



## Parks and Environment Committee

<b>Meeting No.</b>	24	<b>Contact</b>	Dela Ting, Acting Administrator
<b>Meeting Date</b>	Tuesday, June 16, 2009	<b>Phone</b>	416-397-7769
<b>Start Time</b>	9:30 AM	<b>E-mail</b>	pec@toronto.ca
<b>Location</b>	Committee Room 1, City Hall	<b>Chair</b>	Councillor Paula Fletcher

Parks and Environment Committee		
Councillor Paula Fletcher (Chair) Councillor Raymond Cho (Vice Chair Environment)	Councillor Ron Moeser Councillor Frances Nunziata	Councillor Karen Stintz (Vice Chair Parks) Councillor Michael Walker

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**Declarations of Interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act**

**Speakers/Presentations: A complete list will be distributed at the meeting**

**Confirmation of Minutes - April 20, 2009**

**Communications/Reports**

PE24.1	ACTION			Ward: 13
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**Donation from Sir Sandford Fleming College to Parks, Forestry and Recreation - The Children's Teaching Kitchen**

**Origin**

(May 21, 2009) Report from General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

**Recommendations**

The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation recommends that City Council:

1. accept the in-kind contribution of construction supervision and general labour, valued at \$235,000.00, provided by Sir Sandford Fleming College of Applied Arts and Technology (“Fleming College”) to construct The Children’s Teaching Kitchen in High Park (the “Project”);
2. authorize the selection of Fleming College on a sole source basis as a pre-selected subcontractor on the Project;
3. waive the City’s Fair Wage Policy as it applies to Fleming College as a subcontractor under a City contract; and
4. authorize the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation to enter into appropriate contracts with Fleming College in relation to the contribution, on terms and conditions and satisfactory in form and content to the General Manager and the City Solicitor.

**Summary**

This report seeks Council approval to accept an in-kind donation from Sir Sandford Fleming College of Applied Arts and Technology (Fleming College) toward building the High Park Children’s Teaching Kitchen, in accordance with the Policy on Donations to the City for Community Benefits. Since the estimated value of this offer exceeds the \$50,000.00 threshold for donation acceptance established in the policy, the Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division requires City Council consent before proceeding with the initiative.

Fleming College is committed to contributing construction supervision and general labour, estimated at \$235,000.00 in-kind donation towards the building of the kitchen. The Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division will oversee the project through to completion. In addition to

the in-kind donation, funding for this project was approved in the 2009 Capital Budget. The collaboration will enable significant enhancements to the project, becoming a showcase for green building innovation.

### **Financial Impact**

In 2009, City Council approved funding of \$400,000.00 in the Parks, Forestry and Recreation Capital Budget to construct the Children's Teaching Kitchen.

Fleming College will provide an in-kind donation of construction supervision and labour towards the construction of the building that is valued at approximately \$235,000.00.

Initial one-time start-up costs to supply and furnish the facility, in the estimated amount of \$27,700.00, will be identified by the Division as a pressure in the compilation of its 2010 Operating Budget request.

The annual net operating cost of \$41,869.00 consisting of \$76,889.00 in operating expenditures and projected revenue of \$35,020.00, will be identified as a budget pressure by the Division in its compilation of the 2010 and future years' Operating Budget requests.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information

### **Background Information**

Staff Report

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-21428.pdf>

PE24.2	ACTION			Ward: All
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### **Identifying Urban Agricultural Opportunities in the City of Toronto**

#### **Origin**

(May 28, 2009) Report from Director, Toronto Environment Office and General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

#### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that:

1. City Council support, in principle, the ongoing coordination by the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation and the Director of the Toronto Environment Office of Interdivisional Strategies and Initiatives that will achieve the overall goal of expanding opportunities for local food production and other urban agricultural activities in the City of Toronto.

## Summary

Promoting local food production is an important component of the Climate Change, Clean Air and Sustainability Energy Action Plan, which was unanimously adopted by City Council in 2007. When food is grown and consumed locally, as opposed to food imports that are transported greater distances from the field to the point of purchase, there is a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

Public interest in local food and urban agriculture is growing rapidly and there is increasing demand from City park users to allocate additional city lands, particularly parkland, for the purpose of gardening and food production. Community groups and organizations experienced in urban food production have continued to make urban agriculture a valuable community building exercise as well as endeavouring to address the food security issues that are prevalent in Priority Neighbourhoods.

On February 5, 2009, the Parks and Environment Committee heard from a panel of experts in the field of urban agriculture who were invited to make presentations about of urban food production and how the City of Toronto can best support the urban agriculture movement while considering important constraints and opportunities.

This report responds to the issues examined by the expert panel and provides a platform to continue the policy development work needed to support the increase of opportunities for food production in the City, with a focus on maintaining collaborative working relationships among City divisions and community organizations.

