

Report on Sustainability 2011-2012



Our Vision

The City of Kingston is a founding community partner of Sustainable Kingston and will lead the community in achieving our vision of becoming **Canada's Most Sustainable City.**

This year-end report on sustainability identifies some of the key initiatives the City has implemented that align with the Sustainable Kingston Plan and contribute to reaching the community's vision.

Building on the objectives of *The Sustainable Kingston Plan, Kingston's Strategic Plan 2011-2014* provides a framework for how we will conduct municipal business using the four pillars of sustainability and integrate sustainable best practices into operational plans.

Our corporate goals will be achieved in part by: embracing opportunities for intensification; being fiscally responsible; promoting growth, innovation and development; redeveloping contaminated lands (brownfields); increasing tourism and encouraging immigration. We will incorporate sustainability into corporate practices and develop performance indicators to measure our success.



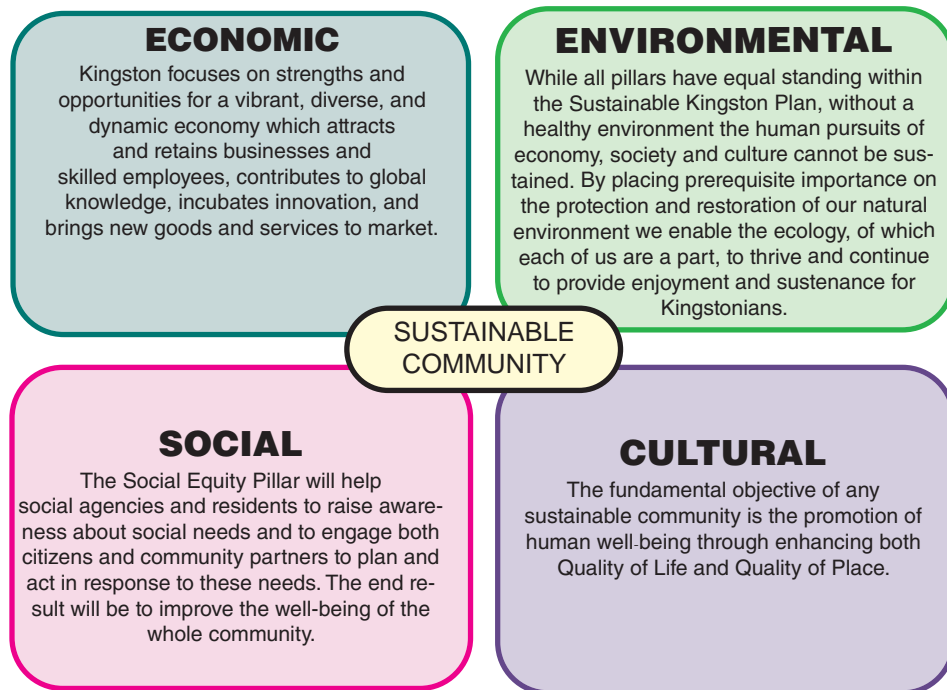
Meeting our commitment

Our Vision: *Kingston – Canada’s Most Sustainable City*

Our Corporate Sustainability Statement

The Corporation will provide goods, services and infrastructure in a manner that values, protects and enhances the quality of life and place for our citizens while ensuring that we do not impede the ability of future generations, locally and globally, to prosper economically, environmentally, socially and culturally.

We are committed to **sustainability** so we can meet the needs of citizens now and in the future.



ECONOMIC HEALTH

Maintaining and Enhancing Infrastructure

Reducing our Infrastructure Maintenance Deficit: A strong and robust infrastructure ensures a high quality of life for Kingstonians and provides a foundation for a sustainable community. The City’s municipal capital levy is subject to a policy which adds an incremental 1% annual increase for capital infrastructure. This allows for responsible asset management ensuring the sustainability of the municipality’s capital infrastructure and reducing current infrastructure deficits.

Enabling Economic Development

The City will build an “open for business” culture and enhance service by streamlining the development process.



to community sustainability

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Rejuvenating Brownfields

Kingston promotes policies, incentives, solutions and expands existing programs to reduce the number of contaminated lands (brownfields). This will rejuvenate abandoned properties, provide opportunities for economic development, expand the tax base and improve the environment. We will continue to investigate and remediate City-owned sites where feasible.

