



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### Live Green Toronto Initiative: Progress Report #2

<b>Date:</b>	March 27, 2013
<b>To:</b>	Parks and Environment Committee
<b>From:</b>	Chief Corporate Officer
<b>Wards:</b>	All
<b>Reference Number:</b>	P:\2013\Internal Services\E&E\Pe13002E&E- (AFS 16650)

#### SUMMARY

---

The Live Green Toronto Initiative was developed in response to three of the sixty-eight actions contained in the Climate Change Action Plan adopted by City Council in July 2007 (item EX10.3). Officially launched in May 2008, the Live Green Toronto Initiative was established to support and engage businesses, residents and community groups in utilizing their own talents and resources to take local action on environmental issues of concern and thereby help achieve the City of Toronto's environmental goals.

Implementation of the Live Green Toronto Initiative is guided by three objectives:

- To make it easy to take action;
- To provide support in taking action; and
- To inspire and celebrate successful actions.

This report is the second progress report on the activities and outcomes of the Live Green Toronto Initiative to the end of 2012. The first progress report was presented to City Council in November 2009.

While the Live Green Toronto Initiative and brand is associated with all environmental activities led by the City of Toronto, this report focuses on those activities that are led by the Environment & Energy Office. This report also responds to the City Council approved recommendation from the Auditor General that regular reports on the outcomes of the Live Green Toronto Community Grants program are provided to City Council.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

---

### The Chief Corporate Officer recommends that:

1. This report be received for information.

### Financial Impact

There are no net financial implications for the Environment and Energy Office as a result of this report, as all funds are included in the program's approved 2013 Operating Budget.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

### Equity Statement

The Live Green Toronto Initiative has been guided by the principle of inclusion, by working to ensure that all residents are able to participate and contribute. A few examples of actions taken are:

- including close captioning on all videos produced;
- having priority seating for people with physical disabilities at events;
- ensuring accessibility (at Canada Blooms in 2010 the City received an award for the most accessible design);
- providing printed and electronic materials in up to eight languages;
- ensuring community animators had staff trained who were able to work with residents of differing cultures and varying abilities;
- valuing the cultural and linguistic diversity in the Live Green Toronto Volunteers, who collectively speak over 70 languages; and
- providing appropriate training for staff and volunteers engaged in Live Green Toronto activities.

## DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting of July 16 – 19, 2007 City Council unanimously adopted the *Climate Change, Clean Air and Sustainable Energy Action Plan* (the “Climate Change Action Plan”). Included in the Climate Change Action Plan was a directive to establish the Live Green Toronto initiative to support residents, businesses, community groups and neighbourhoods in taking action to green their communities. The web link to this report (item EX10.3 on page 25 of the Council minutes) is:

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/cc/minutes/2007-07-16-cc11-mn.pdf>.

At its meeting of March, 2008 City Council adopted the objectives of a five-year (2008 to 2012), \$14.55 million (net City funding \$11.05 million) funding plan for the Live Green Toronto initiative (funded by the City's Strategic Infrastructure Partnership Reserve Fund). The web link to this report (item BU21.1h) is:

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2007/bu/bgrd/backgroundfile-8712.pdf>

At its meeting of May, 2009 City Council directed the establishment of the Live Green Toronto Home Energy Efficiency Incentive Program, targeting the owners of low-rise residential properties. At that time City Council also directed that reporting on the outcomes of this program be included in the regular Live Green Toronto Status reports. The web link to this report is

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/ex/bgrd/backgroundfile-21555.pdf>

As directed by City Council, regular progress reports regarding the Live Green Toronto initiative are to be provided to City Council. The first progress report was presented in November 2009. The web link to the first progress report (item EX36.10) for the Live Green Toronto Initiative is:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2009.EX36.10>

In March 2011, City Council adopted the recommendations of the Auditor-General following his review of the administration of environmental grants in the Toronto Environment Office. The Auditor-General recommended regular reporting to Council on the grant programs, among other recommendations. The web link to this report (item AU1.11) is: <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2011.AU1.11>.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Climate Change Action Plan consists of 68 consolidated actions. The Live Green Toronto Initiative was established to address the following three actions from the Climate Change Action Plan:

- establish the Live Green Toronto program, to support residents' groups, Business Improvement Areas and other neighbourhood agencies and community groups to green their own neighbourhoods through a range of programs (recommendation 4a);
- create energy retrofit funding programs to provide support to owners of low-rise residential buildings and other sectors (e.g. small businesses) for energy retrofits, in support of the Live Green Toronto program (recommendation 4b); and
- create a City-delivered, "one window" program for access to energy and other environmental programs, including the potential development of a one-stop website (recommendation 4d).

