

DECISION/DIRECTION NOTE

Title:	Circular Cities and Region Initiative
Date Prepared:	May 12, 2020
Report To:	Regular Meeting of Council
Councillor and Role:	Councillor Ian Froude, Transportation and Regulatory Services & Sustainability
Ward:	Ward 4

Decision/Direction Required:

For council to support an application to the Canadian Circular Cities and Regions Initiative (CCRI) one year pilot.

Discussion – Background and Current Status:

Local governments have a unique role to play in accelerating the transition to a circular economy. The circular economy is a systematic approach to economic development to benefit production and consumption. The approach involves sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing and recycling existing materials and products as long as possible. In this way, the life cycle of products is extended. When a product reaches the end of its life its materials are kept within the economy wherever possible, these can be productively used again and again, creating further value. In practice, it implies reducing waste to a minimum. The lessons from the pandemic have heightened the need for dialogue around improved utilization of finite resources leading to economic returns.

Cities and regions are leading the way in this transition, acting as hubs for innovation and culture, and driving renewed approaches to economic activity. The Canadian Circular Cities and Regions Initiative (CCRI) is a one-year pilot created and developed by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Green Municipal Fund, the National Zero Waste Council, the Recycling Council of Alberta and RECYC-QUÉBEC to advance circular economy knowledge sharing and capacity building in Canadian cities and communities of all sizes.

The goal is to advance circular economy knowledge and capacity among the Canadian local government and community sector – offering a national webinar series on innovative approaches and providing direct support, guidance and peer-to-peer exchange for a group of 15 local governments as they take steps to become more circular.

The Pilot project will specifically explore:

- How can a local government (city, municipality, region) get started and realize early successes?

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- What are the benefits to adopting circular economy approaches at the local government level, and how do we measure success over time?
- What are the challenges, and opportunities, that need to be addressed, or explored, within the Canadian context for various sizes of municipalities?
- What are the key intervention points for local governments?

The pilot project will include:



Timeline	Item
May 15	15 Communities Selected
May – October 2021	Knowledge Sharing
October 2021 – January 2022	Opportunity Identification and Mapping
February 2022	Wrap-Up and Evaluation of the Pilot

Participating local governments will be required to:

- Dedicate a senior level staff person as a primary contact for participation in P2P Network Meetings and agree to engage additional staff with relevant subject matter expertise in the P2P Network meetings as it relates to the themes being explored.
- Be ready to get started by May 26 - the P2P Network Meetings will kick-off in the last week of May or first week of June; please anticipate 1-3 meetings per month June - January (less group meetings anticipated in August and during the fall when the focus will be on workshop and roadmap development).
- Promote and facilitate staff participation in the National Webinar Series and any other learning offerings that may be made available through the P2P Network
- Work with CCRI Project Team to convene a virtual workshop for key staff across the organization (to take place October - December), providing any requested data and information to the CCRI Project Team to inform the workshop development and key outputs.

- Dedicate staff and resources to the development of the Roadmap to be completed by the end of January 2022 - collating relevant data and completing a Community Roadmap and Roadmap Summary based on templates provided. The Project Advisor will provide support and guidance but each participating local government will be required to complete these two key documents using internal resourcing provided by the CCRI team from the workshop session.
- Provide feedback throughout the project and possibly participate in a CCRI Wrap-Up Webinar.

Key Considerations/Implications:

1. Budget/Financial Implications: N/A
2. Partners or Other Stakeholders: N/A
3. Alignment with Strategic Directions/Adopted Plans: A Sustainable City; An Effective City
4. Legal or Policy Implications: N/A
5. Privacy Implications: N/A
6. Engagement and Communications Considerations: N/A
7. Human Resource Implications: Designate the Deputy City Manager Public Works as primary contact, in collaboration with the Sustainability Coordinator. Other staff across a spectrum of expertise (e.g., economic development, planning, etc) will be consulted based on subject matter expertise as needed throughout the process.
8. Procurement Implications:N/A
9. Information Technology Implications:N/A
10. Other Implications: N/A

Recommendation:

That Council supports the City of St. John's application to the FCM Canadian Circular Cities and Regions Initiative (CCRI) one year pilot.

Prepared by:

Edmundo Fausto, Sustainability Coordinator

**Approved by: Lynnann Winsor, Deputy City Manager - Public Works
Report Approval Details**

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Circular Cities and Region Initiative - Application.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Apr 21, 2021

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Brian Head - Apr 21, 2021 - 5:04 PM

Lynnann Winsor - Apr 21, 2021 - 5:06 PM