

Municipal Council Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, May 24, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.

MODL Council Chambers – 10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville
and via Video/Audio Conferencing

- 1. Call to Order**
 - 1.1 Mi'kma'ki Territorial Acknowledgement
- 2. Announcements, Acknowledgements, Recognition**
 - 2.1 Proclamation – Access Awareness Week
- 3. Public Input (15 Minutes)**
- 4. Approval of Agenda** (as circulated)
- 5. Approval of Minutes** – Regular Council and Special Council of May 10, 2022
- 6. Business Arising from Minutes**
- 7. Awarding of Tenders/RFPs**
 - 7.1 Award of RFP 2021-01-402 Cleaning Services for the CES/CEF Building 1-3
 - 7.2 Award of RFQ 2022-05-301 New or Used Compact Tractor..... 4
 - 7.3 Award of RFP 2021-01-002 Municipal Public Road General Maintenance 5-6
 - 7.4 Award of RFP 2021-01-003 Municipal Public Road Grading & Dust Control 7-8
- 8. Presentations/Scheduled Times**
 - 8.1 Petite Watershed Wilderness Area, George Buranyi 9:15 a.m. 9-17
 - 8.2 Compost Processing, Stephanie Smits, Supervisor-Outreach & Communications,
and Scott Brown, Supervisor-Compost & Septic Treatment 10:15 a.m. 18-29
- 9. Consideration of Correspondence - Nil**
- 10. Recommendations from Committees & Boards**
 - 10.1 Policy & Strategy Committee** 30
 - 10.1.1 Emergency Assistance Fund for Community Facilities-Late Applications 31-32
 - 10.1.2 Elite Athlete Grant – Christine Anderson 33-34
 - 10.1.3 Christmas Tree Purchases from MODL District Producers 35
 - 10.1.4 Thank You Letter to Basil Oickle 36
- 11. Staff Reports**
 - 11.1 Recreation Department**
 - 11.1.1 Award of Canada Day Grants..... 37-39
 - 11.1.2 Community Event Grant – South Shore Exhibition..... 40-41

11.2 Building & Planning Department

11.2.1 Sustainability Committee Update – What we Heard 42-77

11.3 Administration Department

11.3.1 Funding Award – Comfort Centre, Tancook Island 78-79

12. Mayor’s/Deputy Mayor’s/Councillors’ Matters

12.1 LCLC Update

12.2 Deputy Mayor’s Update

12.3 Mayor’s Update

13. Added Items

14. In Camera

14.1 Contract Negotiations re Pinegrove Outdoor Play Association under Section 22(2)(e) of the MGA

14.2 Potential Litigation under Section 22(2)(g) of the MGA

15. Adjournment

Council
Item: #7.1
Date: May 24, 2022
Authorization: T. MacEwan



Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Request for Decision

Report To: Council
Submitted By: Greg Jonah, C.E.T., Certified Engineering Technologist
Date: May 24, 2022
Re: Award of RFP 2021-01-402 - Cleaning Services - CES/CEF Building

Recommendation

Staff recommends the award of RFP 2021-01-402; Janitorial, Cleaning and Custodial Services for the CES /CEF Building at 417 Harold Whynot Road to Inside Out Cleaning Services Inc. for the estimated annual amount of \$22,927.50 plus HST, (to be pro-rated from commencement to March 31, 2023 for the first term), with the option for three (3) full additional years subject to the terms of the RFP.

Executive Summary

MODL issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the cleaning and custodial services for the MODL-owned CES/CEF Building located at 417 Harold Whynot Road, Pine Grove, NS. Four (4) submissions were received from cleaning contractors. The complete submissions were evaluated with Inside Out Cleaning Services Inc. receiving the most points scoring 92 out of a possible 100 points.

Discussion

King's Janitorial Services currently performs the cleaning of the CES/CEF Building. The current cleaning contract for the property has expired.

Four (4) submissions were received in response to this RFP and were evaluated as follows:

Submission by	Technical Evaluation points awarded (max. possible 75)	Financial Evaluation points awarded (max. possible 75)	Total points awarded (max. possible 100)
Jaspro Services Ltd.	48.7	13.8	62.5
Jani-King	61.3	13.4	74.7
Inside Out Cleaning Services Inc.	67.0	25.0	92.0
King's Janitorial	*0	*0	*0

*Submission was incomplete and therefore not evaluated.

MODL has a lease agreement with Her Majesty the Queen in the Right of Canada as represented by the Minister of National Defense (Tenant) for the MODL-owned property located at 417 Harold Whynot Road. This agreement will expire on March 31, 2024 and has an option to renew for an additional five (5) years.

The rent for this property is \$86,966.36 annually plus actual operating costs. The expense for the cleaning contract is included in the actual operating costs and recoverable by MODL in full.

MODL staff have met with representatives of the Tenant to review Inside Out Cleaning Services Inc.'s technical and financial proposals. The Tenant has approved the terms of the new cleaning contract for the building.

The new contract for the cleaning would be effective as soon as practical and continue until March 31, 2023. Conditional on the Tenant's and MODL's satisfaction, the contract will be renewed annually for an additional three (3) years up to March 31, 2026.

Budget Implications

The cleaning costs are included in the MODL 2022/23 approved Operating Budget and are fully recoverable from the Tenant.

Conclusion

It is recommended that Council award RFP 2021-01-402; Janitorial, Cleaning and Custodial Services to Inside Out Cleaning Services Inc. for the total estimated annual amount of \$22,927.50, plus HST pro-rated until March 31, 2023 to align the cleaning contract with the lease expiry date. Also, Council is asked to direct staff, subject to the terms of the RFP, to extend the contract annually up to March 31, 2026.

Department: Engineering & Public Works

Report Prepared By: Greg Jonah Date: May 13, 2022

Report Approved By: Stephen W. Pace Date: May 13, 2022

Reviewed By CAO: Tom MacEwan Date: May 13, 2022

Council
Item: #7.2
Date: May 24, 2022
Authorization: T. MacEwan



Municipality of the District of Lunenburg Request for Decision

Report To: Mayor and Council
Submitted By: Bill Schurman, Director Recreation, Parks & Tourism
Date: May 24, 2022
Re: RFQ 2022-05-301 New or Used Tractor

Direction

That Council award RFQ 2022-05-301 New or Used Compact Tractor to Green Diamond Equipment Ltd/John Deere for the sum of \$41,144.83 including net H.S.T, and further authorize the purchase of a Hard Cab for this sum of \$7,821.75 including net H.S.T. from the same supplier.

Details

Subsequent to Council's pre-budget approval (April 12th, 2022 - Motion 2022-056) of up to \$50,000 for a new/used compact tractor for use at the MARC, an RFQ was issued with a closing date of May 13, 2022. A separate price was requested for a hard cab which would be an asset and extend the seasons when the equipment could be used.

Two bids were received by the closing date, one from MacKay's Truck & Trailer Centre Limited, and the other from Green Diamond Equipment Ltd/John Deere. On review, the MacKay bid was unable to meet specifications on either the tire type or delivery date.

Budget Implications

Funds for this equipment have been included as part of the 2022/23 Capital Budget.

Conclusion

Council authorize staff to award RFQ 2022-05-301 – New or Used Compact Trailer and Hard Cab to Green Diamond Equipment Ltd/John Deere for the amount of \$48,966.58 including net HST.

Department: **Recreation, Parks and Tourism**

Report Prepared By: Bill Schurman

Date: May 17, 2022

Report Approved By:

Date:

Reviewed By CAO: Tom MacEwan

Date:

Council
Item: #7.3
Date: May 24, 2022
Authorization: T. MacEwan



Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Request for Decision

Report To: Council
Submitted By: Jamie Burgess, Municipal Engineer
Date: May 24, 2022
Re: RFP Award 2021-01-002:
Municipal Public Road General Maintenance

Recommendation

Council authorize staff to award Tender 2021-01-002 - Municipal Public Road General Maintenance to Gerhardt Property Improvements for an estimated amount of \$162,038.65 including net HST for a 3-year term.

Executive Summary

The Municipality maintains more than 11 kilometers of Municipal roads, along with several parks which include driveways and parking areas. This infrastructure does require maintenance including work such as ditching, culvert installation and graveling of roads and parking areas. This Tender will provide the labour, machinery and materials required to address the Municipal Public Road General Maintenance requirements for the next 3 years.

Discussion

A tender for Municipal Public Road General Maintenance was prepared and posted to the Provincial Procurement web site on April 14, 2022. The closing date was May 9, 2022. There were three tenders submitted for this work and all three met the mandatory criteria to be accepted by the Municipality. The three tenders accepted were from William A Gerhardt Property Improvements, Dexter Construction Company Limited and Gerald W. Veinot Excavation Co. Limited. These submissions have been summarized below:

Municipal Public Road General Maintenance

Contractor	Cost Excluding HST	Cost with Net HST
Gerhardt	\$155,379.10	\$162,038.65
Dexter	\$223,420.26	\$232,996.05
Veinot	\$235,042.00	\$245,115.90

William A Gerhardt Property Improvements is shown to be the lowest cost of the three accepted submissions at an estimated cost of \$155,379.10 excluding HST.

Budget Implications

Funds for this work have been included as part of 2022/23 Operating Budget as Summer Road Maintenance.

Conclusion

Council authorize staff to award Tender 2021-01-002 – Municipal Public Road General Maintenance to Gerhardt Property Improvements for an estimated amount of \$162,038.65 including net HST for a 3-year term.

Department: Engineering and Public Works

Report Prepared By: Jamie Burgess

Date: May 13, 2022

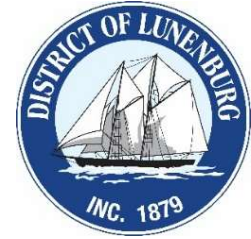
Report Approved By: Stephen W. Pace

Date: May 13, 2022

Reviewed By CAO: Tom MacEwan

Date: May 13, 2022

Council
Item: #7.4
Date: May 24, 2022
Authorization: T. MacEwan



Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Request for Decision

Report To: Council
Submitted By: Jamie Burgess, Municipal Engineer
Date: May 24, 2022
Re: RFP Award 2021-01-003:
Municipal Road Grading & Dust Control

Recommendation

Council authorize staff to award Tender 2021-01-003 - Municipal Road Grading & Dust Control to Howard E Little Excavating Ltd. for an estimated amount of \$ 239,000.83 including net HST for a 3 year term.

Executive Summary

The Municipality maintains more than 10 kilometers of gravel roads, along with several parks which include driveways and parking areas these all require grading and dust control on a regular basis to retain the quality of these assets. The Engineering Department has dramatically reduced the number of Municipal Road complaints by adhering to a regular road maintenance program which includes grading and dust control.

Discussion

A tender for Municipal Road Grading & Dust Control was prepared and posted to the Provincial Procurement web site on April 14, 2022. The closing date was May 9, 2022. There were two tenders submitted for this work and both met the mandatory criteria to be accepted by the Municipality, Dexter Construction Company Limited and Howard E. Little Excavating Ltd. These submissions have been summarized below:

Road Grading and Dust Suppression		
Contractor	Cost Excluding HST	Cost Net HST
Dexter	\$327,945.00	\$342,000.72
Little	\$229,178.25	\$239,000.83

Howard E. Little Excavating Ltd. is the lower cost of the accepted submissions at an estimated cost of \$229,178.25, excluding HST.

Budget Implications

Funds for this work have been included as part of 2022/23 Operating Budget as Summer Road Maintenance.

Conclusion

Council authorize staff to award Tender 2021-01-003 - Municipal Road Grading & Dust Control to Howard E. Little Excavating Ltd. for an estimated amount of \$ 239,000.83 including net HST for a 3 year term.

Department: Engineering and Public Works

Report Prepared By: Jamie Burgess

Date: May 24, 2022

Report Approved By: Stephen W. Pace

Date: May 24, 2022

Reviewed By CAO: Tom MacEwan

Date: May 24, 2022

Council

Item: #8.1

Date: May 24, 2022

Authorization: T. MacEwan

Petite Watershed Wilderness Area

1. Minimize Threats to Species at Risk in the Petite Riviere Watershed
2. Preserve Biodiversity and Carbon Sequestration
3. Provide Recreational Opportunities and Quality of Life
4. Public lands acquired for conservation
5. Ensure protection of the Town of Bridgewater water source

Species at risk

- Ecologically unique area because of Atlantic Whitefish
- Recovery strategy
- Threats to the species
- Action Plan called for legally established wilderness area
- Other species at risk
- Biologically diverse and relatively undisturbed for several decades

