

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION REPORT

2007

The Town of Caledon is a leader in progressive environmental stewardship.

Town of Caledon Council endorsed the Town's first Environmental Progress Action Plan in 2005. The Plan builds on the Town's environmental commitment and leverages existing corporate and community capacity to assist Caledon in a journey towards a more sustainable future.

This ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION REPORT outlines the Town's most recent (2005-2007) achievements from the Plan, and identifies opportunities to further our commitment.

PRIORITIES & GOALS	ACTIONS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS (2005 to mid-2007)	FUTURE OUTLOOK
AIR QUALITY Investigate options to monitor local air quality and minimize poor air quality contributors	Fleet <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purchase of hybrid vehicles Conversion to biodiesel blend for turf mowers/tractors (B20), and sidewalk snow clearing machines (B5) Purchase of gasoline with ethanol blend and ultra low sulphur diesel Idling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Idle-free zones established at all Town-owned facilities Internal anti-idling policy and Drive Smart Initiative for Town fleet Participation in GTA-wide anti-idling blitz Monitoring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Environment conducted air quality monitoring survey Participation in an air quality modelling project with GTA Clean Air Council Participation in an initiative with GTA Clean Air Council to identify/prioritize emissions reduction options Smog <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of Smog Response Plan Participation at annual GTA Smog Summit; signatory to Intergovernmental Declaration on Clean Air Replacement of brush cutters and weed trimmers with low emission equipment Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of Smart Commute program (carpooling initiative) Salt Management Plan to effectively use chlorides and reduce environmental impacts of use Tree Seedling program: 66,176 seedlings distributed over four years in association with Halton-Peel Woodlands & Wildlife Stewardship Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase biodiesel blend during smog season and expand biodiesel use to other fleet Determine viability of alternative strategies for staff using personal vehicles for work Work with Caledon Countryside Alliance on a school idle free project Determine next steps in terms of air quality management once Ministry of Environment final report and air quality modelling results are available Update Smog Response Plan as appropriate Monitor Smart Commute participation rates and determine effectiveness on an annual basis Continuation of successful tree seedling program
CLIMATE CHANGE Reduce greenhouse gas emissions as a member of Partners for Climate Protection (PCP)	Member of Partners for Climate Protection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greenhouse gas reduction targets and greenhouse gas inventory completed through efforts of COOL Caledon in 2003 Environmental Progress Officer worked with COOL Caledon to implement an ongoing greenhouse gas reduction plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revisit inventory, monitor progress and report results Investigate application of emissions trading
ENERGY Reduce energy consumption by means of increased efficiency, and to explore alternative energy sources	Conservation & Efficiency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy-saving measures in the Town Hall: lighting reduced on smog days, motion sensors in most meeting rooms and washrooms, energy efficient computer monitors, lighting upgrades, pilot washroom retrofit and staggering of air units Upgraded insulation levels and efficient lighting in new Caledon East arena Energy efficient lighting in new gymnasium of Caledon Centre for Recreation & Wellness "It makes cents" Town staff energy awareness campaigns during summer 2005 and 2006 Green Energy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of Bullfrog Power (100% green energy) for Town Hall as of May 2006 Formation of Wind Solutions Business Case Committee to explore feasibility of wind power in Caledon, partnering with Windy Hills Caledon to pursue feasibility study Assessment of solar water heating potential for Caledon Centre for Recreation & Wellness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of energy management software Explore feasibility of energy auditing and retrofitting for various facilities Consider LED conversion of street lights once technology is proven Consider expanding Bullfrog Power use to other Town facilities Pursue wind feasibility study which will entail business case development, grid connection and initial steps of Environmental Assessment process Explore biogas, green roofs and other applicable renewable energy technologies
A GREEN ECONOMY Promote environmentally sustainable economic development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide assistance and information to businesses on conservation, efficiency and sustainable practices Creation of Impact Award with local Chamber of Commerce and Husky Exploration of green development incentives for new institutional, industrial and commercial development Partner with Caledon Countryside Alliance for Conservation Council of Ontario "Doors Closed" Program Partner with the Region of Peel for the Grown in Peel map 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine feasibility for creation of a "Buy Local" strategy for Caledon stores and restaurants Explore feasibility for a green or eco-industrial park
ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS Continue environmental education and stewardship to promote environmentally sustainable behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of Town staff inter-departmental Environment Committee Staff renewable energy tour Community light exchange in partnership with Hydro One Ongoing pesticide education 2007 pesticide education campaign will have a "seed and feed" theme which will include a retailer training seminar, new educational brochure and a door to door survey in residential neighbourhood Delivery of Plantation Management, Woodlot Management and Tree Planting education seminars in partnership with Halton-Peel Woodlands & Wildlife Stewardship and Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation State-of-the-art environmental printing practices to produce annual Town of Caledon Progress Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental newsletter for staff and community Caledon-oriented "information sheets" on the importance of Caledon's natural features
SUSTAINABLE PLANNING Continue progressive planning for Mayfield West, Bolton/Albion South and other villages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental and Open Space Zoning By-Law Amendment Mayfield West: New construction designed and operated to minimum Energy Star certification Cheltenham Village: Village Plan, Servicing Plan, Environmental Management Plan Sustainability workshop in partnership with Town of Erin, Credit Valley Conservation, Canada Mortgage & Housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore potential for brownfield redevelopment in Caledon Consider implications of the Energy and Air quality section of the Provincial Policy Statement in Caledon's Official Plan
COMMUNITY CAPACITY Provide appropriate forms of support to local environmental groups who are instrumental in fostering sustainable behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Green Fund created in 2006: \$15k provided for 5 projects; fund increased to \$20k in 2007 Community environmental group directory on Town's website Collaborating with Citizens for a Clean Caledon and other groups on a Green Forum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Caledon Countryside Alliance to host a round table discussion with environmental groups about furthering collaboration/conducting quarterly "green roundtable" sessions Review Green Fund and create Showcase Report

