



sustainable  
kingston

DESIGNING OUR COMMUNITY'S FUTURE... TOGETHER

**Ontario East Municipal Conference**  
**September 11, 2013**



## Sustainable Kingston

- The purpose of the Sustainable Kingston Plan
- The history of the Sustainable Kingston Plan
- Implementation of the SK Plan
- What is Sustainable Kingston been up to?
- The Community Partnerships

## In the beginning

# FOCUS Kingston Steering Committee

- FOCUS KINGSTON developed the original Community Strategic Plan.
- Composition:
  - Mayor + 2 City Councilors + 4 to 6 members of the public.
  - Supported by City staff .
- Regular monthly meetings.
- Reported to City Council

# Kingston – Canada’s Most Sustainable City

- Our VISION for community sustainability is based on the challenge of becoming Canada’s most sustainable city. Hard to measure and difficult to carry out - but easy to remember.
- Our MODEL for community sustainability is based on achieving balanced integration and alignment among the four pillars by the entire community.
- Our METHOD is an Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP)



# Development of the Sustainable Kingston Plan

- A consultative process led by the Focus Kingston Steering Committee and community volunteers.
- Enabled by a grant (\$126,500) from the FCM
- Creation of the Project Management Team
- May 2008: Kingston's Sustainability Charrette
- May 2009: 4-day Sustainability Summit
- Nov-Dec 2009: Community Conversations
- Promotion at numerous public gatherings
- On-going public comment & targeted consultations

# Progress of the Sustainable Kingston Plan – Timeline

- **2008 Community Sustainability Charette:**
  - Sustainability principles & the 4 Pillar Model
  - A vision of community sustainability
  - Engagement strategies
  - Reporting out to the general public
- **Spring 2009 Sustainability Summit:**
  - Vision
  - Guiding Principles – especially community ownership
  - Pillar themes, theme statements, goals & suggested actions
  - Reporting out to the general public.



# Sustainable Kingston Plan

- On June 15, 2010 the completed *Sustainable Kingston Plan* was recommended by the Focus Kingston Steering Committee to Kingston City Council.



Sustainable Kingston Plan

Action	Action Lead	Target	Status
Local Foods - Local Chefs Initiative	Downtown Kingston Business Improvement Area (DBIA) with partners	To increase sales of local food at the Kingston Farmers Market. To increase the number to downtown restaurants and shops featuring local food.	Ongoing and success

This is only one example of an action that Community Partners are taking. Go online to [www.sustainablekingston.ca](http://www.sustainablekingston.ca) to find out about other actions that are happening or contact Sustainable Kingston at [sustainablekingston@cityofkingston.ca](mailto:sustainablekingston@cityofkingston.ca) to learn how your organization can become a Community Partner and contribute to this Plan.

## THEME SO<sub>3</sub>: FOOD AND NUTRITION

### Theme Statement

People in Kingston have access to healthy and affordable food that is available through locally sustainable agriculture, local markets, and community gardens.

### Indicators

- Community Gardens (Total number of community gardens or garden area/dwelling).
- Household spending on nutritious food (Cost of a nutritious food basket).

### Goals

- Enhance access to healthy food choices.
- Establish a Kingston Regional Food Policy Council.
- Establish a distribution system for local foods at the wholesale as well as retail level.
- Encourage the development of urban agriculture and community gardens.
- Promote the consumption of locally grown food through local food markets.
- Promote food skills including food production, selection, storage, preparation, and nutrition through the establishment of urban agriculture, community gardens, school gardening, community kitchens, and cooking programs in community recreation centres, libraries, schools, and community hubs.
- Promote the coordination of food providing services for low income residents (i.e. hot meal programs, food banks, and shelters).

### Actions

The *Sustainable Kingston* Website includes a dynamic Community Action Inventory for community partners to post the actions they are contributing to the implementation of *Sustainable Kingston*. The Website site provides detailed information about actions, action leads, targets (if applicable), and status.

## The purpose of the SK Plan

- An appreciative and forward looking catalyst for reinforcing a popular culture of “sustainability” within Kingston
- Provides a forum and a common language for discussion, collaboration and promotion of community sustainability
- Encourages action through appreciative demonstration of what others are doing.
- Provides a framework for measuring and communicating “How are we doing?”
- Demonstrates the community’s commitment to local and global stewardship.



# Action Planning

- Appreciative inquiry approach to action planning – let’s find out what the community is already doing and what Community Partners perceive to be their most significant contributions to community sustainability.

**Actions (Actions are included as examples only. A more complete listing is in progress)**

Action	Action Lead	Target	Status
Pitch IN Kingston	<a href="#">Greater Kingston Chamber of Commerce</a>	To increase the number of organizations and people involved in the annual Pitch IN event and to decrease the amount of garbage and litter in our community through public education	Ongoing (annual event)
<a href="#">Bullfrog Power Purchasing</a> (find out more under Green Energy)	<a href="#">Kingston Student Housing Co-operative: Science '44 Co-op Inc</a>	Continuous investment in Green energy	Ongoing

- [Implementation Plan](#)
- [Monitoring and Reporting](#)

[How to Get Involved](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[News and Updates](#)

[Events Calendar](#)

[Resources](#)

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[Admin Login](#)

