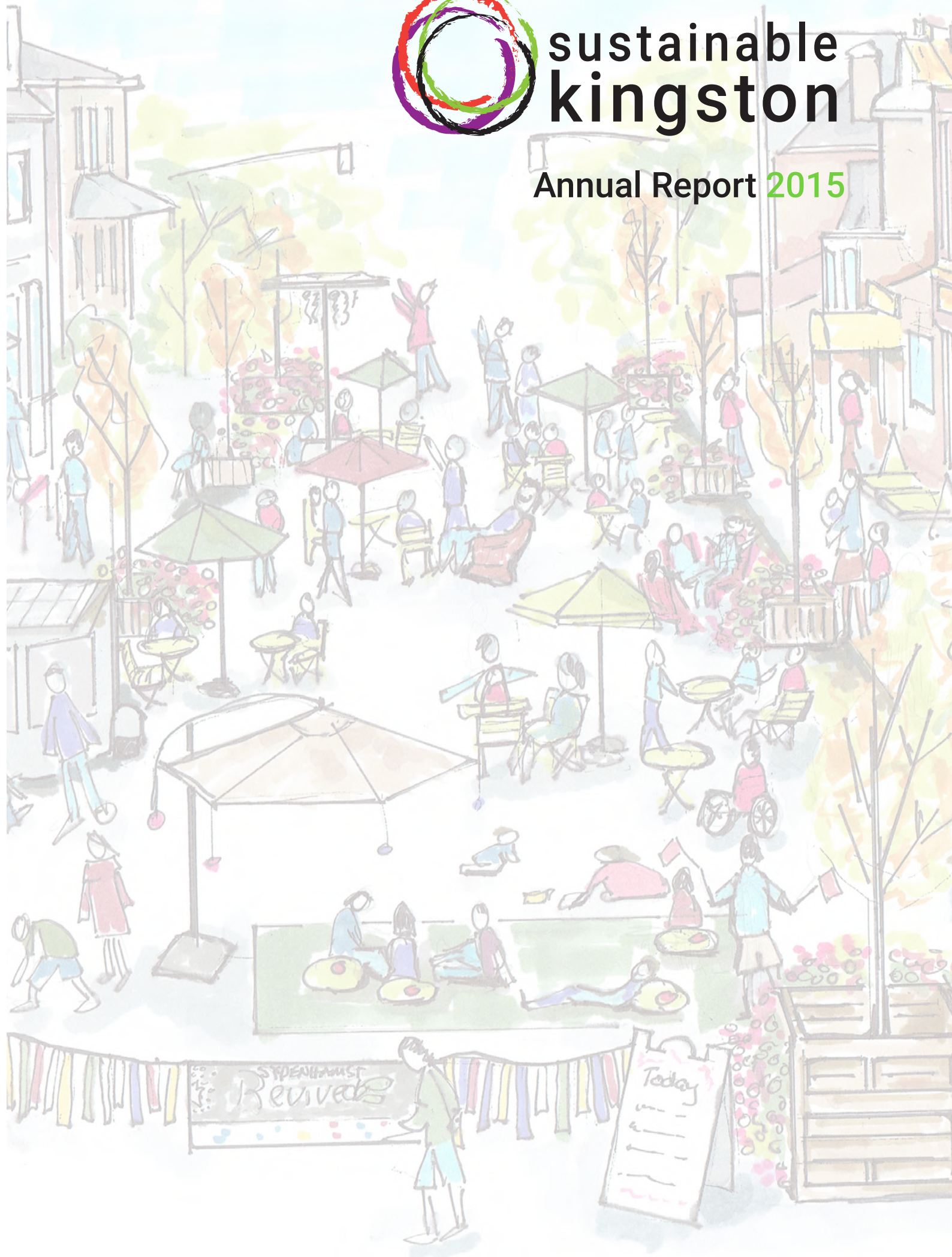




sustainable kingston

Annual Report 2015



OUR SUPPORTERS

We gratefully acknowledge the financial and in-kind support so generously offered by the City of Kingston Council and Senior Staff members. This ongoing support allows Sustainable Kingston to continue to build its position in our community and to carry on with the implementation of the Sustainable Kingston Plan.

