

Environmental Education & Outreach Intern

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City of Mississauga Environmental Outreach Team



About the Environment Section

Mission:
To lead environmental sustainability in Mississauga by empowering people to take environmental action.

Services:
There are four main services of the Environment Section, all of which work to ensure the City achieves its strategic environmental goals and objectives.

- Service 1**
 - Drive climate action
 - Climate Change Team
- Service 2**
 - Advance Corporate waste diversion
 - Waste Management Team
- Service 3**
 - Foster environmental awareness and action
 - Environmental Education & Outreach Team
- Service 4**
 - Promote corporate environmental sustainability
 - Environmental Sustainability Team

The strategic environmental goals and objectives stem from the following three documents:

1. Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP), 2019
2. Living Green Master Plan (LGMP), 2012
3. City of Mississauga Strategic Plan, 2010



Goals of the Environmental Education & Outreach Team

This team facilitates Service 3 (fostering environmental awareness and action) by **empowering and engaging employees and the community in environmental action** while **raising awareness of the environmental priorities and initiatives of the City**, with particular focus on climate change.



DID YOU KNOW?
In 2018, the Environment Section's *Environmental Education & Outreach Team* engaged 10,000 people in environmental education and outreach at 60 community events throughout Mississauga.

Key Takeaways

1. Meaningfully engaging with the community through events and workshops can support attitude and behavioral change
2. Collaboration across departments and alongside the community is key to making a meaningful impact
3. Small teams allow for easier collaboration, greater accountability, and more opportunity for autonomy
4. There is so much value to gain from networking and building connections internally within your team or organization

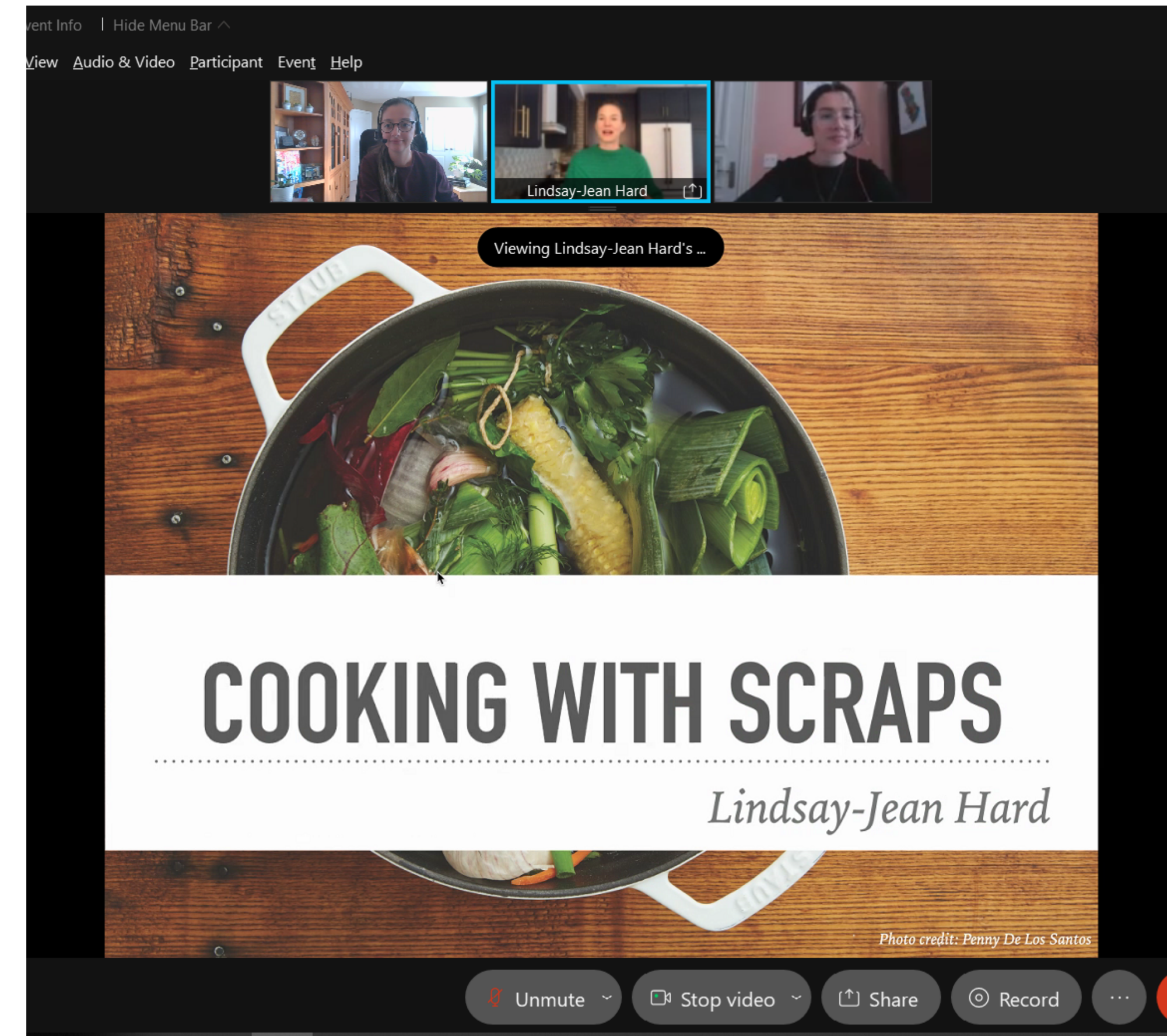
Contributions & Accomplishments

MAJOR PROJECT 1: Green Leaders Program

Developed a comprehensive long-term plan for the transformation of Green Leaders - a program consisting of volunteer staff who work to increase environmental awareness and action at their facilities - into a more robust program. This plan included work-from-home adjustments, a change in scope from sustainability-in-the-workplace to sustainability-in-work, and a Green Office certification for tracking progress over time.

