

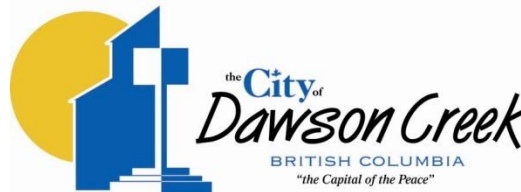
Using Local Improvement Charges to Finance Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

City of Dawson Creek, B.C.

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What are Local Improvement Charges?

Municipalities typically use LICs to help cover the costs of infrastructure investments that benefit a specific neighbourhood, such as improvements to sewers and sidewalks.

Landowners who benefit from the improvements are assessed the LIC that is added to their property tax each year.

LICs for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

- LICs are effective because:
 - Provides access to capital.
 - Helps spread the costs and benefits of the improvement over the lifetime of the project.
 - Ties the loan to the property.



Existing Programs

LICs for RE/EE have been implemented in various U.S. jurisdictions

- Berkeley, California
- Palm Desert, California
- Boulder, Colorado



Why LICs in B.C. Municipalities?

- Assist municipalities in achieving their GHG reduction targets.
- Improve the health and comfort of homes, while saving money.
- Demonstrate provincial leadership and will help to achieve GHG reductions.
- Demonstrate how LICs could be used to finance RE/EE across B.C., and potentially across Canada.

Dawson Creek's LIC project

Objectives:

1. To develop a proposed LIC program that could be piloted in Dawson Creek.
2. To advance the issue with the B.C. government and utilities, and to have a well documented process so that other municipalities could also implement LIC programs.



Current Status: Objective 1

- Proposed LIC program has been developed, including:
 - Estimated Municipal Investment
 - Estimated Energy and GHG Savings
 - Potential Sources of Municipal Financing
 - Recommended Administrative Model
- We are currently not able to implement the pilot in Dawson Creek.

Current Status: Objective 2

- The complete program package will be submitted to interested parties, including the B.C. government, utilities other interested municipalities by the end of the year.

Next Steps

- Finalize the complete research package.
- Share the package with the B.C. government, utilities and other interested municipalities.





Municipal Green Building Leaders

By 2010, launch pilot programs to test three innovative green building regulations in BC

- Pilots will be developed by a group of B.C. municipalities, NGOs, and Provincial Ministries.
- Pilots will be implemented and administered by municipal governments.
- Pilots will each be compatible with, and a step beyond, current provincial action.
- Pilots (and the process to get there) will be well documented to facilitate broader adoption.

Questions?

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