

TERMS OF REFERENCE – CALLANDER SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

1.0 Purpose of this Committee

- The Sustainable Community Committee is an advisory committee to Council.
- Sustainability is a way of living in which the human, natural and economic elements of a community are interdependent and draw strength from each other. A sustainable community continually adjusts to meet the social, environmental and economic needs of its residents.
- The Committee will use the following as general principles:
 - Encourage the development of people and earth-friendly neighbourhoods that are ecologically, socially and economically healthy;
 - Improve our quality of life and well-being by reducing environmental impacts and promoting better physical, mental and family health;
 - Maintain nature's ability to function over time by minimizing waste and preventing pollution;
 - Develop local resources to meet current needs and revitalize our local economy while ensuring adequate resources are available for future generations;
 - Share our processes, strategies and techniques with others through community information sessions, public advocacy and environmental awareness;
 - Employ decision-making that reflects civil life in Callander based on information shared between and among our residents;
 - Lead by example to encourage and promote efficient use and conservation of natural and energy resources throughout the community.
- While it is understood that the following list is long and cannot be accomplished all at once, the SCC will explore opportunities that may exist for:
 - Reducing reliance on traditional energy sources and fuels;
 - Encouraging the use of walking paths and bicycle routes;
 - Promoting localization of the economy by developing self-sustaining economic networks and increasing community self-reliance (e.g., food and energy production);
 - Promoting community-supported agriculture (community gardens and small farms) to increase availability of local produce and preserve existing farmland;
 - Sustainable management of natural resources (e.g., water and green spaces);
 - Sustainable tourism activities centred around areas of environmental, cultural and historic significance;
 - Recycling and remanufacturing and re-use of solids and hazardous waste into marketable products.
- For the areas selected, the Committee is to understand the issues and make recommendations to Council via Resolutions, and implement the recommendations where requested and as appropriate.
 - The SCC is to work with Official Plan and Strategic Plan groups to update these plans as appropriate, and to recommend appropriate issues for implementation.
 - The SCC is to foster high levels of communication between Council, the Committee and the community regarding sustainability.

2.0 Term of Appointment of this Committee

- This Committee will hold a term of appointment running concurrent with the term of Council

3.0 Council Representation on this Committee

- The Chair of the Public Works & Environmental Services Committee will be Council liaison to the Sustainable Community Committee. The Mayor may also attend meetings in an 'ex-officio' capacity.

4.0 Relationship of this Committee to Council/Making Recommendations

- This Committee will make recommendations to Council via Resolutions for items requiring consideration or some form of action. Recommendations for specific projects requiring taxpayer-funded expenditures will be subject to the normal annual budget process. For specialized or urgent projects, Council may authorize funding so long as the project is generally in accordance with the goals of the Sustainable Community Committee. Council will respond in writing to Committee recommendations when their deliberations are complete.

5.0 Staff Support

- Municipal staff will provide administrative support to the committee, co-ordinated through the Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk. For support on the implementation of specific projects, Council approval is required prior to taking any substantive action.

6.0 Relationship of this Committee to other Council-appointed Committees

- This Committee functions in the same context as all other Council-appointed Committees.
- Committee liaisons are intended to foster high levels of communication with Council and other Committees as needed.

7.0 Rules of Procedure to be Followed by this Committee

- In general, all Council-appointed Committees are expected to follow accepted Rules of Order for public organizations (such as Robert's Rules of Order). This Committee shall also comply with the provisions of Schedule 'B' (Code of Conduct) in the Municipal Procedural Bylaw, as amended from time to time.

8.0 Compensation

- Members are volunteers without compensation.

9.0 Last Date of Review of these Terms of Reference

- May, 2011