

January Connect Session

Saturday January 9, 2010. 2 to 4 PM

Mississauga Central Library

Meeting Minutes:



In Attendance:

Aisha Stewart - Fletcher's Meadow SS
Anagh Goswami - Gordon Graydon Memorial SS
Damian MacSeain - Region of Peel
Darius Chia - Glenforest SS
Fatin Chowdhury - Glenforest SS
Ghazal Sameh - Westview Centennial
Horia Soltani - St. Joan of Arc SS
Huma Khan - UW
Karan Keshav - John Fraser SS
Keri Baxter - Region of Peel
Kewan Masud - John Fraser SS
Megan Lee - St. Francis Xavier SS
Mursal Sameh - Westview Centennial
Rahul Mehta - UTM
Rohit Mehta - UTM
Stephanie Lim - Glenforest SS
Stephanie Crocker - EcoSource

PEYA General Meeting – Roundtable discussion

- Fletcher's Meadow Secondary School is Planning EcoBuzz
- Gordon Graydon just completed a winter wonderland event
- Glenforest Secondary School noticed that people in the cafeteria didn't care about the recycling raffle. Last year they went around with huge posters at the beginning of lunch and told people they will get a raffle ticket if they recycle right now. For a week (last month) there was a lunchtime activity where a pile of recyclables were mixed with waste and students had to separate them. Whoever got it right won a bus ticket. They are currently doing a watt-wise audit in their school.
- St. Joan of Arc CSS hosts a recycling raffle with a bike as the main prize - students have to recycle and they get a raffle ticket. On Thursdays they get 5 tickets for a waste free lunch. Weekly they do a green fact on the announcements, and tell them how they can apply the fact in their school. Funding from the bike came from a bake sale and budget from the principle. For the raffle, people go to their lockers and get their trash. They put posters up and advertised a lot on the announcements. The prize may have encouraged students a lot too. Last year they had bags with books, water bottles, and teachers. Communication is key, and you need to get people to care. They were a green school last year. They work with student council and do their spirit day based on environmental issues. The person who recycles fastest gets points. Little by little they are getting their school involved and making them aware of what's recyclable and what's not.
- University of Waterloo has a big environmental program, with a big environmental club divided into working groups which work to redesign spaces and work on infrastructure. There's a group trying to get food outlets to switch to sustainable sources and get china plates. Huma is starting up a working group through the faculty of the environment that will work to change the school policies

and operating procedures so that the university recycles more. They are trying to bring regulation that everyone can agree to. They are planning a big Earthday event

- John Fraser SS. Most people were recycling during their latest raffle; however no one redeemed their ticket for a big chocolate bar. Doing an energy audit and will compare it with Stephen Lewis, they will see how much electricity they use in each room and see how much people can reduce, then compare it with SL to see who reduces more electricity. It's all about word of mouth
- St. Francis Xavier is having an ecofair in April where they are setting up booths and raising money for charities, and raising awareness within their school through a waste audit being held in March. In December they had a raffle where bringing in a recycled good gave students a raffle ticket to win a giant chocolate bar donated from Hershey
- Westview Centennial had an ecoweek. First day everyone in the lunch room collected recyclables, gave out raffle tickets for people to bring waste-free lunches. Whoever won got a candy cane and chocolate bar.
- UTM has a waste reduction week planned, and water awareness week in February. We will ytry having guest speakers. We will be selling stainless steel water bottles with displays oto raiser awareness on campus
- Palgrave PS in North Bolton has a big monitor in the front lobby of the school which shows the electrical grid and constantly streams consumption in real time

Introduction to Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Focused Conversation

- Facilitators Keri, Damian, Stephanie, and Rohit introduced selves
- Discussed purpose of focused conversation

PEYA-EYAP Objective

EcoSource's Peel Environmental Youth Alliance (PEYA) and Environmental Youth-Adult Partnership (EYAP)

Project's interests are rooted in:

- PEYA's youth membership showing a desire to have some decision making ability in municipal process in general, and transportation programs specifically.
- building a meaningful relationship between PEYA and the Region of Peel that could expand to other environmentally-related planning projects beyond the Transportation Demand Management (TDM) project
- the creation of a potential model for how young people can meaningfully participate in the planning of municipal processes and programs, and sharing this relationship with other institutions, organizations and young individuals working within youth-adult partnerships across Ontario through EYAP

Region of Peel-TDM Objective

- Provided overview on Peel's Transportation Demand Management (TDM) program and how the current pilot project aims to increase awareness amongst Peel's secondary students of alternatives to car commuting to school, especially "active transportation."
- The task of the current working group is twofold:
- Develop a pilot program for select Peel secondary schools that promotes (and ideally helps enact) sustainable transportation choices;
- Develop this pilot program in partnership with local youth, who are part of target audience.
- Discussed the mutual benefit of partnering with Peel youth to develop a program for Peel youth.

Focused Conversation Process

- Involved 55 minutes of questions with discussion
- Topics included how everyone currently gets to school, what are some alternative transportation options, and barriers to those options.

After the conversation

- Jan to Sep 2010 is the design stage of the program. Focus groups will be held in February and March to 3 high schools. Design process occurs in April. Sep 2010 to June 2011 will see the project running in some schools
- Perhaps we could have a working group of PEYA to work on this