## COMMENTS

### Purpose

At its meeting of March 2008, City Council endorsed a program design for the Live Green Toronto Initiative and the following objectives:

1. to **catalyze** effective community action on climate change and environmental issues in Toronto;
2. to **simplify** the process of accessing information, financial incentives, and technologies that reduce environmental impacts and greenhouse gas emissions; and
3. to provide direct **support** to Toronto's neighbourhoods and communities in making lifestyle choices that significantly reduce carbon footprints.

### Core Program Activities

Officially launched in May 2008 the Live Green Toronto Initiative has evolved into a multi-faceted effort and the core program activities are listed in Table One below.

<b>TABLE ONE: Live Green Toronto Core Program Activities</b>	
<b>Program Activity</b>	<b>Status</b>
Community Animators	Complete (ended December 2012)
Community Engagement & Outreach (Participation in community events & festivals)	Ongoing
Cut-It Out Toronto	Complete (ended 2011)
Home Energy Assistance Toronto (HEAT)	Complete (ended March 2011)
Home Energy Help	Complete (ended December 2011)
Live Green Toronto Annual Festival	Ongoing, annual
Live Green Toronto Awards	Ongoing, annual
Live Green Toronto Community Investment Fund	Ongoing (large capital grants ended December 2012)
Live Green Toronto Volunteers	Ongoing
Live Green Toronto Membership Card	Ongoing
Live Green Toronto One-Stop Website	Ongoing

Appendix A provides a detailed description about each of these different program activities.

## Outcomes 2008 to 2012

Since the official launch in May 2008 to December 2012 the Live Green Toronto Initiative, in terms of the program activities directly managed by the Environment & Energy Office have supported residents, neighbourhoods and community groups in taking action to improve their local environment. Tables Two to Four summarize the environmental, economic and community impacts of the program activities during that time period.

<b>TABLE TWO: Live Green Toronto Performance Indicators Environmental Performance &amp; Energy Efficiency May 2008 – December 2012</b>	
Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions	<b>6,707:</b> the estimated tonnes of GHG emissions reduced through Live Green Toronto programs since 2008 (the equivalent of taking 1,911 passenger vehicles off the road for a year).
Air Pollution Emission Reduction	<b>32%:</b> the average estimated reduction in Particulate Matter (PM) emissions from City-owned small engine equipment, achieved through the Cut-It Out Program, in partnership with Canadian Tire Corporation.
Energy Efficiency Savings	<p><b>18.5%:</b> the estimated reduction in energy use achieved by the 21,573 homeowners who participated in the Home Energy Assistance Toronto (HEAT) and ecoEnergy programs.</p> <p><b>36%:</b> the estimated reduction in energy use achieved by the 177 low-income homeowners who undertook energy efficiency retrofits through the pilot Home Energy Help program, offered in partnership with Enbridge Gas and Toronto Hydro.</p>
Urban Planting, Re-vegetation, Community Gardens	<p><b>8,748:</b> the total number of trees planted through Live Green Toronto programs, which contributes to the City's overall tree canopy goals.</p> <p><b>\$6 million:</b> the estimated replacement value of these 8,748 trees at full maturity.</p> <p><b>44:</b> the number of community gardens developed with the support of the Live Green Toronto Community Animators and the Community Investment Fund.</p> <p><b>19,000+:</b> the estimated kilograms of food produced in these 44 community gardens over the last four years.</p>

**TABLE THREE: Live Green Toronto Performance Indicators  
Building the Green Economy & Community, May 2008 – December 2012**