Blue felt lichen

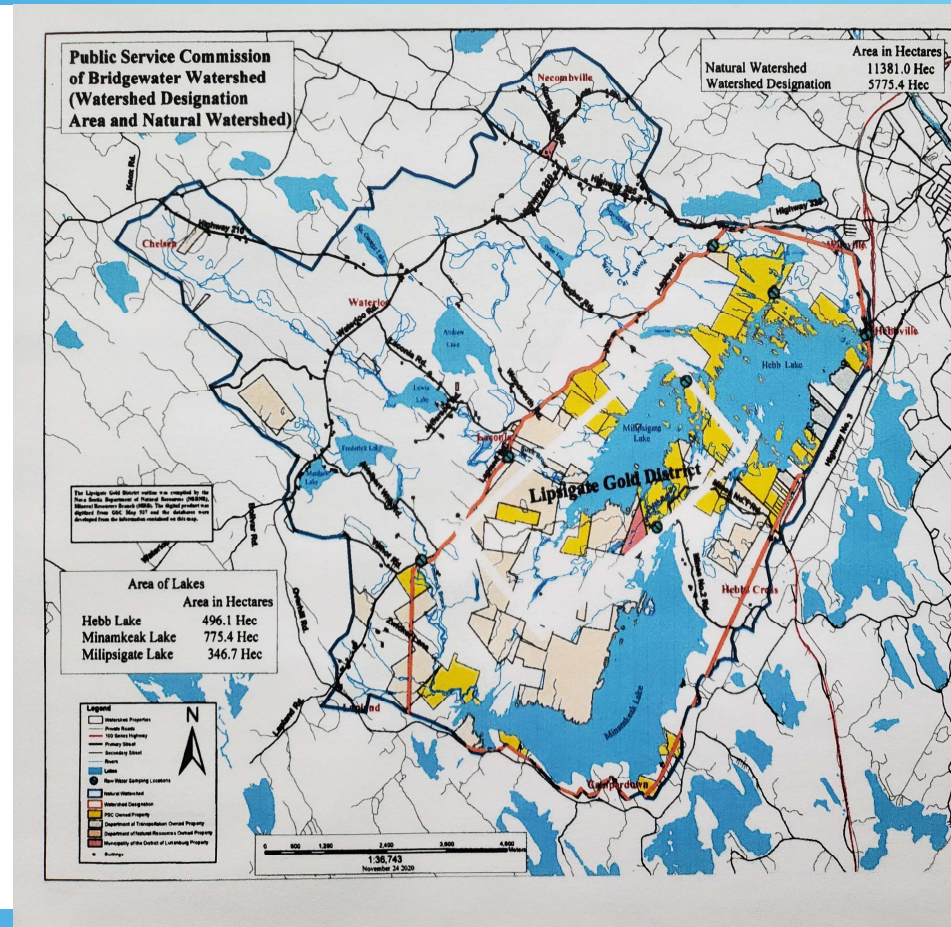


2022-05-18

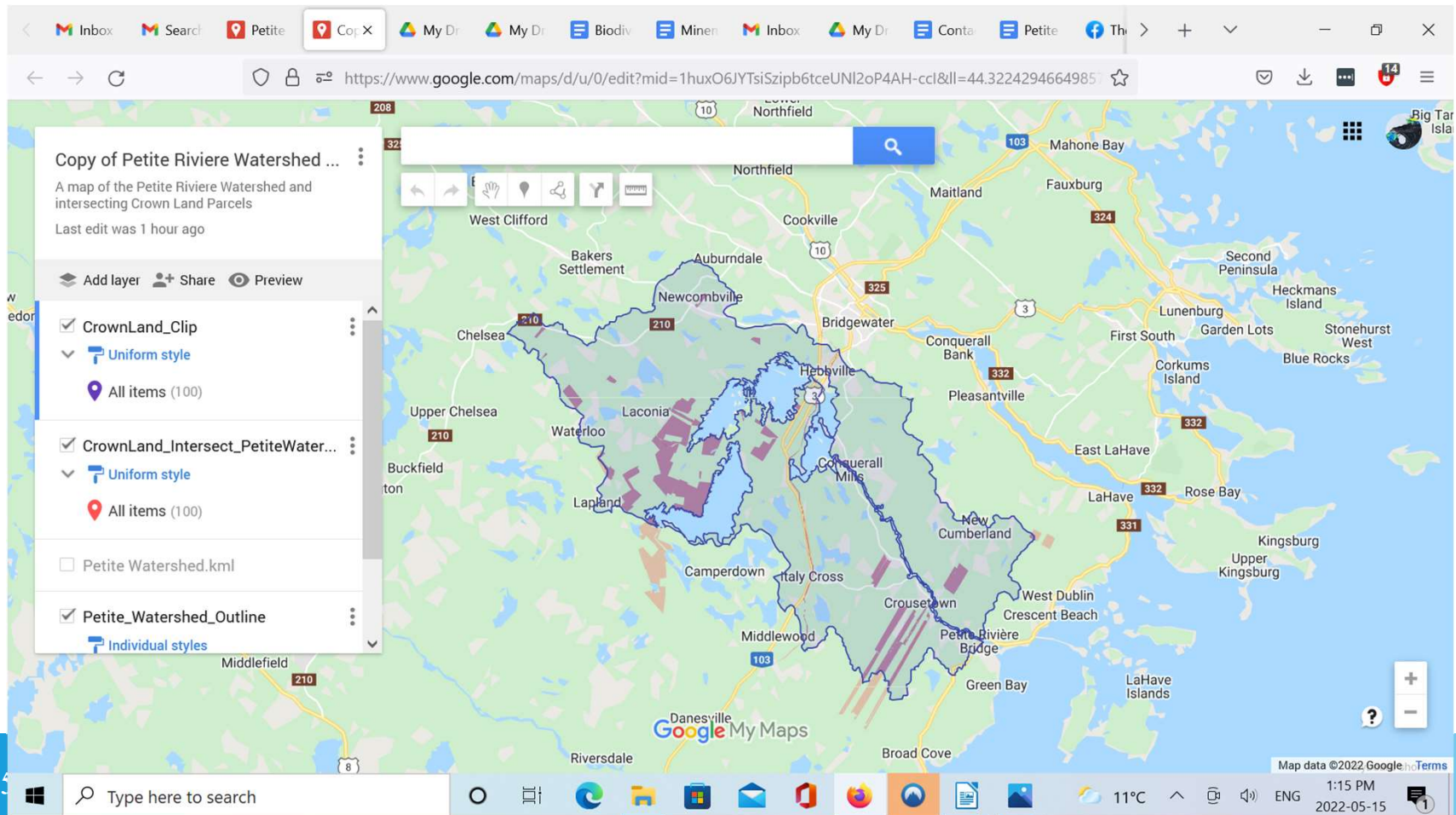
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Water supply

- Importance of water
- Threats to water supply
- Gold and arsenic
- Industrial activity

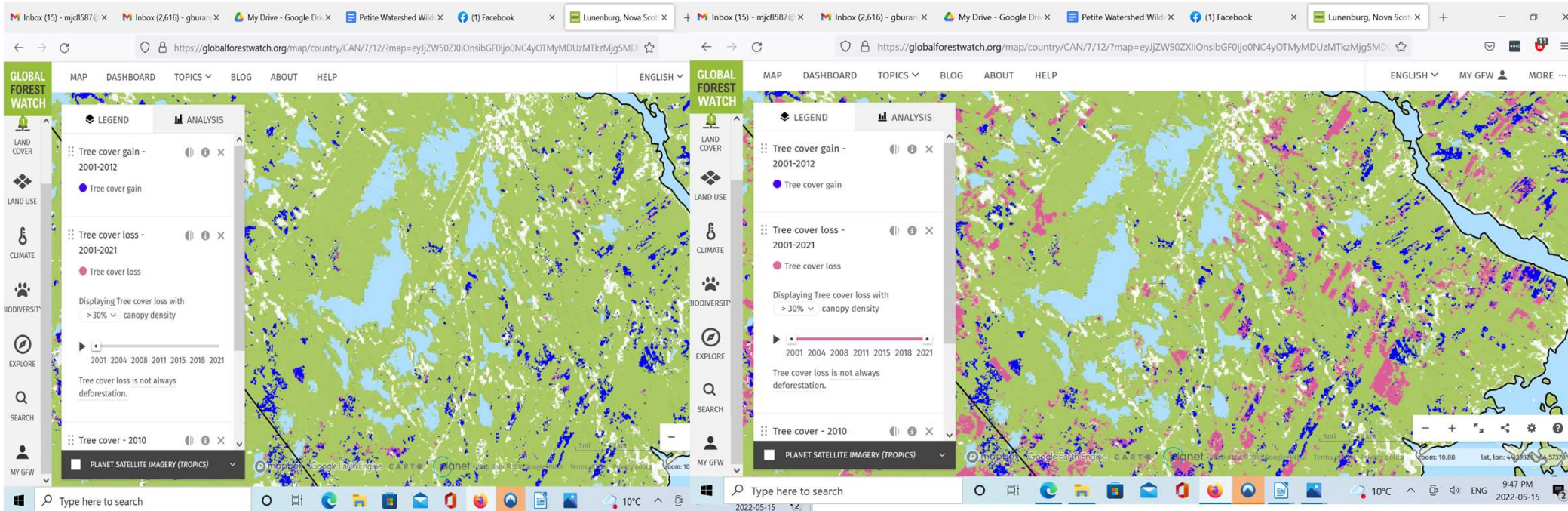


Petite Riviere Watershed with crown land



2022-05

2001 - 2021 Tree cover gain and loss



2022-05-18

6

Inbox (15) - mjc8587@ × Inbox (2,616) - gburan × My Drive - Google Drive × Petite Watershed Wild × (1) Facebook × Lunenburg, Nova Scot ×

← → ↻ https://globalforestwatch.org/map/country/CAN/7/12/?mainMap=eyJzaG93QW5hbHlzaXMiOnRydWV9&map=eyJjZW50

GLOBAL FOREST WATCH MAP DASHBOARD TOPICS ▾ BLOG ABOUT HELP ENGLISH ▾ MY GFW MORE ...

LEGEND ANALYSIS

< **LUNENBURG, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA** 🔗 ⬇

In 2010, Lunenburg had **264kha** of tree cover, extending over **84%** of its land area. In 2021, it lost **1.71kha** of tree cover.

TREE COVER LOSS IN LUNENBURG, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA ⓘ

From 2001 to 2021, Lunenburg lost **35.4kha** of tree cover, equivalent to a **13%** decrease in tree cover since 2000.

DASHBOARD **SAVE IN MY GFW**

Bedford

5mi 10km

mapbox Google Earth Engine planet Map data ©2022 InEGI Terms of use Privacy policy

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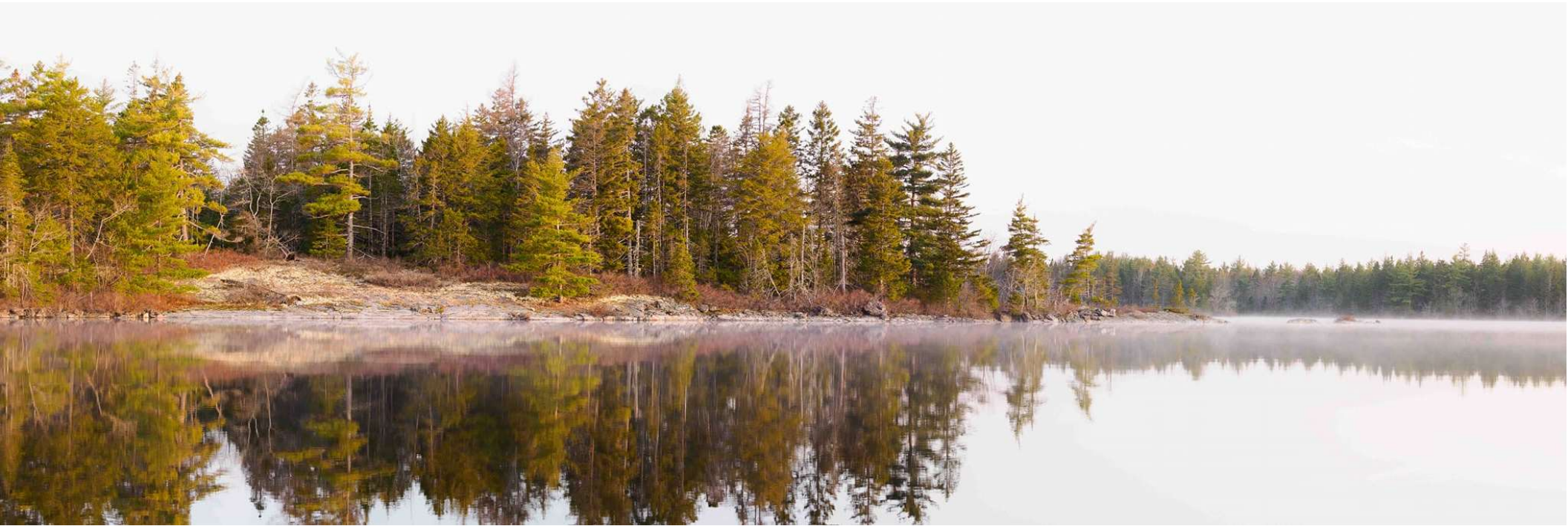
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2022-05-18

Biodiversity protection

- Premier's commitment
- Ecosystem value
- Social and recreational value
- Purchase in 2012 from Bowater – 91 hectares in watershed
- Lunenburg County existing wilderness areas (6658 ha) and nature preserves (1447 ha)
- Lunenburg county is 291,000 hectares

Minamkeak Lake



2022-05-18

9

Compost Orientation

Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Council Meeting

June 24, 2022

Council

Item: #8.2

Date: May 24, 2022

Authorization: T. MacEwan



How Organics Processing Began



- The Province of Nova Scotia legislated a landfill ban for organics in 1997.
- Recycling Centre began construction of a compost processing building in 1994.
- Need for regional organics processing. Organics delivered from Towns of Lunenburg, Bridgewater, Mahone Bay and the Municipality of Lunenburg.
- Additional volume also received from Region of Queens and Municipality of Chester over years.

First Stage of Processing



- Organic waste is delivered to the LRCRC from homes and businesses
- An attachment on the front of a loader grinds the organic waste into smaller pieces to accelerate the first stage of processing
- About 7,000 metric tonnes of organics processed annually
- The “feedstock” varies in moisture content from 50-60%; leaves are added to absorb and give bulk to organics

First Stage of Processing



- After grinding, organic waste is placed in rows inside a covered building
- Bacteria and fungi begin to break the organics down, creating heat and releasing moisture.
- The rows are turned for 6 weeks, to introduce oxygen, which promotes organic breakdown.
- The oldest row of organics is removed to make room for more.



Second Stage of Processing



- Compost is piled in outdoor windrows which are turned throughout the warmer months
- The temperature within the piles increases; moisture evaporates further.
- This stage is weather-dependent and takes 1-2 years. Colder, wetter weather prolongs this process.



Third Stage of Processing



- Compost is screened to remove contaminants such as plastic.
- Recent changes to the waste bylaw will eliminate the majority of plastic (ie. compostable bags) in the organics stream over the next year.



Screening



- Organics are loaded into a large drum screener. Compost is discharged in one pile and contaminants in another.
- Compost allowed to cure outside for an additional 12 months before residential sales.



Contaminants Removed By Screener



Regulated Production & Sales

- Composting facility must meet NS Environment *Composting Facility Guidelines* and Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment *Guidelines for Compost Quality*
- ✓ Every batch of finished compost must meet specific thresholds for:
 - ✓ trace elements (minerals/metals)
 - ✓ coliforms
 - ✓ foreign matter (sharp objects)
 - ✓ cannot contain salmonella
 - ✓ compost pile must achieve a pathogen kill at 55 degrees celsius for a consecutive period of days
 - ✓ must meet a certain measured maturity level.

The compost is sampled and lab-tested to confirm it meets these standards.

Regulated Production & Sales

- LRCRC-produced compost classified as Category A.
- Can be used for agricultural lands, residential gardens, horticultural operations, nursery industry and other businesses.

Compost Pricing

\$9.00 Half Cubic Yard

\$18.00 1 - 25 Cubic Yards

\$15.00 26 - 100 Cubic Yards

\$10.00 100+ Cubic Yards



Tote of Compost \$5.00

Refill the Tote \$3.00



Finished Compost

Regulated Production & Sales

Residential Sales

- 2019 674 cubic yards, revenue \$9,972
- 2020 881 cubic yards, revenue \$13,698
- 2021 779 cubic yards \$14,022

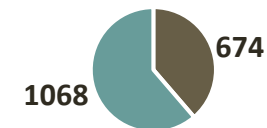
Compost giveaway May 2019 and 2020, not 2021 due to Public Health gathering restrictions. Residents could take two feed bags of compost or a half cubic yard. Compost is average 24 months old when sold.

Commercial Sales

- 2019 1,068 cubic yards
- 2020 1,547 cubic yards
- 2021 1,998 cubic yards

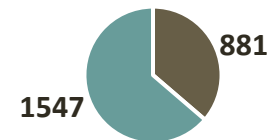
Commercial customers buy bulk quantities for agricultural use, landscaping and to cover septic disposal beds. Compost is average 12-18 months old when sold.

2019



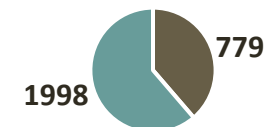
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2020



■ Res ■ Comm

2021



■ Res ■ Comm

Questions?



Council

Item: #10.1

Date: May 24, 2022

Authorization: T. MacEwan



Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville, Nova Scotia, Canada, B4V 9E4

Phone: 902.543.8181 Fax: 902.543.7123 Web Site: www.modl.ca

May 17, 2022

To Her Worship, Mayor Bolivar-Getson, and Councillors
of the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Dear Mayor and Councillors:

The Policy & Strategy Committee, in session on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, made the following
recommendations to Council:

1. That Municipal Council award emergency assistance funding to the community facilities with late applications listed in staff's report in the amount of \$5,000; and further, that the funds be taken from the safe restart fund.
2. That Municipal Council award the Elite Athlete Travel Grant to Christine Anderson in the amount of \$1,282.50 to participate in the West Coast Wonder Woman Boxing Tournament from May 20 – 22, 2022.
3. That Municipal Council direct staff to purchase Christmas trees for the municipal building from members of the Lunenburg County Christmas Tree Producers within Lunenburg Municipality, with a yearly rotation through the council districts.
4. That Municipal Council write a thank you letter to Basil Oickle for donating to each Council member a copy of his children's book, "Cindy is My Name, First Horse Ever'.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairperson and Members
Policy & Strategy Committee

/jp

Council
Item: #10.1.1
Date: May 24, 2022
Authorization: T. MacEwan



Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Request for Decision

REPORT TO: Council
SUBMITTED BY: Alex Dumaresq, Deputy CAO
DATE: May 17, 2022
RE: Emergency Assistance Fund for Community Facilities – Late Applications

RECOMMENDATION

“that Municipal Council award emergency assistance funding to the community facilities with late applications listed in staff’s report in the amount of \$5000; and further, that the funds be taken from the safe restart fund”.

Background

The Municipality established an Emergency Assistance Fund for Community Facilities to assist local groups and organizations in addressing the financial hardship caused by the inability to host planned fundraising events and activities during the Covid-19 crisis.

Applicants could apply for emergency assistance for fundraising events and activities that were scheduled to take place during the Application Period of October 1, 2021, to March 31, 2022, but had to be cancelled because of the Covid-19 restrictions. There have been 3 earlier calls for applications since the beginning of the pandemic. Local groups and organizations that receive emergency assistance through this program are still eligible to apply for regular municipal grants.

