

A close-up photograph of several green leaves with prominent veins and small water droplets on their surfaces. The leaves are arranged in a fan-like pattern, filling the entire frame. The lighting is bright, highlighting the texture and color of the foliage.

Climate Action Advisory Committee: Year End Report

Delegation to West Grey Municipal Council, November 1, 2022



HISTORY OF CLIMATE ACTION IN WEST GREY

- Declaration of Climate Emergency (Delegation—July 30, 2019; Resolution by Council—August, 2019)
- Formation of Sustainability Committee—October, 2019
- Formation of Climate Action Advisory Committee—April, 2021
- Climate Action Plan (CAP) under development
- Hired an Environment and Capital Projects Officer to assist with CAP
- Waste diversion focus, including film recycling and polystyrene foam recycling
- Projects including construction of the wooden bridge, electric vehicle charging stations

CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE CITIZEN TEAM MEMBERS



Lydia Dyck, BA Sust. Studies, Biology

Knowledge: Networking, community initiatives, regenerative. ag.



Lee Papineau, B.A., & B. Ed. In Technical Studies

Knowledge: Environmental Studies and Special Education, community leadership



Nikki May, M. Env Stewardship

Knowledge: Stewardship communication, in-depth research on climate action options in CAPs and OPs



Eric Saunders, Permaculturist

Knowledge: Environmental management, holistic systems thinking



Jessica Pelchat, G.Dipl. SR&S

Knowledge: 15+ years in sustainability and comms sector, including strategy and international implementation



Elizabeth Murray, B. Public Relations

Knowledge: Strategic planning and communications, passion for environment

Sabrina Barlow, Committee Member

Beth Hamilton, Council Representative

Geoffrey Shea, Council Representative

WORK COMPLETED BY COMMITTEE IN 2022

- **Provided Advisory Support & Feedback:**
 - **Draft Official Plan:** After discussions with Planner Spencer, conducted thorough research on best climate -lens practices and provided feedback
 - **Grey County Climate Action Plan:** Reviewed and provided Municipal feedback to Manager Swanston
 - **West Grey Climate Action Plan:** Provided feedback to ICLEI on initial work
 - **BARC:** reviewed presentation by ICLEI and provided feedback to pass on this initiative presently
- **Outreach & Education:** Hosted 'Carbon Calculator Workshop' with Municipal Council, supporting advancement of climate action education and understanding
- **Communications:** Assistance on Municipal communications in West Grey, supporting CAO Laura Johnston, Sile Ferguson, and Kodey Hewlett
- **Network Representation:** Membership on Grey Bruce Climate Action Network, providing Municipality with fruitful cross -pollination and collaborations



REFLECTIONS FROM CAAC '22

- After pandemic, new team formed in early 2022, building a cohesive, passionate, and vocal group
- Our committee works well—consistently meeting quorum and agenda/minute requirements in an effective and timely manner
- Tremendous amount of knowledge offered through the committee, with constant peer-to-peer learnings and upskilling
- Desire to continue offering effective support and continued advisory services to the Municipality of West Grey



WHAT OUR COMMITTEE CAN OFFER



Best Practice Advisory

We provide best practice advisory recommendations for our Municipality around building a resilient community including local food systems, local energy systems cost saving measures, local repair shops, and better waste management—overall creating an adaptable, circular economy.



Research Support

Where synergies exist, provide research and adaptation feedback for the Council and Municipal Staff.



Communication Support

Support and amplification of communications and programming from the Municipality to the residents.



Community Support

Encourage local business and residents to become active participants in climate action, including ability to run workshops on climate action.



Event Support

We can provide support for multiple events per year; e.g. give out green awards to local businesses, engaging community.

...and much, much more!

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

As the '22-'26 Council deliberates upon the composition of the next Climate Action Advisory Committee, we recommend that the Council considers the following skill sets as integral to the future team:

- Sustainability knowledge and acumen
- Environmental conservation and/or management knowledge
- Marketing and communications skills
- Research and analytical skills
- Understanding of climate change implications



*Thank you for considering the
CAAC in the next term!*