



Wednesday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Mayor and Council  
Town of Sackville  
31C Main St.  
Sackville, NB E4L 1G6

Dear Mayor John Higham and Sackville Town Councillors,

RE: Notice of Public Hearing Of Objections To Amend The Town of Sackville Zoning By-Law

EOS is in support of the existing zoning by-law, which has not allowed drive-thru's in the Town of Sackville since 2001 because of concerns over increased emissions and traffic congestion. EOS Eco-Energy wishes to remind you of the Town's previous commitments to a healthy environment and reduction of greenhouse gases outlined below.

In 2003 Sackville Town Council joined the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program. In fact, you proudly display the PCP puzzle by the mayor's seat in council chambers. It recognizes each step of the 5-milestone process the Town has achieved including municipal and community emissions inventories (in 2011), reduction targets (of 10% below 2011 levels which equals 7,482 t CO<sub>2</sub>e from community sources) and most recently the emissions reduction action plan. The action plan was coordinated by EOS staff this past winter and endorsed by council in February 2016. In particular the community portion of the plan recommends an anti-idling policy be implemented. The action plan is a result of consultations with town of Sackville staff as well as numerous community engagement events, workshops, info booths, school visits, social media, etc). The action plan is available on the Town of Sackville and EOS websites.

Further to the PCP work, the Sustainable Sackville plan was adopted in 2010 and states "Sackville embraces sustainability as the foundation for our environmental, social and economic well-being.... Our legacy to future generations is a community that is cleaner, greener, healthier, and more prosperous than ever before. To that end, we work tirelessly to reduce waste, diminish pollution, conserve energy and encourage healthy, active living." Furthermore, the energy strategy's objective within Sustainable Sackville reads, "To meet our community's energy needs in an efficient, affordable, sustainable and reliable way, while managing greenhouse gas."

Furthermore anti-idling program work was started around 2011 by the Tantramar District Planning Commission. Research during spring 2011 revealed that the average time cars spent idling in the Tim Horton's drive-thru was 5.7 minutes and that about 80 vehicles visited each day. During the study only a couple of cars were seen idling in the parking lot for about 3.5 minutes each. During summer 2011 education and awareness began to promote anti-idling. The program explained that idling your vehicle is a significant source of pollution, it depletes natural resources, raises health concerns, wastes gas and is expensive. More on the program can be found on the Tantramar Anti-Idling Initiative's website: <https://tantramaridling.wordpress.com>.

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Anything over about 30 seconds of idling uses more fuel than shutting off and restarting your vehicle. So reducing unnecessary idling can help reduce carbon emissions and save money.

In addition, in December 2015 Sackville town council passed a municipal declaration as part of David Suzuki's Blue Dot project to respect people's right to live in a healthy environment with clean air and water, safe food, and a stable climate. There are also concerns about the impacts of a drive-thru on the neighbouring daycare's outdoor playground and their children's environmental health.

Furthermore, Canada is in the process of developing a climate action plan as part of the Paris Agreement to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C. Because drive-thru's promote idling which can increase emissions, EOS feels that additional drive-thru's would be a step backward and counter to the above plans and commitments.

EOS is very supportive of new sustainable business developments and offers the following suggestions for greener solutions to a drive-thru:

- A "park and perk" with a Robins Coffee counter inside the Ultramar
- Partner with a local café to offer local coffee at a kiosk inside the Ultramar
- Open a bike-thru/walk-thru coffee window

EOS encourages you to maintain the town's commitment to the environment and a sustainable future and maintain the current bylaw. We also encourage you to re-examine the implementation of an anti-idling policy or bylaw for Sackville. Finally we encourage you to continue to promote Sackville's green achievements from Sustainable Sackville to the PCP program, Blue Dot and more.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of EOS Eco-Energy and our Board of Directors,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Amanda Marlin'.

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Amanda Marlin  
Executive Director, EOS Eco-Energy, eos@nb.aibn.com

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