

Clause 8 in Report No. 8 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on May 17, 2018.

8

2014-2018 Council Accomplishments and Highlights
Environmental Services

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendation contained in the report dated March 6, 2018 from the Commissioner of Environmental Services:

1. Council receive this report for information.
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Report dated March 6, 2018 from the Commissioner of Environmental Services now follows:

1. Recommendation

It is recommended that Council receive this report for information.

2. Purpose

This report highlights some of the major accomplishments, events and success of Council during the 2014 – 2018 term through the Environmental Services section of Committee of the Whole.

3. Background

Council's vision and support helps ensure our residents are better off

Through Environmental Services section of Committee of the Whole, Council's leadership resulted in significant accomplishments through various programs, projects, and initiatives during the 2014-2018 term. With Council's approval of annual capital and operating budgets, Environmental Services has successfully delivered programs that help ensure our residents are better off. Through our

2014-2018 Council Accomplishments and Highlights

Environmental Services

core service areas of water and wastewater, solid waste management, natural heritage and forestry, corporate energy and corporate asset management, Environmental Services play an integral role in providing vital services for York Region residents and businesses.

Accomplishments support priorities in the 2015-2019 Corporate Strategic Plan

In 2015, Council endorsed the [2015-2019 Corporate Strategic Plan](#), which represents the Region's commitment to making progress in the following strategic priority areas:

- Strengthen the Region's Economy
- Support Community Health and Well-being
- Manage Environmentally Sustainable Growth
- Provide Responsive and Efficient Public Service

The accomplishments outlined in this report demonstrate Council's commitment to the 2015-2019 Corporate Strategic Plan. They are also in alignment with the Regional Official Plan, 2010, and Vision 2051.

4. Analysis and Implications

Over the last four years, Council's commitment to York Region residents and businesses has supported major accomplishments in the Strategic Plan priority areas of "Support Community Health and Well-Being", "Manage Environmentally Sustainable Growth" and "Provide Responsive and Efficient Public Service". These accomplishments are further described below and illustrated in Attachment 1, with additional details provided on four specific achievements.

SUPPORT COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

York Region achieved top compliance scores ensuring safe drinking water for our residents

Ensuring safe and clean drinking water is essential to our residents' daily lives. Over the last four years, York Region has achieved some of the highest scores in the Province as outlined in Ontario Chief Water Inspector's Annual Reports. The Region continues to lead our GTA neighbours in provincial inspections and for samples meeting provincial water quality standards. This accomplishment demonstrates Council's commitment to the Standard of Care through assisting

Environmental Services

Environmental Services in ensuring we have the appropriate resources and budget available to deliver safe water to our communities. In addition, beginning in 2015, Environmental Services actively contributed to the Region's growing Open Data program through the release of annual drinking water data to support Council's Strategic Plan and Vision 2051 goals. Proactively making data publicly available increases transparency, promotes understanding of government, and fosters trust among customers. Regional Council's advocacy in this area has also contributed to more timely and open reporting by the Ontario Chief Drinking Water Inspector.

Council's commitment to protect drinking water at the source supports a comprehensive approach for mitigating potential risks

York Region's source water protection program protects municipal drinking water sources from contamination or over use. Over the last four years, York Region staff completed more than 80 Risk Management Plans with participation from farmers and business owners to manage existing water quality threats and promote responsible growth. During the same timeframe, over 500 potential threat sites were assessed, and over 600 development applications within vulnerable areas were reviewed to ensure growth is compatible with drinking water protection.

Council's support for green infrastructure provide public health and social benefits – healthy trees, healthy communities

Green spaces play an important role in our community's health by providing relaxing places with shade where we can enjoy the outdoors and be active. Trees also produce oxygen, intercept airborne particulates, reduce urban heat islands, reduce smog and enhance a community's respiratory health. Endorsed by Council in 2016, the York Region Forest Management Plan sets tree canopy and woodland cover targets across York Region and establishes actions for achieving them. The plan recognizes the benefits of trees in urban and rural areas, and aims to increase their environmental, social and economic benefits.

