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**Agenda**

Coordination Committee

Monday, February 12, 2024, 3:00 – 5:00 pm

City Hall Room 192/193 and Cisco Webex

**Present**

Barry Duffey, Chair Clean Air Hamilton

Alison Carlyle, City of Hamilton

Beatrice Ekoko, City of Hamilton

Gas Gebara, ArcelorMittal Dofasco

James LeMoine, McMaster University

Julie Wedzinga, Stelco

Lubna Hussain, MECP

Mackenzie Whitten, Green Venture

Nancy Hurst, Ward 12 Councillor Office

Pascale Marchand, Ward 4 Councillor Office

Phoebe Tung, Health Canada

Sally Radisic, City of Hamilton

Sara Yonson, Hamilton Oshawa Port Authority

Shirook Ali, Ecosystem Informatics Inc.

1. **Introductions & Welcome**
2. **Land Acknowledgement**

The City of Hamilton is situated upon the traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Mississaugas. This land is covered by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, which was an agreement between the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabek to share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. We further acknowledge that this land is covered by the Between the Lakes Purchase, 1792, between the Crown and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.

Today, the City of Hamilton is home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island (North America) and we recognize that we must do more to learn about the rich history of this land so that we can better understand our roles as residents, neighbours, partners and caretakers ([source](https://www.hamilton.ca/sites/default/files/media/browser/2021-01-29/land-acknowlegement-toolkit-guide-2021.pdf)).

**Presentations:**

1. **Measuring Air Quality Across the GTHA (20 minutes) Greg Evans, University of Toronto**

* Question: Montreal subways use rubber tires, are there studies showing the difference in air quality between Montreal and Toronto subway stations?
  + Data from studies by Dr. Evans show better Air Quality in Montreal subway stations
* Discussion: Studies show that electric vehicles have degraded tire life
  + This is because the battery adds weight to the vehicle which causes greater wear
  + Euro 6 emission standard have introduced standards for brakes and tires
    - These may be implemented by California EPA
    - This means that vehicle manufacturers will have to create better technology
  + Since electric vehicles have regenerative breaking, they may have lower emissions from breaks but higher emissions from tire use
* Recommendation from Dr. Evans to pay attention to the cabin filter inside a car
* Question: Were there any measurements in the IMPACT study done on dry days versus on rainy days?
  + The relationship between particulate and moisture on roads is still being researched
  + When there is rain, particles get swept up into waterways instead of staying on the road. This depends on how wet the road already is as asphalt will hold particles if there is moisture and release them as it dries.
  + Rubber tire particles contain antioxidants (this keeps the rubber from getting brittle)
    - Rubber tires have particles that get oxidized into the waterways and cause issues for salmon and trout
* Question: Can we corelate the numbers that are monitored with the standards that the Ministry requires for enforcement?
  + One challenge is that some contaminants that are being researched (e.g. ultrafine particles) do not have regulations
  + Research has looked into the distance upwind and downwind from a highway that the air standards are no longer exceeded
  + The WHO guidelines for PM2.5 is 5µg/m3; about 86% of Canada exceeds this guideline
* Question: Transboundary pollution was found to be a large contributor to Hamilton emissions? Can we talk about the scope about work done in Hamilton and what can be done about the transboundary emissions
  + Eliminating coal-based electricity generation did have a local impact on air quality in Hamilton, but transboundary emissions still have an impact
  + Focus is on the local impact because this is the modifiable impact
  + A Hamilton area study was conducted by Dr. Evans about 10 years ago
* Question: How are sites and routes picked for the IMPACT study?
  + Places well away from road sources are selected to compare with heavy trafficked area
  + In other studies, for example for re-suspension of road dust, the focus was on daycares and schools
  + Usually, the research study is trying to find a contrast between locations
  + Another study being done by Dr. Evans’ team is of warehouse and logistics stations which are disproportionally located in lower socio-economic neighbourhoods
* Question: Does the data collected show an impact from wildfires that were experienced in 2023?
  + Yes, there was a large impact in both Toronto and north; the data showed ten to twenty times of what was expected of normal air quality
  + Comment from Dr. Evans that there needs to be more work done on how particles from wildfire different from particles seen in urban areas
* Question: In terms of the dry deposition coming from tires, is there a link to public health from this source?
  + Dr. Evans’ response is that we don’t know yet, there is a lot of variability in the particles

**Discussion Items:**

1. **Upwind Downwind Conference Planning (5 minutes), Manal Chaudhry**

* Planning is ongoing for the conference and a public lecture

1. **Citywide Air Quality Project Event (5 minutes), Manal Chaudhry**

* There is a public event discussing Dr. Matt Adams’ research project on air quality in Hamilton at a ward level on February 29th at the Steam Museum at 7 PM

1. **Community Experiences (10 minutes), All**

* George McKibbon:
  + Upcoming University of Buffalo event comparing how planners in NY and Ontario how planners handle major applications, taking place on April 8th from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM
* Beatrice Ekoko:
  + Bay Area Climate Change Council webinar on retrofits on February 27th at 6:30 PM

1. **Roundtable Updates (10 minutes), All**
   * Barry Duffey

Reminder to Clean Air Hamilton members submit the Code of Conduct

* + George McKibbon

Book Recommendation: *Fire Weather* on the Fort McMurry fires

* + Chuck Hostovsky

Working on a study showing potential exposure from waste to African Nova Scotian community living close to the area. The team is conducting a focus group to determine exposure from landfill gas and well water

* + Alison Carlyle

There was a successful winter bike-to-work day at Gore Park. February is winter commute month, [there is a contest](https://www.hamilton.ca/home-neighbourhood/getting-around/smart-commute/smart-commute-events) that folks can win for sustainable commutes

**Next meeting**

**March 11, 2024 3:00-5:00pm City Hall Room 192/193 and WebEx**