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**Latest Poll**

# Implementation

- Promotion of the Plan and Community Sustainability through programs of outreach and public education and speaking engagements
- Attraction of Community Partners and Citizen Commitments
- Further development of the SK Website and Community Action Inventory including better ways to measure successes
- Annual publishing of State of Sustainability Report (indicators)
- Coordination of Annual Sustainability Conference
- New Newsletter to start in November – Executive Director Report, Highlight Community Partners, Outstanding Citizen
- Now have Bricks and Mortar – 184 Sydenham
- Updating of the Sustainable Kingston Plan (likely a 3 year cycle)

# Governance and Resourcing of the SK Plan

- 2012 Hand off to a Community based not-for-profit
- A service level agreement has been established between Sustainable Kingston and the City of Kingston
- A Board of Directors has been chosen and has been in place for just over one year
- An annual report must be submitted to the City outlining the progress of Sustainable Kingston
- An annual contribution by City of Kingston is to be leveraged with other sponsorships and grants from various sources

# Where are we now?

- **The Board of Directors is firmly in place**
- **The first non-City employee Executive Director has been appointed**
- **We have 96 Community Partners.**
- **Kingston City Council has approved \$132,000 annually to augment the operating budget in support of the implementation of the Sustainable Kingston Plan.**
- **The City of Kingston is preparing an Integrated Community Climate Change Plan to fulfill its obligation as a Community Partner to the Sustainable Kingston Plan.**

## What has Sustainable Kingston been up to?

- Earlier this year held a Community Forum
- Coordinated Pitch In Kingston
- May – moved into new location
- Late June – I moved into place as ED
- Have formed four new working groups – office use, Newsletter, Essay Writing Contest, and Web redesign
- New standing committees – Revenue and Finance, Annual Citizens Forum
- We are working with Queen's class to develop measurements for Indicators
- Working with Queen's, RMC and St. Lawrence on Post Secondary Sustainability Collaborative

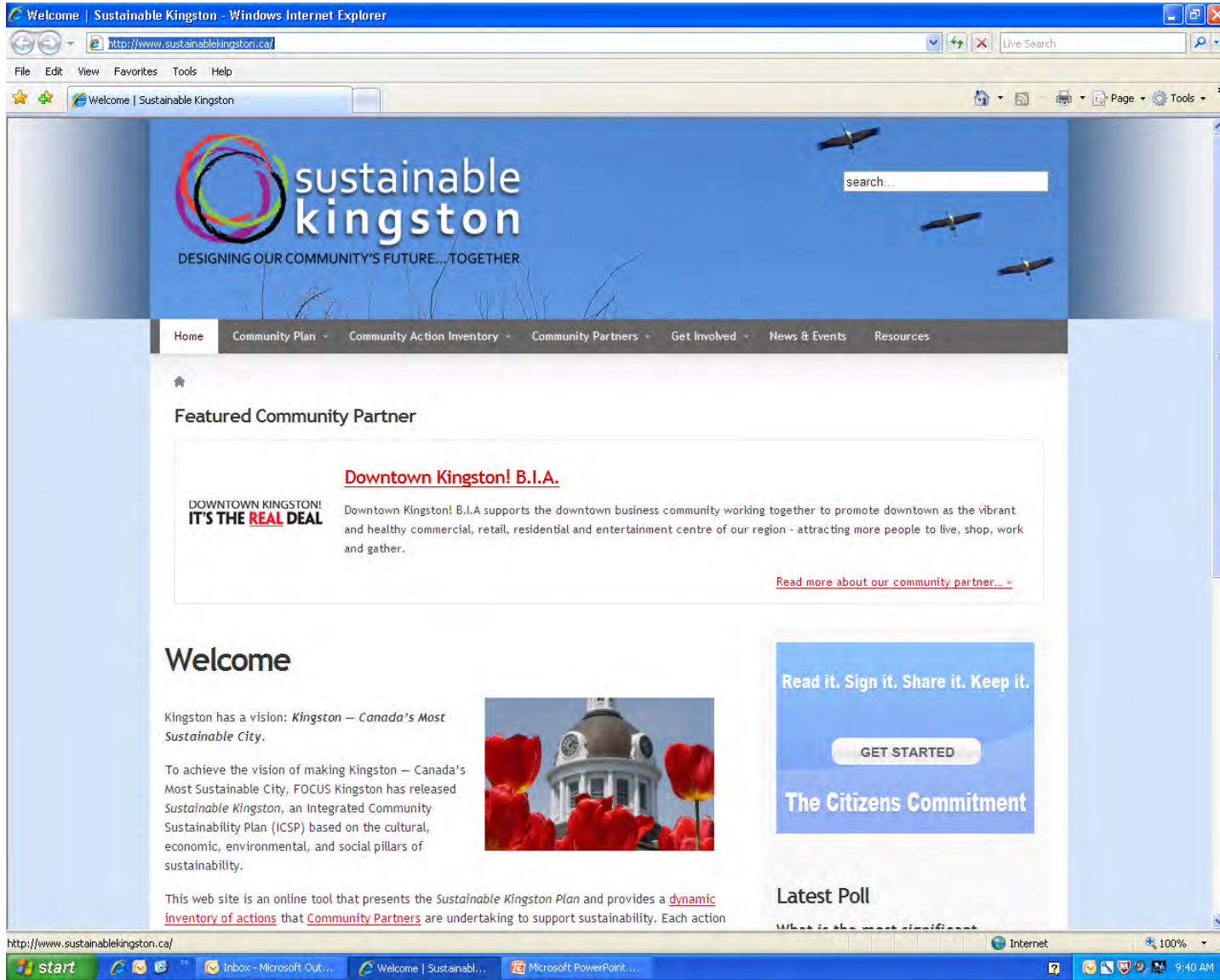
## The Community Partnership

- Sharing your vision of sustainability with the Kingston community through actions, programs and policies that make Kingston a more sustainable community
- Improving and implementing your own organizational plan
- Taking part in community forums to raise awareness of current practices
- Supporting community sustainability and the *Sustainable Kingston Plan* by communicating to employees, volunteers or members





