

October 22, 2015

Campbell River wins energy plan support

The City of Campbell River has been selected as one of three pilot communities from across Canada to receive 600 hours of support from leading energy experts for up to a year.

Campbell River, Calgary and the Region of Waterloo will be assisted by experts at the Community Energy Association and QUEST – Quality Urban Energy Systems of Tomorrow - and Sustainable Prosperity. In Campbell River, the expertise will help implement our Community Energy and Emissions Plan.

This support is valued at approximately \$45,000. Campbell River's application was chosen from among dozens of submissions that were scored on how well they align with the Community Energy Planning: Getting to Implementation (GTI) in Canada initiative.

GTI is a national, multi-year initiative focused on building the capacity of communities to implement community energy plans. A community energy plan is a tool that helps define community priorities around energy with a view to improving efficiency, cutting emissions and driving economic development. While 180 communities across Canada, representing 50 per cent of the population, have such a plan, communities face challenges when it comes to implementation.

"We felt that the Getting to Implementation project team skills were strongly aligned with the needs identified in the Expression of Interest submitted by Campbell River," says Dale Littlejohn, Executive Director of the Community Energy Association, "and that Campbell River's success would make for a good model that could be widely replicated by other communities across Canada."

"The City of Campbell River is thrilled to have been chosen as one of the GTI Pilot Communities," says Ron Neufeld, the City's deputy city manager and general manager of operations. "While we have made some progress in terms of implementing our Community Energy and Emissions Plan, we anticipate the expert support will help us make significant strides toward achieving our vision and goals."

Campbell River's Community Energy and Emissions Plan confronts the risks of rising energy prices and climate change with the vision that works toward a sustainable, resilient, prosperous and healthy community. It includes an energy and greenhouse gas inventory, targets and an action plan to reduce community energy demand and emissions.

Find out more about the Community Energy Planning: Getting to Implementation in Canada initiative at: <http://gettingtoimplementation.ca/>.

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