



Green Jobs Team Meeting

March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010 – 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

TRCA Head Office, Humber Room – 5 Shoreham Drive, Toronto

1. Introductions
  
2. Update on Green Jobs Programs
  - Cool Rexdale Roofing Apprenticeship
  - Energy Management Co-op
  - ChemTRAC Student Placement
  
3. Prospective Future Programs
  - Rooftop Solar Installation Apprenticeship
  
4. Strategic Direction of Green Jobs Program
  
5. Future Meeting Dates
  - Wednesday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010 – 1 p.m.
  - Wednesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010 – 1 p.m.

Attachments:

- Staff Report - Update on Green Jobs Programs
- Staff Report - Prospective Future Green Jobs Program

**TO:** Members of the Partners in Project Green – Green Jobs Team

**FROM:** Dennis Braun, Project Manager, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

**RE: GREEN JOBS PROGRAMS UPDATE**

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### **KEY ISSUE**

The development of labour market skills among youth and local residents to support improved environmental building performance in the Pearson Eco-business Zone.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT this report be received;**

**AND FURTHER THAT staff bring back a progress report at the next meeting of the Green Jobs Team.**

### **BACKGROUND**

The Green Jobs Team last met June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009. At that meeting to pilot projects were identified for development: Cool Rexdale Roofing Apprenticeship Program and an Energy Management Co-op Program. A subcommittee consisting of delivery partners was established to plan and launch both of these programs. A third program, the ChemTRAC Technical Assistance program was created in partnership with city of Toronto. Woodbine Entertainment Group has provided seed funding to get the Green Jobs programs off the ground. ChemTRAC has been funded by City of Toronto, and additional funding is currently being sourced for the delivery of the Energy Management Co-op Program.

### **COOL REXDALE ROOFING APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM**

Cool Rexdale aims to improve the energy and environmental performance of buildings in Rexdale by promoting the installation of cool roofs and green roofs while providing a pathway for youth in one of Toronto's priority neighbourhoods to enter the roofing trade.

### **Environmental Benefit**

Cool roofs and green roofs improve building energy efficiency and green roofs provide a host of additional environmental benefits.

### **Project Development**

As area businesses replace their roofs, TRCA, Semple Gooder, and Tremco promote the installation of cool or green roofs. For buildings within the City of Toronto, the Eco-Roof Incentive Program provides a financial subsidy to make cool and green roofs more attractive to businesses. All buildings can take advantage of reduced roofing material pricing through

the Clinton Climate Initiative's Purchasing Alliance. Nine businesses are currently considering installing cool roofs as part of the Cool Rexdale program.

### **Employment Development**

The Cool Rexdale Program will open the door for young adults in the Rexdale community to enter the workforce in a trade that is well paid and in need of new apprentices. The young adults that will be hired through the Cool Rexdale Program will work as Pre-Apprentices registered with the Sheet Metal Worker's and Roofers Union Local 30. As they build their experience in the roofing industry, there are opportunities for them to leverage their designation from a Pre-Apprentice that will lead to an Apprentice and a Material Handler.

Toronto Employment and Social Services, with the help of community partners, have promoted the program to local youth. Over 70 attended an information session on Feb 8<sup>th</sup>, and 32 completed one day of training provided by Local 30 and the Infrastructure Health and Safety Association.

Semple Gooder will begin hiring youth in spring 2010, and Local 30 has offered to refer the list of youth to other local roofing contractors that may need to hire.

### **ENERGY MANAGEMENT CO-OP PROGRAM**

The Energy Management Co-op Program is designed to connect co-op students from Seneca College, Humber College and University of Waterloo with businesses within the Pearson Eco-Business Zone to implement energy efficiency opportunities. To help students and businesses realize these opportunities, the Energy Management Co-op Program utilizes additional training and mentoring that supports the identification and implementation of energy efficiency opportunities.

