

DECISION/DIRECTION NOTE

Title:	Environment and Sustainability Experts Panel – Appointment of New Members
Date Prepared:	April 16, 2025
Report To:	Regular Meeting of Council
Councillor and Role:	Deputy Mayor Sheilagh O'Leary, Environment and Sustainability Experts Panel
Ward:	N/A

Decision/Direction Required:

Approval of Membership for the Environment & Sustainability Experts Panel (ESEP) based on the recommendations by lead staff.

Discussion – Background and Current Status:

The Environment and Sustainability Experts Panel is responsible for assisting in the progress of environmental and sustainability matters in the City of St. John's. Panel members provide expert opinion on environment and sustainability matters to Council to advance the strategic direction of a sustainable City of St. John's, review environmental requirements for new development or re-development within the City, support the City of St. John's Sustainability Plans, and provide recommendations to Council.

Two members of ESEP recently completed the end of their second two-year term, leaving vacancies the categories below:

- Climate Science & Resilience - to support the City in adaptation efforts and fostering its overall resilience.
- Natural Environment & Resources – to support the City in efforts related to managing risks, water resource, and conserving ecosystems and natural resources now and into the future.

A Call for Members was circulated in January resulting in 14 applications. The applications were reviewed by Lead Staff and scored using a matrix. Staff are recommending the following candidates for appointment:

- Morteza Amiri, Climate Science & Resilience
- Adrian Rogers, Natural Environment & Resources

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Key Considerations/Implications:

1. Budget/Financial Implications: N/A
2. Partners or Other Stakeholders: Environment & Sustainability Experts Panel
3. Is this a New Plan or Strategy: No

If yes, are there recommendations or actions that require progress reporting?

If yes, how will progress be reported? (e.g.: through the strategic plan, through Cascade, annual update to Council, etc.)
4. Alignment with Strategic Directions:

An Effective City: Ensure accountability and good governance through transparent and open decision making.

A Sustainable City: Work collaboratively to create a climate-adapted and low-carbon city.
5. Alignment with Adopted Plans: Corporate Climate Plan, Resilient St. John's Climate Plan
6. Accessibility and Inclusion: The Call for Members was made available in a variety of formats upon request. The Call was also circulated through the City's Inclusion Network.
7. Legal or Policy Implications: N/A
8. Privacy Implications: As per Section 7.3 of the Working Group's Terms of Reference, all committee members are required to refrain from the use or transmission of any confidential or privileged information while serving with ESEP.
9. Engagement and Communications Considerations: The Call for Members was advertised and promoted by Communications Division. All applicants will be advised of Council's decision to appoint new members.
10. Human Resource Implications: N/A
11. Procurement Implications: N/A
12. Information Technology Implications: N/A
13. Other Implications: N/A

Recommendation:

That Council approve of the appointment of the following individuals to the Environment and Sustainability Experts Panel:

- Morteza Amiri, Climate Science & Resilience
- Adrian Rogers, Natural Environment & Resources

Prepared by: Jennifer Squires, Legislative Assistant

Approved by: Theresa Walsh, City Clerk

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Environment and Sustainability Experts Panel - Membership .docx
Attachments:	- Spreadsheet - Climate Science and Resilience.pdf - Spreadsheet - Natural Environment and Resources.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Apr 17, 2025

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

Theresa Walsh - Apr 17, 2025 - 2:49 PM