

For Immediate Release

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WELLAND IS DEVELOPING A CORPORATE CLIMATE ADAPTATION PLAN

Welland, ON - The City of Welland is moving forward with a Corporate Climate Adaptation Plan Initiative. The city— along with other neighbouring municipal governments— is partnering with Niagara Adapts to gain a better understanding of Niagara's environmental vulnerabilities, manage climate impacts, and identify risks and opportunities posed by climate change. Niagara Adapts was initiated by Brock University's Environmental Sustainability Research Centre, and is comprised of key staff from Brock University, Welland, St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Pelham, Grimsby, Lincoln, and Niagara-on-the-Lake.

The Corporate Climate Adaptation Plan Initiative is in its initial research and partnership stages. City staff are forming an internal Climate Adaptation Steering Committee, which will help shape the plan through interdepartmental expertise and experience. Additionally, the final adaptation plan will help guide city staff with future infrastructure projects, programs, and services. The Corporate Climate Adaptation Plan will also review wastewater management throughout the city.

Niagara Adapts is asking the public to participate in a survey so the organization can gain a better understanding of public concerns. Public engagement is a priority for Niagara Adapts and city staff. The survey, along with more details on the climate adaptation initiative, can be found on the city's public engagement platform, yourchannel.welland.ca.

Niagara Adapts brings action and ideas together to establish climate change adaptation strategies and plans, which will mitigate adverse climate impacts to Niagara's residents and infrastructure. The Niagara Adapts team is committing to a two-year partnership with seven of Niagara's municipalities to produce a comprehensive Niagara Climate Adaptation Plan by the fall of 2021.

"Having Welland partner with Brock University to develop a climate adaptation plan aligns with Welland's new strategic pillar of health and well-being," said CAO Gary Long. "We want to be a part of the climate adaptation conversation taking place regionally, nationally, and globally while moving the city forward in an environmentally responsible and sustainable way."

For more information on the City of Welland environmental initiatives, visit welland.ca, or for more information on the Corporate Climate Adaptation Plan Initiative, and to access the survey, visit yourchannel.welland.ca.

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