As directed by Council, the criteria for the Emergency Assistance Fund for Community Facilities is as follows:

- The Applicant must be a not-for-profit community, charitable, fraternal, educational, recreational, religious, cultural or sporting organization;
- The Applicant must operate a community facility or hall that is used for hosting funding events and activities that are open to the general public; and
- The Applicant must demonstrate that it has experienced a negative financial impact resulting from its inability to raise funds through planned fundraising events and activities that had to be canceled due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Funding amounts were prescribed by Council as follows:

- Facilities within MODL are eligible for a grant of up to \$2500 to replace reported losses.
- Facilities outside of MODL who serve MODL residents are eligible for a grant of up to \$1500 to replace reported losses.

DISCUSSION

Since closing the call for applications, 2 late submissions were received. St. Mark’s Lutheran Church in Cornwall submitted an application after the deadline reporting \$2500 in lost fundraising. In addition, St. Paul’s United Church Hall in Stonehurst submitted an application reporting \$4000 in lost revenue. Both applications would otherwise have been eligible for \$2500 in funding had the applications been received during the window that MODL was accepting submissions.

St. Mark’s Lutheran Church	MODL	\$2500
St. Paul’s United Church Hall	MODL	\$2500
TOTAL		\$5000

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Council has funds budgeted as safe restart funding to manage costs resulting from pandemic induced changes. The above costs are eligible and can be accommodated within the budget.

ALTERNATIVES

Council could choose not to award one or both of the grants.

CONCLUSIONS

Municipal Council established an Emergency Assistance Fund to support community facilities who have been affected by the pandemic and the related public health restrictions. The applications demonstrate the need for such a program to support these valuable community assets.



Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Report to Council

Report To: Policy and Strategy Committee
Submitted By: Tissy Bolivar, Program Coordinator
Date: May 17, 2022
Re: Elite Athlete Travel Grant – Christine Anderson

Recommendation

That the Policy and Strategy Committee recommend to Council that Municipal Council award the **Elite Athlete Travel Grant** to **Christine Anderson** in the amount of **\$1,282.50** to participate in the **West Coast Wonder Woman Boxing Tournament** from **May 20 – 22, 2022**.

Executive Summary

We have received an application from Christine Anderson as an Elite Athlete to participate in an all-female boxing tournament in Sooke, BC from May 20 – 22, 2022. This event will be complete prior to the recommendation to Council.

Background

Christine Anderson is an amateur, open class female boxer from Bridgewater who trains out of Dave's Multisports Gym. She has won the provincial title in 2018, 2019 and 2021. She competed in the Olympic Qualifiers in 2019, representing Nova Scotia, and she was awarded the Senior Female Boxing Athlete Award in 2019-2020 from Sport Nova Scotia.

The West Coast Wonder Woman Boxing Tournament is an all-female tournament, one of only 5 in the world, registered under Boxing Canada. There are over 100 athletes participating in different weight classes from Canada, USA, and Mexico. Christine will be participating under the 63kg weight class, where she won her most recent provincial title.

As an athlete and volunteer coach, Christine wants to inspire local female athletes and gain more experience in her sport, while representing Lunenburg County and Nova Scotia. She hopes to improve her personal skills in the sport and continue to stay active. There are limited opportunities to advance for female boxers in Nova Scotia as there are limited fights/competitions.

The total expenses for the trip are \$1710. The Elite Athlete Travel Grant will award up to 75% of total costs, up to a maximum of \$2,000.

We have not awarded an athlete under this grant since 2018.

Budget Implication

The budget for the Elite Athlete Grant is \$1,500. To date, \$0 has been awarded.

Alternatives

1. Not award an Elite Athlete Travel Grant to Christine Anderson.
2. Award a different amount than recommended.

Conclusion

The application meets the grant criteria, and it is the recommendation of staff to award a grant in the amount of \$1,282.50 to Christine Anderson as an Elite Athlete.

Department: Recreation

Report Prepared By: Tissy Bolivar

Date: May 10, 2022

Report Approved By: Bill Schurman

Date: May 10, 2022

Reviewed By CAO:

Date:

Request for Agenda Items under Mayor's/Deputy Mayor's/Councillors' Matters

Council
Item: #10.1.4
Date: May 24, 2022
Authorization: T. MacEwan

TO: Chief Administrative Officer
FROM: C. DeLong
DATE: April 19, 22

1. Agenda Item

Thank you letter to Mr. Oickle for his books delivered to council.

2. On what agenda do you want the item placed?

Whichever makes sense.

3. Do you have written material to circulate with the agenda? Yes No

If you do, please attach it to this form. If you do not, please explain.

4. What is its relevance to Council or the committee?

5. What outcome(s) are you seeking?

Good community relations

K. P. DeLong
Councillor's Signature

April 19, 22
Date

Approval for agenda: Yes No

Reason for Denial:

Mayor or Chair of Committee

Date



Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Report to Council

Report To: Council
Submitted By: Tissy Bolivar, Program Coordinator
Date: May 24, 2022
Re: Canada Day Grants

Recommendation

That Municipal Council award **\$3,125** in **Canada Day Grants** to support community **Canada Day Events on July 1, 2022**, as follows:

Riverport & District Fire Department – \$1,000

Canada Day on the LaHave – \$1,200

Petite Riviere Fire Department - \$925

Executive Summary

The Canada Day Grant is available to assist community organizations in the delivery of Canada Day celebrations. Over the past 2 years, organizations have not been able to run their events as normal due to COVID-19 restrictions. This will be the first year since 2019 they have hosted in- person events.

Background

After our grant deadline of March 1, we received these 3 applications for Canada Day funding. We have already awarded 2 applications that were received by the deadline (New Germany Canada Day Committee and Tancook Island Recreational Centre Association).

We have funded these applicants in previous years. In 2020, no events were funded based on the public health restrictions limited event opportunities.

The Canada Day on the LaHave events include a Multicultural Festival, free swim at the outdoor pool, King Street Kitchen Party, and fireworks, estimating to have 8,000 spectators/participants. They are requesting \$3,000 to align with their sponsorship threshold, however this is above our grant policy.

The Riverport & District Fire Department host an event that has a street parade, fish fry, and fireworks, estimating to have 3,000 spectators/participants.

The Petite Riviere Fire Department plan to host a fireworks display, estimating to have 1,000 spectators/participants.

The Canada Day Grant funds up to 75% of total event costs, up to a maximum of \$1,200. Below is a summary of previous funding allocations.

Organization	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
New Germany Canada Day Committee	\$1000	\$1,100	0	0	\$1,200
Riverport & District Fire Dept.	\$1000	\$1,000	0	\$1,000	\$1,000
Canada Day on the LaHave (Town of Bridgewater)	\$1000	\$1,200	0	\$1,000	\$1,200
Petite Riviere Fire Department	\$700	0	0	\$1,000	\$925
Tancook Island Recreational Centre Association	\$500	\$600	0	0	\$675
Lunenburg Yacht Club	\$500	\$500	0	0	0
Riverport & District Community Centre	0	\$300	0	0	0
Total Budget	\$4700	\$4,700	0	\$3,000	\$5,000

Budget Implication

The budget for Canada Day Grants is \$5,000. To date, \$1,875 has been awarded.

Alternatives

1. Not award Canada Day Grants.
2. Award a different amount than recommended.

Conclusion

These applications meet the necessary grant criteria and will benefit our communities and residents. It is staff's recommendation they be approved as presented.

Department: Recreation

Report Prepared By: Tissy Bolivar

Date: May 17, 2022

Report Approved By: Bill Schurman

Date: May 17, 2022

Reviewed By CAO:

Date:



Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Report to Council

Report To: Council
Submitted By: Tissy Bolivar, Program Coordinator
Date: May 24, 2022
Re: Community Event Grant: South Shore Exhibition

Recommendation

That Municipal Council approve the Community Event Grant for the **South Shore Exhibition** for **\$1,500**, taking place **July 26 – July 31, 2022**.

Executive Summary

The South Shore Exhibition is the largest agricultural exhibition in Nova Scotia. They have not been operating since 2019 (pre-pandemic) and are eager to bring back this integral part of Lunenburg County.

MODL has provided funding for the South Shore Exhibition in the past, sponsoring the Firefighters Challenge, in the amount of \$1,000. This event is no longer part of the exhibition.

Background

The Exhibition has been an integral part of all Lunenburg County communities for 131 years. The Big Ex attracts people from Nova Scotia, Canada and around the United States. The South Shore Exhibition helps to raise agriculture awareness in rural communities, while providing entertainment, community pride and economic benefit to all surrounding areas.

It is a week filled with great music, both nationally popular entertainers and many local performers. There is something for everyone whether it be the ox pulls, horse pulls, show horse events, livestock displays, arts and crafts, great "exhibition" food or taking in the rides and games in the Midway from Campbell Amusements.

The South Shore Exhibition has not operated for 2 years during the pandemic, and they are excited to rejuvenate and enhance their operations to come back better than ever.

The total proposed expenses of the South Shore Exhibition are \$678,440. Their proposed revenue is \$631,300, showing a deficit of \$47,140.

We have provided a grant to the South Shore Exhibition for their Firefighters Challenge in the amount of \$1,000 in the past.

Budget Implication

The Community Event Grant budget is \$5,000. To date, \$2,000 has been awarded.

Alternatives

1. Not to award a Community Event Grant for the South Shore Exhibition
2. Award a different amount than recommended

Conclusion

The application put forward by the South Shore Exhibition meets required criteria for the Community Event Grant and it is recommended by staff to approve their request in the amount of \$1,500.

Department: Recreation

Report Prepared By: Tissy Bolivar

Date: May 17, 2022

Report Approved By: Bill Schurman

Date: May 17, 2022

Reviewed By CAO:

Date:

Council
Item: #11.2.1
Date: May 24, 2022
Authorization: T. MacEwan



What We Heard Report

April 2022

What We Heard Report

April 2022

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This What We Heard Report was completed by the
Municipal Planning & Development Services Department
for the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg.



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Executive Summary

The Municipality of the District of Lunenburg's (MODL) Local Climate Change Action Plan (LCCAP) is a 10-year plan that will set the direction for reducing local greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and supporting a climate resilient, healthier, and lower-carbon future. Engagement for the LCCAP was conducted to gather community feedback on the 9 Main Categories and proposed climate actions. These draft actions will set forth a pathway for the Municipality to reduce its community GHG emissions and align itself with international efforts to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C.

Engagement activities for the LCCAP were undertaken from December 2021 until March 2022 and consisted of an online survey, two virtual engagement sessions, a discussion forum on EngageMODL project site, and internal and external stakeholder presentations. Participation in the various engagement opportunities represented people from throughout MODL and of various ages.

The feedback received from all engagement activities was largely in support of the proposed climate actions, with valuable input provided that will help shape the LCCAP development. The online survey offered an opportunity for broader public participation, with 174 people responding. Most respondents (72%) were somewhat to extremely informed of the impacts of MODL's changing climate. Top ranked climate action that received the most support is 'Purchase and/or accept land donations for the conservation of natural environment and protection of biodiversity', followed by 'Clean Energy Financing Program Expansion'. The top ranked climate action most received the most opposition is 'Create an anti-idling policy for the municipality'. Being able to assess the relative level of support for respective proposed climate actions is helpful in guiding efforts for the climate actions list refinement, exploring further implementation as well as added consultation considerations during the next phases of the LCCAP development and implementation.

The survey also collected 94 open-ended comments related to the proposed climate actions, while the virtual engagement sessions provided opportunities for in-depth discussion. Detailed feedback has been summarized within the following What We Heard Report.

Introduction

The climate of MODL is changing and the need to respond to climate change is urgent. In October 2019, the Municipality declared a climate emergency and committed to act on climate change by developing the LCCAP to identify ways to mitigate our GHG emissions and guide the Municipality towards a low carbon future. The Municipality has varying degrees of influence over diverse sources of emissions within its boundaries. If MODL is to succeed with its Local Climate Change Action Plan, leadership, and support from federal and provincial government, as well as actions from our community members including residents and homeowners, institutions and government organizations, local businesses, and neighboring communities, will be needed.

Local Climate Change Action Plan (2021-2030) is a 10-year plan that is being built around a central vision that MODL will be a low carbon community, with the long-term goal of becoming sustainable, climate resilient, and net-zero community. The Plan will outline a set of strategies, actions, and targets to guide the municipality and the community, to work together to reduce our GHG emissions, and increase our resilience to the changing climate. The plan will prioritize short-, medium-, and long-term strategies that have the potential to reduce our emissions and align MODL with global efforts to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C.

The draft plan consists of 9 Main Categories and several key climate actions developed in consultation with MODL's Sustainability Committee. The engagement phase consisted of seeking input from the public as well as internal and key external stakeholders on draft proposed climate actions for refinement. The main goals that guided the community and stakeholder engagement activities were:

- To create awareness about the LCCAP
- To learn the public support for the respective proposed climate actions
- To identify champions and supporters in the community who would like to get involved in the activities of the proposed climate actions

The feedback received from all engagement activities will be helpful in guiding efforts for the climate actions list refinement as well as plan's development and implementation.

Summary of Engagement Activities

The Municipality conducted a series of engagement activities to ask for feedback from stakeholders and the community on the draft climate actions, which ran from December 2021 to March 2022. Opportunities to supply input included the following:

Online Community Engagement Survey

An online survey, which sought community feedback on the 9 Main Categories and proposed climate actions, was available on the project EngageMODL page from the beginning of 14th December 2021 to 28th February 2022. Survey questions asked respondents to show their level of support for proposed climate actions and share comments about the proposed options. Hard copy versions of the survey were made available at the main reception at Municipal Services Building, 10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville, Nova Scotia.

Virtual Public Engagement Sessions

The Municipality hosted two virtual public engagement sessions on the LCCAP. The virtual engagement sessions featured a staff presentation on an overview of the project followed by a public Q&A with the project team. The engagement sessions were hosted via Microsoft Teams on 9th and 10th February 2022.

EngageMODL Online Platform

The EngageMODL online platform had project background information and provided the public with several engagement opportunities to provide their feedback on the draft climate actions. Opportunities to provide input included a discussion forum, an ideas tool for the public to share their climate action ideas. Other project information on the online platform included an FAQ, a document library with all relevant project deliverables, and links to LCCAP focused resources.

Social Media and News Media

To advertise the draft LCCAP and encourage residents to contribute their feedback through the online community engagement survey, a total of 17 posts were shared on the Municipality's Facebook page during the engagement phase. News articles were published through various news media channels including MODL Messenger, Radio ads, and Carolyn's Corner in South Shore Breaker.

Sidewalk Signs

During the engagement phase, sidewalk signs on the LCCAP were placed at the following four locations: Rose Bay General Store, Lunenburg County Lifestyle Centre, Indian Garden Farms, and New Germany Community Café.

Engagement Participation

This section summarizes the engagement activities conducted during the community engagement phase and their respective levels of participation.

Community Engagement	Social Media	EngageMODL Platform
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 174 community engagement online survey respondents with 198 total open-ended comments • 34 attended 2 virtual public engagement sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facebook 17 posts reached 23,860, received 719 link clicks, 94 likes, 29 shares, and 27 comments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 664 visited the site, 174 engaged on the survey, 2 contributed to ideas tool • 15 downloaded 'Infographic Climate Change Action Plan' and 7 downloaded 'MODL Community GHG Emissions Inventory 2019'

Engaged Groups

The list below outlines the internal and external stakeholders who were contacted to inform them about the project and encourage them to provide their input. Municipal staff presented to the three neighbouring municipalities: Town of Bridgewater, Town of Mahone Bay, and Town of Lunenburg, to provide them with an overview of the project. The format of these presentations did not allow for formal feedback but there were constructive discussions and Q&A. Municipal staff also encouraged the stakeholders to share the online community engagement survey, project information and opportunities for feedback within their networks.

