



ARNPRIOR

**Town of Arnprior
Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting**

Date: Tuesday, May 21st, 2024

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: Council Chambers – 105 Elgin Street West, Arnprior

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Land Acknowledgement**
4. **Adoption of Agenda**
5. **Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest**
6. **Adoption of Previous Minutes**
 - a) **Committee Minutes – April 15th, 2024** (Page 1-9)
7. **Presentations / Delegations**
 - a) **Delegation from the Carleton Place Environmental Advisory Committee**, Barbara Purdy, Vice Chair
 - b) **No Mow May Discussion**, Amy Dean, Environmental Engineering Officer, and Kaila Zamojski, Town Clerk (Page 10-20)
 - c) **Proposed Climate Change Art Partnership**, Emily Stovel, Manager of Culture / Curator (Page 21-27)
8. **Matters Tabled / Deferred / Unfinished Business**
 - a) **Review Action Items Summary Table**
9. **Staff Reports (by Department)**
10. **New Business**
 - a) **Roundtable Discussion**
11. **Adjournment**

The agenda is made available in the Clerk's Office at the Town Hall, 105 Elgin Street West, Arnprior and on the Town's [Website](#). Persons wishing to receive a print item on the agenda by email, fax, or picked up by hand may request a copy by contacting the Clerk's Office at 613-623-4231 ext. 1818. The Agenda and Agenda items will be prepared in an accessible format upon request.

Full Distribution: Council, CAO, Town Staff, Committee Members

E-mail to: Metroland Media; Oldies 107.7/My Broadcasting Corporation; Valley Heritage Radio



ARNPRIOR

Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting

April 15th, 2024

6:30 PM

Council Chambers – Town Hall

Committee and Staff Attendance

Committee Members Present:

Natalie Deveau, Chair
Chris Toner, Vice Chair
Billy Denault, Councillor
Barry Goodman, Committee Member
Ted Strike, Committee Member
Alexis Young, Committee Member

Town Staff Present:

John Steckly, GM, Operations
Amy Dean, Environmental
Engineering Officer
Graeme Ivory, Director of Recreation
Kaila Zamojski, Town Clerk
Oliver Jacob, Deputy Clerk

Committee Members Absent:

Ben Shearer, Committee Member

1. Call to Order

Natalie Deveau, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and welcomed those present.

2. Roll Call

The roll was called, with all Members of the Committee being present except Ben Shearer.

3. Land Acknowledgment

Natalie Deveau, Chair, asked everyone to take a moment to acknowledge and show respect for the Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of the land we operate on, by stating:

“I would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we work and gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Anishinaabe People. This Algonquin Nation have lived on this land for thousands of years, long before the arrival of the European settlers, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to be present in this territory.”

4. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution Number 005-24
Moved by Chris Toner
Seconded by Billy Denault

Be It Resolved That the agenda for the Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting dated Monday, April 15th, 2024 be adopted.

Resolution Carried

5. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None

6. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

Resolution Number 006-24
Moved by Barry Goodman
Seconded by Alexis Young

Be It Resolved That the minutes for the March 18th, 2024 Environmental Advisory Committee meeting be adopted.

Resolution Carried

7. Presentations/ Delegations

a) April Events

Amy Dean, Environmental Engineering Officer, provided a PowerPoint Presentation and responded to questions.

Discussion ensued amongst Committee Members with the following being a summary of the comments noted:

- Committee members identified the following questions for the Carleton Place Environmental Advisory Committee (CPEAC) delegation, which will take place on May 21st, 2024. Additional questions can be provided to Amy Dean by email. Committee Members were notified that staff would need to receive any further questions, to submit to the CPEAC delegation, prior to the end of April 2024.
 - How did they get started and what did their infancy look like?
 - How did they conduct their needs assessment and action plan?
 - What are their long-term goals (3-5 years) and how did they prioritize these goals?
 - What are some of the success stories that they are most proud of?
 - What are the key performance indicators (KPIs) that they use to determine success?

8. Matters Tabled/ Deferred/ Unfinished Business

a) Review Action Items Summary Table

Kaila Zamojski, Town Clerk, noted that the Action Items Summary Table, attached as Appendix A, provides tasks as identified by the committee for review and assignment. The table will be updated between meetings and added under the Unfinished Business section on the agenda, every meeting going forward, for further discussion and updates.

