



Township of Blandford-Blenheim

Energy Management Plan Update (2024)

Our Commitment

Council Resolution

At their Regular Council meeting on May 7, 2014 the Council of the Township of Blandford-Blenheim endorsed the below statement by resolution:

"We will allocate the necessary resources to develop and implement a strategic energy management plan that will reduce our energy consumption and its related environmental impact."

It is further recognized that energy benchmarking and conservation planning, such as through a BPS CDM plan, can help organizations:

- better manage their energy use and costs
- identify energy-saving and cost-saving opportunities
- find ways to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- evaluate results by comparing similar facilities across the province
- provide a benchmark to set goals
- measure improvement over time.

Vision

We exercise stewardship in our use of finite energy resources in order to demonstrate leadership, optimize our delivery of services, and enhance the overall quality of life in our community.

Policy

We will incorporate energy efficiency into all areas of our activity including our procurement practices, financial management decisions and facility operations and maintenance.

Per Ontario Regulation 25/23:

3. (1) Every public agency that is not a ministry of the Government of Ontario shall prepare an energy conservation and demand management plan.

(2) The energy conservation and demand management plan shall be approved by the senior management of the public agency to whom the plan applies before the public agency publishes the plan on the public agency's website and makes the plan available to the public in printed form at the public agency's head office in accordance with section 9.

As the Council of the Township of Blandford-Blenheim commences preparation of a Corporate Strategic Plan in late 2024, principles set out and acknowledged within this updated Energy Management Plan shall be

integrated within Strategic Planning deliberations.

As prescribed within Ontario Regulation 25/23, the next mandatory update to this Energy Management Plan will be prepared in 2029.

Historic Commitment to Energy Management

The Township of Blandford-Blenheim has undertaken various initiatives in response to the need to maximize fiscal resources by becoming more efficient in the use of energy. Examples of these initiatives include:

- Replacement of all streetlight fixtures with LED lights;
- Amendment of development standards to require LED lighting fixtures;
- Incorporation of energy efficiency measures into the renovation of the Plattsville Memorial Community Arena, including:
 - Replacing high pressure sodium light fixtures with T5 fixtures;
 - Matching/ programming lighting levels to facility use;
 - Reducing ice resurfacing temperatures to 120F;
 - Increasing insulation in construction to improve heat retention.
- Exterior lighting fixtures at Township of Blandford-Blenheim facilities have been changed to LED lights;
- Occupancy sensors have been installed in low traffic areas such as washrooms in the Administration Office and new washroom facilities as they have been renovated;
- All wall packs have been upgraded to LED;
- New standards have been created and intermittently reviewed for insulation levels for new facilities and upgraded/ renovated facilities;
- Installed a two-stage natural-gas tube heater at the Innerkip Public Works facility;
- Installed solar street/ safety lighting at all Township offices and other facilities;
- LED light installation at Township Fire Stations;
- Installed a high efficiency water recycling system at Drumbo Splash pad;
- Upgraded appliances at Township facilities with more efficient models;
- Implemented a “lights off” initiative in all Township facilities. Staff are expected to turn off lights and computers at the end of the day etc.
- Upgraded lighting at Plattsville Arena to LED fixtures;
- Upgraded lightning at Township ball diamonds to LED fixtures.

Long Term Goals

To continuously improve the energy efficiency of our facilities and processes to reduce our operating costs, our energy consumption and

the associated greenhouse gas emissions.

In order to achieve the above, three main goals have been identified:

- Reduction in energy consumption;
- GHG reduction;
- Cost savings.

Overall Target

In the 2019 plan, it was noted that “to achieve these goals, the Township will reduce the consumption of fuels and electricity by an average of 2% per year until 2024, which will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and produce costs savings. This remains a relevant goal for 2024-2029. It should be noted that as the Township continues to experience higher than average population growth, variables such as increased usership in municipal facilities and increased number of staff/ municipal operations will have an impact on overall efficiencies. As a result, it is imperative that the Township of Blandford-Blenheim continues to seek efficiencies as it related to energy management and formally integrates this mindset into municipal decision-making through the 2024 Strategic Planning Process.

Objectives

Objectives identified in 2019 that remain relevant include:

- Maximize our fiscal resources through direct and indirect energy savings.
- Reduce the environmental impact of the Township's operations.
- Increase the comfort and safety of staff and patrons of the Township facilities.
- Improve the reliability of Township equipment and reduce maintenance.
- Develop a culture of environmental sustainability.
- Improve the Township's understanding of energy consumption which is essential for us to meet our corporate energy management goals.

Furthermore, objectives identified for 2024-29 include:

- Identify reduction in energy consumption, GHG reduction and associated cost savings as key considerations within Strategic Plan;
- Undertake Facility/Building Condition Assessment on key municipal facilities to identify areas for enhancing efficiency with respect to GHG reduction;
- Seek grant opportunities that lead to energy efficiency.

Summary of Current Energy Consumption

A summary of current energy consumption is included in Appendix (1) – “BPS Energy Report Request Template 2023.”

Staff Resources

The Senior Management Team will be responsible for the overall implementation of the Energy Management Plan.

It is integral that all staff understand the importance of energy management and that an overall culture prioritizing this objective is continually developed and maintained. All staff should have ownership in the success of the plan.

A communication, awareness and training program is a key component in the overall Energy Management Program and will be undertaken where needed including communication and awareness strategies.

Process Improvement

- Provide comprehensive energy data to Senior Management staff and other identified staff;
- Develop communications plan to promote the importance of energy efficiency and energy use.

Program Implementation

- Ensure a preventative maintenance program is implemented for each facility
- Continue to update and maintain the Corporate Energy Management Plan
- Develop and implement a facility walk-through checklist to be used by managers
- Ensure staff are given clear direction to take a conscious effort at reducing energy consumption.

Projects

- Continue to implement system upgrades
- Implement alternative energy projects
- Incorporate green building features to improve energy and water efficiency as able
- Implement energy efficient standards when replacing equipment
- Install new insulation and in-floor heating in the Drumbo shop
- Install new light bulbs/fixtures in Township facilities

Energy Plan Review

The energy management plan will be reviewed and updated in accordance with requirements set out by Ontario Regulation 25/23.