- All EV Canada
- Blue Rocks – Stonehurst Community Group
- Bluenose Coastal Action
- Broad Cove Community Association
- Building Inspection Services Manager
- Ecology Action Centre
- Kingsburg Coastal Action
- Lunenburg Regional Fire & Emergency Services
- Nova Scotia Power
- Oakland Indian Point Residence Association
- Region 6 Solid Waste Management
- Regional Emergency Management Organization
- Town of Bridgewater
- Town of Lunenburg
- Town of Mahone Bay

Results

This section summarizes the feedback received from stakeholders and community members on the draft climate actions through the various engagement activities. Engagement activities asked stakeholders and community members to provide their input on the 9 Main Categories and proposed climate actions.

Online Community Engagement Survey

An online survey, which sought community feedback on the 9 Main Categories and proposed climate actions, was available on the project EngageMODL page from the beginning of 14th December 2021 to 28th February 2022. Survey questions asked respondents to indicate their level of support for proposed climate actions and share comments about the proposed options. The online survey offered an opportunity for broader public participation, with 174 people responding. Most of respondents (72%) were somewhat to extremely informed of the impacts of MODL's changing climate. Top ranked climate action that received the most support is 'Purchase and/or accept land donations for the conservation of natural environment and protection of biodiversity', followed by 'Clean Energy Financing Program Expansion'. The top ranked climate action most received the most opposition is 'Create an anti-idling policy for the municipality'. Being able to find the relative level of support for respective proposed climate actions is helpful in guiding efforts for the climate actions list refinement, exploring further implementation considerations, or added consultation during the next phases of the LCCAP development and implementation.

There were 174 survey respondents from throughout the District of Lunenburg area. The Survey had a total of 21 questions and was divided into the four following sections:

Section 1 – Public Awareness of Climate Change

Section 2 – Feedback on Proposed Climate Actions

Section 3 – Residential and Transportation Sectors Specific

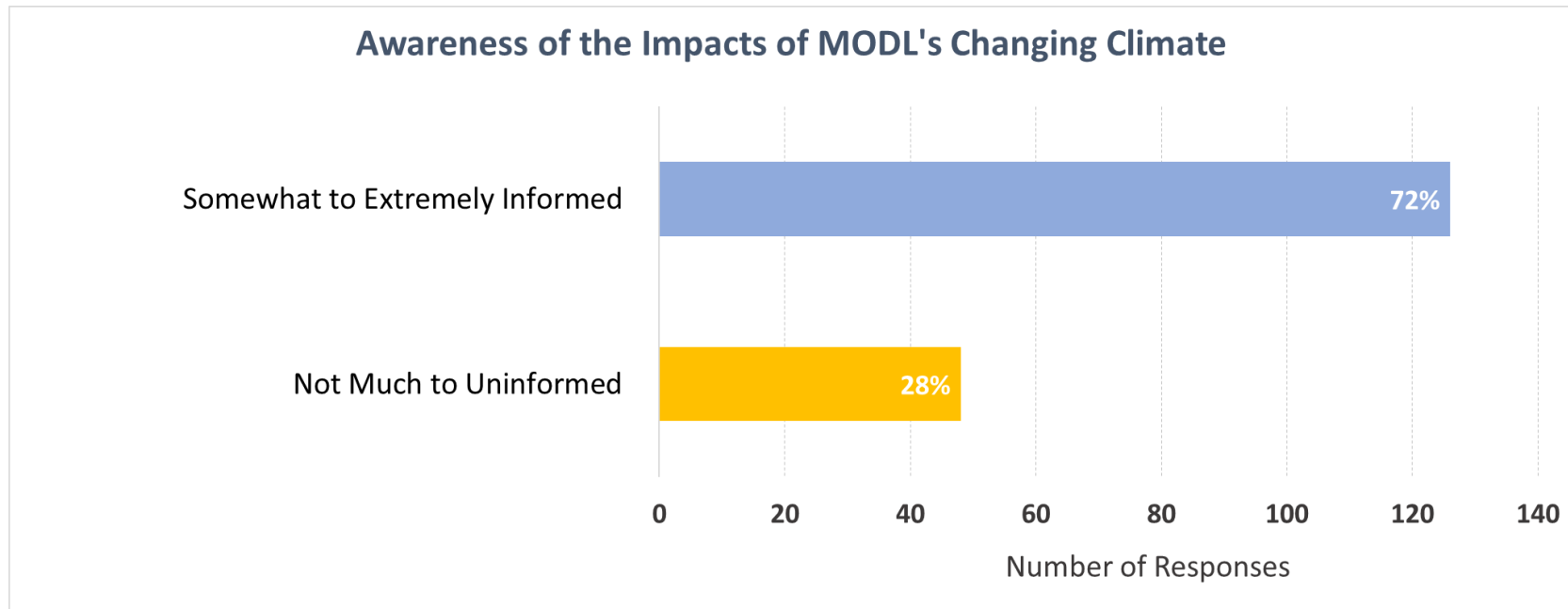
Section 4 – Community Climate Champions

Section 1 – Public Awareness of Climate Change

Section 1 – ‘Public awareness of climate change’ was designed to get insight into community awareness of the MODL’s changing climate, their level of concern and understand the degree of their involvement towards climate action. Section-1 had 4 mandatory questions and the responses are summarized below.

Question 1 - How well informed are you about the impacts of MODL’s changing climate? Choose one.

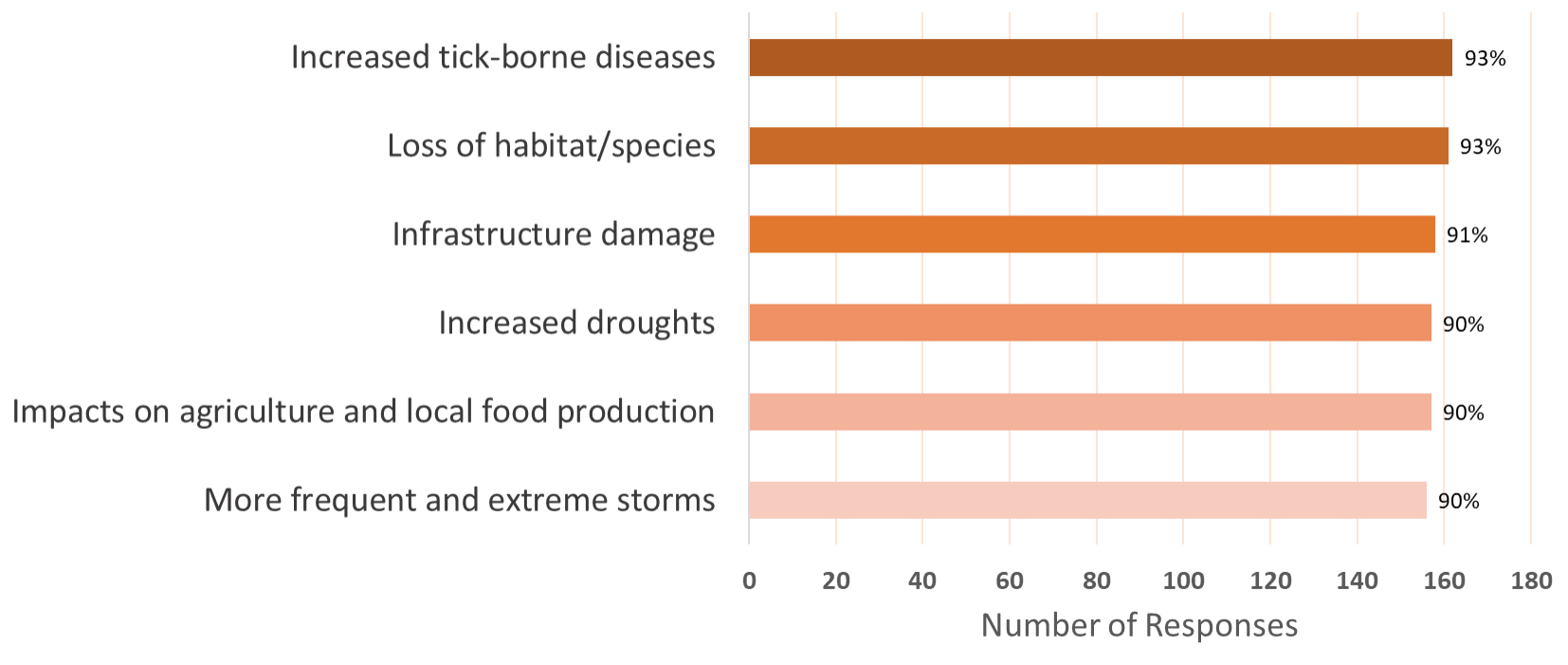
This question was designed to understand the level of community awareness about the impacts of MODL’s changing climate. Most of the respondents, 72% of the total 174 respondents, are somewhat to extremely informed about the impacts of MODL’s changing climate.



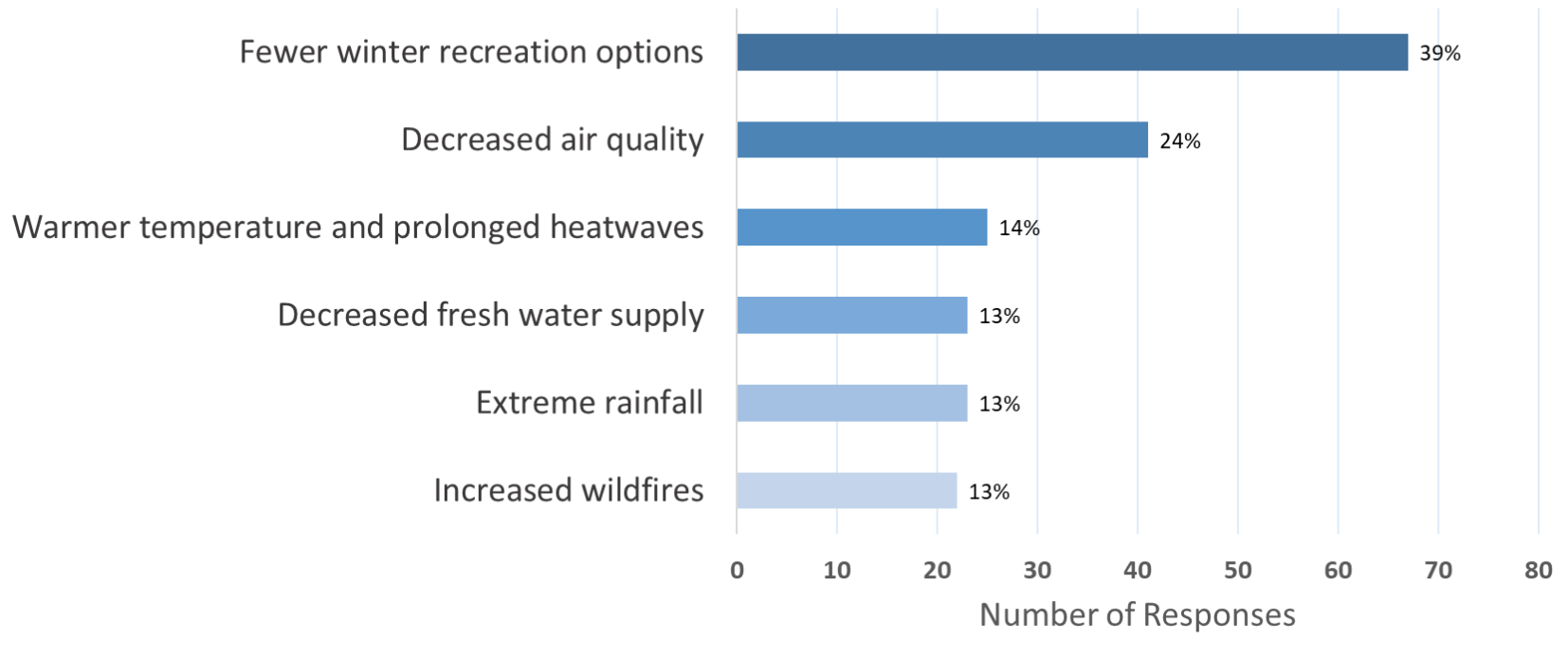
Question 2 - Please rank each consequence of MODL’s climate change, with your level of concern.

This question was a Likert scale question which asked the respondents to rank the identified 13 expected consequences of MODL’s changing climate with their level of concern. For the analysis, the responses of ‘somewhat concerned’, ‘moderately concerned’ and ‘extremely concerned’ for the respective consequences were combined for the assessment of most concerning consequences. Similarly, the responses of ‘slightly concerned’ and ‘not concerned at all’ for the respective consequences were combined for the assessment of least concerning consequences. The results are summarized in the two bar graphs below. Graph 1 illustrates the top six most concerning consequences of climate change. Out of the total respondents, 93% were concerned about ‘Increased tick-borne diseases’ and ‘Loss of habitat/species’ due to the changing climate. Graph 2 illustrates the top six least concerning consequences of climate. Most respondents were least concerned about fewer winter recreation activities.

Graph 1 - Most Concerning Consequences of Climate Change



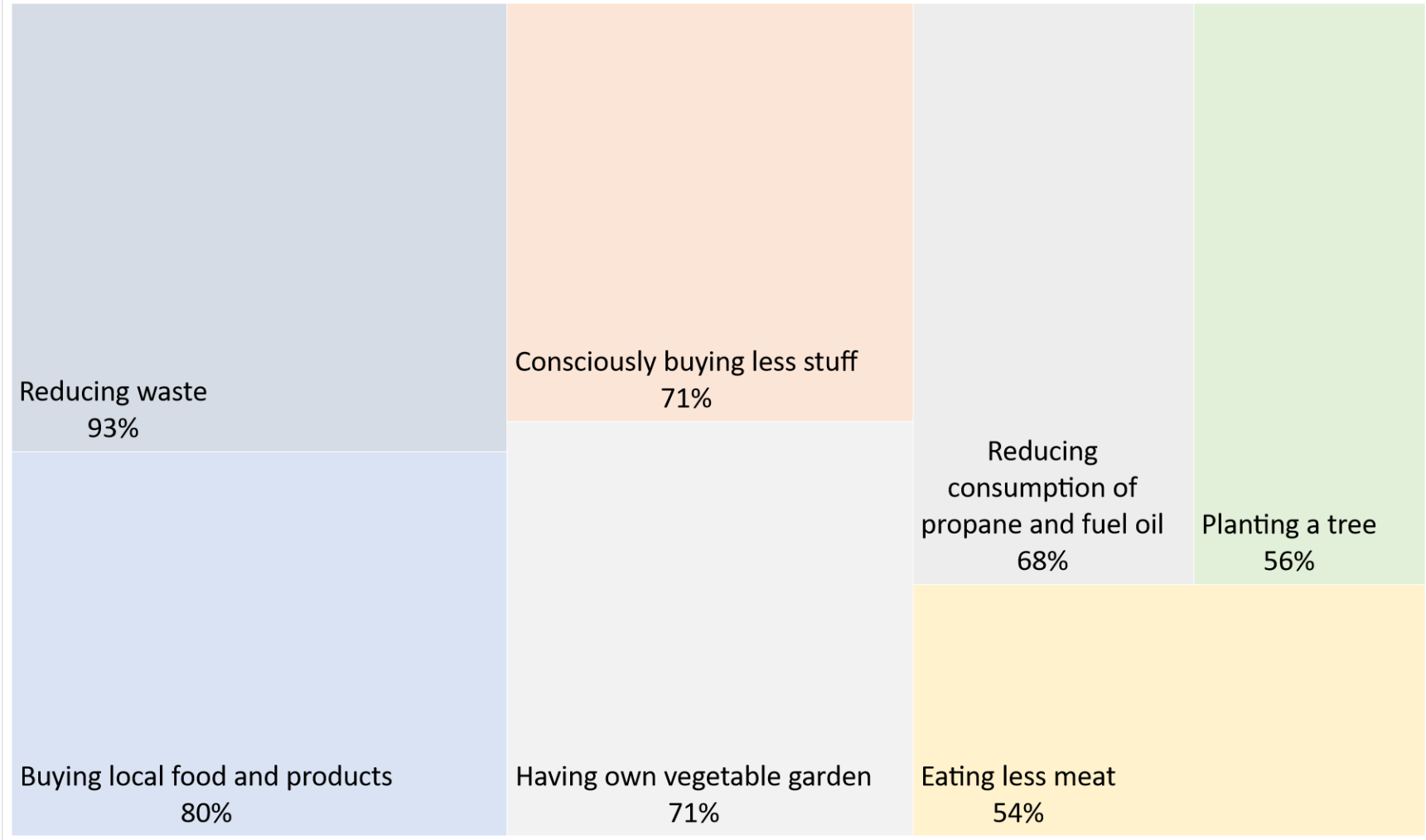
Graph 2 - Least Concerning Consequences of Climate Change



Question 3 - If any, what actions are you currently taking to reduce the impacts of climate change? Check all that apply.