<p>Funds Leveraged &amp; Revenue Generated</p>	<p><b>\$1,835,832:</b> the amount raised by the Environment Office, in cash and in-kind contributions, from corporate and community partners in support of Live Green Toronto programs since 2009.</p> <p><b>\$3,743,000:</b> the value of the Community Investment Funds awarded by the Environment Office since 2008.</p> <p><b>\$15,101,250:</b> the additional funds that Live Green Toronto Community Investment Fund recipients were able to leverage from third parties as a result of obtaining a grant.</p> <p><b>\$4:</b> the amount that grant recipients leverage from third parties, on average, for every \$1 they received through the Live Green Toronto Community Investment Fund.</p>
<p>Connecting Residents with Green Businesses</p>	<p><b>25,294:</b> the number of residents, as of December 2012, who have joined the Live Green Toronto Membership Card program that promotes the purchased of green products and services from local businesses.</p> <p><b>403:</b> the number of Toronto businesses, as of December 2012, who are participating in the Live Green Toronto Membership Card program.</p>
<p>Lowering the Cost of Living</p>	<p><b>\$71,685:</b> the estimated total annual savings realized by the 177 low income homeowners who undertook full energy efficiency retrofits through the pilot Home Energy Help program.</p> <p><b>\$405:</b> the average amount that each Home Energy Help participant saves on energy bills each year.</p> <p><b>\$98:</b> the estimated amount that each of the 21,573 Home Energy Assistance Toronto retrofit participants saves on annual utility bills.</p> <p><b>\$2.1 million:</b> the approximate value of the energy savings realized by all participants in the Home Energy Assistance Toronto program.</p>
<p>Skills Development in the Green Economy</p>	<p><b>126:</b> the number of person years of direct employment generated by the retrofits undertaken through the Home Energy Assistance Toronto and Home Energy Help programs, as estimated by Economic Development and Culture.</p> <p><b>274:</b> the average number of active and trained Live Green Toronto Volunteers who contribute an estimated total of 3,711 hours of volunteer service to the City each year.</p> <p><b>2,546:</b> the number of community-based volunteers trained by Live Green Toronto Community Investment Fund recipients since 2008.</p>

**TABLE FOUR: Live Green Toronto Performance Indicators  
Public Engagement and Partnership, May 2008 – December 2012**

<p>Community Engagement &amp; Education</p>	<p><b>210,000+:</b> the number of Toronto residents and visitors who have attended Live Green Toronto events since 2007.</p> <p><b>183,000:</b> the number of Toronto residents and visitors who are attended the Live Green Toronto Festival since 2008.</p> <p><b>166%:</b> the increase in Live Green Toronto Festival attendance between 2007 and 2012.</p> <p><b>518:</b> the number of environmental workshops hosted by Live Green Toronto Community Investment Fund recipients.</p> <p><b>8,383:</b> the number of Toronto residents who attended workshops hosted by Live Green Toronto Community Investment Fund recipients.</p>
<p>Formal Stakeholder Engagement</p>	<p><b>1,685:</b> the number of Toronto residents who participated in formal stakeholder engagement events run by the Environment Office between 2007 and 2009.</p>
<p>Promoting Environmental Leadership</p>	<p><b>228:</b> the number of residents, community groups and businesses recognized for their environmental leadership through the City’s Green Toronto Awards since 2005.</p> <p><b>\$350,000:</b> the amount that sponsors of the Green Toronto Awards have invested in community environmental initiatives since 2005.</p> <p><b>2,650:</b> the estimated number of residents who attended the Green Toronto Awards ceremony between 2007 and 2012.</p>
<p>Facilitating Action &amp; Building Capacity</p>	<p><b>181:</b> the number of community projects that the Live Green Toronto Community Animators supported in four years.</p> <p><b>95:</b> the number of community-led environmental projects funded through the Community Investment Fund since 2008.</p> <p><b>56,498:</b> the number of Toronto residents engaged in the 95 community-led projects funded through the Community Investment Fund since 2008.</p> <p><b>14%:</b> the participation rate of Toronto homeowners in the ecoENERGY program during the time the Home Energy Assistance Toronto program was in place, compared to the Ontario average of 10%.</p>

## **Planned Activities for 2013**

As per the five-year plan adopted by City Council in March 2008, those elements of the Live Green Toronto Initiative that provided human and financial support for taking local action came to a conclusion in 2012 or earlier. The program activities no longer functions are:

- Live Green Toronto Community Animators, which concluded in December 2012. Detailed final reports prepared by the contracted service providers on lessons learned and outcomes can be found at [www.toronto.ca/teo](http://www.toronto.ca/teo);
- Home Energy Assistance Toronto and Home Energy Help programs, which both concluded in 2011; and
- Live Green Toronto Community Investment Fund provision of large capital grants (\$10,000 to \$250,000), which concluded in December 2012.

