

THE ROLE OF MUNICIPALITIES IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY

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The Purposes of Municipalities

The Municipal Government Act Section 3 states that the purposes of municipalities are:

- To provide good government.
- To provide services, facilities or other things that, in the opinion of council, are necessary or desirable for all or a part of the municipality.
- To develop safe and viable communities.

Energy is a basic element of most ,if not all , services that municipalities provide.

The Role of Municipalities in Energy Efficiency

- **Legislate**
- **Lead**
- **Lure**

The Role of Municipalities in Energy Efficiency *cont.*

Legislate

- Codes and standards are prepared by Federal and Provincial governments; Municipalities enforce these codes
- Municipalities can always have more stringent energy efficiency by-laws e.g. as part of land-use planning or by introducing some sort of building labeling program

The Role of Municipalities in Energy Efficiency *cont.*

Lead

- Municipalities have two leadership roles
 1. Lead by Example: energy efficiency within the municipal operation
 2. Energy efficiency programs for community. Examples are
 - Goals and tools for residential, commercial and industrial energy efficiency
 - Large scale energy efficiency initiatives such as district energy using CHP systems
 - Expansion of public transportation systems

The Role of Municipalities in Energy Efficiency *cont.*

Lure

- By designing incentive programs
- By rebating permits fee
- By promoting the environmental impacts related to energy efficiency