

Town of Truro
Climate Sustainability Committee
Terms of Reference

Purpose:

The Climate Sustainability Committee will advise the Town of Truro by providing guidance and oversight through the creation of the Town's Community Energy & Emissions Plan.

Community Energy & Emissions Plan:

The Community Energy & Emissions Plan (CEEP) will provide a pathway to transition the Town of Truro to renewable energy and to reduce the Town's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions between now and 2050. It will outline targets for net-zero emissions in the community by 2050, meaning that the region either releases no GHGs or offsets the emissions it does release.

The Plan will outline the measures the Town and the community (its businesses and residents) need to take to achieve deep emissions reductions. The Plan will also explore how these measures can be funded, their economic benefits, and the policies required for success.

The CEEP will be developed by an external consultant with guidance from the Committee, Town Council, Town staff, and through public engagement.

Objectives and Responsibilities of the Committee:

Specific responsibilities of the Committee include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Provide oversight and guidance, including recommendations on the creation of the Town's CEEP;
- Gain community support for input into the CEEP and inspire and sustain community commitment to achieving community-wide GHG emissions reduction targets & climate action objectives;
- Identify and advise on ways to build local climate action awareness and promote environmental stewardship within the community;
- Provide a forum for dialogue and information-sharing related to climate action;
- Provide a local perspective on climate action while giving due consideration to the balance between social, environmental and economic aspects;
- Review, research, analyze, and provide feedback on any other community-related climate action items as directed by Council, including strategic planning, bylaws, and policy development.

Membership:

The Committee will consist of:

Five (5) citizen representatives, including:

- At least one member representing the Living Earth Council,
- At least one member representing forestry, fuel and/or construction industries,
- At least one member representing local business.

Two (2) Town Councillors.

Two (2) members from adjacent communities, including:

- County of Colchester, Sustainability Planner, Joanna Burris,
- A member selected by the Millbrook Band Council to represent Millbrook First Nation.

Two (2) Town staff members, including:

- Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Communications
- Chief Administrative Officer

Members may or may not be linked to climate change mitigation or adaptation, or community energy planning but should have some basic understanding of climate change, climate change impacts, and community-based climate change solutions.

Each Committee member and/or their organization agrees to commit staff or volunteer time, expertise, and effort to the implementation of the Town's CEEP.

Members are expected to attend regular meetings. All members listed above are voting members.

The Committee consists of a range of community members and leaders with diverse backgrounds and experiences. Staff and the consultant will do their best to establish a meeting format that will allow for equal participation from all Committee members.

Additional 'resource persons' (staff, representatives of key agencies, or subject experts) related to the committee mandate may be called on an as-needed basis to attend meetings from time to time, in an effort to assist the Committee in achieving their objectives.

The Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee shall be elected by the Committee.

Decision-Making

A quorum is represented by sixty percent or more of the members.