Sustainable Kingston would like to thank the Ontario Trillium Foundation for its generous support towards the Green Economy Kingston program. Trillium is providing \$149,800 over two years to support Sustainable Kingston staff to launch and grow Kingston's first target-based sustainability program for businesses and organizations.

We are also thankful for the continuing and growing support of our Community Partners and individual citizens who have embraced the notion of sustainability. We would like to recognize the following businesses and organizations for their contribution to our 2015 event season:

Earth Hour: Kingston Unplugged

Brown's Dining Solutions
Hearthmakers Energy Cooperative
Kingston Circus Arts
Kingston Coalition for Active Transportation
Kingston Soundworks
Kingston Hydro
Papa John's Pizza, Kingston
St. Lawrence College
Tara Natural Foods
The City of Kingston
The Kingston Drum Circle
The Toucan
Transition Kingston
Utilities Kingston
VRTU Car

Pitch-In Kingston

Pitch-In Canada
Tim Hortons
The City of Kingston

Green Economy Kingston

Ontario Trillium Foundation
Sustainability CoLab
The City of Kingston

Electric Vehicle Way

EnShift
Plug'n Drive
Queen's Eco-Vehicle Team
Queen's Fuel Cell Team
Queen's Solar Design Team
Red Squirrel Conservation Services
Sustainable Energy Applied Research Centre
SWITCH Ontario
The City of Kingston

Sydenham Street Revived Pop-Up Park

Awesome Foundation Kingston
Beacon Lite
Bray Heritage
Burt's Greenhouses
David Tran & the Sydenham Street Community Group
GreenCity Initiatives
KEDCO
Keys Job Centre
Keystone Property Management
Maureen Lascelles
McNeely Engineering
Menchie's Frozen Yogurt
MLTDWN
Riley's Garden Centre
Senica's Greenhouse
Small Batch Cafe
snapd Kingston
St. Lawrence College ESET Program
Staples
Sydenham Street Studios
Tara Natural Foods
Thai House Cuisine
The City of Kingston
The Illuminated
Varsity Properties
Western Landscape Services

OUR SUPPORTERS

Our Volunteers



Thank you!



BOARD & STAFF UPDATES

We would like to officially thank Jennifer Kiwala, who stepped into the role of Interim Executive Director Sustainable Kingston between December 2014 and March 2015.

Board chair Rob Cumming resigned from the Board of Directors in the summer of 2015 after accepting the role of Director of Environment at LaFarge Canada Inc. Thank you very much Rob for your leadership and we wish you all the best in your new role at LaFarge. Rob Cumming was replaced by Viviane Paquin as Board Chair.

Katie Wall, Project and Outreach Coordinator, left our team to join Sustainable Waterloo Region as Manager for their TravelWise program. Marta Reczek assumed the role of Interim Project and Outreach Coordinator until May.

Welcome to Alia Tulloch who stepped into the role of Interim Project and Outreach Coordinator in May 2015 and moved into the Plan Manager role in the summer of 2015, and to Liam Conway, who joined us in November 2015 as the Program Manager for Green Economy Kingston.

CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP SERIES



In 2014 - 2015 Sustainable Kingston, in partnership with Sustainable Eastern Ontario, launched a new Capacity-Building program in the Kingston area. Funding was provided by the Ontario Trillium Foundation. The purpose of this program was to conduct regular learning opportunities for a range of sustainability groups and provide direct support to organizations through focused Learning Labs.



Social Media for Sustainability Groups

(February) Jennifer Baker of Jennifer Baker Consulting led a hands-on social media workshop to help groups set up, manage, and maintain their various social media tools.



Branding & Communications

(March) Karen Bonhomme of 1dea Design & Media Inc. looked at how organizations can build a better brand, useful tools and resources, and examples of strategies from the community.



Sustainable Leadership Roundtable

(April) This workshop, facilitated by eco-thrifty lifestyle coach Gail Walker and life coach Alani Galbraith (pictured), explored how non-profit leaders sustain themselves while working in an industry that requires strength & resilience.



Find Funding for Your Organization

(May) This session featured different ways organizations can raise funds for their projects. Sayyida Jaffer of the Ontario Trillium Foundation and Lesley Rudy of the Community Foundation for Kingston & Area gave a special presentation.



