



A G E N D A

Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting

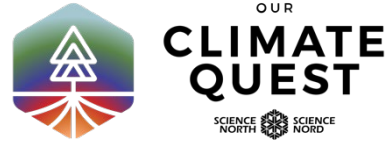
Wednesday, March 27, 2024
2:00 p.m.
Board Room 2nd Floor, Operations Centre

Items:

- 1. Call Meeting to Order and Land Acknowledgment**
- 2. Welcome new Members**
- 3. Adopt Minutes of Previous Meetings**
Motion#1 -
That the Minutes of the Regular Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting held January 16, 2024 be confirmed as written and filed.
- 4. Presentation – Brie McCardle, ED, LOWDSA**
- 5. Previous Action Items**
 - St Louis School Donation
 - Signage for Free Cycle Days
 - Fire Hydrant Drinking stations
 - Harvest Kenora Wish List
 - Committee presence in the community
- 6. Science North Climate Quest Exhibit – March 25th – April 8th**
- 7. Earth Day Activities**
- 8. 2024 Day of Action on Litter**
- 9. Compostable Garbage bags for Adopt-A-Block program**
- 10. Current Action Items**
- 11. Next Meeting**
May 1, 2024 – 2-4 p.m.
- 12. Adjournment**

Item	Quantity req'd	Market Value (if donating funds towards the purchase)	Justification
Gardening tools & accessories	4x bypass pruners, 4x fine-tipped sheers, 4x trowels, 4x garden knives, 1x loppers, 12x gardening gloves	\$540	As our membership increases, we'd like to invest in more gardening tools and accessories to have on hand. This would help us to ensure that we're able to give everyone a job in the garden that wants one, while having sufficient tools to support that.
Earthway Precision Garden Seeder	1	\$250	This tool (https://www.westcoastseeds.com/products/earthway-precision-garden-seeder-2) is commonly used by market gardeners to efficiently sow seeds without having to drop each one into the ground by hand. It's nifty and effective, speeds up operations, and is simple enough to be used by children (long arms permitting). The good folks at Muriel Shores Farm have one of these that that they have lent out to us for use from time to time, when they don't have an immediate need for it. We would appreciate having one of our own for use at the beginning of the season when there is a crunch to get many seeds in the ground in good time.
A compression sprayer	1	\$150	Having a compression sprayer would allow us to do foliar nutrient applications to our crops. In the past, we have applied seaweed extract and fish sauce, which helps ensure the health and vigour of our plants over the course of the season. Historically, we have relied on borrowing this equipment from one of our Collective members when we need to do an application, but if we forgot to organize properly for it in advance, the fertilization would be put off for another week. It was difficult to respect the schedule when this happened, as it isn't a weekly task. If we had a compression sprayer on-site, it would ensure that fertilization happened when it needed to, both according to the schedule and when the need is identified spontaneously.
Insect-protection row cover with hoops	1 roll of woven ProtekNet (6.9' x 100') with 25 supporting PVC hoops	\$200	Muriel Shores Farms employs this system of insect exclusion netting to protect their Brassica crops from damage by flea beetles and other pests, with great results. We have gotten away from growing these crops due to pest pressure. Investing in a similar system would give us more confidence in starting to bring more crops from the cabbage family back to HRG.
Garlic curing overhang	Tin roofing, lumber & screws	\$250	Last year we cured the garlic grown at HRG in the Dugout and it rendered the space unusable for anything else for about 6 weeks and also created a lot of stress among Collective members due to fears of it being stolen. Ultimately, the Dugout was not an appropriate environment for curing garlic due to high temperatures and humidity in the middle of the summer as well. This year, we would like to construct an area for curing garlic on the property of one of our Directors. Constructing it on private property would greatly mitigate fears of the garlic being stolen. The area identified is much more suitable for the needs of garlic during the curing process as well.
Wood, fencing & rebar for upgrading our trellis'	Wood: 8- 8'x4"x4", 4-10'x2"x4", 9- 8'x2"x4"; rigid galvanized steel cattle guard; 20' x 15mm rebar (per archway...double for two)	\$841	In the past, we have had trouble with our trellis being unable to properly support the height and weight of our peas, in particular. By the seasons' end, we are battling to keep the trellis upright until the plants finish fruiting. We would like to reinvent our trellis system to perform properly until the seasons' end, and also create beautiful flowered archways to enjoy as people walk among the trellised garden beds. We would like to build two of these archways this year, if time & the funds allow.
Wood for building bench seating	6-10'x2"x4", 1-12'x2"x10" per bench, we would like to make 4.	\$334	We would like to construct more benches to place around the garden for seating, and to be able to move about however we need for social events. At the moment, when we are having a large social gathering, we ask people to bring their camping chairs. These often get forgotten and left behind and then we have to house them and spend energy trying to reunite the chairs with their owners. It would be wonderful to be able to provide more seating in the garden, when needed.
Wire racking unit	1	\$200	We'd like to purchase a sturdy wire rack to house the transplants that we start throughout the growing season that will be succession-planted into beds that are harvested and empty mid-season. In the past, we have had our trays of transplants just put on the ground around the garden, but they risk being stepped on. This has happened a number of times, ruining our transplants and setting us back in our planting calendar. Organizing them on racking would also keep things more tidy in the garden.
A gong	1	\$350	We'd like to ritualize the transition moment within a Gardening Party when we shift from performing the weekly maintenance tasks to harvesting produce for ones personal consumption for the week. We'd like to sound a beautiful gong that would reverberate around the garden and signal to our volunteers that it's time to wrap up what they are working on and shift gears to collecting their goodies. We have our eye on a bronze gong with a warm timbre in particular from Gongs Unlimited (an online retailer), but are open to donations as well. It's important the sounds travels and is appealing to the ear.
Solar-powered motion sensor lights	4-8 sets, to surround the garden	\$200-400	Over the course of the past two seasons, we have had a number of encounters with vandalism in the garden at night. We are hoping that if we are able to illuminate the space when people come in during the evening, it may discourage the vandals. Additionally, the extra light would be helpful for those who are trying to finish up last minute tasks in the garden when we are losing the daylight, particularly towards the end of the season.
Rock wool insulation & vapour barrier	10x cubes of Rock wool, 1x 1000 sq. ft roll of poly vapour barrier, 16x 12'x1"x4" spruce lumber, screws	\$1,200	For insulating the Dugout- The barn structure gets HOT in the summer, and needs to be insulated properly to make the space comfortable and useful for the needs of the garden and volunteers.

