

Environmental Task Force Agenda

9:00 a.m. - Tuesday, June 30, 2026

Council Chambers

[Zoom Link](#)

1. Call to Order

2. Traditional Land Acknowledgement

We begin this gathering by acknowledging and celebrating these traditional lands as a gathering place of the first peoples and their ancestors who are entrusted to care for Mother Earth since time immemorial. We do so respecting both the land and the Indigenous People who continue to walk with us through this world. Today, the Township of North Frontenac is committed to working with Indigenous Peoples and all residents to pursue a united path of reconciliation.

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

4. Environmental Task Force Notes

- | | | |
|----|---|-------|
| a) | Notes of the Environmental Task Force Meeting dated April 28, 2026 as approved via email and received for information at the May 21, 2026 Regular Meeting of Council. | 2 - 5 |
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[Environmental Task Force - 28 Apr 2026 - Minutes - Pdf](#)

5. Business Arising

- | | |
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| a) | <p>Work Plan Update 6 - 7</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Short-term Rentals - Bruce Moore, Kate Surra and John Inglis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Update 2. Septic Inspection Programs - Bruce Moore, Kate Surra, Roy Huetl and Fred Fowler <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Update 3. Net Metering - John Inglis, Paul Asselin and Marlene Spruyt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Resolution #164-26 - EV Chargers 4. Invasive Species - Roy Huetl, Fred Fowler and Mike Ward 5. Community Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer Newsletter - Suggested Topic(s) |
|----|---|

[#165-26 EV Chargers](#)

[April 17 letter to Mike Hage re EV charger](#)

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| b) | ALTO High Speed Train |
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6. New Business

7. Next Meeting Date

8. Adjournment

- | | |
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| a) | Meeting adjourned at _____ a.m. |
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Environmental Task Force Minutes

9:00 AM - Tuesday, April 28, 2026
Council Chambers

- Present:** Councillor Roy Huetl (Chair); Councillor Fred Fowler; Paul Asselin; Marlene Spruyt; Mike Ward; and Katie Surra
- Absent with Regret:** Deputy Mayor John Inglis; Bruce Moore; and Darwyn Sproule, P.Eng., Public Works Manager.
- Also Present:** Tara Mieske, Clerk/Planning Manager, Dipl.M.A. Dipl.M.M., and Riley Kay, CAO Executive Assistant, B.Eng.

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

2. Traditional Land Acknowledgement

We begin this gathering by acknowledging and celebrating these traditional lands as a gathering place of the first peoples and their ancestors who are entrusted to care for Mother Earth since time immemorial. We do so respecting both the land and the Indigenous People who continue to walk with us through this world. Today, the Township of North Frontenac is committed to working with Indigenous Peoples and all residents to pursue a united path of reconciliation.

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

None declared.

4. Environmental Task Force Notes

- a) ***Notes of the Environmental Task Force Meeting dated March 31, 2026 as approved via email and received for information at the April 10, 2026 Regular Meeting of Council, as amended.***

No comments.

5. Business Arising

- a) ***Work Plan Update***

1. Short-term Rentals - Bruce Moore, Kate Surra and John Inglis
No updates.

2. Septic Inspection Programs - Bruce Moore, Kate Surra, Roy Huetl and Fred Fowler
No updates.

3. Net Metering - John Inglis, Paul Asselin and Marlene Spruyt

Asselin revised and clarified his presentation from the March 31, 2026 meeting. The electricity rates were also updated to reflect Kelly's completed review (the optimistic rate was adjusted to 5%), and the simulation by the supplier was updated to better differentiate the MicroFIT panels from the new project panels.

The Task Force has not yet decided between using load displacement or net metering. Asselin noted that he spoke with Councillor Inglis at the end of the March 31, 2026 meeting, and agreed that net metering may be the better option because it is a better overall value to society and has better savings. However, load displacement would be easier to implement, as it does not require changes to the grid to connect the Township. They further acknowledged that both methods have their own benefits.

Surra asked whether there was a difference between load displacement and net metering in terms of staff time, and whether each would require their own understanding. Asselin noted that load displacement and net metering have identical parts, but net metering may be more complicated as there is slightly more to observe, such as tracking hydro bills, and ensuring the Township is properly credited back.

Ward asked whether batteries were a possibility with net metering. Asselin noted that this was possible, and that the batteries would be filled first before the excess energy is sent to the hydro grid. The Task Force agreed to wait to decide on a battery option because of how much battery prices have been dropping year over year (batteries are one-quarter the cost they were in 2018), and how quickly battery technology is improving (ex. a battery manufacturer in China has been able to produce batteries that can charge to 90% in 3.5 minutes).

The Township also needs to determine why the existing solar panels are not generating power during the winter. Originally it was thought it was due to snow covering the panels but this may not be the case. The Task Force suggested that it could be due to roof elevation, and that framing could be added to increase the angle of the solar panels to improve power generation. However, more research needs to be conducted.