Natalie Deveau, Chair, asked that the committee proceed through each item as listed on the Action Items Summary Table. Discussion ensued amongst Committee Members with the following being a summary of the updates received:

Item	Comment/ Update
1	The by-laws / policies have been collated and the specific provisions from the standardized Subdivision Agreement related to tree placement have also been identified. These will be provided by the Client Services Coordinator, to the Committee, at its next meeting.
2	An update will be provided by the Environmental Engineering Officer, following the conclusion of the FoodCycler pilot project in May/June 2024.
3	<p>The Great Arnprior Trash Hunt will be hosted on Saturday, April 20th, 2024 in partnership with Mallard’s Milk Bar. Various areas have been identified as priority locations for clean-up including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robert Simpson Park parking lot • Baskin Drive West (between Allan Drive and Daniel Street South) • Daniel Street South (around Metro and Canadian Tire) • Old LCBO building at 10 William Street West • John Street South • Algonquin Trail • CN Trail • Short Road • Heritage Square Mall (Elgin Street West at Victoria Street). <p>The event will begin with a welcome at 9:00 AM at Mallard’s Milk Bar where volunteers can pick up bags (or they can start from their homes if they already have their needed supplies). The clean-up will take place between 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM, followed by a lunch at Mallard’s Milk Bar between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM with speeches from local community groups and environmental experts. Prizes will also be given at the end of the event around 1:00 PM.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Item: Alexis Young to provide an update regarding The Great Arnprior Trash Hunt and its impact at the next EAC meeting.

Item	Comment/ Update
4	Billy Denault to obtain a copy of the Community Action Arnprior presentation on Greening Business.
5	<p>Discussion centered around how to advertise and share information on the Pitch-In Week activities as well as potential locations including the Marshall's Bay Meadows Subdivision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Item: Coordinate with the organizers of The Great Arnprior Trash Hunt to determine locations that are completed and in need of additional clean-up. • Action Item: Prepare messaging for how to safely collect garbage materials through clean-up efforts (i.e. Pitch-In Canada poster, animal waste, hazardous materials, etc.). • Action Item: The Recreation Department will add garbage bins into the passive park in the Marshall's Bay Meadows Subdivision until the park construction is completed with permanent benches and waste receptacles.
7	This item has been assigned to all committee members to identify potential resources and events that can be submitted to Town staff who will review and curate an Environmental Stewardship webpage on the Town's website.
8	<p>The MacNamara Field Naturalists Club will be celebrating their 40th anniversary with a gala event, taking place on September 7th, 2024. There will also be a clean-up event on Sunday, April 28th, 2024. More information will be available at the next committee meeting; however, the club has been working on a number of additional projects including, but not limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thirty-six (36) points of interest have been identified along the trails and signage with QR codes will be added to allow for greater public education. • The club will be looking to host some tours of their trail network and they are also seeking new members to bolster their group and bring new ideas to the table. • Investigation is underway to include the MacNamara trails on the "PinTrails webpage" and mobile application. • There has been vandalism activity that has damaged several trees within the trails and the OPP has been involved accordingly.

Item	Comment/ Update
9	<p>Discussion focussed on dividing this action item into its composite parts which can then be further reviewed following the committee’s review of the Community Action Arnprior presentations and the CPEAC delegation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Item: Identify priorities for potential data collection activities (i.e. survey) • Action Item: Identify priorities for potential public engagement activities (i.e. Arnprior Sunday Market, public events, etc.) • Action Item: Create a sorting guide tool for use at public events
10	<p>Completed: The Carleton Place Environmental Advisory Committee (CPEAC) will be presenting as a delegation at the May 21st, 2024.</p>
11	<p>Discussion focussed on dividing this action item into its composite parts which can then be further reviewed following the committee’s review of the Community Action Arnprior presentations and the CPEAC delegation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Item: Create education materials and information regarding how to reduce yard waste • Action Item: Create education materials and information regarding how to create native pollinator gardens and support seasonal plantings that are supportive of native species • Action Item: Create education materials and information regarding how to recycle appropriately (what can be recycled, how should it be separated, impacts of recycling, etc.) • Action Item: Create education materials and information regarding how to deal with invasive species and how to report invasive species on Town property.
12	<p>Information was provided regarding the federal government’s Two Billion Trees project which is focussed on large scale tree planting (50,000+ trees) and the urban and suburban planting arms have not been opened yet.</p>

9. Staff Reports

None

10. New Business

a) Roundtable Discussion

Natalie Deveau, Chair, shared that this item on the agenda is an opportunity to share any questions, comments, thoughts and perspectives.

- The future underwater clean-up event at the Madawaska Bridge is progressing led by Barry Goodman with discussions underway with Ontario Power

Generation (OPG), the County of Renfrew and the Town of Arnprior. The organizers are looking for volunteers and sponsors for the event to take place in Fall 2024.