In 2013, direct program activities occurring as part of the Live Green Toronto Initiative will focus on the community outreach and engagement activities with the goal being to encourage action and ensure residents and business owners are aware of the full range of options available to them to support them in making the neighbourhood, community and business environmentally sustainable.

## **CONCLUSION**

As part of the Climate Change Action Plan, City Council directed the establishment of the Live Green Toronto initiative for the purpose of supporting communities, neighbourhoods and businesses in taking action on local environmental issues of concern. Building upon a foundation that included, among other things, the Green Toronto Awards, the Green Toronto Festival, the Smart Commute Program and the Toronto Environmental Volunteers, the Live Green Toronto Initiative has:

- supported neighbourhoods and community groups and businesses in taking action through the provision of community animation services and access to financial assistance;
- encouraged local individual and community action through community engagement activities, provision of incentives, and by profiling the innovative and successful efforts being made by residents, organizations and businesses to create an environmentally sustainable city; and
- assisted residents and businesses to take action by creating forums where information is easily accessed, either through web-based tools or through person-to-person contact at community events.

Neighbourhoods and community groups have taken action on local environmental issues of concern by planting trees, constructing green roofs, creating community gardens, installing energy efficiency retrofits and much more.

As established in the Live Green Toronto Initiative's 5-year program plan (2008-12), the activities that provided direct human and financial support, such as the Community Animators and grant programs largely came to an end in 2012. In 2013, community outreach and engagement activities, such as the Awards, the Festival, the Volunteers and the One-Stop Website will be the focus.

Future program activities for 2014 and beyond may be proposed as part of the development of the mandate and business plan for the recently established Environment & Energy Office.

## **CONTACTS**

Jim Baxter, Director, Environment & Energy Office  
Chief Corporate Office  
416-338-1295 / jbxater2@toronto.ca

Mark Bekkering, Manager of Implementation & Support  
Environment & Energy Office, Chief Corporate Office  
416-392-8556 / mbekker@toronto.ca

---

Josie Scioli  
Chief Corporate Officer

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Appendix A: Detailed Description of the Program Activities Initiated as part of the Live Green Toronto Initiative.

**APPENDIX A**  
**Detailed Description of the Program Activities Initiated as Part of the Live Green Toronto Initiative**

**1) The Live Green Toronto Website & E-Newsletter**

**Purpose:** To provide a one-stop site for accessing all programs, incentives and resources available to residents and keep them informed through regular updates.

**Description:** Launched in May 2008 the Live Green Toronto website includes sections on how to: Green Your Life; Green Your Neighbourhood; Green your Business; Volunteer; Financial Incentives; and much more. The monthly Live Green Toronto E-Newsletter identifies new or changes to programs, highlights upcoming community events and provides regular tips.

8,000: average monthly views of the Website main page.  
26,000: number of subscribers to the monthly E-Newsletter

Visit [www.livegreentoronto.ca](http://www.livegreentoronto.ca)

**2) The Live Green Toronto Membership Card**

**Purpose:** To support local business in their efforts to provide green services and products by connecting them with residents interested in their services and products.

**Description:** Residents, at no charge sign-up for a Membership Card, which they can show at participating businesses that offer discounts and deals on their green products and services.

25,294: number of residents with a Membership Card  
403: number of businesses participating in the Membership Card program

Visit: <http://www.livegreencard.ca/>

### **3) Community Engagement**

**Purpose:** To make it easy for people to learn about City environmental services and other resources.

**Description:** At major events, there is a coordinated City presence, which means instead of finding booths for various City of Toronto programs spread around, they have all been brought together into one coordinated pavilion allowing residents to collect information about City programs ranging from energy conservation, waste collection, public health, land use planning and water conservation to tree planting.

### **4) The Live Green Toronto Volunteers**

**Purpose:** To engage volunteers in educating and informing their fellow residents about the benefits of living green and services available to them.

To provide the volunteers with experiences that increase their job skills and employment opportunities.