# Redesigned Website



The screenshot shows a Windows Internet Explorer browser window displaying the Sustainable Kingston website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <http://www.sustainablekingston.ca/>. The website's header features the logo and tagline, a search bar, and a navigation menu with items like Home, Community Plan, and Get Involved. The main content area includes a featured partner section for 'Downtown Kingston! B.I.A.', a 'Welcome' section with text about the city's vision and a photo of red tulips, and a 'The Citizens Commitment' call-to-action button. The taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button and several open applications.

Windows Internet Explorer | Sustainable Kingston - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.sustainablekingston.ca/

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Welcome | Sustainable Kingston

search...

**sustainable  
kingston**

DESIGNING OUR COMMUNITY'S FUTURE... TOGETHER

Home Community Plan Community Action Inventory Community Partners Get Involved News & Events Resources

Featured Community Partner

**Downtown Kingston! B.I.A.**

**DOWNTOWN KINGSTON!  
IT'S THE REAL DEAL**


Downtown Kingston! B.I.A. supports the downtown business community working together to promote downtown as the vibrant and healthy commercial, retail, residential and entertainment centre of our region - attracting more people to live, shop, work and gather.

[Read more about our community partner... »](#)

**Welcome**

Kingston has a vision: *Kingston — Canada's Most Sustainable City.*

To achieve the vision of making Kingston — Canada's Most Sustainable City, FOCUS Kingston has released *Sustainable Kingston*, an Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP) based on the cultural, economic, environmental, and social pillars of sustainability.



**Read it. Sign it. Share it. Keep it.**

**GET STARTED**

**The Citizens Commitment**

**Latest Poll**

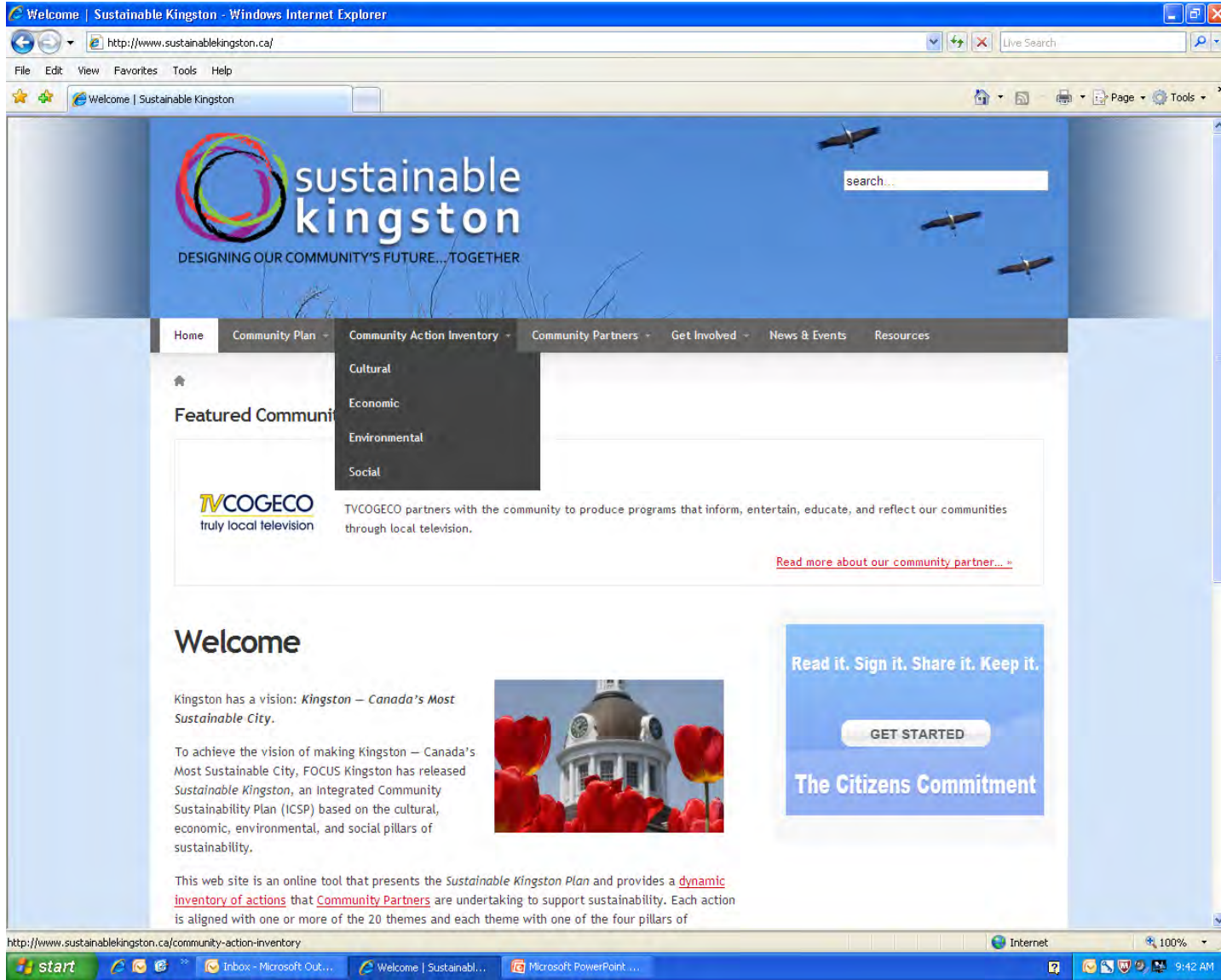
What is the most significant

http://www.sustainablekingston.ca/

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# Community Action Inventory



