

2019-2021

GREENING SACRED SPACES OTTAWA



OTTAWA FAITH BUILDING ENERGY BENCHMARKING PROGRAM (EBP)

FAITH COMMUNITY AND PARTICIPANT PACKAGE



Faith & the
Common Good

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bien commun

Greening Sacred Spaces
OTTAWA CHAPTER



ABOUT THE ENERGY BENCHMARKING PROGRAM (EBP)

The EBP helps faith communities like yours, to take practical and cost-effective climate action by raising awareness and understanding your buildings' energy use and emissions. The EBP is a **FREE** program funded through a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, City of Ottawa, Community Foundation, and Sustainable Capacity Foundation.

We use the Energy Star Portfolio Manager, an energy management tool, to display your energy costs & usage. We show you your baseline energy use and identify areas for improvement over a 3 year period. We do this work for you, and every year we provide an annual report detailing your energy consumption and changes over time.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Your building typically accounts for about 42% of your faith community's carbon footprint*. With over 27,000 faith communities in Canada, the faith sector can do a lot to lower emissions and make a real impact, starting from their places of worship. Managing your building performance also encourages your members to follow suit with energy conservation and efficiency at home.

Your building also accounts for a significant portion of the operating costs of your faith community. Therefore, reducing, and making it more efficient, your building's energy use also means reducing costs and saving money. Savings that can be directed towards other activities.



* NATIONAL INVENTORY REPORT 1990-2014: CANADA'S SUBMISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE, 2016

WHAT IS ENERGY BENCHMARKING?

ENERGY BENCHMARKING IS A PROCESS BY WHICH YOUR FAITH COMMUNITY BECOMES MORE AWARE OF :

- How much energy your building uses.
- How much money you spend on energy.
- Your faith building's carbon footprint.
- How your building's energy use has changed over time.
- How your building's performance stacks up to other buildings in your sector or your geographic community.

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*Energy efficiency is the fastest, cheapest, and largest single resource **solution** for simultaneously **saving energy, saving money, and preventing greenhouse gas emissions**..Buildings that were **benchmarked reduced energy** use by an average of 2.4% "*

– (2017) Energy Star Action Workbook for Congregations, EPA

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WE MAKE IT A SIMPLE, EASY PROCESS

Here are our 3 streamlined steps in the Energy Benchmarking Program:

1. REGISTER YOUR FAITH COMMUNITY FOR OUR FREE ONLINE NETWORK - CREATE AN ACCOUNT

Joining our online network connects your faith community with others to encourage one another to become leaders in environmental stewardship, not only in Ottawa but across Canada!

2. COMPLETE AND SUBMIT 3 MANDATORY FORMS

Sign in to your account and complete our EBP building form. This requires the name and address of your community, as well as, building information.

Complete and e-mail your local utility company consent forms. You can download the forms from our website or email Hannah at gss-ebp1@faithcommongood.org

Now that we have your consent/permission forms we will:

- 1) Register your faith-building with Energy Star Portfolio Manager;
- 2) Input your utility data into Portfolio Manager and;
- 3) Provide you with report updates from the tool, as well as, general information about what we are doing with the EBP at Greening Sacred Spaces Ottawa.

3. REVIEW YOUR REPORTS AND CONSIDER CHANGES YOU CAN MAKE.

In addition to providing energy performance reports, we are also happy to:

- 1) Share energy efficiency tools, funding info, and training;
- 2) Help facilitate virtual or in-person building audits (if desired) and;
- 3) Meet with your building committee and/or Board to answer questions and ensure things run smoothly.

SIGN-UP FOR OUR MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER!




Our Monthly E-Newsletter provides your faith community with the latest news on the variety of initiatives GSS Ottawa has planned, along with other relevant local news and connections!



WHY DO FAITH COMMUNITIES MONITOR ENERGY USAGE THROUGH BENCHMARKING?

