

AGENDA ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 5, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.
River Plate Room, Town Hall
Meeting No. 1

Online Agenda: Anything in **blue** denotes an attachment/link. By clicking the links on the agenda page, you can jump directly to that section of the agenda. To manoeuvre back to the agenda page use the **Ctrl + Home** keys simultaneously **OR** use the “Bookmark” icon on the navigation panel to the left of your screen.



Alternative formats available upon request by contacting:
sarah.moore@ajax.ca or 905-619-2529 ext. 3347

1. Call to Order

1.1. Welcome / Roundtable Introductions

2. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

3. Approval of Minutes

3.1 June 16, 2014Page 3

4. Presentation/Discussion Items

4.1 Urban Forestry Management Plan Update (6:10 – 6:30 p.m.)
Tim Field, *Manager of Environmental Services*

4.2 2015 Environmental Events (6:30 – 6:50 p.m.) (J. Schofield)

4.3 Volunteer Recognition Awards (6:50 – 7:00 p.m.) (S. Moore)

4.4 Operations & Environmental Services Overview (7:00 – 7:10 p.m.) (J. Schofield)

5. Correspondence

5.1 Pollinator Health: Seeking Resolution – Municipality of Clarington Page 8

6. Update from Council

7. Standing Items

7.1 Work Plan (7:15 – 7:30 p.m.) (J. Schofield)..... Page 12

7.2 Pan Am 2015 Local Host Committee Update (7:30 – 7:40 p.m.) (V. Silveira)

8. New Business

9. Adjournment

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, April 2, 2015 at 6:00 p.m., River Plate Room, Town Hall



MINUTES Environmental Advisory Committee

June 16, 2014

River Plate Room, Town Hall

Meeting No. 4

Committee Members:	Councillor Joanne Dies Wayne Hingston Phil Jocz Wilfred Pierre Scott Slack Leisia Lapointe Monique Micallef Wilfred Pierre
Staff:	Jade Schofield, Environmental Sustainability Coordinator Sarah Moore, Committee Coordinator
Guests:	David Forget, Manager of Quality Service & Special Projects
Regrets:	Russ Dolan, Kim Sellers, Tanya Roberts, Valerie Silveira

1. Call to Order

Co-Chair Carpentier called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None

3. Approval of Minutes

Moved By: P. Jocz
Seconded By: M. Micallef

That the May 8, 2014 Meeting Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee be approved.

CARRIED

4. Presentation/Discussion

4.1 2014 Customer Polling Results Summary

David Forget, Manager, Quality Service & Special Projects, delivered a presentation highlighting some of the key findings of the customer polling conducted in April 2014. He noted that Ajax residents are generally satisfied with their government and Town staff; however there is an increased perception of barriers to accessing programs and services. Mr. Forget confirmed that the sample group was statistically considered to be a

representative sample, comprised of 600 respondents balanced throughout all four wards. Discussion related to full demographical breakdown of results, how results correlate with the Town's view of its programs and services, and the need to review wording of certain questions to avoid potential discrimination. The complete report of results was noted to be available on the Town's website.

With consent of all Members present, Item 7 Update from Council was brought forward.

7. Update from Council

Councillor Dies thanked the Committee for its support in nominating PACT-POW (Pickering-Ajax Citizens Together Protecting Our Water), for a DEAC Environmental Achievement Award. She noted the group's efforts to receive pledges of support from all provincial candidates to prioritize the Lake Ontario waterfront algae issue.

Details were shared relative to the [Community Action Plan Status Report](#) as well as a telephone "Town Hall" meeting with the Mayor on the evening on June 19, 2014.

Councillor Dies commended Chair Carpentier for his delegation and end of term report to Council on June 9, 2014 (*copy of report attached to the Minutes*). On behalf of the Committee, Chair Carpentier thanked Councillor Dies for her continued support and environmental enthusiasm.

5. Standing Items

5.1 Work Plan – Evaluation & New Term Vision

Members discussed relevant work plan items proposed to be carried over to the next Committee term. Continued focus on stewardship, advocacy and business community engagement were noted. It was suggested that a youth representative also be sought for the Committee's future membership.