Welcome | Sustainable Kingston - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.sustainablekingston.ca/

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Welcome | Sustainable Kingston

search...

**sustainable  
kingston**

DESIGNING OUR COMMUNITY'S FUTURE... TOGETHER

Home Community Plan **Community Action Inventory** Community Partners Get Involved News & Events Resources

Cultural  
Economic  
Environmental  
Social

**Featured Community Partner**

**TVCOGECO**  
truly local television

TVCOGECO partners with the community to produce programs that inform, entertain, educate, and reflect our communities through local television.

[Read more about our community partner...](#)

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This web site is an online tool that presents the *Sustainable Kingston Plan* and provides a [dynamic inventory of actions](#) that [Community Partners](#) are undertaking to support sustainability. Each action is aligned with one or more of the 20 themes and each theme with one of the four pillars of

Read it. Sign it. Share it. Keep it.

**GET STARTED**

**The Citizens Commitment**

http://www.sustainablekingston.ca/community-action-inventory

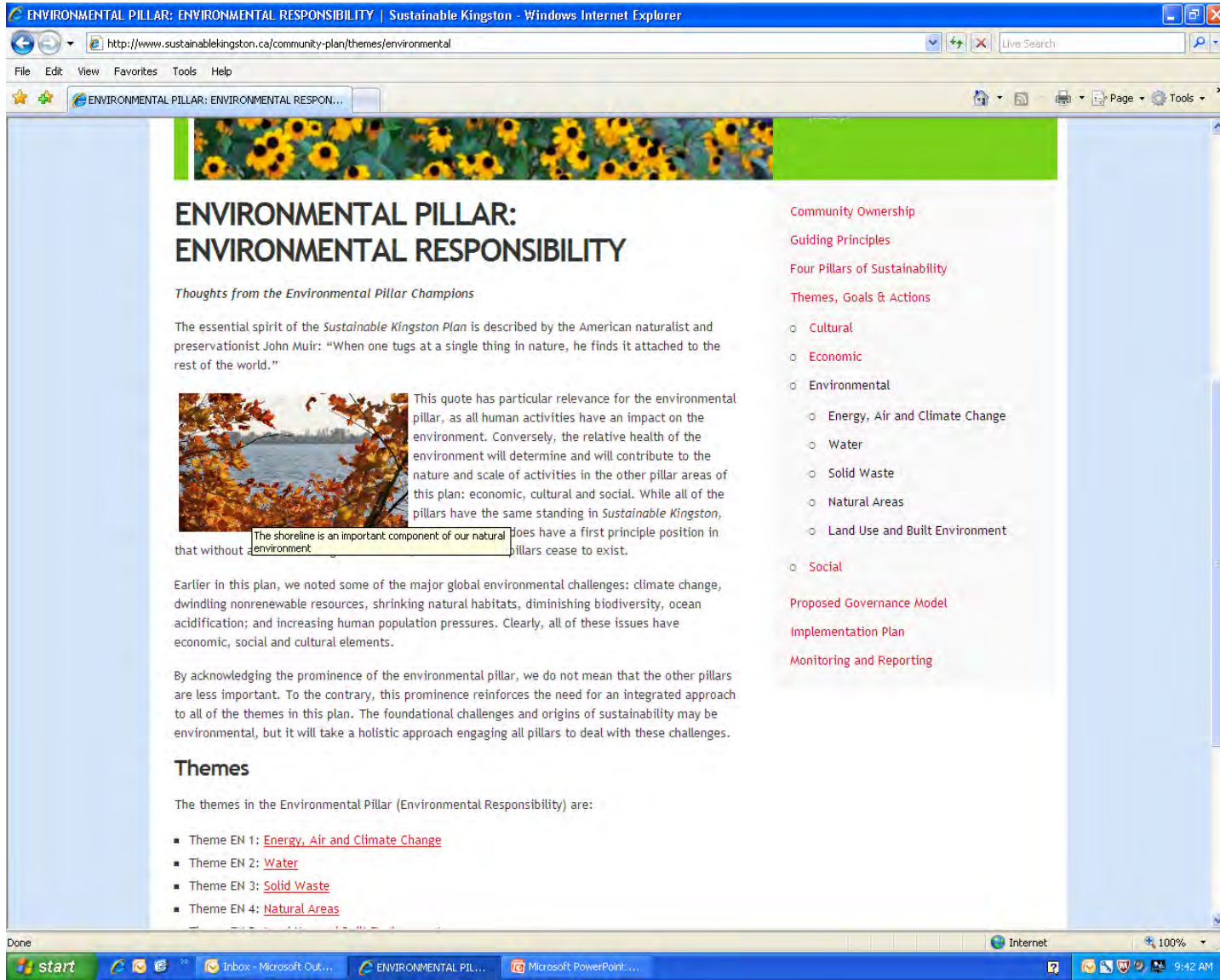
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# Community Action Inventory



ENVIRONMENTAL PILLAR: ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY | Sustainable Kingston - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.sustainablekingston.ca/community-plan/themes/environmental


File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

ENVIRONMENTAL PILLAR: ENVIRONMENTAL RESPON...

