

ecoNova Scotia

FOR CLEAN AIR AND CLIMATE CHANGE



Municipal Program

The Municipal Program for Clean Air and Climate Change is a Government of Nova Scotia initiative. The program supports municipally run projects that target reductions in greenhouse gas and other air pollutants.

It will directly invest \$7.5 million into projects initiated by Nova Scotia municipalities from now until March 31, 2010. These funds come from Nova Scotia's portion of the Canada Trust Fund for Clean Air and Climate Change.

For more information, please visit www.gov.ns.ca/ecoNovaScotia or call (902) 424-8269

What is the objective?

The objective of the Municipal Program is to help Nova Scotia meet the goals of the *Environmental Goals and Sustainable Prosperity Act (EGSPA)*. The EGSPA includes a commitment to cut greenhouse gas emissions to 10% below 1990 levels by the year 2020. It also includes large reductions to other air pollutants by 2010.

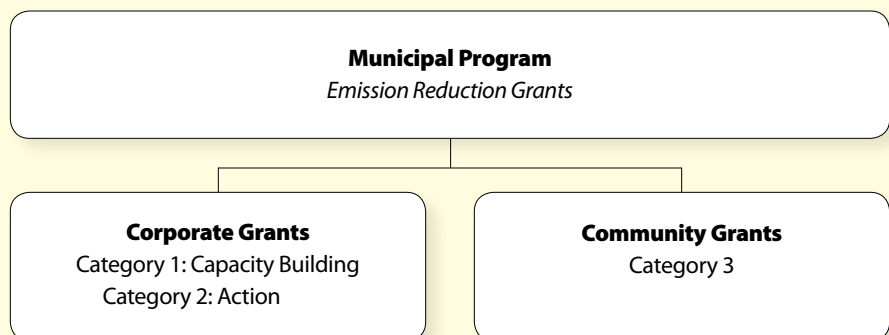
Our communities will play an important role in reaching these goals.

The Municipal Program will:

- help municipalities to reduce their greenhouse gas and air pollutant emissions, and
- build capacity in municipalities to enable further emissions reductions.

How will it work?

Municipalities can apply for funding for projects that focus on reducing greenhouse gas and air pollutant emissions. The following diagram shows the three grant categories available. Full category descriptions are on the reverse.



Emission Reduction Grants

CATEGORY ONE:

Corporate Capacity Building Grant

Managing energy use is critical for municipalities – they run complex operations with multiple sites, facilities, projects and priorities. The Corporate Capacity Building Grant will help municipalities better understand how they are using energy, and where their best opportunities exist for cutting costs and emissions.

This grant supports municipalities to undertake an emissions/energy inventory and audit of their facilities. Both an inventory and an audit must be complete before a municipal unit is eligible for funding under the other two grant categories. Units will be eligible to receive 80% of funding up to a total of \$10,000 to complete both the inventory and audit.

Municipalities are encouraged to use the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities' (UNSM) new energy accounting tool to complete their inventory process. The tool and a list of agencies available to conduct an energy audit will be accessible at the UNSM website at www.unsm.ca/sustainability.

CATEGORY TWO:

Corporate Action Grant

Once the opportunities for energy savings are defined, the Corporate Action Grant assists municipalities to realize them. The grant supports projects that directly reduce emissions from internal municipal operations, contributing a maximum of 50% of total project costs. Municipalities must also contribute a minimum of 20% to the project. Most projects will likely focus on energy efficiency (e.g. energy retrofits, fuel efficient vehicles, new construction) or renewable generation (e.g. wind, biomass, solar).

Applications will be evaluated based on the environmental benefits and strength of the project plan. Proposed capital projects should be based on the results of an emissions inventory and audit.

CATEGORY THREE:

Community Action Grant

The Community Emissions Reduction Grant will fund a maximum of 50% of total project costs to initiatives that directly reduce the energy consumption and emissions of organizations and individuals within a municipality. Municipalities will be required to contribute a minimum of 20% to the project. These projects could focus on public transit, education and awareness programs, or community energy systems.

The preparation of the emission reductions strategy component of the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP) is eligible for funding, but there must be demonstrable emission reductions from the project. Applications will be evaluated based on the environmental gains and the strength of the project plan.



When Can My Municipality Apply?

Category One project applications can be submitted at any time. Category Two and Three project applications will be reviewed quarterly until January 31, 2010.

Deadlines to apply are:

January 31, 2008	January 31, 2009
April 30, 2008	April 30, 2009
July 31, 2008	July 31, 2009
October 31, 2008	October 31, 2009
	January 31, 2010

How Can My Municipality Apply?

Application forms and information are available by contacting the **Fund Coordinator** or from the **ecoNova Scotia website**.

Fund Coordinator, Municipal Program

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