

ZWA Team Meeting Minutes
La Verendrye High School
175 N. High St.
January 21 2009 2-3:30pm

In Attendance:

Patrick Fenlon, Pack Pros Plus, Chair; Randy Mehagan, TBRHSC, Vice-Chair; Cathy Sawicki, TBRHSC, Membership; Janice Horgos, Administration / Community Relations; Lenore Buzzi, Honourary Member; Bill Deadman, Arclin, ExOfficio; Lynn Duffield, Abitibi Bowater, Past-Chair; Hosts Denis Mallette and Gaetan Ayotte, La Verendrye High School; Councillor Rebecca Johnson; Michelle McChristie, Ministry of the Environment; Lyne Soramaki, Thunder Bay District Health Unit; Roger Welyki, Beyond Borders; Lucy Laframboise, Citizen Member; Michael Dorval and James Black, Confederation College; Sarah Kerton, EarthWise TB Co-ordinator; Vanessa DeGiacomo, Energy Analyst, CTB Facilities; Mary Nucci, CTB Materials Management; Lynne Lessard, Recool Canada; Tanya Shute, St. Joseph's Care Group; Jane Oldale, EcoSuperior; Frank Ilczyszyn, Frank's Alternate Energy; Brenda Andrew, Apple Credit Union; Jim Squier, Lakehead University; Karen Mehagan, Boreal Solutions; Martha Picard, Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce; Gina LaForce, TB Public Library; Tina Gibson, Gary Butler, LCBO; Alan Forbes, OLG Casino Thunder Bay; Doug Cochrane, Coca Cola; Doug Fraser, Sysco Foods; Cory Lees, Raymond Nadeau, Victoria Inn; Joe Drcar and Claude Bourget, Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board, Jay Henderson, Don Porter and Karen Wilson, Lakehead Public School Board; Melody Allaire, Lakehead Unitarian Fellowship; Andrew Perrons, Perrons EcoSolutions; David Stezenko, Quality Market; Ruth Cook, Citizen; Brad Doff, CTB Community Services; Derek Brevinder, Grassroots Church; Joel Biesenthal, EQ Jennings School, TBCDSB

Facility Tour: A tour of LaVerendrye Secondary School was provided by Director Denis Mallette. Designed by Kuch Stephenson Gibson Malo and opened in 2004 the school was the first facility in Thunder Bay to receive the full financial incentive award of \$60,000 from Natural Resources Canada's Commercial Building Incentive Program. The building surpasses energy efficiency requirements of the National Energy Code by 60 per cent. The design maximizes windows on the north and south sides and triple pain glass helps to control solar heat gain and loss. The roof and walls are almost twice as thick as required to provide extra thermal performance. (roof gives R60 insulation and walls R32 – R40) Floor and roof trusses as well as interior partitions are all made of wood. Wood construction reduces cold joints and permits an increase in insulation in the exterior walls and roof. Heat is provided by liquid radiant flooring system and light sensors turn off when not needed. A carbon monoxide sensor allows more air inside when there is a crowd of people. Toilets are low demand and urinals are waterless. Main corridor windows and internal chimneys provide an innovative, economical way to heat and ventilate the building using natural air flow. There is a comprehensive waste management program and workshop students are currently building an outdoor waste storage building for another school. The cross country ski track is shared with other high schools and organizations can hold events at the school. Patrick thanked Denis and Gaetan Ayotte for the tour and the culinary students for the delicious refreshments.

Presentations:

1) “Children’s Charter Report 2008 on Children’s Environmental Health”

Presented by Lyne Soramaki, Public Health Nurse, Thunder Bay District Health Unit
Copies of the report, developed by the Children’s Charter Coalition were distributed.
Board Member Joe Virdiramo is the Children’s Advocate for the City of Thunder Bay.
The Children’s Charter states “All Thunder Bay children deserve to have a safe and comfortable place to live.” Communities across Canada are using the Thunder Bay Children’s Charter as a model for developing their own children’s charters. The 2008 Environmental Report identifies indoor and outdoor contaminants that affect a child’s health and advises children are more at risk from these contaminants as they eat, drink and breathe more and have a faster metabolism than adults. Exposure at various stages of growth can affect how a child develops. They are especially at risk in the womb. Lyne provided copies of the Report and the “Children’s Environmental Health and Community Challenge” which asks people to identify what they are doing in the home, yard, garage, community and workplace to reduce the risk to children’s health. The questionnaires are to be sent to the Health Unit and monthly prizes will be drawn starting in January 2009. Patrick thanked Lyne for her presentation.

2) Magnetic Storm Windows Demonstration

Presented by Roger Welyki, Beyond Borders

Magnetic storm windows are made of optical grade acrylic (same as airplane windows) and can be made to fit any window. They are mounted on the inside of the home using the same principle as a refrigerator door. This allows for quick removal in case of fire or emergency. Roger advised using magnetic storm windows rather than replacing windows saves money, reduces heat loss and noise and the amount of waste going to landfill. He makes target bags from shrink wrap from his business and Abitibi Bowater and sells them as archery targets; proceeds are donated to George Jeffrey Children’s Centre. Patrick thanked Roger for his presentation.

1. Previous Minutes

Randy Mehagan made a motion to approve the November 19, 2008 meeting minutes
Seconded by Bill Deadman. Carried.

2. Financial Report

There is an account balance of \$1518.02.

3. Membership

Membership list attached.

