

STAFF REPORT: CAO



REPORT TO: Council
MEETING DATE: February 12, 2007
REPORT NO.: CAO.07.06
SUBJECT: Integrated Community Sustainability Plan – Steering Committee
PREPARED BY: Paul Graham, CAO and Jeff Fletcher, Manager, Solid Waste & Environmental Initiatives

A. Recommendations

THAT Council endorse Council Members _____ and _____ to sit on the Steering Committee for the development of an Integrated Community Sustainability Plan

B. Background

We suggest that in an effort to move forward Town Strategic Action 3.1 – “Undertake a Green strategy to proactively protect air, water and land features and sites”, we propose to create a Steering Committee including at least 2 members from Town Council. The focus of this Committee will be the development of an Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP). This work will involve many daytime meetings, workshops, etc., and will go on for at least two (2) years.

The ICSP will address a wide variety of environmental issues as determined during the process of plan development. In general, issues of air, water and soil health and conservation will be identified. Also, community energy and water use and ecological preservation and restoration will be among the incorporated issues. The local economy, quality of place and active healthy people are also critical to sustainable communities. Building upon the community’s natural heritage and agricultural business will be a major part of this planning exercise.

Two areas of focus have already been initiated and will form part of the integrated plan:

- Completion of the Partners for Climate Protection Milestones - i.e.: monitoring and targeted reduction of corporate and community greenhouse gas emissions; and
- Development of a Long Term Solid Waste Solution.

This project is intended to use a community-based approach that includes residents, businesses, interest groups and regulatory bodies. In addition to the Steering Committee, the Town will be recruiting numerous community partners, some of whom will be on the Steering Committee. The long term engagement of these partners will be critical to implementation of subsequent action items and ongoing success.

C. The Blue Mountains' Strategic Plan

Strategic Action 3.1 – “Undertake a Green strategy to proactively protect air, water and land features and sites”.

D. Budget Impact

Any costs incurred by the Members of Council will be funded by the Project.

E. Attached

None

Respectfully submitted,

Signature