

Stratford's Program for Energy Audits and Renewables (SPEAR)

Why:

Stratford's Program for Energy Audits and Renewables (SPEAR) is being developed to assist property owners in the Town of Stratford achieve sustainable properties through the provision of loans geared toward Energy Efficient Upgrades, and Renewable Energy upgrades.

Unlike other programs, SPEAR would provide both an energy assessment and a water consumption assessment for the participants to understand how they can save money. SPEAR would not just focus on energy efficiency but also the potential of renewable energy installments including solar hot water heating and/or photovoltaic electricity generation.

The goal is to ensure that people will not pay more than they are paying right now for energy but they will be able to use less energy and save money once all retrofits from the program have been paid off.

How it Works:

SPEAR would provide a single point of contact for a resident to receive an energy audit, and energy retrofits without having to contact multiple service providers. Participants will pay back the costs of the work completed over an extended period of time.

Current modelling for SPEAR indicates that the program would be administered by the Town of Stratford with auditing services and retrofit services offered to all residents and local businesses. The auditing services and retrofit services would be contracted to local companies and billed to the Town of Stratford rather than to each participant. Each retrofit that is done on a residential or commercial property would have a certain amount of savings associated with it. Program participants would continue to pay their standard energy costs while all savings due to the program retrofits would be collected by the Town of Stratford until the audit and retrofits have paid for themselves; then all associated savings would be reallocated back to the program participant.

Instructions:

Step 1: Fill out form available at Town Centre. A form can be sent to you by contacting spear@townofstratford.ca.

Step 2: Submit form by November 15, 2017.

Step 3: Those invited to participate in pilot program will be required to attend Technical committee meeting held at the end of November.

Step 4: Pilot Program will run from January 29, 2018 to March 19, 2018.

Step 5: Pilot Program participants will review results with technical committee in March, 2018 and recommend necessary changes to the program based on experience.

Step 6: Billing process will begin in March, 2018 with payments made on a regular basis until all costs of the program have been paid off by each participant.

Three residential properties and one commercial business will be selected for the Pilot Program.



Imagine that!