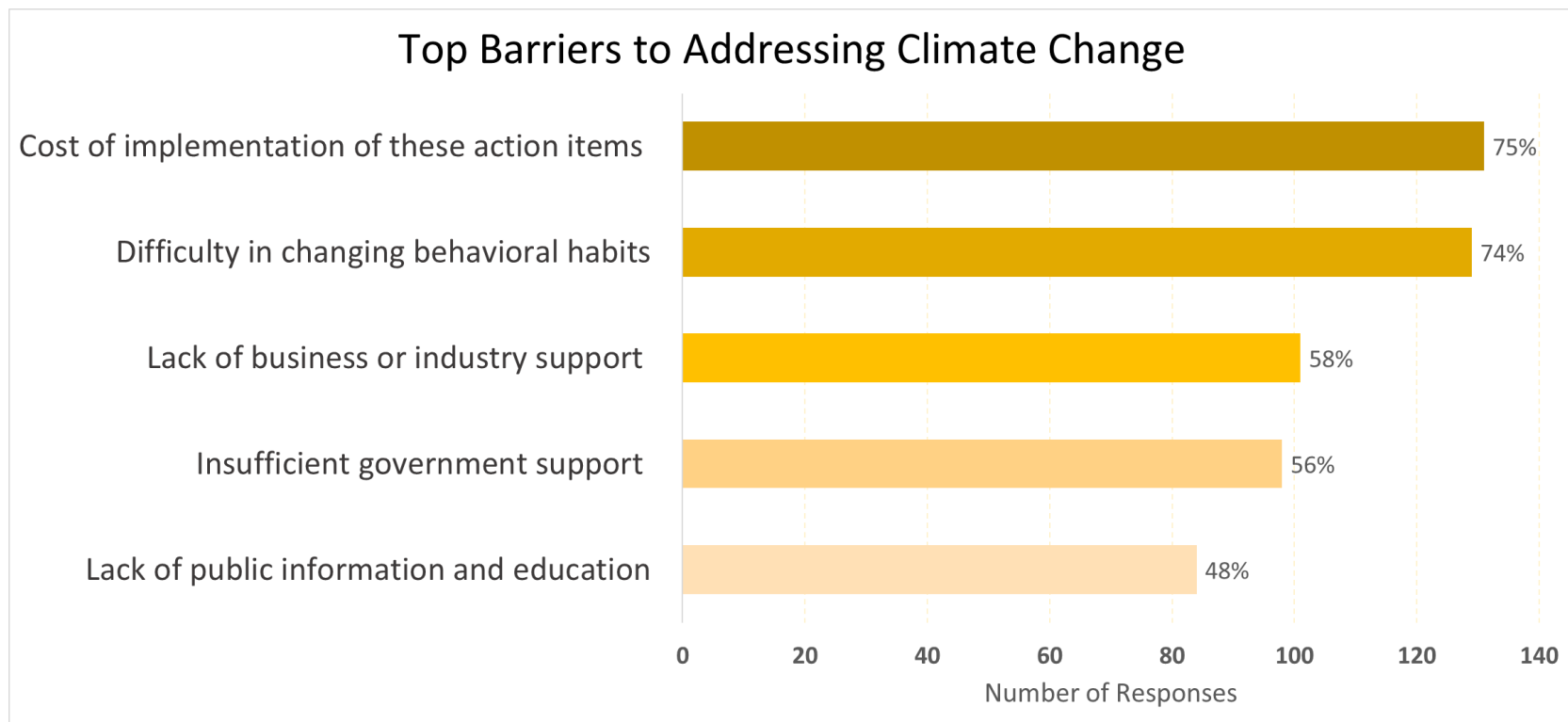
Question 3 was a mandatory multiple-choice question. This question was designed to learn about the actions, if any, community members are taking at individual levels to mitigate the impacts of climate change. The question provided the respondents with total of 10 options to pick from including 'none of the above' and 'other (please specify)'. The tree map below (on next page) shows the top seven actions being undertaken by the community members at individual levels. Most respondents (93% of the total 174 responses) are 'reducing waste' to reduce their carbon footprint and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

Top Actions taken by Community to Mitigate Climate Change



Question 4 - If you think there are barriers to addressing climate change, what are they? Choose all that apply.

Question 4 was a mandatory multiple-choice question. This question was designed to recognize the barriers that community members think exist to addressing climate change. The question provided the respondents with total of 9 options to pick from including 'I don't see any barriers' and 'other (please specify)'. The bar graph below shows the top 5 options selected by the respondents. Most community members think that 'cost of implementation of these action items' and 'difficulty in changing behavioral habits' are the top barriers to addressing climate change.

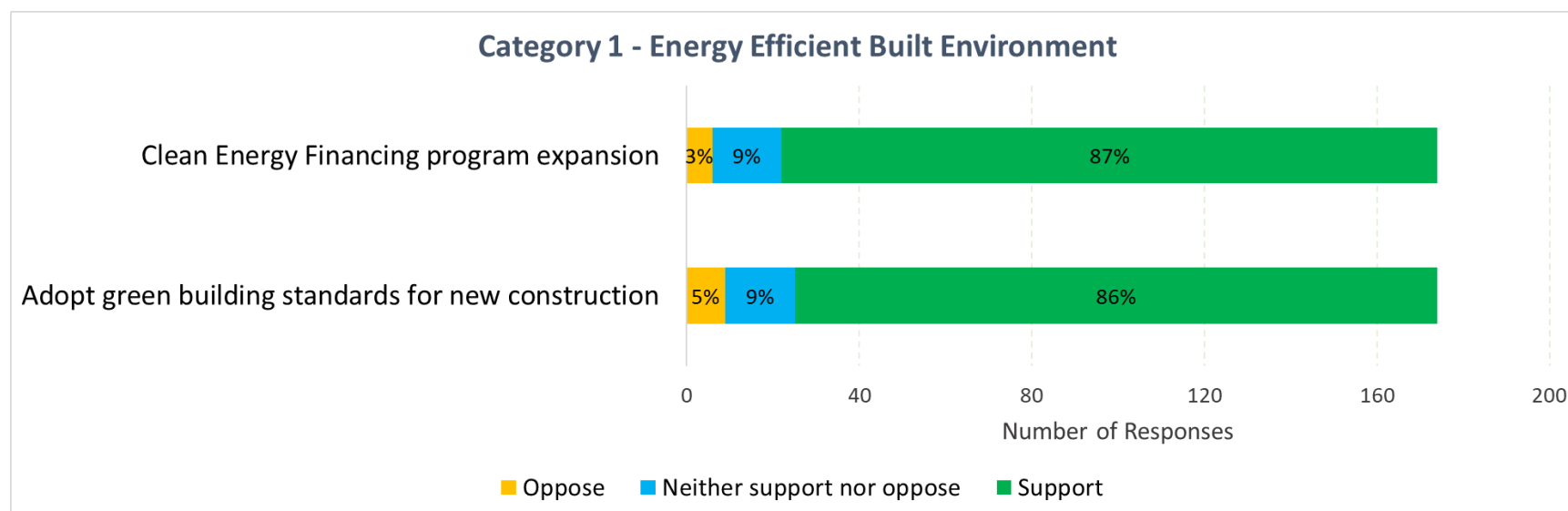


Section 2 – Feedback on Proposed Climate Actions

Section 2 – ‘Feedback on Proposed Climate Actions’ was designed to get feedback from the community members on the proposed 9 Main Categories and several key climate actions for the draft LCCAP. This section 2 had 9 mandatory questions (from question 5 to 13) for the respective proposed 9 Main Categories and climate actions, and one optional open-ended question (question 14) to ask for more information and useful contextual feedback from the respondents on the proposed climate actions. In all the 9 mandatory questions, respondents were asked to rate the respective proposed climate action with their level of support by picking any one of the following three options: ‘Support’, ‘Neither support nor oppose’, and ‘Oppose’. To analyze the data and better understand, open ended comments received in question 14 have been summarized and arranged by each Main Categorial question below. Below is the summary of the responses received for this section 2.

Question 5 - Category 1: Energy Efficient Built Environment

Most of the respondents were in support of both the climate actions proposed in category 1 as can be seen in the bar chart below.



Summary of 16 comments on Category 1 – Energy Efficient Built Environment

Respondents suggested that Municipality should offer grants to financially support homeowners with older homes for installation of modern wiring, home batteries and rooftop solar installation. Properties which undergo retrofits and solar installation should be exempt from property tax as the earning savings achieved from solar panels installation can be eroded by increased property values after retrofitting. Few expressed concerns over the Nova Scotia Power's limitation on power generation to 90% of that being used in a home. Some criticized the Clean Energy Financing program's credit check requirement and remarked that rebates exclude poor people who may have poor credit.

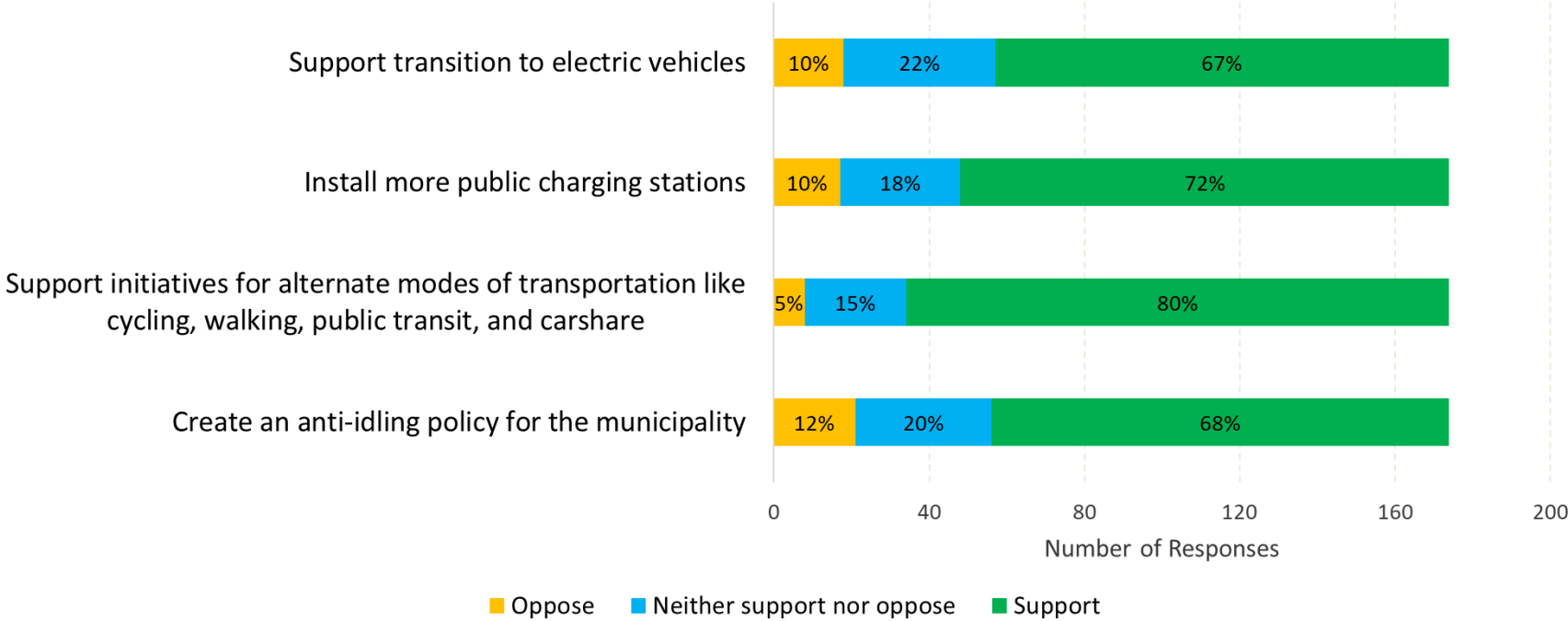
Question 6 - Category 2: Sustainable Low-Carbon Transportation

Most of the respondents (80% of the total 174 responses) supported climate action to take support initiatives for alternate modes of transportation like cycling, walking, public transit, and carshare. While on the other hand, climate actions to support the transition to electric vehicles and to create an anti-idling policy for the municipality received relatively lower support of only 67% and 68% respectively. The responses are compared in the bar chart below (on next page).

Summary of 13 comments on Category 2 – Sustainable Low-carbon Transportation

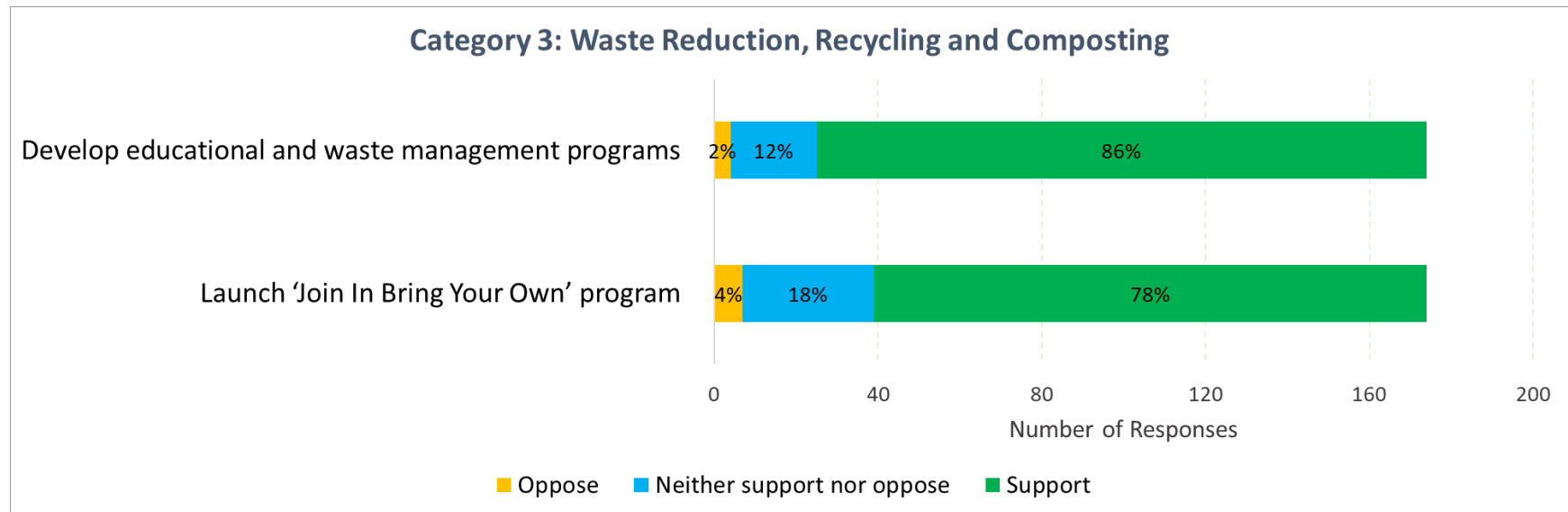
Respondents suggested prioritizing active transportation and transit over electric vehicles while electric vehicles still being a priority. Few commented on creating more hiking and cycling opportunities, as well as adding more bicycle lanes to the highways. Emphasized on the need to have carpools and community rideshare which can help senior citizens as well as people without cars. Criticized on transitioning to electric vehicles by arguing that it will have negative impacts on other countries where mining of associated minerals occurs. One recommended creating a ride sharing policy for Municipal staff, Council, and residents.

Category 2 - Sustainable Low-Carbon Transportation



Question 7 - Category 3: Waste Reduction, Recycling and Composting

Most of the respondents (86% of the total 174 responses) supported climate action to develop educational and waste management programs. While another climate action to launch 'Join In Bring Your Own' program received relatively lower support (78% of the total 174), both the actions were opposed by very few respondents. The responses are compared in the bar chart below.

