



Message from the Co-Chairs

For the ETCRC, 2023 was a bit of a rollercoaster. We saw the passing of a new zoning bylaw in Edmonton, which will undoubtedly change our city for decades to come. The City also approved \$100 million for bike lanes, which will have a significant impact in shifting our transportation modes and how our city moves. But 2023 was also the hottest year on record, full of climate disasters, and a year where we saw the city fall even further behind on our climate targets.

As climate agreements break down with little progress, thwarted by fossil fuel interests, it is more imperative than ever for cities to lead on climate action. We have done the hard work of planning and preparing, and now it's time to implement those strategies and to be bold in our leadership. Leading on, and implementing, climate policies won't always be popular, especially with competing budget dollars at stake, but with the risks posed by climate change, we have no choice. We look forward to another year of climate leadership with City Council and beyond.

Purpose of the Annual Report

This annual report has been developed to meet the requirements of Bylaw 18156 - Council Committees Bylaw, which sets out the annual reporting requirements for Council Committees. Under Bylaw 18156, all Council Committees will:

- Report to Council at least annually.
- Approve a work plan that aligns with Council's strategic objectives and the Council Committee's mandate, including a reporting of what resources were provided in the previous year and the anticipated resource requirements for the upcoming year.
- Report to Council and during its annual report to Council, a Council Committee must present the work plan as well as a summary of the status of the previous year's work plan.

Mandate of Energy Transition Climate Resilience Committee (ETCRC)

The mandate of ETCRC will be to:

- (a) promote the City's climate change plans and energy transition strategy to each member's professional and community networks;
- (b) share with, and receive from the City Manager, information regarding the implementation of the City's climate change plans and energy transition strategy;
- (c) provide broad independent advice to Council about the City's climate change plans and energy transition strategy; and
- (d) assist Council in developing performance measures for the City's climate change plans and energy transition strategy.

Report on 2023 Work Plan Goals and Accomplishments

Priority 1: Instill Culture Change

Key Results:

- The Committee created a Climate Emergency and Culture Change Subcommittee to assist Council with the cultural shift necessary to help ensure that every decision they make is viewed through a climate lens (agenda item 48.9).
- This is still a fairly new priority and a very new subcommittee. No performance indicators are associated with it.
- All members of the ETCRC are also members of this subcommittee.

Summary of Progress:

- The Co-chairs of ETCRC have met with City Manager Andre Corbould to better understand how we can support the City with our goals.
- We have plans to meet with the City's Climate Task Force regularly - climate change is a shared priority between ETCRC and the Task Force.
- We are working with Council to find ways that we can support them in being strong climate leaders. For example, sharing a document on how to talk about climate change + health issues, thereby strengthening their communication skills in this domain.

- This is still a relatively new priority for the Committee, but a very important one. We want to help however we can to make sure the City is prioritizing climate change in every action and decision they make.

Priority 2: Land Use – District Planning and Zoning Bylaw Renewal

Key Results:

- The ETCRC received presentations and provided feedback to Administration on these topics:
 - Zoning Bylaw Renewal (agenda items 47.6, 49.5, 50.4)
 - District Planning (agenda item 50.5)
 - Growth Management (agenda item 51.5)

Summary of Progress:

- The Committee sent a memo regarding tree bylaws to Council on May 26, 2023.
- The Committee presented a memo regarding Zoning Bylaw Renewal to Council on October 15, 2023.
- Members attended public hearings to support certain parts of the Zoning Bylaw Renewal.
- The Committee continues to support actions that the City takes regarding increasing densification, protecting natural habitat within city limits, and creating a city that is net-zero. There is still a long way to go regarding this priority, but the Committee hopes to remain engaged in the conversations as they come.

Priority 3: Transportation

Key Results:

- The Committee received presentations and provided feedback to Administration on these topics:
 - Fleet Zero Emissions Vehicle Transition - Strategy and Tactics (agenda item 48.6)
 - City Light Duty Fleet EV Strategy (agenda item 49.10)
 - Bike Plan Update (agenda item 51.7)

Summary of Progress:

- In 2023, the ETCRC was a big supporter of dedicating appropriate amounts of the city budget to create a city-wide, active transport network.

- We believe we have been effective to date in supporting the City in adopting low-emissions transportation options, but still have a way to go considering the recent purchasing of additional diesel-fueled buses.

Priority 4: Buildings

Key Results:

- The Committee received presentations and provided feedback to Administration on these topics:
 - Emission Neutral Building Exchange Update (agenda item 46.7)
 - Blatchford Update (agenda item 49.7)

Summary of Progress:

- This is a difficult area for the Committee to navigate. We realize there are sensitivities around buildings and building codes with the provincial government.
- The Committee continues to support Council and Administration in doing whatever they can to encourage builders to adopt higher building codes that result in net-zero (or net-zero-ready) buildings.

Priority 5: Energy Systems

Key Results:

- The Committee received presentations and provided feedback to Administration on these topics:
 - Waste to Energy RFP (agenda item 47.5)
 - Energy Labeling and Energy Codes (agenda items 48.7, 51.8)
 - District Energy Strategy Roadmap (agenda item 51.4)

Summary of Progress:

- The Committee is working on bringing a hydrogen expert to present to Council, as well as writing a memo that outlines the Committee's position on the use of hydrogen; when it makes sense to use hydrogen and when it does not.

Priority 6: Equity and Health

Key Results:

- Members worked with a university professor to create a Climate Health Communications Primer document, which was shared with the Committee's Councillor Advisors.
- The Committee accepted an offer by the City Manager to meet with an Indigenous Elders Group to strengthen connections and better integrate an Indigenous perspectives into the Committee's work.

