

INFORMATION ITEMS

Week Ending November 9, 2018

REPORTS

1. Tourism Advisory Committee Report

INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONSULTATIONS

1. Consultation – A Made in Ontario Climate Change Plan
2. Extending the Moratorium on Water Bottling Permits (EBR #013-3974)

CORRESPONDENCE

1. City of Guelph Response to Intergovernmental Consultation re: Amendments to the Renewable Energy Approvals Regulation (EBR #013-3800)

BOARDS & COMMITTEES

1. None

ITEMS AVAILABLE IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE

1. None

Information Report



Service Area Public Services

Date Friday, November 9, 2018

Subject **Tourism Advisory Committee Report**

Report Number PS-2018-34

Executive Summary

Purpose of Report

To submit to Council the 2018 Tourism Advisory Committee annual report.

Key Findings

The Tourism Advisory Committee advised staff on matters related to tourism destination development in three priority areas: destination animation fund, municipal accommodation tax and stakeholder engagement to support the community plan.

Financial Implications

None

Report

City Council established the Tourism Advisory Committee in 2015 to provide strategic input and advice on the implementation of the 2014 Tourism Operational Review and matters affecting the tourism industry.

The committee's report advising on the recommendations of the 2014 Tourism Operational Review was completed in 2016.

In 2018, the ten-member committee has met five times. During that period the committee advised staff on various projects including the destination animation fund, the municipal accommodation tax legislation and the development of the Community Plan through tourism stakeholder engagement.

Destination animation funding

Committee members assessed the application criteria for the 2018 destination animation fund. The fund was administered by Regional Tourism Organization 4 and available to Guelph businesses, organizations and individuals. Six applicants received funding that supported creating new or enhanced visitor experiences in Guelph. The committee advised on the continuation of the program for 2019 with adjustments to the funding categories. In 2019, the fund will support opportunities

under three streams: destination animation, destination hygiene (or infrastructure) and destination storytelling.

Municipal Accommodation Tax

The committee focused on increasing their knowledge and understanding of the new municipal accommodation tax legislation and its potential impact on Guelph's tourism industry. This included reviewing other tax levy models, organizational structures of comparable municipalities and beginning to gather feedback from Guelph hotel management. Work in 2019, will focus on how to utilize funding to increase tourism development before seeking council approval.

Community Plan

The committee advised on the staff approach to engaging tourism stakeholders and visitors in conversations about the Community Plan throughout 2018. They also provided input and feedback to the Community Plan with a destination identity lens.

In 2019, the committee's advisory work will have an emphasis on development and proposal of a municipal accommodation tax, while continuing to support projects that grow Guelph's destination identity.

Financial Implications

None

Consultations

Tourism Advisory Committee Chair

Corporate Administrative Plan

Overarching Goals

Service Excellence

Innovation

Service Area Operational Work Plans

Our Services - Municipal services that make lives better

Our Resources – A solid foundation for a growing city

Departmental Approval

N/A

Report Author

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Provincial/Federal Consultation Alert							
Title	Ministry	Consultation Deadline	Summary	Proposed Form of Input	Rationale	Lead	Link to Ministry Website
Consultation - A Made in Ontario Plan Climate Change Plan	Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks	November 16, 2018	<p>The Ministry is developing a new climate change plan. The Province is currently seeking input from stakeholders on the following areas of focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the effects of climate change in the community • Ensuring polluters are held accountable and reducing greenhouse gas emissions • Improving Ontario's business climate • Finding a balanced approach that puts people first and makes life more affordable for families 	Online submission	<p>As part of advancement of the City's longer term climate change planning, input into the province's new climate change plan is a key way to highlight areas of interest to the City and attempt to influence the focus of the provincial plan.</p>	Melissa Bauman/Alex Chapman	https://www.ontario.ca/form/tell-us-your-ideas-climate-change

Provincial/Federal Consultation Alert							
Title	Ministry	Consultation Deadline	Summary	Proposed Form of Input	Rationale	Lead	Link to Ministry Website
Extending the moratorium on water bottling permits (EBR 013-3974)	Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks	November 29, 2018	The Ministry is proposing to extend the current moratorium on new or increasing permits to take groundwater to produce bottled water. This would extend the moratorium for up to one year, to January 1, 2020.	EBR submission	<p>The City is responding to the proposed regulation to extend the moratorium on permits to take groundwater as this program has been a policy issue previously addressed by the City.</p> <p>The City has previously responded to the province stating that the province develop a provincially funded, comprehensive water management program. In the response to the province, the City plans to reiterate this request to the new provincial government.</p>	Dave Belanger/ Melissa Bauman	https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/013-3974

November 5, 2018

Client Services and Permissions Branch
135 St. Clair Avenue West
1st Floor
Toronto ON M4V 1P5 Canada

Dear Stephanie DeSousa,

RE: Comments on (EBR #013-3800)

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Amendments to the Renewable Energy Approvals Regulation, EBR #013-3800.

Comments from the City of Guelph

The City of Guelph (the City) is seeking innovative approaches to renewing key infrastructure that supports smart growth, the economy and the environmental prosperity of the community. For the City, the Renewable Energy Approvals Regulation helped to enable renewable energy projects that support long-term, sustainable energy production, as well as job creation throughout the province.

Renewable energy sources, such as wind, solar, biogas and hydro, are low carbon alternatives and produce few greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and dramatically reduces the dependence on non-renewable applications and fossil fuels as a source of energy. By further diversifying Ontario's energy generation with renewable energy creates a more robust energy system with less exposure to commodity price fluctuations.

This regulatory amendment would affect future renewable energy approval applicants and the City's future energy initiatives. As part of the City's longer term planning and climate change mitigation efforts, the cancellation of this regulation will greatly impact the City in reaching its 100% renewable energy by 2050 target and the reduction of GHG emissions.

As the Province considers its priorities in the development of its new climate change plan, the City of Guelph respectfully asks that the government consider the advancement of renewable energy projects within that plan.

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Request for consideration:

That renewable energy projects continue to be considered for all cases, including even where electrical demand is currently met, by the Provincial Government as part of the build out of the new climate change plan and the province's long-term energy planning

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on this regulatory proposal. As previously identified, the City looks forward to an opportunity to engage with the Provincial Government on the development of the new climate change plan.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding the City of Guelph's feedback.

Sincerely,



Scott Stewart
Deputy CAO, Infrastructure, Development and Enterprise

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cc Barbara Swartzentruber
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