## Financial Impact

There are no financial implications arising from this report. Monies made available for internal urban food production projects from the Toronto Environment Office budget were established as a one-time fund as part of the Live Green Toronto initiative approved by City Council in December 2007. Funding has been approved in the 2008 Toronto Environment Office Capital carry forward and 2009 Operating Budgets for the combined amount of \$500,000.00. The Decision Document can be viewed at:

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cc/decisions/2007-12-11-cc15-dd.pdf>

The projects are highlighted in Section 3.3 of this report.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

## Background Information

Staff Report

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-21648.pdf>

Appendix A

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-21649.pdf>

Appendix B

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-21650.pdf>

PE24.3	ACTION			Ward: All
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## **National Pollutant Release Inventory: Toronto's 2006 and 2007 Annual Reports**

### **Origin**

(May 29, 2009) Report from Director, Toronto Environment Office

### **Recommendation**

The Director of the Toronto Environment Office recommends:

1. that he continue to provide annual reports regarding the emissions that are reported to the National Pollution Release Inventory (NPRI) in Toronto and that he continue to collaborate with Toronto Public Health to produce these reports.

### **Summary**

This report provides information about emissions reported to the National Pollution Release Inventory (“NPRI”) by large facilities across Toronto for 2006 and 2007 (the most recent years for which verified data has been published), and updates a previous report on emissions tracked by the NPRI up to and including 2005. Compared to 2005, fewer facilities reported to NPRI and the total releases of common air contaminants and other substances decreased in 2007. In 2007, a total of 305 facilities in Toronto reported their releases to the NPRI. Twenty eight (or 8 percent) fewer facilities reported in 2007 than in 2005. Total tonnes released to air decreased by 20 percent between 2005 and 2007. Common air contaminant releases decreased by 20 percent and releases of other air toxics decreased by 16 percent in the same period. The total releases to water decreased from 2005 to 2007, with fewer releases in 2006 than 2007. Releases to land remain negligible.

The NPRI program gathers data about the mass of pollutants released into the environment. NPRI data reflect emissions of large facilities only, so the data only represent a portion of the pollutants released and transferred to the environment in Toronto. Pollution also enters the environment from non-NPRI sources, including small businesses, vehicles, homes, and pollution that is transported from elsewhere. The health effects of pollutants depend strongly on the toxicity of released substances and the actual concentrations that reach people, as well as their exposure and sensitivity to such substances. Health-based priorities for emissions reduction may be different than priorities based on mass alone. Beginning in 2012, Toronto’s new Environmental Reporting, Disclosure and Innovation program will add new data on chemical release and usage for 25 priority chemicals from smaller Toronto facilities.

This report was prepared in collaboration with Toronto Public Health.

### **Financial Impact**

There are no financial impacts arising from the adoption of the recommendations contained in this report. The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer have reviewed this report and agree with the financial impact information.

## Background Information

Staff Report and Appendix A, B, C and D

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-21651.pdf>)

Maps

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-21652.pdf>)

### 3a Highlights of the National Pollutant Release Inventory for 2006-2007 (Toronto Data)

#### Summary

Highlights of the National Pollutant Release Inventory: Toronto's 2006 and 2007 Annual Reports.

#### Background Information

National Pollutant Release Inventory Highlights for Toronto: 2006 and 2007

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-22219.pdf>)

PE24.4	ACTION			
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### Collaboration with the Société d'histoire de Toronto (Toronto Historical Society) on the Creation of a Historical Park along the Humber River

#### Origin

(April 29, 2009) Member Motion from Councillor Giambrone and Seconded by Councillor Milczyn

#### Recommendations

1. That the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation be directed to have appropriate staff collaborate with The Société d'histoire de Toronto on the creation of a strategic plan to implement the Sentier partagé/Shared Path Historical Park Project;
2. That the General Manager of the Toronto Transit Commission be requested to have appropriate staff collaborate with The Société d'histoire de Toronto on the creation of a temporary or permanent historical exhibit at Old Mill Station to mark that location's significance to the francophone history of Toronto;
3. That any capital costs associated with this project are to be borne by the Société d'histoire de Toronto and their private sector partners;

#### Summary

The Société d'histoire de Toronto's mandate is to develop interest in local French history and help in the preservation of historical sites. For over a decade, they have been strongly advocating for the creation of a historical park or a heritage greenway along the Humber River.

The project area is comprised of all public lands along the Humber River, south of Dundas Street to the mouth of the River. This site is one of the richest historical sites in Canada since on this location all three founding people of Canada and Toronto, First Nations, French and British met and traded.

In creating this Historical Park, the Société wishes to take advantage of the existing park and trail network, and to capitalize upon the Humber River's natural and cultural heritage. The Humber was designated a Canadian Heritage River in 1999. The Historical Park will highlight the inter-relationship of the First Nations, French and English – The Shared Path – along the Humber river. To highlight this historical link, the proposed name of the historical park is the Sentier partagé/Shared Path.

To raise awareness about this project, the Société d'histoire de Toronto would like to also propose a temporary exhibition about the Historical Park and Toronto's French history at the nearby Old Mill subway station. They would also like to explore whether some sort of permanent historical installation would be feasible at the station that would tie it in to the Historical Park project concept.

The Société d'histoire de Toronto has also received a \$95,000.00 grant, spread over three years, from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, to inform the public about the Sentierpartagé/Shared Path and to create a strategic plan to successfully implement the project, in collaboration with various partners.

## **Background Information**

Notice of Motion

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-21429.pdf>)