Spruyt noted there has been some negative comments about previous electric projects the Township has pursued (such as the MicroFIT project and the electric vehicle (EV) charging stations), and how this project may receive similar feedback. The Task Force agreed that these previous projects did have some negative comments from residents. Especially the costs to operate the EV chargers.

Fowler noted that the EV chargers were funded through grants and therefore had no

initial upfront costs. The delivery charges were unknown until after the chargers were installed. Despite the loss, the Task Force agreed that the EV Chargers will still be a long-term benefit as EV's grow in demand and become more commonly used (sales have increased by 25%). However; the Task Force did note there is an environmental benefit and economic development benefit as they are the only charges between Perth and Madoc.

The Task Force will add to the slides that there will be no costs for an initial Hydro One assessment for the net metering project. Asselin reiterated that they will need someone passionate, committed, and interested in learning about the topic, to ensure this project will be successful. They may also need to include system monitoring as a responsibility in a staff member's role description.

Huetl reiterated that Council will need to look at staffing for this project. He also advised the Task Force they need to be mindful of the workload that additional projects will bring onto staff (i.e., research, etc.).

The Task Force has asked Sproule to review the presentation and present it to Council at the June 11, 2026 Meeting. Asselin offered to assist Sproule with the presenting.

4. Invasive Species - Roy Huetl, Fred Fowler and Mike Ward

The Invasive Species newsletter has been prepared and issued. There were no further comments or questions.

5. Community Engagement

Two parties from Trent University will be attending this year's Summerfest to engage and educate the community on invasive species.

6. New Business

a) *Meeting Schedule*

Huetl proposed a change to the Task Force meeting schedule. The Task Force decided instead of holding monthly meetings, they would consider the items that needed to be considered and decide if the next scheduled monthly meeting is required. The Task Force decided to cancel the May 26, 2026 Meeting and hold the next meeting on June 30, 2026. Mieske will send a notice out for the cancellation.

b) *ALTO High Speed Rail*

The Task Force noted the ALTO High Speed Rail (HSR) as the Township's largest environmental threat to date. However, the Task Force is uncertain of the actions they can presently take. The Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) looked at three possible routes within the Township for the HSR, and decided that the Hydro Corridor along Road 506 would have the least environmental impact of the three. Huetl advised that Scott Reid, MP is working at the federal level to discourage the project. He

noted there will be a definitive answer on the location of the HSR by the end of the year. The Task Force will add the HSR as a discussion item for the next Task Force meeting.

7. Adjournment

- a) *Meeting adjourned at 9:39 a.m. until June 30, 2026.*

8. Recommendation to Council

- a) *Draft Motion*

Be It Resolved That Council receives for information the Notes from the Environmental Task Force Meeting dated April 28, 2026.

Councillor Roy Huetl, Chair



**Resolution of the Regular Council
of the Corporation of the Township of North Frontenac**

Date: May 21, 2026

Resolution # 165-26

Moved By:
Councillor Wayne Good

Seconded By:
Councillor Mike Hage

Be It Resolved That Council receives a letter from Karen Anderson, Environmental Chair, District A3, Lions International suggesting the Township consider buying and installing solar panels to generate electricity and the battery storage system to store the power until required to power the EV chargers;

And That Council defers this to the Environmental Task Force to look into options and costs for solar panels and battery storage system and report back to Council.

Carried

Mayor

April 17, 2026

Hello Mike Hage;

I have been thinking about Plevna's problem with their EV charging station.

Is the township locked into a contract with Hydro? If not I would suggest the township purchase solar panels and a Tesla Powerwall.

You could suggest someone figure out how much the township stands to spend on Hydro power for the charging station over the next four (4) years and put this amount toward buying and installing solar panels to generate electricity and the battery storage system to store power until required.

I have been studying solar power and various storage systems over the past several years. The price and installation charges keep coming down as systems become more efficient. Get quotes from as many companies as the township requires for the solar panels.

The best storage systems my research has found to date is a Tesla Powerwall. It is the best on the market in this application as it is designed to be outdoors where most storage systems must be kept inside. (They don't like the cold). If you need more than one they can be hooked up to each other. The other suggestion is a Tesla Mega station which depending on size could store and provide power to most of Plevna if hydro went down.

https://www.tesla.com/en_CA/powerwall#design

I see having the EV charging station in Plevna as a win for the Environment and I would hate for it to be removed before it can be utilized to its full potential. Being able to operate it off the power grid is an even bigger win for the township.

Solar panels and storage system along with operating the EV charging station could replace your current generator that operates on some kind of fossil fuel.

Going forward with already having an EV charging station the township could look at as the need arises with replacing township equipment and trucks away from fossil fuels.

Everyone has to get ready for the future now. We didn't do it yesterday and tomorrow could be late.

Lion Karen Anderson
Environment Chair District A3