- Municipal policymaking was raised as a ongoing research topic with additional documents from [the Federation of Canadian Municipalities \(FCM\)](#) and the [Partners for Climate Protection program](#) to be provided at the next meeting for the committee's information.
- The investigation of potential bike paths and/or lanes will be considered as part of the Transportation Master Plan (TMP) exercise that is currently underway as a partnership between the Town of Arnprior and the County of Renfrew. It is expected that a second Public Information Session will be held in early Fall 2024 to review the preliminary findings.

11. Adjournment

Resolution Number 007-24

Moved by Ted Strike

Seconded by Alexis Young

That the Environmental Advisory Committee adjourn at 7:57 PM.

Resolution Carried

Appendix A
Action Item Summary

Ref. No.	Item	Date Assigned	Responsible Party
1	Provide electronic copies of Town by-laws and policies with regard to environmental issues (as listed in the March 18 th , 2024 Environmental Advisory Committees PowerPoint Presentation).	2024-03-18	Oliver Jacob
2	Provide results of the FoodCycler pilot project when compiled / available	2024-03-18	Amy Dean
3	Provide an update regarding The Great Arnprior Trash Hunt and its impact at the next EAC meeting.	2024-03-18	Alexis Young
4	Obtain a copy of the Community Action Arnprior presentation on Greening Business	2024-03-18	Billy Denault
5	Implement webpage content for Environmental Initiatives through identification of resources, events, etc.	2024-03-18	All
6	Identify priorities for potential data collection activities (i.e. survey).	2024-03-18	Alexis Young
7	Identify priorities for potential public engagement activities (i.e. Arnprior Sunday Market, public events, etc.).	2024-03-18	All
8	Create a sorting guide tool for use at public events	2024-03-18	Barry Goodman

Legend: **Yellow = New Addition to Action Item List**
Green = Completed Items on Action List

9	Coordinate with the organizers of The Great Arnprior Trash Hunt to determine locations that are completed and in need of additional clean-up.	2024-03-18	Amy Dean
10	Prepare messaging for how to safely collect garbage materials through clean-up efforts (i.e. Pitch-In Canada poster, animal waste, hazardous materials, etc.).	2024-03-18	Amy Dean
11	Add garbage bins into the passive park in the Marshall's Bay Meadows Subdivision until the park construction is completed with permanent benches and waste receptacles.	2024-03-18	Graeme Ivory
12	Create education materials and information regarding how to reduce yard waste.	2024-03-18	
13	Create education materials and information regarding how to create native pollinator gardens and support seasonal plantings that are supportive of native species.	2024-03-18	
14	Create education materials and information regarding how to recycle appropriately (what can be recycled, how should it be separated, impacts of recycling, etc.).	2024-03-18	
15	Create education materials and information regarding how to deal with invasive species and how to report invasive species on Town property.	2024-03-18	Barry Goodman
16	Review available tree planting grants and other opportunities to support the growth of the tree canopy across the community (on public and private properties).	2024-03-18	

Legend: **Yellow = New Addition to Action Item List**
Green = Completed Items on Action List

Completed Items:

Item	Status	Responsible Party
Invite the Carleton Place Environmental Advisory Committee to be a delegation at a future meeting.	Completed	Amy Dean
Provide more information about the MacNamara Field Naturalists Club and its 40 th anniversary plans	Completed	Barry Goodman
Organize Earth Day activities and participation in National Earth Day workshop	Completed	Amy Dean
Organize Pitch-In Week (April 29 th , 2024 to May 5 th , 2024) activities	Completed	Lucas Power Amy Dean
Provide more information about the Great Arnprior Trash Hunt and how the EAC can get involved	Completed	Alexis Young

Legend: **Yellow = New Addition to Action Item List**
Green = Completed Items on Action List



ARNPRIOR
• WHERE THE RIVERS MEET •

No Mow May Discussion

Amy Dean, Environmental Engineering Officer

Kaila Zamojski, Town Clerk

May 21, 2024



What is “No Mow May”

- Started in 2019 in the UK by an organization called Plant Life
- Leaving lawns un-mowed for the whole month of May to encourage plant growth to support early season pollinators
- Some properties will post lawn signs to promote No Mow May and make their neighbours aware





Benefits

- Promotes the public to re-think their lawn and green space
- By encouraging a more natural aesthetic, No Mow May may also reduce the motivation for some to use chemicals and excessive amounts of water for yard maintenance
- Although dandelions are not a preferred food, it does help fill the gap when other sources are not available, and they are abundant in the spring
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions associated with mowing, especially when done on a large scale – a step towards climate change mitigation



Concerns

- Turfgrasses, dandelions, white clover and many other plants growing in our lawns are not native and not the ideal food source for native pollinators
- Creating habitat and a temporary food source and then mowing it after a month
- Leading pollinator biologists are really advocating to plant native plants, shrubs and trees in your yard instead which can produce a year-round food supply
- Long grass can invite rodents, fleas, ticks, noxious weeds, etc.



