

### Brock-Lincoln Living Lab Year in Review 2020

#### **Successful Partnership Grant Application**

Throughout 2020, the <u>Town of Lincoln</u> worked to develop a Green Infrastructure/Low Impact Development Design Standard with funds awarded from the Great Lakes Emerging Champions Mini-Grant. The Emerging Champions Mini-Grants are part of the Great Lakes Green Infrastructure Champions Program being undertaken by the <u>Great Lakes Commission</u> with financial support from the Erb Family Foundation. The grants help mid-sized communities develop strategies to overcome barriers and increase LID implementation in the Great Lakes Basin by providing mentorship and financial support. The Environmental Sustainability Research Centre at Brock partnered with the Town of Lincoln in this grant application and provided in-kind research support valued at \$8,500.

## Brock-Lincoln Living Lab Action Plan Release

The Town of Lincoln has now launched its official Action Plan, a summary document highlighting the main work outlined in the Brock-Lincoln Living Lab Operational Action Plan that was finalized in late Fall 2019 and published in early 2020. A community action plan is a road map for implementing community change. This Action Plan consists of a number of concrete actions that outline the people, resources and time frames needed to assist the Town of Lincoln in becoming a more sustainable community. It was designed to be a simple and accessible document that summarizes the main projects being undertaken by the Brock-Lincoln Living Lab in the Town of Lincoln. The plan was circulated on social media platforms and through a blog post written by Master of Sustainability candidate April Sorenson.

#### The following projects are outlined in the Action Plan:

- Project 1: Community Hub
- Project 2: Economic Development Strategy
- Project 3: Tourism Strategy
- Project 4: Water for Agriculture
- Project 5: Infiltration/Inflow Reduction Program
- Project 6: Urban Tree Canopy
- Project 7: The 'Prudhommes Project'
- Project 8: Niagara Adapts

# The Brock-Lincoln Living Lab:

Sustainability Action Plan

2019



### **Experiential Education Opportunities for Brock Students**

Three major projects outlined in the BL-LL Operational Action Plan were undertaken in SSAS 5P03 (Problem Solving in the Environment) in Winter Term 2020 in close collaboration with the CAO, as well as staff at the Town of Lincoln. Outcomes included presentations of three final projects and detailed reports submitted to the Town of Lincoln in April 2020. The projects included creating a community hub proposal, providing a roadmap for sustainable water use for agriculture, and implementing irrigation schemes for the Town of Lincoln's agricultural system.



Irrigation Schemes for the Town of Lincoln's Agricultural System

SAP [Sustainable Agricultural Practices] Consultants

Sustainable Water Use for Agriculture

Additionally, on November 16th, 2020, members from the Environmental Sustainability Research Centre presented virtually to Master of Sustainability students in their Foundations of Sustainability Science course (SSAS 5P01) about the Centre's seven innovative community partnerships. The presentation focused on how the partnerships allow Brock students, faculty, and staff to collaborate with partners to move knowledge into action to make an impact within the community.

#### **Knowledge Mobilization Activities**

#### Flooding Guide for the Town of Lincoln

A flooding prevention and recovery guide was created for the Town of Lincoln as climate change is expected to increase projected rainfall in the coming decades and residents must be prepared for the increasing risk of flooding in their communities. Since floods have the potential to create significant damage to properties, it's important to have a plan before a flood happens. The flooding guide explains the different types of floods that could be expected, strategies for flood prevention, how to prepare for a flood and what actions to take after, as well as helpful information to protect the residents' health and properties.

#### **Community Improvement Plan**

Community improvement plans (CIPs) generally focus on revitalizing business cores and neighbourhoods as well as planning efficient transportation, to name a few. The Town of Lincoln currently has four approved CPIs that provide various grants and loans for propery owners as well as tenants to help them rehabilitate their properties, including: the Industrial Lands and Rural Area CIP, the Mixed Use and Residential Intensification CIP, the Vineland Central Business District CIP and the Beamsville Central Business District and Ontario Street Commercial Area CIP.

## Presentation on the Urban Tree Canopy Project

On June 16th, 2020, Dr. Marilyne Jollineau from the Environmental Sustainability Research Centre provided a virtual presentation for the Vineland Research Seminar Series about the Urban Tree Canopy Project.

