

District of Maple Ridge Application for 2006 Energy Aware Award

Executive Summary

Energy Awareness in Maple Ridge comes with a view of the mountains, the rivers and at the gas pumps. Whether we are driving through our beautiful Fraser Valley Community, or working here on a regular basis, people are acutely aware of the ever-rising price of gasoline.

Our project was to recommend a strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while at the same time reducing municipal costs. The approach was basic and not surprisingly extremely effective. A cross-functional work team comprised of eleven people of various experience and background that went to work to see what would perform best for Maple Ridge.

A short concise objective was established and approved by the Corporate Management Team.

Review

Evaluate the forty fleet vehicles that are primarily used for transportation. Consider current practices regarding vehicle purchase and use, mileage allowance, car-pooling and greenhouse gas emissions.

Recommend

To establish a strategy to reduce municipal costs and greenhouse gas emissions in Maple Ridge.

At the end of the day twelve hybrid electric vehicles were purchased to replace one third of the primary transportation vehicles. Immediate greenhouse gas emission reduction was achieved and net present value analysis predicts an overall cost savings.

An advertising partnership was arranged with the supplier which covers routine maintenance for each year. Redeployment within the fleet allowed us to down-size larger vehicles with smaller units.

All in all, this program works towards meeting the municipality's objective of contributing towards a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in a cost-effective way. The purchase of the 12 hybrid electric vehicles will result in the following benefits:

- Carbon dioxide emission reductions are estimated at 24,000 kilograms per year or 2 tonnes of carbon dioxide per vehicle replaced.
- Municipal fuel savings are estimated at \$1,080 per vehicle for a total of nearly \$13,000. Based on the foregoing, we expect to recover the cost of the additional outlay within 7 years.