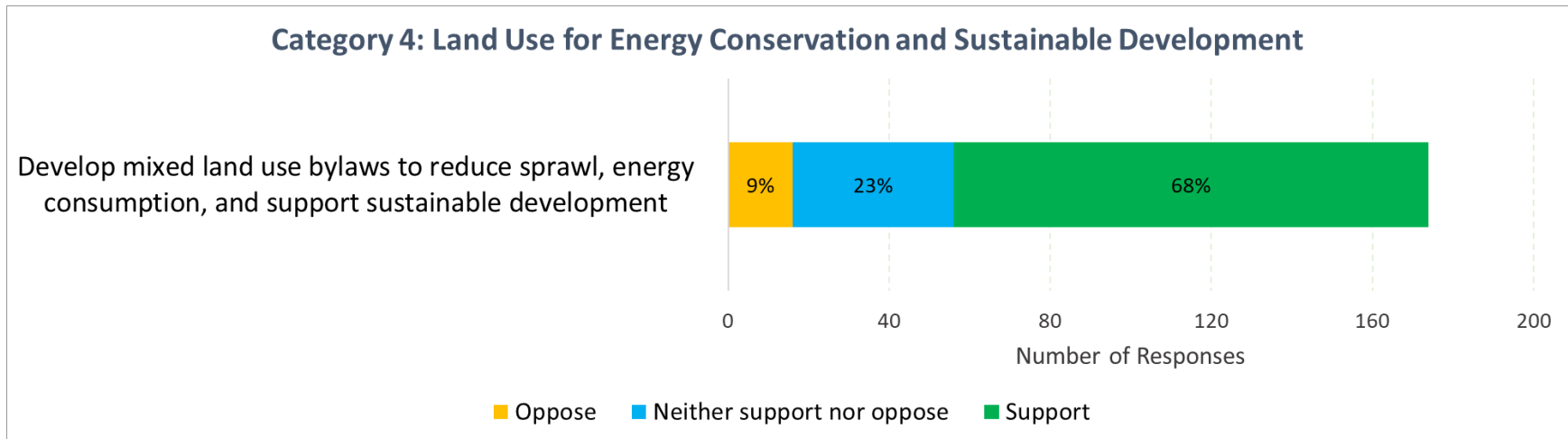


Summary of 4 comments on Category 3 – Waste Reduction, Recycling and Composting

Respondents suggested that reducing (rather than just recycling or reusing) should be a priority of the programs. Recommended to advocate for Extended Producer Responsibility that will put pressure on the industries to produce less packaging/plastic and allow better management of single use plastic waste. One suggested organizing repair fairs and community swap events to reduce community waste. Recommended that food retailers use compostable single serve packaging instead of single use plastics. Recommendation the Municipality to develop policy/bylaw to reduce single use plastic waste in the community.

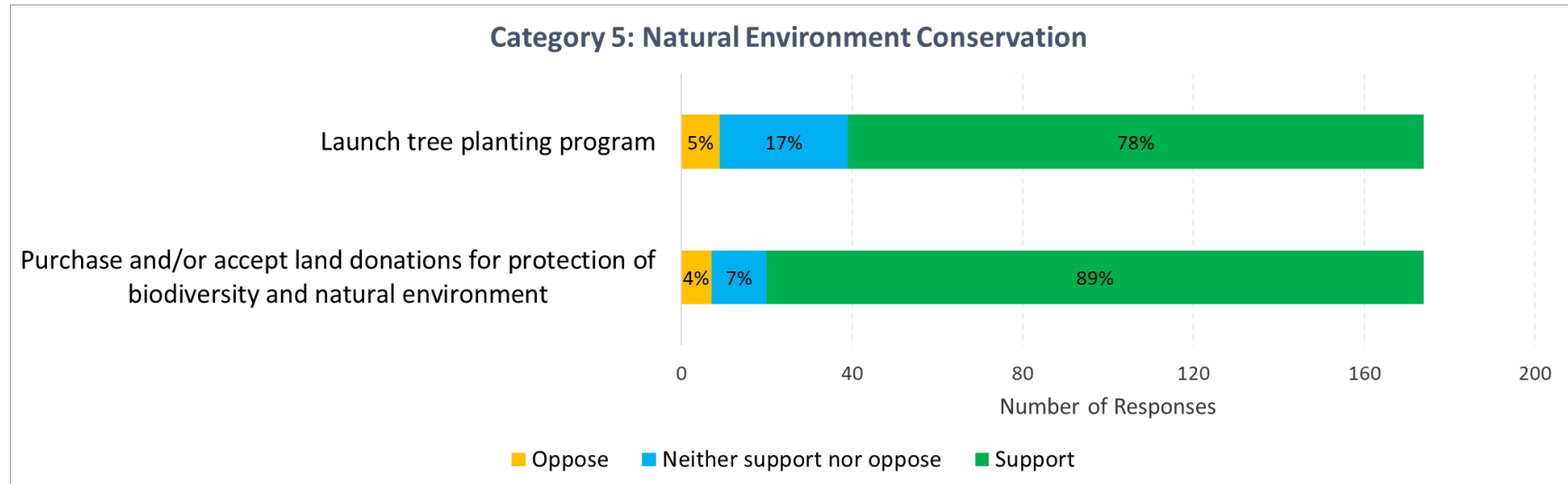
Question 8 - Category 4: Land Use for Energy Conservation and Sustainable Development

Category 4 – Land use for energy conservation and sustainable development received a fair level of support of 68% as can be seen in the bar chart below. This category did not receive any comments from the community members.



Question 9 - Category 5: Natural Environment Conservation

Climate action to purchase and/or accept land donations for protection of biodiversity and natural environment received the maximum support (89% of the total 174 responses) in comparison to the proposed climate actions. The responses are compared in the bar chart below.

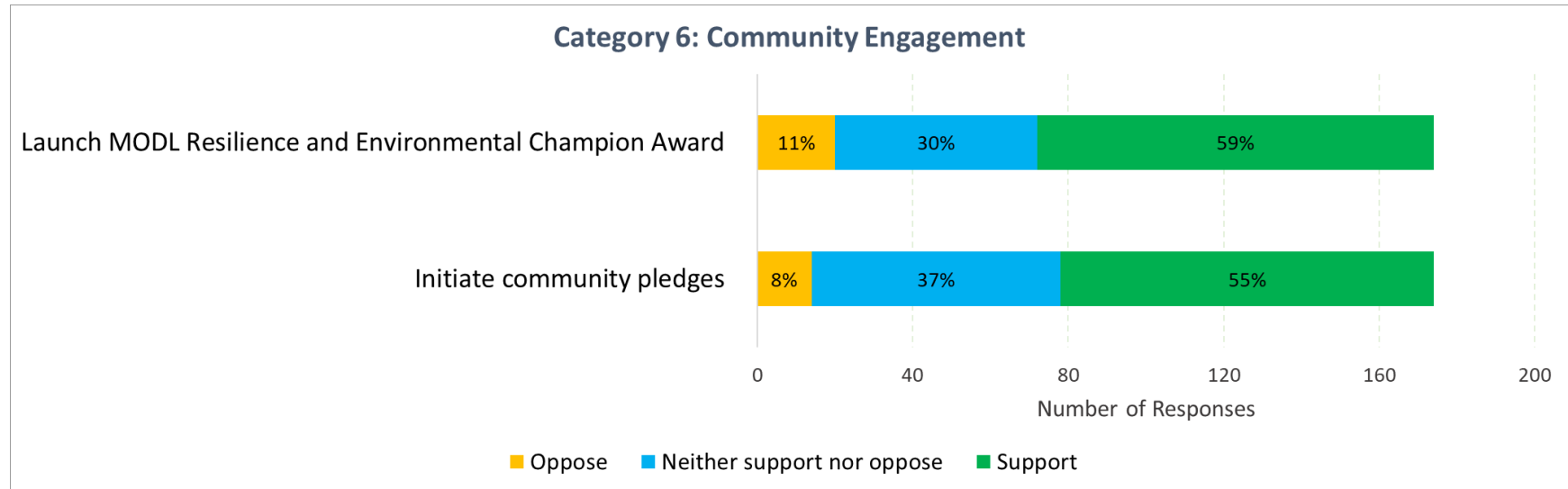


Summary of 17 comments on Category 5 – Natural Environment Conservation

This category received the most comments and support. Respondents suggested that the tree planting program should include planting fruit and nut trees instead of just a tree planting program. While supporting tree planting, respondents recommended being mindful of species of the trees that will be planted and the location where they will be planted. Some suggested natural plantations on coastline can help in coastal erosion control and climate change adaptation. Many expressed concerns over clear cutting and emphasized setting up regulations that prohibit clear-cutting and support sustainable forests management. Respondents also shed light on the ongoing biodiversity crisis and the continuing species extinction along with the climate crisis. Recommended to better manage forests and natural assets while prioritizing the protection of natural habitats in the LCCAP and Municipal Planning Strategy.

Question 10 - Category 6: Community Engagement

Both the climate actions proposed in the category 6 – community engagement received the least support from the respondents in comparison to all the proposed climate actions of LCCAP. The comparison of the responses can be seen in the bar chart below.

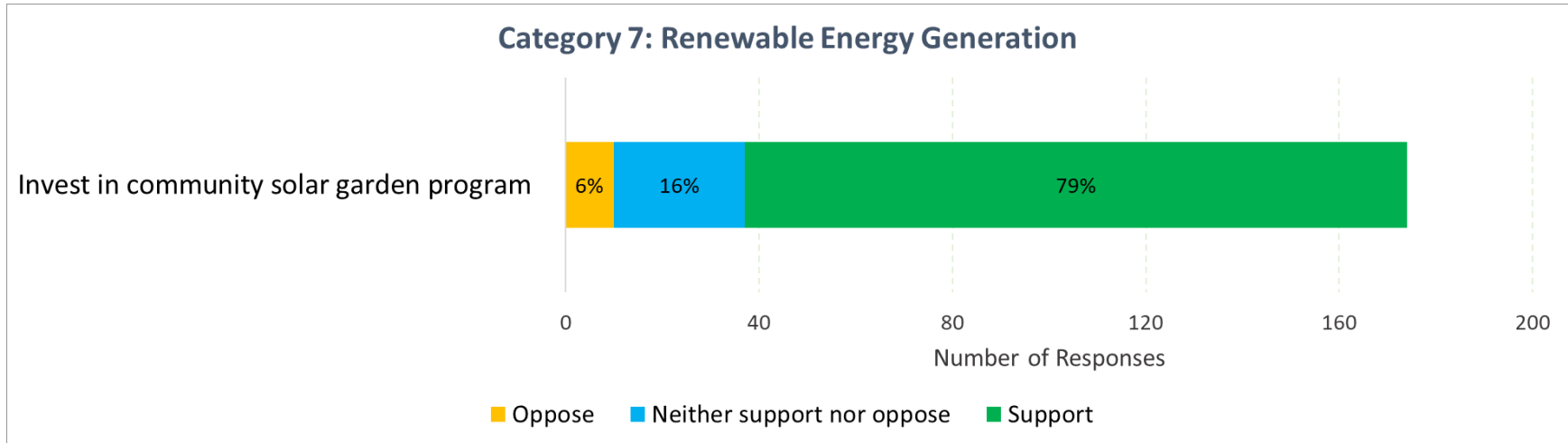


Summary of 3 comments on Category 6 – Community Engagement

One respondent emphasized the need to have an increased focus on community involvement, engagement, and education. Another suggested having programs that educate and aid homeowners in the development or conversion to carbon emissions reducing and carbon sequestration technologies. One suggested promoting climate actions that can be undertaken at individual levels such as air drying on suitable weather days and using of one-washer load dryer on wet/chilly weather days.

Question 11 - Category 7: Renewable Energy Generation

Most respondents (79% of the total 174) were supportive of proposed climate action to invest in community solar gardens.

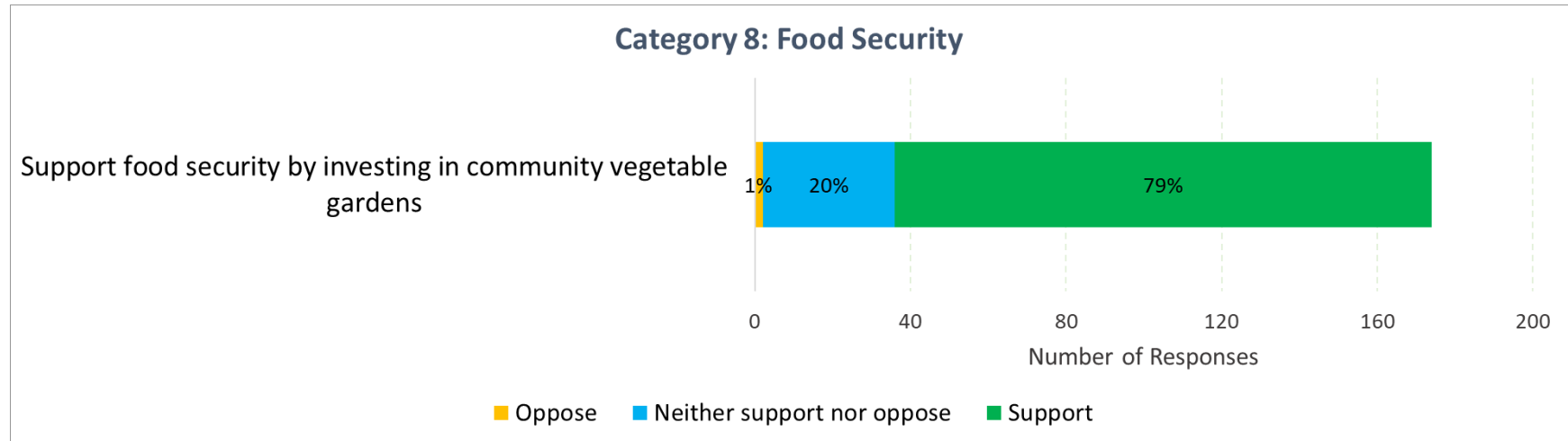


Summary of 7 comments on Category 7 – Renewable Energy Generation

Respondents expressed support for residential solar, community solar and wind, and large-scale battery storage solutions. One suggested that Municipality should allow tax credits on net metering for non-resident homeowners. Recommended to establish standards for construction of wind farms. Most of the comments supported investing in solar and wind energy while one expressed apprehension on allowing industrial wind turbines.

Question 12 - Category 8: Food Security

Most of the respondents (79% of the total 174) were in support of the climate action to support local food security by investing in community vegetable gardens. This climate action received the least opposition from the respondents in comparison to all the proposed climate actions.

