



Subject:	Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Program – Update Report 1
To:	Committee of the Whole – Community Services & Infrastructure
From:	Public Works Department

Report Number:	PW-24-22
Wards Affected:	All
Date to Committee:	June 29, 2022
Date to Council:	July 11, 2022

Recommendation:

Receive and file Report PW-24-22 Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Program – Update Report 1.

Purpose:

Further to the declaration of a Climate Crisis, adoption of the Corporate Climate Adaptation Plan (CCAP) and extensive efforts that have been ongoing with Council support, staff continue to implement climate action initiatives. This report succeeds the Town of Lincoln becoming a member of the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program and notifies Council of progress in the development of the Corporate Climate Mitigation Plan (CCMP) and the Community Low-Carbon Resilience Plan (CLCRP).

Background:

Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Program

As a PCP member, the Town of Lincoln commits to moving through the program framework, which aligns with FCM's Maturity Scale for Municipal GHG Emissions Reduction (Appendix A) and consists of five milestones:

- Milestone Zero – Council resolution to join PCP (Complete)
- Milestone One – Create a GHG emissions inventory and forecast (In-Progress)
- Milestone Two – Set an emissions reductions target (In-Progress)
- Milestone Three – Develop action plan
- Milestone Four – Implement the action plan or set of activities
- Milestone Five – Monitor progress and report results

Scope and Deliverables

The CCMP will address GHG emissions from infrastructure, assets, operations, and services. Examples of corporate climate mitigation actions include green fleets, sustainable energy initiatives, or active transportation planning.

The CLCRP will evaluate both adaptation and mitigation strategies and identify other community co-benefit opportunities and actions that will be accomplished in partnership with residents, public and private sectors, and local stakeholders.

Report:

Progress to Date:

Town of Lincoln Vision for the CCMP and CLCRP (adopted from the Corporate Climate Change Adaptation Plan and Council priorities): To be intentional in building stronger community resilience. To strengthen our community's response and adaptation to a wide array of future changes, the Town of Lincoln is committed to expanding and utilizing our available resources (people and assets) to prepare for, respond to, and move towards a more sustainable future. Our community-driven approach and progressive public policies are foundational to achieving our shared vision a Sustainable Lincoln.

Corporate Environmental Committee (CEC): Establishing an inter-departmental team was a critical step in progressing through the PCP program. The development of the CEC demonstrates a central tenant of Milestone One: support from key decision-makings.

Tree Giveaway and Rain Barrel Sale: This event was held in May 2022 and culminated in 500 free native trees being distributed to residents and 187 subsidized rain barrels sold. Once the trees are fully grown, this initiative will result in 1.5 million L of water diverted from the sanitary sewer system each year and in the emissions equivalent to taking 30 passenger vehicles off the roads each year. This is an investment in community well-being through stormwater management and water conservation and thanks to the community's interest in the recent event, an additional event will be hosted in Fall 2022.

Community Low-Carbon Resilience Plan Survey: The purpose of this survey is to engage with residents to increase understanding of local perspectives on climate action. Results will support the development of the CCMP, CLCRP, and Single-Use Plastics Reduction Strategies.

Single-Use Plastics Reduction Strategy: Information on corporate waste was obtained for Town Hall and Fleming Centre through waste audits. Additionally, a staff survey was circulated to assess staff knowledge and behaviors related to single-use plastics. Results of the waste audit can be found in Appendix B and results indicate the opportunity to improve staff/public education and awareness of single-use plastic reduction, alternatives, and increase diversion rates. These solutions are in development and a long list of action alternatives for evaluation will be made in the forthcoming Corporate and Community Single-Use Plastics Reduction Strategies update report.

Upcoming Activities:

Corporate and Community Baseline GHG Emissions Inventory: The emissions inventory will provide baseline emissions data and inform the development, implementation, and monitoring of mitigation strategies encompassed within the CCMP and CLCRP. A key outcome will be the setting of corporate and community GHG emissions reduction targets.

Energy Audits: Energy audits will be conducted on key Town of Lincoln owned facilities and will assess energy consumption and identify inefficiencies to inform strategies for reducing operating costs and GHG emissions. Facilities have been prioritized according to relevant criteria (e.g., building age and size, expected or planned upgrades).

Maturity Scale and Anticipated Project Timeline:

The maturity scale was developed with support from FCM's Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program to facilitate the self-assessment of institutional readiness and progress in reducing emissions. The scale identifies areas of potential improvement across three competencies: Policy; Human resources and governance; and Technical and Risk. Appendix A shows the Town's status at the start of the PCP program, and the scale will be updated to reflect the Town's progress through the PCP milestones. Figure 1 presents an anticipated project timeline for the CCMP and CLCRP.

