

REPORT

REPORT TO: Mayor Bonnette and Members of Council

REPORT FROM: Planning and Infrastructure

DATE: November 23, 2015

REPORT NO.: PI-2015-0031

RE: Green Development Leadership Award
Recognition Program (Green Development Standards)

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. PI-2015-0031 dated November 23, 2015 regarding the Green Development Leadership Award recognition program, be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Council approve the launch of the Green Development Leadership Award program as a means of celebrating and recognizing leadership demonstrated by developments that comply and/or exceed the Town's Green Development Standards;

AND FURTHER THAT, in light of the Green Development Leadership Award program being a new initiative, Town staff be authorized to make minor refinements to the program, if necessary, without prior approval of Council, and to the satisfaction of the Executive Director of Planning Services and Chief Planning Official.

BACKGROUND:

Through Report PDS-2014-0022, dated March 26, 2014, Council approved the final set of Green Development Standards. Now in the implementation phase, the Standards were designed to maximize development's many positive attributes while minimizing its potentially negative impacts. This is being accomplished through a focus on energy and water efficiency, waste management, efficient resource use and sustainable community design. To date, over 300 residential units and about 120,000 square meters of non-residential development are moving through compliance with the Green Development Standards. The Standards entered into effect in June 2014.

COMMENTS:

To streamline implementation, provide support to the development industry, ensure effective implementation of the Green Development Standards, encourage third-party compliance verification and continue to raise market awareness of the benefits of high-performance sustainable development, a key recommendation of the Green Development Standards Study was to establish a 'Green Development Leadership Award' program.

To implement this recommendation, Appendix 1 contains a practical Green Development Leadership Award program for implementation by the Town. There are two components to the program:

1. Application Guide
2. Nomination Form

Application Guide:

The Application Guide explains that the Green Development Leadership Awards will be granted in two categories:

- Award of Achievement: Awarded to eligible and selected projects that have achieved the minimum number of points to comply with the Standards, without third-party verification.
- Award of Excellence: Awarded to eligible and selected projects that have exceeded the minimum number of points by at least 20%, have confirmed compliance post-construction with third-party certification and have demonstrated excellence or innovation in development.

To be eligible, projects must meet several criteria including being:

- Located in Halton Hills.
- A project type that is covered by the Green Development Standards.
- Substantially completed and occupied at the time of the submission.

Although expansions, renovations and adaptive reuse of existing buildings are generally not eligible as they are not subject to the Green Development Standards, such projects may be submitted if they demonstrate significant innovation and leadership in sustainable high-efficiency development. These types of submissions will be considered at the Town's sole discretion.

Nominations can be submitted by anyone, including the development industry, consultants, community associations, industry associations, suppliers, Councillors and staff. Self-nominations are acceptable.

Submissions are recommended to be evaluated by a judging panel consisting of the Mayor (or Council delegates), and a cross-disciplinary team of staff representing key areas of focus in the Green Development Standards (i.e. land-use planning, sustainability, development review, building, parks, economic development and infrastructure).

The deadline for submissions will be the last Friday of June. Award recipients will be notified by the end of September. Winners will be presented with their Award in October. The award ceremony would take place as part of a regular Council meeting and/or as part of an existing Achievement Award night. At this time, it is recommended that this be an annual program.

Nomination Form:

The Nomination Form is an opportunity for the applicant to provide project information, including the number of points submitted, actually achieved and/or third-part certified; project description; explanation of any innovative features; examples of excellence in energy conservation, water efficiency, community design and/or the other focus areas of the Standards; and highlights of measurable environmental, economic and/or social outcomes generated by the project.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

Sustainability is at the core of the Town's Strategic Plan and is one of Council's top eight strategic priority areas. Launch of the Green Development Leadership Award program is closely aligned with and supports the implementation of the Strategic Plan, including these strategic priorities:

- 5.C) Invest in Green Energy technologies.
- 5.D) Continue to implement the Town's Green Development Standards.
- 5.F) Implement the Mayor's Community Energy Plan.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no direct financial impact associated with this report.

COMMUNICATIONS IMPACT:

Launch of the Green Development Leadership Award program will be widely communicated to the development community, media and residents. Winners will be posted on the Town's website.

The Application Guide and Nomination Form will be formatted and made available electronically on the Town's website.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:

The Town is committed to implementing our Community Sustainability Strategy, Imagine Halton Hills. Doing so will lead to a higher quality of life. The relationship between this report and the Strategy is summarized below:

Do the report's recommendations advance the Strategy's implementation? Yes

Which pillar(s) of sustainability does this report support?
Environmental Health, Economic Prosperity and Social Well-being

In summary, the Sustainability Implications of this report are as follows:

By recognizing and celebrating sustainable forms of development, the Green Development Leadership Award program will advance the Vision of the Community Sustainability Strategy as well as its numerous themes, including Green Economy, Land Use, Infrastructure, Energy, Natural Heritage, Natural Resources, Water, Air Quality & Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Consumption & Waste Generation, Biodiversity and Housing.

