

Terms of Reference
Ecological Community Advisory Committee

Role

The role of a Community Advisory Committee is to provide recommendations, advice, and information to the Municipal Council on those specialized matters which relate to the purpose of the Community Advisory Committee.

Mandate

The Ecological Community Advisory Committee (ECAC) reports to the Municipal Council, through the Planning and Environment Committee. The Ecological Community Advisory Committee provides technical advice to the City of London on matters which are relevant to the City of London's Official Plan, including London's natural heritage systems as it relates to Environmentally Significant Areas, woodlands, stream corridors, etc.

The ECAC works with Civic Administration, including Ecologists, and may provide advice including, but not limited to, the following matters:

- natural areas, environmental features and applicable policies which may be suitable for identification and/or recognition in the Official Plan;
- management and enhancement of the Natural Heritage System, including Official Plan Policy, Environmental Management Guidelines and other policies and practices;
- to provide advice as part of the development of Conservation Master Plans for London's Environmentally Significant Areas and in Subwatershed Studies;
- reports, projects and processes that may impact the natural heritage system, including Areas Plans, Natural Heritage Studies, Environmental Impact Studies (EIS), Subject Land Status reports, Environmental Assessments, etc.;
- projects (including City-lead) occurring within the Official Plan trigger distance for an EIS, regardless of whether or not the project includes a formalized EIS;
- technical advice, at the request of the Municipal Council, its Committees or the Civic Administration, on environmental matters which are relevant to the City's Official Plan or Natural Heritage System;
- any matter which may be referred to the Committee by Municipal Council, its Committees, or the Civic Administration.

Composition

Voting Members

Up to fifteen members of the community with an interest in the matters included in the mandate of the ECAC. A professional designation, education or experience in related fields is a requirement based on the technical nature of the committee work. Areas of expertise may include the following: Biology, Ornithology, Geology, Botany, Zoology, Landscape Architecture, Forestry, Ecology, Resource Management, Hydrology, Geography, Environmental Planning, Limnology and Natural History.

Non-Voting Resource Group

Non-Voting and Resource members may be engaged as the committee deems necessary.

Sub-committees and Working Groups

The Community Advisory Committee may form sub-committees and working groups as may be necessary to address specific issues; it being noted that the City Clerk's office does not provide resource support to these sub-committees or groups. These sub-committees and working groups shall draw upon members from the Community Advisory Committee as well as outside resource members as deemed necessary. The Chair of a sub-committee and/or working group shall be a voting member of the Community Advisory Committee.

Term of Office

Appointments to Community Advisory Committees shall be determined by the Municipal Council.

Conduct

The conduct of Community Advisory Committee members shall be in keeping with Council Policy and the Respectful Workplace Policy.

Meetings

Meetings shall be once monthly at a date and time set by the City Clerk in consultation with the ECAC. Length of meetings shall vary depending on the agenda. Meetings of sub-committees and/or working groups that have been formed by the ECAC may meet at any time and at any location and are in addition to the regular meetings of the ECAC.