In 2017, York Region further demonstrated leadership in completing a Green Infrastructure Asset Management Plan. Applying principles of asset management to green infrastructure (i.e. York Regional Forest and street trees) helps to ensure that the right investments are being made to optimize both environmental and health benefits to residents over the long term, and that green assets are managed sustainably over their life cycle. York Region has been a leader in this area and is well positioned for the future with green infrastructure being included in recently released *Ontario Regulation 588/17 Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure*, scheduled to be implemented over the next several years.

MANAGE ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

Council's support for "One Water" enables an environmentally sustainable approach to water and wastewater service delivery

The One Water concept focuses on integrated water resources planning. Endorsed by Council in 2016, the updated Water and Wastewater Master Plan highlighted One Water as a key strategy to sustainably service growth. One Water aims to view all water as a resource, whether in the form of rain, in a lake, river, aquifer or municipal system. One Water aims to reduce the burden on water sources and infrastructure through a range of initiatives including continued implementation of water conservation, inflow and infiltration reduction, assessing potential water reuse opportunities, and identification of green infrastructure solutions. One Water ultimately provides an opportunity to look at our infrastructure systems through a sustainability lens and take a more holistic approach while continuing to provide reliable services to our residents and businesses. A One Water approach will put York Region at the forefront of understanding the full value of water and opportunities to help our communities thrive.

Regional Council has supported a One Water approach by consistently advocating for balanced approaches to phosphorus management. The Region has taken an active approach on managing phosphorus with proposed improvements to the Duffin Creek wastewater treatment facility and in development of provincial standards. In 2017, Regional Council advocated for the Draft Action Plan for Lake Erie to include approaches to phosphorus management with a stronger focus on non-point sources. It was recommended that the province consider phosphorus trading, which would allow municipalities to focus on areas of greatest benefit rather than the diminishing returns available for wastewater treatment. Trading/offsetting would maximize phosphorus reduced per dollar spent and this position was supported by the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, which was instrumental in creating greater provincial buy-in for trading and offsetting programs. This has culminated in the Province approving a phosphorus trading scheme for the Lake Simcoe basin.

York Region's water conservation actions are saving 26.6 million litres of water per day

In 2016 Council endorsed the updated Long Term Water Conservation Strategy and Inflow and Infiltration Reduction Strategy. Reduction in water and wastewater demand optimizes the operation and lifecycle of both existing and future infrastructure, better positioning the Region to maintain sustainable services over the long term.

York Region's water conservation actions are saving 26.6 million litres of water per day, enough to meet the daily water needs of more than 140,000 people.

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This is shown by the continued decrease of residential water consumption, from 200 litres per person per day in 2014 to an estimated 187 litres per person per day in 2017. Inflow and infiltration reduction initiatives implemented as part of the Region's Inflow and Infiltration Reduction Strategy, have helped reduce peak wastewater flows by 17.6 million litres (based on a 24-hour period, 25-year storm event). This represents 44 per cent of the 2031 reduction target and exceeds the Province's 2017 interim reduction target of 25 per cent.

In 2017, a three-year Water Reuse Research Demonstration Project commenced to explore benefits of using reclaimed water to irrigate non-food crops, like sod. Project results will help York Region gain insights into the technical, regulatory and environmental implications of water reuse.

Council's investment in water and wastewater systems helps strengthen customer service for our growing community

Through Council's annual endorsement of the Water and Wastewater Capital Plan and Budget, Environmental Services remains focused on delivering capacity needed to service growth within current financial limits. The capital program has averaged 130 active projects annually since 2014, which resulted in significant expansion and increased resiliency of both water and wastewater systems. Despite the many challenges associated with planning, designing and construction of large and complex Regional systems, customer service levels were maintained and all commitments made through the water and wastewater capacity assignment process were successfully met.