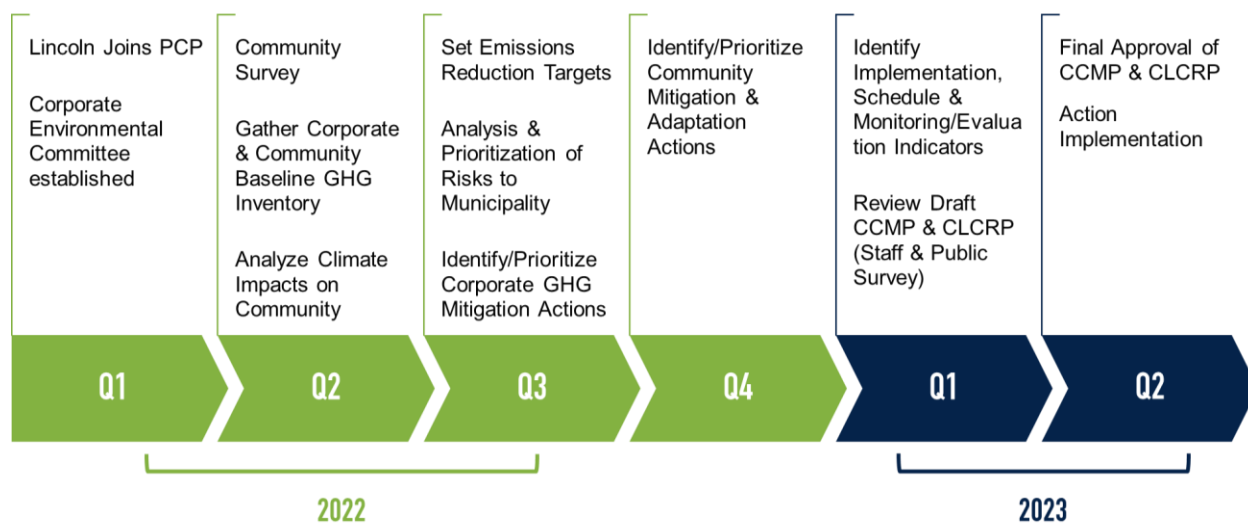


Figure 1: Anticipated Project Timeline

Financial, Legal, Staff Considerations:

Financial:

Resources required to pursue PCP Milestones – for example, the costs of conducting a GHG inventory and developing an action plan, or any other related resources – have been included in the 2022-2023 budgets for Council approval. There are no additional fees or costs associated with proceeding with PCP program. It is anticipated that prior to

implementation of the actions outlined in the CCMP, applicable funding requests will be made on a project-by project basis.

Staffing:

The purpose of this project is to build corporate and community capacity for climate change action with support from existing staff and the Corporate Environmental Committee. Expected input will be 1-on-1 meetings and facilitated workshops to identify and evaluate GHG emissions and identify mitigation next steps. Individual departments and/or action leads have ownership of action items pertinent to their departmental roles and responsibilities and activities/budgets and will be responsible for investigating alternatives, implementation, staff and financial resources, and timelines. Departments are responsible for identifying staff and applicable staffing requests will be made on a project-by-project basis. It is also anticipated that the Town's communication staff are utilized to prepare materials for public engagement/education initiatives and to assist with the notifications relating to the plans. Currently, a Sustainability Co-op Student from Brock University's Master of Sustainability program will support activities during Summer 2022.

Legal:

N/A

Public Engagement Matters:

Ongoing community engagement with residents, stakeholders, and industry, will be an important part of the CCMP and CLCRP. Anticipated community touchpoints may include online surveys, information booths, and engagement workshops.

Conclusion:

Progression through the PCP Program supports the development of the Corporate Climate Mitigation Plan and Community Low-Carbon Resilience Plan, which directly aligns with the Corporate Climate Adaptation Plan and the declaration of a Climate Crisis. Council and the community, residents, businesses, stakeholders, and industry will be engaged throughout the evidence-based planning, consultation, implementation, and decision-making processes outlined in the PCP Milestones.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Fernandes
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Appendices:

Appendix A: PCP Maturity Framework
Appendix B: Town Hall and Fleming Centre Waste Audit Results

Report Approval:

Report has been reviewed by Director Public Works. Final approval is by the Chief Administrative Officer.