4. Correspondence/Community Relations

- sent a letter to Jennifer Pugliese and Trina De Stefano, IT Dept., TBRHSC thanking them for donating a laptop to the ZWATeam
- letter received from MOE Minister Gerretson thanking the ZWATeam for comments on Ontario’s proposed new Waste Diversion Act with a focus on Zero Waste; public may comment on the Environmental Registry until April 11
- 1027 visits to the ZWATeam Website in October, up 30% over last year

- ZWATeam articles submitted for Chamber's monthly newsletter; December (SOLEC Award) January (Municipal Green Awards)
- Janice has been invited to visit several schools with fruit fly problems. She recommended they use smaller recycling containers and remove recyclables daily to an external storage area approved by the Fire Dept.
- ZWATeam will have a display at the Current River Carnival being held Feb. 13, 14 and 15 at the Current River Community Centre at 450 Dewe Ave. There will be activities for all ages including penny auction, ski doo rides.

5. Updates

Municipal Green Awards: MGA Committee Chair Lenore Buzzi

Six MGA's will be given out at the March 2 Council meeting. MGA Applications are posted on the ZWATeam Website www.zwat.org and must be submitted by May 1, 2009.

“Christmas Cheer Hampers Greening Initiative: Plastic Bag Reduction Committee Chair Janice Horgos

A “Christmas Cheer Hampers Greening” Media Event was held on Dec. 12 at OPG attended by Linda Gambee, Christmas Cheer Chair; the ZWATeam's Plastic Bag Reduction Committee members and major sponsors OPG Thunder Bay Generating Station, Boreal Solutions, Churchill High School Pack Pros Plus, Recool and Roads Div. CTB. Derrick Brooks, Manager of the TBGS presented a cheque for \$2000.00, more than 200 reusable bags filled with food and 3000 reusable bags for packing turkeys for the Christmas Cheer hampers to Linda Gambee. Patrick Fenlon presented a sample Green Package for the hampers to Linda and thanked the sponsors and the Plastic Bag Reduction Committee members for helping families living with poverty to reduce and recycle their waste. On Saturday, Dec. 13 teacher Jason Pilot and Churchill High School students hosted ZWATeam members, families and friends who bundled 2600 Green Packages. Thanks were extended to Randy Mehagan and Boreal Solutions for transporting the packages to the Christmas Cheer office.

EarthWise Advisory Committee: Committee Chair, Lynn Duffield

Council has named six citizens who will join Councillors Johnson and Foulds, EarthWise Co-ordinator Sarah Kerton and Env. Div. Manager Kerri Marshall to form the EarthWise Advisory Committee. Lynn Duffield, ZWATeam rep is the Committee Chair and Jane Todd, OPG is the Vice-Chair. The other citizen members include Barry Beaupre, Kinnaqeya Legal Clinic; Denise Golden, Citizen; John Stephenson, KSGM Architects; Kirsti Tasala, Citizen. The Committee is developing Terms of Reference and plan to engage the Working Groups in the implementation of the CEAP.

Ontario Zero Waste Coalition: ZWATeam Rep Janice Horgos

A teleconference was held on January 8 to review the Coalition's draft comments on the MOE's proposed new Waste Diversion Act with a focus on Zero Waste. The OZWC's final recommendations will be shared with ZWATeam members. The MOE has extended the deadline for the public to comment on the EBR to April 1.

Self-Sustainable Thunder Bay Committee: ZWATeam Rep Patrick Fenlon

The Committee is considering how it can identify economic development opportunities in the EarthWise CEAP and other strategic planning documents. The College has offered to take the lead in marshalling resources for this initiative.

EcoSuperior: ZWATeam Rep Jane Oldale

EcoSuperior is adding a third energy advisor to their staff. In Thunder Bay last year, 477 homes were evaluated by our advisors. 104 homeowners completed their renovations and accessed \$382,000 in federal and provincial grants. A new Education Coordinator has been hired to add more youth outreach programming. A new Rural Property Owner's guide will be launched on February 19 at Shuniah Township Open House event. 500 timers distributed in less than 3 weeks through the Block Heater Timer project. Planning starts in February for this year's Spring Up to Clean Up. Start thinking about how your company can participate—hopefully we will be expanding the 20-minute Makeover project this year...over 75 businesses were registered last year. More details available soon on the EcoSuperior Website and next meeting!

6. New Business

Coca-Cola Donation: ZWATeam Rep Doug Cochrane

The local Coca-Cola Bottling Company received \$500.00 in recognition of its environmental initiatives including partnering with WalMart to collect shrink wrap for recycling. Patrick thanked Doug and Coca-Cola for generously donating their \$500.00 award to the ZWATeam.

7. Information Sharing/Good News

- Quality Market will launch its Bring Your Own Bag Campaign on Jan.22. Customers who use reusable bags when shopping will be given wooden tokens that they can place in boxes at the store exits for donation to the charity of their choice. (Camp Quality, Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre or the Regional Food Distribution Association.
- The Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board will only be using environmentally friendly cleaning products as of Sept. 2009.
- Natural Habit Eco-Boutique at 279 Bay St. is celebrating its 18 month anniversary. Products are eco-friendly, sweatshop free and socially responsible.
- Lake Superior Place will hold its second Annual General Meeting on January 28 from 6:30pm – 9:30pm at the Prince Arthur. Consultants hired to develop a Business Case for Lake Superior Place will present a report on whether the proposed multi-purpose facility for the Pool Six site on the waterfront is socially, environmentally and economically sustainable. Elections and networking to follow.

8. Next Meeting

Bombardier Transportation will host the Wednesday, March 25 meeting from 2:00 – 3:30 pm. Tour included.