

Port Elgin Adaptation Plan Progress Report

Last Updated: November 4, 2020

Compiled by Port Elgin Implementation Committee: Amanda Marlin (EOS), Lori Bickford (NBSE), Terry Murphy (EMO), Val MacDermid (Village councillor), Donna Hipditch (Village Clerk)

| Timeline | Original Actions | Update as of November 2019 | Update as of November 2020 |
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| Ongoing | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wet proofing in the downtown area (sump pumps, backflow valves, sandbags, etc.) 2. Awareness and education program on climate change adaptation and emergency preparedness (workshops; bulk purchases of emergency kits, sump pumps; etc.) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EOS conducted a second backwater valve bulk purchase promoted across Tantramar during summer 2019 and while there was uptake in Sackville, there were no participants in Port Elgin. It is up to business owners in the downtown to install sump pumps, etc. The Village wants to do a mailout with tips to mitigate flooding in 2020. 2. Since 2016 workshops have taken place on climate stress, food dehydrating, emergency preparedness, etc. Port Elgin Committee would like to do another emergency kit bulk purchase. Workshops are | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mail outs may not be effective. Radio media PSAs on CFTA with flood mitigation information (e.g. Nursing Homes without Walls). Notices on "Port Elgin Events" Facebook group. 2. EOS organized a backwater valve bulk purchase in winter 2019 and is planning a sump pump bulk purchase in winter 2020. EOS has also |

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| | <p>3. Investigate funding sources for erosion work along the Gaspereau River</p> <p>4. Where there is space, plant natural grasses to limit erosion along Gaspereau River</p> | <p>ongoing and there are new plans for 2020-21 to focus on traditional and survival skills, food preservation, etc.</p> <p>3. This is still ongoing. No apparent grants available currently and Port Elgin cannot afford any more loans.</p> <p>4. Nature NB, EOS Eco-Energy, Shediac Bay Watershed Association and the Village partnered to plant trees along the Gaspereau River on the trail by the sewage lagoon during fall 2019.</p> | <p>hosted additional webinars on food preservation skills during fall 2020.</p> <p>3. Still looking for funding.</p> <p>4. Planting was done too late while erosion and storm surges were already impacting the area. More erosion has occurred. A Village Worker "repaired" this area by adding shale and then topsoil to widen the trail to where it was before but the committee is not sure this will help. Village looking at purchasing big rock but it may cause more erosion elsewhere. Plan to focus on area between lagoon and the trail.</p> |
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| | <p>5. Wood heat inventory (for winter storms)</p> | <p>5. Port Elgin EMO coordinator has 4 homes on his wood heat inventory. These homeowners are willing to take people during winter power outages.</p> | <p>5. There are a few names on the list already and more promotion is planned.</p> |
| <p>Short (2016-2017)</p> | <p>6. Engineering analysis of lagoon</p> <p>7. Determine elevation of selected location for fire station</p> <p>8. If need be, determine alternate locations for fire station</p> <p>9. Installation of cribwork along Gaspereau River (start in 2017 and continuing)</p> | <p>6. Crandall has agreed to do an engineering study in spring 2020 for no charge while they are doing other work in the village.</p> <p>7. This is not applicable anymore as the fire station went ahead with construction in the originally selected location.</p> <p>8. This is not applicable anymore as the fire station went ahead with construction in the originally selected location. It could be cut off from the village in its new location.</p> <p>9. No update</p> | <p>6. Study has not happened yet, but Crandall had a look at the space a year ago. Village will follow up.</p> <p>7. Not applicable</p> <p>8. Not applicable</p> <p>9. Funding still needed</p> |

