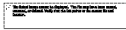


From: John Cannella [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=CD667C6D53774DD0A749783BB02AE89D-JOHN CANNEL]
Sent: 2017-09-19 6:28:36 AM
Subject: Today's News - Tuesday, September 19, 2017



Today's News

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Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2017
Edited by: John Cannella (John.Cannella@ieso.ca)

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Calgary Herald - Tue Sep 19 2017

Byline:Reid Southwick

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The types of bulbs and fixtures you use can make a big difference in how you save.

Home-lighting equipment uses up approximately four per cent of your household energy. So if you're not making the most of your lighting equipment, you might be losing out. Inefficient lighting doesn't just waste electricity; the wrong bulbs and fixtures can downgrade the look of your home and irritate your eyes.

Changing your lighting equipment to high-efficiency products is like getting an instant upgrade for your whole home. Energy-efficient products work better, last longer, look nicer and can save you money over time.

Most Ontario homeowners already know that energy-efficient bulbs can save them money. But you might not realize just how much they help.

Energy-efficient LEDs use up to 90 per cent less energy than old-fashioned incandescent bulbs. A traditional 60-Watt incandescent bulb is dimmer and dingier than an LED bulb that uses only six Watts. And when you're paying per Watt, those energy savings add up.

Switching to LEDs is a simple way to score ongoing savings that you can really see - every single day. But even if you've already made the switch to energy-efficient light bulbs, you might not realize that there are actually more ways to save. Home-lighting equipment goes beyond bulbs.

Changing your household bulbs to ENERGY STAR-certified LEDs is only step one. If you're still searching for extra energy-saving lighting updates, then the next step is changing your fixtures.

Light fixtures with the ENERGY STAR label are specifically designed to look better and shine brighter than standard fixtures. They're engineered for efficiency, without sacrificing style.

Ultimately ENERGY STAR-certified fixtures use about one-quarter the energy of traditional fixtures, while distributing light more efficiently and evenly.

Even better, those indoor fixtures are made to work well with dimmers, sensors and timers - all designed to optimize your usage. That means no more fumbling in the dark for the light switch, no more worrying if your dimmer will work with your bulbs, and no more wasted energy when you're not home. Customizable high-efficiency fixtures help make your home more comfortable for you and your energy bill.

Switching to energy-efficient lighting just makes sense. Check out the Save on

Energy site for coupons or contact your local hydro company to get your savings started today.

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Small business, big savings

thestar.com - Thu Sep 21 2017

Chef Tony Sensenberger doesn't believe in processed foods - and he's travelled extensively to learn how to recreate authentic comfort foods from around the world, including his ever-popular schnitzel.

That thoroughness extends to running his restaurant, The Iron Skillet in Collingwood, whether he's visiting customers in the dining room or ensuring the space is comfortable and energy-efficient.

"I'm the chef and I'm also the owner, and I make a point of talking to all the customers," said Sensenberger. After all, about 30 per cent of his customers find out about the restaurant from recommendations on TripAdvisor, so he focuses on providing memorable customer service.

It was during one of those tableside chats that he found out about the Business Refrigeration Incentives (BRI) Program, an initiative of Save on Energy and offered by his local hydro company, Alectra Utilities.

Save on Energy offers rebates for companies (and homeowners) to become more energy efficient, which are offered through local hydro companies. That's where the BRI Program comes in, providing free facility audits and refrigeration equipment upgrades (up to \$2,500) to qualifying small businesses.

The lunchtime diners - who were reps with the program - told Sensenberger that he might qualify for energy-efficient refrigeration upgrades, so they set up an interview and facility audit.

The restaurant has a refrigerator at the back of the facility (only used a handful of times per day), but there's another one in the kitchen that's opened about 100 times a day - and that means a lot of cold air was escaping.

After the audit, the reps ordered all the parts for the upgrade and then did the installation, at no cost to Sensenberger. The installation, which took place last summer, took less than a day. "They were courteous, they were quick, they cleaned their mess and put everything back in its place," he said.

The upgrade included energy-efficient lighting in the refrigerators, as well as new fan motors that use less energy. Strip curtains were installed in the doorways of the walk-ins to reduce the amount of cold air that escapes when the door is opened.

"It's keeping cold air in, so less wasting of cold air and electricity," said Sensenberger. "I had to adjust my temperature because [the upgrades] made my fridge colder. The equipment seems to work better; it's still the same fan, just using less energy, which means more money in the bottom line."

Sensenberger recommends the program to other restaurant owners. "They gave me brand-new fan motors - that saved me money. It's keeping the fridge colder, the fan turns on less - that saves me money," he said. "I did nada (and there's) no cost for the program."

Ultimately, it's helped him become a more energy-efficient business (and save money on hydro), while he focuses on more important things - like perfecting his schnitzel.

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Drop the puck on saving energy

thestar.com - Thu Sep 21 2017

It's no secret that hockey is Canada's game, so it's only natural that arenas are in every community across the province. But with all our attention focused on what's happening on the ice, it's easy to forget the operations that go on behind the scenes to keep an arena working year-round. With its four NHL-sized rinks, sports bar, and pro-shop, no one understands this better than the owners and staff of Chesswood Arena in North York. Let's just say that with 12,000 hours of ice time logged annually, that's a lot of energy use - on and off the ice.

Every kid playing hockey dreams of being in the spotlight, but the glare of outdated lighting wasn't easy on the eyes of future stars, the parents watching, or Chesswood's energy bills. "The old lights lost a percentage of light output each year and added heat to the ice surface, which brought on our compressors more often using hydro," says Operations Manager Gary McCreight. Eager to implement innovative and sustainable cost-effective solutions, Buckingham Sports Properties, which owns Chesswood and several arenas across southern Ontario, received Save on Energy incentives through their local hydro company, Toronto Hydro, for upgrades that made a big difference.

Technology has come a long way since the arena was built in 1973, so they swapped the arena's light fixtures for energy efficient LED lighting. Setting up that game-winning goal is easier now that players can see better on the ice, and fans root louder for their team thanks to a better and brighter view from the stands.

All the applause was contagious at Chesswood, so they were inspired to make further changes to the arena, starting with their ageing refrigeration system. "The old system had circulating pumps which ran 24 hours, 7 days a week," recalls McCreight. Now that upgrades are complete, the staff at Chesswood can more efficiently monitor and maintain ice conditions by responding to outside temperatures with systems that respond automatically by turning the pumps on and off only when they're needed.

Not only has the new system reduced kilowatts used by 15 per cent, it has created a superior ice surface that helps teams play better. "The ice is better because of the night set-back mode," says McCreight. "This allows us to temper the ice automatically, and our customers have noticed the difference."

The cheers coming out of Chesswood Arena are proof that the benefits of energy efficiency have the power to positively affect an entire community. To see what

small changes can have a big impact on your community, contact your local hydro company, and visit saveonenergy.ca (saveonenergy.ca) for more information.

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Ontario Energy Association Releases Key Recommendations to Optimize Ontario's Energy Policy For Energy Consumers

globeonewswire - Mon Sep 18 2017

TORONTO, Sept. 18, 2017 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) — With the provincial election date set for June 7th, 2018, the Ontario Energy Association (OEA) today released a new Energy Platform to provide all of Ontario's political parties with recommendations on how to optimize energy policy for Ontario energy consumers. The recommendations have been shaped by three key objectives that will provide Ontarians with an energy system that is 1) lowest cost; 2) clean; and 3) reliable.

"Ontario energy consumers want energy options that are low cost, clean and reliable," said Anthony Haines, Chair of the OEA, and President & CEO of Toronto Hydro Corporation. "The OEA Energy Platform provides a roadmap for Ontario's political parties as to how they can deliver on those objectives."

The Energy Platform recommendations focus on three key areas:

Reforming the governance of energy planning; Optimizing use of existing infrastructure; and Lead regulatory evolution.

The global energy sector is in the midst of a major transformation driven in part by innovation and new technologies. To ensure Ontario consumers get the greatest benefit from this transformation, proper energy planning governance structures will be needed to instill investor confidence, encourage innovation and minimize costs.

"Ontario needs to update its energy planning governance framework to ensure consumers achieve maximum benefit from an energy sector that is going through an accelerating transformation," said Vince Brescia, President & CEO of the OEA.

The second area of focus in the platform is on optimizing the use of Ontario's current energy infrastructure. Ontario has the benefit of over \$130 billion in existing energy generation, transmission and distribution assets.

"Delivering clean reliable energy at a low cost to consumers requires that we take full advantage of Ontario's tremendous existing energy infrastructure," said Brescia.

The third area of focus is on Ontario's regulatory system. Ontario's evolving energy marketplace requires a regulatory system that is capable of adapting to accommodate the changing needs of, and options available to, consumers, utilities, energy service providers, and new market entrants.

"The province, OEB and stakeholders together need to lead a formal review of Ontario's regulatory framework to ensure we deliver a system that is meeting the consumer's evolving needs," said Brescia.

A digital copy of the OEA Energy Platform can be viewed [here](#).

About the OEA

The Ontario Energy Association (OEA) is the credible and trusted voice of the energy sector. We earn our reputation by being an integral and influential part of energy policy development and decision making in Ontario. We represent Ontario's energy leaders that span the full diversity of the energy industry.

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Hydro on the hot seat

Brockville Recorder - Mon Sep 18 2017

Employees have been skipping lunch in order to afford their electricity bills, a local business owner told a top Hydro One executive Thursday.

Ferio Pugliese, the utility's executive vice-president of customer care and corporate affairs, said Hydro One has taken steps to reduce the cost burden on its customers – but acknowledged there is more to be done.

"I would say we've made significant progress, but there's a lot more to do," said Pugliese, echoing a refrain he repeated often during a sparsely-attended meeting Thursday morning at the Brockville Country Club, organized by the Brockville and District Chamber of Commerce.

The executive is on a tour of local communities aimed in part at telling the public about the changes to Hydro One since its moves to privatization. Pugliese also scheduled a "drop-in" event at the city's Legion hall where customers could air their concerns.

But even among the small crowd of chamber members, those concerns presented themselves.

Bhagwant Parmar, owner of Brockville's Travelodge hotel, outlined his business's challenges, saying the hotel faces a cumulative electricity rate increase of 15.62 per cent next year.

He also pointed to what he considers an excessively high household bill, but noted some of his employees have had it worse — to the point where they have not been having lunch in order to save enough to pay their hydro bills.

"You can tell me how your company is hurting businesses and households," said Parmar.

"I have never seen a business and household being hurt at the same time."

"You're going to see some reduction on your household side," Pugliese told Parmar, pointing to changes included in the new "Fair Hydro Plan."

Still, the vice-president added, it costs Hydro One \$1.8 billion to operate the province's electricity system at a time of declining usage, and the company is responsible for ensuring that it maintains a reliable system while seeking cuts in operating costs.

"It's a balancing act," said Pugliese.

"That's the cost of delivery within the province."

Yet he reiterated Hydro One will continue to look for efficiencies and opportunities to reduce costs "so that people can afford to have electricity and buy lunch at the same time."

"The last thing I want to see is your hotel not succeeding," he added.

Edwardsburgh/Cardinal Mayor Pat Sayeau, meanwhile, took aim at one of the distinctions Pugliese made in his presentation, when he noted Hydro One is "a wires company" with no control over the cost of power generation.

"It doesn't matter how you cut the cake, the person that's paying the bills is hurting and hurting badly," said Sayeau.

"It's putting businesses out of business; it's raising all kinds of problems on the residential side of things and we keep hearing about it again and again and again."

Pugliese acknowledged that, as the point of interaction between the electricity system and customers, it takes ownership of billing.

In 2015, the company fielded 550,000 calls related to affordability or understanding bills, a number that swelled to 650,000 last year, he said.

Those difficulties prompted the company to advocate at the provincial level for the Fair Hydro Plan, he added.

Michael Jiggins, riding executive assistant to Leeds-Grenville's Progressive Conservative MPP, Steve Clark, questioned why, amid all the talk of efforts to

reduce electricity bills, Hydro One is now before the Ontario Energy Board seeking another rate increase.

Pugliese replied the sought-after increase is for 3.5 per cent over the next five years, which will amount to another \$2.79 a month per customer.

Part of that increase will go toward replacing the utility's poles, he said, adding some of those may be as old as 100 years.

"If those are not replaced, you're going to have brownouts and blackouts across the province," said Pugliese.

"I would just ask that people understand what is there."

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289851916

Global power players keep eye on Alberta's green energy industry

Calgary Herald - Tue Sep 19 2017

Byline: Reid Southwick

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Alberta's first auction to inject more green power into the province's grid has entered the final phase, but electricity players from around the world are already preparing for future bids.

The organization that oversees Alberta's power market has invited proponents behind a shortlist of 29 renewable projects to submit formal bids to supply 400 megawatts of power.

The Alberta Electric System Operator began with 80 expressions of interest from proponents hailing from Alberta to Switzerland and South Africa.

It's the first in a series of competitions to meet the NDP government's target of having wind, solar and other renewables supply 30 per cent of the market's electricity.

Global and regional players have been attracted to Alberta's market because the current competition guarantees revenues for green power producers, said Gerard McInnis, who leads Ernst & Young's power and utilities division.

"This is attractive enough that it is inviting proposals broadly from across Canada, North America and outside North America," McInnis said. "There's an appetite for revenue certainty."

After proponents qualified to submit formal bids - meaning they have proven they have the financial and technical abilities to carry out their projects - the winning bidders will be selected based on the lowest price.

The prices they bid will be high enough to cover construction costs, operating expenses and profits in a 20-year contract, but low enough to beat other bidders, said Evan Bahry of the Independent Power Producers Society of Alberta.

That contract offers some attractive revenue guarantees, including government subsidies if Alberta's power market prices are lower than what generators bid in the renewable auction.

Conversely, they will be required to pay if power prices are higher.

It's unknown whether future competitions to inject more renewable power into Alberta's market will come with similar guarantees, but players from around the world are already getting ready for future bids.

Bahry said since the NDP government announced a year ago its ambitions to add more renewable power as it phases out coal, proponents have floated or begun seeking regulatory approval for 7,000 megawatts of green electricity.

To put this in perspective, the government is seeking 5,000 megawatts of renewable power in total.

"This demonstrates a profound degree of interest from players across the planet in what's going on here," Bahry said.

Given that it takes considerable time to secure land and carry out engineering studies, among other work required for a power project, proponents are getting started now, for future competitions.

Energy Minister Marg McCuaig-Boyd said she has met with interested players in Asia, New York and Houston. She said to meet its renewable targets, the government will have to attract investment "from everywhere," including abroad.

"We were somewhat overwhelmed with the amount of interest in the first auction," she said. with files from Chris Varcoe rsouthwick@postmedia.com

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