Overall, the alignment of this report with the Community Sustainability Strategy is:
Very Good

CONSULTATION:

The Green Development Leadership Award program was developed by a working group of the Staff Sustainability Team, based on a review of best practices. It also benefited from feedback from representatives of the judging panel, including the Manager of Development Review, Economic Development Officer, and the Executive Director of Planning Services and Chief Planning Official.

CONCLUSION:

To celebrate and recognize industry leaders in high-performance sustainable development, this report recommends approval of a new Green Development Leadership Award program.

Respectfully submitted,

Damian Szybalski, MCIP, RPP, M.Sc.PL
Corporate Project Lead and Manager of
Sustainability

Reviewed and Approved by,

John Linhardt, MCIP, RPP
Executive Director of Planning
Services & Chief Planning Official

Chris Mills, P. Eng.
Commissioner of Planning and
Infrastructure

Brent Marshall
Chief Administrative Officer & Fire
Chief

**Appendix 1 to Report No. PI-2015-0031
Green Development Leadership Award Program
-Application Guide and Nomination Form-**

This document is available in an alternate format, please contact:
905-873-2601 ext. 2289

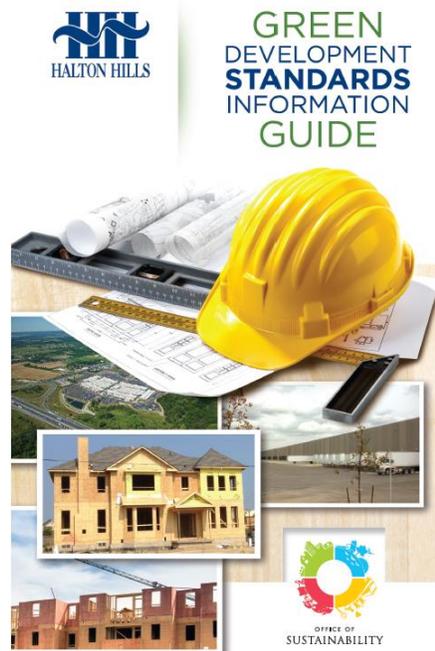
**Town of Halton Hills
Green Development Leadership Awards
-Application Guide-**

Background

Building on its award-winning Green Development Evaluation Checklist, in April 2014, Town Council approved a new set of Green Development Standards. These Standards put in place a highly flexible set of criteria that are anticipated to materialize in more sustainable, high-performance and efficient development. The Standards are designed to maximize development's positive attributes, while minimizing potentially negative impacts.

The Standards were carefully designed to maximize benefits to residents, building occupants, the Town and builders/developers. Anticipated benefits include:

- Reduced long-term home/building/business operating costs;
- Energy and water conservation;
- Improved community design;
- More active transportation;
- Efficient infrastructure use;
- Stormwater management;
- Implementation flexibility;
- Marketing advantage for the applicant;
- Efficient resource/material use;



- Lower greenhouse gas emissions; and
- Improved communication and awareness.

The Standards advance many key Town objectives and priorities, including those of its Strategic Plan, Official Plan, Community Sustainability Strategy and Mayor's Community Energy Plan – contributing to the economic prosperity, environmental health, cultural vibrancy and social well-being of Halton Hills.

The Green Development Leadership Awards celebrate and recognize leadership demonstrated by developments that comply or exceed the minimum point requirements of the Green Development Standards.

The number of awards presented will be determined by the Town based on the number and quality of submissions received.

The Awards are presented each October by Town Council.

Award Categories

The Green Development Leadership Awards are granted in the following two categories:

1. **Award of Achievement:** Projects that have achieved the minimum number of points required to comply with the Standards, based on the applicable development type.
2. **Award of Excellence:** Projects that have exceeded the minimum number of applicable points by at least 20%, have confirmed compliance post-construction via third-party certification, and have demonstrated excellence in applying innovative approaches to development. Innovation may be at the local, regional, national and/or international levels.

Who is Eligible?

To be considered for the Town of Halton Hills Green Development Leadership Awards, a project must meet all of the following eligibility criteria at the time of the submissions:

- Project is located within the Town of Halton Hills.
- Project is substantially completed and occupied.
- Project is one of the development types that are subject to the Green Development Standards:
 - Low-Rise Residential: Single detached, semi-detached, duplex and townhouse development containing 4 or more lots or dwelling units up to 3 storeys in height.
 - Low-Rise Non-Residential: Non-residential development up to 3 storeys, larger than 100 square metres.
 - Mid to High Rise: All residential apartment buildings and all non-residential buildings 4 storeys in height or higher.

- Although expansions, renovations, retrofits and adaptive reuse of existing buildings are generally not eligible as they are not subject to the Green Development Standards, such projects that demonstrate significant innovation and leadership in sustainable high-efficiency development may be considered at the Town's sole discretion.
- Landscape work must be substantially completed and accessible to visitors.
- Applicant is in good standing with the Town.
- Interior design projects that are neither visible nor accessible to the public are not eligible.
- Completed and signed Nomination Form received by the deadline.

