

October 19, 2017

Town Secures \$175K in Grant Money

HALTON HILLS, ON – “The Town of Halton Hills is a true leader in climate change initiatives,” said Mayor Bonnette. His words were supported by a \$175,000 grant awarded by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities through their ‘Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program’.

“This investment validates the Town’s direction and initiative in environmental sustainability,” he continued, “My congratulations to staff on their successful grant application!”

The money will be used to develop a Scenario-Based Climate Change Adaptation Plan, one of Council’s 2014-2018 strategic priorities. A Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Climate Change Adaptation Plan was first presented to Council in February 2017 then updated in August 2018 to reflect the expanded project scope that this additional funding will enable the Town to undertake.

The purpose of the plan is to identify the issues associated with climate change to determine priorities and subsequently, outline actions that will enable the Town to remain resilient to climate change now and in the future. Public engagement and research will be used to prepare both qualitative and quantitative data to identify Town issues vulnerable to climate change and prioritize them.

The project will address the risks facing the Town through a greenhouse gas modeling exercise to project results up to 80 years in the future on the basis of three options: a low carbon economy (e.g. convert all cars to electric), a ‘business as usual/status quo’ and a middle-of-the-road option. A second exercise will also be undertaken using the findings from the first exercise to determine the vulnerability of the town’s natural assets.

The project is anticipated to be completed by spring 2019.

About the Town of Halton Hills

The Town of Halton Hills, with a population of approximately 60,000, consists of two urban centres, Georgetown and Acton, with three hamlets – Glen Williams, Stewarttown and Norval – and several smaller settlements. Halton Hills has long been recognized for its natural beauty, active agricultural community, high quality of life and proximity to major centres, including Brampton, Mississauga and Toronto. The Town is ranked as one of the top small communities in Canada by a national magazine.

About The Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program

The Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program is a new five-year, \$75-million program designed to encourage Canadian municipalities to better prepare for and adapt to the new realities of climate change as well as reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

See: fcm.ca/home/programs

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