Duffin Creek Plant upgrades have enabled this facility to service projected growth to 2036. Substantially completed in 2017, the plant upgrades marked an end to 12 years of major expansion capital work. Representing an investment of over \$820 M, the upgrades have enabled the plant to continue to meet or surpass discharge parameters set out by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change.

Rehabilitating existing infrastructure enables York Region to meet projected growth in a cost-effective and environmentally sustainable manner. In the last four years, over \$245 M has been spent on asset management of water and wastewater infrastructure. For example:

- Leslie Street Sewage Pumping Station was upgraded to meet growth forecasts and has received Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Certification
- 16th Avenue Sewer Rehabilitation using GeoSpray™ to reline the sewer demonstrates Council's focus on innovation, cost-effectiveness and sustainable solutions

York Region ranks first across Ontario in waste diversion

According to diversion results for 2016 which were recently released by the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority, the Region was ranked first in the Province, as well as first in the large urban category, with a diversion rate of 65.7 per cent. After factoring in additional tonnes managed through energy-from-waste, the Region achieved a diversion from landfill rate of 91 per cent, which exceeded the 90 per cent target established in the Regional Official Plan, 2010. These results have been achieved through the continued implementation of the Region's SM4RT Living Plan. In 2017, Council authorized the securement of additional energy-from-waste and long term landfill capacity to maintain 90 per cent diversion from landfill and ensure availability of diverse long term waste disposal options.

In an effort to continue this success, York Region Council has consistently supported a shift toward a waste-free Ontario. Council has strongly supported the principle of extended producer responsibility, which was included in the *Waste Free Ontario Act, 2016*, Council has also endorsed a continued municipal role in the Blue Box program under extended producer responsibility. Council support has been crucial in providing a strong municipal voice for negotiations with stewards on the Blue Box program. This strong voice is also supporting future stages of waste management such as the recently endorsed comments on the Province's proposed food and organic waste framework, which will help shape the future legislative framework of the Green Bin program.

Council's investment in the Greening Strategy supports a healthy natural environment for our residents

On an annual basis, Regional trees provide \$8 million in energy savings and remove 77,000 tonnes of carbon, equivalent to taking 60,000 cars off roads. Reported annually to Council, the Region's Greening Strategy has demonstrated incredible success over the last four years, often exceeding targets set in tree planting, stewardship and education, environmental land protection, as well as leadership and innovation (see Table 1). The many programs and initiatives of the Greening Strategy contribute to achieving the woodland cover target of 25 percent by 2031.

PROVIDE RESPONSIVE AND EFFICIENT PUBLIC SERVICE

Council's commitment to reducing corporate greenhouse gas emissions helps to move toward zero emissions by 2051

Endorsed by Council in 2016, the Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan sets out the path forward for achieving the Vision 2051 aspirational goal of zero emissions from Regional operations. In 2016, greenhouse gas emissions from Regional operations were 2.5 per cent below the

Environmental Services

forecast emission levels. This achievement reflects Council endorsed conservation efforts undertaken, including installing 165 kilowatts of solar photovoltaic panels at various facilities that generates clean, renewable electricity, or enough to power 180 average-sized homes for one year. In 2016, Council also approved establishing a Green Energy Reserve Fund to support future renewable energy and conservation projects.

York Region Council also submitted comments that helped shape the Ontario cap and trade program. This program will help mitigate climate change impacts and provide a tool for the Province meet its greenhouse gas reduction targets. Council support was also a key factor in ensuring that the Durham York Energy Centre received all credits under this program free of charge.

Council's support for a renewed corporate asset management approach supports high quality, cost-effective services

Asset management is essential for managing assets to deliver high quality services at the optimum life cycle cost. The estimated replacement value of Regional assets as of December 31, 2016 is \$12.3 billion (including Housing York Inc.).

The sustained quality of York Region's infrastructure is a result of infrastructure monitoring, protection efforts and asset management investment approved by Council. The 2015 Corporate State of Infrastructure report received by Council in 2016 confirmed that York Region's assets are generally in good condition. Scores for infrastructure in all service areas remained unchanged from 2013 levels, with the exception of Police which saw its infrastructure score improving by one grade (from B to A).