A GREEN HISTORY OF CALEDON

Key Achievements

- Caledon Environmental Advisory Committee 10th anniversary
- Completion of first two Partners for Climate Protection milestones: development of greenhouse gas inventory and endorsement of emission reduction target
- Establishment of Community Green Fund
- First Ontario municipality to purchase Bullfrog Power
- Recipient of Lee Symmes Municipal Award
- Creation of tree seedling program - 66,000 tree seedlings distributed to date
- Development of Trail Master Plan
- Energy efficiency retrofits at several Town facilities
- Environmental considerations in Purchasing By-Law
- Recipient of Greenest Town in Ontario award
- Healthy Horticultural Landscapes By-Law (including elimination of pesticides on Town property for weed control)
- Reduction of chlorides (for dust suppressants and salting purposes) by 57% between 1995-2002
- Sustainable planning measures: growth management, ecosystem planning and management, wellhead protection, aggregate resource management, agricultural and rural policies, fill by-law, woodlands conservation by-law

Carbon Dioxide Reductions

Biodiesel use
(B5 & B20 blend)

Bullfrog Power purchase
(100% green electricity - wind & low impact hydro)

Hybrid cars

Tree seedlings
(66,306 seedlings distributed 2003-2006)

Actions are equal to taking

235

passenger cars off the road for one year

Other Municipal Reductions

Brush cutters/weed trimmers update
80% lower exhaust emissions

Community light exchange - 400 lights returned
Enough electricity savings to power 53 homes for the holiday season

Computer monitor update with LCD technology (91 monitors)
Approximately 11,250 kwh of energy saved annually

Pilot washroom retrofit at Town Hall (energy efficient lighting, motion sensor, low flush toilet)
Lights reduce electricity consumption by 10%; toilet reduces water consumption by 75%

Organics collection at Town Hall
Reduces Town café waste by 50%

Paper reduction: electronic circulation, posting information on website, double-sided copying, paperless meetings
Annually eliminates the use of 35,000 sheets of paper (plus, participation in the Shred-It program saves approximately 70 trees each year)

Electronic waste reduction: participation in "thINK FOOD"
Recycling of cell phones and ink cartridges to benefit local food banks

Memberships

Canada Green Building Council | GTA Clean Air Council | ICLEI
Local Governments for Sustainability | Partners for Climate Protection | Peel Safe and Active Routes to School | Region of Peel Air Quality Working Group



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