- Supports stewardship within your community
- Reduces your contribution to climate change - targets carbon consumption
- Saves you time, energy & money - Assisting you in future decision-making about your building

The 5 C's of the Energy Benchmarking program

Cost Saving		Improving Energy Efficiency means saving costs over the long run.
Comfort		Enhancing Building performance means that your building spaces will be more comfortable spaces to be in.
Community		Inspire your faith community & others to be leaders of environmental stewardship.
Convenience		We at GSS will do the work of gathering and analyzing your building energy data, saving you time and effort
Commitment		Knowing more about your actual building energy use means you can make better decisions and take a plan of action

WHAT YOU ARE BEING ASKED TO DO?

1. To make a commitment to save energy, something which you may already be doing.
2. Become a member of the Faith & the Common Good Network
3. Give us your building information and consent to access your energy data (all of which is confidential unless you want us to share),
4. Work with us over the next 15 months (until June 2022) to identify ways to improve energy efficiency

EBP SUCCESSSES

The EBP program has already been a critical success in the Greater Toronto, Halton and Peel Regions with over 100 faith community sign-ups. For example, Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Thornhill, Ontario found out through the program that they were **saving about \$3,500 each year** on their electricity bills for 2018 and 2019 compared to their baseline back in 2016!

Now it's our turn to demonstrate Ottawa's faith communities' capacity for environmental stewardship and leadership.

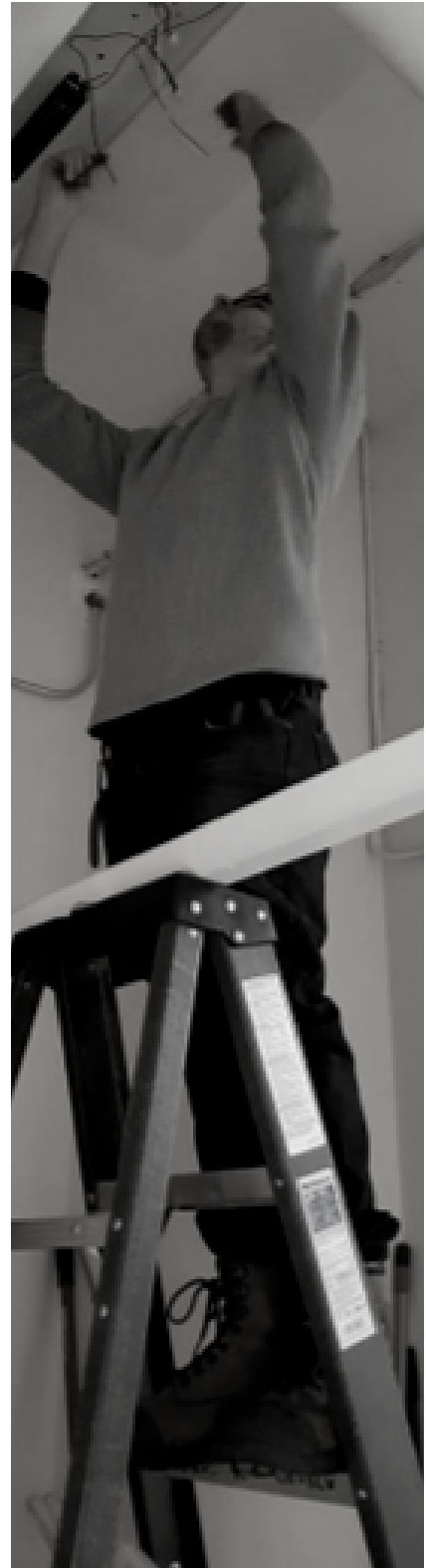
“*You can't manage what you don't measure... You can't make meaningful change if you don't know what you need to do.*”

CONTACT US

We would love for your faith community to be a part of the Energy Benchmarking Program (EBP), and join us in our journey of making Ottawa a more sustainable, energy-conscious, and resilient place to live and worship.

We are here to support your faith community. If this is of interest, please contact the Greening Sacred Spaces Energy Benchmarking Team at:

GSS-EBP1@FAITHCOMMONGOOD.ORG



MEET OUR ENERGY BENCHMARKING PROGRAM TEAM

Our dedicated team of Greening Sacred Spaces Ottawa Professionals



HANNAH MORGAN
EBP PROGRAM LEAD
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EMINE TURGUT
PROGRAM
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THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS

The following are supporters of Greening Sacred Spaces Ottawa
and our Energy Benchmarking Program:

