



**MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH GRENVILLE  
ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
AGENDA**

**Monday, November 25, 2024, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Held in Meeting Room 1, 285 County Road 44**

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**Pages**

**A. Open Meeting**

**B. Land Acknowledgment**

The Municipality of North Grenville acknowledges that the Municipality operates on the territory of the Anishnabek.

We recognize all First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples who now call North Grenville their home. We respect and support the need for cultivating a strong relationship, and we commit to Indigenous-informed decision making to foster the path towards reconciliation.

**C. Approval of the Agenda**

**D. Disclosure of Interest**

**E. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting**

1. Committee Meeting Minutes - October 28, 2024

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**F. Delegations**

**G. Decision Items**

**H. Correspondence/Information Items/Reports**

1. Terms of Reference 5
2. Workplan Review
3. Developers and Greenspace
4. Crimson King Norway Maple - Crozier Park 8
5. Water Security Update
6. Maple leaf from Space, Nadia Diakun-Thibault
7. Task Force update, Nadia Diakun-Thibault
8. Climate Action Plan

*Hillary Geneau, Director of Corporate Services*

**I. Other Business**

1. Items for Next Meeting

**J. Public Questions**

**K. Adjournment**



MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH GRENVILLE  
ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday, October 28, 2024, 6:00 p.m.  
Held in Meeting Room 1, 285 County Road 44

MEMBERS PRESENT Co-Chair Councillor Kristin Strackerjan  
Mayor Nancy Peckford  
Peter Friedrichs  
Nadia Diakun-Thibault

MEMBERS ABSENT Sasha Honsl  
Fred Schueler

STAFF PRESENT Senterre McKenna, Committee Clerk

**A. Open Meeting**

Co-Chair Kristin Strackerjan called the meeting to order at 6:14PM.

**B. Land Acknowledgment**

The land acknowledgement was read by Kristin Strackerjan.

**C. Approval of the Agenda**

**#EAAC-2024- EAAC-2024-25**

Moved By Nadia Diakun-Thibault  
Seconded By Peter Friedrichs

*Be it resolved that:*

*The Committee agenda for October 28, 2024 be approved as presented.*

**CARRIED**

**D. Disclosure of Interest**

None.

**E. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting**

**#EAAC-2024- EAAC-2024-26**

Moved By Nadia Diakun-Thibault  
Seconded By Kristin Strackerjan

*Be it resolved that:*

*The following meeting minutes be approved as circulated:*

1. September 23, 2024
2. August 26, 2024

**CARRIED**

1. Committee Meeting Minutes - September 23, 2024
2. Committee Meeting Minutes - August 26, 2024

**F. Delegations**

None.

**G. Decision Items**

None.

**H. Correspondence/Information Items/Reports**

1. Tree Canopy Discussion, Nadia Diakun-Thibault

Nadia Diakun-Thibault would like to have this information read over by the Members to review her notes on comparing city by-laws regarding tree management. She prefers Vancouver's by-law for trees, which requires permission for tree removal, she would like this implemented in North Grenville to protect its trees. She also suggested that the rain garden program from Ottawa could benefit North Grenville, although Kristin Strackerjan pointed out past resistance from residents regarding property rights. Nadia Diakun-Thibault is concerned about environmental consequences if no changes are made and suggested a survey involving students in mapping air quality and heat samples in the area next summer. Kristin Strackerjan mentioned potential planning and budgeting for this initiative. The Members feel that a tree health check in North Grenville is also needed. The committee's contributions will be included in future land plans, and this item will be added to the workplan.

2. Terms of Reference

Nadia Diakun-Thibault emphasized the need for the workplan to align with the Terms of Reference. She suggested creating an online space for posting environmental issues, events, and news, with frequent updates. Kristin Strackerjan pointed out challenges in collaborating with the Communications department, while Peter Friedrichs proposed an internal repository for information sharing. Kristin Strackerjan recommended using Google Drive with access limitations. Nadia Diakun-Thibault expressed the importance of effectively communicating with the public, feeling current methods are insufficient, despite Kristin Strackerjan noting that agendas and minutes are public.

**ACTION:** Senterre McKenna, Committee Clerk will speak to Chloe Preston, Municipal Clerk regarding this potential repository option.

