



**Sustainable  
Orillia**

# **A Mayor's Task Force**

September 2019 - Update for Council



Sustainable  
Orillia

# Spaceship Earth

HUMAN  
POPULATION:

1960 – 3 billion

1980 – 4.4 billion

2000 -- 6.1 billion

2019 – 7.5 billion

2040 -- ????





# On Spaceship Earth

- We find:
  - An unbalanced ecosystem – demand exceeds supply\*\*\*
  - An unstable ecosystem – too much carbon = long term damage
  - Unstable human populations – too many of us
  - Plant and animal communities in decline or disappearing

*\*\*\*Canada ranks 7<sup>th</sup> worst among nations using an average of 8 times the Earth's resources each year based on Global Footprint Analysis.*

- *All species are crew, but only **one** species has ability and responsibility for sustainability*



# What is “Sustainability”?

Our working definition of “sustainability” is

***“Meeting our own needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”***

- Sustainability, in this sense, suggests that human communities must be designed and realigned so that humanity’s “way of life, technologies, and social institutions honour, support, and cooperate with nature’s ability to sustain life” (Capra, 1999).



# Sustainable Cities

A city designed with consideration for social, economic, environmental impact

With a resilient habitat for existing populations, without compromising the ability of future generations to experience the same.

These cities are inhabited by people whom are dedicated towards minimization of required inputs of energy, water, food, waste, output of heat, air pollution - CO<sub>2</sub>, methane, and water pollution.

(Wikipedia)



The SMDHU has projected that if no climate action is taken  
**PROJECTED TEMPERATURES** for Orillia will be increased as  
follows:

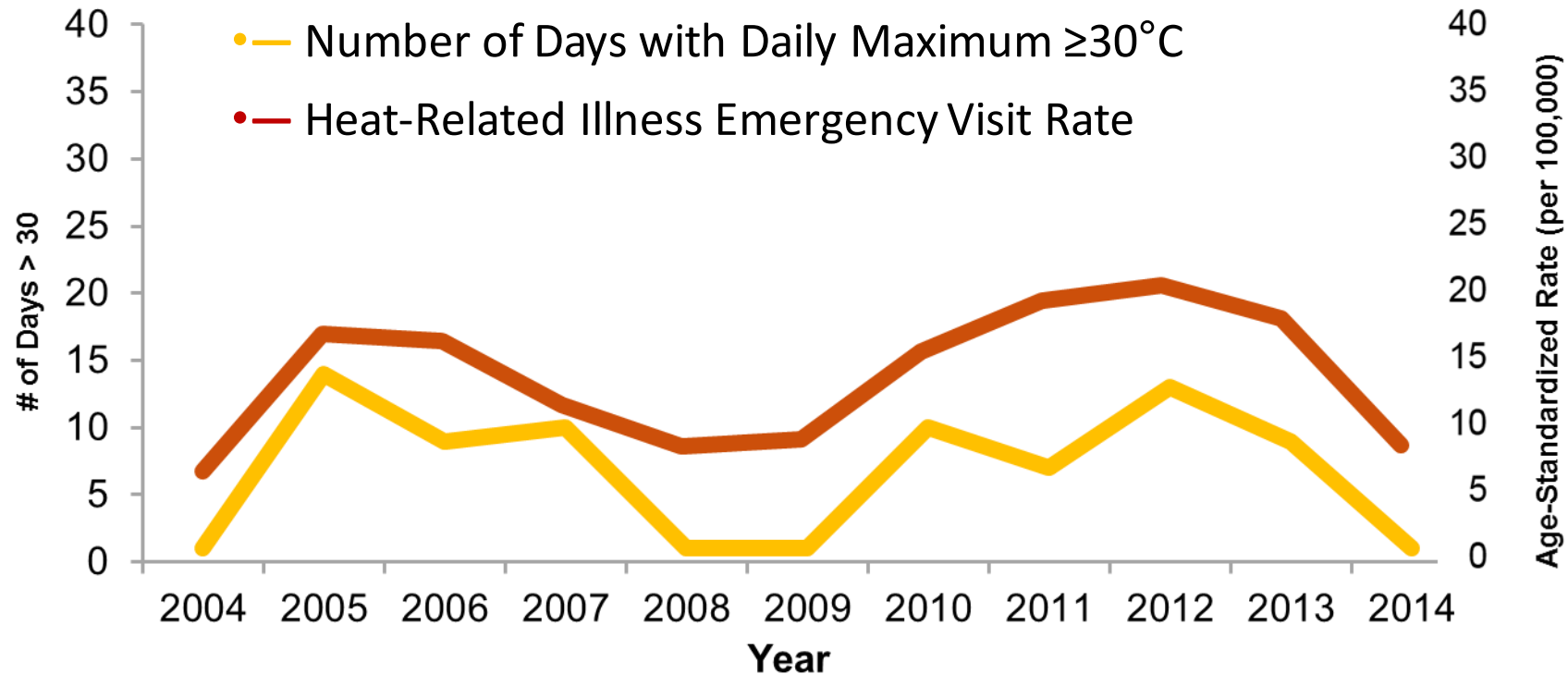
- 1°C (2020s) - climate similar to Ohio
- 3.5°C (2050s) - climate similar to Kentucky
- 5.7°C (2080s) – climate similar to Mississippi

