

Governments in Canada do not expect their citizens to act where they themselves have remained idle. Throughout Canada, governments are showing leadership by putting their own houses in order, including their buildings and their fleets. They are sharing their experiences and best practices with others who can benefit from them.

Governments Leading by Example

Government of Canada

Federal Buildings Initiative (FBI)

The Federal Buildings Initiative helps organizations manage energy costs, while making their facilities more comfortable and productive workplaces.

The program offers, to executive and managerial support, a complete package of tailored technical, planning and contractual support needed to implement an energy-saving project on a turnkey basis. The FBI also offers access to tools and services to assist organizations in planning a strategy to implement energy efficiency in federal buildings.

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Federal House In Order Strategy (FHIO)

The Federal House in Order Initiative is a Government of Canada initiative to demonstrate federal leadership in the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. The government's aim is to lower emissions from its own operations to an amount comparable to what is expected of all other Canadian organizations. An emissions reduction target for 2010 is being determined for the federal government as a whole, based on information provided by departments. The FHIO Initiative is a key part of the national process currently underway to develop a climate change strategy for Canada to help us meet our commitments to the Kyoto Protocol.

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Federal Industrial Boiler Program (FIBP)

The Federal Industrial Boiler Program (FIBP) ensures that energy-efficient and environmentally responsible

technologies are considered when federal departments, agencies, Crown corporations or private-sector clients replace or modify their heating and cooling systems. FIBP develops site-specific strategies to help building operators meet higher equipment performance targets, and provides turnkey project management services on new or retrofit projects. These management services include preparing technical specifications, reviewing tenders, and overseeing the installation and commissioning of new equipment.

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FleetWise Program

The FleetWise Program helps Government of Canada departments increase the efficiency of their fleets in order to cut costs and minimize the negative environmental impacts of operating fleet vehicles. The program builds on sound management practices by improving vehicle utilization, reducing fuel consumption, increasing the efficiency and environmental performance of vehicle operations and encouraging greater use of alternative fuels.

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Green Power Procurement Initiative

This initiative commits the Government of Canada to displacing purchases of high-carbon electricity with electricity from emerging renewable sources, referred to as "green power". In addition to reducing greenhouse gas and other emissions in federal operations, this initiative provides a demand for green power and encourages electric utilities to market this type of power to other customers. The first pilot project using green power was undertaken with Enmax, an Alberta electric utility company. In the 2000 Budget, the federal



government committed an additional \$15 million to expand its purchases of green power into Saskatchewan and Prince Edward Island.

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British Columbia

Alternative Fuel Vehicles

In fiscal year 2000-01, the Ministry of Transportation and Highways purchased 150 natural gas or propane vehicles to replace aging fleet vehicles. Fifty natural gas buses have been purchased in recent years.

Ministry of Transportation and Highways,
www.th.gov.bc.ca/bchighways/nr_2000/80802.htm
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www.gov.bc.ca/th/cont/

BC's Government House in Order Action Plan

The province is preparing an inventory of government-source greenhouse gas emissions, a baseline forecast of emissions and an action plan to be submitted to Canada's Voluntary Challenge and Registry by Ministries and individual Crown Corporations. Actions under consideration focus on six key areas: leadership (establish a senior level champion and secure senior level commitment; implement an education and awareness program across government, share action plan with local governments); buildings (identify and implement most promising energy efficiency retrofits); electricity (purchase power from new green sources); transportation (reduce emissions related to the government fleet and employee travel); procurement policies (expand the environmental purchasing policy and increase emphasis on low emission products); waste reduction (expand reduce, re-use and recycling programs); and monitoring and reporting (establish an annual reporting mechanism).

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Alberta

Alberta Government Voluntary Challenge and Registry (VCR) Action Plan

The Government of Alberta submitted an Action Plan to Canada's Climate Change VCR program in October 1995, setting an overall target of a 14.1 percent reduction of Alberta government emissions from 1990 levels by the year 2000. By 1998, the Alberta government had reduced its greenhouse gas emissions to 17.3 percent below 1990 levels, exceeding the emission target in both quantity and time. A post-2000 target is currently being considered from Alberta's VCR Action Plan. The Alberta government's leadership has been recognized through awards such as the Gold Level Reporter designation for achieving the most stringent reporting guidelines. Alberta also received the national VCR Leadership Award in 1999 for submitting the top government action plan.