Creating and Protecting Greenspaces - Urban Forest Management

With a goal of creating a greener city with protected woodlands and waterfront, the City is sustaining the natural heritage system and contributing to cultural landscapes – and to the City’s quality of life – through Kingston’s Urban Forest Management Plan. The Plan sets the framework for sustaining the urban forest for the next 25 years. It establishes strategic goals and objectives regarding forest management, and describes activities required to execute these responsibilities efficiently and effectively.

SOCIAL EQUITY

Facilitating Affordable Housing

Kingston is a community of mixed-use, mixed income neighbourhoods and has a goal of increasing the supply of affordable housing and housing vacancy rates. The City encourages investment in affordable housing, maintains existing social housing and helps to ensure a sufficient level of housing in relation to community needs. The City works with community partners to provide incentives for the development of affordable housing. Grants and brownfields redevelopment benefits support these types of projects.

CULTURAL VITALITY

Developing Proactive Community Plans - Age-Friendly Task Force

People-focused services are at the heart of our vibrant community. Innovatively identifying community needs and planning to meet them are key to protecting, preserving and enhancing community. The development of an Age-Friendly Kingston Plan, using the World Health Organization’s (WHO) framework for age-friendly cities, is about creating a community plan that will accommodate the needs and preferences of older adults so that they can always fully participate in community life throughout their lives.

Meeting our commitment to community sustainability

Sustainable Initiative	Lead Division / Group	Partners	Cultural Vitality	Economic Health	Environmental Sustainability	Social Equity
Joint Heritage & Cultural Tourism Strategy	Cultural Services	KEDCO, Kingston Arts Council, Association of Museums, Art Galleries and Historic Sites	✓	✓		
Tett Centre for Creativity and Learning Arts Cluster	Cultural Services	Real Estate & Construction, Communications	✓	✓		✓
Municipal Fee Assessment Program (MFAP)	Community Services	Recreation & Leisure, Transit, Community & Family Services				✓
Healthy Eating Working Group - Health Promotion	Community Services	Recreation & Leisure, Rural Affairs, Public Health		✓		✓
Multi-use Pathways and Trails	Recreation and Leisure	Engineering, Transit, Planning		✓	✓	✓
Montreal Street Park n' Ride	Transportation	Engineering, Transit, Planning		✓		
Enhanced Transit - Express Routes	Transportation	Kingston Transit		✓	✓	✓
Added Bike Parking	Parking Operations	Traffic		✓	✓	
Residential Recycling Collection	Solid Waste	Progressive Waste Solutions			✓	✓
Residential Organic Waste Collection	Solid Waste	Norterra Organics			✓	✓
Facility Retrofits for Energy Conservation	Real Estate & Construction	Recreation & Leisure, Community & Family Services		✓		
North Block Redevelopment	Real Estate & Construction	Planning, Engineering, Real Estate & Construction	✓	✓	✓	✓
Open Kingston - Open Data, Good Government	Information Systems and Technology	Clerk's Office, Corporate Affairs, Corporate Administration	✓	✓		✓
Soil Washing Pilot Project	Environment	Real Estate & Construction, Ministry of the Environment, Royal Military College of Canada			✓	
Newcomers Web Portal	Environment / Communications	Kingston Community Health Centre, Kingston Youth Employment Services, KEDCO, Ministry of Citizenship & Immigration	✓			
Recreation & Leisure Guide	Communications	Recreation & Leisure				✓
Heritage Walking Tours	Communications	Cultural Services		✓		✓
Urban Design Guidelines	Planning and Development	Building and Licensing, Engineering, Planning	✓	✓	✓	
Affordable Housing Initiatives - Home Ownership Program	Community Services	Corporate Wide		✓		✓
Livable City Design Awards	Planning and Development	Policy Planning, Sustainability & Growth	✓	✓	✓	
Facility Accessibility Design Standards (FADS)	Accessibility	Corporate Wide	✓	✓	✓	✓
Town & Gown Strategic Plan	CAO's Office	Queen's, KEDCO, St. Lawrence College, Royal Military College	✓	✓		✓
Asphalt Pavement Preservation	Engineering	Ministry of Transportation, Queen's		✓		
LED Replacement Program	Engineering	Utilities Kingston			✓	
Sewage Separation Program	Engineering	Utilities Kingston		✓	✓	