The largest temperature increase is projected to occur within the winter and autumn, with a greater than 7 degrees Celsius increase projected by 2080.

Within the summer it is projected to have an average increase of 5 degrees by 2080 and close to double days >30C



## What Does this Mean? - For Example HEAT-RELATED ILLNESS



• Data Source: Ambulatory Visits & Population Estimates, 2004-2014, IntelliHealth Ontario. Extracted: May 26, 2016; Heat-Related Illness (HRI) defined as any distinct visit using ICD-10 code of X30 or T67.; Temperature data from Barrie-Oro weather station via Environment Canada ([climate.weather.gc.ca](http://climate.weather.gc.ca)).





## Sustainable? Resilient?

“We scientists don’t know how to do that”

“I used to think the top environmental problems were biodiversity loss, ecosystem collapse and climate change.

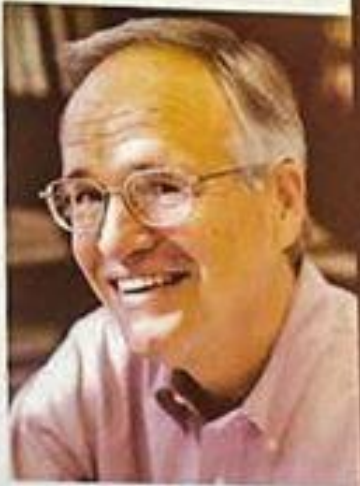
I thought that with 30 years of good science we could address those problems.

But I was wrong.  
The top environmental problems are selfishness, greed and apathy...

...and to deal with those we need a spiritual and cultural transformation

- and we scientists don't know how to do that.”

*Gus Speth*



- There is overwhelming evidence that climate change is upon us.
- Will we be resilient enough to cope? Will we ultimately *BE* sustainable?
- Will we make the necessary behavioural transformations?
- Sustainable Orillia will help our community make the necessary behavioural transformations to reduce climate change impacts and become more resilient to negative changes





# Sustainable Orillia - Mandate

*Develop long term comprehensive sustainability principles and actions for the Orillia community, building on the previous corporate plan and previous environmental achievements under the City Council umbrella and in concert with the Strategic Plan - called "Sustainable Orillia"*



## Sustainable Orillia - Vision

*The community is conscientious, responsible, engaged and energized.*

*Citizens, businesses and institutions are taking action personally, collectively and publicly to set and reach specific and measurable targets that avoid placing a burden on future generations and the natural environment.*

*The transition to a more sustainable way of life has become an integral part of our lifestyle.*



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# Sustainable Orillia - Mission

*Engage the Community in actions that build more rewarding and healthy lives for the people of Orillia, our children and grandchildren.*



# Our Strategies

- Facilitate both City-sponsored and community-organized projects through engagement and partnerships e.g. Upcoming Co-Sponsored Seminars
- Undertake local, non-partisan action:
  - Everyone is a stakeholder in the future of our community
  - Cross-sector thinking and engagement with mutually beneficial plans and actions is to be encouraged
  - Viable socio-enviro-economic ideas and solutions must be the focus
- Develop measurable reduction guidelines and targets - for individuals, the community, and the city (working with Climate Action Plan) enabled with “smart city” technology
- **Incorporate as a Not-For Profit and Work with City, Townships, First Nations and community partners to attract financial grants to enhance sustainability objectives**
- Demonstrate with quick wins and long term achievements that Orillia is an emerging leader in change-making and carbon reduction
- Contribute to developing *Sustainability Orillia* as a learning, leadership and collaboration hub



# Anticipated Outcomes

Individual, business and organizational behavioural changes will contribute to:

- Greenhouse gas reduction
- Better health, both physical and mental well-being
- New economic opportunities built around sustainability and caring for our environment and society
- Improvements to the physical and built environment to help make Orillia a more pleasant, safe and affordable place to live
- Enhanced production and utilization of food growing land to enhance local affordable food supplies for all
- Improved water quality
- Orillia as a recognized Sustainable City and a leader in sustainability
- Help to ensure that the lives of our children and ensuing generations are lived in a world that is not worse than ours



