

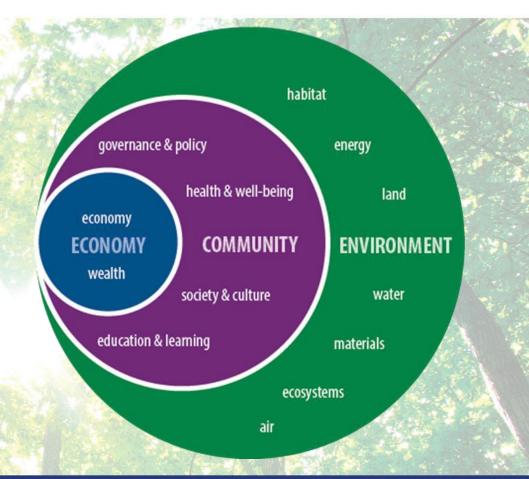
Burlington has declared itself a Blue Dot City

- This expresses the belief that its residents have a right to a healthy environment
- Land use policy is one of the biggest determinants of a healthy environment - Official Plans matter
- As reminded by David Suzuki on Nov 21 at BPAC – policy must be grounded in nested priorities
- BurlingtonGreen has adopted a similar lens in its new strategic plan
- Without clean air and water, healthy food and environment, we don't survive



economic activity occurs within social and ecological limits

We are testing those limits



TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE!





That is why BurlingtonGreen made the following investment in meetings with City officials, community members (a cross section of Council's constituents) and internally to specifically understand & address the City's proposed Official Plan*

December 2/14	July 15/15	December 5/16	September 14/17
February 4/15	Aug 19/15	February 6/17	September 22/17
June 8/15	September 30/15	June 23/17	October 11/17
June 10/15	October 13/15	June 30/17 – submission	November 6/17
June 18/15	October 26/15	July 5/17	November 30/17
June 23/15	November 3/15	September 6/17	T.b.d
June 25/15	November 24/15	September 7/17	17
June 29/15	October 21/16	September 11/17	

^{*} Not including time spent on research, writing, discussions at team meetings, etc.





- Our focus has been and continues to be the environmental lens
- Key takeaways at this point:
 - We support the overall approach and direction of the OP
 - Protection of the agricultural/green belt/escarpment lands and embrace of "smart community" planning
 - Protection and expansion of green space and the tree canopy, especially within the urban boundary, are in jeopardy without an urgent review/rewrite of the Parks Master Plan and open space acquisition policies – these can't be after-thoughts
 - Accelerate completion of the requisite green space Master Plan(s) and policies –
 embed them in the OP as quickly as possible and adopt tools to better
 protect/enhance the deteriorating urban tree canopy





- Key takeaways at this point (cont'd):
 - How "smart communities" will evolve fully integrated transit, compact housing, community open/green spaces and new approaches to mixed development - is not well understood, and not being adequately demanded of developers
 - Net zero buildings, getting out of our cars, sustainable energy generation and use, water preservation, maintaining tree canopy, working where we live all need to become the "new normal" and the OP needs to support willing developers to create these communities in Burlington as quickly as possible
 - Resident perception is that developers are driving the future shape of the City, ignoring the community, Council, and officials
 - Quickly make use of Area-Specific Planning studies, Community Improvement
 Project Plans and create other tools to engage all sectors meaningfully



Climate change is the biggest challenge facing the planet

Mitigating climate change and preserving a healthy environment must be top priority in every policy decision at every level of government – each decision must pass the "nested priorities" test



Adopting and implementing an OP that supports the transition to a more urban and sustainable Burlington is a challenge but also presents opportunities to make the changes needed to help our community survive and thrive

I call on all of us to "connect the dots" to make Burlington a model of sustainability and good health

Adopting a progressive OP is a good place to start