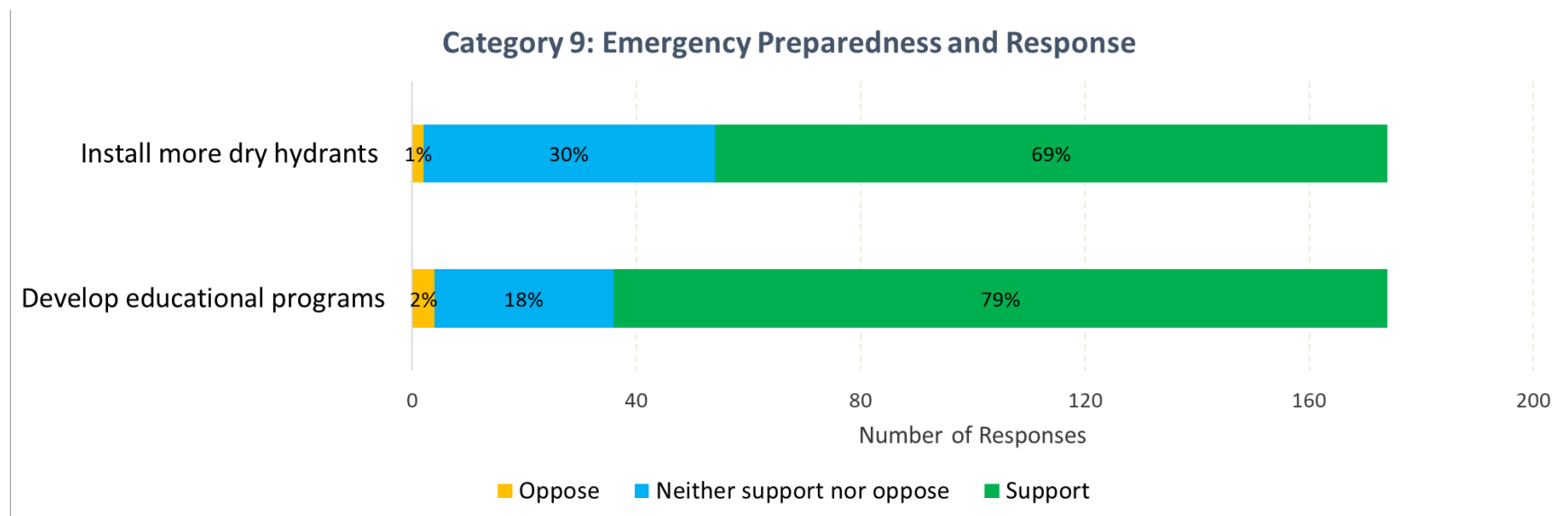


Summary of 11 comments on Category 8 – Food Security

Supportive comments suggested to encourage and support permaculture gardening. Expressed that several residents in the region are looking for leadership and networking opportunities on living less impactful lives. Instead of community gardens for the towns and villages suggested aiding farmers in developing their land for suitable food crops and local food production. Recommended to launch government grants to help agricultural businesses grow and expand so they can supply more local food and hire more locals. Recommended supporting local farmers market gardeners to secure healthy local food production. Emphasized on building community greenhouses and ‘vertical garden’ that can supply year-round fresh produce locally for each community in the Municipality as well as create opportunities to export excess produced.

Question 13 - Category 9: Emergency Preparedness and Response

In category 9 – Emergency preparedness and response, climate action to develop educational programs received the most support (79% of the total 174 responses). While the climate action to install more dry hydrants in the Municipality received relatively lower support (69% of the total 174 responses), it received the lowest level of opposition (1% of the total 174 responses) in comparison to all the proposed climate actions. The responses are compared in the bar chart below.



Summary of 10 comments on Category 9 – Emergency Preparedness and Response

Respondents suggested that more time should be invested in informing citizens about the importance of adaptation and resilience in response to extreme weather events. Recommended to educate community members to reduce their energy consumption and create social accountability around it. Suggested that emergency preparedness should address floods and rising sea levels while focusing on stopping infill projects and excessive construction projects along the ocean. Expressed caution that some of the public roads by the ocean and along the river will be at the mercy of rising water levels or storm surges which makes it crucial to find alternate routes ahead of time for the affected communities.

Table 1 below captures the respective level of support from the community members for all the proposed climate actions.

Table 1 - Proposed Climate Actions Ranked with the Level of Support		
Proposed Climate Actions	Number of Responses	Percentage in Support
Purchase and/or accept land donations for the conservation of natural environment and protection of biodiversity	154	89%
Clean Energy Financing program expansion	152	87%
Adopt green building standards for new construction	149	86%
Develop educational and waste management programs	149	86%
Support initiatives for alternate modes of transportation like cycling, walking, public transit, and carshare	140	80%
Support food security by investing in community vegetable gardens	138	79%
Develop educational programs	138	79%
Invest in community solar garden program	137	79%
Launch 'Join In Bring Your Own' program	135	78%
Launch tree planting program	135	78%
Install more public charging stations	126	72%
Install more dry hydrants	120	69%
Create an anti-idling policy for the municipality	118	68%
Develop mixed land use bylaws to reduce sprawl, energy consumption, and support sustainable development	118	68%
Support transition to electric vehicles	117	67%
Launch MODL Resilience and Environmental Champion Award	102	59%
Initiate community pledges	96	55%

Table 2 below captures the respective level of opposition from the community members for all the proposed climate actions.

Table 2 - Proposed Climate Actions Ranked with the Level of Opposition		
Proposed Climate Actions	Number of Responses	Percentage Opposed
Create an anti-idling policy for the municipality	21	12%
Launch MODL Resilience and Environmental Champion Award	20	11%
Support transition to electric vehicles	18	10%
Install more public charging stations	17	10%
Develop mixed land use bylaws to reduce sprawl, energy consumption, and support sustainable development	16	9%
Initiate community pledges	14	8%
Invest in community solar garden program	10	6%
Launch tree planting program	9	5%
Adopt green building standards for new construction	9	5%
Support initiatives for alternate modes of transportation like cycling, walking, public transit, and carshare	8	5%
Launch 'Join In Bring Your Own' program	7	4%
Purchase and/or accept land donations for protection of biodiversity and natural environment	7	4%
Clean Energy Financing program expansion	6	3%
Develop educational programs	4	2%
Develop educational and waste management programs	4	2%
Install more dry hydrants	2	1%
Support food security by investing in community vegetable gardens	2	1%

Question 14 - Is there any action item that you don't see in the questions from 5 to 13, but you would like it to be included in the plan? Please mention it below.

This question was an optional open-ended question that was designed to ask for more information and useful contextual feedback from the respondents on the proposed climate actions. To analyze the data and better understand, open ended comments received in question 14 have been arranged by each Main Category and summarized respectively within questions 5 to 13 above. This question received a total of 94 comments. Most of the comments received were directed at one or other proposed climate actions. Very few comments were received that suggested other climate actions to be included in the plan that were not already proposed. Below is the summary of those comments:

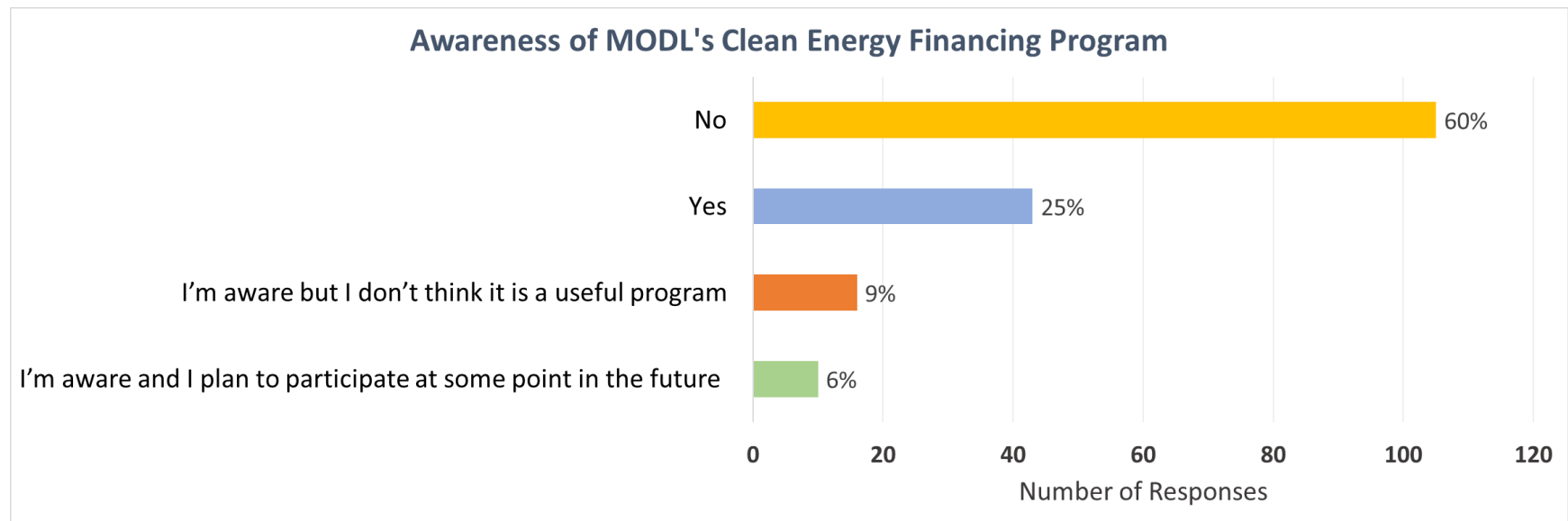
- Expressed concerns that growing wealth disparity in MODL owing to growing non-resident ownership of expensive homes and short-term rentals is deteriorating the quality of lives and the natural resources.
- Land conservation should include protecting areas such marshlands and eel grass meadows which are natural carbon sinks that offsets carbon while increasing community resilience to the impacts of climate change.
- Offer property tax credits for solar installations.
- An Emergency Response Fund should be set up for extreme weather events preparedness and response.
- Suggested to supply financial support, if possible, to local businesses, developers, and non-profits that develop programs and/or infrastructure including affordable energy efficient housing that can reduce energy consumption and associate greenhouse gas emissions.
- Amend Municipal bylaw to favor residents who raise chickens or build beehives on their properties, and support permaculture gardening.

Section 3 – Residential and Transportation Sectors Specific

Section 3 – ‘Residential and Transportation Sectors Specific’ was designed around residential and transportation sectors as both the sectors together account for 80% of the total community greenhouse gas emissions. This section 3 had 4 mandatory questions (from question 15 to 18) and the responses are summarized below.

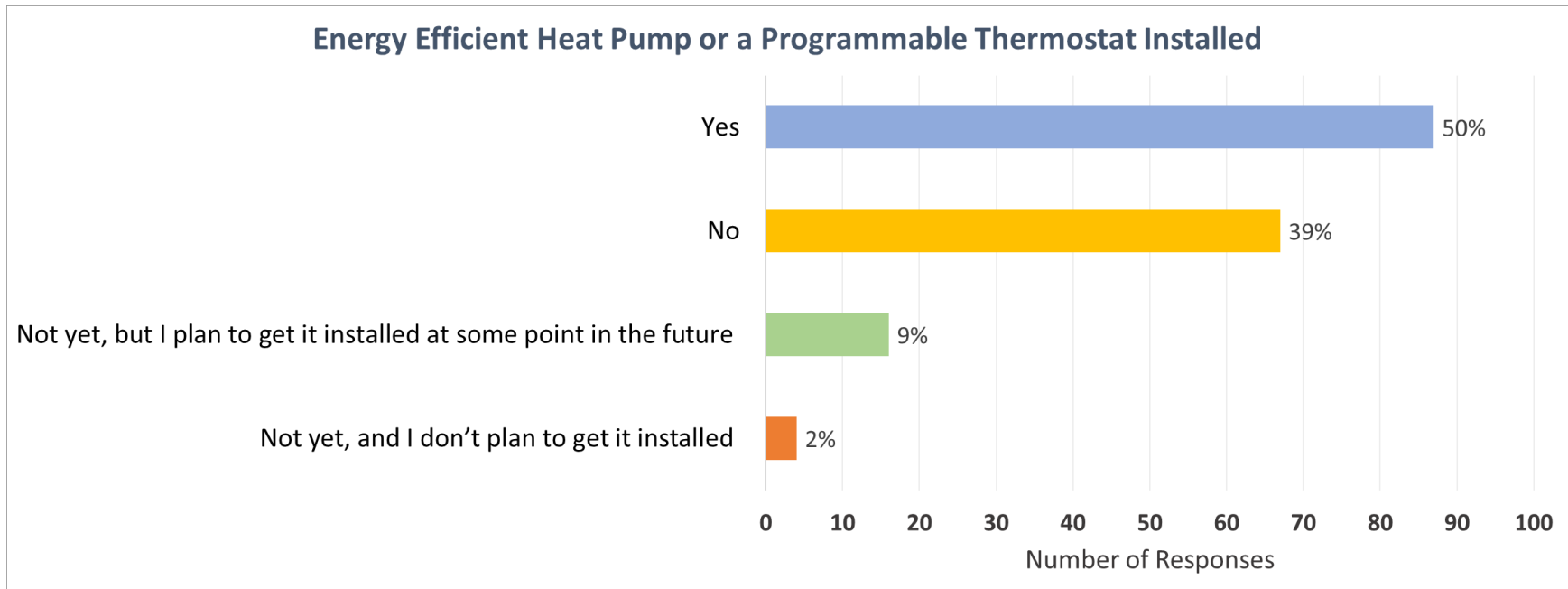
Question 15 - Are you aware of the MODL’s Clean Energy Financing program for the energy efficiency retrofits in your homes?

This question was designed for the Municipal Clean Energy Financing (CEF) program to understand the level of awareness of the program and public belief about the program. Most of the respondents (60% of the total 174) were not aware of the MODL’s CEF program that has been up and running for the past 6 years. One-fourth of the respondents were aware of the program while 9% of the respondents were aware but don’t think it is a useful program. The feedback to this question will be helpful in guiding efforts for CEF program improvement, expansion, and promotion in future.



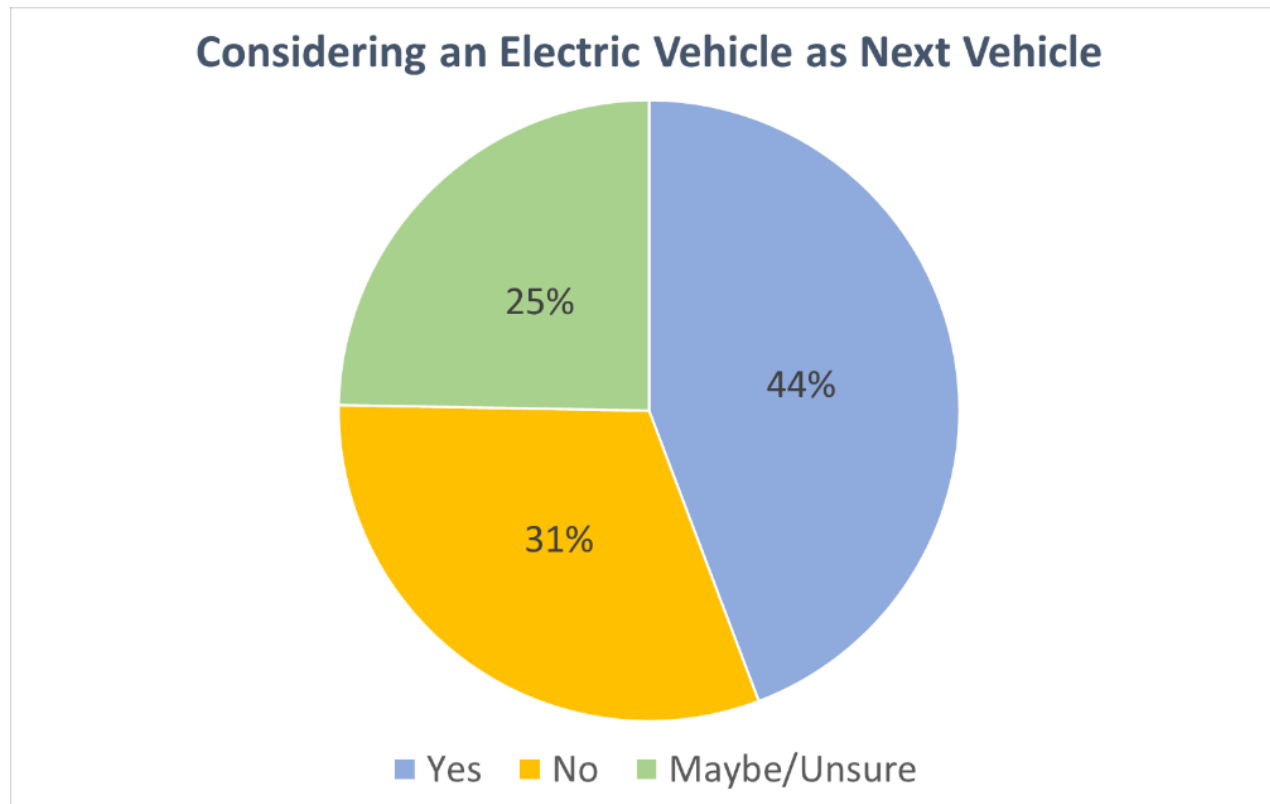
Question 16 - Do you currently have an energy efficient heat pump or a smart/programmable thermostat in your home?