The 10 Funding Streams

(June) Kristina Inrig, Executive Director of Sustainable Eastern Ontario, facilitated a session on the 10 Streams of Fundraising, highlighting ways organizations could raise funds for their projects and activities.



LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Sustainable Kingston Community,

2015 was a year of transition for the Sustainable Kingston Corporation (SKC). It was a year marked by numerous changes both in staff and Board membership and by much uncertainty regarding the prospective terms and conditions of a renewed Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the City of Kingston. To that end, a strategic planning exercise was undertaken to review and articulate, not only where the organization was going and the actions needed to make real progress, but also to identify the key indicators for assessing future success.

The chief outcome of the strategic planning process was the identification of a set of objectives with measurable targets that focused SK resources and capabilities around the following four outcomes: namely that

- we expand our organizational strength through the development of meaningful and accountable relationships and the strategic use and leveraging of resources;
- we grow a sustainable (smart and livable) City through promoting learning and development opportunities in our Community;
- we report out on and celebrate the results of sustainability success across our Community; and
- we build our local and global standing through excellence in sustainability research and practice.

Following the strategic planning exercise, and with renewed focus and energy, the SKC Board of Directors turned its attention to working with the City of Kingston to develop a proposal for a new SLA to support the continued operation and growth of SKC. Following a delegation by two Board members at the meeting of Kingston City Council held on July 14, 2015, Council approved the renewal of a three year SLA with SKC. Key to this approval was the clear expectation that SKC would engage in a number of revenue generation processes to supplement, and eventually replace, the funding currently provided through the SLA.

Hiring additional competent staff was an essential factor in assuring that Sustainable Kingston becomes an effective organization. This process began with the approval of the SLA and continued to a very successful completion by the year's end.

Throughout the spring and summer, and while the Board worked to secure the new SLA, SKC continued to operate with very limited staffing and an uncertain future, to develop and deliver programs in our community which included: Kingston Unplugged; an off-the-grid music concert celebrating Earth Hour and inspiring community action on climate change; Pitch-in Kingston, an annual community clean-up event that involves local workplaces, sports teams, community groups, schools, and individuals in a City-wide spring clean-up after the winter snow disappears; and the Rain Barrels Art with Impact campaign to raise awareness about water conservation. Also, in partnership with Sustainable Eastern Ontario, and funded by a Trillium Grant, SKC continued to host the capacity Building Workshop Series which provide opportunities for non-profit organizations to learn about best practices in pertinent topics such as board governance and social media training, and how to tap into funding streams.

New to this year's roster of activities was the Sydenham Street

Revived project, a pop-up park that took place in Kingston on Sydenham Street between Princess and Queen from August 27th until September 13th. The project explored the potential for a pedestrian-friendly design for Sydenham Street while challenging ideas about public places in the downtown core. It was truly a community event in the way that it involved citizens through the organization of public design workshops to develop a collective vision for the public space. The project inspired the donation of landscaping and food services and showcased local art and music.

In the fall of 2015, with the SLA signed and with the release of the Ontario Trillium funds for developing and implementing the Green Economy Kingston Program, SKC turned its attention to hiring a new Executive Director and two new staff, bringing our total staff members to four.

Going into 2016 with a very strong team that will ensure the successful implementation of the terms and conditions of the SLA as well as the successful reporting and use of the Ontario Trillium Funds, the SK Board will be seeking a new home which will meet our expanding needs. We are also opening the Board of Directors to welcome up to three more active members. Early in the New Year we will continue to prepare for the launch of Green Economy Kingston in March of 2016 as well as work with our community partners to initiate and apply for funding for two or three strategic projects that support the goals and objectives of the Sustainable Kingston Plan.

With a great new staff and a revitalized and expanded Board, we are excited as we enter 2016 with the highest expectations for a significant furtherance of each of the pillars of sustainability, for the collective good and well-being of the whole Kingston community.