The members reviewed the workplan, suggesting changes, including:

- b.** Rain gardens: modeled after Ottawa's program to protect water tables.
- c.** Eliminating household waste reduction: noted this is no longer under the Committee's purview.
- e.** Website presence: focusing on resources for residents to improve home sustainability and involving schools in environmental education.
- f.** Online materials and courses: linking to webinars and sustainability fairs.
- h.** Grant options: for implementing pollinator gardens.
- i.** Recycling information, Peter and Kristin discussed how to effectively communicate this to the public and ensure it reaches them.
- j.** Some topics might be better suited for the Mayor's Task Force on Clean Tech.

Members reviewed workplan and read the suggested changes:

**ACTION:** Senterre McKenna, Committee Clerk will send out the Original Terms of Reference and new proposed document and ask the Members for feedback. Specifically, 4 new Terms of Reference in line with the old 12. This is with the intention that this can be reviewed before the next meeting.

3. Developers and Greenspace Development  
Moved to next meeting.
4. Workplan Review  
Moved to next meeting.

5. 'Crimson King' Norway Maple - Crozier Park  
Moved to next meeting

**I. Other Business**

1. Items for Next Meeting
  - Terms of Reference
  - Workplan Review
  - Developers and Greenspace
  - Crimson King
  - Water security update
  - Maple leaf from Space, Nadia Diakun-Thibault
  - Task Force update, Nadia Diakun-Thibault
1. Maple Leaf from Space, Nadia Diakun - Thibault
2. Task Force Update, Nadia Diakun-Thibault

**J. Public Questions**

None.

**K. Adjournment**

**#EAAC-2024- EAAC-2024-27**

Moved By Peter Friedrichs  
Seconded By Nadia Diakun-Thibault

*Be it resolved that:*

*The meeting be adjourned at 7:58 p.m.*

**CARRIED**

# CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH GRENVILLE

## Schedule "B-6" to By-Law No. 23-23

### **Environmental Action Advisory Committee (EAAC)**

#### **Purpose**

To provide information to local residents on environmentally sustainable practices, offer advice to the North Grenville Municipal Council on initiatives to promote a green economy, and to identify near- and long-term funding opportunities as suggestions for inclusion in the yearly budget and business planning cycles of the Municipality.

The Committee shall:

- a) Research and gather information on best environmental practices for communities, with a focus on changes to be made at the Municipal level;
- b) Consider and make recommendations the ways in which the environmental footprint of the Municipality of North Grenville and its residents may be reduced;
- c) Provide ideas to Council for incentives for/recognition of residents who reduce their household waste to encourage others in the community to follow suit;
- d) Provide recommendations to Council on waste management within the Municipality;
- e) Recommend promotional materials, organize/participate in events and develop educational tools for the use of North Grenville residents to promote environmentally sustainable practices;
- f) Provide and update a consolidated list of local resources for residents with respect to recycling, composting, water conservation, and improving energy efficiency;
- g) Encourage participation of local businesses in self-driven environmental initiatives;
- h) Identify innovative, low-cost initiatives to encourage positive environmental changes;
- i) Identify long-term and future solutions to reduce waste within the Municipality;
- j) Engage with experts to identify opportunities to leverage emerging and new technologies with a direct goal of reducing waste and minimizing the environmental footprint of North Grenville residents and businesses;
- k) Receive inputs from experts on best practices and ways forward and make written recommendations to Council; and
- l) Create opportunities for public engagement with residents, local experts and community leaders, with an emphasis on engaging youth within the community; and

The Committee shall have regard to the shared priorities of the Community Strategic Plan, Committee Handbook, and Procedural By-Law.

#### **Membership**

The Committee shall be comprised of a minimum of four (4) and a maximum of nine (9) volunteer members, the Mayor as an ex-officio member, and up to two (2) members of

Council,, all of whom have voting rights. A staff person(s) from Public Works may also attend meetings as a liaison(s) to the Municipality.

In considering the appointment of voting members to the Committee, Council shall consider the following criteria for members of the Committee:

- a) Influential decision makers (current and retired) from various business/industry sectors,
- b) Individual members willing to take on specific responsibilities for specific areas of the program,
- c) The individual's qualifications and commitment as they relate to the Council adopted programs/policies; and
- d) Availability of members to participate in the programs/policies and attend Committee meetings.

