Items for the Action of the Partners in Project Green Executive Management Committee

TO: Chair and Members of the Partners in Project Green Executive Management Committee Tuesday, March 02, 2021 Meeting

FROM: Darryl Gray, Director, Education and Training

RE: CALL FOR APPLICATIONS – PPG EMC APPOINTMENT FROM NYGEP-PAIE

KEY ISSUE

To approve a call for applications, seeking a participant or alumnus of the TRCA's Newcomer Youth Green Economy Program or Professional Access Into Employment Program to join the PPG Executive Management Committee as an advisory member.

RECOMMENDATION

WHEREAS at Meeting #2/20, held on September 22, 2020, the Partners in Project Green Executive Management Committee approved, in principle, the appointment of a participant or alumnus of the Newcomer Youth Green Economy Project and Professional Access Into Employment programs to an advisory member position on the PPG EMC;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT this call for applications be approved.

BACKGROUND

According to the 2019-2023 Terms of Reference (ToR), Partners in Project Green (PPG) Executive Management Committee (EMC) voting members are to represent the following groups in the number shown: TRCA (1); GTAA (1); Business community leaders (8); and, Municipal leaders (4). This composition was created in order to ensure proper representation from primary PPG stakeholder groups. In addition, the EMC may have up to five (5) non-voting Advisory members that can be drawn from Federal, Provincial, or Municipal governments, or from the business community.

At Meeting #2/20, the PPG EMC approved, in principle, the recruitment of a participant or alumnus of TRCA's Newcomer Youth Green Economy Project (NYGEP) or Professional Access into Employment (PAIE) program to fill an Advisory Member role of the EMC as a means to diversify membership on the EMC to include under-represented professionals within this governance structure.

There are currently two (2) Advisory members on the EMC: Councilor Whillans (City of Brampton), Scott Pegg (Infrastructure Ontario). Advisory members provide insights and opinions on PPG strategy, programs and efforts and do not vote on issues before the committee.

RATIONALE

PAIE is an innovative bridge training program that helps internationally-trained environmental professionals launch their careers in Engineering, Geoscience, Environmental Science and Planning. The PAIE Program empowers participants with an increased understanding of the local labour market. PAIE supports participants as they pursue their goals of obtaining employment and gaining the Canadian experience required for professional licensing and certifications.

Funded by the Government of Ontario, the Newcomer Youth Green Economy Project (NYGEP), supports newcomer post-secondary students in the GTA to access field trips, experiential learning opportunities, and job skills training. Through a five-month part-time program, participants gain access to learning opportunities in the environmental career pathways of ecological restoration, water management, green energy/green buildings, and environmental education.

In addition to ensuring the committee composition adheres to the ToR, there is an opportunity to improve representation of the communities PPG serves through an Advisory member appointment of a professional who is a participant or alumnus from TRCA's NYGEP or PAIE. In addition, the PPG EMC has discussed their interest in advancing racial and gender inclusion within governance structures as an important aspect of achieving objectives related to diversity and equity. The proposed call for applications (attached) is an opportunity to attract more diverse representation on the PPG EMC.

Relationship to Building the Living City, the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan

This report supports the following strategies set forth in the TRCA 2013-2022 Strategic Plan:

- Strategy 1 Green the Toronto region's economy
- Strategy 5 Foster sustainable citizenship

Strategy 8 – Gather and share the best sustainability knowledge

FINANCIAL DETAILS

PPG Executive Management Committee members contribute their expertise as in-kind services. Compensation for transportation will be provided for attendance at meetings according to TRCA policy where these are not covered by their agency or other source. Staff time involved in EMC management is charged to account no. 11635 (413-16).

DETAILS OF WORK TO BE DONE

Pending the approval of this call for applications, PPG staff will begin the appointment process, involving the Clerk's office as required. We anticipate that the call for applications could be made in Q1 2021 with the selected candidate being appointed in Q2 2021.

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Attachment 1: Draft Call for Applications – PPG EMC NYGEP/PAIE