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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



CITY OF WELLAND NAMED FINALIST FOR THE 2014 COMMUNITY CONSERVATION AWARDS

Welland, ON- The City of Welland is officially recognized for its commitment to energy-savings initiatives as a finalist for the 2014 Community Conservation Awards. The awards are a collaborative effort supported by the Ontario Power Authority (OPA), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Electricity Distributors Association (EDA). Welland is among nine finalist communities in this year's Community Conservation Awards, which focus on promoting province-wide energy conservation.

Mayor Barry Sharpe is thrilled that Welland is being acknowledged for its conservation efforts. "We're very proud that Welland has been selected as a finalist based on our LED Streetlight Conversion Project. Replacing all of our cobra head fixtures was a challenging process, but we're delighted with the very positive results. We've helped Welland Hydro meet their Conservation and Demand Management targets for 2014, and the City has realized significantly lower electricity costs this year," said Sharpe.

Now in its third year, the Community Conservation Awards promote a culture of conservation and encourage Ontario's municipalities to participate in conservation initiatives. Municipalities are recognized for efforts in conservation leadership, innovation and market transformation, corporate/internal community engagement, and conservation achievements/savings.

The Community Conservation Awards welcomes submissions from all municipalities in Ontario. Participating communities are required to provide a written submission that outlines the municipality's conservation efforts and a case study that highlights specific conservation initiatives. This year's winners will be announced on August 18, 2014, at the AMO Annual General Meeting in London, Ontario.

"We are pleased to recognize City of Welland for its leadership in conservation and energy efficiency," said OPA Vice President of Conservation Andrew Pride. "Conservation is the OPA's first priority and our saveONenergy programs can help all Ontarians conserve electricity."

"We congratulate the finalists for this year's Community Conservation Awards. Their commitment to conservation is helping to reduce our carbon footprint and delivering cost-savings to their communities," said AMO President Russ Powers. "AMO supports developing a culture of conservation in Ontario. Through our subsidiary, Local Authority Services, we offer practical tools and services to help municipalities meet their conservation goals."

"I'm pleased to congratulate Welland and all other award finalists," says Jim Hogan, chair of the EDA. "Many of our member utilities find municipalities to be very keen partners in conservation initiatives. This sort of localized and grassroots commitment is vital to helping ensure the long-term sustainability of Ontario's electricity supply."

For more information about the Community Conservation Awards please visit powerauthority.on.ca/cca.

More information about Ontario's saveONenergy energy conservation programs can be found at www.saveonenergy.ca.

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