5.2 Operation & Environmental Services Update

Ms. Schofield discussed several items and updates relative to Operations & Environmental Services, including the progress of the natural heritage sign system project along the waterfront, development of the Town's energy management plan, and litter program. She reminded Members of the invitation to attend the July 12, 2014 Nursery Tour with TRCA and identified fall stewardship programming opportunities and tree planning events. Additional details will be communicated to the Committee as available.

5.3 Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) Update

Chair Carpentier provided a summary of the DEAC Environmental Achievement Awards Ceremony, noting several award recipients, including PACT-POW.

5.4 Pan Am 2015 Local Host Committee Update

In Ms. Silveira's absence, Ms. Moore updated the committee in respect to the recently launched [Pan Am Ajax website](#), song competition winner and one-year countdown event.

6. Correspondence

None.

7. Update from Council

This item was addressed earlier in the Meeting.

8. New Business

8.1 Committee Recognition

On behalf of staff and Council, Ms. Moore presented Members with a certificate and token of appreciation for their contribution and dedication throughout the term. On behalf of Members, Chair Carpentier thanked staff for their support of the Committee throughout the term.

9. Adjournment

Moved By: M. Micallef
Seconded By: S. Slack

That the June 16, 2014 Meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee be adjourned (7:20 p.m.).

CARRIED

Report to Council – Ajax Environmental Advisory Committee

June 9, 2014

Good evening Mr. Mayor, Members of Council and guests. My name is Geoff Carpentier and I am co-chair of the Ajax Environmental Advisory Committee. I am pleased to represent our yearend report to Council.

The Town of Ajax hosts and endorses seven Citizen Advisory Committees – each comprised of Town staff, agency representatives where applicable and interested citizens. One Town Councillor is assigned to each committee as well. The combination of municipal and citizen focused representatives makes for a winning combination.

The Ajax Environmental Advisory Committee's mandate is simple:

- To promote the preservation, conservation, protection and enhancement of the natural environment in the Town of Ajax;
- To assist the Town of Ajax, the Toronto Region Conservation Authority and the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority with the implementation of community projects;
- To examine and comment on Town policies relating to environmental issues; and
- To assist with public outreach and education regarding environmental issues (e.g. Ajax Green Living Days, Waste Reduction, etc.)

The members of the Committee embrace this mandate and energetically bring their expertise and interest to the table at each meeting. The breadth of experience and knowledge that the citizens offer positively augments the projects and initiatives that Town staff bring for review, information or comment. After each meeting, I am confident that both the citizens and Town staff recognize the valuable input both parties have given and the successful input they provide for these often complicated projects.

During our term, we met approximately monthly and covered such diverse subjects as the Greenwood Conservation Lands PLC, DEAC Environmental Achievement Awards, Volunteer Recognition, the Enbridge Line 9B Reversal Project, Endangered Species preservation initiatives, Urban Gardens, natural burial sites and the potential impact on groundwater, Integrated Community Sustainability Plan review, Pan Am Games where several members have volunteered their time to assist, Emerald Ash Borer, Ajax Green Living Guide, Caruthers Marsh planning proposals, the forward thinking green development project at Bayly and Harwood, Rain & Butterfly Gardens and many more.

Members work enthusiastically outside the Committee as well and undertook activities such as sitting on the Natural Environment Climate Change Expert Panel for Durham Region's Community Climate Adaptation Plan, Earth Day, co-projects with the ATTAC committee, the Green Belt Review and litter campaigns. I chair the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee and another EAC member sits on it with me.

I want to thank the Town staff and Council for their support over the past years to this important Committee. And most importantly, I want to thank the members of the Ajax Environmental Advisory Committee for their interest, knowledge and involvement to make Ajax a better place to live and work.

Thank-you

Geoff Carpentier

Clarington

January 30, 2015

Ontario Pollinator Health
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
Policy Division
Food Safety and Environmental Policy Branch
1 Stone Road West, Floor 2
Guelph, ON N1G 4Y2

VIA EMAIL: pollinatorhealth@ontario.ca

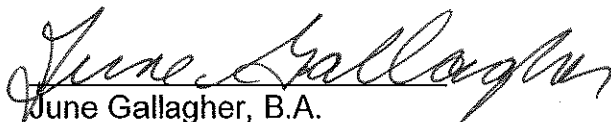
Re: Pollinator Health: A Proposal for Enhancing Pollinator Health and
Reducing the Use of Neonicotinoid Pesticides in Ontario, EBR Registry
Number 012-3065

File Number: A01.Agricultural Advisory Committee of Clarington

Further to the letter from Mr. Ted Watson, Chair, Agricultural Advisory Committee of Clarington, dated January 13, 2015, regarding the above, please be advised that, at a meeting held on January 26, 2015, the Council of the Municipality of Clarington passed a resolution endorsing the comments contained in the letter.