The Municipality of North Grenville is committed to advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion in every aspect of its work, including appointments to advisory committees. An increase in diversity can assist in promoting equal opportunities and memberships with a diversity of lived experiences. A more diverse membership will contribute to the work of each advisory committee. Each advisory committee shall endeavour to have balanced representation from various equity- and inclusion-seeking groups including, but not limited to, people with disabilities, francophones, Indigenous people, newcomers, older adults, racialized community members, rural residents, 2SLGBTQIA+, those facing socioeconomic disadvantage, women, minority faith-based and spiritual group members, and youth.

The Committee, by a majority vote of its members, may recommend to Council to remove any member of the Committee who does not fulfil their obligations under their appointment.

#### **Committee Chair**

The Committee shall elect a Co-Chair from among its volunteer members. The position will be elected by a secret ballot by a majority of the voting members of the Committee. A Member of Council will act as a Co-Chair

The Co-Chairs will have a concurrent four-year term. In the absence of the Co-Chairs, the Committee shall appoint an Acting Chair.

The Co-Chairs will present the Committee's reports and recommendations to Council, as required with staff support.

#### **Advisory Experts**

The Committee may invite additional content experts to attend regular meetings and to present at specific meetings in order to meet its mandate.



**Meetings**

The Committee shall meet at least six times a year - either in person or via an accessible virtual platform. Additional meetings shall be held at the call of the Co-Chairs.

Agenda packages will be sent out the week prior to the meetings and published on the Municipality's website. Draft minutes will be distributed by email to each Committee member by the Public Work's department within one (1) week following the meeting.

**Quorum**

Quorum of the Committee shall be a majority of the appointed members.

Votes by the Committee will be held at regular or special meetings. Decision making of the group shall be by majority vote.

**Department Jurisdiction**

Public Works - The Director is responsible to ensure that all associated legislative responsibilities to the Committee are fulfilled.

**Staff Contact**

Public Works Clerk

**Administrative Support**

The Clerk delegates authority to the Public Works Coordinator to provide minute taking. Agenda preparation and distribution will be done by the Public Works Coordinator in conjunction with the Co-Chairs and Clerk's division. The Clerk's division will post the agenda on the Municipal website and via the meeting calendar invitation.

**Budget**

The Committee will prepare an annual work plan including budget requests ahead of the budget cycle. The Director of Public Works shall bring forward budget requests of the Committee as part of the Municipal budget process.

I hope you are well and busy with many great projects in town. I'm writing today for two purposes :

### **1. Crimson King Norway Maple**

In the past few years I have completed a diploma in Horticulture at Guelph with specialization in trees, as well as landscape restoration, along with arborist training.

I'm a member of the OHS, although not very active because of my busy life, but I did read that there was a memorial tree that was planted at Crozier Park, and wanted to make you aware that the tree is in fact, and unfortunately, invasive.

It's really a delicate situation, where a tree was chosen by someone for a memorial, which makes it really difficult emotionally. The selection was not an educated choice (although very pretty) and therefore trees were added to the public space most likely without the knowledge that this tree was invasive. The municipality's generosity is absolutely amazing and again, it is just an unfortunate choice that was made. I wanted to bring this to your attention, because I am sure that as the mayor, you would not want to advertise that the municipality is supporting the planting of invasive trees (even in the name of a loved one). Just like releasing goldfish in a lake, planting invasive trees can affect the surrounding environment. Invasive species tend to proliferate and spread seeds, and are less beneficial for wildlife than their native counterparts. There are no laws yet in Ontario that prevents nurseries from selling them, education is key.

I'm also certain that the couple who requested a 'Crimson King' Norway didn't have the knowledge that it was invasive, and would have chosen a different tree if they had known.

I did notify the OHS about this, I think they are feeling a bit embarrassed to tell you as they already were so thankful from your generosity. They also don't have the funds to pay for a different tree.

I figured you would prefer to know this, as trees are structures that can last quite a long time, and having to remove a tree in 20 years is much more costly than having to replace a tree in it's early years.

