

August 2013

> HYDRO OTTAWA NEWS



Hydro crews volunteer to power up group home



On July 16th, a group of Hydro Ottawa powerline maintainers and cable jointers generously lent their time and talents to connect the electrical service to the rebuilt Pullen Avenue Group Home, a 10-unit home for people with disabilities.

Hydro Ottawa donated the use of their equipment, which included multiple vehicles, while its employees promptly answered the call to volunteer their time for this great cause.

This in-kind contribution by Hydro Ottawa and IBEW Local 636 saved the non-profit organization approximately \$9,000.

Personal Choice Independent Living, which operates the Pullen Avenue Group Home, is a non-profit

organization offering housing and support services to people with physical disabilities and provides assisted living services to senior citizens in the community.

“We’re truly grateful for Hydro Ottawa’s assistance with this project. I’m proud that Ottawa has corporate citizens who are willing to step up to the plate in supporting our mission to build a more inclusive society,” said Suzanne Béland, Executive Director of Personal Choice Independent Living.

Hydro Ottawa and Personal Choice Independent Living would like to give special thanks to volunteers Jeff Magee, Dolton Henry, Scott Grace, Dylan Sosnowsky, Jean Belanger and Dan Brennan.

ROLLING UP THEIR SLEEVES FOR A GOOD CAUSE

On July 9, Hydro Ottawa employees participated in a blood donor clinic at the company’s main office on Albion Road North.

We’re proud to say our employees consistently welcome the opportunity to give back to the community they serve through donating to Canadian Blood Services.

This year, patients at almost 450 hospitals across Canada are depending on blood donors to help save or improve their lives from trauma, disease and other illness.

Thanks to the resounding success of the clinic, the Bloodmobile will be returning to Hydro Ottawa on October 2.

How to reach us ...

Customer Service

613-738-6400 or
hydroottawa.com

Power Outage Reporting and Information

613-738-0188 or
hydroottawa.com/outages

Breaking News!

Councillor Allan Hubley’s Kanata South Ward is winning the saveONenergy Small Business Challenge! Read more on Page 2.





Councillor Allan Hubley's Kanata South Ward is winning the saveONenergy Small Business Challenge!

Hydro Ottawa is challenging local small businesses to become more energy-efficient. The saveONenergy Small Business Challenge offers eligible small businesses a free energy assessment, up to \$1,500 in energy efficient lighting upgrades and/or a free touch screen programmable thermostat.

Only a few weeks remain! The Ward with the highest percentage of participating businesses on August 23 will get bragging rights and will be featured in newspaper advertising throughout Ottawa. Small businesses can participate in one or both of the conservation programs:

Small Business Lighting Program offers up to \$1,500 for lighting upgrades free of charge to qualifying small businesses in Ottawa. This program includes a free assessment and installation, labour and parts for a lighting upgrade. Efficient lighting reduces the amount of electricity the customer uses for lighting.

peaksaver PLUS® for Small Business provides a touch screen, programmable thermostat, professionally installed at no cost to the customer. This is an extension of our very popular **peaksaver PLUS®** program for residential customers and a new offer to small businesses.

Please help us spread the word to small businesses in your Ward. Bragging rights are on the line!

#	Challenge Ranking	
1	Ward 23	Allan Hubley
2	Ward 6	Shad Qadri
3	Ward 5	Eli El-Chantiry
4	Ward 15	Katherine Hobbs
5	Ward 8	Rick Chiarelli
6	Ward 11	Tim Tierney
7	Ward 18	Peter Hume
8	Ward 21	Scott Moffatt
9	Ward 17	David Chernushenko
10	Ward 1	Bob Monette
11	Ward 9	Keith Egli
12	Ward 13	Peter Clark
13	Ward 14	Diane Holmes
14	Ward 20	Doug Thompson
15	Ward 10	Diane Deans
16	Ward 7	Mark Taylor
17	Ward 16	Maria McRae
18	Ward 4	Marianne Wilkinson
19	Ward 22	Steve Desroches
20	Ward 12	Mathieu Fleury
21	Ward 19	Stephen Blais
22	Ward 2	Rainer Bloess
23	Ward 3	Jan Harder

Building a Smarter Electricity Grid

The provincial government is now accepting funding applications for innovative projects that will help make the province's electricity grid smarter and more efficient.

Ontario first launched the \$50 million Smart Grid Fund in 2011. It supports Ontario-based projects that test,

develop and bring to market the next generation of smart grid solutions.

A smarter grid is better able to detect, prevent and restore outages, gives customers more tools to manage their power use, and makes it easier to connect renewable energy to the grid.

This round of funding will support advanced energy technology projects, such as energy storage and electric vehicle integration.

Project applications will be accepted until 4 p.m. on September 6, 2013.



saveonenergy.com

Fire up the energy savings this summer

Summer is here, and the time is right for relaxing, entertaining – and saving energy. Here are some quick and easy tips for reducing your electricity use this summer.