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| | <p>10. Engineering analysis of erosion</p> <p>11. Inform New Brunswick government about climate related risks for Magee House</p> <p>12. Update zoning regulations for Main Street to include adaptation considerations</p> <p>13. Update EMO plan to include specific measures for winter storms</p> | <p>10. This has not yet been done as funding is needed.</p> <p>11. The New Brunswick government in general is aware of climate change risks in New Brunswick.</p> <p>12. The update is overdue and beyond the 5 year deadline. SERSC staff have started the process to combine zoning and municipal bylaws into one rural plan but the legal process for adoption has not started yet. It is planned for 2020.</p> <p>13. A contingency plan may be needed for the new fire station as it could get cut off during a</p> | <p>10. This did not happen, 2021 would be the new target. And the Village is having difficulty getting residents to take adaptation considerations into account, could have insurance implications for homeowners (could put in newsletter).</p> <p>11. Nothing further</p> <p>12. No update.</p> <p>13. Warming centre at fire hall, people won't be turned away. But</p> |
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| | | flood event. Wood heat inventory has begun. | waiting for generator. May be able to use Tantramar Civic Centre along with Sackville. A few people on the list. Covid-19 complicates things. Will promote on Facebook page, newsletter, etc. |
| Medium (2018-2021) | <p>14. Build up the berm around the sewage lagoon</p> <p>15. Complete research to move the sewage lagoon</p> <p>16. Plant trees, grasses, etc. along path by riverside of lagoon</p> | <p>14. Crandall will complete an engineering study in the spring.</p> <p>15. This will depend on the engineering study by Crandall.</p> <p>16. Nature NB, EOS Eco-Energy, Shediac Bay Watershed Association and the Village partnered to plant trees along the Gaspereau River on the trail by the sewage lagoon during fall 2019. Erosion is happening quickly though and it may be too late for the trees to help. Time will tell.</p> | <p>14. The study has not been completed yet. Crandall was going to volunteer their time.</p> <p>15. Study needed.</p> <p>16. More erosion has occurred. The Village may have to resort to armor rock. Now focused on protecting area between trail and the lagoon.</p> |

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| | <p>17. Fix erosion by Main St. lift station</p> <p>18. Culvert assessment by professional engineer</p> <p>19. Build and restore wetlands within the village (start in 2018 and continuing)</p> | <p>17. Committee will check with village staff if this has been completed.</p> <p>18. This has not been done yet due to lack of funding. It is costly and not the main priority for the Village at this time.</p> <p>19. No action yet.</p> | <p>17. Concrete blocks were placed around the lift station, keeps current away.</p> <p>18. Has not been done.</p> <p>19. No action on wetlands but possibly more rain gardens and food forests in the future with EOS. EOS did a Rain barrel give away in fall 2020 thanks to Eco Action Funding.</p> |
| Long (beyond 2021) | <p>20. Sewage lagoon moved to a safer location with higher elevation</p> <p>21. Relocation of buildings from Station Street to less vulnerable location</p> | <p>20. No action yet.</p> <p>21. No action yet. Costly.</p> | <p>20. No action; will be incredibly expensive. Dependent on provincial and federal funds. No further action possible by Village</p> <p>21. Could there be land swaps? Need government support (similar to Saint John River programs). Some</p> |

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| | | | residents purchased properties long before climate change issues were known. Need proactive provincial and federal governments to help. |
| Additional Actions in 2019 | | <p>22. New fire station will also be warming station eventually. They are waiting to be able to purchase the necessary components. The School and Westford Nursing Home have also been used as emergency shelters as long as they have power.</p> <p>23. Community resiliency planning and skills workshops – food preservation, climate stress, etc. by EOS in 2020-21 dependant on funding application</p> <p>24. Sea level rise signs to be erected in 2020-21 by EOS and</p> | <p>22. Covid-19 makes it impossible to use Westford Nursing Home right now, may also be hard to use the school.</p> <p>23. Three webinars took place in fall 2020 on food preservation skills. All were very well attended with participants from across the Maritimes and first-time gardeners and canners, etc.</p> <p>24. EOS has funding (thanks to NBEN and</p> |

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| | | <p>its Chignecto Climate Change Collaborative.</p> <p>25. Depaving projects (Main St area) are a possibility. EOS and Village looking at options.</p> | <p>NRCan) and is working to put up signs, one will be at the Port Elgin wharf.</p> <p>25. This is not happening as no appropriate locations were found.</p> |
| <p>Additional actions added in 2020</p> | | | <p>26. Village plans a Facebook Page and hard copy newsletter to help with communications around climate issues and village news in general</p> <p>27. Sump Pump bulk purchase planned by EOS for winter 2021</p> <p>28. EOS and Port Elgin Regional School plan a food forest garden to help raise awareness about adapting food systems to climate impacts. Will help feed school cafeteria and community.</p> |

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| | | | 29. EOS planning natural infrastructure workshop series for 2021-22. |
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