# 2019 Revenue and Expenditure

## Revenue

City Grant	\$10000
Cash Sponsorships	<u>\$ 3500</u>
Total	\$13500

## Expenditure

LAUNCH incl. Liability insurance	\$2650
2019 D&O and Commercial insurance	\$1500
Website Dev`t, & Maint./Logo	\$4,100
Operating & fall special events	<u>\$5,250</u>
Total	\$13,500





# 2020 Budget Estimate

## Revenue

City Of Orillia Grant	\$15000
Federal Sustainable Development Grant	\$ 99500/1yr
Trillium Grow Grant	\$ 250000/3yr =83300/yr
2020 <u>Possible</u> Revenue	\$197800

## Expenditure

Core Costs – Insurance, Accounting, Basic Office Expenditures (not grant eligible)	\$5000
Basic Communications and Events	\$10000
Grants - Salaries, Research, Communications, Support for City Climate Action Plan and Events	Up to \$182800
Total 2020 <u>Possible</u> Expenditure -Up to	\$197800



# How We Are Organized

- The Current Task Force:

Dr. Gordon Ball–Secretary

Danny Epstein

John Knapp

Susanne LaPerle

Fred Larsen–Treasurer

Stan Mathewson–Chair

Michael Shillolo

Zac Waite (Youth Rep/webmaster)

- We are incorporating and will be recruiting additional Board members and will include a Youth Council
- And to organize, plan and implement projects across our Community we have developed 9 Sectors



## Sector Chair Leaders

- Agriculture & Food - Bernard Pope (Farmland Preservation) , vice -Chris Peacock (Sharing Place)
- Land & Water - Gord Ball, Raj Gill, (advisor- Mark Bisset) (Couchiching Conservancy)
- Housing – Jim Saunders, Michael Jones
- Goods & Services - Allan Lafontaine – (Orillia Chamber of Commerce)
- Transportation and Energy – Tony Telford (Orser Technical)
- Development & Investment – Sophie Mathewson, Jackie Ramler, (Raymond James)
- Education - Ellen Field (Lakehead U), John Knapp, Michael Shillolo (Retired Teachers)
- Health & Wellness – vacant, Chair being recruited- supported by the Health Unit
- Arts & Culture - Gillian Lowry, Fred Larsen

PLUS

Public Sector capital & operations - Renee Recoskie - City of Orillia



## Sectors and example concerns (1)

1. **Agriculture/Food/Cropland** – (food supply, community gardens, diet, local sourcing, waste, sharing...) *Food Share reports that, in Canada, 58% of food is wasted* Food Share 2019
2. **Forest/Land/Water** – (forests (carbon sink), habitat, water quality...) *Extinction rates have increased from 1-5 species / yr to 1000/50000 species per yr* Biological Diversity.org
3. **Goods and Services** (reuse, recycling, packaging, single use plastic, eco tourism, reduced carbon footprint, green marinas, carbon offsets) *91% of plastic is not recycled* National Geographic *Aviation is responsible for 12% of CO2 emissions from all transportation sources, compared to 74% from road transport* Atag.org 2018
4. **Housing** (energy efficiency, affordability, densification...) *Residential energy use increased 8.4% since 1990, but would have increased by 54% without energy efficiency improvements* Env. Can.



## Sectors and example concerns (2)

5. **Transportation, Renewable Energy and Conservation** -(*Electric Vehicles, active transportation, solar, wind, RNG, conservation...*) *The electric portion of new passenger car sales has risen to 8.3% for all of Canada but is 50% in Norway*  
Fleet Carma 2018
  
6. **Private Sector Development and Investment** – (eco footprint of development, (building standards and operations, socially responsible investment - ESG(Environment, Social, Governance), carbon offsets) *Residential, commercial and industrial buildings account for 17% of Canada’s GHG emissions. Burning fossil fuels for space heating accounts for the largest share of these emissions.* An Introduction to Climate Change Adaption Env Canada “This year (2019) will transform the way companies manage climate-related issues. The importance of ESG to the bottom line is capturing mainstream investor attention. ESG issues are reshaping and reinventing business models. Libby Bernick, Managing Director Global Head of Trucost Corporate Business, S&P Global Market Intelligence