Renewal of the Region's Corporate Asset Management approach was kicked off by the update to the Corporate Asset Management Policy, which was approved by Council in February 2018. The Region's first Corporate Asset Management Plan will be brought before Council in Q2 2018. Both the Corporate Asset Management Policy and Plan meet provincial requirements well in advance of mandated timelines. This follows Regional Council advocacy in 2017 to help shape development of these asset management regulations.

The Asset Management Policy and Plan, together, provide a consistent and coordinated approach to corporate asset management across all departments and York Regional Police. The plan provides an assessment of financial needs to support life cycle investments and builds on work that has been completed to date, including development of a full-cost recovery framework for water and wastewater assets. This will help inform financing strategies updated and developed through the next multi-year budget process.

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Council's support for "infrastretching" unlocks wastewater capacity helping to reduce spending on new capacity-related infrastructure

Infrastretching leverages capacity available in existing infrastructure through adjusting capital project timing, advancing capacity for development and reducing or deferring the need for new capacity-related infrastructure to complete the build-out of the Region's developing communities. In line with the Region's One Water approach, reducing demands over the long term is anticipated to result in more efficient use of existing infrastructure, lower energy consumption and fewer greenhouse gas emissions.

Partnerships with research, industry and associations optimize service delivery

Over the last three years, Council received annual updates on research and innovation initiatives with our partners to enhance service delivery. By leveraging partnerships with various universities, agencies, industry experts, and our service providers, York Region has made considerable progress in implementing innovative solutions to complex problems and challenges in the water and wastewater industry. These partnerships have included York University's Schulich School of Business, University of Toronto's Drinking Water Research Group, the Water Research Foundation, Water Environment Research Foundation, University of Waterloo, University of British Columbia, University of Sheffield in England, Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, Peel Region, Durham Region, City of Toronto and many others.

Partnership with York University's Schulich School of Business, for example, has resulted in energy and cost savings through the completion of three data analytics projects at various water and wastewater facilities. Additional savings are anticipated as the optimization strategy developed is rolled out across all other facilities.

Council supports watershed protection by conservation authority partners

Conservation authorities are important partners for the Region who help ensure that both the Lake Simcoe and Lake Ontario watersheds are well managed. As the source of drinking water for York Region residents, it is crucial that these watersheds be effectively managed and protected. Over the last several years, the Province has been reviewing the role of conservation authorities under the *Conservation Authorities Act*. Regional Council advocated for a better definition of the roles and responsibilities under the *Conservation Authority Act*, which was updated in late 2017. Future regulations developed under this Act will be

Environmental Services

instrumental in supporting continued effective management of watersheds by the Toronto Region Conservation Authority and the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority.

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Through the Environmental Services section of Committee of the Whole, Council's support has resulted in numerous achievements. Achievements are listed in Table 1 in the service areas of water, wastewater, waste management, forestry, corporate energy and corporate asset management.

Table 1
Council Accomplishments by Service Area, 2014-2018

Service Area	Accomplishment
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieved top compliance scores in the Ontario Chief Drinking Water Inspector's Annual Reports • Delivered key water infrastructure including East Vaughan Pump Station, Queensville Elevated Tank, Kennedy Road Watermain and \$85 million in cost-sharing investments with Region of Peel and City of Toronto • Over \$61 M spent on asset management of water infrastructure • Finalized and began implementing the 2016 Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update • Approved water and wastewater rate structure (and financial sustainability plan) focusing on full cost recovery pricing by 2021 • Updated the Long Term Water Conservation Strategy • Began providing 24/7 operations coverage for water and wastewater operations • Approved amendments to York-Peel water servicing agreements • Completed over 80 Risk Management Plans to manage existing threats and promote responsible growth • Renewed key academic partnerships to support proactive and innovative work on challenges related to drinking water supply
Wastewater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivered key wastewater facilities including the Southeast Collector Trunk Sewer, 2nd Concession Sewage Pump Station, Holland Landing Sewage Pump Station, Queensville Sewage Pump Station, Keswick Water Resource Reclamation Center Expansion and Keswick Outfall • Over \$183 M spent on asset management of wastewater infrastructure

