

Environment & Climate Change Advisory Committee

Mandate and Terms of Reference – 2023-2026

The Environment & Climate Change (ECC) Advisory Committee was established as a volunteer advisory committee through resolutions of Windsor City Council within the meaning of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2005, c.25 (the 'Act')

Mandate

The ECC receives referrals from City Administration to address specific environmental and climate change concerns from the City of Windsor. In addition, the ECC is proactive and will advise on environmental and climate change matters identified through its own initiative and will provide community education and outreach on environmental and climate change issues.

ECC will support the development of subcommittees (e.g. Youth Committee, Bird Friendly City, etc), which may include experts external to the ECC, as needed to address specific environmental and climate change initiatives.

Duties and Responsibilities

The scope of the ECC Advisory Committee will include activities of primary responsibility for which an annual work plan will be developed, such as:

- Identify and provide expertise and input on emerging issues and where appropriate, make recommendations to Council for consideration regarding ongoing environmental/climate change concerns;
- Develop responses related to Federal and Provincial actions in public and private undertakings affecting the ecosystem to be forwarded to City Council for consideration and action;
- Discuss new, relevant, or unexplored environmental or climate change issues and propose new alternatives that may benefit the region on such matters;
- Review and provide input on the environmental and climate change implications of studies, plans, proposals and other documents as may be referred to the Committee;
- Consider long-term environmental/climate change issues and acknowledge social and intergenerational equity implications;
- Identify where studies could assist in increasing awareness of concerns and developing solutions to environmental/climate change problems;
- ECC has a delegation policy and can respond to delegate requests or issues accordingly;
- Collaborate with other organizations, committees, and agencies with similar interest in protecting and preserving the natural environment;

- Identify sponsors and partnership opportunities to support events and educational campaigns to further collaborative environmental/climate change projects;
- Champion and participate in municipal initiatives and community activities to further the City's objectives; and
- Flag municipal best practices and federal/provincial policies that may support the City's environmental/climate change objectives.

Composition/Membership

The Environment & Climate Change Advisory Committee will consist of **nine (9)** members of which two (2) members will be from City Council.

The seven (7) community members should have a specific interest in environment/climate change topics, additional consideration will be given to applicants who have educational or professional experience in the Environment and Climate Change sector. Effort will also be made to include youth members.

Additional Subcommittee working teams may be created upon recommendation by City Administration or the ECC Advisory Committee. Membership within these committees will be developed as necessary to ensure the objectives of the subcommittee are met but it will be highly encouraged that a member from the Advisory Committee participate in the Subcommittee working teams to provide a connection between the Working team and the Advisory Committee.

Additional Information

The Environment & Climate Change Advisory Committee will meet a minimum of six times a year and can call for additional meetings if necessary.

City Council shall appoint the members of the Environment and Climate Change Advisory Committee for a four year term.

The Environment & Climate Change Advisory Committee will report to the Environment, Transportation & Public Safety Standing Committee and City Council.

Remuneration

Members will serve in a volunteer capacity with no remuneration.