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# The Regional Municipality of Durham Report

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To: Works Committee  
From: Commissioner of Works  
Report: #2025-WR-1  
Date: February 5, 2025

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**Subject:**

Energy from Waste–Waste Management Advisory Committee (Host Community Agreement Committee) Membership Appointments

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**Recommendations:**

That the Works Committee recommends to Regional Council:

- A) That the five applicants (as outlined in Attachment #1) selected by members of the Works Committee be appointed for membership on the Energy from Waste-Waste Management Advisory Committee for a two-year term (2025-2026); and
  - B) That a copy of this report be provided to the Municipality of Clarington for information.
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**Report:**

**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to facilitate the appointment of individuals to serve as members of the Energy from Waste-Waste Management Advisory Committee (EFW-WMAC) (Host Community Agreement Committee (HCA)) for a two-year term (2025 to 2026 – Term Seven).

**2. Background**

- 2.1 The HCA between the Regional Municipality of Durham (Region) and Municipality of Clarington (Clarington) requires the establishment of a public advisory committee.

2.2 The Terms of Reference (ToR) for the EFW-WMAC, which outlines the committee's responsibilities, were developed in collaboration with Clarington.

### **3. Previous Reports and Decisions**

3.1 [Report #2023-WR-2](#) dated February 8, 2023, EFW-WMAC (HCA Committee) Membership Appointments recommended Term Six (2023-2024) EFW-WMAC members.

### **4. Energy from Waste-Waste Management Advisory Committee**

4.1 The purpose of the EFW-WMAC is to provide a forum for the public and other stakeholders to monitor, review, learn about and liaise with the Region about its integrated waste management system.

4.2 Key topics anticipated to be addressed during the upcoming term include:

- a. Organics management program development, including roll-out to multi-residential;
- b. Transition to full extended producer responsibility;
- c. Long-term Waste Management Plan implementation activities;
- d. Waste management facility infrastructure improvements and service level optimization; and
- e. Energy from waste performance updates.

4.3 The EFW-WMAC will meet quarterly, and meetings will be open to the public.

### **5. Soliciting, Screening and Evaluation of Applicants**

#### **Advertising Campaign**

5.1 The Region initiated a media advertising campaign using print and electronic media to ensure that regional residents were aware of the opportunity for membership to the next term of the EFW-WMAC (2025 to 2026 – Term Seven). The deadline to submit applications was January 17, 2025.

## Screening and Evaluation

- 5.2 The advertisement for membership stipulated that persons interested in membership on this committee must submit their resume and cover letter detailing their interest in this committee, previous committee experience, other relevant experience, including details of their knowledge of waste management practices and energy-from-waste processes, and why they should be considered for this membership role.
- 5.3 The Region received eight applications from residents living in Durham Region, the five selected applicants are listed in Attachment #1.

## 6. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 6.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following strategic goals and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:
- a. Environmental Sustainability
- Goal #1.1 – Accelerate the adoption of green technologies and clean energy solutions.
  - Goal #1.2 – Increase waste diversion and resource recovery
  - Goal #1.4 – Demonstrate leadership in sustainability and addressing climate change.
- b. Service Excellence
- Goal #5.3 – Demonstrate commitment to continuous quality improvement and communicating results.

## 7. Conclusion

- 7.1 In accordance with the EFW-WMAC's ToR, Works Committee is requested to recommend five applicants to Regional Council for appointment to the next term (2025 to 2026 – Term Seven) of the EFW-WMAC. Clarington Council has approved four members (Attachment #2). Once both Councils have approved their respective applicants, the EFW-WMAC will be composed of nine residents of the Region.
- 7.2 Regional staff has approved the five applicants for the EFW-WMAC members to serve as the Region's Council appointees. The selected applicants include:

- a. Ashwin Mohan (City of Pickering)
- b. Greg Gordon (Town of Whitby)
- c. Marcus Brennan (City of Oshawa)
- d. Mike Hewitt (City of Oshawa)
- e. Rochelle Fleming (City of Pickering)

7.3 It is recommended that the five applicants listed in Attachment #1, selected by members of the Works Committee, be appointed to the Energy from Waste-Waste Management Advisory Committee.