**Description:** The Live Green Toronto Volunteers, who collectively speak over 70 different languages, provide resources to help residents strengthen their knowledge on a variety of environmental issues including climate change, solid waste management, energy and water efficiency, wastewater education, pesticide reduction, green development, sustainable transportation and urban agriculture.

Volunteers gain a broad understanding of various environmental topics that affect Toronto including solid waste management, water efficiency, energy efficiency, sustainable transportation, pesticide reduction, organic lawn and garden care, urban forestry and local food issues. These experiences and training provide valuable skills which enhance the participants' opportunities for employment in the green economy.

3,711: estimated number of volunteer hours provided to the City per year

Visit: [www.livegreentoronto/getinvolved\\_volunteer.htm](http://www.livegreentoronto/getinvolved_volunteer.htm)

## **5) The Live Green Toronto Festival**

**Purpose:** To create an opportunity for businesses and organizations to showcase their green services and products and connect with residents.

**Description:** 2012 was the 7<sup>th</sup> year for the festival, which brings hundreds of green products and services, live music, a farmers' market, buskers, a kids' zone and more to the streets of Toronto every year. Held at Yonge-Dundas Square and involving the closure of a section of Yonge Street, the festival has over 100 exhibitors of green products and services.

The 2012 Festival was supported by generous sponsors including main stage sponsor CHUM FM, as well as, TD Friends of the Environment Foundation, Zipcar, Just Energy, Hard Rock Café, Delta Chelsea Hotel and Citytv.

40,000: estimated number of people attending the Festival in 2012

90%: percentage of the 100 Festival vendors indicating that they were highly satisfied with the event and would like to participate again next year.

Visit: [www.toronto.ca/greentorontofestival](http://www.toronto.ca/greentorontofestival)

## **6) Live Green Toronto Community Investment Funds**

### **Purpose:**

To support neighbourhood and community groups and activities that facilitates grassroots action on local environmental issues of concern and which help achieve the City's environmental goals.

### **Description:**

In May 2008, City Council adopted the criteria and framework for two community grant funds to provide financial support to neighbourhoods and community groups and Business Improvement Areas (BIAs) in implementing local green improvement initiatives. A copy of that report (item EX20.5) can be found at <http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/ex/bgrd/backgroundfile-12542.pdf>.

The first fund is the Live Green Toronto Community Investment Program where groups can receive a grant from \$1,000 to \$25,000 to help explore and develop an idea. The purpose of this fund is to build capacity within local communities and neighbourhoods to identify, develop and initiate sustainable actions to improve the local environment in their neighbourhood.

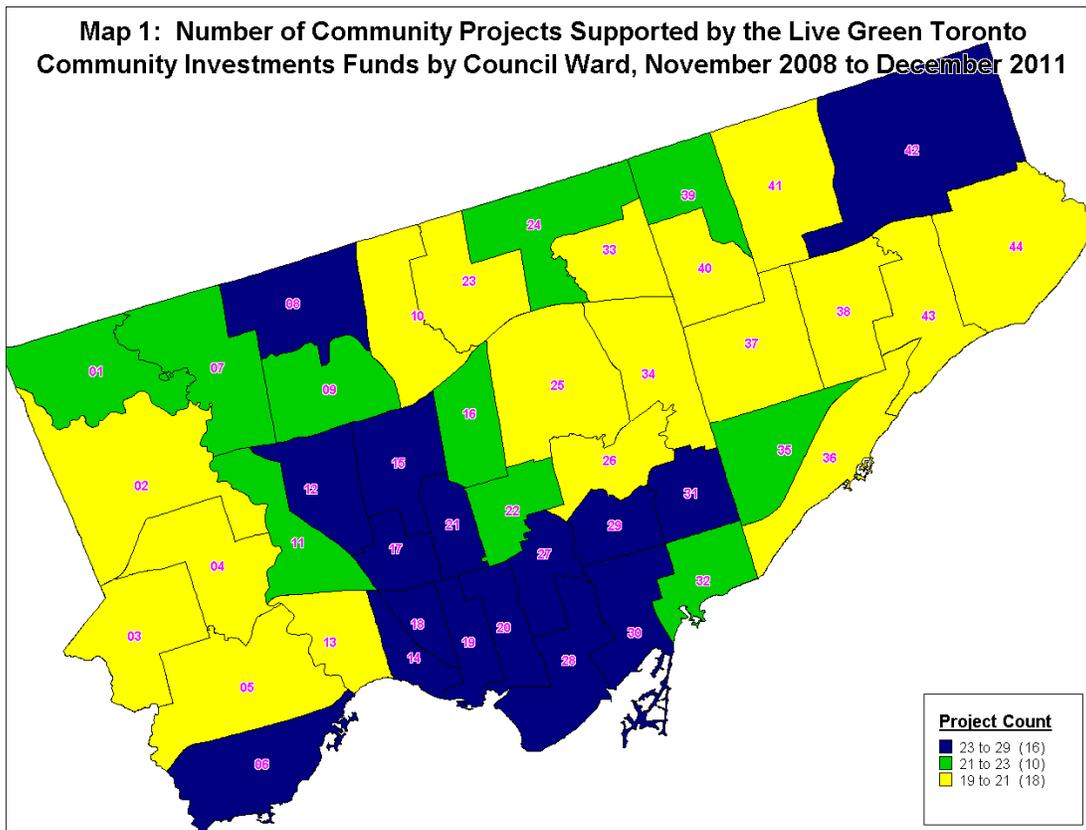
The second fund is the Live Green Toronto Capital Projects Fund where groups can receive a grant from \$10,000 to \$250,000 to assist in the implementation of a physical on-the-ground project. The purpose of this fund is to provide funds for implementing