Inline Duct Fan & ducting	1 (or 2?)	\$300 (or \$600)	For ventilating the Dugout- The barn structure gets HOT in the summer, and needs to be ventilated properly to make the space comfortable and useful for the needs of the garden and volunteers.
Branded Event Tent	1	\$1,500-\$2,000	Having a branded event tent would allow us to take our Market Stand anywhere we would like to be in town, while giving HK more visibility in the community. It would allow us to have covered space, protected from the elements, when we need it for outdoor activities hosted in the garden as well - during Mini-Farmers or special events, for example.
Story Walk supplies	2 copies of the book "What's in a flower? and other questions about Science & Nature" by Rachel Ignotofsky, as well as lamination services for the 45 pages.	\$100	"What's inside a flower?" is a beautifully illustrated and wonderfully informative book, meant to educate children and the people reading to them all about flowers - from how they grow to how they function in connection with the ecosystems that surround them. We would love to laminate pages of this book and post them at a child's reading level around the exterior perimeter of the garden, for those walking around the space to read and enjoy when the garden is locked up.
Sandbox	Lumber to frame in a sand-box area between the Dugout and the stage, as well as plywood and hinges to form a cover. Sand to fill the box.	\$350	In an attempt to make Homerun Gardens a more family-friendly space, we would like to build a sandbox that may facilitate play for children while their parents enjoy time to work in the garden and socialize among like-minded peers. The playground at the perimeter of the park has proven to be a strong draw to children over the years, often attracting the children brought to the gardens and cutting short the time that their parents are able to enjoy the space. We hope that by creating another fun play area within the garden gates, we may be able to attract more families with kids to the gardening parties.
Children's picnic tables	2	\$300	In an effort to make HRG a more family-friendly venue, we would like to include a couple of picnic tables for children in the space. This would provide parents with a place to set their children up with snacks and activities if & when they aren't interested in gardening, and the kids still have something to do that holds them in the garden while their caregivers enjoy the space. It would also allow the children to have a shared space that is their own for connecting with one another.
Shade sails or umbrellas with weighted stands	2-4, depending on size.	\$500	We would love to be able to create more pockets of shade in the garden, particularly in spots where we congregate & socialize. Protection from the sun is crucial for enjoying the space on hot and sunny days. Also, for people with certain medical conditions or physical limitations, access to shade from the sun is necessary for their participation & inclusion.
Printing	A diversity of items, many in colour	\$150	We have a large cork-board that we inherited and have been excited to put up in the Dugout and populate with various items - posters including our Mission, Vision & Values as well as our organizational structure, photos of past years, educational material, a calendar of events, etc. The things we plan to print and populate our corkboard with are things that will help people better understand our work and how to get involved with our organization.
Sound System & Microphone	1 JBL Partybox 1000 with 2 wireless microphones	\$1,850	We would like to start hosting more community events in the garden, in order to attract different people and expand the use of the space as a venue for building community in different ways, and also a means of fundraising. We can envision a number of different events that would benefit from having sound, as well as the voice of speakers amplified to be able to reach those in the attendance - Open Mic nights, Karaoke days, educational workshops, etc. Additionally, by acquiring amenities that make HRG an interesting venue for hosting events, we may be able to bring in revenue for renting it out for third parties to use.
Outdoor projector & 150" screen	1 of each, rated for outdoor use	\$1,500 - \$3,000	We would love to start hosting movie nights and documentary film screenings in the garden! Documentaries are such a great way to bring new perspectives to light. As such, we hope to use film screenings as a fun way of facilitating important conversations about the environment, the climate and the strains on social cohesion that so many among our group feel are top of mind at this moment in time... the events could also double as a fundraiser for us!