## Sectors and example concerns (3)

8. **Public Sector** *“the local nature of many climate impacts means that municipalities are often on the front line to ensure effective management of risks, protect community safety and promote economic sustainability”* Canadian Architect 2018
  - **Education** Both the direct and flow-on effects of climate change place children at risk of mental health consequences including PTSD, depression, anxiety, phobias, sleep disorders, attachment disorders, and substance abuse. These in turn can lead to problems with emotion regulation, cognition, learning, behavior, language development, and academic performance. *“The Psychological Effects of Climate Change on Children.*
  - [Burke SEL1](#), [Sanson AV2](#), [Van Hoorn J3](#).
  - a) **Health and Wellness** - Annual mean temperatures above baseline (1990s) by:
    - 1°C (2020s) – climate similar to Ohio
    - 3.5°C (2050s) – climate similar to Kentucky
    - 5.7°C (2080s) – climate similar to Mississippi (SMDHU)
  - a) **Public Sector capital and operations** - Municipal Climate Change Initiatives
9. **Arts and Culture** (leadership in societal change – art, music, theatre, writing..) *“The arts have a critical role to play in the climate story. Creative products and practice can make difficult scientific facts and complicated jargon more accessible, whilst stimulating emotions, empathy and widening perception.”* Harpreet Kaur Huffington Post





## Progress To Date

- Strengthened our Sectors through effective leadership and member recruitment
- Conducted two well-attended, successful Launch events – May 24/25
- Generated significant sponsor support both in-kind and financial to enable completion of our 2019 plans
- Continued to communicate with the community with the assistance of the media
- Recruited several new Task Force members
- Organized all 197 ideas that came out of the Launch Conference Breakout sessions
- Creating a work plan (“50 Shades of Green”) comprised of 50 of the best, quickest, lowest cost and important ideas to be implemented through 2019 and early 2020
- Provided a focal point for the both the community and individuals and organizations outside the community
- Discussed mutual interests with many community organizations



# Next Steps

- Doing
- Planning and Implementing “50 Shades of Green” through the Sectors, which will include a number of special events, research into important issues and position papers to enhance sustainability of our community and cooperative projects such as tree planting and Sundial Creek with members of EAC (Land and Water)
- Enhance Communications -better use of our web site and social media to promote events, provide hints and advice, resources and key priorities for 2019/20
- Possible special events:
  - “ROI of Sustainability Workshop” - with Several keynote speakers and mentors (Bob Willard, Paul Rak) – will involve Ec. Dev., CoC, CDC, business, Not for Profits, associations (Development and Investment)
  - “Future’s Forum” – an invitational event – with Bruce Nagy as advisor – to support Carbon Neutrality
  - Net Zero Housing Seminar in conjunction with Planning Dept. (Housing)
  - Waste Management Seminar (s) in conjunction with ESO and WMAC – (Goods and Services)
  - Featured Speakers such as Chris Ragan, Ecofiscal Commission and others (Task Force)
  - Electric Vehicle Demonstration Event – Scheduled for Sept 28/29 – Orillia Square Mall (Energy and Transportation)
- Develop and publish the Sustainability Handbook (e-book) for the community, with ideas for actions we can take as a community. There will be a promotional bookmark containing the top 10 or 20 ideas.



## Next Steps (2)

- Grant Application for Sustainable Development Goals Grant from Federal Environment and Climate Change, to be used to support Canada's Sustainable Development Goals in partnership with City and Lakehead University.
- Pursue a Trillium "Grow Grant"
- Investigate relevant FCM Grants such as Green Municipal Fund
- Plan for Sustainable Orillia Week events (in November) – Release of Sustainability Handbook and Framework, displays, demos, community report card
- Develop a framework document – principles, goals, objectives including targets e.g. work with City/Lakehead re GHGs), multiyear actions, monitoring, measuring, reporting.
- Facilitate discussion and negotiations as appropriate between external organizations and city organizations with a mutual interest in enhancing sustainability including Committees of Council.
- Incorporate as Sustainable Orillia Inc. and recruit additional board members



## Next Steps (3)

- Researching and Learning
- Examine options for community funding to incentivize energy retrofits, including MURBS, so that we can reduce Orillia's carbon footprint and enable cost savings
- Research and develop position papers on a variety of topics
- Learn from other cities and organizations (e.g. Green Economy Canada, City of Guelph, World Economic Forum, etc.)
- Develop a more robust research partnership with Lakehead U to support Sector Project performance measures
- Partnerships and Relationships
- Enhancing our partnerships and relationships with Lakehead University, Georgian College, City of Orillia, the Greening of Sacred Spaces group (led by Doug Daley, St Paul's), relevant not-for-profit organizations, Chamber of Commerce and other business organizations—to name a few.



## Next Steps (4)

- Planning, Measuring and Monitoring
- e.g. Work with Lakehead's Sustainable Communities Program to develop performance measures for Sustainable Orillia projects such as a community survey project to benchmark Orillia's Global Footprint and publish
- Developing a Plan for Sustainable Orillia that will include:
  - Pursuing grants and other sources of revenue
  - Developing 2020 -2022 plan
  - Reviewing and enhancing governance and recruitment of Directors/Sector Chairs/members
  - Creating a youth council



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**QUESTIONS?**