Sincerely,

Viviane Paquin

Chair of Sustainable Kingston Board of Directors

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Continuing

- Viviane Paquin - Chair
- Iain Munro - Vice Chair
- Brian Gillingham - Secretary/Treasurer
- Sarah Whalen - Director
- Jeff McLaren - Director

Incoming

- Paul MacLachy - Ex officio

Outgoing

- Robert Cumming - Chair
- Cristiano Vilela - Director

EARTH HOUR: KINGSTON UNPLUGGED (MARCH)

In Celebration of Earth Hour, Sustainable Kingston hosts an off-grid concert in Springer Market Square. The public is invited to enjoy performances by local artists, appearances by engaging speakers, sustainability displays, vendors and more; all at no cost to the public and powered by solar and wind energy! 2015's entertainment lineup included performances by the Kingston Drum Circle, Kingston Circus Arts, Kyra & Tully, the Spencer Evans Band, and more.



2015 EVENTS



Sir John A. Macdonald (courtesy of Salon Theatre Productions) helped open Kingston Unplugged.



PITCH-IN KINGSTON (APRIL)

Pitch-In Kingston is an annual city-wide cleanup effort powered by volunteers from local workplaces, sports teams, community groups, and schools. The event beautifies our community, improves its environmental health, and demonstrates how lots of small actions can have a big impact on our neighbourhoods.



GREAT LAKE WATER FESTIVAL (JUNE)

Elementary school students from across the Kingston area gathered at Lake Ontario Park on June 4th for a day of fun and information on a broad range of topics involving water at the inaugural Great Lakes Water Festival. Organizers include Queen's University, KFL&A Public Health, Utilities Kingston, Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority, Limestone District School Board, RBC, the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Ontario Provincial Police, Sustainable Kingston, and the Katarowki Indigenous Grandmothers Council.



ART WITH IMPACT (JUNE / JULY)

Sustainable Kingston, in partnership with Utilities Kingston, launched its 2015 Rain Barrels - Art with Impact campaign to raise awareness of water conservation and related issues. Sustainable Kingston provided six local artists - David Dossett, Kathleen Hendry, Brenda Wight, Joanne Gervais, Morris Blanchard, and Yessica Rivera Belsham - with one barrel each for them to use as a canvas to create a unique piece of art. The barrels were auctioned online July 6th - 20th.



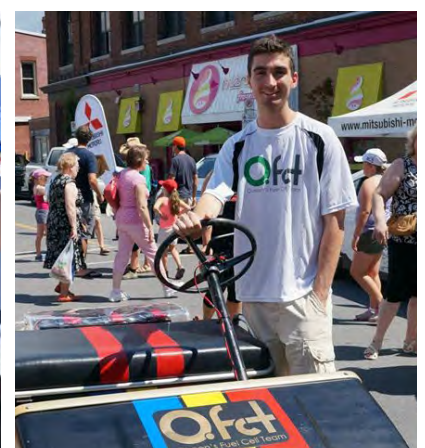
COMMUNITY WATER CHAMPIONS EVENT

(June) On June 30th Sustainable Kingston held a special "sneak peek" of the Art With Impact artist-painted rain barrels prior to the launch of the online auction. Our local water champions, including KFL&A Public Health, the City of Kingston, Utilities Kingston, Friends of the Inner Harbour, and the Queen's Water Research Centre, were invited to see the barrels, meet the artists, and share information about their projects and initiatives. This information was used to fuel our #WaterWednesday social media awareness campaign.



ELECTRIC VEHICLE WAY (August)

With the help of Plug'n Drive, a non-profit committed to accelerating the adoption of electric vehicles, Sustainable Kingston transformed Sydenham Street between Princess and Queen into "Electric Vehicle Way" during the August 1st Princess Street Promenade. The street became a showcase for electric vehicles, energy conservation, and renewable energy technologies. Over 100 people test-drove Plug'n Drive's electric vehicles, and local residents - including the Tragically Hip's Rob Baker! - put their electric vehicles on display. Sustainable Kingston Community Partners Red Squirrel Conservation Services, EnShift, the City of Kingston, Queen's Solar Design Team, Queen's Eco-Vehicle Team, and the Sustainable Energy Applied Research Centre participated with educational displays.



SYDENHAM STREET REVIVED



Final design sketch by Suzanne Fast, Suzanne Fast Designs.