This question was designed to get insight into how many residents in the Municipality have an energy efficient heat pump or a smart/programmable thermostat installed in their homes. More than 50% of the respondents either already have an energy efficient heat pump, or a programmable thermostat installed in their homes or plan to get it installed at some point in the future. On the other hand, more than 40% of the residents do not have an energy efficient heat pump, or a programmable thermostat installed in their homes and do not plan to get it installed in the future.



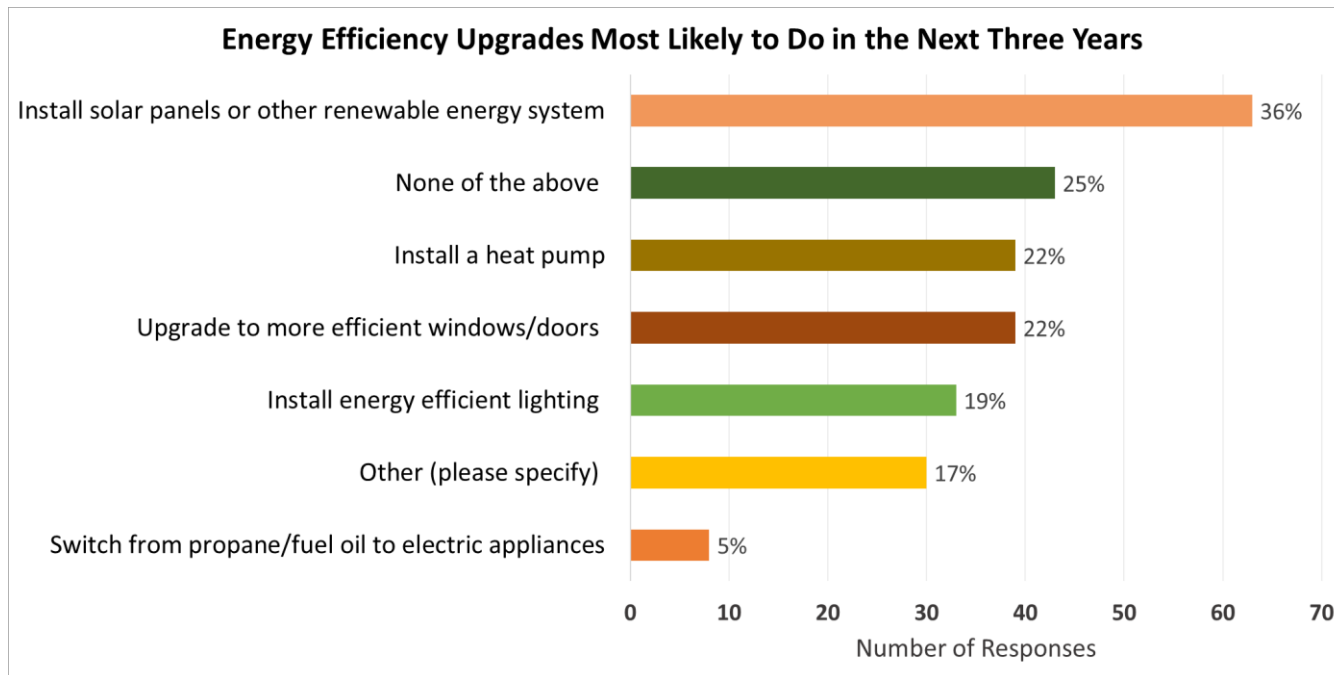
Question 17 - Are you considering an electric vehicle as your next vehicle?

This question was designed to learn more about the public considerations of buying an electric vehicle as their next vehicle. There is a mixed level of willingness amongst the public to consider buying an electric vehicle as their next vehicle. Of the total 174 responses, 44% indicated they would consider an electric vehicle as their next vehicle. Around one-third of the total responses opposed considering an electric vehicle while 25% of the respondents were unsure of their choice.



Question 18 - Which energy efficiency upgrades are you most likely to do in the next three years? Select all that apply.

This question was a mandatory multiple-choice question designed to learn about the level of community interest in performing respective energy efficiency upgrades to their homes in the next three years. The question was provided with 7 options to pick from including 'none of the above' and 'other (please specify)'. Responses showed that respondents were generally less likely to undertake energy efficiency upgrades to their homes. Most of the respondents (36% of the total 174) indicated that they are likely to install solar panels or other renewable energy systems in their homes. One-fourth of the respondents indicated 'none of the above'.



Out of the total respondents, 30 of them (17% of the total) selected 'Other (please specify)' option and provided their comments.

The comments received for this option are summarized below:

- Respondents are likely to install on demand water heating system, solar hot water heater, or an energy efficient water tank.
- Expressed concerns over high upfront costs of installing solar panels or performing these upgrades.
- Few were tenants who needed landlord's permission to perform these upgrades
- Many respondents indicated that they have already undertaken these upgrades

Section 4 – Community Climate Champions

Section 4 – ‘Community Climate Champions’ was designed to identify champions and supporters in the community who would like to get involved in the activities of the respective proposed climate actions. This section 4 had three optional questions (from question 19 to 21) and the responses are summarized below.

Question 19 - For this plan to be successful, the involvement of community members is essential. If you would like to be connected to like-minded community members, choose the degree with which you’d like to be involved with each of the below mentioned actions: Champion (e.g., advocate, organizer, lead), Supporter (e.g., take community pledge, create climate awareness) or Be informed (e.g., add to the email list)

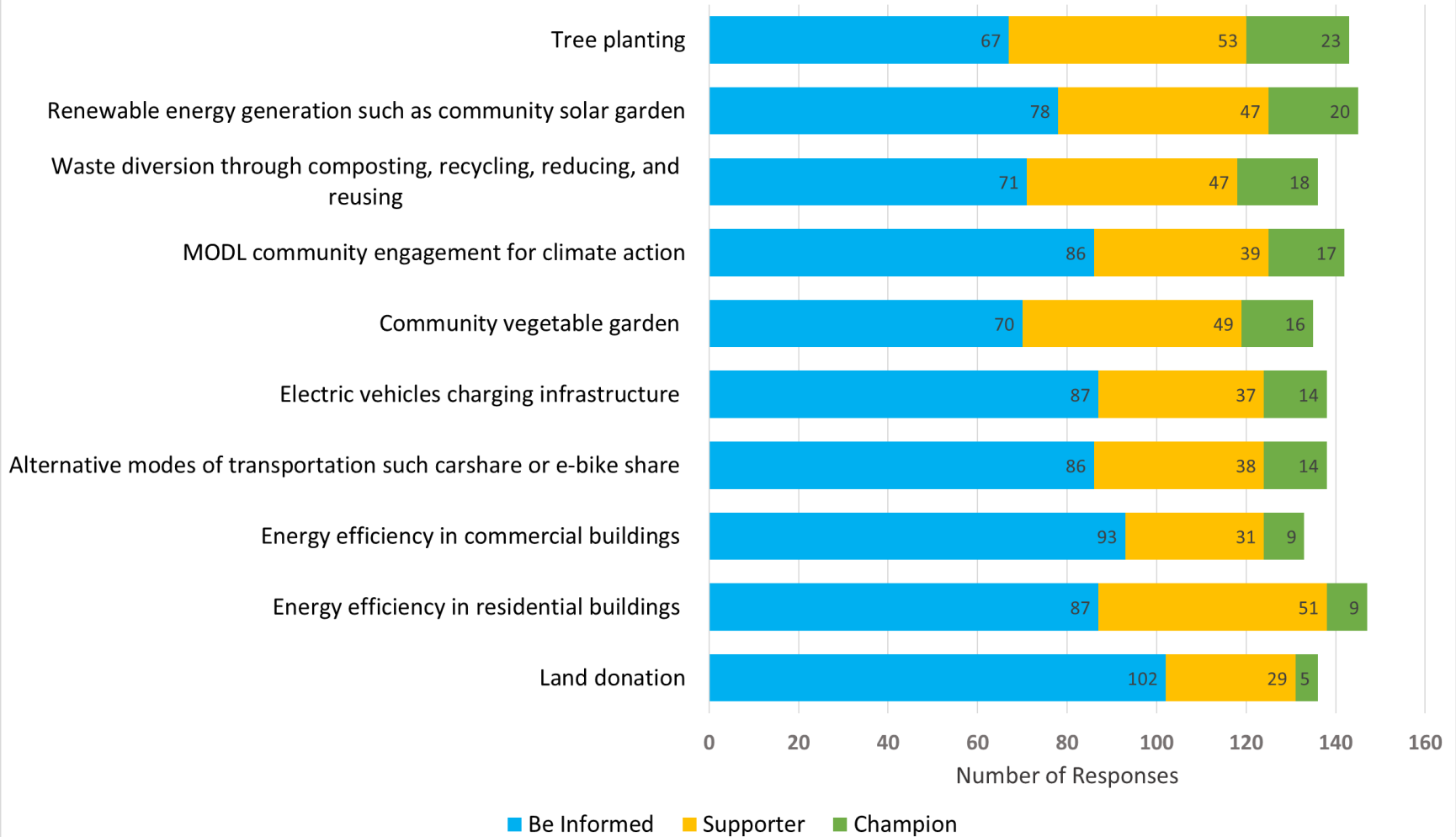
This question was a Likert scale question which provided the respondents with three options to pick from: ‘Champion’, ‘Supporter’, and ‘Be informed’ for each of the corresponding climate action to express the degree with which they would like to be involved. The responses can be seen in the stacked bar chart below (on next page). Out of the total 174 respondents, 156 responded to this question while 18 skipped this question.

Most of the respondents choose to ‘Be informed’ for the respective climate actions. Most respondents indicated they would like to be informed about ‘Land donation’ climate action.

With respect to ‘Champion’, majority of the respondents (23 out of the total 156) volunteered to be champions for the ‘Tree planting’ climate action while on the other side, the lowest number champions (5 out of the total 156) were identified for the ‘Land donation’ climate action.

With respect to ‘Supporter’, the responses were like the Champion option. Most of the respondents (53 out of the total 156) volunteered to be supporters for the ‘Tree planting’ climate action and conversely the lowest number supporters (29 out of the total 156) were identified for the ‘Land donation’ climate action.

Community Champions, Supporters and followers



Question 20 - If you'd like to be involved with any of the action items mentioned in question 19 above, please provide your contact information, so that the municipality is able to engage with you for the respective action items. Name: Email/Phone no:

This question was optional. Since the survey responses were completely anonymous, this question was designed to gather respondent's contact information who indicated in the question 19 above that they would like to volunteer to be champions, supporters, or followers for the respective climate actions. A total of 60 respondents gave their contact information. This information provided by the volunteers will allow the Municipality to be able to engage with them in the future for the respective climate actions.

Question 21 - Do you have any other comments or suggestions?

This optional open-ended question was asked at the end of the survey to allow respondents to provide any added comments or suggestions, if they have any, about the overall project and Municipal climate action initiatives. This question received 50 comments.

Below is the summary of the comments:

- "Very happy to see this level of concern by the municipal governments."
- "Thank you for undertaking this large but very necessary initiative(s)."
- "Glad to see this initiative underway. We need to move quickly to make changes in response to the climate emergency we face."
- "This is a great initiative!"
- "The plans appears well thought out. Hopefully the majority of MODL citizens will be on board."
- "Thank you ❤️"
- "Thank you for taking this seriously."
- "I'm willing to be a champion in my own community (Broad Cove and environs)"
- "Thank you. Please proceed post haste. Time is very much of the essence."
- "I am really pleased at the work being done on this matter."
- "thanks for doing this very important work!"
- "Thank you for this opportunity. Exciting times ahead!"

Virtual Public Engagement Sessions

The Municipality hosted two virtual public engagement sessions on the Local Climate Change Action Plan. The virtual engagement sessions featured an overview of the project followed by a public Q&A with the project team. Virtual engagement sessions were hosted via Microsoft Teams on 9th and 10th February 2022.

Summary of the comments

- Attendees suggested Municipality should commit to the international level of 30%, instead of the provincial goal of 20% to protect land use. Build using local materials to foster wealth and talents while reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transportation sector.
- LCCAP being closely related to the neighbouring municipalities in Lunenburg district, attendees suggested that all municipal units in the Lunenburg district should work together on important policies and bylaws including land use intensification. This can include setting up one planning committee for the whole district.
- Few expressed concerns over NS Power's barrier to solar installation and suggested that municipality incentivize those not eligible from the provincial subsidy such as businesses intending to convert renewable energy. Efficiency NS program can be helpful for commercial owners.
- Concerns over clearcutting were expressed and recommended the need to uphold the Lahey Report.¹ Recommended adopting green building efficiency standards that require new construction to be energy efficient. Staff responded that the National Building Code 2020 will address that as the code will introduce a tiered system for minimum efficiency standards.
- Suggested to consider setting a specific target for growing food and energy locally in the Municipality. Mayor responded that this is the goal of public engagement to understand the level of support and incorporate the feedback into setting specific targets and goals.

¹ Lahey, W. (2018, August). An independent review of Forest Practices in nova scotia.

Next Steps

The LCCAP development is nearing completion.

- Next steps include presenting this What We Heard report to Sustainability Committee and Municipal Council in May 2022
- If the Council and Sustainability Committee agrees to go ahead, staff will prepare a report incorporating the feedback received from public engagement to recommend the final list of climate actions and a community emissions reduction target for approval, and present the report to Sustainability Committee and the Council in June 2022
- Staff will make revisions based on the Council and Sustainability Committee's feedback, conduct a final internal staff review, prepare the revised LCCAP, and present it to Sustainability Committee and the Council for final review and adoption in July 2022

Council
Item: #11.3.1
Date: May 24, 2022
Authorization: T. MacEwan



Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Request for Decision

Report to: Council
Submitted by: Alex Dumaresq, Deputy CAO
Date: May 24, 2022
Re: Funding Award – Comfort Centre Policy

Recommendation

That Municipal Council award the 2022/23 Comfort Centre Generator Grant to the Big Tancook Island Emergency Response Association (BTIERA) in the amount of \$8,000.

Background

MODL has instituted a grant program to assist community centres and fire departments interested in acting as Comfort Centres during periods of power outage. Fire departments and other registered community organizations can apply to be a Comfort Centre and receive the grant to offset the cost of installing a generator.

Council annually budgets \$14,000 to award to applicants. The amount awarded is determined at the discretion of Council to **a maximum of 66% of eligible costs** and **cannot exceed \$8000** per project. In making the decision, Council can consider the number of applications received, the size of the projects, and the strategic importance of the addition or upgrade of the Comfort Centres.

Council's Policy MDL-053 limits what expenses are eligible for funding. Eligible expenses include:

- Power transfer switches;
- Disconnect switches;
- Portable and fixed gasoline, propane, or diesel generators;
- Exterior mounted generator connections;
- Wiring conduit for the electrical connections to the generator;

For clarity, the Policy explicitly permits applications for upgrades and rebuilding of existing generator systems in Comfort Centres. Ineligible expenses include:

- General renovations to buildings;
- Pads for generators;
- Structures or buildings to house generators; and
- Projects already undertaken prior to application.

2022/23 Applications

The annual deadline for applications is March 1st. No applications were received by the time of deadline however, following BTIERA’s request to Council regarding funding for their new fire hall, staff explained available funding options and the organization subsequently submitted an application for the electrical upgrades.

Given the lack of a community facility equipped with emergency power supply on the island, and the vulnerable nature of power distribution on the island, staff strongly recommend awarding funding to the project.

Applicant	Project Budget	Recommendation
Big Tancook Island Emergency Response Association (BTIERA)	\$13,500	\$8,000

Alternatives

Council does have some alternatives to this recommendation within the Policy. The Policy does not require the maximum eligible amount to be allocated and Council retains discretion to vary the amount of funding available within the \$8000 maximum. As a result, the following options are available:

- Award \$7,000 to the BTIERA
- Decline to fund the electrical upgrades to the proposed comfort centre.

Conclusion

Comfort centres play an important role in creating community resiliency in the face of emergencies. Council’s grant program strategically supports the creation and capital maintenance of these important facilities. The recommended award addresses a significant gap in MODL’s network of comfort centres.

Department: **Administration Department**

Report Prepared By: **Alex Dumaresq**

Date: **May 17, 2022**

Report Approved By:

Date:

Reviewed By CAO:

Date: