

Municipalities & Local Service Districts

Municipal governments have the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in their own activities and promote emission reductions in the community at large. Municipal operations account for approximately seven percent of Canada's total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Improving energy efficiency and reducing emissions can save municipalities and tax payers money through energy savings and reduced environmental impacts. This is why municipal action on climate change is an important step towards encouraging others to adopt more climate friendly practices and lifestyles.

The following are key areas where municipal governments can help to reduce GHG emissions and in doing so, lead by example in their community:

- Waste management (recycling)
- Landfills (electricity from methane)
- Building and facilities (retrofitting)
- Street lighting (increased efficiency)
- Vehicle fleets (alternative fuels, hybrid-electric vehicles)

The **New Brunswick Climate Change Hub** is a clearinghouse for information on climate change and facilitates linkages between municipalities and potential community partners. The Hub can help to identify local impacts New Brunswick municipalities, and possible public education and outreach activities that would benefit communities.

Municipalities all over Canada are becoming involved in the climate change issue. The Partners for Climate Protection Program of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities is an excellent resource for developing local action plans in response to climate change. To get more information on what other municipalities are doing, visit the Federation of Canadian Municipalities at www.fcm.ca.

Success Story!

The City of Fredericton

The City of Fredericton began to study the feasibility of retrofitting their facilities in the late 1990's. Since then, a complete retrofit of 18 municipal facilities has been done resulting in 4,538 tonnes of GHG emissions avoided per year. The City has been able to reduce its annual energy costs by 23% worth of savings from the facilities retrofitted through this initiative. In addition, over 5,000 lighting fixtures have been replaced with more energy efficient units.

The City of Fredericton has also taken the following steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions:

- Revamped its recycling program, diverting waste from landfill
- Invested into developing a trail network, as alternative means for people to transport themselves between home and work
- Implemented the 'Master Composter Program', diverting more waste from the landfill
- Enabled the development of community gardens, 'greening' the community and helping to support local food production.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.nbhub.org

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