



Planning and Development Committee Agenda

Thursday, March 22, 2018
11:30 a.m.
Council Chambers
County Administration Centre,
Walkerton

1. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

2. Action Items

A. G7 2018 National Tree Planting Project

3. Closed Meeting

A. That the Committee move into a closed meeting pursuant to:

Section 239 (3) (3.1) 1. of the Municipal Act for the purpose of educating or training the members to discuss Bruce County Land Use Planning Transformation Project

B. Minutes for Approval - (February 15, 2018)

4. Rise and Report

5. Next Meeting

April 19, 2018

6. Adjournment



Committee Report

To: Warden Paul Eagleson
Members of the Planning and Development Committee

From: Kara Van Myall
Director of Planning and Development

Date: March 22, 2018

Re: G72018 National Tree Planting Project

Recommendation:

That the County of Bruce enter into an agreement with the Owner's of the G72018 Project and the Bruce Peninsula Biosphere Association, with the objective of planting 1,000 trees in the Bruce County Forest's Lindsay Tract.

Background:

The G72018 National Planting Project is an initiative stemming from the international G7 Summit to be held in June 2018 at Quebec's Charlevoix Biosphere Reserve. The intention is to offset the event's carbon footprint by having trees planted within other UNESCO biosphere reserves located across Canada.

These tree plantings will be covered by local and national media, featured in a documentary as well as on national television program, with the aim to raise the awareness of the importance of trees and their functions (including carbon sequestration), promote the local timber industry, and showcase our local forests and organizations.

The planting of the trees will be coordinated by the Bruce Peninsula Biosphere Association, with the help of local students to carry out the labour. The costs of this initiative are to be covered by the G72018 Project, and therefore the County will not incur any of the expenses related to the purchasing or planting of these trees.

For the purpose of the agreement, the County is referred to as the "Owner" and is required to adhere to 5 guidelines issued by the G72018 Project, which are as follows:

1. **To dedicate** the planting site to the promotion of environmental protection through citizen action.
2. **To follow** any potential maintenance recommendations submitted to us one year after planting by the participating forestry agency. To be aware that some maintenance is required, especially in the first few years after planting. We will



ensure that the plantation grows unimpeded and will, to that end, retain the services of a professional for regular monitoring. We will also implement any measures that may be recommended by that professional.

3. **To harvest** certain trees, should it become necessary, due to such serious problems as dieback, windthrow, or other major considerations. In such event, the timber will be collected and efforts will be made to use it in a sustainable product. We will check with local artists or artisans whether they may have a use for this highly meaningful material.
4. **To replace** any trees that die or become unhealthy in the first three years, if that loss represents more than 15% of the number of trees planted. In the event of force majeure, such as the repurposing of the site, the planted portion affected will be replanted elsewhere, and a new undertaking containing the same clauses will be signed. The timber will be reclaimed in accordance with the principles set forth in point 3 of the agreement.
5. **To convey** the site's special status, by way of a copy of this agreement, to the various departments in charge of land management, in order to prevent unwanted activities from being planned or carried out on the sited.

Lastly, we undertake to comply with this agreement for at least 50 years and will consider the possibility of extending it in perpetuity, replacing the trees at the end of their life cycle before they lose their market value and before the role of sequestration reverses in favour of greenhouse gas emissions.

The agreement speaks to the "retention of a professional for regular monitoring" which the County will not require through an outside agency as they already employ a Registered Professional Forester. The 50-year commitment would apply only to the 1,000 planted trees and the 1-2 hectares of land that they are planted on, and basically asks the County to maintain that area as managed forest for the life-cycle of those trees. The purpose of this commitment and reason for its length is to fulfil the G7 Summit's carbon offset objective.

The intended area for these trees to be planted would be in the cutover from 2015/2016, which would assist in the forest's natural regeneration, increase the value and volume of timber available, and shorten the rotation time to the next harvest.

The G72018 Project will be occurring in May, and the trees are to be planted no later than May 15th, 2018. This project aligns nicely with the upcoming 80th anniversary of the Bruce County Forests, which is on May 6th, and could be included as part of the celebration.



Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:

There are no financial, staffing, legal or IT considerations associated with this report.

Interdepartmental Consultation:

There are no Interdepartmental Consultations.

Link to Strategic Goals and Elements:

3. Find creative new ways to engage our public:
 - D. Expand Bruce County Promotions in Schools (eg students planting trees).
6. Explore alternate options to improve efficiency, service:
 - D. Coordinate working with other agencies (eg Bruce Peninsula Biosphere Association).
7. Stimulate and reward innovation and economic development:
 - D. Vocally support all industry in Bruce County (eg the local forest industry).
10. Develop Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) that are meaningful and report on them.
 - B. Build in accountability and evaluation measures.

Written by: Kevin Predon, Forest Technician.

Approved by:

Kelley Coulter
Chief Administrative Officer