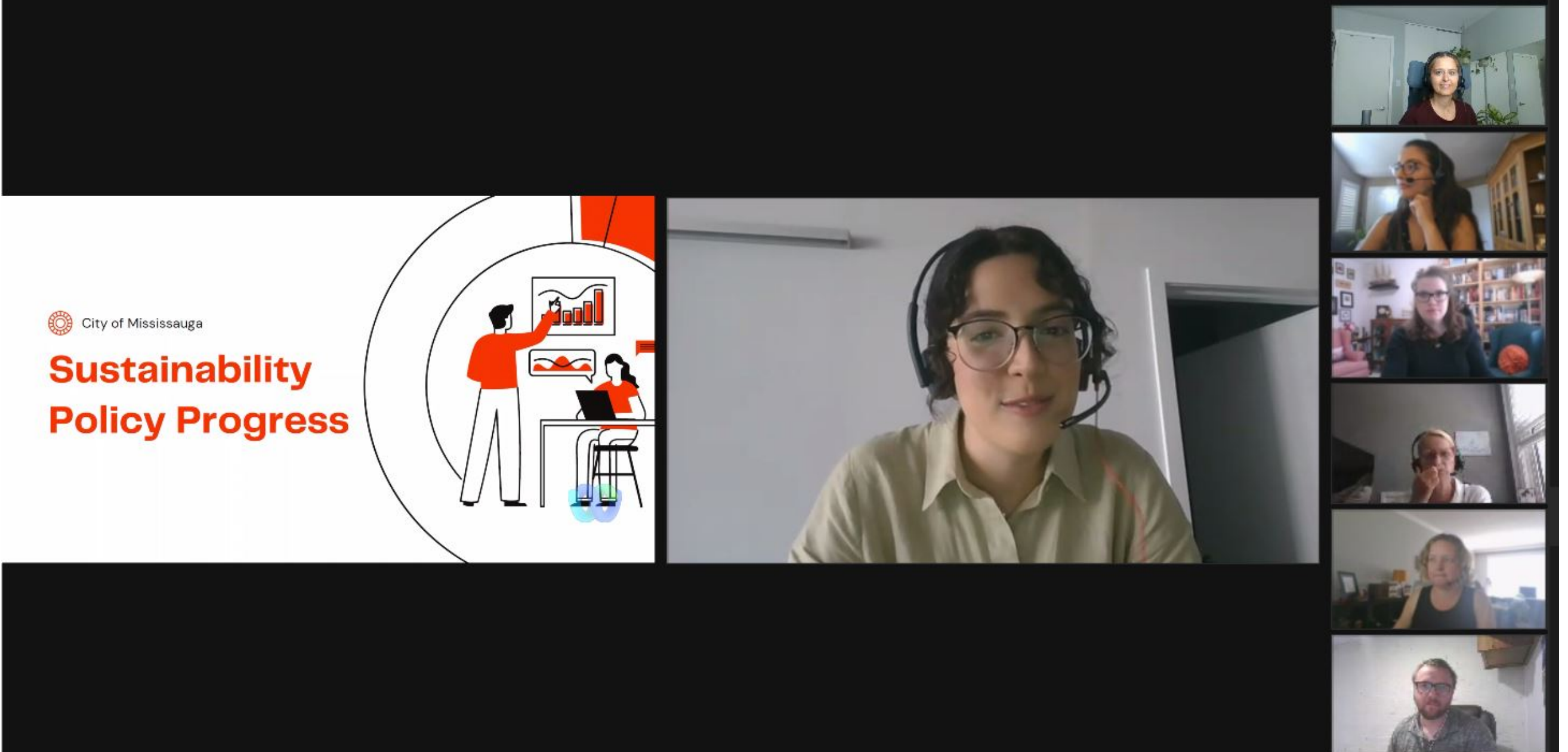
MAJOR PROJECT 2: Outreach Events

Planned, organized, and facilitated outreach events on urban agriculture-related topics in support of Local Food Month, the city-wide Urban Hens program, and the Blooms & Berries event series in celebration of Mississauga's historic and urban agricultural practices. These events included the following:



- Food Scraps Cooking Workshop** for Local Food Month with Chef Lindsay-Jean Hard
- Small Spaces Gardening Workshop** with Rav from Shade of Miti
- Urban Hens Public Education Session** with Sandra Grilo from Chickens in the Six
- Innovative Food Growing Discussion Panel** with Conner Tidd from Just Vertical, Emily Connors from AquaGrow Farms, and Sharene Shafie from the Ryerson Urban Farm Living Lab
- Farm to Fork Goosechase Scavenger Hunt** through the grounds of the Benares Historic House

DID YOU KNOW?
The *Environmental Outreach Team* manages over 150 Green Leaders across the City in environmental action in the workplace.



MAJOR PROJECT 3: Sustainability Policy

Collaborated with various departments across the organization in the preliminary brainstorming, benchmarking, and research for the development of an internal Sustainability Policy. Presented findings in the form of a Policy Progress presentation to key collaborators at the end of the internship.

MAJOR PROJECT 4: Social Media Messaging

Created strategic social media messaging for various programs including We are Resilient (a contest collecting climate change stories and photographs from the community), 20-Minute Makeovers (community litter clean-ups), Plastic Free July, and the summer outreach events.