

**Subject:** Establishment of Environmental and Climate Adaptation Advisory Committee

**Recommendation:**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive Report #2023-109 - Establishment of Environmental and Climate Adaptation Advisory Committee, for information;**

**AND THAT Council for the Town of Pelham confirm and establish the Environmental and Climate Adaptation Advisory Committee;**

**AND THAT Council approve the Terms of Reference attached hereto, as recommended by staff;**

**AND THAT Council direct staff to seek applications from interested residents for the Environmental and Climate Adaptation Advisory Committee for appointment in 2023 through the balance of this term of Council, with applications to be considered in closed session with appointments to occur in open session.**

**Background:**

On April 5, 2023, Council for the Town of Pelham received the draft 2023-2027 Strategic Plan and adopted the following resolution:

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive the presentation from David Cribbs, Chief Administrative Officer entitled Draft Town of Pelham 2023-2027 Strategic Plan, for information;**

**AND THAT Council endorse and adopt the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan, as presented, and as amended;**

**AND THAT the Chief Administrative Officer be and is hereby directed to take the necessary steps to implement the Strategic Plan.**

One of the action items identified within the strategic plan under the umbrella of Environmental and Climate Adaption, was the establishment of an Advisory Committee.

This report is provided in support of that action item by bringing forward terms of reference for a potential Environmental and Climate Adaptation Advisory Committee, along with the call for applicants to sit on the Committee.

### **Analysis:**

Staff have reviewed other municipal Environmental and Climate Adaptation Advisory Committee terms of reference and have developed a draft term of reference for Council's consideration. The draft terms of reference are appended to this report.

Staff recommend the proposed Environmental and Climate Adaptation Advisory Committee meets bi-monthly.

### **Financial Considerations:**

With the creation of this Committee, midyear, there has been no allocation of budget within the 2023 approved Town Budget.

It is not anticipated that the Committee will require to expend any significant funds in its early term. Subsequent years may see requests made as part of the annual budget process. Future budget requests, if any, will be supported by a Committee request in recommending any proposed budget allocation.

### **Alternatives Reviewed:**

As this was identified as a key requirement under the recently completed Strategic Planning exercise no other alternatives were investigated.

Council however does have the authority to modify the proposed terms of reference, composition of the Committee, meeting times and frequency or in any manner that they deem required to meet the needs they envisioned during the Strategic Planning discussions.

### **Strategic Plan Relationship: Environmental and Climate Change Adaptation**

Pelham is known locally and within the province for its environmental concerns and its collective desire to be good stewards of the land and environment.

Establishing an Environmental and Climate Adaptation Advisory Committee demonstrates Council's commitment to the environment within Pelham and its concern with the impacts that climate change is having across the planet.

As elected representatives, establishment of this committee ensures this community has a voice when developing policies which might affect, not only its local environment, but it will also assist in lessening impacts on the broader world in relation to climate change impacts.

**Consultation:**

David Cribbs, Chief Administrative Officer

**Other Pertinent Reports/Attachments:**

1. Draft Environmental and Climate Adaptation Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

**Prepared and Recommended by:**

William Tigert  
Town Clerk

**Prepared and Submitted by:**

David Cribbs, BA, MA, JD, MPA  
Chief Administrative Officer