## ENVIRONMENTAL PILLAR: ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

*Thoughts from the Environmental Pillar Champions*

The essential spirit of the *Sustainable Kingston Plan* is described by the American naturalist and preservationist John Muir: "When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world."



This quote has particular relevance for the environmental pillar, as all human activities have an impact on the environment. Conversely, the relative health of the environment will determine and will contribute to the nature and scale of activities in the other pillar areas of this plan: economic, cultural and social. While all of the pillars have the same standing in *Sustainable Kingston*, does have a first principle position in pillars cease to exist.

The shoreline is an important component of our natural environment.

Earlier in this plan, we noted some of the major global environmental challenges: climate change, dwindling nonrenewable resources, shrinking natural habitats, diminishing biodiversity, ocean acidification; and increasing human population pressures. Clearly, all of these issues have economic, social and cultural elements.

By acknowledging the prominence of the environmental pillar, we do not mean that the other pillars are less important. To the contrary, this prominence reinforces the need for an integrated approach to all of the themes in this plan. The foundational challenges and origins of sustainability may be environmental, but it will take a holistic approach engaging all pillars to deal with these challenges.

### Themes

The themes in the Environmental Pillar (Environmental Responsibility) are:

- Theme EN 1: [Energy, Air and Climate Change](#)
- Theme EN 2: [Water](#)
- Theme EN 3: [Solid Waste](#)
- Theme EN 4: [Natural Areas](#)

Community Ownership

Guiding Principles

Four Pillars of Sustainability

Themes, Goals & Actions

- Cultural
- Economic
- Environmental
  - Energy, Air and Climate Change
  - Water
  - Solid Waste
  - Natural Areas
  - Land Use and Built Environment
- Social

