

2009 Energy & Climate Action Awards Invitation: Application Deadline August 20, 2009**Your Invitation for the ...****2009 Energy & Climate Action Awards**

The Community Energy Association, Union of British Columbia Municipalities and BC Hydro Power Smart are pleased to invite all local governments in British Columbia to participate in the 2009 Energy & Climate Action Awards competition. The awards are offered annually to a municipality or regional district, implementing a project or program best integrating energy /climate planning into community planning processes and development strategies. Awards are offered in two categories:

- 1. Community-level planning and development**
- 2. Corporate operations.**

About the Awards

The design of a community — its density and land-use patterns, transportation options, buildings and infrastructure — has a major impact on the community's energy consumption, energy sustainability, local economy, air quality and contribution to climate change. As energy costs climb, long-term energy affordability and energy security become important community objectives. Energy efficiency and renewable energy can be built into communities from the start, or through redevelopments and retrofits.

The Community Energy Association (CEA) promotes sustainable community development through planning and implementation of energy-efficient land use, transportation, buildings and infrastructure, and renewable or alternative energy supply. CEA has recognized the efforts of local and regional governments best exemplifying the spirit of energy awareness in community planning since 1998.

Eligibility

All BC municipalities and regional districts are encouraged to apply. Winners come from all sizes of communities — leadership demonstrated to surmount challenges is an important judging criterion. Large or small, come one, come all!

A submission must be based on a commitment to act or an action. Eligible commitments or actions include: adopted plans, bylaws, regulations, policies, inducements or rewards programs, education programs, technological or institutional innovation, or project implementation. Commitments are only eligible if there is demonstrated commitment to implementation, e.g. approval, workplan, budget, funding; draft plans are not eligible.

Criteria

Judging criteria in both categories include:

- **Energy /Climate Action:** Integration of energy and climate action considerations: dense, compact development; layout supporting low impact transportation; efficient buildings and infrastructure; renewable energy
- **Demonstrated Community Leadership:** Leadership demonstrated by elected officials and staff; barriers faced and overcome (e.g. geography, limited resources, small community population base)
- **Energy Impact and Cost Effectiveness:** Demonstrated or projected energy produced or saved; and cost savings
- **Best Practices and Innovation:** Forefront of local government practices; replicability potential for others.

Recognition

The awards consist of a trophy, plaque, news release, recognition at the Union of BC Municipalities Convention in Vancouver, and a presentation to the winning Council or Board.

Submission

Please download the **new easy-to-complete electronic application** from the Community Energy Association website at www.communityenergy.bc.ca (Showcase and Awards); further instructions are on the website.

Deadline

Please submit electronic applications.

Email applications to: awards@communityenergy.bc.ca by **5:00 pm, Thursday, August 20, 2009.**

Hard copies will not be accepted.

2008 Energy Action Award Winners

The 2008 Energy Action Awards were presented by Community Development Minister Blair Lekstrom at the Union of BC Municipalities Convention banquet. The **Resort Municipality of Whistler** won the **Community Planning and Development** category for development of the Whistler Athlete Village (WAV) as compact, low-carbon, resident-restricted housing with an innovative, district-based alternative energy heating system. The **City of Castlegar** won the **Corporate Operations** category. Castlegar's new municipal hall saves over 50% of the energy of a conventional building, cutting GHG emissions by 29 tonnes annually and their operational GHG-reduction activities include composting, recycling, water meters, biodiesel for fleet vehicles, no-idling, solar-powered pedestrian lights and re-use of treatment sludge for landscaping compost.

Honourable Mentions were awarded to **District of Squamish** for its Community Energy Action Plan, including Sustainability Block, and **District of Saanich** for its Municipal Carbon Neutral Reserve Fund.

Recent Award Winners

All local governments that engage in energy and greenhouse gas emissions planning and action are winners; cost-savings, energy security and other benefits make sound energy planning a win-win strategy. Recent awards:

Local Government	Population	Description	Year
Resort Municipality of Whistler	9,000	Whistler Athlete Village (WAV)	2008 Award – Community
City of Castlegar	8,000	Energy Efficient Municipal Hall	2008 Award – Operations
District of Squamish	15,000	Community Energy Action Plan	2008 Honourable Mention
District of Saanich	108,000	Municipal Carbon Neutral Reserve Fund	2008 Honourable Mention
District of Ucluelet	1,000	Sustainable Energy Policies	2007 Award – Community
District of Houston	3,000	Ground-source Heated Leisure Centre	2007 Award – Operations
City of Richmond	187,000	LEED Firehalls	2007 Honourable Mention
City of Dawson Creek	11,000	Community Energy Planning	2006 Award
Township of Langley	97,000	LEED-certified Civic Centre	2006 Honourable Mention
City of Victoria	77,000	Dockside Green	2006 Honourable Mention
City of North Vancouver	47,000	Greenhouse Gas Action Plan	2005 Award
City of Vancouver	583,000	Community Climate Change Action Plan	2005 Honourable Mention
City of Dawson Creek	11,000	Energy Planning and Implementation	2005 Honourable Mention
Cities of Burnaby, New Westminister and Vancouver		Central Valley Greenway	2005 Honourable Mention
City of Revelstoke	8,000	Renewable-Energy District Heating	2004 Award
District of Fort St. James	2,000	Geothermal Heating of Municipal Buildings	2004 Honourable Mention
City of Vancouver	578,000	Corporate Climate Change Action Plan	2004 Honourable Mention
City of White Rock	19,000	LEED Gold Operations Building	2003 Award
City of New Westminister	58,000	Woodlands Rezoning & OCP Amendments	2003 Honourable Mention

2008 Energy Action Awards Ceremony



Energy Action Award Winners and Presenters: (left to right) Minister of Community Development, Honourable Blair Lekstrom; District of Saanich Mayor Frank Leonard; Community Energy Association Chair Dan Rogers; Resort Municipality of Whistler Mayor Ken Melamed; Manager of Distribution Planning for BC Hydro Helen Iosfin; City of Castlegar Mayor Lawrence Chernoff; District of Squamish Acting Mayor Mike Jensen.