2014-2018 Council Accomplishments and Highlights
Environmental Services

Service Area	Accomplishment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invested over \$127 M at the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant • Assigned capacity to support forecasted growth in the Region to the end of 2021 • Reduced 17.6 MLD to date of extraneous flow as part of the Inflow and Infiltration Reduction Strategy • Completed statutory requirements for Upper York Sewage Solutions Individual Environmental Assessment • Approved amendments to York-Peel Water and Wastewater Agreements • Approved an updated sewer use bylaw fee structure • Obtained additional two-year extension to the York Durham Sewage System Operating Agreement commencing January 1, 2018
Waste Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieved 91 per cent diversion from landfill • Ranked first in Ontario in waste diversion amongst large urban municipalities • Advocated for municipal interests in the provincial Strategy for a Waste-Free Ontario, in partnership with the local municipalities • Advanced implementation of the SM4RT Living Integrated Waste Management Master Plan • Completed construction and began commercial operation of Durham York Energy Centre in partnership with Durham Region • Delivered a key waste management facility, Elgin Mills Community Environmental Centre, and upgrades to the McCleary Court Community Environmental Centre and Georgina Transfer Station • Secured additional energy-from-waste and long term landfill capacity to maintain 90 per cent diversion from landfill and ensure availability of diverse long term waste disposal options • Completed Cost and Revenue Analysis study with local municipalities • Completed facility enhancements and implemented service improvements at Regional drop-off waste depots • Approved Operational Best Practices Guidelines for Municipally Collected Commercial and Institutional Waste
Forestry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planted approximately 343,000 trees, expanding Regional forest cover to 23.2 per cent in 2015, up from 22.8 per cent in 2012 (2015 is the most recent year for forest cover data) • Secured 170 hectares of land through partnerships to protect greenspace and environmental lands • Endorsed the York Region Forest Management Plan

2014-2018 Council Accomplishments and Highlights
Environmental Services

Service Area	Accomplishment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced land transfer agreement to establish Rouge National Urban Park and opening of Bob Hunter Memorial Park Proactively managed impacts of the Emerald Ash Borer and other invasive species in York Region Opened state-of-the-art Forestry Stewardship Centre Maintained 139 km of trail and constructed 1.6 km of new accessible trail
Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved 2016 Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan setting short, medium and long term corporate greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets Established Green Energy Reserve Fund to support future renewable energy and conservations projects Generated approximately 702,364 kWh of green energy over the term of Council, equivalent to offsetting 36 tonnes of carbon dioxide
Corporate Asset Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved bi-annual 2015 Corporate State of Infrastructure report Approved the Corporate Asset Management Policy Corporate Asset Management Plan to be approved as part of the same agenda before Committee

York Region has received a number of awards and recognition from prominent environmental organizations

Council's support for innovation and quality in York Region's Environmental Services programs and initiatives has led to a number of awards and recognition received from a variety of organizations. A list of these achievements since 2014 is provided in Attachment 2.

York Region continues to demonstrate leadership through certification

With the support of Council, York Region has maintained registration and obtained new certifications with various standards and organizations as shown in Table 2.

