

Greening Health Care

Greening Health Care is a collaboration between 26 healthcare organizations with 55 hospital facilities across Ontario and Alberta. Founded in 2004, the program engages its members in workshops, forums and webinars and shares resources to provide the knowledge and tools needed to become leaders in energy efficiency. Greening Health Care is accelerating energy and emissions reductions through:

- Research, pilot and cohort projects, bringing together hospitals with technical experts to develop and implement new knowledge and best practices
- Quantification of savings potential to make the business case for action
- Best practices guides and checklists to help every hospital identify and evaluate their full range of retrofit and operational improvement opportunities
- Monitoring monthly savings to verify actual savings made

A Record Year for Savings

Despite the pandemic, 2020 has been a good year for Greening Health Care member hospitals and the environment. Weather-normalized energy and water savings over the prior year are on track for the highest total so far, exceeding \$4,000,000 for the first time. Year on year greenhouse gas emissions reductions are projected to top 8,000 tonnes. Changes in hospital operations due to COVID-19 had little impact on these results.

Top-10 Savers in 2020 (% total energy)

1. Women’s College Hospital; 14.4%
2. North York General 4000 Leslie; 14.1%
3. CAMH Russell Site; 11.2%
4. Halton Healthcare Milton District; 10.3%
5. Sinai Health System 60 Murray St; 7.9%
6. Michael Garron Hospital; 7.8%
7. Mackenzie Health; 6.7%
8. Markham Stouffville Hospital; 6.0%
9. Kingston General Hospital; 6.0%
10. Red Deer Regional Hospital; 5.0%



Women's College Hospital with the highest recorded savings of the year

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2020 In Review

At our June 24 webinar, we introduced the new **Low Carbon Heating Plant (LCHP)** framework. With a growing number of member hospitals developing their multi-year roadmaps for transforming their plants over time away from steam and on to hot water with comprehensive heat recovery, the November 18 webinar is updating this framework and presenting case studies of the methodology and technologies involved. On September 15 we launched the **2020 New Hospital Performance** report documenting the growing success story of actual energy efficiency of Ontario's growing fleet of P3 hospitals, and the lessons learned to inform continuous improvement for the 17 operational facilities and the many more in the pipeline. The 2020 program also introduced the new **Best Practices Guide** (available on the website) for chiller plant design and operations and updated the 2017 OR ventilation guide to include a new section on anesthetic gas recovery. The **Thermal Wheel Efficiency Optimization** pilot at Markham Stouffville is being completed ready for rolling out across all member hospitals in 2021. Throughout the year, **Top-Performer Case Studies** from 9 hospitals served to inform and encourage everyone to drive continuous improvement.

This year we awarded 11 of 55 member sites with the 5% Award for achieving total energy reductions of at least 5% in 2019. We have featured more than 20 members speaking at our webinars along with industry experts, with recordings available at www.greeninghc.com. We rely on and appreciate the ongoing support of our program sponsors; the Independent Electricity Service Operator (IESO) and Enbridge Gas.

The Program for 2021

Our goals for the new year are simple – to set another record for greenhouse gas emissions reductions and utility cost savings by expanding membership (going wider) and helping members maximize their individual savings (going deeper). We are working with sponsoring organizations on three key initiatives:

- To encourage more hospitals to join, non-member hospitals are offered free participation at one webinar and a subsidy towards their first-year membership fees.
- One-on-one charrettes to help hospitals engage their staff and service providers in identifying and implementing their best opportunities to increase savings.
- Cohort projects taking collective action on high impact opportunities, saving time and creating economies of scale by bringing together groups of hospitals with industry experts.

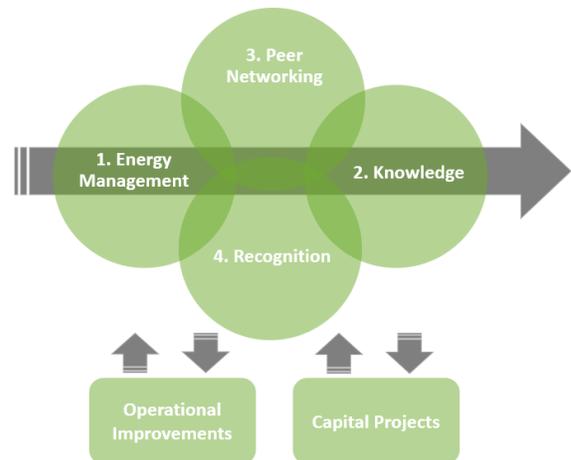
The 2021 program content will adjust to member feedback and the new normal as it emerges, supporting hospitals in responding to the ongoing COVID crisis as well as government economic recovery programs. Expect a bounty of one-time infrastructure funding along with operating budget pressures for the foreseeable future. Core themes for 2021 will be:

- Supporting wise capital investment decision-making: shovel-ready projects to renew infrastructure, improve resiliency, lower operating costs and work towards the low carbon future.
- Demonstrating energy and water efficient operations: documenting a comprehensive range of no/low cost measures along with staff training and service contractor engagement to get the best efficiency out of every building system.
- Building the community of interest, with all parties pulling in the same direction, informed and motivated by evidence and information.

Climate Challenge Network

Climate Challenge Network is the non-profit corporation, created in 2019, with a North American mandate to rapidly accelerate greenhouse gas emissions reductions in commercial, institutional and multi-residential buildings. The organization manages Greening Health Care and other collaborative programs in different building sectors. Its 4 pillars of success are:

1. Data analytics – using readily available utility data to quantify savings potential, identify the biggest savings opportunities and verify that savings are made;
2. Evidence-based best practices – researching and documenting lessons learned from the most efficient buildings and those recording the biggest savings;
3. Networking among building managers and operators, industry, governments and academia, creating the big tent where knowledge and innovation flourish; and
4. Recognition – celebrating winners and champions in achieving high performance.



Never Let a Crisis go to Waste

These are challenging times, and nowhere more so than in the hospital sector. Our thanks to the Hamilton Spectator for capturing the world the way we see it. Today we are consumed with response to COVID. Next will come the inevitable economic fallout. 5 years from now those crises will be behind us but the Climate Crisis – the third wave – will still be here and can be expected to be more intense than ever.

While we think this visual captures the threats, it misses the emerging opportunities. In the darkest hours of WW2, Winston Churchill first counseled us to “never let a good crisis go to waste.” With three crises in play we have the unique opportunity to implement win-win-win solutions which can deliver real, positive, systemic change in public health, the economy and the environment that might otherwise have not been possible. The healthcare sector is at the forefront of this change, and Greening Health Care is working with you to get the best possible outcomes.



Photo Credit: Graeme MacKay, Hamilton Spectator, March 11, 2020

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