

Bayview Hill Solar Pool Heating System

Funding Program: Canada's Gas Tax Fund

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In 2010 Richmond Hill used a portion of its Gas Tax funding to install a solar heating system at the Bayview Hill Community Centre.

The Bayview Hill Community Centre and Pool was originally constructed in 1991 to serve the recreational needs of the Richmond Hill community. The facility includes a gymnasium, pool, tot pool, fitness studio, and several activity rooms. The Bayview Hill Community Centre was further expanded and upgraded in 2006 to provide more space for senior's programming. Programs offered at this facility include swimming lessons, recreational swimming, and aquafitness classes. Individuals from all sections of the Richmond Hill community make use of the unique programming of the Bayview Hill Community Centre and Pool.



Richmond Hill is committed to the principle of environmental sustainability, and in 2008 it prepared an Energy Management Plan for Town facilities. This commitment helps preserve our environment, improve public health, and reduce operating costs.

As part of Richmond Hill's leadership in this field, the Town used part of its Canada's Gas Tax Fund to install a solar heating system at the Bayview Hill Pool. This system uses solar energy to heat the water in the pool, allowing the Town to use sustainable energy to continue to provide its recreational services.



Project Highlights:

Federal investment in environmentally sustainable facilities

Upgrades include:

- Installation of pool solar heating system

Upgraded site benefits include:

- Annual greenhouse gas reduction of 75 tonnes
- Annual energy cost savings of \$18 000
- National recognition for sustainable practices



“ Our Town is a leader in promoting and implementing energy-efficient practices, technologies and alternative sources of power. Thanks to the Government of Canada, we'll be able to install even more renewable energy sources, and upgrade our municipal facilities to make use of energy efficient lighting, heating, and solar power. ”

Mayor Dave Barrow



Richmond Hill, where people come together to build our community.

PROJECT FACTS



PROJECT BUDGET: \$400 794
COMPLETION DATE: September 2010

PROJECT BENEFITS

Richmond Hill's 2009 Strategic Plan recognized wise management of resources as a key priority of the community. The installation of the solar heating system at Bayview Hill Pool has greatly improved the Town's ability to limit its environmental impact:

Greenhouse Gas Reduction

The installation of the Bayview Hill solar heating system has reduced facility greenhouse gas emissions by 75 tonnes per year. This represents one quarter of the Town's total greenhouse gas reductions for the period of 2010 to 2012.

National Leadership

In 2011, Richmond Hill was honoured as national climate protection champion by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. Commitments to sustainable projects such as the Bayview Hill solar heating array have made Richmond Hill one of the top five municipalities at reducing greenhouse gas emissions.



Financial Sustainability

The use of solar heating for the Bayview Hill Pool has resulted in facility energy cost savings of over \$18 000 per year.

Community Programming

Thousands of Richmond Hill residents make use of the facilities and programs of the Bayview Hill Pool every year. The completion of this project allows the Town to continue to provide these services in a sustainable manner.

The Bayview Hill solar heating array has had a clear impact on the way Richmond Hill manages its facilities. By reducing both the environment and financial impact of operating the Bayview Hill Community Centre and Pool, this project has greatly improved the Town's sustainability.



225 East Beaver Creek Road,
 Richmond Hill, ON L4C 4Y5

Tel: 905 771 8800
 Email: peopleplan@richmondhill.ca
 Website: RichmondHill.ca

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