Table 2
Registrations and Certifications

Service Area	Achievement
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintained ISO 9001 registration and Drinking Water Quality Management Standard accreditation
Wastewater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintained ISO 14001 registration for wastewater facilities
Waste Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintained ISO 14001 registration for waste management drop-off facilities
Forestry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintained Forest Stewardship Council Certification
Corporate Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LEED Silver Certification for New Construction – VIVA Operations Maintenance and Storage Facility LEED Silver Certification for Existing Buildings – Administrative Centre (certifications for existing buildings last a 5 year term) LEED Platinum Certification for New Construction – Forest Stewardship Centre LEED Certification for Existing Buildings – Leslie Street Pumping Station

5. Financial Considerations

There are no direct financial implications associated with this report. Costs of implementing the programs and initiatives cited in this report have been managed by Council in its approval of annual budgets between 2015 and 2018 and longer-term capital financial plans. New water and wastewater user rates developed in partnership with Finance enable the Region to recover the full cost of maintaining our water and wastewater systems and achieve long-term financial sustainability.

Council’s strategic investments support sustainable infrastructure for future growth

Council oversees programs that deliver critical infrastructure for servicing growth and building system security for water, wastewater, waste management, forestry and corporate energy services. As presented in Tables 3 and 4 below, Council has demonstrated strong support for operating programs and critical capital infrastructure from 2015 through 2018 that put our communities in a strong position to meet the growing needs of York Region, while maintaining required levels of service in industries highly regulated by the Provincial government.

Table 3
Annual Operating Expenditures (in 000's)

Service Area	2015 Actuals	2016 Actuals	2017 Actuals	2018 Budget	4 Year Total*
Water / Wastewater	\$458,002	\$476,638	\$472,486	\$510,243	\$1,917,369
Waste Management	\$62,921	\$66,385	\$66,887	\$66,802	\$262,995
Forestry	\$9,523	\$9,146	\$9,324	\$9,436	\$37,429
Corporate Energy	\$613	\$661	\$1,137	\$953	\$3,364
Total	\$531,059	\$552,830	\$549,834	\$587,434	\$2,221,157

*Total represents 3 years of actuals (2015 through 2017) and 1 year forecast (2018), and include corporate allocations

Table 4
Annual Capital Expenditures (in 000's)

Service Area	2015 Actuals	2016 Actuals	2017 Actuals	2018 Budget	4 Year Total*
Water	\$118,605	\$75,453	\$65,893	\$65,463	\$325,414
Wastewater	\$217,042	\$140,289	\$116,239	\$80,652	\$554,222
Waste Management	\$6,159	\$3,857	\$9,773	\$2,644	\$22,433
Forestry	\$3,172	\$1,858	\$2,012	\$1,486	\$8,528
Corporate Energy	\$540	\$676	\$729	\$3,670	\$5,615
Total	\$345,518	\$222,133	\$194,646	\$153,915	\$916,212

*Total represents 3 years of actuals (2015 through 2017) and 1 year forecast (2018)

Over the 4 year term of this Council, Environmental Services is forecast to deliver over \$2.2B in operating programs of which \$1.9B is directly attributable to delivery of our water and wastewater services which is funded through user rates. A further \$900M in capital expenditures was largely dominated by water and wastewater infrastructure projects, of which approximately 25% was related to asset management initiatives.

6. Local Municipal Impact

Local municipalities are important partners in implementation of Environmental Services programs, including collaborative work to advance the SM4RT Living Plan and the Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update, York Region Forest Management Plan and Greening Strategy initiatives. Local municipal partners are engaged in many of the programs and projects that Environmental Services carries out to promote environmental health and well-being in the community.

Council's actions support shared priorities in two-tier service delivery model

Operating in a two-tier environment requires close collaboration with our local municipalities in our shared service areas. Responding to feedback from our local municipal partners, Council approved a set of Operational Best Practice Guidelines for Municipally Collected Commercial and Institutional Waste in 2017. These guidelines encourage consistent practices in waste separation, collection, recycling and disposal for municipally collected commercial and institutional waste. These Guidelines were developed collaboratively with our local partners and enable local autonomy while supporting common objectives.

Similarly, through Council's endorsement of the Inflow and Infiltration Reduction Strategy, the Region and the local municipalities have demonstrated leadership in inflow and infiltration reduction in the water and wastewater industry. The Region identifies high inflow and infiltration priority areas and works with our local municipalities to implement remedial projects reducing extraneous flow in both local and Regional systems. In turn, this helps reduce unnecessary pumping and treatment costs, reducing the Region's carbon footprint while recovering capacity in the Regional system.