The program will launch for the summer term in May 2010, and will run again in the fall term beginning September 2010. Twelve companies have expressed interest so far, however it will be a challenge for many of them to be ready to join for the summer term. The consultant has recently been selected to deliver the training and mentorship.

### **Adding Value to Existing Co-op Programs**

Currently Seneca College, Humber College and University of Waterloo all offer co-op programs in the fields of engineering and environment that give students the basic understanding of energy management and project development. By leveraging the existing co-op programs offered by these post-secondary facilities, the Energy Management Co-op Program will add value to these programs by providing additional support in the form of workshops and ongoing mentoring from energy management experts to help students identify and implement energy reduction opportunities for their employers. The program takes the co-op experience to a new level for both student and employer to a reciprocal

learning exercise that improves the bottom-line of a company, while helping them green their operations.

### **Training**

The program offers four workshops throughout the work term, and they are available to both the employers and co-op students:

1. Identify energy efficiency opportunities and financial support;
2. Evaluate technical requirements, environmental benefits, and financial impacts;
3. Prepare project proposals; and
4. Develop implementation plans

### **Expert Mentorship**

Co-op students have access to an expert mentor to provide guidance on the specific challenges and opportunities in each facility. The mentor is available to discuss ideas, review plans and troubleshoot problems to help students maintain steady progress throughout the work term.

### **Workforce Development**

The Energy Management Co-op Program will contribute in strengthening the green industry workforce by providing students working experience the green industry and by allowing businesses realize the benefits involved in green opportunities that may potentially lead to future green activities. Also, the program will generate cross pollinating opportunities among participants that may develop new employee/employer status and or client/associate based

### **CHEMTRACT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Students will help businesses comply with new City of Toronto chemical reporting requirements. Interested businesses can register for free technical assistance through this program.

ChemTRAC Technical Assistance Program is funded through the City of Toronto. Students hired by TRCA on 4-month work terms, will be trained on the ChemTRAC program and will be connected to local businesses to help them meet their reporting requirements and identify opportunities for improved chemical management.

**Report prepared by: Dennis Braun, Extension 5594**

**For more information contact: Dennis Braun, Extension 5594**

**Date: March 26, 2010**

**TO:** Members of the Partners in Project Green – Green Jobs Team

**FROM:** Dennis Braun, Project Manager, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

**RE: PROSPECTIVE FUTURE PROGRAMS**

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#### **KEY ISSUE**

The development of new green jobs programs in the Pearson Eco-business Zone.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT a rooftop solar apprenticeship program be developed;**

**AND FURTHER THAT staff bring back a progress report at the next meeting of the Green Jobs Team.**

#### **BACKGROUND**

Partners in Project Green is interested in delivering new, innovated green jobs programs that help to transform the Pearson Eco-Business Zone into an internationally recognized community known for its competitive, high performance and eco-friendly business climate.

#### **ROOFTOP SOLAR APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM**

The recently launched Cool Rexdale Roofing Apprenticeship Program provides a model for leveraging existing programs and working with public and private partners to help businesses improve the environmental performance of their buildings, while providing career pathways for local youth in a priority neighbourhood. This model can be extended to other green building trades.

The Feed-in-Tariff (FIT) Program was launched by the Ontario Power Authority in 2009. The program provides guaranteed premium pricing for renewable energy production, and it has created a tremendous amount of momentum in rooftop solar projects. Partners in Project Green has recently completed a study identifying barriers to implementing rooftop solar in the Pearson Eco-Business Zone, and staff is planning to develop resources to support their adoption.

A rooftop solar apprenticeship program will capitalize on the current momentum and dove-tail with other Partners in Project Green activities. The final connection of rooftop solar systems is done by a certified electrician, but much of the installation work requires minimal qualifications and can serve as a jumping off point for careers for local underemployed youth.

**Report prepared by: Dennis Braun, Extension 5594**  
**For more information contact: Dennis Braun, Extension 5594**  
**Date: March 26, 2010**