Nomination Submission

- Nominations can be submitted by anyone, including builders, developers, project consultants, architects, planners, engineers, landscape architects, residents, community associations, approval authorities (e.g. Conservation Authorities), industry organizations/associations, suppliers, trades, Town Councillors, and Town and Halton Region staff.
- Self-nominations will be accepted.
- Developers/builders may nominate their own projects.
- Nominations require the submission of:
 - Nomination Form
 - Site Plans or drawings
 - Pictures
- There is no limit on the number of projects that may be submitted. However, each requires a separate Nomination Form.
- Completed applications must be received by the **last Friday of June by 4:30pm.**
- Applications may be submitted electronically (preferred method) via e-mail to sustainability@haltonhills.ca or in paper copy addressed and delivered to:

ATTN: Green Development Leadership Awards
Town of Halton Hills
Planning and Infrastructure
Office of Sustainability
1 Halton Hills Drive
Halton Hills ON L7G 5G2

Judging Panel

Submissions to the Town of Halton Hills Green Development Leadership Awards will be evaluated by a committee that may be composed of:

- Mayor or Council delegate(s)
- Executive Director of Planning Services and Chief Planning Official
- Manager of Sustainability
- Manager of Development Review
- Chief Building Official
- Manager of Parks and Open Space
- Economic Development Officer
- Representative(s) of the development/building industry.

The composition of the Judging Panel may be adjusted at the Town's discretion.

Questions?

If you have any questions or need assistance in submitting your Award application, please contact the Office of Sustainability, located in Planning and Infrastructure at:

Mail: Town of Halton Hills
Planning and Infrastructure
Office of Sustainability
1 Halton Hills Drive
Halton Hills ON L7G 5G2

Phone: 905.873.2601 ext. 2289
E-mail: sustainability@haltonhills.ca
Twitter: @ImagineHH

**Town of Halton Hills
Green Development Leadership Awards
-Nomination Form-**

Award Category

Please select the Award category you are applying for (select one):

Award of Achievement

Award of Excellence:

**The Town reserves the right to change the project category to better match selection and eligibility criteria.*

Nominator Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Website: _____

Development Category

Low-Rise Residential

Low-Rise Non-Residential

Mid to High Rise

Project Information

Project Name: _____

Project Address: _____

Completion Date: _____

Occupancy Date: _____

Percentage Completed: _____

Percentage Occupied: _____

Project Owner/Developer: _____

Project Owner Business Address: _____

Project Website: _____

Town of Halton Hills Development Review File Number: _____

Site Area: _____

Application Type:

- Site Plan
- Subdivision
- Condominium
- Official Plan Amendment
- Zoning By-law Amendment

Green Development Standards Accomplishments

Minimum Number of Points Required: _____

Total Points Originally Submitted: _____

Total Points Actually Achieved: _____

Total Points Third-Party Certified: _____

Name and Contact information for Third-Party: _____

(Please attach a letter from the Third-Party confirming certification – e.g. professional planner, engineer or architect)

Project Description

1. Provide a general description of the project (e.g. location, timelines, site context, stakeholders involved, type, size, number of units, target market, value of investment, challenges faced and solutions developed, any third-party certification such as LEED®, etc). (250 words maximum)

2. Highlight the project's innovative features. (250 words maximum)

3. How has this project demonstrated excellence in one or more of the following focus areas of the Green Development Standards: energy conservation ■ water efficiency ■ water quality ■ community design ■ air quality ■ innovation ■ waste management ■ communication ■ transportation ■ natural environment? (500 words maximum)

4. What are the anticipated and/or already achieved measurable environmental, economic and/or social outcomes of this project (e.g. reduced greenhouse gas emissions, decreased energy or water consumption, low impact development, renewable energy generation, local employment, revitalization, quality of life, community engagement, long-term operating cost savings)? (500 words maximum)

Contributors

Please list the main contributors that directly helped make this project a reality (e.g. developer, builder, building architect, landscape architect, engineer, planner, contractor, etc).

Name	Company/Title	Contact Information

Supporting Information

Please submit any other information that you feel will be useful in the evaluation of your submission. At minimum, please submit:

- Site Plans, landscape plan(s) and/or drawings
- Pictures (maximum 5)
- Links to relevant information or documents
- Third-party certification (if applicable). Required for “Award of Excellence” category.

Submissions will not be returned.

Acknowledgment

I declare that:

- The information contained in this Nomination Form and attached is true, accurate and complete.
- That I hold the copyright rights to any included photos, drawings and graphics. If not, please specify which material you do not hold copyright to.
- That you grant the Town of Halton Hills permission to use the included and/or attached information, including photos, in any communication and/or promotional materials without any cost.

Name

Authorized Signature

Date

Submission and Notification

Please note the following milestones for the submission and notification of winners of the Green Leadership Awards:

- **Nomination Submission Deadline:** Last Friday of June by 4:30pm.
- **Award Recipients will be notified:** End of September
- **Awards Presentation:** October (Council meeting date to be confirmed)