7. Conclusion

The 2014-2018 Environmental Services section of Committee of the Whole and Council has continued to position the Region for excellence in the areas of water and wastewater, waste management, forestry, corporate energy and corporate asset management services. With achievements such as: providing top quality drinking water to protect community health and well-being, achieving top rankings in waste diversion to manage environmentally sustainable growth, and approving the Region's first Corporate Asset Management Plan contributing to an efficient public service, Council has demonstrated a track record for leadership in environmental services. Efforts have been recognized through a multitude of awards and achievements, including registration to both nationally and internationally recognized standards.

2014-2018 Council Accomplishments and Highlights
Environmental Services

For more information on this report, please contact Don Goodyear, Head, Policy, Liaison and Communications at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 76982.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

March 6, 2018

Attachments (2)

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Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request

Environmental Services ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2014 to 2018

SUPPORT COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Over
99.9%

of drinking water samples meet Ontario Drinking Water Quality Standards



Over
500

potential threat sites assessed to protect drinking water at the source



York Region Forest Management Plan endorsed by Council in

2016

PROVIDE RESPONSIVE AND EFFICIENT PUBLIC SERVICE



Greenhouse gas emissions down

2.5%

from Regional operations

Approval of Corporate Asset Management Policy in

2018

Continued partnerships with associations, universities and industry



170

hectares of greenspace secured

MANAGE ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

26.6

million litres of water conserved per day to-date

Enough to meet the daily water needs of over

140,000

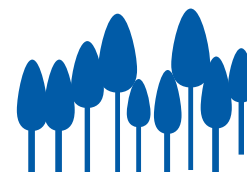


130

average number of active capital projects per year

343,000

trees planted



Duffin Creek Plant upgrades completed in

2017

#1

in the province for waste diversion in



2016

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THIS TERM OF COUNCIL INCLUDE:

WATER



Over 99.9% of drinking water samples meet Ontario Drinking Water Quality Standards

- Ensuring safe and clean drinking water is essential to our residents' daily lives
- Over this Council term, York Region has achieved some of the highest scores in the Province for drinking water quality
- The Region continues to lead our GTA neighbours in provincial inspections and for samples meeting provincial water quality standards

WASTEWATER



Duffin Creek Plant upgrades completed in 2017

- Duffin Creek Plant upgrades have enabled this facility to continue to service our growing community through to 2036
- Substantially completed in 2017, the plant upgrades marked an end to 12 years of major expansion works
- Representing an investment of over \$820 M, the upgrades have enabled the plant to continue to meet or surpass provincial standards

WASTE MANAGEMENT



#1 in the province for waste diversion in 2016

- York Region ranked first in Ontario for waste diversion according to the most recent results released by the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority
- After factoring in additional tonnes managed through energy-from-waste, the Region achieved a diversion from landfill rate of 91 per cent
- These results have been achieved through implementation of the Region's SM4RT Living Plan, which focuses on the 4 Rs: reduce, reuse, recycle and recover

NATURAL HERITAGE AND FORESTRY



343,000 trees planted over this Council term

- On an annual basis, Regional trees remove 77,000 tonnes of carbon, equivalent to taking 60,000 cars off roads
- The Region's Greening Strategy has demonstrated incredible success over the last four years, often exceeding targets set in tree planting, stewardship and education, environmental land protection, as well as leadership and innovation

Awards and Distinctions

2014

- Greater Toronto Sewer and Watermain Construction Association Infrastructure Award of Excellence for Steve Marino
- Recycling Council of Ontario 3RCertified Waste Reduction & Diversion Program – Administrative Centre
- Recycling Council of Ontario Municipal – Communication – Blue Box Contamination Campaign
- Recycling Council of Ontario Municipal – Special Program – SM4RT Living Plan
- Clean Air Council Recognition Certificate – Greening Strategy Implementation
- Association of Consulting Engineering Companies Engineering Excellence Award – Southeast Collector Trunk Sewer