MEDIA ADVISORY
March 25, 2024

Science North's *Our Climate Quest* travelling exhibition is in KENORA, ON

(KENORA, ON) – *Our Climate Quest: Small steps to big change*, a travelling exhibition produced by Science North, will be on display at the Lake of the Woods Discovery Centre (931 Lakeview Dr, Kenora, ON P9N 3P8) from March 25 to April 8, 2024 in Kenora, ON.

Hours of operation:
9:00am to 4:00pm

Our Climate Quest's mission is to inspire youth across Canada to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and help Canada achieve its goal of net-zero emissions by 2050. Visitors will engage with the science of climate change and discover their personal path to climate action.

Touring across Canada, *Our Climate Quest* will travel to 50 communities allowing visitors to explore a hopeful problem-solving approach to climate change, meet environmental change-makers, and find sustainable solutions.

The *Our Climate Quest* travelling exhibition is proudly supported by the Government of Canada.

For more information about the *Our Climate Quest* tour and to access online resources, including a pledge to climate action, visit climate.sciencenorth.ca.

About Science North

Science North is Northern Ontario's most popular tourist attraction and an educational resource for children and adults across the province. Science North maintains the second – and eighth-largest science centres in Canada. Science North's attractions include a science centre, IMAX® theatre, digital Planetarium, butterfly gallery, special exhibits hall, and Dynamic Earth: Home of the Big Nickel. Science North, in partnership with Laurentian University, offers North America's first and only comprehensive Science Communication program, a joint master's and Graduate Diploma program. As part of its mandate, Science North provides science experiences throughout Northern Ontario including outreach to schools and festivals, summer science camps and more, and has a permanent base in Thunder Bay providing outreach to the Northwest. Science North is an agency of the Government of Ontario. For information, visit sciencenorth.ca.

Media Contact:

Bennett Malcolmson

Marketing Specialist

Science North

bennett.malcolmson@sciencenorth.ca

Science North is an agency of the Government of Ontario and a registered charity #10796 2979 RR0001.



Northwestern
Health Unit



EARTH DAY

COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

SATURDAY
APRIL 20
KENORA
TAPROOM

10AM
TO
12PM

Join forces with our community for a local clean up. Supplies will be provided by **Northwestern Health Unit** and **Tourism Kenora**. Participants will receive a complimentary 12-pack of Sneaky Peach Pale Ale for their efforts (must be 19+), or a bottle of our in-house Hockeytown Old Style Root Beer!

DETAILS:

10:00AM: Meet at Kenora Taproom.

10:15AM: Local clean up.

12:00PM: Regroup at Lake of the Woods Brewing Company's Retail Store to pick up your complimentary case of beer or root beer!

*Scan me
to sign up!*



SIGN-UP AT LOWBREWCO.COM/EARTH-DAY-CLEANUP OR
EMAIL AMORY@LOWBREWCO.COM.



Media Release

March 18, 2024

For Immediate Release

City Pursuing New Trash Bag for Adopt a Block Program

Kenora, ON – The City of Kenora is pursuing a sustainable trash bag solution for use in the Adopt a Block program by trialling a new compostable bag that will reduce the impact of plastic bags in our landfill.

The City is testing a certified compostable bag for the roadside trash Adopt a Block program. A supply of the unbranded compostable bags will be distributed to Volunteers in the Spring as a trial. Our goal is to determine if compostable bags are a viable option to replace the current plastic bags. If the trial has a positive outcome, we will deplete our current supply of City-branded bags and replace them with the compostable option.

The certified compostable bags are made of compostable copolyester and other renewable materials that are environmentally friendly and fully break down compared to plastic bags. The compostable bags are tinted green in an eco-friendly fashion and are lightweight and waterproof.

Adopt a Block is a City-organized community clean-up program that citizens register an area, neighbourhood, or street to clean up throughout the warmer months. The City provides the tools, including collection bags. Bags, once full, are left on the roadside and picked up by City employees for disposal. Many groups and families participate in the Adopt a Block program, taking pride in their community and investing in keeping Kenora beautiful. For more information on how to get involved, visit Kenora.ca or contact the Kenora Transfer Station at 807-467-2980.

Bill Mundy, C.E.T., General Manager of Utilities
bmundy@kenora.ca 807-467-2000 www.kenora.ca