



**ARNPRIOR**

**Town of Arnprior**

**Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Date: Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**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 – June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025** (Page 1-4)
- 7. Presentations / Delegations**
  - a) Just Good Compost, Will Affleck
  - b) Art and Climate Change Project, Emily Stovel, Manager of Culture/Curator
  - c) **Dark Sky Initiative**, Alexis Young, Committee Member (Page 5-13)
- 8. Matters Tabled / Deferred / Unfinished Business**
- 9. Staff Reports (by Department)**
- 10. New Business**
  - a) Pollinator Garden Updates, Chris Toner, Vice Chair
  - b) Safe Bicycling and Active Transportation, Lessia Stefanison, Committee Member
  - c) Committee Work Plan Discussion
  - d) 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. 1817. The Agenda and Agenda items will be prepared in an accessible format upon request.

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



**Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting  
June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
6:30 PM  
Council Chambers – Town Hall**

**Committee and Staff Attendance**

**Committee Members Present:**

Chris Toner, Vice Chair  
Barry Goodman, Committee Member  
Ben Shearer, Committee Member  
Lessia Stefanison, Committee Member  
Ted Strike, Councillor  
Alexis Young, Committee Member

**Town Staff Present:**

Kaitlyn Wendland, Deputy Clerk  
Graeme Ivory, Director of Recreation  
Jessica Schultz, A/Environmental  
Engineering Officer

**Committee Members Absent:**

Natalie Deveau, Chair

**1. Call to Order**

Chris Toner, Vice-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 Natalie Deveau.

**3. Land Acknowledgment**

Chris Toner, Vice-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 008-25  
Moved by Alexis Young  
Seconded by Barry Goodman

**Be It Resolved That** the agenda for the Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting dated Monday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, be adopted as amended with the addition of item 7(a), Delegation from Just Good Compost.

Resolution Carried

**5. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

None

**6. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)**

Resolution Number 009-25  
Moved by Ted Strike  
Seconded by Alexis Young

**Be It Resolved That** the minutes for the April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, Environmental Advisory Committee meeting be adopted.

Resolution Carried

**7. Presentations/ Delegations**

**a) Delegation, Just Good Compost**

Will Affleck of Just Good Compost provided the Committee with an overview of their program and responded to questions. Committee Members indicated their interest in this initiative and are excited to see the launch of the program in Arnprior.

**8. Matters Tabled/ Deferred/ Unfinished Business**

None

**9. Staff Reports**

None

**10. New Business**

**a) Committee Workplan Discussion**

Chris Toner, Vice-Chair, asked the Committee for any updates regarding the workplan. Discussion ensued amongst Committee Members resulting in the following updates to the workplan:

<b>Focus 1: Support Local Flora</b>	<b>Update/ Completed</b>
Pollinator garden in Town	The Committee is continuing to progress on establishing the pollinator garden to be located at the marina. The Town will feature the native plants put in at Robert Simpson Park on social media during Pollinator Week.
Educational materials for residents about native and pollinator species	
Garden Awards	For discussion at the September meeting to start working on over the fall/winter.
Understanding heritage/natural protected sites zoning	Town Planner will come to the Committee to discuss towards the end of 2025.
Dark Sky Initiative	Alexis Young will present more information at September meeting.
Bee City Canada Initiative	
<b>Focus 2: Waste Reduction</b>	<b>Update/ Completed</b>
Alternatives to traditional curbside green bin collection	Committee would like to see the Town promote Just Good Compost's program when it launches in Arnprior.
Foodcycler Promotion	
Educational materials to support proper recycling	Committee members indicated an interest in exploring changing the use of 'waste' to 'landfill' and will return with more information.
<b>Focus 3: Healthy Waterways</b>	<b>Update/ Completed</b>
Reduce the spread of aquatic invasive species	Signage has been installed.
Educational materials to support residents in reducing invasive species spread	Materials have been delivered around Town.
Options for cleaning boats at marina	Signage is in place at the Marina.
<b>Focus 4: Carbon Footprint Reduction</b>	<b>Update/ Completed</b>
Increase efficiencies/energy conservation at Town Buildings	
Supporting active transportation	Committee will follow up with OVATA. Committee provided input on the location of new bike racks to be installed.
Energy efficiencies in new developments	

**b) Roundtable Discussion**

Ben Shearer indicated that he will provide the Committee with more information from Ontario Power Generation regarding fish and the dams. He also raised concerns about Bill 5 from the Province of Ontario and would like to have a further discussion with the Town Planner about the impacts to municipalities.

Barry Goodman invited Committee Members to attend the McNamara Trail Celebration on October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

Lessia Stefanison inquired about if staff could present the Transportation Master Plan to the Committee. Staff indicated that they would be able to.

**11. Adjournment**

Resolution Number 010-25

Moved by Ben Shearer

Seconded by Lessia Stefanison

**That** the Environmental Advisory Committee adjourn at 8:04 PM.

Resolution Carried



# Dark Sky By-Law Recommendation

Protecting the Night Sky, Wildlife, and Community Well-being





# Why Stronger Outdoor Lighting Regulations?

- Arnprior residents and our natural environment could benefit from stronger outdoor lighting regulation.
- With amendments to the Sign and Merchandise By-Law Amendment and/ or a new lighting by-law, Arnprior and it's residents can continue to incorporate appropriate lighting that can be beautiful, healthy, and functional.
- Light pollution = human-made alteration of night lighting
- Arnprior sits at 5/9 on the Bortle Scale (moderately polluted skies)



# Current Plans & By-Laws

## **Arnprior Official Plan:**

### **E7.3.1.3 Lighting**

- a) Exterior lighting of sites and buildings will be directed towards the ground and/or shielded, to the extent possible, to minimize light pollution in order to preserve a dark night sky.
- b) Illumination of street rights-of-way will be in a manner that minimizes light pollution and energy consumption, while providing a safe level of illumination onto the roadway and sidewalks.
- c) Human-scaled lighting will be provided in strategic areas with high levels of pedestrian activity, such as sidewalks along main streets, transit stops and stations, schools and other public buildings, and parks.
- d) Exterior lighting should not directly illuminate or cast significant shadows on adjacent buildings and especially window openings.

### **E5.2 Green Development Standards**

- c) Ensure that green development standards include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - iv. Requirements for Dark Sky compliant practices for exterior lighting;

## **Property Standards By-Law No.6602-16**

**2.3.4** All lighting used to illuminate a parking area, driveway, walkway or the exterior of a building shall be maintained in a safe, structurally-sound condition and in working order. All fixtures shall be installed so as to deflect the light away from adjacent properties.

## **Sign and Merchandise By-Law No. 5209-04**

"Illuminated Sign" means a sign that provides artificial light directly or through any transparent or translucent material, from a source of light connected with such sign, or a sign illuminated by a light focused upon or chiefly directed at the surface of the sign.



# Why It Matters

## **1. Wildlife and ecosystems**

Plants and animals depend on Earth's daily cycle of light and dark to govern life-sustaining behaviors such as reproduction, nourishment, sleep, and protection from predators. Scientific evidence suggests that artificial light at night has negative and deadly effects on many creatures, including amphibians, birds, mammals, insects, and plants.

## **1. Energy and Climate**

Lighting levels that are higher than necessary and light that shines when and where it's not needed adds an environmental and financial strain. DarkSky estimates that at least 30 percent of all outdoor lighting in the U.S. alone is wasted, mostly by lights that aren't shielded. That adds up to \$3.3 billion and the release of 21 million tons of carbon dioxide per year

## **1. Human Health**

Studies have shown that exposure to artificial light at night negatively affects human health, including increased risk for: Sleep disorders, Depression, Obesity, Diabetes, Heart disease, and cancer.

# Recommendations

1. Amend the Arnprior Signage and Merchandise Bylaw to address:
  - a. Lighting of Outdoor Advertising Signs, including billboards
    - i. Lighting must be mounted on top and facing down
    - ii. Use full cut-off fixtures
    - iii. Only using lighting with a correlated color temperature (CCT) of 3000 K and below
  - b. Consider management practices for all signage such as setbacks, curfews, size limits, and gradual brightness of electronic boards or signs with backlighting.
  
1. Create a new Outdoor Lighting Bylaw that provides better regulation for the Official Plans “E7.3.1.3 Lighting” and defines what the Dark Sky compliant practices are as mentioned in E5.2 Green Development Standards.

# Community Resources

## Does your home protect the night?

By following these four simple steps, you can reduce light pollution around your home, creating a healthier nighttime environment for plants, animals, and people alike. We invite you to participate in this fun and engaging activity to ensure your home is dark sky-friendly.

<https://darksky.org/get-involved/home-lighting-assessment/>



# Desired Outcome

With updates to the Sign and Merchandise By-Law and/or the creation of a new lighting by-law, Arnprior can introduce well-designed lighting that makes our streets and public spaces more beautiful, safer, and healthier for everyone. These improvements will also help protect our environment by reducing light pollution that affects both residents and wildlife and saving energy—benefiting both the community and future generations.





# Annex A

## 1. [The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada - Sample Lighting Bylaw](#)

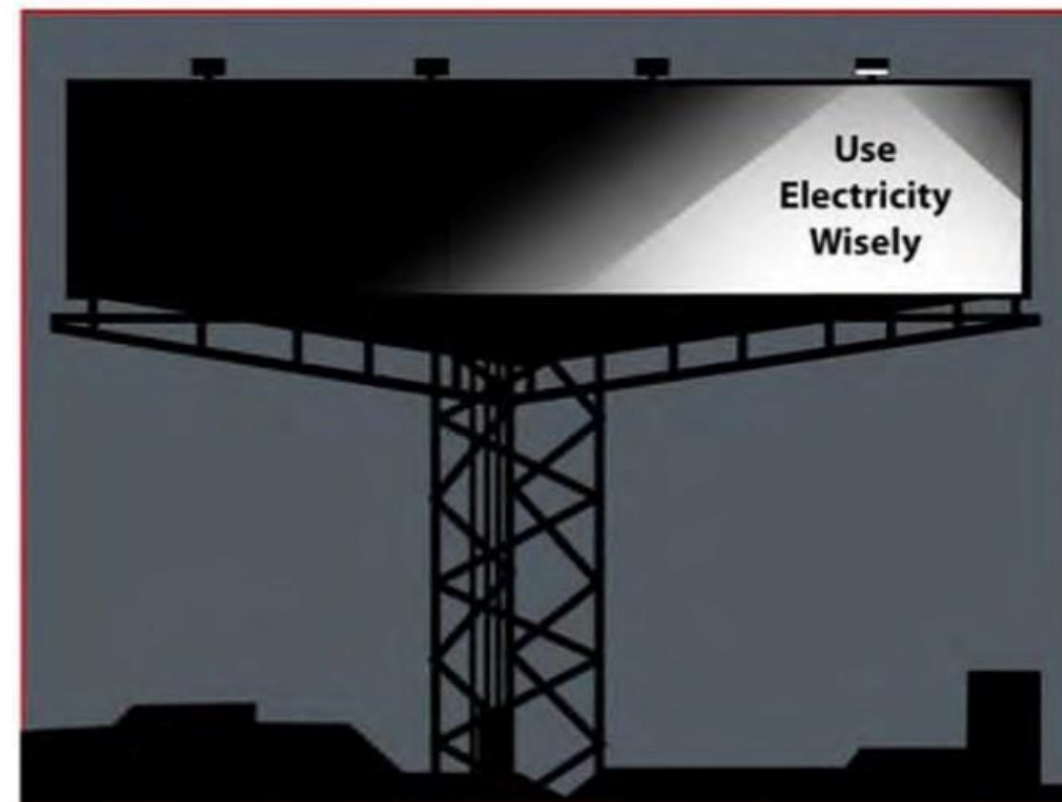
### 2.7 Lighting Of Outdoor Advertising Signs

Outdoor advertising signs, and light fixtures used to illuminate signs or billboards shall minimize light pollution by being mounted on top of the sign facing down, must utilize full cut-off fixtures and must be in compliance with other sections of this by-law. Examples below:

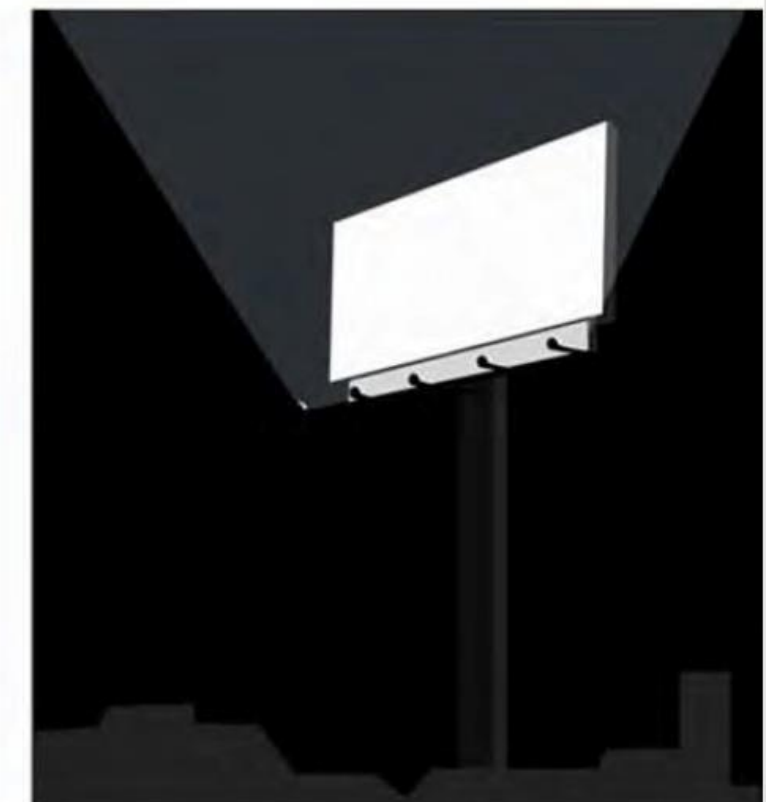
**Full-Cut-Off Fixture (FCO)** means a luminaire or light fixture that; by design of the housing, does not allow any light dispersion or direct glare to shine above a horizontal plane from the base of the fixture where light is emitted and limits the emission of light in the zone from 80-90-degrees from to less than 10% of the total light output from the luminaire, and must be installed in a horizontal position as designed. These fixtures produce very little glare or stray light due to the exposure of the bulb light source because the source is recessed or shielded.

### 2. DarkSky International's [guidance for electronic message centers](#)

DarkSky has developed this document to provide planners, lighting designers, architects, biologists, government officials, and the general public with a basic understanding of the environmental hazards and potential solutions to making EMCs less obtrusive and more sustainable. This guidance is particularly well-suited for municipal planning.



Billboard illuminated from the top (permitted)



From the bottom (prohibited)



# Annex B

## 1. Dark Sky - [Creating codes and statutes](#)

- a. See the [DarkSky Municipal Ordinance Template and User Guide](#) for full guide on DarkSky's proposed by-laws.

## 1. The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada - [Sample Lighting Bylaw](#)

- a. Dated 2016, and provides clear definitions, explanations, and pictures

## 1. Township of Lake of Bays - [Outdoor Illumination By-Law](#)

- a. Note that this by-law is dated 2013, therefore does not include new technology and research.

## 1. Town of Hudson - The Control of Outdoor Lighting By-Law: <https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/617-Lighting-Pollution.pdf>

- a. Note that this by-law is dated 2012 and therefore does not include new technology and research.

## 1. Visual Resources of acceptable lighting

- a. [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1JSyXUvGYCCb9\\_QWmhtEHKD2oyyMVRy4z](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1JSyXUvGYCCb9_QWmhtEHKD2oyyMVRy4z)

## 1. Light Pollution Abatement Resources by The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

- a. <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1yrJvwzD44jOh2zfXcZZQgi5GuzdmYqHS>