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To: Mayor & Members of Council

From: Lynn Robichaud, Sr. Sustainability Coordinator, Capital Works

cc: James Ridge, Allan Magi, Mike Greenlee, Kwab Ako-Adjei

Date: June 21, 2017

Re: **Hamilton Burlington Climate Change Partnership**

Last year at the Bay Area Economic Summit, Mayor Goldring and Mayor Eisenberger introduced the idea of a collaborative approach between the cities of Hamilton and Burlington to respond to climate change. Both mayors presented resolutions to their respective city councils supporting the development of a governance structure to implement climate change initiatives between both cities. Mohawk College subsequently joined the discussions taking a lead role in developing a regional approach to action on climate change. A copy of the council directions in Mayor Goldring's resolution is found in Appendix A to this memo.

Climate Change Partnership

On June 27th, an announcement will be made at the Bay Area Economic Summit by the cities of Hamilton and Burlington, and Mohawk College on their plans to work together to share resources and coordinate efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The goal of the partnership is to create a Centre for Climate Change Management within the next two years. The framework will be modelled after the successful Bay Area Restoration Council (BARC) and is expected to strengthen partnerships and foster collaboration among business, industry, government and community organizations.

The partnership will be announced by Mayor Goldring, Mayor Fred Eisenberger and Mohawk President Ron McKerlie at the economic summit.

Mohawk College – Centre for Climate Change Management

Mohawk College is in the process of building a new net zero building at their Fennell Street campus, the Joyce Centre for Partnership and Innovation, expected to be ready in the fall of 2018. This new net zero building will host the Centre for Climate Change Management and will include:

- Mohawk's Campus Carbon Management Office
- Mohawk's Industry Partnerships Office, and
- **The Bay Area Climate Change Coordinating Office***

The Bay Area Climate Change Coordinating Office*

Burlington's participation will be specific to the **Bay Area Climate Change Coordinating Office** in partnership with the City of Hamilton. The partnership will bring together leading stakeholders such as academia, utilities, Indigenous populations, non-government organizations and industry to work collaboratively on climate change, working collaboratively on:

- Investments in energy efficiency mitigation measures, green infrastructure, job creation, and clean technologies.
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives that make sense on a regional basis across both communities (actions will be based on both the Hamilton Climate Change Action Plan and Burlington's Community Energy Plan)

The framework and objectives for the Bay Area Climate Change Partnership will consist of:

a) The Bay Area Climate Change Coordinating Office (BACCO)

Objective: This office will provide secretariat functions to both the council and the implementation teams, as well as help coordinate climate actions, funding sources and annual events.

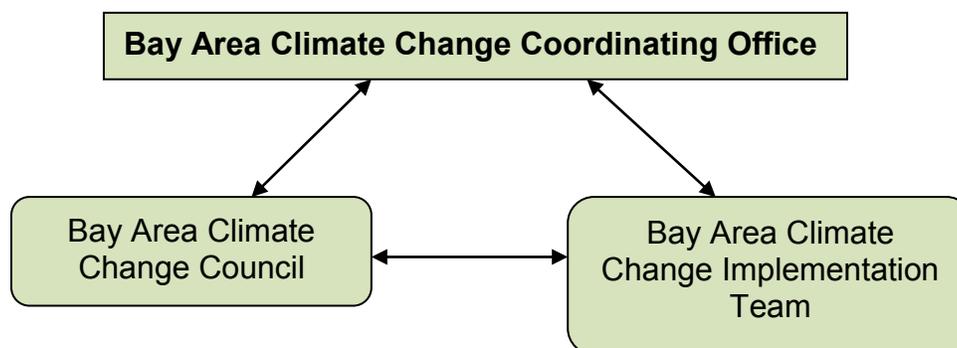
b) The Bay Area Climate Change Council (BACCC)

Objectives: Act as a voluntary community reporting group that will provide governance and oversight of climate actions across Hamilton and Burlington. Provide annual reports to the community and policy direction to the implementation teams.

c) The Bay Area Climate Change Implementation Team (BACCIT)

Objectives: Implement climate change actions across Hamilton and Burlington. Consult with stakeholders, BACCO and other subject experts on issues or concerns relating to implementation of actions.

The following is a diagram of the proposed governance structure for the Bay Area Climate Change Partnership:



Funding:

Opportunities for federal and provincial funding and partnerships for the climate change governance model and implementation team have been identified. Mohawk College has taken the lead in discussions with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change to obtain funding support for the overall initiative. A funding application has been submitted to the province. The Climate Change Mitigation and Low Carbon Economy Act, 2016 requires all auction proceeds of the provincial Cap and Trade System to fund climate reduction projects.

The cities of Burlington and Hamilton will contribute in-kind resources in this initiative through existing staff.

Conclusion

The establishment of the Climate Change Partnership between Burlington, Hamilton and Mohawk College should provide additional resources to support Burlington's implementation of the Community Energy Plan. Burlington will benefit from this regional collaboration to help meet its objectives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and transition to a net zero carbon community as envisioned in the Strategic Plan. A more detailed report will be submitted to council for approval regarding implementation of the Bay Area Climate Change Partnership, pending the acquisition of funding from the province.

Appendix A

The following directions were included in the 2016 Mayor's resolution regarding the climate change partnership between Burlington and Hamilton:

- a) That staff be directed to work with the City of Hamilton to develop a governance model similar to the Bay Area Restoration Council and the Bay Area Implementation Team, in collaboration with staff from the Federal and Provincial office of the Ministries of Environment and Climate Change, and report back to the Development and Infrastructure Committee.
- b) That the Mayor correspond with The Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, and The Honourable Glen Murray, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, to support the City of Hamilton's request that the Federal and Provincial Ministries assist with the establishment of the Community Climate Change Action Plan Implementation Team in identifying the appropriate Federal and Provincial government staff, private sector and community representatives to provide expert advice and financial resources toward the action on climate change, within the funding guidelines for the Low Carbon Economy Trust; and the Five Year Climate Change Strategy;
- c) That upon the formation of the governance structure for the Community Climate Change Action Implementation Team, the City of Burlington form a partnership with the City of Hamilton to coordinate efforts, with respect to the implementation of the plans; and,
- d) That staff be directed to report to the Development and Infrastructure Committee annually, respecting the progress of implementing Hamilton's Community Climate Change Action Plan and Burlington's Community Energy Plan.