capital asset projects that result in sustainable improvements to the local natural environment and which the local community has identified and is engaged in supporting. The Capital Projects Fund concluded operation in December 2012.

Detailed information about the application process can be found:  
[http://www.toronto.ca/livegreen/greenneighbourhood\\_rebates\\_cip.htm](http://www.toronto.ca/livegreen/greenneighbourhood_rebates_cip.htm)

More information about projects and the organizations that received funding can be found at the following:  
[http://www.toronto.ca/livegreen/greenneighbourhood\\_rebates\\_awards.htm](http://www.toronto.ca/livegreen/greenneighbourhood_rebates_awards.htm).

Map One below highlights by Council Ward the geographic areas where funded projects are or were active.



## **7) Home Energy Assistance Toronto (HEAT)**

**Purpose:** To encourage homeowners to undertake deeper more energy efficient retrofits to their home.

**Description:** In August 2009, City Council adopted a report (item EX33.34) establishing the Home Energy Assistance Toronto ("HEAT") program and the provision of grants of up to a maximum of \$1,000 in support of homeowners upgrading the insulation in their homes. The web link to the report and Council decision is:

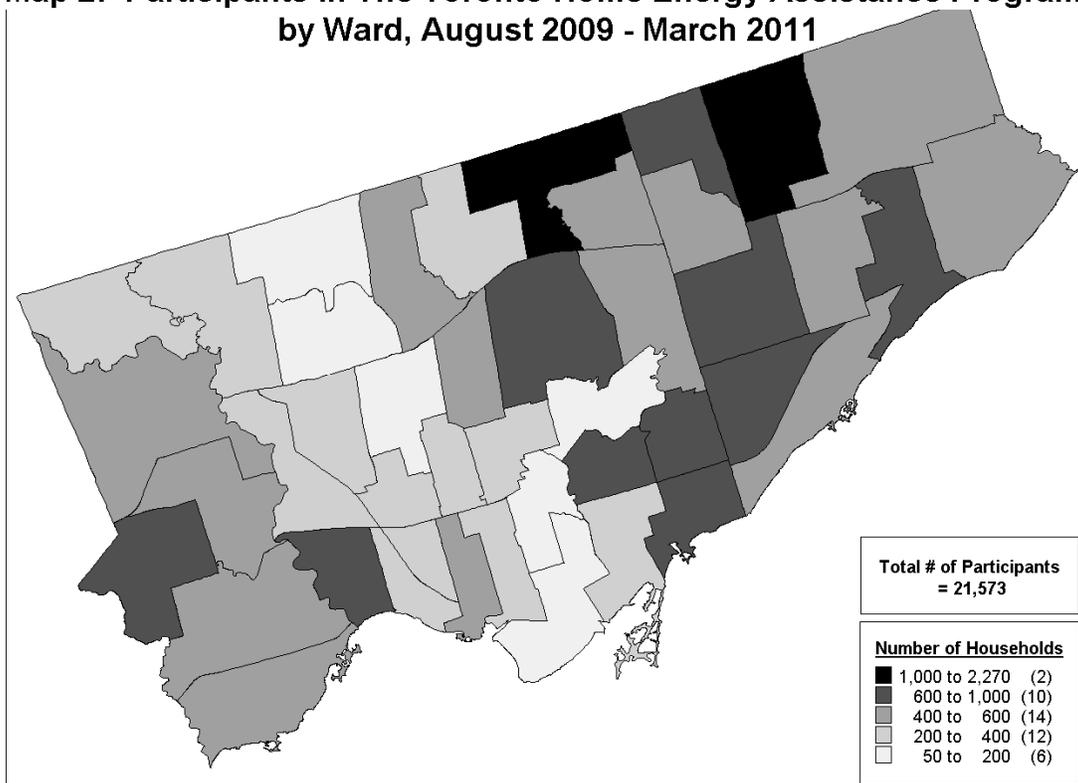
<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2009.EX33.34>.