Proposed Governance Model

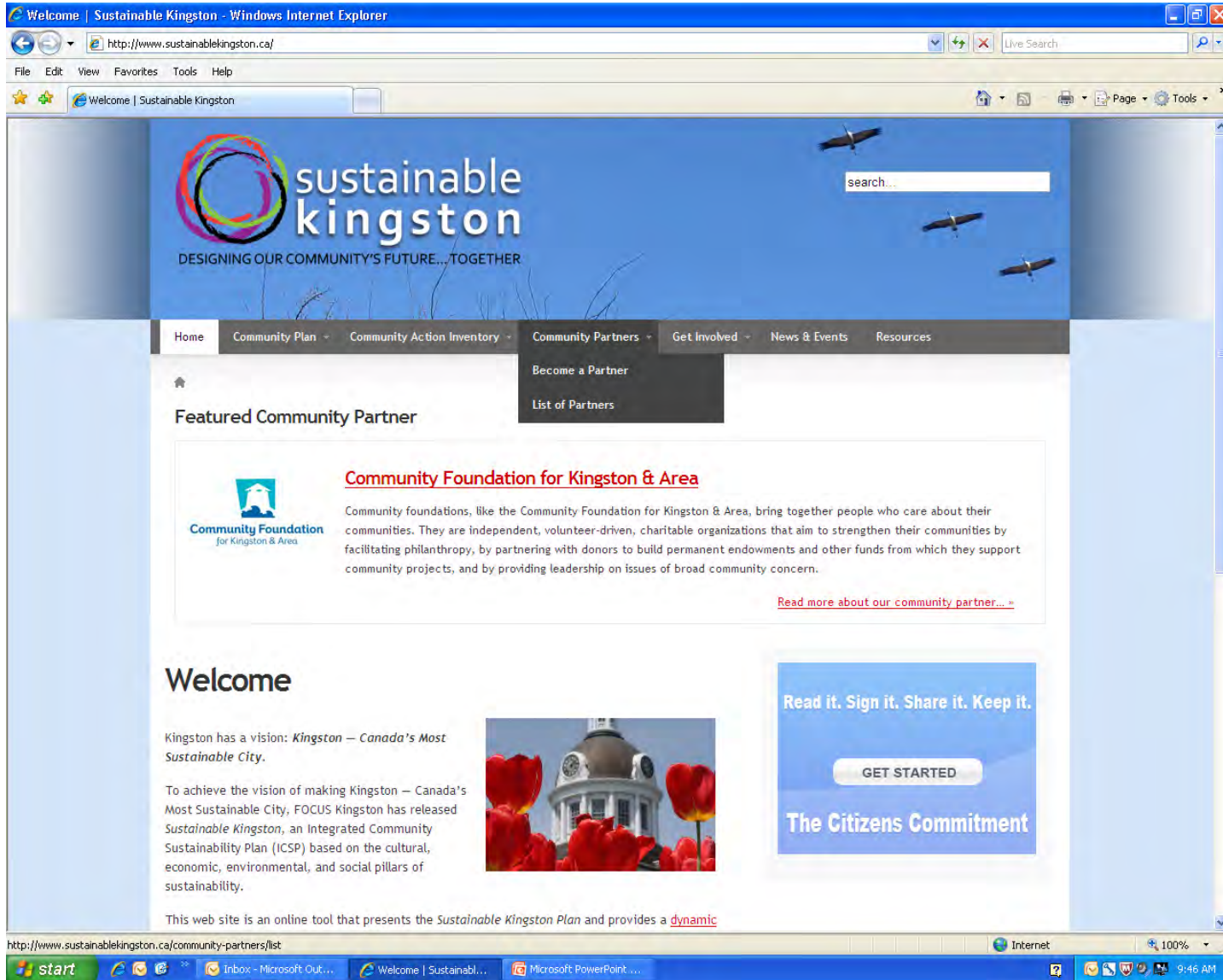
Implementation Plan

Monitoring and Reporting

Done

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# Community Partner Profile



Windows Internet Explorer | Sustainable Kingston - Windows Internet Explorer  
 http://www.sustainablekingston.ca/ | Live Search

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help


Home | Community Plan | Community Action Inventory | **Community Partners** | Get Involved | News & Events | Resources

Home | Community Plan | Community Action Inventory | **Community Partners** | Get Involved | News & Events | Resources

Become a Partner  
List of Partners

search...

**Featured Community Partner**

 **Community Foundation for Kingston & Area**

Community foundations, like the Community Foundation for Kingston & Area, bring together people who care about their communities. They are independent, volunteer-driven, charitable organizations that aim to strengthen their communities by facilitating philanthropy, by partnering with donors to build permanent endowments and other funds from which they support community projects, and by providing leadership on issues of broad community concern.

[Read more about our community partner...](#)

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**GET STARTED**

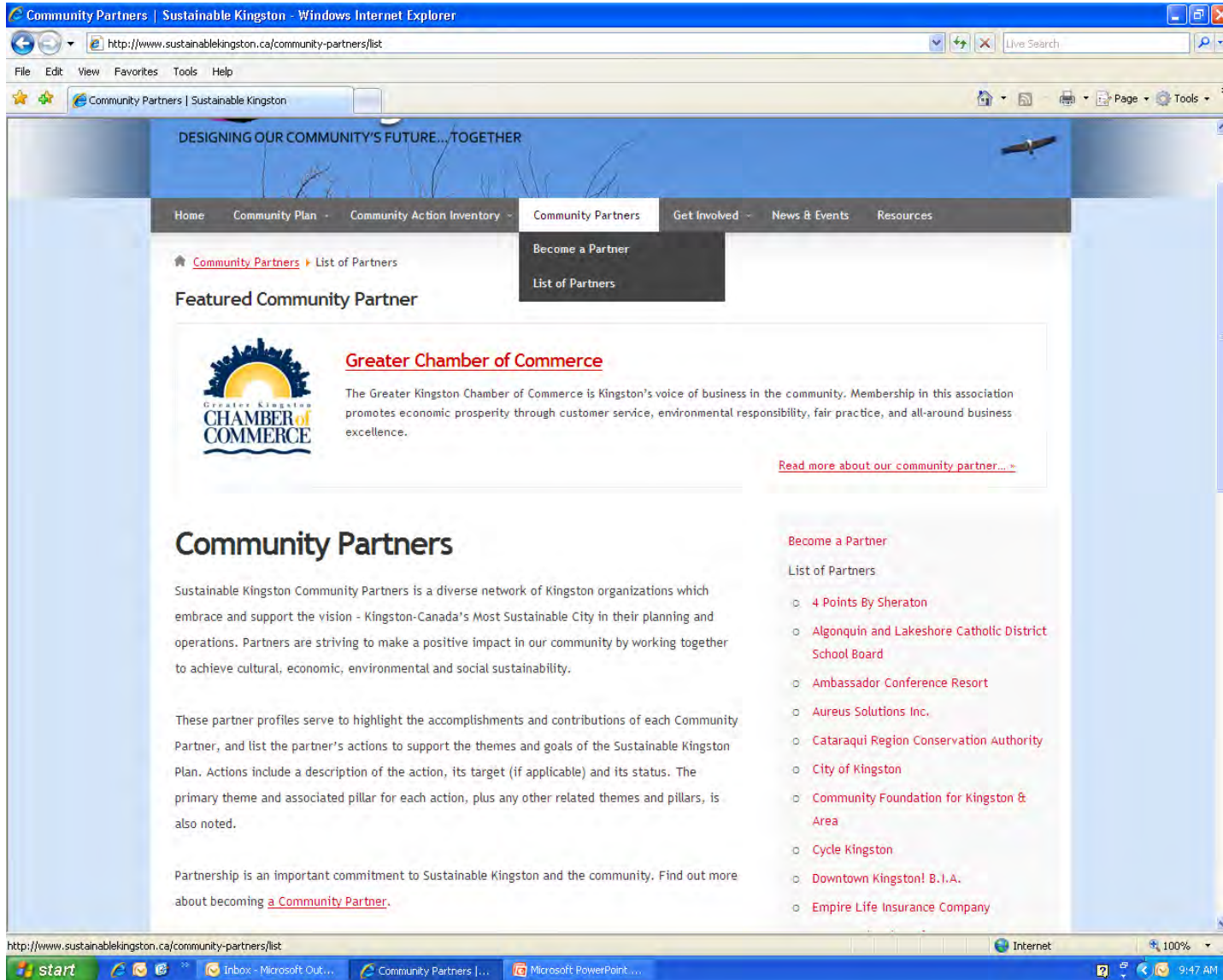
**The Citizens Commitment**

http://www.sustainablekingston.ca/community-partners/list

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# Community Partner Profile



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the 'Community Partners' page on the Sustainable Kingston website. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <http://www.sustainablekingston.ca/community-partners/list>. The website's navigation menu includes: Home, Community Plan, Community Action Inventory, Community Partners, Get Involved, News & Events, and Resources. A dropdown menu for 'Community Partners' is open, showing options for 'Become a Partner' and 'List of Partners'. The main content area features a 'Featured Community Partner' section for the 'Greater Chamber of Commerce'. Below this is a 'Community Partners' section with introductory text and a list of partners on the right side.