Whatever you choose to do, in case you do choose to replace with a native tree, here is a list of superstar trees for this area, I'm not sure where the tree is planted (if it's moist or dry..) and if there is a lot of traffic underneath or not :

- American beech
- Sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*)

- Eastern white pine
- Red pine
- White spruce

Lowland trees :

- American elm
- Red maple
- Black ash
- Bur oak
- American basswood
- Yellow birch
- Bitternut hickory
- Butternut
- Northern red oak
- White oak
- Common hackberry
- Blue beech
- Swamp white oak
- Shagbark hickory
- Black maple

If ever, as a municipality, you are looking to hire a consultant for these types of situation and prevent mishaps, I'd be happy to help out.

## **2. Neighbourhood gardens**

I live in Settlers Grant and along with neighbours, we have been upkeeping the garden at the front entrance. I was wondering if the municipality would be interested in hiring for pruning, designing, and upkeeping of gardens on a sporadic basis. I already have a full-time job, but I love taking care and planning gardens, and definitely love to make sure trees are growing to be beautiful and safe structures. I do not prune large trees, I can help with smaller ones, I can maintain shrubs as well and plan pruning on the type of species. I also have knowledge on how

to plant trees in an urban setting (meaning how to do it when there are sidewalks and roads all around).

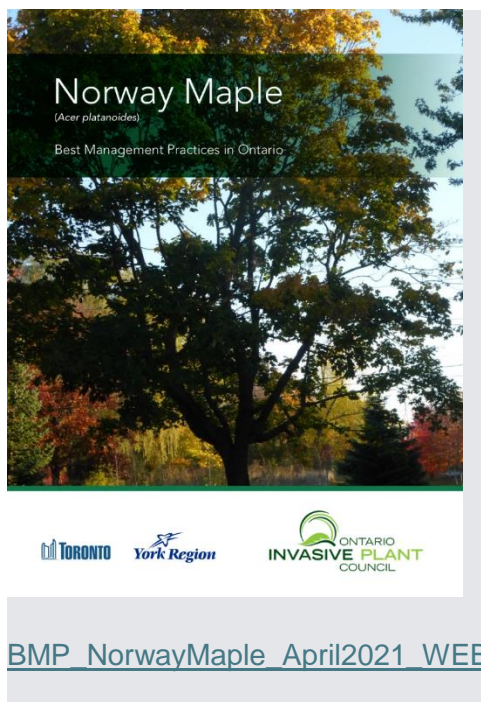
Although it's nice to volunteer, I feel like this could be a job on its own. There is quite a bit of work that can be done in municipal gardens and parks.

Following are some links to documents that support the findings.

I'm sorry to bring such news, but I cannot go about turning my back on this. I wish you an excellent day,

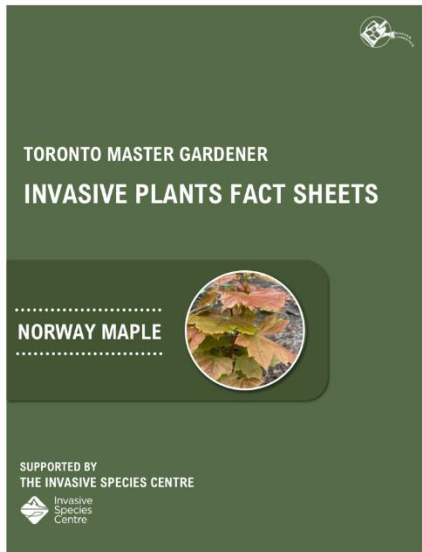
Caroline

"The 'Crimson King' cultivar has bright red foliage throughout the growing season, and 'Emerald Queen' has dark glossy-green leaves and yellow fall colors. Although beautiful, cultivar seedlings can spread into natural areas and become invasive, outcompeting native species and impacting wildlife. See page 5 to learn more about Norway maple cultivars. With its potential for being a serious invader, preventing this invasive maple species from entering and damaging natural areas is an important priority for land managers land use planning, and landscape design. «



[BMP\\_NorwayMaple\\_April2021\\_WEB](#)

[PDF Document - 3.6 MB](#)



[Norway-Maple](#)

[PDF Document - 1.1 MB](#)



[Invasive Species Norway Maple - The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority](#)

[nvca.on.ca](http://nvca.on.ca)



[Rethinking the Norway Maple -](#)  
[adirondackalmanack.com](http://adirondackalmanack.com)