The program ended on March 31, 2011 with the closure of the Federal Government's ecoENERGY program, to which the HEAT program was aligned in order to provide a one-window service for residents to access federal, provincial and municipal grants. While the Federal Government did re-instate the ecoENERGY program in mid-2011, it was established with an end date of March 31, 2012. Staff did not recommend the re-establishment of the HEAT program as part of the 2012 Operating Budget

21,573: number of homeowners who participated in the program.

Map Two highlights that homeowners who participated in the HEAT program were found all across the City.

**Map 2: Participants in The Toronto Home Energy Assistance Program by Ward, August 2009 - March 2011**



## **8) Home Energy Help**

**Purpose:** To test approaches and methods for collaboration between the City, Toronto Hydro and Enbridge Gas in the delivery of home energy efficiency programs targeted to low income households living in low-rise single-family housing.

**Description:** When City Council adopted the HEAT program in 2009, it directed that \$2 million of the allocated funds be utilized for a pilot program designed to accommodate the needs of low-income households residing in low-rise single family housing. In May 2010, City Council endorsed the establishment of a collaborative pilot program with Enbridge Gas and Toronto Hydro called Home Energy Help. The web link to the report and Council decision is:

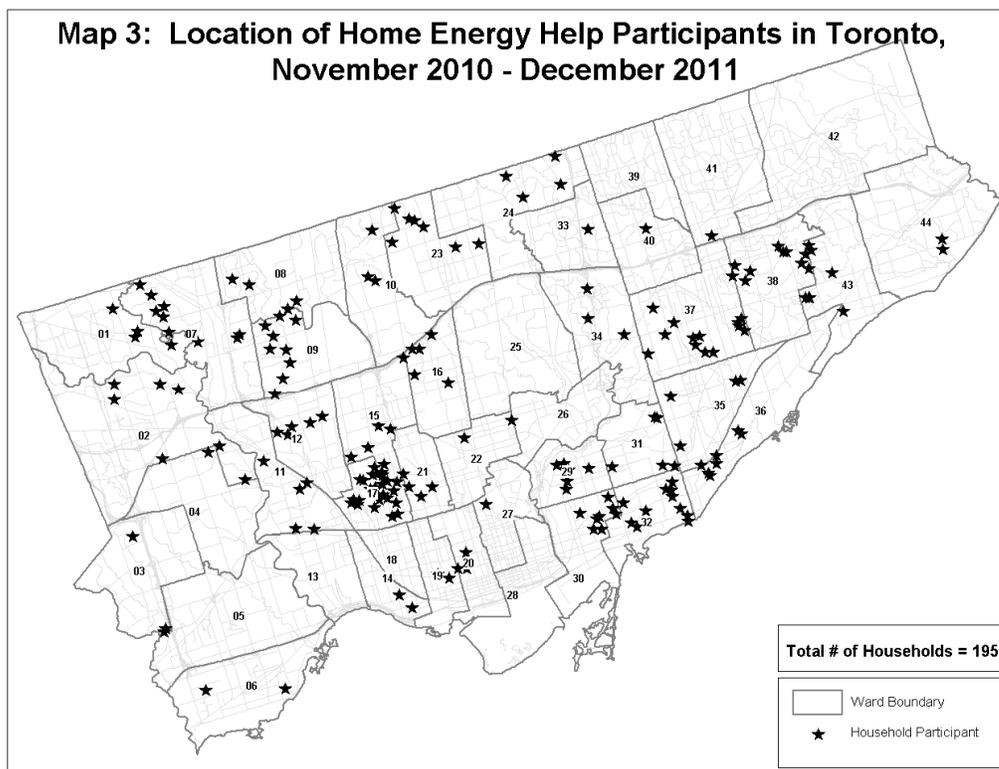
<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2010.EX43.9>.