**Community Partners** | Sustainable Kingston - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.sustainablekingston.ca/community-partners/list

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Community Partners | Sustainable Kingston


DESIGNING OUR COMMUNITY'S FUTURE... TOGETHER

Home Community Plan Community Action Inventory **Community Partners** Get Involved News & Events Resources

Community Partners List of Partners

Become a Partner  
List of Partners

**Featured Community Partner**

 **Greater Chamber of Commerce**

The Greater Kingston Chamber of Commerce is Kingston's voice of business in the community. Membership in this association promotes economic prosperity through customer service, environmental responsibility, fair practice, and all-around business excellence.

[Read more about our community partner... >](#)

**Community Partners**

Sustainable Kingston Community Partners is a diverse network of Kingston organizations which embrace and support the vision - Kingston-Canada's Most Sustainable City in their planning and operations. Partners are striving to make a positive impact in our community by working together to achieve cultural, economic, environmental and social sustainability.

These partner profiles serve to highlight the accomplishments and contributions of each Community Partner, and list the partner's actions to support the themes and goals of the Sustainable Kingston Plan. Actions include a description of the action, its target (if applicable) and its status. The primary theme and associated pillar for each action, plus any other related themes and pillars, is also noted.

Partnership is an important commitment to Sustainable Kingston and the community. Find out more about becoming [a Community Partner](#).

**Become a Partner**

**List of Partners**

- [4 Points By Sheraton](#)
- [Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board](#)
- [Ambassador Conference Resort](#)
- [Aureus Solutions Inc.](#)
- [Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority](#)
- [City of Kingston](#)
- [Community Foundation for Kingston & Area](#)
- [Cycle Kingston](#)
- [Downtown Kingston! B.I.A.](#)
- [Empire Life Insurance Company](#)

http://www.sustainablekingston.ca/community-partners/list

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# Community Partner Profile

Community Partners | Sustainable Kingston - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.sustainablekingston.ca/community-partners/list/profile?pid=32


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Community Partners | Sustainable Kingston

Community Partners > List of Partners > Community Partner Profiles

## Community Partners

### Limestone District School Board



The Limestone District School Board strives to prepare students to face a changing world as lifelong learners and informed responsible citizens. The Board serves the Townships of Central Frontenac, Addington Highlands, North Frontenac, South Frontenac, Loyalist and Stone Mills, as well as the Town of Greater Napanee, the City of Kingston and the Frontenac Islands.

### Community Actions

Action	Target	Status	Themes
<p><b>Limestone Skills Competition</b></p> <p>Students from both Elementary and Secondary grades will be competing in a skills competition at St. Lawrence College. A Green Design Challenge has been added to the competition. Students will demonstrate various sustainable actions and products in this competition.</p>	To have students create innovative designs with sustainable targets and goals.	Ongoing	<p>Primary theme: <a href="#">SO1</a></p> <p>All themes by pillar</p> <p>Cultural: <a href="#">CU1</a></p> <p>Environmental: <a href="#">EN1</a></p> <p><a href="#">EN2</a> <a href="#">EN3</a> <a href="#">EN4</a> <a href="#">EN5</a></p> <p>Social: <a href="#">SO1</a></p>
<p><b>Water Bottle Filling Stations</b></p> <p>Water bottle filling stations were installed in selected sites as</p>	To reduce the amount of single use water bottles used in schools.	Ongoing	<p>Primary theme: <a href="#">EN3</a></p> <p>All themes by pillar</p> <p>Environmental: <a href="#">EN3</a></p> <p><a href="#">EN2</a></p>

