



what's in the air?

August 2011 Issue | Clean Air Partnership E-Newsletter

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Message from the Director of Outreach

The Clean Air Council (CAC) was formed in 2001 and is based on the premise that municipalities across the Greater Toronto Area, Ontario and Canada benefit from actions to reduce energy use in order to save money and limit emissions; make the movement of people and goods more efficient; and make communities more liveable and competitive. There is always more to do than municipalities have the resources to do, the Council identifies and acts on opportunities to pool research, expertise and lessons learned.

Working collaboratively expedites the most successful actions to meet municipal priorities and ensures that efforts and resources are used as efficiently as possible. It also enables municipalities to move their community in the direction of where they need to go. In the style of *Wayne Gretzky's School of Success ... A Good City maintains what is there, but a Great City plans and acts on where they will need to be in the future.* Planning for the future is daunting and risky, working collaboratively across the region enables municipalities to each do their bit individually, share their experiences and lessons learned with others and achieve more with less resources and risk.

Clean Air Partnership (CAP) is very proud to serve as the secretariat for the Greater Toronto and Southwestern Ontario Clean Air Council and in the coming months we will be promoting the benefits of membership to municipalities across Ontario.

For more information on the CAC actions and benefits of membership, contact Gabriella Kalapos at gkalapos@cleanairpartnership.org.

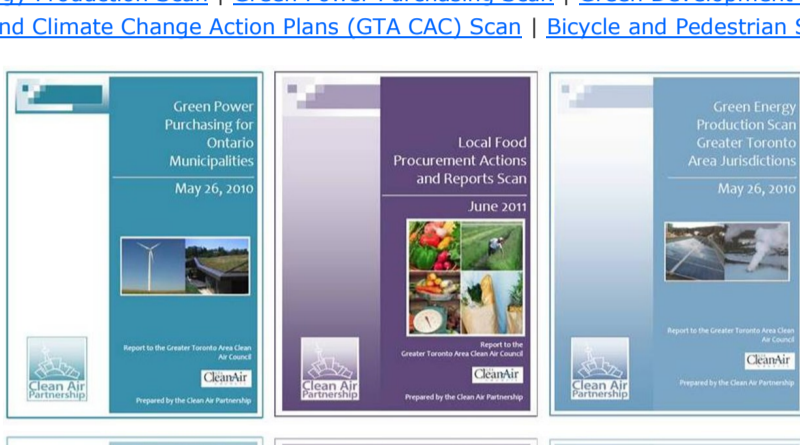


Clean Air Council Progress Reports and Action Scans

One of the first things a Council asks when determining whether or not to undertake an action is *"who else is doing that, what did it cost, what did it achieve?"* The costs of each jurisdiction allocating staff resources to research that individually is prohibitive and wasteful.

Clean Air Partnership and the Clean Air Council maintain records on actions taken, business cases, costs and benefits, and outcomes of actions. These include:

[Land Use and Public Health Resources](#) | [Local Food Procurement Actions and Reports Scan](#) | [Green Energy Production Scan](#) | [Green Power Purchasing Scan](#) | [Green Development Target Scan](#) | [Clean Air and Climate Change Action Plans \(GTA CAC\) Scan](#) | [Bicycle and Pedestrian Scan](#)



The Council identifies common priority areas for collaborative actions via annual Declarations that serve as workplans for the Council. Areas of collaboration over the past numbers of years includes: Green Procurement; Local Food Procurement, Monitoring and Reporting on Progress and Outcomes of Actions and Commitments; Corporate and Community Green Development; Urban Forests; Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation Opportunities; Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning and Infrastructure; Green Energy Purchasing and Production; Promoting Municipal Water Conservation and Use; and Pilot-testing energy efficient technologies.

For Updates on Progress towards Declaration actions browse through the [2010 CAC Declaration and 2008 & 2009 Progress Report](#).

For more information, contact Gabriella Kalapos at gkalapos@cleanairpartnership.org.

Moving into the Future via Municipal Green Energy

Municipalities have taken a leadership role in moving Ontario towards our cleaner, greener, more competitive future by building their expertise and experience in green energy. Countries all over the world are moving forward in playing a role in moving society towards a green energy future. We have often been jealous of green energy projects that were being undertaken in Denmark, Germany, Spain, China and ever more countries around the world. Now thanks to the Green Energy Act, Ontario is in the game of securing future generations of Ontario residents an opportunity to build a competitive local green energy economy. Ontario municipalities are helping to make that happen too. Here are just a few of the examples of municipal green energy projects being undertaken.

Region of Waterloo approved a new capital project in the amount of \$16.0 million funded by debentures to implement a new solar electricity initiative. In total over 1,800 KW will be generated via solar PV panels installed on municipal properties (operations/transit/police buildings).

[Town of Markham](#) has been building up their green energy expertise via a 9.6 kW solar PV system on the roof of the Civic Centre (complete with live system information on the green energy generation in the lobby of their Town Hall) and a 250 kW solar PV system at the 8100 Warden location. Let us also not forget Markham's district energy system which was recently expanded.



Photo Source: Brian Bechtel, Energy Conservation Office, Region of Waterloo



Photo Source: Graham Seaman, Climate Change and Energy, Town of Markham

Several years ago, Toronto's Exhibition Place initiated a solar photovoltaic (PV) feasibility study test as part of the organization's 2010 energy self-sufficiency plan. The roof of the Horse Palace was selected for the installation and when it was installed, the 100 kilowatt plant was the largest urban PV array in Canada. The project reflects the leadership of Exhibition Place, the City of Toronto Energy Efficiency Office, Toronto Atmospheric Fund and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in advancing understanding of PV generation in an urban context. The [Solar City Partnership](#) recently delivered a webinar on the findings of the first year of production to share their experiences and lessons learned with other Clean Air Council members.