(August - September) Sydenham Street Revived (SSR) was a pop-up park that took place in Kingston on Sydenham Street between Princess and Queen from August 27th until September 13th. The project was a collaboration between the ad-hoc community group Sydenham Street Revived and Sustainable Kingston, and was supported by many residents, local businesses, and Sustainable Kingston Community Partners. The full list of project supporters can be found at the front of this document. A special thanks to Western Landscape Services for helping to green the street.

The purpose of the SSR pop-up park was to test out a fun and engaging pedestrian-friendly design for Sydenham Street and to evaluate its impact before the start of the next phase of the downtown reconstruction project (also known as the Big Dig). In addition to landscaping and seating, SSR provided opportunities to showcase local art and to bring people together for small-scale, community-driven events.

Fostering community ownership of the temporary public space was one of the most important goals of the project. To do this, the community was engaged in a number of ways, including

- A public Design and Ideas Workshop in which residents were asked the question, How would you revive Sydenham Street? The workshops took place over two days (June 17th and 20th), and over 40 residents took part.
- Local community groups, artists, innovators, and performers were invited to animate the space with art and activities, and dozens took the opportunity to do so.



Design and Ideas Workshop presentation and site survey.



One of the Design and Ideas Workshop groups.



Silent Movies in the Park with Spencer Evans (photo courtesy of Kroecker Photo)

Sustainable Kingston, emerging member of Sustainability CoLab.

In 2015, Sustainable Kingston continued to prepare for the launch of its first flagship program – Green Economy Kingston. For organizations looking to grow their competitive advantage through sustainability, Green Economy Kingston will provide the guidance, resources, and networks needed to set greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets, and recognize its members for their progress. The membership-based program is based off Sustainable Waterloo Region’s Regional Carbon Initiative, with guidance from Sustainability CoLab.

In November, Sustainable Kingston hired the Program Manager for Green Economy Kingston – Liam Conway – who brings to the position a wealth of experience in working with businesses to measure and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. After growing up in Kingston, Liam had previously been working in Toronto with the carbon management firm Carbonzero and the environment, social, and governance research firm Sustainalytics.

A major milestone that came out of 2015 was the initial development of the Target-Setting Framework, which sets out the rules of the game and minimum requirements for organizations setting GHG reduction targets through the program. Sustainable Kingston involved local subject matter experts to help develop the parameters of the Framework, which focuses on delivering upon its three guiding principles:

- **Simplicity:** The Framework must be straight forward and easy to understand.
- **Accessibility:** The Framework must promote inclusivity, and ensure the program is accessible to as many organizations as possible.
- **Credibility:** The Framework must promote meaningful GHG emissions reductions amongst participants.

We continue to look forward to the March 2016 Launch Event and the first year of the program’s operation.

Supported by



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KINGSTON CLIMATE ACTION SPEAKERS SERIES



PETER LADNER (December)

While our world leaders met at the UN Climate Summit in Paris, the City of Kingston wanted to encourage you to think globally and act locally when it comes to climate action. To do that, the City and Sustainable Kingston welcomed Peter Ladner to share his insights from his recent book the *Urban Food Revolution: Changing The Way We Feed Cities*.

SUSTAINABLE KINGSTON CORPORATION STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Year ended December 31, 2015, with comparative information for 2014

	2015	2014 (Unaudited)
Revenue:		
Contribution from the Corporation of the City of Kingston	\$ 103,333	\$ 133,000
Sponsorships and registrations:		
Community Forum	–	1,750
Earth Hour	2,500	1,723
Green Building Symposium	–	11,489
Kingston Fest	–	8,450
Grants	4,112	2,250
Interest	41	49
Office space rent	–	2,625
Miscellaneous	200	4,325
Total revenue	110,186	165,661
Expenses:		
Administration:		
Salaries and benefits	40,901	128,847
Office and general	2,224	5,701
Rent	24,214	26,870
Utilities	4,071	4,199
Insurance	2,373	1,011
Professional services	5,949	–
	79,732	166,628
Events and promotions:		
Media and promotions	–	19,474
Membership fees	7,176	395
Community events:		
Green Building Symposium	–	17,285
Kingston Fest	–	3,209
Earth Hour	2,226	3,539
Other	–	911
	9,402	44,813
Total expenses	89,134	211,441
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue)	\$ 21,052	\$ (45,780)