7.4 For additional information, contact: Andrew Evans, Director, Waste Management Services, at 905-668-7711 extension 4102.

## 8. Attachments

Attachment #1: Regional Municipality of Durham Table of Recommended Applicants to the 2025 to 2026 – Term Seven EFW-WMAC

Attachment #2: Municipality of Clarington Resolution #GG-200-24 dated December 17, 2024, for the appointment of EFW-WMAC members to the next term (2025 to 2026 – Term Seven)

Respectfully submitted,

**Original signed by Christine Dunkley, Director,  
Corporate Infrastructure and Strategic Business  
Services, for:**

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Ramesh Jagannathan, MBA, M.Eng., P.Eng., PTOE  
Commissioner of Works

Recommended for Presentation to Committee

**Original signed by:**

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Elaine C. Baxter-Trahair  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Recommended Applicants to the 2025 to 2026 Term 7 of the  
Energy from Waste-Waste Management Advisory Committee (EFW-WMAC)**

Name	Municipality	Committee Experience	Practical Experience	Other Information
Ashwin Mohan	Pickering	No	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mechanical engineer – University of B.C.</li> <li>• Sole practitioner</li> <li>• Project Engineer at an environmental services firm, Hetek Solutions</li> </ul>
Greg Gordon	Whitby	Yes	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professional Engineer - Mechanical Engineering</li> <li>• Water and Wastewater experience</li> <li>• Ontario Power Generation and Kinectrics</li> <li>• Received Award for waste diversion— low-cost diversion with high impact</li> <li>• Advisory Board Work – Product development input for integrated inspection technology</li> <li>• Direct experience with energy production</li> </ul>
Marcus Brennan	Oshawa	No	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bachelor of Business Administration, Guelph University</li> <li>• Operator with the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) in the main control room for Real-Time Operations</li> <li>• 10+ years working in the Energy and Utility sectors</li> <li>• Environmental background in water quality and drinking water treatment</li> <li>• OPG – 8 years experience as a nuclear control room operator</li> </ul>

**Recommended Applicants to the 2025 to 2026 Term 7 of the  
Energy from Waste-Waste Management Advisory Committee (EFW-WMAC)**

Name	Municipality	Committee Experience	Practical Experience	Other Information
Mike Hewitt	Oshawa	No	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Honours diploma in Environmental Technology</li> <li>• Highland Creek Treatment Plant– City of Toronto</li> <li>• Operator- level 4 operator license</li> <li>• Knowledge of Environmental Assessments and ECAs</li> <li>• Waste Diversion Experience</li> </ul>
Rochelle Fleming	Pickering	Yes	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Technology graduate</li> <li>• Teacher at Centennial College: Environmental Technology program</li> <li>• Volunteered with Durham staff on Compost give away day</li> </ul>

# Clarington

If this information is required in an alternate format, please contact the Accessibility Co-ordinator at 905-623-3379 ext. 2131

December 17, 2024

Melodee Smart  
Via Email: [melodee.smart@durham.ca](mailto:melodee.smart@durham.ca)

To Melodee Smart:

**Re:** Appointments to the Energy from Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee

**File Number:** AA.18.03 Energy from Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee

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Please be advised that, at the December 16, 2024 Council Meeting, the following resolution #GG-200-24 was approved:

That Dan Spaeth, Glenn Baswick, Greg Rowden, Pankaj Panchal, be appointed to the Energy from Waste – Waste Management Advisory Committee for a term ending December 31, 2026, or until a successor is appointed

Accordingly, please contact Dan Spaeth, Glenn Baswick, Greg Rowden, Pankaj Panchal regarding meeting dates and times. The applicants have already been notified by us that their application to the Committee was successful.

Dan Spaeth – [Danny.spaeth@hotmail.com](mailto:Danny.spaeth@hotmail.com)

Glenn Baswick – [gbaswick@bell.net](mailto:gbaswick@bell.net)

Greg Rowden – [gregrowdencpa@gmail.com](mailto:gregrowdencpa@gmail.com)

Pankaj Panchal – [pankajpanchal@yahoo.com](mailto:pankajpanchal@yahoo.com)

Yours truly,



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John Paul Newman  
Deputy Clerk  
JPN/lh