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CO₂ Diet Program In-Reach Initiative

The CO₂ Diet Program encourages government staff to take personal action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions at work and at home. The program, which is being piloted by Alberta Resource Development, Alberta Environment, and the Government of Canada, involves bi-weekly educational sessions on topics such as climate change science, policy and personal action, featuring speakers from government, industry and non-governmental organizations. Commuter Challenge, energy efficiency tips to staff and climate change trivia tools are also incorporated into the CO₂ Diet Program.

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Saskatchewan

Energy Reduction Program

Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation (SPMC) has embarked on an initiative to modify or replace inefficient building systems, such as lighting and HVAC systems, as well as to install building control systems to increase the energy efficiency of government-owned buildings. The goal of the program is to reduce energy consumption by 20 percent.

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Five-Axle Sanding/Snow Plow Trucks

Saskatchewan Highways and Transportation is using new technology to reduce the number of snow plow/sanding trucks while maintaining the same level of service, thereby reducing the overall fuel consumption per unit of work.

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New Brunswick

Energy Accounting

The objective of the program is to provide energy accounting information to government building managers that allows them to manage energy use. It is a foundation program based on the philosophy that you cannot manage what is not measured. Activities involve the collection, analysis and reporting of energy use.

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Provincial Buildings Initiative

The objective of the Provincial Buildings Initiative (PBI) is to improve energy efficiency in government-owned buildings. The initiative uses energy performance contracting as a delivery mechanism. All directly-funded government facilities are being considered for improvements, including physical retrofits, training, and awareness activities. Destination Conservation is being adopted in all New Brunswick schools. More than 95 percent of all government buildings have been considered under the initiative, resulting in \$26 million in retrofit contracts in 370 buildings. Annual energy savings of \$4.5 million are expected. The impacts of the initiative will be monitored over the next ten years. The budget for 2000 and 2001 is \$70,000. Health and other environmental impacts are expected to be positive.

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Prince Edward Island

Advanced Fleet Management System for the Provincial Highway Maintenance Fleet

This program will utilize Intelligent Transportation Systems in planning, implementing, and deploying a fleet management system that will facilitate and foster improved route planning and scheduling of mainte-

nance fleet; improved management of inventory control for materials; improved safety and efficiency of the maintenance fleet; real-time fleet location and status monitoring; improved response time for road salt/sand application; and reduced operating costs.

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Yukon

Energy Management Planning and Performance Standards

The Yukon government is striving to set the example of sound energy management by demonstrating energy-saving systems and by providing a market for energy efficiency products and services. It has developed energy performance standards for Yukon government facilities. An overall energy management plan identifies opportunities to reduce operating costs and greenhouse gas emissions.

www.gov.yk.ca/depts/dgs/Govserv.htm
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Northwest Territories

Energy Conservation Capital Program

The Energy Conservation Capital Program (ECCP), developed in the mid-1980s, assists territorial and community funded departments, boards and agencies, as well as non-profit organizations, by providing grants to support and finance projects which reduce usage of electrical and heat energy, and water.

www.gov.nt.ca/RWED/eps/energy.htm
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Good Building Practice for Northern Facilities

The Department of Public Works and Services has prepared a set of building design guidelines to help ensure that Government of the Northwest Territories facilities are designed and constructed to minimize life-cycle costs. As utility costs are a major component of the owning and operating costs of a facility, there is considerable emphasis on energy efficiency in the guidelines.

www.gov.nt.ca/PWS/index.htm
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Municipal

Green Municipal Enabling Fund and
Green Municipal Investment Fund

The Green Municipal Enabling Fund (GMEF) and the Green Municipal Investment Fund (GMIF), managed by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and operating in partnership with the Government of Canada, are endowment funds that provide support for a variety of municipal environmental activities. The five-year, \$25-million GMEF supports feasibility studies for innovative environmental projects within municipal operations. The \$100-million GMIF, which will operate in perpetuity, provides loans and loan guarantees to eligible recipients to carry out environmental projects within municipal operations, as well as grants and long-term loans for pilot projects. Both funds began operating in fiscal year 2000-2001.

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Municipal Building Retrofit Program

The Municipal Building Retrofit Program encourages the adoption of energy efficiency in the municipal sector by providing municipalities with all of the elements necessary to identify, develop, finance and implement comprehensive building energy retrofits.

The program, which will be offered from 2000 to 2003, will be operated by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in partnership with the Government of Canada.

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