the Real Deal Store in Smiths Falls is hosting a workshop on composting and possibly the Township could host a similar workshop.

B. Argue pointed out that the new producer responsibility recycling program that potentially will begin in two (2) years will also affect how waste is managed and will affect the Township's Green House Gas calculation.

Township wide garbage collection (as is done in Drummond North Elmsley and Rideau Lakes) could lower greenhouse gas emissions (and provide a service to help residents age in place). This should be revisited when the producer responsibility changes come into effect.

The Planner explained the Township fleet Green House Gases did decrease in 2021 however they increased in 2022 due to the Township providing its own roadside mowing instead of contracting it out. It was also noted that the mileage for staff and Council was included in 2022 for the first time so has also contributed to the increase of GHG emissions.

With regard to the Township fleet emissions, the Working Group discussed the feasibility of getting an electric vehicle in the near future to replace the repaired Chief Building Official, rather than waiting the five (5) or more years to replace it, in order to reduce fleet emissions and achieve the best return on investment when considering Total Operating Costs.

The Planner noted that the asset management plan (to be discussed by Council in September) will identify when assets would need to be replaced.

The continued expansion of what is considered to be Township GHG emissions, (i.e., including the emissions of suppliers to the Township) is a policy discussion that Council should have.

- Website Content

G. Rossignol suggested adding some pictures to the Climate Change page of the Tay River flood of Christie Lake Road to show the local impact of climate change.

He has also asked permission from various farmers about using pictures of their farms to be included in updating content on the Tay Valley website.

Content will be submitted with the pictures to the Planner to be approved by the Chief Administrative Officer for uploading to the website.

- Did you Know Series?

B. Argue submitted content for the “Did You know?” series (see page 8) that will be passed on to the Chief Administrator Office to review and be included in the news feeds. Other Members will also submit other Did You Know pieces to the Planner.

ii) **Communications**

- Lanark County Climate Change Committee Update.

The Planner provided the Working Group an update on the Lanark County Climate Change Committee meeting that was held on Thursday, August 10. She noted that the County has hired Dave Roewade on contract to work on implementation targets for the Climate Action Plan.

Mr. Roewade has suggested to submit a county-wide Federation of Canadian Municipalities BetterHomes grant application to the Community Efficiency Financing Program because the smaller municipalities would not receive funding on their own, given the limited funds left in the program. The application is due in December 2023 and if successful the program would begin in the Fall of 2024.

B. Argue referred to a CBC story that describes a Community Efficiency Financing program in the Atlantic Provinces for heat pumps  
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/science/pace-home-energy-loans-1.6928216>

Councillor Angela Pierman left at 3:05 p.m.

- Shoreline Clean Up

G. Rossignol suggested an initiative to mitigate climate change through nature based asset management, where the Working Group and Friends of the Tay could partner to do a shoreline clean up of garbage along the Tay River to allow subsequent revegetation of the shoreline through the Rideau Valley Conservation shoreline program. The shoreline plantings would absorb carbon. Our Trees may also be interested in tree planting.

G. Rossignol would also like to have a discussion with the Public Works department about not cutting the grass in the ditches on Ernest Way and possibly plant butterfly and other pollinator plants instead.

- Street Lights that are Solar Powered

Councillor Hallam deferred the topic of street lights that are solar powered until the next meeting when he has more details.

## **7. NEW AND OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

## **8. NEXT MEETING DATE AND PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS**

Next Meeting: September 15, 2023

- Discussion of Asset Management Plan
- Clarification of Township Building GHGs
- Website Content
- Did you Know? Series Write Ups
- Streetlights that are solar powered

## **9. DEFERRED ITEMS**

*\*The following items will be discussed at the next and/or future meeting:*

- None

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

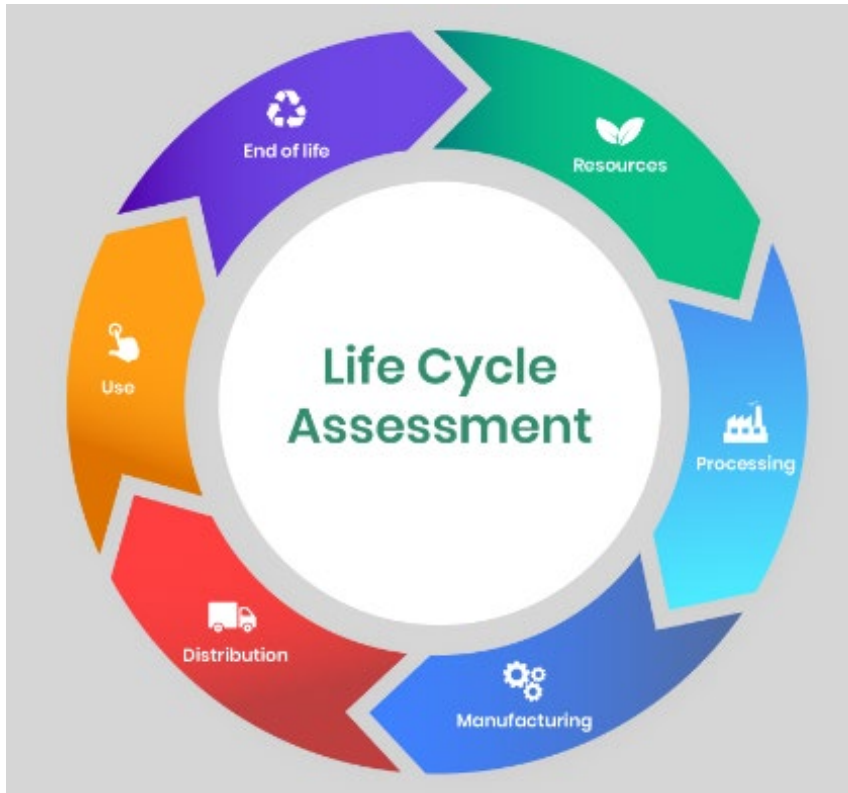
The Working Group adjourned at 3:16 p.m.