For your convenience, I have enclosed a copy of Mr. Watson's letter.

Yours truly,


June Gallagher, B.A.
Deputy Clerk

JEG

Encl.

- c. Association of Municipalities of Ontario
 - D. Bowen, Regional Clerk, Regional Municipality of Durham
 - D. Shields, City Clerk, City of Pickering
 - T. Gettinby, CAO/Municipal Clerk, Township of Brock
 - C. Harris, Municipal Clerk, Township of Scugog
 - S. Kranc, City Clerk, City of Oshawa
 - D. Leroux, Dir. of Legislative Services/Clerk, Township of Uxbridge
 - D. Wilcox, Town Clerk, Town of Whitby
 - Ted Watson, Chair, Agricultural Advisory Committee of Clarington
 - D. Crome, Director of Planning Services
 - F. Langmaid, Manager of Special Projects

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF CLARINGTON

40 TEMPERANCE STREET, BOWMANVILLE, ONTARIO L1C 3A6 T 905-623-3379



January 13, 2015

Ontario Pollinator Health
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
Food Safety and Environmental Policy Branch
1 Stone Road West, 2nd Floor
Guelph, ON N1G 4Y2

pollinatorhealth@ontario.ca

Re: Pollinator Health: A Proposal for Enhancing Pollinator Health and Reducing the Use of Neonicotinoid Pesticides in Ontario, EBR Registry Number 012-3068

The Municipality of Clarington has a long-standing Agricultural Advisory Committee to assist staff in understanding agricultural issues and policy impacts and recommendations. Committee members are well informed and represent various sectors of agriculture through their involvement in other local, provincial and federal agricultural organizations. Agriculture is Clarington's primary economic activity, and as such, governmental regulatory decisions affect our farming community and, in turn, all residents of Clarington.

Neonicotinoid use and its relationship to pollinators has been of ongoing interest to the Committee. The committee has received related presentations, documents and had many active discussions on the issue with topical experts from tender fruit crop specialists to beekeepers and farmers engaged in OMAFRA's ongoing research.

Pollination is the key to a successful season for most farms in Ontario. As cited in the discussion paper, Ontario's managed honey bees and bumble bees pollinate roughly \$897 million of the \$6.7 billion in total sales for agricultural crops grown in Ontario – about 13 per cent of the total crop value. The agricultural community is very supportive of ensuring pollinator health through use of the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Best Management Practices (BMPs) to either reduce neonicotinoid use or increase use of identified fluency agents/deflector technology wherever possible. However, after reviewing the discussion document that outlines how the Ontario government proposes to reduce neonicotinoid use for the 2015 growing season, and the regulatory mechanisms that would be imposed for the 2016 season onwards in order to meet its aspirational target of 80 per cent reduction in acres planted with neonicotinoid-treated corn and soybean seed by the year 2017, our committee feels that the proposed actions fall short of outlining a science-based approach to ensure pollinator health in Ontario and in so doing creates risk for both Ontario's farmers and the environment.



Due to its release date, the document does not accurately reflect the ongoing science based research and conclusions issued by the federal authority on pesticide regulation, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA), in their November 2014 – Update on Neonicotinoid Pesticides and Bee Health.

"Although Health Canada's PMRA is concerned about the reported later season colony effects in corn and soybean growing regions, more investigation into these reported effects is required. At this time Health Canada's PMRA does not have sufficient information to draw these conclusions regarding a link between these colony effects and potential neonicotinoid exposure. The available science indicates pollinator effects can result from sub-lethal exposure to neonicotinoids, but no conclusions can be drawn that actual environmental exposures from some uses are at levels that may result in effects. More work is needed in this area, and all available information will be considered in the neonicotinoid re-evaluation."