The pilot program ran from November 2010 to December 2011.

177: number of full participants in the program.

\$405: estimated annual amount participants will save on their energy bills

Map Three highlights that participants in the Home Energy Help can be found all across the City, while Table 2c summarizes the outcomes of the program.



## **9) Community Animators**

**Purpose:** To increase the ability of community and neighbourhood groups to identify and undertake actions in their local community, which result in a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and smog causing emissions.

### **Description:**

This program made available, to neighbourhood and community groups, people with the expertise to help them turn their great green ideas into reality. The Animators provided knowledge on a range of environmental issues, solutions, programs and resources and assistance to help facilitate and organize the community into taking action. The Animators helped community groups undertake a range of actions that include, but are not limited to: community tree inventories and plantings; group purchases and installations of renewable energy systems; coordinated energy efficiency audits and retrofits; development of community organization alternative transportation activities; and more.

In early-2008 a request for proposal (RFP) was issued for the provision of Community Animation services and as a result of that process the City entered into contracts with two not-for-profit agencies to deliver the services for the Community Animators program. The two organizations awarded contracts were ACORN Canada (the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now) and EcoSpark (formerly Citizens' Environment Watch).

Each organization used a different approach to providing animation services. ACORN Canada worked directly with residents in their service area, guiding residents through a process of identifying priorities, working on initial “quick win” projects and building towards more complex/significant projects. EcoSpark animated community and neighbourhood groups, provided support to organize events and meetings, connecting them to sources of funding and assisting with applications and more.

The Community Animators program officially concluded in December 2012.

## **10) Small Engine Reduction Strategy - Cut it Out Toronto Program**

**Purpose:** To reduce the emissions associated with the use of small engine lawn and garden equipment.

**Description:**

Small engine equipment, such as lawn mowers, string trimmers, chain saws and leaf blowers, is widely used in maintaining City parks, trees, landscaped areas of the road allowance and other City-owned sites. The general public, businesses and other institutions (e.g. school boards, universities and other levels of government) also rely upon this equipment to maintain their properties. However, emissions from older, inefficient small engine, usually two-stroke equipment contributes to poor air quality and the release of greenhouse gases.

In May 2009, City Council approved a plan for accelerating the replacement of less efficient equipment used in City operations, along with changes to current business practices that further reduce emissions. In addition, City Council endorsed an emission reduction strategy for equipment used by the broader public, businesses and other institutions. The web link to the staff report is:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2010.EX43.9>.

In 2009 and 2010 this initiative accelerated the replacement of 854 pieces of older small engine equipment in City Operations. Between 2009 and 2011, the Cut-It Out Toronto initiative, which was delivered in partnership with Canadian Tire retired 1,671 pieces of older small engine equipment.

## **11) Live Green Toronto Awards**

**Purpose:** To honour and celebrate the individuals, organizations and companies leading the way to a cleaner, greener and more liveable Toronto.

**Description:** Since 2005, dozens of businesses have been recognized for their achievements including Beach Solar Laundromat, Tridel, Bullfrog Power, Unilever, Campbell Canada, SAS Canada, Steam Whistle Brewing and many more.

The Green Toronto Awards have been in place since 2004 and 2012 was the eighth annual. Every year, between 150 and 200 nominations are received and the selection committee narrows it down to ten award winners. Individuals, resident groups, not-for-profit organizations and businesses have all received recognition for their efforts to green our city.

More information about the award winners and the Green Toronto Awards can be found at: <http://www.toronto.ca/greentorontoawards/index.htm>.