**Become a Partner**

List of Partners

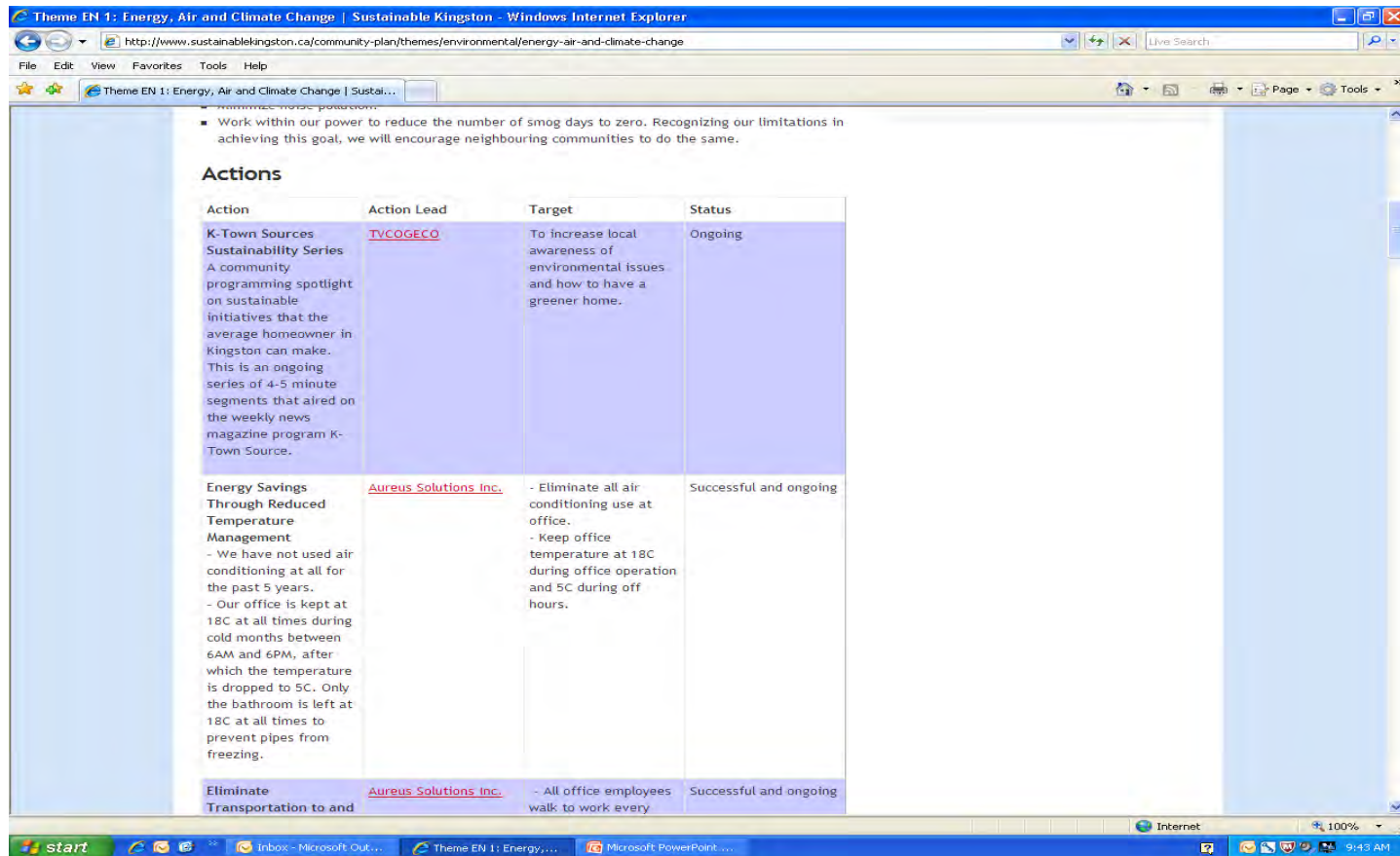
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- Community Foundation for Kingston & Area
- Cycle Kingston
- Downtown Kingston! B.I.A.
- Empire Life Insurance Company
- Greater Chamber of Commerce
- Green Centre Canada
- Hearthmakers Energy Cooperative
- KEYS Job Centre d'emploi
- KFL&A Public Health
- Kingston Arts Council
- Kingston Economic Development Corporation
- Kingston Hydro
- Kingston Sustainability Centre
- Kingston Walks
- Limestone District School Board
- Living Cities Company

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# Community Action Inventory

Appreciative inquiry approach to action planning – let's find out what the community is already doing and what Community partners perceive to be their most significant contributions to community sustainability.



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a page titled 'Theme EN 1: Energy, Air and Climate Change | Sustainable Kingston'. The page content includes a list of actions and a table summarizing them.

**Actions**

- Work within our power to reduce the number of smog days to zero. Recognizing our limitations in achieving this goal, we will encourage neighbouring communities to do the same.

Action	Action Lead	Target	Status
<b>K-Town Sources Sustainability Series</b> A community programming spotlight on sustainable initiatives that the average homeowner in Kingston can make. This is an ongoing series of 4-5 minute segments that aired on the weekly news magazine program K-Town Source.	<a href="#">TVCOGECO</a>	To increase local awareness of environmental issues and how to have a greener home.	Ongoing
<b>Energy Savings Through Reduced Temperature Management</b> - We have not used air conditioning at all for the past 5 years. - Our office is kept at 18C at all times during cold months between 6AM and 6PM, after which the temperature is dropped to 5C. Only the bathroom is left at 18C at all times to prevent pipes from freezing.	<a href="#">Aureus Solutions Inc.</a>	- Eliminate all air conditioning use at office. - Keep office temperature at 18C during office operation and 5C during off hours.	Successful and ongoing
<b>Eliminate Transportation to and</b>	<a href="#">Aureus Solutions Inc.</a>	- All office employees walk to work every	Successful and ongoing

## How to become a Community Partner:



1. Sign and date the “*Sustainable Kingston* Community Partner Charter”
2. Send *Sustainable Kingston* your organization’s logo
3. Complete two or three “Action Submission” forms
4. Sign and date the “Permission to Use the *Sustainable Kingston* Logo Terms and Conditions”

But we want to change this so that the Community Partners are encouraged to financially support Sustainable Kingston

We are developing a Revenue Model based on size of organization, non-profit or for-profit, and level of commitment



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DESIGNING OUR COMMUNITY'S FUTURE... TOGETHER

Questions?