

January 23, 2026: CAC Roundtable Discussion

## **Response to Questions in the OEB's Gas-Electric Co-ordination Information Sharing Staff Discussion Paper (EB-2025-0227)**

### ***Background on OEB Directive***

- The Ministry of Energy has [directed the OEB](#) to establish a gas-electric coordination information sharing forum to support Ontario's [Integrated Energy Plan](#).
- Natural gas and electricity utilities plan in isolation, thereby creating risks of overbuilding energy systems, stranded assets, and higher costs for ratepayers.
- While some form of informal coordination has occurred, there is no formally structured or consistent framework. This is what the directive is trying to address. Municipalities are encouraged to participate in a series of OEB led meetings starting this month.
- The discussion paper proposed, outcomes and objectives. Including greater transparency, improving the accessibility and visibility of planning information for all entities, address comparability, right-size build-outs (ensuring that energy infrastructure investments are optimized to avoid, unnecessary costs), and work towards a goal of using consistent planning assumptions and scenarios across both sectors.
- One of the key proposals of the discussion paper is a proposed online data repository for storing and accessing planning information, where the data contributors to this repository are utilities, gas and electricity. The IESO would be required to contribute, and they've also encouraged municipalities to participate as well.

### ***Next Steps and Objectives***

- The objective of this response is to ensure the OEB recognizes that meaningful consultation with municipalities is essential for integrated energy planning.
- The draft response can be accessed here: [Response to Questions in the OEB's Gas-Electric Co-ordination Information Sharing Staff Discussion Paper \(EB-2025-0227\)](#).
- **Please submit comments by end of day February 6<sup>th</sup>.**

## **CAC Roundtable Updates – 2026 Upcoming Projects and Priorities**

### ***Town of Caledon***

- A Community Energy System Study ([funded by FCM](#)) is being launched and will involve high level mapping of electricity and waste heat to develop a district energy (DE) business case for Bolton. Through the secondary planning process the Town has already identified specific "nodes" that are ready for a more detailed analysis.
- Launching a 5-year update of the Town's Climate Plan. Focusing on implementation, not a total overhaul.
- Applying for Bird Friendly City status.
  - [Bird Team Terms of Reference](#)
  - [Nature Canada: Bird Friendly City Program](#)
- Reviewing Green Development Standards (GDS) in light of recent provincial legislation.
- Updating the Town's CDM Plan and Green Fleet Strategy.
- Exploring alternative financing through Energy Service Companies and the SOFIAC program.
- Installing 14 new public EV charging stations.

### **City of Hamilton**

- Updating the City's Climate Strategy. This will include a new vulnerability and risk assessment.
- Considering developing a climate dashboard to improve internal data collection and transparency.
- Launching a Neighbourhood Small Grants program.
- Co-designing a Climate Justice Framework with 13 community partners.

### **Town of Newmarket**

- Implementing the recently passed Green Fleet Strategy. Monitoring new provincial policies regarding "Ontario made" light duty vehicle requirements.
  - [Green Fleet Strategy - Report to Council](#)
  - [Ontario Act \(Public Sector Procurement\), 2025 for light duty fleet vehicles and construction procurements to promote, protect and build Ontario's economy and businesses and safeguard Ontario's domestic supply chains.](#)
- Finalizing an update to the Town's Community Energy Plan for Council approval.

### **City of London**

- Home Energy Retrofit Financing Program, Better Homes London: Exploring idea of providing a net zero renovation roadmap to program participants (not confirmed).
- Exploring pivoting the City's climate plans to a Low Carbon Resilience plan, merging mitigation and adaptation in a single approach.
- Considering baking climate goals into the City's Strategic Plan.

### **City of Ottawa**

- Will be focusing on implementation of Climate Ready Ottawa (adaptation plan). Including actions related to extreme weather, operational plans, analysis and training, cooling amenities.
- Working on climate-ready design standards for new facilities.
- Looking to refresh Climate Change Master Plan and Energy Evolution.
- Launching a climate roundtable group to improve external engagement and leverage community partnerships.
- Reviewing Better Homes Ottawa Loan Program.
- Pursuing a DE strategy.

### **Town of Whitby**

- Council recently approved Version 2 of the Whitby Green Standard which has shifted to an incentive based, voluntary approach, offering support, builder recognition, and financial incentives via the Housing Accelerator Fund.
  - [WGS V.2 Checklist](#)
  - [WGS V.2 Reference Guide](#)
  - [Summary of Incentive Program](#)
  - [Incentive Program 12 Step Process](#)
  - [Staff Report](#)
- Working on a fleet strategy and looking to leverage CFR credits
- Partnering with local Conservation Authority to develop an Invasive Species Management plan.

### **City of Peterborough**

- Will be completing a costing study of main library, looking at emergency backups (solar battery is ideal), and feasibility of just a diesel backup generator.

## Contact Information

Please reach out to us at any time with questions, input, or for additional information.

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