

> HYDRO OTTAWA NEWS



Hydro Ottawa: A great place to work!

Hydro Ottawa has been recognized as a **Top Employer in the National Capital Region (NCR)** for the sixth consecutive year just weeks after being named one of the **Achievers 50 Most Engaged Workplaces™ in Canada** for the fourth consecutive year.

Both awards highlight the company's dedication to workplace and community engagement, as well as its commitment to leadership and innovation in engaging its employees.

"We are proud that Hydro Ottawa's commitment to creating a safe, healthy and productive workplace has again seen us recognized as an outstanding employer in our region," said Hydro Ottawa President and Chief Executive Officer **Bryce Conrad** about the Top Employer award.

The annual editorial competition forms part of **Canada's Top 100 Employers** and recognizes the region's most exceptional places to work by identifying those employers that lead in attracting and retaining employees.

"At Hydro Ottawa, our values form

the fabric of our culture," said Conrad. "Teamwork, integrity, excellence and service are embedded in everything we do - from the service our employees provide on a daily basis, to the exceptional work experience they can count on."

Hydro Ottawa will be honoured with the Achievers award on March 6, 2014 in Toronto.

DOWNLOAD OUR NEW CSR REPORT

Receiving the Top Employer award and the recognition as one of Canada's 50 most engaged workplaces comes after a successful year of giving back to the community. Hydro Ottawa raised a record-breaking total of \$228,415 for the United Way Ottawa through its Brighter Tomorrows Fund, and its "Go Paperless" E-Billing campaign will result in more than 14,000 trees being planted in the Ottawa area this spring.

These initiatives, and more, are outlined in the company's **Corporate Social Responsibility Report** that was released on February 5. As the first of its kind for Hydro Ottawa, the report highlights initiatives taken to support its strategic objectives, including environmental sustainability, community investment and business practices that

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emphasize renewable energy and energy efficiency/conservation.

To download a copy, please **visit our website**.

Visit our **YouTube page** to see what employees enjoy most about working for Hydro Ottawa.

How to reach us ...

Customer Service

613-738-6400 or
hydroottawa.com

Power Outages

613-738-0188 or
hydroottawa.com/outages



Five ways to save energy using a programmable thermostat

Heating and cooling can account for up to 60 per cent of your home's energy use. That's a lot of energy - more than lighting, appliances and water heating combined!

A properly set programmable thermostat can help manage this energy use and save you up to 10 per cent, or even more, on heating and cooling costs.

To help reap the maximum energy savings from your programmable



thermostat consider the following:

- > During the winter, set your thermostat to 20°C when you're at home and 18°C when sleeping or away.
- > It's best to install the thermostat on an interior wall where there are no vents or drafts and away from fireplaces, heat-generating appliances or direct sunlight.
- > When on vacation, lower your

thermostat settings and keep it at a constant temperature. Some thermostats allow you to control your settings online. This allows you to remotely set your thermostat to be at your preferred temperature by the time you get home.

- > Try not to override your settings. This costs you money. Instead, cozy up in blankets, sweaters and slippers before turning up the heat.
- > Set your fan switch to "automatic" instead of "on" or "continuous".

There are many programmable thermostats on the market that can help you manage energy use. For homes with central air conditioning, Hydro Ottawa customers are eligible to receive a free programmable thermostat as part of the saveONenergy **peaksaver PLUS**® program. For more information, visit peaksaverplus.net or call 1-866-813-2226.

To find more ways to save energy, visit hydroottawa.com/tips.

Introducing: Bright Ideas

Whether they understand the science of electricity or not, kids can learn important lessons about electricity safety and conservation. Hydro Ottawa is here to help with **Bright Ideas**, a new electricity safety and conservation challenge for Ottawa-area elementary school students.

By participating, kids will bring important lessons home, have a chance to win great prizes—and may just teach their parents some ways to better manage their hydro bill!

Bright Ideas starts in the classroom, through lessons and learning

activities. Students will then take the challenge home and involve the whole family.

By going to hydroottawa.com/brightideas, teachers can register their class for the Bright Ideas challenge and receive their Teacher's Tool Kit - a simple set of online resources needed to run the contest activities in their classroom.

The ten top-ranked classes, for each grade, based on participation marks, will be entered into random draws for prizes, including two \$1000 cash awards and classroom pizza lunches.



This education initiative is yet another way that Hydro Ottawa continues the important work of creating a culture of electricity safety and conservation in our community.

We would encourage you to spread the word about this contest to your constituents.

Show your love for Hydro Ottawa 'LIKE' US ON FACEBOOK

Want to show your love for Hydro Ottawa this Valentine's Day? Head over to [facebook.com/hydroottawa](https://www.facebook.com/hydroottawa) and 'Like' our new page!

The Hydro Ottawa Facebook page was launched on Monday, February 3 as part of the company's goal to strengthen its social media presence in 2014.

The new Facebook page will showcase company news, community investments, energy conservation initiatives, employment opportunities, and fun and interesting facts about Hydro Ottawa and the energy industry. It will give customers the opportunity to interact with Hydro Ottawa directly and learn more about our programs and services.



A THANK YOU TO HYDRO OTTAWA

Thank you Hydro Ottawa for working with our crews in the hours and days that followed the December ice storm to restore power back to Ontarians. With your help, we were able to get our customers back on line and their lives back to normal.

We would also like to thank local emergency services and municipal workers who cleared roadways and made sure the public was safe around downed power lines until crews arrived on site.

Together we battled unforgiving weather and poor conditions so as many customers as possible were able to celebrate the holiday season with their friends and family.

As the storm clean-up continues, so does our commitment. Every second of every day, Hydro One employees work to provide Ontarians with safe and reliable electricity.

Actions like these show the power of teamwork and a commitment to Ontario.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

Recognizing the hard work of our crews during #darkto

When the winter weather wreaked havoc on our neighbours in Toronto, the GTA and parts of Southern Ontario in December, Hydro Ottawa crews were there to help without hesitation.

Crews that were involved in the restoration efforts shared their experiences in a letter published in the Ottawa Citizen, Globe & Mail and Ottawa Sun. Hydro Ottawa was also active in other media, appearing in 12 print and online news articles, 14 broadcast clips and receiving 225 Twitter mentions about the storm.

Hydro One generously thanked us for our support and hard work with this ad that appeared in the Ottawa Citizen on January 16. We're proud to help our neighbouring utilities!