

Thunder Bay Zero Waste Action Team Meeting Minutes

Date: Sept. 16, 2009

Venue: CTB Solid Waste and Recycling Facility, Mapleward Road

Host: Rick Latta, Landfill and Recycling Supervisor

Attendance: 36

Tour

- Rick provided a tour of the new Recycling and Household Hazardous Waste area and the Shop Solar Wall.

Presentation

- The new site which opened on Sept 1 replaces the 1972 site and reflects the community's commitment to sustainable and progressive management of waste and recycling. Enhancements include improved traffic flow, new directional signage, new administration centre, weight scale kiosk and expanded recycling and household hazardous waste areas. There is room for up to 100 bins to divert materials from face of landfill. Public comment has been very positive.

Welcome by ZWATeam Chair Patrick Fenlon

- Patrick thanked Rick and Jason Sherband for the tour and presentation and for hosting the meeting and providing refreshments.

1. Approval of Minutes

- Lenore Buzzi moved a motion to approve the May 20 2009 meeting minutes.
- Seconded by Lynn Duffield.
- Carried.

2. Financial Report - Janice Horgos for Lynne LeGros

- Year End Balance - \$374.72 (2008/09 Financial Report attached)
- Current Balance - \$1634.72.

3. Membership Report – Janice Horgos for Cathy Sawicki

- 41 paid members in 2008/09, 3 Honourary Members (Don Murray, Janice Horgos and Lenore Buzzi) and 1 Reciprocal Membership with the Chamber of Commerce.
- 2009/2010 paid members – 18 (15 renewals and 3 new members)
- Welcome to new members – Sharron Perrons, Perrons EcoSolutions; Kyla Veldhuis, OPG Generating Station; Carole Normand and Ashley Quarrell Thunder Bay Insurance

4. Correspondence/Community Relations – Janice Horgos

- Requests for info about ZWATeam and Litter Free Green Events from Barrie and Orillia
- Invitation from Karen Copeland to participate in Waste Reduction Reduction Fair Sept. 17
- Invitation from CTB to attend Water and Waste Water Conference
- Request from Sue Hamel for Oct. 8 presentation for LU students
- Request from Lori Paras for presentation for Sept. 24 NOSTA meeting.
- Request from Warren Philp to give Litter Free Green Event presentation to Board of Thunder Bay Baseball Association re: 2010 Junior International Baseball Championships
- Website averaging 600+ visits monthly

5. Committee Reports

- Municipal Green Awards – Lenore Buzzzi
Committee has received 6 applications. Excellent work and tracking by all participants. Initial visits completed; follow up visits will be held before the end of year. MGA's to be presented at Council meeting in early 2010.
- Shrink Wrap Pilot Project – Randy Mehagan is leading an initiative to develop infrastructure for diverting IC&I shrink wrap and #1, 2 and 5 plastics not currently being recycled locally.

6. Updates

CTB Landfill and Recycling – Jason Sherband (tour and presentation)

EarthWise Thunder Bay – Lynn Duffield, EWAC Chair

- Working Groups are completing tracking forms for recommendations for action in the EarthWise CEAP. Info will be included in annual report to Council.
- A general EarthWise meeting will be held at the end of October.
- Patrick advised EarthWise Economic Dev. WG is in the process of hiring a consultant to review the CEAP and other documents to identify small/medium business sustainable development opportunities.

EcoSuperior – Jane Oldale

- EcoDriver has new programs in high schools and promoting block heaters for rural residents
- EcoMentors training session for youth coming in October; promoting International Walk to School month in October for elementary schools
- Booth at the Health & Wellness show this weekend promoting safe disposal of pharmaceuticals and safer choices in personal care products
- Will be launching program aimed at safe disposal of veterinary pharmaceuticals, targeting pet owners.

- Continuing to coordinate public liaison meetings for remediation plans in Peninsula Harbour and Jackfish Bay
- Back to the Tap campaign encouraging people to drink tap water—tv commercial completed, pledge contest coming soon.
- Next issue of EcoNews coming October 3.

Litter Prevention and Waste Reduction Week – Karen Copeland

- EcoSuperior received funding from the Clean Green and Beautiful Committee to develop Litter Awareness/Prevention Program. Red River Road litter audit showed 87% litter is related to smoking materials; will develop campaign aimed at smokers and drivers. The shopping cart return program initiated by Litter Free Thunder Bay will be re-established. WRW will be held October 19-25. Launch to be held on Sept. 17 at Information Fair at Intercity Shopping Centre. Will hold pumpkin composting initiative; collected 27 tonnes in 2008. Will not be holding school battery collection due to large number of batteries; Pack Pros Plus offered to work with EcoSuperior on battery collection program.

4. Business Arising

- As a result of the 2004 ZWATeam E-Waste Pilot Project, Pack Pros Plus was well positioned for April 1 launch of Province's E-Waste Program. It is a registered collector and the consolidation point for e-waste for 705-807 areas. There's a large increase in residential e-waste recycling. Phase 2 items will be collected in spring of 2010. Anyone interested in holding large e-waste collections at workplaces or for towns in region to contact Patrick at Pack Pros Plus.

5. New Business

- The Province's Tire Recycling Program launched on Sept 1 offers incentives to encourage highest and best use recycled tires. There is no incentive for tires used for fuel; high incentives for tires to be made into other products such as car parts. There are several registered tire collectors in Thunder Bay including Pack Pros Plus; up to 4 tires per visit are accepted free of charge. Cost of recycling integrated into price of new tires; some businesses may identify cost on their invoices. There are a lot of marketing logistics yet to be worked out with the program.

6. Good News/Information Sharing

- Perrons EcoSolutions will be holding a Green Market at the Labour Centre every Saturday from 8 am – 1pm. Booths are \$30.00. There is an increase in demand for Perrons' biodegradable cornstarch and sugarcane cutlery and containers. Price comparable to cost of Styrofoam but slightly higher than cost of plastics; increased awareness, greater demand and bulk buying will reduce cost. CTB provides these items for use by all departments.
- Dan Munshaw, CTB Manager of Materials Management is developing a Sustainable Environmental and Ethical Purchasing Policy with extensive public input. Adoption of the policy will make Thunder Bay a leader in this area; it will reduce solid and hazardous

waste going to landfill, maximize recycling, reduce GHG's and support local and regional economy. ZWATeam members will be sent a draft and asked to provide comment.

- Savitar Solar Heating is working with the City on a pilot project to put Ontario made solar heating panels on the roof of Jumbo Gardens.
- ZWATeam will be working with Ministry of the Environment, the Ontario Health Care Housekeepers Association and the City of Thunder Bay to organize a one day 3Rs Regulations Workshop to be held in March, 2010. The MOE has hired 10 new Provincial inspectors to enforce the regulations which require major waste generators to conduct annual waste audits and develop workplans.

7. Next Meeting

- The November 18, 2009 meeting will be hosted from 2-3:30pm by Wayne Fletcher, Principal of Superior Collegiate. He will conduct a tour of the new school's energy/water and waste initiatives.

8. Adjournment - 3:35 pm

Check out HELP on our Website at www.zwat.org for tips on setting up waste reduction/diversion programs in your workplace, handling food waste, 3Rs Regulations and more.....