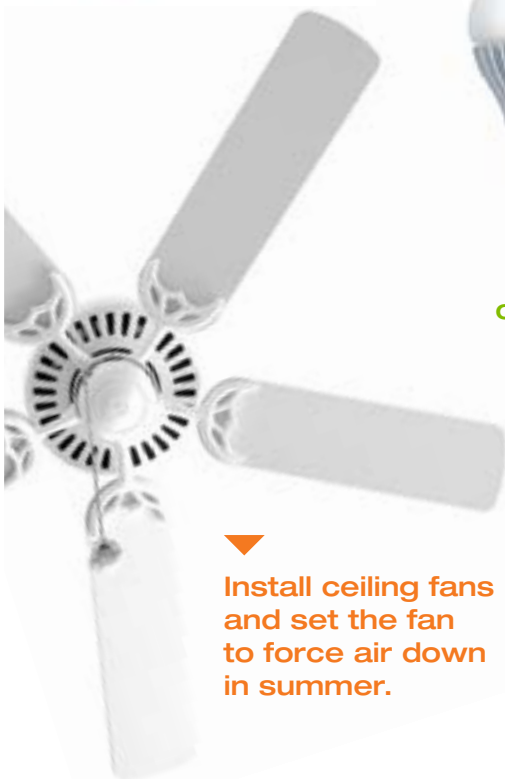
▶ Get that old fridge picked up free and save up to \$125 a year. Visit hydroottawa.com/fridge.



▶ Turn off that oven and use your outdoor grill for cooking.



▼ Use CFL or LED lighting around your house.



▼ Install ceiling fans and set the fan to force air down in summer.



▶ Save the cleanup for later: run your dishwasher in off-peak hours.



▶ Join **peaksaver PLUS®** and get this FREE programmable thermostat and Energy Display. Visit peaksaverplus.net.

hydroottawa.com/conservation



GO PAPERLESS!

E-BILLING IS CONVENIENT, SECURE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY

Sign up for E-Billing and you will no longer receive a paper bill by mail. Instead, you will receive an email when your bill is ready for viewing online on our customer portal MyHydroLink.

You have the option to pay your E-Bill through your financial institution or by credit card — either online or by phone. Better yet, enroll

in our pre-authorized payment plan and you won't have to lift a finger. Your payment will be made not a second too soon nor a second too late.

It's all about convenience. Join the more than 48,000 customers that are already enjoying the convenience of E-Billing. Sign up today at hydroottawa.com/account.

Door-to-Door energy retailers

Customers have two basic options for purchasing their electricity. They can choose to pay the regulated rates, or sign a contract with an electricity retailer.

Hydro Ottawa does not sell electricity contracts, and is not affiliated with any electricity retailer. We will always deliver your electricity, no matter

who you purchase it from. We do not benefit financially from your decision to sign, or not to sign, a contract with an electricity retailer.

To learn more about electricity retailers, please contact the Ontario Energy Board at 1-877-632-2727 or ontarioenergyboard.ca.

REMEMBER THESE TIPS IF A SALESPERSON ASKS YOU TO SIGN AN ENERGY CONTRACT:

- > Always make sure you get a business card and check the salesperson's ID badge.
- > Don't share any personal information, such as your electricity bill, unless you are sure you want to sign a contract.
- > Carefully read the contract, the disclosure statement and the price comparison provided by the salesperson.
- > An electricity contract covers only some parts of your bill. You will still continue to pay other charges to your utility whether or not you sign a contract.
- > There's no need to feel rushed. Take the time to understand your options.

ONTARIO KICKS OFF LONG-TERM ENERGY PLAN REVIEW



The provincial government has launched a review of its Long-Term Energy Plan, which will include province-wide consultations on Ontario's energy future.

Released in 2010, the Long-Term Energy Plan provides direction for all aspects of Ontario's electricity system, including energy conservation, generation, transmission and distribution. The plan sets out the infrastructure investments needed to modernize Ontario's grid, and projected future electricity rates for consumers.

"It's critical that we plan Ontario's energy future with input and advice from every corner of the province. Together, we'll continue to build a clean, modern and reliable electricity grid," said Bob Chiarelli, Ontario's Minister of Energy.

Public information sessions are being held across Ontario, with the Ottawa session scheduled for August 21st at the Westin, 11 Colonel By Drive, between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

The consultations include gathering feedback on a variety of topics, including energy conservation and Ontario's mix of energy sources such as wind, solar and nuclear.

Comments are also being gathered using an online questionnaire available at energy.gov.on.ca.



peaksaver PLUS® Pit Crew shifts energy savings into high gear!

The *peaksaver* PLUS® Pit Crew is a dedicated team of trained Hydro Ottawa personnel who are visiting neighbourhoods across the city this summer. In August, the Pit Crew will be in Kanata and Stittsville.

Our Pit Crew is promoting the new *peaksaver* PLUS® program to our existing *peaksaver* customers with the offer and installation of a free in-home energy display. They are also sharing energy saving tips and enrolling interested customers in our popular E-billing program.

The team is driving a clearly marked Hydro Ottawa vehicle for maximum visibility. All members wear distinctive Hydro Ottawa-branded clothing and carry employee identification cards.

HYDRO OTTAWA'S CONSERVATION TEAM

is also promoting electricity conservation in our community this summer. The team is available for your events (7 days a week), and comes equipped with a booth and various activities. Our team's focus is to engage with residents and address any questions they may have, while informing them of the money saving programs we have available to them.

To book the Conservation Team for an event, please email us at ConservationTeam@hydroottawa.com or call **613-738-5499 ext. 488**.

Hydro Ottawa takes part in Family Fun Day for CHEO

On July 6, kids and adults were treated to amazing views from a Hydro Ottawa bucket truck at the 3rd annual Family Fun Day for CHEO at Kilbirnie Park in Barrhaven.

Hydro Ottawa is proud to support the event, which aims to reduce preventable childhood injuries and fundraise for the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO).

CHEO's Plan-It Safe was on site distributing helmets to the first 100 kids. Their helmet fitting centre also educated parents and kids on helmet safety and how to wear them properly.

Some of the other activities at the fundraiser included pony rides, a petting zoo, face painting and a barbeque lunch. In all, the event raised \$7,100 for CHEO.

