

## TA10.2


**STAFF REPORT  
INFORMATION ONLY**

<b>Date:</b>	June 22, 2016
<b>To:</b>	Toronto Atmospheric Fund Board of Directors
<b>From:</b>	Julia Langer, CEO
<b>Re:</b>	Chief Executive Officer's Report

**GOVERNANCE & ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**


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**Staff news**

We are pleased to welcome Jonathan Brinias for a year-long Internship, working with the TowerWise team to support our building energy and indoor environmental quality research in multi-residential buildings. Ian Klesmer, who in addition to managing the grants program leads our work on transportation, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of Electric Mobility Canada.

**Budget 2017**

A pro forma budget has been submitted to the City that reflects our existing endowment revenues and planned expenses, plus a projected budget for the Ontario endowment that includes a 'start up' budget for GTHA outreach and project cultivation, regional GHG quantification and some initial project funding. This will likely need to be refined as we gain certainty on investment strategy and potential returns. A Budget will be presented to the Board for approval ideally in September, or December at the latest, and proceed through the City's budget process.

**STRATEGIC PROGRAMS**


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**Ontario's Climate Change Action Plan**

The provincial Climate Change Action Plan was announced June 8<sup>th</sup>. It sets out a framework of policy reform, practical programs, carbon pricing and engagement targeting all sources of GHG emissions in Ontario including emissions from industry, buildings (natural gas, electricity), transportation (gasoline, diesel), waste (methane).

The Cap & Trade regime is a cornerstone of the plan, providing both a market signal to reduce carbon and an estimated \$7 billion in revenue to be dedicated to implementation of the plan over 5 years; an additional \$1.3 billion from electric utility budgets will be dedicated to offsetting costs associated with electrification. The legislation, passed May 18, 2016, for the first time will place a price on the province's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Ontario's cap and trade system will link with California and Quebec, joining the largest carbon market in North America. Money raised from the cap and trade program will be deposited into a new GHG Reduction

Account and invested in green projects and initiatives that reduce emissions. The first compliance period under the legislation begins on January 1, 2017. The final legislation includes several recommendations TAF and the Clean Economy Alliance to strengthen the transparency of government decision-making including publication of the number of free allowances distributed to market participants, a commitment to indicate by 2021 how free allowances will be phased out, and the annual release of evaluations that inform the province's cap and trade investment decisions.

Energy efficiency, electrification of space heating and transportation, public transportation and transportation demand management (TDM), intensification of land-use, and government leadership all figure prominently in the plan. A key to implementation of the climate plan is availability of affordable, zero-carbon electricity, which makes revision of the provincial Long Term Energy Plan critically important. With the framework in place, the task now turns to refinement and development of actual programs. For instance, TAF has been discussing approaches to maximize the carbon reduction potential of the \$500 million and \$400 million available for social housing and apartment building retrofits.

To showcase on-the-ground climate action, CTV did a news story the day before the plan's release featuring TAF's TowerWise Retrofit Project at TCHC buildings: [see clip](#). TAF and TCHC issued a joint [press release](#) welcoming the Climate Change Action Plan's focus on retrofits, and we continue to work with the Clean Economy Alliance to communicate the importance and benefits of climate action.

### **TowerWise**

As part of the 10-building TowerWise Retrofit Project, construction work at the seven Toronto Community Housing buildings began in May. Toilet retrofit installations have been completed at five buildings and early analysis shows water savings are significantly higher than expected. Installation of condensing boilers and gas absorption heat pumps will be finished this summer, as will installation of LED lighting. Construction has been completed at the three other demonstration sites (Robert Cooke Co-operative, Perth Co-operative, and Hospital Workers Co-operative).

Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) has been a key funder and technical supporter of the TowerWise project from the outset. We recently submitted the final (1,500 page!) report on our four-year, \$490K funding agreement, along with our sincerest thanks for their generous support.

In early June, TAF completed a full year of monitoring the indoor environmental quality (IEQ) of 74 units across the seven TCHC buildings and the analysis will help the design team plan and prioritize the retrofit measures. University of Toronto and TAF have co-authored a peer-reviewed conference paper about this work and the University of Toronto researchers will present the IEQ results at the ASHRAE 2016 Annual Conference in late June. We are currently seeking funding to scale-up this work with a focus on addressing health and comfort of residents through comprehensive energy and IEQ retrofits; this will be very useful as the federal government rolls out significant funding for social housing retrofits.

