



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

## MINUTES

### COMMUNITY ENERGY PLANNING COMMITTEE

May 7, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

City Hall – Downstairs Boardroom

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Minutes of a meeting held on Thursday, May 7, 2015 at 3:05 p.m. in the City Hall Lower Boardroom. The following Committee members were in attendance:

Chairperson: Councillor D. Wong,  
L. Azzolini,  
A. Fowler,  
C. Scott,  
Mayor M. Heyck,  
J. Hazenberg, and  
J. Pickett.

The following people were in attendance as observers:

A. Robinson,  
C. Correa,  
B. Linaker, and  
J. Vandenberg, GNWT.

The following members of Administration were also in attendance:

R. Gervais, and  
J. Brennan, Recording Secretary.

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#### **Call to Order**

1. Councillor Wong called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

#### **Introductions**

2. Roundtable introductions were made for the benefit of new members.

#### **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests**

3. There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

#### **Approval of Agenda**

4. D. Wong moved,  
B. Linaker seconded

**That Committee approve the agenda as presented.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



**Presentation by Administration Staff – Changes in Terms of Reference**

5. N. Naidoo informed committee members that the Terms of Reference for all standing committees of Council have been revised in order to have a level of consistency. N. Naidoo advised that, in future, new members appointed to a committee will have an orientation session and training prior to attending their first meeting. As well, committees will be required to make an annual presentation to Council on the Committee's activities. This will strengthen the relationships among Committee members, Council and Administration staff.

D. Gillard gave a brief overview of the Orientation Guide in terms of Rules of Procedure and the *Cities, Towns, and Villages Act (CTVA)* as it pertains to the committee and what type of authority the committee has.

N. Naidoo advised committee members that her department, Communications and Economic Development, has a broad range of communication tools that are available to promote and showcase to the public and Council the work this committee does.

D. Marchiori reviewed the minor changes to the Terms of Reference such as clarification of a quorum.

**Presentation on results of Greenhouse Gas Inventory, Public Survey and Pembina Study**

6. R. Gervais gave a presentation to committee on the results of the Greenhouse Gas Inventory which showed some surprising results. Yellowknife's lower than expected energy use in buildings and the transportation sector can be explained by the city's high density.

R. Gervais noted that 144 people participated in the public survey conducted using four objectives; energy affordability, reliable energy resources, impact of climate change and local economic development. People were consistent in their answers, identifying energy affordability as the number one target and suggesting ways of increasing energy efficiency and finding cheaper sources of energy. He will circulate the results of the public survey to committee members once all the answers have been compiled.

The study on Local Improvement Charges (LIC) showed that people were having financial issues implementing retrofits to their homes and finding the information to do so. The study recommended solutions used in other communities, such as applying local improvement charges to ease the financial burden. The study also identified other obstacles to green retrofits which could be addressed by offering workshops on types of retrofits that could be undertaken by home owners or suggesting contractors available to complete the retrofits.

The study also recommended an implementation plan which will require changes to legislation in the *Cities, Towns and Villages Act (CTVA)*. Mayor Heyck advised that a briefing note for a review of the *CTVA* is currently being drafted and will be on the agenda for the next session of the Legislative Assembly.

R. Gervais advised committee members that the only tasks remaining are to finish interviewing the City Councillors and to hold an Open House in June to make the results of the study public.

**Round Table discussion and comments**

7. In response to a query from D. Wong regarding a breakdown of the energy consumption by the residential, commercial and industrial sectors, Mr. Gervais advised that the information was not accessible.



Mr. Gervais further advised that, in future, the analysis would not need to be contracted out, as the City has the ability to do it in-house. It will, however, take staff a substantial amount of time to complete the project.

R. Gervais noted that he is scheduled to meet with the consultant to review the report, and would be happy to pass on any questions committee members might have.

D. Wong commented that the best consultants had been hired to compile the inventory using established, solid methodology. The information was validated by spot inspections of specific buildings and by comparison with similar data from other communities. There is now a solid foundation for future inventories.

Mayor Heyck suggested that the next steps should be to consider the options laid out in the Pembina Study, make a selection and work them into the context of the new Community Energy Plan as a recommendation, then bring the plan forward to Council for adoption. Committee members agreed with Mayor Heyck's suggestion.

In response to a query from D. Wong, Mayor Heyck advised that the best strategy for changing the wording in the *CTV Act* is already underway, as the department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA) has committed to a review of the Act during the next session of the Legislative Assembly. When the City receives notification from MACA that consultations on the *CTV Act* are imminent, the City will put forward its suggestions.

L. Azzolini acknowledged the excellent work that R. Gervais has put into this project.

#### **Distribution of Draft Community Energy Plan**

8. R. Gervais distributed the draft Community Energy Plan to committee members for review, in preparation for discussion at the next meeting.

L. Azzolini moved,  
M. Heyck seconded,

**That the *Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Pembina Study* be accepted as tools to use in finalizing the Community Energy Plan prior to presenting it to Council.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Next Meeting:**

9. There will be two meetings prior to the end of the year: one in June, and another in August to review the recommended Community Energy Plan before presenting it to Council.

#### **Adjournment**

10. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.