

Green Economic Development Strategy Status Chart

Recommendation	Status
<p>1) One Window Utility Conservation Program for Industry Create a one window utility conservation program undertaken jointly with City, Toronto Hydro, Enbridge, and targeted at the existing business community to support best environmental practices and make our companies industry leaders.</p>	<p>Staff are currently working in partnership with utility companies to inform Toronto's businesses and industry about the benefits of conservation and the available programs.</p>
<p>2) District Energy Project in the Discovery District Develop a district energy project in Toronto Discovery District to support the sustainable use of energy, provide stability with respect supply and costs and stimulate new development in the area.</p>	<p>A five year (2009 to 2013) District Wide Action Plan (DWAP) for the Toronto Discovery District was recently completed and is currently being implemented. The Action Plan is expected to achieve a 34% reduction in energy savings, a 41.4% reduction in demand savings and a 10% reduction in water savings. This translates into an estimated cost savings of \$16.3 million. The Action Plan is also expected to achieve large environmental benefits including reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 83,000 tonnes or 39.4% which is the equivalent of taking almost 18,000 cars off the road. The Action Plan includes 29 buildings within the Discovery District.</p>
<p>3) Toronto Environmental Research and Commercialization Initiative (VEENUS) Formalize a Toronto Environmental Research and Commercialization Initiative to strengthen research partnerships in the fields of sustainable energy and environment; to seek avenues for commercialization of these technologies, and to link local and international environmental research to business opportunities.</p>	<p>The Toronto Region Research Alliance (TRRA) was tasked with capturing the green sector and environmental research currently underway in the Toronto region colleges and universities. Intelligence continues to be collected and posted on the TRRA website: www.trra.ca. A charette is being planned to bring together stakeholders to determine the feasibility of developing a Green/Renewable Energy Commercialization Centre.</p>

<p>4) Sustainable Employment District Pilot Project (GTAA Partners in Project Green: A Pearson Eco-Business Network) Develop a Sustainable Employment District Pilot project to stimulate industrial ecology, and economic competitiveness as a means of creating competitive advantage for companies in the area.</p>	<p>The Partners in Project Green (PPG) initiative is being coordinated by the Toronto Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) with the support of several municipalities including the City of Toronto with representation by Councillor Suzan Hall. PPG involves over 12,500 business and more than 355,000 employees. The following 12 projects are underway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Purchasing Blocks- PPG partners are pooling resources to purchase green products in bulk. • Eco-Efficiency Audits • Smart-Commuting • Waste Re-utilization projects • A Direct Energy System • Green Building Retrofit • Municipal Eco-Development Policy • Business Park Sustainability Benchmarking • Green Business Retention & Attraction Strategy • Business Best Practices and Regulatory Alignment • Ongoing Education and Outreach Programs • Greenspace Expansion • Stormwater Improvements <p>Additional information can be found on the website at: www.partnersinprojectgreen.com</p>
<p>5) Green Home Innovation Centre. Develop a Green Home Innovation Centre to showcase and provide education on environmental products and services to Toronto residents that leverages partnerships and current initiatives.</p>	<p>Examples of Green Home initiatives that have been launched recently with the support of the CMHC, include Canühome and the Now House. The Canühome was launched on April 25, 2008 at the Green Living Show and is a travelling exhibit that brings together a unique partnership in an innovative effort to stimulate sustainable healthy affordable housing across the private, commercial, educational and public housing sectors. In short, the project partners have created the Canühome exhibit to educate and empower consumers about what they "can" do to decrease their utility bills, improve air quality, and help the environment. www.canuhome.com.</p>

	<p>Now House is a demonstration project in which turned a 60-year-old WWII house into a near zero energy home. The Now House produces as much energy as it uses on an annual basis. The retrofits reduced green house gas emissions for this home by 5.4 tonnes annually, reduced electricity use by 60% and will enable the home to produce enough energy to pay its own energy bills. The goal is to dramatically reduce the amount of energy used by existing houses in Canada by retrofitting them to net zero energy use. Now House was a recipient of a Green Toronto Award in 2009 - www.nowhouseproject.com</p>
<p>6) Environmental/Mechanical Systems Training Program for Building Owners and Managers. Develop a training program with the business, academia and labour communities to assist office operations and manufacturing companies to establish in house expertise with respect running and maintain environmental systems.</p>	<p>Staff are determining the most appropriate method and partners to involve in moving forward on this initiative. Some of this work is currently being conducted through the BOMA Building Environmental Standards (BESt) program. BESt represents the direction of the commercial real estate industry in Canada and BOMA Canada's role in providing the mechanisms for common practices across the industry.</p> <p>The BOMA BESt certification builds on Go Green and Go Green Plus by harmonizing these separate certifications into one program. With four possible levels of certification, users can progress through the program and continually use the framework of the Go Green Best Practices and the Go Green Plus assessment to improve environmental performance and management.</p>
<p>7) Green Procurement including a Trade Fair to Demonstrate New and Emerging Environmental Products and Services Organize municipal workshops on Green Procurement and methods for stimulating environmental innovation within the City's operations including a trade fair to demonstrate new and emerging environmental products and services to municipalities and the business community.</p>	<p>The first Green Procurement Marketplace was held at Ontario Centre of Excellence's Discovery 09 from May 11 and 12, 2009 held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. The event was able to provide 25 Toronto-based green businesses with an opportunity to present and exhibit their products and services. In addition, procurement and purchasing agents from over 140 organizations and businesses were invited to attend the Marketplace. More information can be found at: www.ocediscovery.com</p>

<p>8) Training Program Integrating Environmental Design into Building Design and Construction Develop a training program with business, academia and labour to improve the skill sets of architects, building and design professionals with respect to incorporating integrated environmental design into building design and construction.</p>	<p>Staff are working to determine the best method and partners to collaborate with on developing this program.</p>
<p>9) Environmental Industry Capabilities Database Support the creation of environmental industry capabilities database and Toronto consumer market prospectus in cooperation with environmental industry association(s) and other orders of government to stimulate local company growth and to attract new companies to the area.</p>	<p>The first iteration of the database was produced by the Toronto Region Research Alliance (TRRA) and is available online at www.trra.com. The second phase of the project will provide deeper intelligence about the firms in Toronto's green sector which will help stimulate new investment and employment.</p>
<p>10) Environmental Workshops for Small Business. Organize Workshops with Toronto Association of Business Improvements Areas (TABIA) and the Chambers of Commerce to engage the participation of the small business community in the "Zerofootprint" initiative.</p>	<p>Green Enterprise Toronto (GET) is producing two programs that target SME's to provide them with opportunities to learn about green/renewable energy solutions. The first is a morning seminar series that showcases the products and services of green/renewable energy firms. The second is a series of workshops that provides SME's with the know-how to conform to ISO 14001 standards and develop an Environmental Company Policy. More information can be found at www.get.com.</p>