



## **Essex Climate Adaptation Team Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Zoom Virtual Meeting

### **1. Roll Call**

Present: Councillor Kim Verbeek

Amandeep Hans

Andrea Descargar

Dan Metcalfe

Gina Pannunzio

Maddie Peters

Matthew Child

Megan Balsillie

Kelsey Amlin

William Baker

Brian Lennie

Brandi Bechard

Also Present: Niharika Bandaru, Climate Change Analyst

Claire Sanders, Climate Change Specialist, ERCA

Jeff Watson, Planner, Planning Services

Corinne Chiasson, Assistant Planner, Planning Services

Sarah Aubin, Planning Assistant, Recording Secretary

Rita Jabbour, Manager, Planning Services

Regrets: Tyler Oglan

Brian Hyland

Members of the Public: Sherry Bondy, Councillor

Giovanni Abati

Taiwo Balogun

### **2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

None

### 3. Adoption of Published Agenda

Moved by: Brian Lennie

Seconded by: William Baker

**(ECAT 2020-07-06)** That the July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Essex Climate Adaptation Team Agenda be adopted as presented.

"Carried"

### 4. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by: Kim Verbeek, Councillor

Seconded by: Matthew Child

**(ECAT 2020-07-07)** That the May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 Essex Climate Adaptation Team minutes be adopted as presented.

"Carried"

### 5. New Discussions

#### a. Current Status

Niharika Bandaru, Chair, advises that Administration has combined vulnerability and risk assessment data from the Essex Climate Adaptation Team (ECAT), Internal Climate Adaptation Team (ICAT), ELK Energy, Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA), members of the farming community, water experts, and the City of Windsor.

Administration has also sought consultation from Caldwell First Nations, from whom response is pending. She advises the members that within the coming weeks there will be a public consultation component, that will be going live at [www.essex.ca/ECAT](http://www.essex.ca/ECAT), where members of the public can review their vulnerability to climate change and adaptation.

#### b. Next Steps

Niharika Bandaru, Chair states that the Committee will be finalizing Phase 1 and discussing Risk Prioritization and Establish a Vision Statement for the Climate Change Adaptation Plan.

#### c. Vision Statement and Goals Discussion

Niharika reminds the members of the Vision statement options for the Climate Change Adaptation Plan and states that the feedback provided by the members, through a feedback form previously, sparked revisions to each option of the Vision statement. The members discuss and review the revised options and were then asked to vote on the option that best aligns with their vision for the vision statement.

Option 1 received 66% of the committee vote (8 / 12 members): "*The Town of Essex will adapt to changing climate conditions and embrace new opportunities to remain a healthy, vibrant, and sustainable community for residents, businesses and visitors.*"

Option 2 received 16% of the committee vote (2 / 12 members): *“The Town of Essex will commit to building a vibrant, sustainable, resilient, and healthy community by adapting to the impacts of climate change. We will improve the physical, natural, social, cultural, and economic capacity of the community and residents through policy development, resource expansion, infrastructure investment, and community engagement.”*

Option 2 received 16% of the committee vote (2 / 12 members): *“The Town of Essex will prepare for the future by implementing the Climate Change Adaptation Plan for a sustainable and resilient community. The Town will demonstrate leadership through strengthening infrastructure and policies, protecting natural and built assets, and preserving the health and well-being of its residents. By sustaining and improving livelihoods, experiences, comfort, and safety, we will continue being a place for residents, businesses, and visitors”*

Moved by: Kim Verbeek, Councillor

Seconded by: Brian Lennie

**(ECAT 2020-07-08)** That the Essex Climate Adaptation Team approve the Vision Statement “The Town of Essex will adapt to changing climate conditions and embrace new opportunities to remain a healthy, vibrant, and sustainable community for residents, businesses and visitors.”

**“Carried”**

#### **d. Goals Discussion / Interactive Presentation**

Niharika Bandaru, Chair asks the members to participate in two (2) interactive activities within the program MIRO [https://miro.com/app/board/o9J\\_kqNv43A=/](https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_kqNv43A=/).

Activity 1: Future Forecasting. The members were asked to forecast the general hopes and fears for various sectors within the Town of Essex Community.

Activity 2: Objective Identification. The members were asked to review the impact statements and make suggestions for general goals for those impacts.

These two activities will assist Administration in creating Objectives for the Climate Change Adaptation Plan.

#### **e. Questions and Comments**

None

### **6. Delegations**

None

### **7. Future Meetings**

#### **a. Essex Climate Adaptation Team Meeting August 2020**

Niharika Bandaru advises the members that the results of the survey previously provided to the members determined that the new meeting date would be August 19,

2020 at 5 pm. She states that 9 of the 14 members voted in favour of this meeting date and time.

William Baker advised that the 5 p.m. meeting time does not meet his needs and suggests that the meeting time be consistent for future meetings and be at 6 p.m.

Moved by: William Baker

Seconded by: Matthew Child

**(ECAT 2020-07-09)** That the Essex Climate Adaptation Team Meetings be consistently held at 6 p.m.

**"Defeated"**

Moved by: Megan Balsillie

Seconded by: Dan Metcalfe

**(ECAT 2020-07-10)** That the August 19, 2020 at 5 p.m. Essex Climate Adaptation Team Meeting be added to the meeting schedule.

**"Carried"**

## **8. Adjournment**

Moved by: Megan Balsillie

Seconded by: William Baker

**(ECAT 2020-07-11)** That the meeting be adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

**"Carried"**

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Chair

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Recording Secretary