Summary of Progress:

- The Committee understands that climate action must be underpinned by a lens of climate justice. We are excited about meeting with the Indigenous Elders Group and learning from them on how we can better integrate Indigenous perspectives into our work.
- Co-chairs worked with Dr. Sherilee Harper and her class to create a primer on how to communicate on the health effects of climate change. This was sent to the whole committee and our respective Councillors. We hope to share this more broadly with the rest of Council.
- We understand that health is not directly within the purview of the City, however, there are many things that the City can do to support the health of citizens during this climate crisis. We hope to continue supporting Council in realizing the potential of climate-health messaging among citizens, and to take action however we can as a city to promote both the health of people and our natural world.

Other

In addition, the following was also completed by ETCRC:

- The ETCRC received presentations and provided feedback to Administration on these topics related to climate change in general:
 - Metrics Update - Climate Resilience Index (agenda item 46.6)
 - Climate Policy Roadmap (agenda items 47.9, 50.8)
 - Environment and Climate Section in Council Reports (agenda items 47.10, 49.5)
 - ETCRC Committee Processes: Memos and new Council Reports Section (agenda item 49.6)
 - Neighboring for Climate Adaptation (agenda item 49.9)

- Carbon Budget (agenda item 50.6)
- 2022 GHG Emissions and New Reporting Cycle (agenda item 50.9)
- Climate Task Force (agenda item 51.10)
- Received a presentation on federal budget opportunities (agenda item 49.4) and provided comments to be included in the City’s response.
- Received a presentation on the pollution crisis from students from Oliver School (agenda item 48.10).
- Received a presentation on changes to Council advisory committees for information (agenda item 51.11).

2023 Meeting Summary – Key Topics and Motions Meeting Summary

Meeting	Summary - Key Topics and Motions
January 25	Key topics included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2023-2026 Budget debrief and the Committee’s role and priorities ● Environmental reviews of City-led projects ● Metrics; climate resilience index ● Emission neutral building exchange
March 8	Key topics included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● City Manager update ● Waste to energy RFP ● Zoning bylaw renewal ● City policy implementation and roadmap ● Culture and decision making, Council report template
May 10	Key topics included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● City fleet zero emissions vehicle transition, strategy and tactics ● New actionable Policy/Bylaw, energy labeling and building higher than code ● Culture change ideas ● Special guest topic: the pollution crisis The Committee sent a memo to Council regarding tree bylaws
June 14	Key topics included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Federal budget opportunities ● Environment and Climate Section in Council reports

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zoning bylaw renewal • ETCRC processes: memos and new Council reports section • Blatchford • Neighboring for climate adaptation • City light duty fleet EV strategy <p>A motion was passed for the Committee to write a memo to Council regarding ETCRC concerns about hydrogen</p>
September 14	<p>Key topics included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zoning bylaw renewal • District planning • Carbon budget update • Climate policy roadmap • 2022 GHG emissions and a new reporting cycle
November 9	<p>Key topics included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Energy Strategy Roadmap • Growth management • Bike plan • Energy codes • Climate Task Force • Changes to Council advisory committees • Zoning bylaw debrief

Membership and Appointment Information

Energy Transition Climate Resilience Committee (ETCRC) 2023-24 Membership List			
Name of Appointee	1st Appointed	Term Ends	Max Term
Jeff Birchall	May 1, 2023	Apr 30, 2025	2031
Dolly Cepeda Montufar	May 1, 2022	Apr 30, 2024	2030
Satya Das	May 1, 2022	Apr 30, 2024	2030
David Dodge	May 1, 2022	Apr 30, 2024	2030
Chelsea Donelon	May 1, 2018	Apr 30, 2024	2026

Marieke Dube	May 1, 2023	Apr 30, 2025	2031
Daniel Grist	May 25, 2020	Apr 30, 2024	2028
Anna Ho	May 1, 2022	Apr 30, 2024	2030
Melanie Hoffman	May 1, 2022	Apr 30, 2024	2030
Maya Kalogirou - Co-Chair	May 1, 2022	Apr 30, 2024	2030
Jacob Komar - Co-Chair	May 1, 2018	Apr 30, 2024	2026
Alvin Law	May 1, 2023	Apr 30, 2025	2031
Kathleen Rich	May 25, 2020	Apr 30, 2024	2028
James Sandercock	May 1, 2023	Apr 30, 2025	2031
Sheena Wilson	May 1, 2018	Apr 30, 2024	2026

Reports and Communications

Correspondence submitted to Council:

1. Tree Preservation Bylaw, Memo to Council dated May 21, 2023
2. Zoning Bylaw Renewal, Memo to Council dated October 15, 2023

ETCRC requests to speak to a Standing Committee of Council:

1. Four members of the ETCRC spoke at the October 17, 2023, City Council Public Hearing to these Agenda items:
 - o 3.1 Charter Bylaw 20001 - To adopt a new Zoning Bylaw for the City of Edmonton and repeal Bylaw 12800 (the current Edmonton Zoning Bylaw) UPE02036; and
 - o 3.2 Charter Bylaw 21001 - To amend Charter Bylaw 20001 by adding a Zoning Map to Section 1.20 of that bylaw and rezone all properties across Edmonton accordingly UPE02065.

Concluding Remarks

In this document we've shared our priorities, work, and accomplishments from 2023. As you will see in our work plan for 2024 (Attachment 3), the ETCRC has large ambitions for this coming year, and we are looking forward to working with Council and Administration to achieve them.

As we always say at the ETCRC, all decisions must be climate decisions - meaning that all decisions must be viewed through a climate lens. Members of ETCRC are experts in their fields, and we urge Council to continue to rely on our collective climate adaptation and mitigation expertise as you continue to make decisions that will impact Edmontonians for decades to come.

We are living through unprecedented times, and we urge the City of Edmonton to be unprecedented leaders in climate action among Canadian municipalities.