



PEC's Environmental  
Advisory Committee presents

# Greening Our County

The County Climate Event 2022



Elizabeth  
May

Lorraine  
Johnson



- Naturalist Sheila Kuja
- Arborist Jennifer Gagné
- Cedric Pepelea of Sustainable Kingston
- Home Heating and Cooling Expert Matt Bulley

Regent Theatre Sunday, Nov 13, 1pm (doors open at 12) Tickets \$12.50/\$5.00

## OUR PROGRAM

Doors open at noon

### Lobby and Mezzanine guest presenters

*PEC Field Naturalists*

*Tree the County*

*PEC Horticultural Society*

*Kenhte:ke Seed Sanctuary and Learning Centre*

*Quinte Conservation*

*Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan  
Books & Co.*

**1pm**

**Welcome Address** Delivered by Moira Gaddes

**Land Stewardship** Moderated by Jane Lesslie

Sheila Kuja                      The Biodiversity of PEC

Jennifer Gagné                County Forest Cover : Managing our trees as a common good

Lorraine Johnson            Rewilding: Converting our lawns into gardens and habitats.

## **INTERMISSION**

**Talking Climate with Elizabeth May** with Q&A moderated by Angus Ross

**Decarbonizing your home heating and cooling with Matt Bulley and Cedric Pepelea**  
Moderated by Rachel Kuzmich

## **OUR PRESENTERS**

### **MOIRA GADDES**

Moira is an indigiqueer youth and aspiring change-maker who lives in Prince Edward County. She was the Hastings Prince Edward School board's Indigenous Student Trustee until graduation last spring.

### **JENNIFER GAGNÉ**

Jennifer Gagné has a master's degree in forest conservation and works as a consulting arborist, urban forester and educator. She specializes in tree protection, ecological restoration and forest health and is a member of the Prince Edward County Natural Cover Working Group, Tree the County and the International Society of Arboriculture.

### **LORRAINE JOHNSON**

Lorraine is the author of more than ten books, including *Green Future: How to Make a World of Difference*; *100 Easy-to-Grow Native Plants for Canadian Gardens*; and *The Gardener's Manifesto*. Her most recent, co-authored with Sheila Colla, *A Garden for the Rusty-Patched Bumblebee*, was published in the spring of 2022. Lorraine is involved with numerous community groups and volunteer projects, and is active in efforts to reform grass and weeds bylaws in support of biodiversity.

## **JANE LESSLIE**

Jane is Chair of Prince Edward County's Environmental Advisory Committee to Council. She worked for 24 years managing a portfolio of global government bonds in developing economies; the last four years focusing on screening governments for their vulnerability to or success in managing environmental, social and governance (ESG) risks. In her research she discovered the most successful environmental strategies often came from innovative municipalities rather than regional or national governments. A resident of Picton, Jane joined the committee with the goal of seeing the County adopt environmental strategies that will both build County resilience and create opportunities for all County residents

## **SHEILA McKAY-KUJA**

Sheila McKay-Kuja is a botanist, ecologist and scholar who holds Bachelor degrees in Science and Education and a Master of Science in Botany. Her long career has allowed her to work with Province of Ontario as well as organizations such as the Natural Heritage Information Centre. Her PHD studies brought her to Prince Edward County to study flora on the Dunes at Sandbanks Provincial Park.

She is a board member on of the Prince Edward County Field Naturalists and she has helped organize, as well as write up the reports, for the eight PECFN bioblitzes since 2014.

## **ELIZABETH MAY**

Elizabeth May served as Leader of the Green Party of Canada from 2006 – 2019. She is the Green Party of Canada's first elected Member of Parliament representing Saanich-Gulf Islands in 2011. She continues as the Member of Parliament and serves as the Parliamentary Leader of the Green caucus.

In 2005, Elizabeth May was made an Officer of the Order of Canada in recognition of her decades of leadership in the Canadian environmental movement. She graduated from Dalhousie Law School and was admitted to the Bar in both Nova Scotia and Ontario. She practiced law in Ottawa with the Public Interest Advocacy Centre prior to becoming Senior Policy Advisor to the federal minister of the Environment (1986- 1988). For seventeen years Elizabeth served as Executive Director of the Sierra Club of Canada.

A proud mother and grandmother, she lives in Sidney, British Columbia, with her husband John Kidder. Elizabeth is the author of nine books, including her most recent revised book, Climate Change for Dummies.

## **MATT BULLEY**

Matt is a resident of Cressy in Prince Edward County and a 15 year veteran in the HVAC industry where he started his career in installing geothermal systems all over Eastern Ontario. He has been involved in close to 400 geothermal installations including over 100 in The County. After graduating from Brock U., he began a Refrigeration Apprenticeship and worked his way hands on building and installing energy efficient heating & cooling systems. With the dramatic increase in the price of fossil fuels he foresees an increasing demand for these systems. He is currently Sales and Service Manager at Bi-Temp in Belleville.

Matt has lived in The County for 15 years, has two children growing up fast and loves being part of this wonderful community.

### **CEDRIC PEPELEA**

Cedric is the Chief Operating Officer for Sustainable Kingston, where he focuses on residential and commercial energy audits to enhance the livability and resiliency of Kingston. He is an energy systems engineering technologist with strong technical skills related to energy conservation and renewable energy. Cedric is a part-time instructor at St. Lawrence College, teaching Autodesk REVIT architectural drawing software, and a mentor with ICE: The Indigenous Clean Energy Network. He aims to inspire and motivate youth to promote community sustainability, especially in the face of climate change.

### **RACHEL KUZMUCH**

Rachel is a PhD candidate at Queen's University examining bird habitat undergoing forest succession using remote sensing. She is the founder of Conference2Classroom, a science outreach not-for-profit connecting experts with students across Canada, and, along with her partner, developed a platform for farmers to sell locally online called Locazoa. In addition to her membership with the Environmental Advisory Committee, she was involved with the Food Security Working Group, and is a strong advocate for community food sovereignty and local food systems. She lives on a half acre homestead in Black River behind a wall of sunflowers with her family, chickens, bees, and a whole lot of garden beds.

Members of the Committee are:

Chair Jane Lesslie

Ewa Bednarczuk

Geoff Burt

Rachel Kuzmich

Vanessa Lavender

Angus Ross

Councillors Stewart Bailey, John Hirsch and Kate MacNaughton

And Mayor Steve Ferguson

Many thanks to the members of the Committee's Natural Cover Working Group, formerly The Tree Committee, for their extraordinary contributions to the work of the EAC and to this event.

Special thanks to Communications Coordinator, Brianna Clement, Robin Baranyai, Nella Casson and Tim Snyder

Thank you to the Council and the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward for support and resources.



**The County**

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