The Town of Newmarket and SunEdison announced an agreement to deploy four municipal rooftop solar photovoltaic (PV) projects to produce clean, green power. Once completed, the systems are expected to generate more than 23 million kilowatt-hours of clean energy over 20 years. This is enough to power 2,199 average Canadian homes for one year, and has the potential to offset an estimated 4.8 million kilograms of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, which equates to removing 1,036 cars from the road for one year. The project will be financed, deployed, monitored and maintained by SunEdison and is expected to total 1.17 megawatts (MW) of solar capacity. Watch the video: [Town of Newmarket & SunEdison's Solar Rooftop Project](#).

These are but a few of the examples of municipal actions helping to move us towards a cleaner and greener society, economy and future. Clean Air Partnership is looking forward to continuing to work with Clean Air Council members to keep up the good work. For more examples of CAC municipal green energy actions check out the [Green Energy Production Scan](#).

Imagining Ontario's largest public space makeover How to design and build streets for the 21st century

The [Toronto Coalition for Active Transportation](#) (TCAT), a project of Clean Air Partnership, is embarking on a major project to advance the study of complete streets and to support their implementation in communities across Ontario.

This new initiative, the first of its kind in Ontario, seeks to accelerate the development of complete streets in Ontario by engaging the public, professionals, and politicians alike. By building momentum, capacity, expertise and action, TCAT works to create safer, healthier, and more accessible communities in our province.

For more information, contact TCAT Director, Nancy Smith Lea at 416.392.0290 or info@torontocat.ca.

[View the News Release](#) | [Read more](#)



Photo Source: Roland's Photostream, www.flickr.com/photos/roland

Recent Reports Published by the Clean Air Partnership

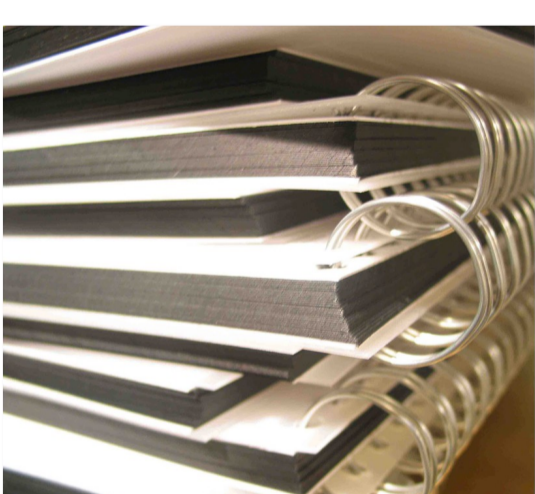


Photo Source: www.marketmetrics.eu

[Climate Change Adaptation and Health Equity Background Report](#), June 2011

[Local Food Procurement Actions and Reports Scan](#), June 2011

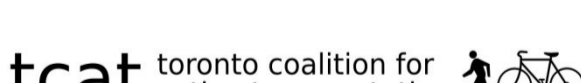
[Public Health and Land Use Planning: How Ten Public Health Units are Working to Create Healthy and Sustainable Communities](#), April 2011

[Guide to Writing Community Climate Change Adaptation Case Studies](#), April 2011

[Public Health and Land Use Planning: Highlights](#), April 2011

[Read more](#)

Clean Air Partnership awarded Toronto Community Foundation's Vital Ideas grant



Toronto, Ontario - April 21, 2011 - Clean Air Partnership is pleased to announce it has been awarded the prestigious Vital Ideas grant from the Toronto Community Foundation. Vital Ideas grants are provided by the Community Foundation from its Vital Toronto Fund grant program which focuses on identifying and investing in Toronto's best high-impact organizations and initiatives. The grant program provides recipients with up to \$30,000 over one year to increase their capacity in order to expand their reach, share their experience, and better sustain their impact. [View the News Release](#)

"Clean Air Partnership and TCAT are thrilled to have the opportunity to develop the Complete Streets by Design resource and believe it will make an important contribution to addressing Toronto's transportation challenges," said *Eva Ligeti, Executive Director of Clean Air Partnership.*

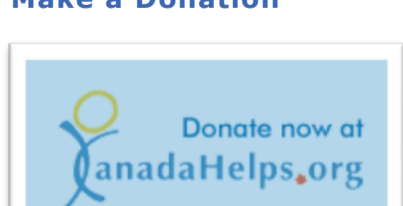


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Note: [e-mail addresses above](#) (if any) have been masked to reduce spam. To form the correct e-mail, [rejoin the two portions](#), separated with @.

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Our mission is to transform cities into sustainable, vibrant, resilient communities, where the air is clean to breathe and greenhouse gas emissions are minimized. Over the past ten years, CAP has fulfilled its mission to work with partners to achieve clean air, facilitate the exchange of ideas, advance change and promote and coordinate implementation of actions that improve local air quality.

What's in the air? keeps you connected to the Clean Air Partnership community and informed about the latest news, events, reports and developments at Clean Air Partnership.

If you would like to learn more about our clean air and climate change initiatives, visit www.cleanairpartnership.org.

About what's in the air? e-newsletter

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Clean Air Partnership (CAP) is a registered charity in partnership to promote and coordinate actions to improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gases for healthy communities.

Charitable registration number: 890469562RR0001