TAF is the proud recipient of the 2016 Minister's Award for Environmental Excellence, presented by Minister of Environment & Climate Change Glenn Murray, recognizing our collaborative project with TCHC to improve energy efficiency and indoor environmental quality. A [new video](#) about the TowerWise Retrofit Project has been produced with funding from The Toronto Foundation; please circulate it to your networks as a nice snapshot of TAF's practical work that benefits people and the planet.

The TowerWise team's information and insights has been in great demand lately. Bryan Purcell presented results of our TowerWise work to date at the Canada Green Building Council's annual conference, Ekaterina Tzekova presented a few of our TowerWise case studies and green building initiatives at the German Best Practice Award Showcase, Vivian Chung and Jonathan Morier presented at the Association Québécoise pour la Maîtrise de l'Énergie (AQME) 30<sup>th</sup> annual Congress, as well as many meetings with colleagues involved in developing a climate action plan.

### **Toronto Green Standard**

TAF is collaborating with Toronto City Planning division on the development of version 3.0 of the Toronto Green Standard for new construction. Research has been completed and new energy, GHG targets, and related requirements are being formulated in consultation with a multi-stakeholder advisory group including developers, engineers, architects, and provincial representatives. The aim is to present a policy recommendation to the Planning Committee and City Council in Q1 2017.

### **Transform TO**

The preliminary public consultation phase of TransformTO wraps up June 20, 2016 after seven public events across the City and a series of community-hosted events run by non-profit organizations, community groups, and City Councillors. The events directly engaged approximately 1,800 community members. Findings from the consultations are being compiled and will be used to provide directional information to the TransformTO modellers concerning community priorities.

Construction of the long-term Toronto GHG model is underway by our consultant, [Sustainability Solutions Group](#). The model is being populated by Toronto-relevant data and used to develop a reference scenario to assess the emissions reductions associated with planned GHG reduction programming. To support the modelling exercise, a group of 35 community and City staff leaders have been assembled to form a Modelling Advisory Group. The group's first meeting is set for July 19, 2016. Comprised of 10 members of different City divisions and agencies and 25 community members, the group will meet for three intensive half-day working sessions. Group members have been selected to represent stakeholder interests in the areas of public health, equity, and economy as well as for expertise regarding urban climate actions. TransformTO has hired Nicole Swerhun of Swerhun Facilitation to design and run the sessions, which will result in a recommendations report to inform Toronto's 2050 Pathway.

The City of Toronto has been invited to participate in an international working group, the Climate Neutral Cities Alliance, made up of global cities working towards an 80% carbon reduction target by 2050. Environment and

Energy Division Manager Mark Bekkering is currently representing Toronto at an annual meeting of this group taking place in Norway.

### **Building Value**

With partners across the country, the Building Value Initiative seeks to accelerate energy efficiency in large buildings by demonstrating the business case, mobilizing private capital, and advancing key policies. In addition to Pembina Institute and L'Association Québécoise pour la Maîtrise de L'énergie (AQME), partnerships have been established with CaGBC and the Council for Clean Capitalism (CCC) in order to engage diverse stakeholders. Together we have been undertaking outreach efforts at the FCM Sustainable Communities Conference, Alberta Energy Efficiency Alliance Annual Conference, AQME Rencontre des Municipalités Efficaces, AQME 30<sup>e</sup> Congrès Annuel, and the CaGBC 2016 Annual Conference.

In order to increase the awareness of the multiple benefits of energy efficiency policies and programs, TAF is building a “calculator” that will allow users, for instance municipalities, to assess the quantitative and qualitative benefits of specific energy efficiency policies. Federation of Canadian Municipalities has expressed interest in incorporating this tool into the Partners for Climate Protection program when it is finished in early 2017.

Much of the focus has been on advancing energy reporting and benchmarking (ERB) across Canada, leveraging the Canada Green Building Council (CaGBC) [Guideline](#) for a national ERB framework, which TAF sponsored. TAF is participating in the process of developing federal policy priorities on energy efficiency for buildings as part of the Pan-Canadian climate strategy process.

### **CONTACT**

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