

City of Port Colborne
Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, September 10, 2025
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: Engineering and Operations Centre, Committee Room
1 Killaly St West, Port Colborne

Members Present: R. Waines
N. Gieger
T. Lamb
K. Klauck
A. Smits
O. Iwanicki

Member(s) Absent: J. Hellinga

Staff Present: M. Bagu, Councillor
T. Hoyle, Councillor
Cassandra Banting
A. Riolino
Mathew Pilon

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:07 PM

2. Amendments to the Agenda

3. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved By Tim Lamb
Seconded By Ryan Waines
Motion to adopt the agenda

4. Disclosures of Interest

None

5. Approval of Minutes

Moved By Tim Lamb

Seconded By Katherine Klauck

The Committee Moves to adopt the minutes from May 12, 2025.

Carried

6. Staff Updates

6.1 Yellow Fish Road Program (A. Riolino & C. Banting)

C. Banting provided an update on the Yellow Fish Road event. Indicated that the kits mark storm drains through the Yellow Fish Road program are available at the Port Colborne Public Library. We will continue to promote the kits and let residents know about the program.

We will provide some feedback to the NPCA on the application of the stencil and usability.

6.2 Update on Public Works Projects (C. Banting & M. Pilon)

M. Pilon provided an update on the status of the Marina Dredging project. A request for proposal for design has been drafted but has not been circulated yet. Currently, the team is meeting with potential partners in the area that have experience with dredging projects of this type and are looking to understand more about the project. This exploration is being prioritized over posting the request for proposal to ensure that all we have a more robust understanding of the project requirements.

C. Banting provided an update on the watermain lining project to date in 2025. North and South Crescent and Clarence Street projects have been completed. Projects on Schofield and Hampton Crescent have been approved for 2025 and have been moved up from 2026.

C Banting provided an update on water loss programs in the City, including the Proactive Leak Detection Program being launched by the Water Operations team.

Chair Smits requested that C. Banting present the water loss strategy at a future EAC Meeting.

Councillor Bagu asked whether contributions to the homeowner will be increased in 2026 for sewer lateral and water service grant programs. C.

Banting confirmed that the grants for these programs have doubled, per Council's approval at the August 26 Meeting.

Councillor Bagu and C. Banting discussed distribution of costs for water and wastewater between municipalities throughout the Region.

M. Pilon provided insight into the West Street Pergola/Promenade construction project, addressing Chair Smits question about the use of non-permeable surfaces for the project. Specifically, the project was concerned with AODA requirements. M. Pilon also confirmed that all trees removed from the area were relocated to Lockview Park.

Chair Smits would like for future projects to consider permeable surfaces.

K. Klauck stated that more communication would be welcome to ensure that environmental considerations are clear for projects that have significant environmental impact. Further considerations of accessibility, specifically tripping hazards are also needed.

7. Order of Business

7.1 Public Awareness of Municipal Environmental Initiatives

a. Environmental Panel Discussion

Chair Smits provided an update on the Environmental Panel Discussion. The Committee agreed to move the panel discussion from Winter 2025 to Spring 2026.

b. Website Revisions and Recommendations

A. Smits and K. Kluack have reviewed the Environment website and have drafted recommendations to improve the site.

7.2 Raise awareness of storm water/wastewater management best practices

a. Rain Barrel Sale & Fall Tree Giveaway (September 27, 2025) - Volunteer Requirements

7.3 Increase awareness and advocating for electrification

a. EV Ribbon Cutting

b. Touch-a-Truck Event (October 9, 2025)

Chair Smits has confirmed that the Touch-a-Truck event is happening at the Engineering and Operations Centre on October 9, 2025 from 4-7 PM

The EAC will host an activity at the event, with a donation from JBL for prizes.

8. New Business

8.1 EAC Terms of Reference

Chair Smits has requested a review of the terms of reference as a Committee.

8.2 Canal Days Feedback

Chair Smits questioned why there aren't streams other than waste; specifically, indicating that Organics would be an 'easy win' for the Canal Days Planning Committee to integrate, given the amount of food that is consumed. There is also room to increase recycling opportunities.

K. Klauck shared her praise for this year's Canal Days

Councillor Bagu asked that Committee Members provide their feedback and ideas to him and to the Canal Days Planning Committee.

8.3 Eagle Marsh Drain

Councillor Bagu provided an update on the Eagle Marsh Drain; it will have to be dredged.

9. Next Committee Meeting

10. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:24 PM.

Moved By Tim Lamb

Seconded By Katherine Klauck

Carried

Chair

Staff Liaison

