

THUNDER BAY INSURANCE SERVICES LTD

Thunder Bay Insurance Services Ltd. has implemented a variety of waste reduction initiatives to achieve a goal of reducing waste. Through their efforts, they have managed to reduce the size of their main area garbage can by purchasing individual recycling containers for staff to use at their offices. Staff can be seen sorting the contents of their recycling containers at the main recycling centre. The goals achieved by Thunder Bay Insurance Services Ltd. include sending used office furniture to the restore, installing filters on water taps, pop cans sent to charity, commodities such as: #1 and #2 plastics, glass, newsprint, paper, milk cartons, batteries all being sent for recycling. On October 27, 2009, they completed their second waste audit. Staff are very conscientious about the environment and have raised awareness by creating signs on ways to recycle, issued a "green" report on progress and encouraged other staff members to car pool or ride a bike to work. Thunder Bay Insurance Services Ltd. is committed to promoting environmental stewardship and has all staff sign a "green" contract making their commitment to this process official.

VICTORIA INN HOTEL AND CONVENTION CENTRE

The Victoria Inn Hotel and Convention Centre has implemented many energy saving initiatives to reduce their consumption of natural resources. In the kitchen area, a new hot water booster was installed, which reduces overall usage on the main boilers. A new high efficiency dishwasher was also installed and a proper servicing schedule has been developed to ensure proper efficiency of the unit is maintained. In the kitchen area, a second rational cook unit was installed replacing 4 outdated convection ovens. This area has also seen a cardboard bailer added and it has reduced cardboard pick up by 50%. In the banquet area, they have added stainless steel table tops and are no longer required to cover and skirt the buffet and display tables. This initiative has shown a reduction in the amount of laundry being processed, which has decreased water usage. In the laundry area, they have upgraded all the commercial washers and now operate 3 high efficiency units, which have reduced total wash cycle counts. There is also a program in place with their chemical supplier to ensure that exact measurements are used in their washing program. Rooms, within the hotel, have dual flush toilets which have shown a 20% reduction in water usage. Recycling containers and a towel wash program are also in place. They have also implemented a "green" team that engages both management and staff to work together to come up with ways to show ongoing environmental stewardship.

THUNDER BAY REGIONAL HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRE

The Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre continues to be an environmental leader within the community by implementing various waste reduction and energy saving initiatives. Housekeeping is working with all departments to implement source separation programs throughout the hospital and they are seeing volumes increasing. Reusable cups, that are now being used to serve tap water, replaced the annual use of 110,000 single use plastic water bottles on patient trays. Juice dispensing units, in patient care kitchenettes, eliminated thousands of juice cartons. There was also an increase in the amount of recycling of plastic film/shrink wrap and box board material. A program was implemented to recycle all metal scissors and bag hangers within the hospital. There is a program already underway to replace incandescent lights with fluorescent and add motion sensors. The hospital continues to send obsolete equipment to third world countries through participation in MEMO. The hospital has formed a "green" team and its monthly newsletter provides staff with updates on initiatives. The hospital has also added a "green" site to its internal hospital intranet to provide staff with information on programs.

OLG CASINO THUNDER BAY

OLG Casino Thunder Bay continues to demonstrate environmental stewardship within the community by continuing to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill. A waste audit identified that OLG Casino Thunder Bay was recycling 74% of recyclable material, including 80 pounds of shrink wrap, 80 pounds of batteries, 1500 coffee trays and 1500 pounds of organic waste was vermicomposted. Take out containers, from its restaurant, are made of sustainable bamboo material and placed in a recyclable brown paper bag. Their annual use of bottled water has been reduced by 7,000 bottles and more than 27,000 decks of cards are recycled annually. Also, reusable float bags were purchased, eliminating the use of more than 52,000 plastic bags annually. OLG Casino Thunder Bay has a "green" team information board to educate staff of their commuter challenge, garbage free lunches, and "green" Christmas initiatives.

THUNDER BAY LCBO RETAIL SERVICE CENTRE

Thunder Bay LCBO Retail Service Centre has undertaken some positive initiatives to reduce their overall waste and energy consumption. Water usage has been significantly reduced by purchasing a battery washer. This unit washes batteries and then neutralizes and reuses the battery wash water, reducing water usage by hundreds of liters. The past few years, they were manually controlling their air chiller unit, which used upward of 8 M3/day of water. This unit has now been removed and replaced with A/C units. These units are expected to save an additional 2M3/day of water and reduce energy usage by 81,000KWh per year. They have also replaced constant flushing urinals with manual flushers. By implementing these initiatives, they have seen a 51% reduction in water usage since 2008. The Thunder Bay LCBO Retail Service Centre has reduced the amount of waste they send to landfill by half in the past year. They are now down from two four yard bin pick ups per week to one. All of their cleaning products have been replaced with "green" alternatives, plastic water coolers have been removed to promote tap water and lunch waste has been reduced through indoor and outdoor composting. The property is also pesticide and chemical fertilizer free and dying trees have been removed and new ones planted in their place.

ST. JOSEPH'S CARE GROUP – SISTER MARGARET SMITH CENTRE

St. Joseph's Care Group has shown exceptional environmental leadership within the community with the construction of its new Sister Margaret Smith Centre. The new facility is an accredited LEED building and is close to becoming gold certified. The building still has some minor software and control work to be completed and final information on energy savings through measurement and verification is needed. The construction of this new facility will significantly reduce the hospital's carbon footprint for years to come.