2015

- Living City Environmental Leaders Award (Sustainable Communities category) for partnership in the Professional Access into Employment program at Toronto Region Conservation Authority (*this award may also be listed under Corporate Services*)
- Ontario Public Works Association Public Works Project of the Year (Environment, Greater than \$50 Million) for Keswick Water Resource Recovery Facility Expansion
- Association of Consulting Engineering Companies Engineering Excellence Award – Keswick Water Resource Recovery Facility Outfall Expansion
- Consulting Engineers of Ontario Award of Excellence - Keswick Water Resource Recovery Facility Expansion
- Wood WORKS! Ontario Environmental Building Design Award – Forest Stewardship Centre
- Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority 2015 Conservation Awards - Pioneering Green Communities – De La Salle Park Rain Garden

- Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority 2015 Conservation Awards - Media Recognition – York Region's Water System – Making Connections and Water Is Campaign
- Latornell Leadership Award – Ian Buchanan
- Greater Toronto Sewer and Watermain Construction Association Infrastructure Award of Excellence for Grant Robinson
- Solid Waste Association of North America Excellence Award – Better Blue Starts with You
- Municipal Waste Association Campaign – Blue Box Contamination Campaign
- Municipal Waste Association Campaign – Composting and Recycling in York Region (Videos and Colouring Book)
- Recycling Council of Ontario Municipal – Communication – Recycling and Composting in York Region animated videos and activity book

2016

- American Water Works Association Exemplary Source Water Protection Award – York Region's Source Water Protection Program
- Solid Waste Association of North America Excellence Award for Innovation – Good Food Campaign
- Royal Bank of Canada Blue Water Project Recipient – Water Reuse Demonstration Project
- Ontario Public Works Association Public Works Project of the Year - Historic Restoration / Preservation – Forest Stewardship Centre
- Ontario Public Works Association Public Works Project of the Year (Environment, \$10-50 Million) for Aurora Sewage Pumping Station
- Ontario Public Works Association Public Works Project of the Year (Environment, \$2-10 Million) for Glenway Reservoir Expansion Project
- Ontario Public Works Association Technical / Management Innovation Award – Project Server Development and Implementation
- Professional Engineers Ontario York Region Engineering Project of the Year – Forest Stewardship Centre

- Ontario Water Works Association Award of Excellence for Water Efficiency – Water Smart Irrigation Profession Certification Program
- Association of Consulting Engineering Companies New Jersey Honor Award – Keswick Water Resource Recovery Facility Expansion

2017

- Global Water Intel Golden Tap Recipient and Inducted to the Leading Utilities of the World network
- American Public Works Association Project of the Year, (Under \$5 Million) – Forest Stewardship Centre
- American Public Works Association Technical / Management Innovation Award – Project Server Development and Implementation
- Living Building Challenge Partial Petal Certification – Forest Stewardship Centre
- American Water Works Association Public Communications Achievement Award – Water Is Campaign
- Ontario Public Works Association Public Works Project of the Year (Environment, Greater than \$50 Million) for Queensville Holland Landing Servicing (QHLS) Project
- Ontario Public Works Association Public Works Project of the Year (Environment, \$2-10 Million) for Keswick Water Treatment Plant Upgrades Project
- Ontario Public Works Association Technical / Management Innovation Award, East Vaughan Pumping Station Re-chloramination Facility and Watermain Project
- Forest Stewardship Council Leadership Awards – Forest Stewardship Centre
- Toronto Region Conservation Authority – Living City Award – Managing Growth through Ecosystem Restoration and Compensation
- International Association of Business Communicators – Award of Merit – Water Is Campaign

2018

- Ontario Public Works Association Technology Application in Public Works Award for Inflow & Infiltration Reduction Audit and Flow Monitoring Program