ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. PURPOSE

The Environmental Advisory Committee is to act as an advisory committee of Council on matters relating to protection and enhancement of the environment; support local initiatives that promote environmental sustainability, integrity and conservation of our resources and ecosystems, as well as provide input to protect, maintain, restore and enhance the environment and our common natural heritage within the Town of Aurora; and support stewardship initiatives within the community towards our open spaces, parks and woodlots.

The Environmental Advisory Committee supports the Council of the Town of Aurora in achieving its goals and responsibilities towards the preservation of the natural environment from the perspective of residents, local businesses, subject matter experts and community members. Environmental Advisory Committee should align its work plan with the goals of the Corporate Environmental Action Plan set to be completed by 2015.

2. MEMBERSHIP

- Two (2) members of Council 1 appointed as Chair for a two year term, the other appointed as Chair for the following two year term
- Seven (7) citizen members

3. TERM

The Committee shall be appointed for a two year term, with the option of a further two year term and will be concurrent with the term of Council.

4. REMUNERATION

None

5. DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS

The Committee shall consider in establishing its objectives the need to:

- Act as a link between citizens, town staff and government to facilitate the resolution of environmental concerns and to assist in implementing projects that will enhance our community environment

- Identify changing needs, bring forward and recommend appropriate actions to deal with environmental issues impacting Aurora

- Work at building relationships and establishing partnerships with interested environmental organizations and individuals

- Provide advice to Council on environmental policies, procedures and regulations

- Advise Council on possible green issues

- Identify opportunities to implement initiatives for education, outreach, public awareness, public consultation, and to seek funding sources

- Undertake educational initiatives, both formally and informally, to raise the profile of the environment and provide advice to Council and staff on identifying opportunities to implement initiatives for education, outreach, public awareness and public consultation

- Assist Council and staff, where feasible, in identifying research needs and environmental data gaps and assist in gathering data, undertaking research

- Assist in the promotion of green space, environmental restoration, environmental rehabilitation and enhancement projects

- Support development and education of the public on energy conservation initiatives

- Undertake any assignments as may be requested by Council

6. MEETING TIMES AND LOCATIONS

1st Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. except during July and August.

7. STAFF SUPPORT

The Customer and Legislative Services Department will provide administrative support services to the Committee.

The Manager of Environmental Initiatives will attend Environmental Advisory Committee meetings to provide technical assistance to the Committee.

8. AGENDA'S

Agenda's are set by Director in consultation with the Chair.