

# DECISION/DIRECTION NOTE

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**Title:** Environment and Sustainability Expert Panel Public Membership

**Date Prepared:** February 21, 2019

**Report To:** Committee of the Whole

**Councillor and Role:** Council

**Decision/Direction Required:** To approve and finalize the selection of members for the Environment and Sustainability Expert Panel of the City of St. John's.

**Discussion – Background and Current Status:** On September 30, 2019 council formed The Environmental and Sustainability Expert Panel. The panel will be comprised of three main components:

- A Lead Staff appointed by the relevant City executive or senior manager,
- A spokesperson appointed by Council,
- Up to 7 expert residents serving as public members.

The terms of reference established that the panel's public membership will include at least one representative with expertise in each of the following areas:

- Climate Science & Resilience – To support the City in mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, while fostering its overall resilience.
- Natural Environment & Resources – To support the City in protecting and conserving ecosystems and natural resources now and into the future.
- Socio-cultural – To support the City in creating inclusivity and continue to improve quality of life.
- Economic – To support the City in attaining sustainable economic growth, prosperity and competitiveness while achieving its environmental and sustainability goals.
- Urban Planning – to support the City in progressing integrated and sustainable urban development.

The application process occurred during the period November 2019 to February 2020.

**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; A City That Moves; A Connected City; An Effective City.
4. Legal or Policy Implications:
  - St. John's Urban Forest Management Master Plan 2006
  - A Watershed Management Plan, St. John's Regional Water Supply Study, 1996
  - Envision St. John's (draft) Municipal Plan, 2014
  - Parks and Open Spaces Master Plan, 2014
  - Significant Waterways and Wetlands Study (1993)
  - City of St. John's Sustainability Plan
5. Privacy Implications: N/A
6. Engagement and Communications Considerations: N/A
7. Human Resource Implications: N/A
8. Procurement Implications: N/A
9. Information Technology Implications: N/A
10. Other Implications: N/A

**Recommendation:**

Approve the proposed composition of the Public Membership for the Environment and Sustainability Expert Panel:

<b>Public Member</b>	<b>Expertise</b>
Joel Finnis, PhD	Climate Science & Resilience
Dennis Knight, MSc, MCIP	Sustainable Urban Planning & Economic Growth
Kieran Hanley, MBA	Sustainable Economic Growth
Krista Langthorne, BA, SEBT	Resilience & Natural Resources
Pablo Navarro	Socio-cultural & Quality of Life
Joseph Daraio, PhD, PEng	Sustainable Urban Planning & Resilience
Michel Wawrzkow, PEng, PGeo	Natural Environment & Resilience

**Prepared by/Date:**

Edmundo Fausto / February 21, 2019

**Approved by/Date:**

Lynnann Winsor / March 3, 2019