Health Canada's PMRA will produce an interim report in 2015 as part of their re-evaluation of this class of pesticides in collaboration with the USEPA and California Department of Pesticide Regulation. This will include information from scientists and researches as well as new studies being generated by the pesticide registrants. The 2015 report will also include findings from sampling completed at 12 corn growing locations in Southern Ontario that will further the understanding of factors impacting bee deaths. In the meantime, research continues, including recent federal funding for a national survey on bee health and ongoing research on optimizing pollinator health.

As stated by the PMRA, "Bee health is a complex issue that goes beyond the incidents in 2012 and 2013 and may involve a number of additional factors, including parasites, disease and climate." Proposed actions and regulations drafted for Ontario farmers in advance of the completed 2015 PMRA report with its focus on the completed research, scientific studies and conclusions are premature.

Without a science-based path forward, conclusions that these actions would improve pollinator health cannot be made with any certainty. But other effects will almost certainly result – higher production costs with either crop losses or lower yields for farmers across the province – affecting the prosperity of farmers growing corn and soybeans and their local economies.



And the impact will be solely on Ontario's farmers. The document outlines the proposed regulatory approach, which would affect the availability of neonicotinoid treated seed in Ontario and impose five conditions a farmer would have to meet in order to purchase and use neonicotinoid-treated corn and soybean seed. In addition, newly-developed integrated pest management training for farmers planting corn and soybean seeds would have to be completed. These proposed actions differ from those currently identified by Health Canada's PMRA; and in so doing the government of Ontario is increasing the regulatory burden for farmers and creating a disparity for Ontario farmers. Farmers in other provinces, with whom we compete on price points, would not be subjected to the new regulations.

The discussion paper also falls short in identifying the use of neonicotinoid in other industries, and what science-based effects their use may have on pollinators. The approach recommended in the proposal has not struck an appropriate balance. For policy decisions on neonicotinoid use, a focus on science-based actions with clearly identified ramifications for the agricultural industry should be sought (from farmers to seed suppliers to crop insurance providers). Other industries using neonicotinoids in their products should be identified and consulted. And finally, all regulatory decisions should be aligned with Health Canada's PMRA comments and recommendations on neonicotinoid use, providing a level playing field for farmers across the country, rather than penalizing Ontario farmers.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed regulatory actions regarding neonicotinoid treated corn and soybean seeds in Ontario.

Yours truly,

Ted Watson, Chair
Agricultural Advisory Committee of Clarington

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2014-2018 WORK PLAN

PROJECT ITEM		OBJECTIVES & SUMMARY	LEAD	TIMELINE	STATUS / NOTES
1	Ajax Waterfront Management & Shoreline Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trail improvements Carruthers Marsh rehabilitation Pickering Beach Bioswales Algae growth Water quality testing Interpretive signage 	Catherine Bridgeman, Kevin Tryon, Tim Field	Annual: Spring	
2	Environmental Education & Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canada Water Week Earth Hour Green Living Days Pollinator workshops Ajax in Bloom Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup Community cleanups Bring Back the Salmon event 	Jade Schofield, Vanessa Lorrain, TRCA	Annual: Spring	
3	Stormwater Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stormwater pond rehabilitation projects Low impact development projects (rain gardens, bioswales) 	Kevin Tryon. Catherine Bridgeman	Annual	
4	Planning & Development Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed development update Active transportation update Engineering update 	Planning & Development	Twice Annually	
5	Waste Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Regional Update- residential waste? (tbd)</i> Annual facility waste audits Green event policy comments Public space litter control education campaign, 	Jade Schofield	Fall 2015	

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2014-2018 WORK PLAN

6	Urban Forest Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EAB & Ice Storm Damage update LEAF program Educational program update Urban Forest Management Plan consultation 	Tim Field, Craig Blencowe, Jade Schofield	Annual: Spring	
7	Capital Projects- Operations Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	Catherine Bridgeman	Annual/ as needed update	
8	Integrated Community Sustainability Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2015 Action Items 2016 workplan consultation 	Jade Schofield	Annual: Fall	
9	Energy Conservation Demand Management Plan Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and comments on plan Green fleet initiative LED conversion strategy 	Jade Schofield, Ray Ford, Chris Addley, Rick Chalmers	Spring 2015 & update annually	
10	Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update from Region of Durham's Climate Adaptation Strategy 	Brian Kelly, Region of Durham	Spring/ Fall 2015.	