Other Municipalities

- Gravenhurst, Kingston, East Gwillimbury, Cornwall, Toronto, Sudbury, 1000 Islands and many other Canadian and international communities are participating in No Mow May and encouraging their citizens to leave their lawns natural until June
- Quebec City has created a similar program called, “The Dandelion Challenge,” and North Vancouver has created “The No Mow Meadow Project.”
- Properties are to register with the municipality
- Municipalities offer signs to be posted on the participating properties and will not enforce their yard maintenance by-laws for the month of May



Discussion

- While the “No Mow May” campaign is well-intentioned in its mission to help pollinators, it’s also misguided.
 - Instead – provide education on planting gardens with native flowers, pollinator-friendly grasses, shrubs, fruit trees etc. to create a permanent food source with better nutrients that bees and pollinators can rely on year after year as they emerge from dormancy.
- Town could promote and/or host a native seed/plant sale in spring 2025



By-Laws

- Clean Yards By-Law No.6500-15
 - “Every owner, tenant or occupant of property shall keep the vegetation on the property clean and cleared-up. This shall mean the removal of noxious weeds from their property and the cutting of grass so that its height is maintained not to exceed a maximum of approximately 15 cm (6 inches).”
- Property Standards By-Law No.6602-16
 - “Yards shall be kept clean and free from:
 - 2) Heavy undergrowth, long grass and noxious weeds as defined by the Weed Control Act”



Current Issue at Hand

- Three (3) complaints have been received by By-law Enforcement regarding neglected lawn maintenance this month:
 - Two property owners, where complaints have been received, have stated they are actively participating in “No Mow May”
 - Discussing this issue with the EAC to get insight and feedback.



Current Issue at Hand

Clean Yards By-law

- The Town normally begins proactive Clean Yards enforcement in June.
- Prior to June, the enforcement of Clean Yards by-law is done on a complaint basis.
 - By-law must respond to a complaint, as there is a current by-law in place.
 - In this case the Town has given these properties a warning and noted they have until June 1, 2024 to mow their lawn.
 - New issue brought to our attention this year.



Questions for the Committee

- Should the Town support / promote “No Mow May” or promote another option for residents?
- Recommendations to Council for next spring and moving forward:
 - Should the Clean Yards and Property Standards by-laws be amended?
 - If so, what type of promotion / information / process should be put in place?

Questions?



• WHERE THE RIVERS MEET •



ARNPRIOR
• WHERE THE RIVERS MEET •

Proposed Climate Change Art Partnership

Emily Stovel
Manager of Culture/Curator

May 21st, 2024



Background

- Teach your Parents Proposal from [Sanjay Sundram](#), Art Partner with the Cultural Night Market.
- Children learn about climate change through comics and create paintings that reflect their hopes, concerns, and ideas.
- The paintings are then displayed in various venues.
- The [Teach Your Parents Project](#): Kids making a difference!



Background

- Phase 1 was covered by [CBC News](#), CBC Kids, Globe and Mail, etc.
- Paintings were published in the Canadian Journal for Children's Rights CJCR and as part of the 2023 Climate Strike at Parliament.
- Paintings also [went on display](#) at Trinity Art Gallery in Ottawa (February through April 2023).
- Phase 2 was carried out at schools in Ottawa and India.



Purpose and Tools

- This project helps kids and parents understand the dangers of climate change.
- Get them involved and make a difference through Art!
- Ocean Warming Comic:
<https://www.sanjaysundram.com/tbscomic>
- Ocean Comic with VOs:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sR1v7nvmpAY>



Proposed Collaboration

- Display the children's paintings from Phase 2 at the Arnprior and District Museum for a period of two weeks at some point this year after August.
- 100 paintings from over 800 participants from Phase 2.
- The exhibit motivates children and their families to get involved.
- Organizers would run workshops in Art Activism explain how Art can impact society.



Financial Considerations

- Is this group interested?
- Do you have any ideas for how best to bring this project to Arnprior?
- Who should we include as we build support for this work?
- What lasting impact can we build into this work for Arnprior and District residents?

Questions?



• WHERE THE RIVERS MEET •