

OEAC-24-13
Road Salt Working Group Report for O.E.A.C. Meeting
February 6, 2024

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Report:

1. On January 30, AJ and Joe held a meeting with Isabel Savransky (Sustainability and Asset Planner, Ontario Tech University) and Dr. Andrea Kirkwood (Associate Professor, Ontario Tech University). Dr. Kirkwood has previously presented to O.E.A.C. on her lab's research on road salt environmental impacts. A few key takeaways from the meeting:
 - a. Shared concerns regarding salt application from private contractors; it was suggested to make a business case of the issue
 - b. Isabel said she would look into funding for a pilot study of slips/falls at the university in comparison with amount of salt used, which could be conducted by an environmental class
 - c. Look into slip/fall lawsuits from the City
 - d. Strengthen the case for more public education
 - e. Unite environmental groups around the issue
2. Pending approval from City Council, AJ will be presenting on road salt impacts and the importance of forming working groups on this issue to the Durham Environmental and Climate Advisory Committee in March. The working group will be preparing a slide deck and talking points for this presentation.
3. The working group intends on meeting in February to discuss our goals and workplan for the rest of the year.

Budget implications: None

Recommendations: That the Committee receive this report for information.