



Minutes - Green Jobs Team Meeting

March 31st, 2010 – 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

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

In Attendance: Grace Varrecchia (TESS), Wendy Loiselle (Woodbine Entertainment), Dennis Braun (TRCA), Sarah Winterton (Environmental Defence), Michelle Brown (Toronto Renewable Energy Co-operative), Tom Zizys, Shalini da Cunha (Peel Halton Workforce Development Group), Kerry Johnston (Humber College), Allison Hillier (JVS)

1. Introductions
2. Update on Green Jobs Programs
 - Provided update on progress of current Green Jobs Programs (Cool Rexdale Roofing Apprenticeship, Energy Management Co-op, ChemTRAC Student Placement, Sustainability Plan Internship).
 - Recommended that additional unionized roofing contractors be brought into Cool Rexdale program to maximize number of projects and number of youth employed within program.
 - Recommended that program be promoted to Roofing Consultants, and that Roofing Consultants be consulted to recommend additional roofing contractors.
 - Potential to get funding through MTCU to fund the training currently provided by the union as part of a apprenticeship program.
 - Recommended that all past clients of Partners in Project Green Eco-Efficiency Program and Energy Management training be contacted directly to promote Energy Management Co-op.
 - City of Mississauga and Woodbine Entertainment Group identified as potential participants of Energy Management Co-op Program.
 - TRCA Staff will track success rates of green jobs programs in by number of participants employed, employment success, businesses engaged, and projects completed.
 - Discussed including internationally trained professionals in our green jobs programs. Decided to maintain focus on youth for current programs, and evaluate the most suitable client set for new programs.

ACTION ITEMS

- Contact potential clients (listed above) for participation in Energy Management Co-op (TRCA)
- Contact Roofing Consultants to promote Cool Rexdale (TRCA)

3. Prospective Future Programs

- Rooftop Solar PV Installation Apprenticeship
 - *Team agreed that pursuing a rooftop solar PV installation apprenticeship program based on the Cool Rexdale model. The program will be investigated and developed in 2010 for a spring 2011 launch.*
 - *Potential to recruit youth from priority neighbourhood Malton in Peel and/or Rexdale in Toronto.*
 - *Identified that several trades are associated with rooftop solar PV installation. Construction Craftworker may be a good fit for basic installation work. CanSIA accreditation process should be reviewed.*
 - *Potential to tie-in with MTCU pre-apprenticeship training funding. Next funding round may be in June 2010.*
 - *Basic installation work can expose youth to career options and potentially lead to returning to school. This could be a positive outcome.*
 - *Installation partner selection will be important, since very few firms have established history, and the perception is that many are fly-by-night.*
- Rainwater Harvesting Program
 - *Potential to deliver green jobs program around rainwater harvesting and water management.*
 - *May tie-in to facilities management, consulting firms, or landscape architects.*
 - *New provincial legislation promoting water conservation and clean water technologies could provide momentum.*

ACTION ITEMS:

- *Meet with TDSB and TTC staff to potentially use for first projects for a rooftop solar apprenticeship program (TRCA)*
- *Investigate funding and partnership opportunities (TRCA)*
- *Research opportunity for program around rainwater harvesting (TRCA)*

4. Strategic Direction of Green Jobs Programs

- Discussed briefly. Will re-visit at next meeting.

5. 2010 Meeting Dates

- *Wednesday, July 21st, 2010 – 1 p.m.*
- *Wednesday, July 27th, 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

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 15th, 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 8th, 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

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