

Greening the fleet

Fuel efficient City vehicles save tax dollars

THE SITUATION:

- Gasoline and diesel fuels used for transportation produce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change, as well as emissions that degrade local air quality. How can the City reduce vehicle emissions?
- New vehicles will be an ongoing expense for the City fleet. How do we ensure that life cycle costs are considered for each new vehicle purchase and that vehicle efficiencies are maximized?
- Emissions that add to climate change and degrade local air quality are coming from the community as a whole, not just the City fleet. How does the City adopt a policy that can be adapted and expanded to the community level?

THE POLICY:

In 2004, Dawson Creek completed a baseline study on its municipal energy consumption. One of the study's recommendations was the creation of a green vehicle policy that will help reduce energy consumption. Greening the City fleet will provide a starting point to engage on other transportation issues throughout the municipality.

The goal is to reduce emissions from the City fleet to levels 20% below 2004 levels by 2016. This will be achieved by:

- Reducing idling
- Reducing single occupancy trips
- Purchasing more efficient vehicles and fuels
- Right-sizing vehicles



Mayor Calvin Kruk, City Council and City staff proudly accepted two provincial awards for leadership and innovation in energy conservation and sustainability at the meeting of the UBCM in Victoria on behalf of the City of Dawson Creek.

City cleans up on awards!

Dawson Creek is recognized as a provincial pace-setter

- The City of Dawson Creek won the **2006 Energy Aware Award**, from the Community Energy Association and co-sponsored by the Province of BC and the Union of BC Municipalities. The award recognizes the leadership of progressive local governments that are pro-active on energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy. The City was recognized as the provincial leader over the communities of Langley and Victoria which received honourable mentions.
- The City of Dawson Creek was presented with the **2006 Leadership and Innovation Community Excellence Award** in the mid-size community category at the annual meeting of the Union of BC Municipalities. "Our municipality is incorporating sustainability into everything we do..." explains Mayor Kruk.
- **Mayor Calvin Kruk** has been honoured with an invitation by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, Richard Neufeld and Minister of Environment, Barry Penner to co-chair the provincial Task Team that will prepare a roadmap to fast track the adoption of solar technology in BC. This is part of the province's **100,000 Solar Roofs initiative**.

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