

VISION STATEMENT

Niagara-on-the-Lake will demonstrate leadership and innovation to protect the community's natural beauty, charm and heritage against the impacts of climate change today and into the future.



Integrate Climate Change into Plans, Policies, By-Laws and Standards

- Update Official Plan to align with climate change adaptation goals.
- Review and update by-laws to incorporate climate change.
- Develop a policy for regular interval updates to infrastructure design standards to reflect climate change projections and green infrastructure technologies.
- Incorporate climate change projections into Engineering Design Standards.



Urban Forest Resiliency

- Develop an Urban Forestry Management Plan.
- Canopy coverage mapping to establish measurable goals.
- Include trees as a part of the Town's asset management plan.
- Mapping of invasive species.
- Promote planting of native vegetation along creeks, ravines and lakes.
- Consider partnership with local Colleges, Universities and research centres



Reduce Flooding Risks

- Engage a Stormwater Management Plan.
- Review and update floodplain mapping.
- Create a flood preparedness and evacuation plan with flood alerts and mapping.
- Increase public awareness of clearing of catch basins.



Incorporate Climate Change in Design and Construction

- Incorporate climate change considerations into the Town's Asset Management Plan.
- Ensure climate change impacts are incorporated into project risk management framework.
- Explore projects suitable for Low Impact Development (LID).
- Create a Stormwater Management Inspection Program (High Risk Infrastructure).
- Leverage available grants for both built infrastructure and asset management.



Minimize Health and Safety Risks to Community Members

- Increase shade coverage in urban areas.
- Investigate ways to improve storm water discharge to creeks, streams, rivers and lakes. Both quantity and quality.
- Promote active transportation and improve the safety of bike lanes.
- Implement warming and cooling centers.



Support Public Awareness and Education

- Engage Town Staff and Public to develop a Natural Assets Plan.
- Educate Public and Town Staff of standing water concerns and develop a guide for remediation.
- Develop a social media campaign to target climate change initiatives.
- Utilize Town website to convey climate change and adaptation information.