# **BUSINESS**

## Attachment 1. - Life Cycle Assessment and the Climate Lens

Life Cycle Assessment is a compilation and evaluation of the inputs, outputs and the potential environmental impacts of a product throughout its life cycle.

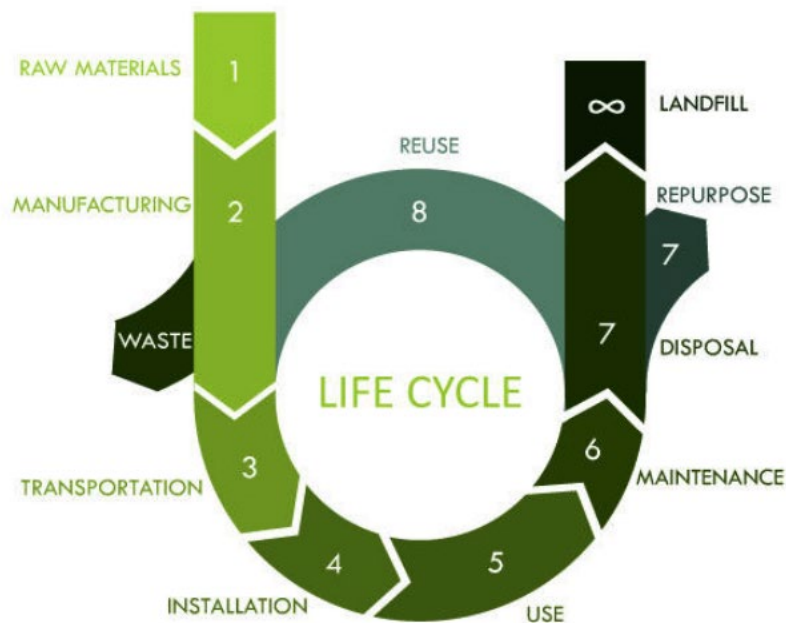


Life Cycle Assessment is facilitated by standards and certification programs which exist to provide uniformity. The most famous standard is likely the LEED Building Design & Construction (BD+C) rating of Platinum, Gold and Silver depending what level of energy efficiency, water conservation, etc. is achieved.

The Canadian Green Building Council also provides certification for three other programs. Zero Carbon Building Standard - a made in Canada rating, a zero-carbon building is highly energy-efficient and minimizes greenhouse gas emissions from building materials and operations.

Investor Ready Energy Efficiency™ (IREE) certification focuses on making retrofits more attractive.

TRUE (Total Resource Use and Efficiency) certification helps facilities define, pursue and achieve their zero waste goals, cutting their carbon footprint and supporting public health by changing how materials flow so that all products are reused.



Across Canada, jurisdictions are developing policies to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from economic activities beyond buildings, in an effort to keep global temperature changes below two degrees Celsius and slow climate change.

In 2020, Tay Valley Township Council adopted a Climate Lens, developed by Green Energy Climate Change Working Group member Bob Argue, to assist staff and Council in making procurement decisions. The climate lens performs a focused life cycle assessment of greenhouse gas emissions.

Council will receive a briefing on the Climate Lens at it's October Committee of the Whole Meeting. ***Is there anything in particular that the Green Energy Climate Change Working Group would like to see emphasized?***



## Attachment 2. – Total Cost of Ownership



Total cost of ownership/TCO highlights the difference between purchase price and long-term cost.

TCO analysis helps to disclose all direct, indirect as well as any hidden costs associated with a purchase. Therefore, it's helpful to examine whether a cost-effective product is as economical as it may seem.

The formula to calculate the TCO is to add the initial purchase value to direct, indirect and other hidden costs. The value so arrived is then subtracted from a projected resale/ residual value at the end of the asset's lifespan.

Total Cost of Ownership Formula = Purchase Price + [Operating cost + Maintenance cost] – Salvage value.

Using a total Cost approach provides a framework to compute Return On Investment.

Governments and businesses often make the mistake of ignoring TCO and focusing only on upfront costs when evaluating capital investments. For example, printer A may cost less to buy than printer B, but a lower cost of ink cartridge replacements may make printer B a much better value.

Also, if printer A has a useful life of five years while printer B's lifespan is 10 years, printer B will likely offer better value.

Council has directed that the Climate Lens is part of the total cost analysis. However, recent procurement decisions do not seem to have given sufficient weight to the Greenhouse Gas emissions in the Total Cost Analysis.

*Does the Working Group have suggestions on how to address this imbalance?*