

COUNCIL POLICY

SUBJECT: ENERGY CONSERVATION POLICY FOR THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAANICH			
DATE:	NOVEMBER 4, 1985	REFERENCE:	85/CW

The Energy Conservation Policy of the Municipality of Saanich is:

to increase the energy efficiency of new and existing structures, equipment, and transportation systems in the Municipality, through activities and programs which encourage conservation of energy resources, while maintaining the Municipality as an attractive place to live and do business.

Towards this end, the Municipality will work towards these goals:

1. **REFITTING EXISTING BUILDINGS**

All buildings, and particularly residential buildings, in the Municipality shall be made as energy efficient as is economically possible. This will be determined on the basis of the costs of the conservation measures versus current and predicted energy prices. These refitting programs shall initially be implemented through voluntary actions. However, they may be assisted by incentive grants from senior governments or advice from the Municipality or from the Conservation Energy Society of British Columbia. A guiding principle of these programs will be that residential property owners who implement energy conservation measures pay no more for their combined fuel and weatherproofing costs than they previously paid for heating fuel alone.

2. **LAND USE POLICIES**

The Municipality will encourage building designs and configurations that reduce energy requirements and take advantage of solar energy. In addition, the Municipality will encourage land use policies that increase access to public transit, reduce the need for travel and generally are in accord with the Community Plan.

3. **RENEWABLE ENERGY**

The Municipality shall encourage the application of various renewable energy technologies and alternate energy systems to reduce consumption of nonrenewable energy resources in the residential and commercial sectors. The Municipality shall facilitate the use of such systems by removing administrative barriers and encouraging solar-oriented residential development. In addition, the Municipality shall increase public awareness of various energy saving alternative technologies, such as composting and recycling, that will reduce the overall energy consumption by the Municipality and its citizens.

4. **TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS**

The Municipality shall support reduced consumption of nonrenewable fuels by taking measures to increase the efficiency of the various transportation and traffic regulation systems operating within the Municipality. These measures will encourage individuals to choose the most fuel-efficient methods of travel appropriate to their needs, promote the energy efficient movements of goods, and provide examples for the use of fuel-efficient vehicles.

5. **MUNICIPAL PROGRAMS**

The Municipality shall endeavor to reduce energy consumption in its own buildings and equipment by implementing the most energy efficient conservation measures and changing operational procedures.

6. **ROLE OF THE MUNICIPALITY**

The role of the Municipality is to support this Energy Conservation Policy and its implementation. The Municipality shall therefore set an example by introducing energy conservation measures directly within its own areas of responsibility. It shall also encourage similar efforts from the private sector through education and incentive programs. For example, fact sheets or brochures on energy conservation could be handed out by the Planning or Development Departments as guides to builders or other applicants when refitting or new buildings are being considered.

The Municipality's efforts shall include an ongoing campaign to promote energy conservation by informing all sectors of available programs and conservation techniques, developing financial incentives, seeking out support for the Municipality's conservation program from regional, Provincial and Federal governments, and regulating conservation actions where appropriate.

7. **CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

To assure the proper review and evaluation of the Municipality's energy conservation program, a Conservation Committee may be appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by Council.

This Committee will advocate conservation actions, monitor the progress of implementation, and propose appropriate changes to the policy as they see fit. The Committee will make periodic reports to Council on its activities, and will issue an in-depth analysis of policy implementation activities and effects not later than three years from the time the policy is formally adopted.