

Edmonton's sunny disposition generates killer watts

The City of Edmonton's sunny climate and drive to reduce fossil fuel consumption are combining to help seven community leagues tap into the "green power" of solar energy.

Community League Day on September 21, 2013, will include an open house at Ritchie Community League's southside hall to show off one of the seven solar panel-powered systems. The Ritchie system is capable of generating approximately half the amount of power an average Alberta household would use in a year.

The system makes use of Edmonton's average 2,299 hours of sunshine a year (Environment Canada), and was installed in a partnership initiative aimed at helping cut power bills, showcasing energy conservation to the public and advancing the City's goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

"This initiative is part of the City's commitment to a more sustainable Edmonton," says Mark Brostrom, Director of Edmonton's Office of Environment. "It allows these community leagues to point the way to a future of improved energy efficiency and a reduced carbon footprint for their facilities."

The event at Ritchie Community League, 7727-98 Street, Edmonton runs from 10:30 to 11 a.m., and is part of city-wide Community League Day celebrations.

Partners in the project, along with the City of Edmonton and the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues (EFCL), included experts from the Pembina Institute, the Solar Energy Society of Alberta, a local energy and carbon audit company called C-Returns and Howell-Mayhew Engineering. Alberta's Municipal Climate Change Action Centre was involved in program and financial support for retrofits to the community league buildings.

The seven participating community leagues are Ritchie, Alberta Avenue, Meadowlark, North Glenora, Riverdale, Rossdale and West Jasper Sherwood. Each contributed \$6,000, while the City provided \$30,000 and the EFCL \$80,000. Additional funding was provided by Alberta's Municipal Climate Change Action Centre.

For more information visit:

Edmonton Office of Environment
Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues
Municipal Climate Change Action Centre

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