



Report to: General Committee

Date Report Authored: November 7, 2011

SUBJECT: Markham Receives Double Gold at the *2011 Ontario Waste Minimization Awards*

PREPARED BY: Claudia Marsales, Ext. 3560

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) That Mayor and Council on behalf of the Town of Markham, receive the double gold *2011 Ontario Waste Minimization Award* from the Recycling Council of Ontario.

PURPOSE:

To inform Council that Markham is the recipient of the double gold *2011 Ontario Waste Minimization Award* from the Recycling Council of Ontario in recognition of the Town's leadership in waste diversion and unique programs.

BACKGROUND:

At the annual awards gala held on the evening of October 19, 2011, the Recycling Council of Ontario awarded Markham the double gold *2011 Ontario Waste Minimization Award*. The *Waste Minimization Awards* recognizes Ontario municipalities, businesses and institutions that have diverted a significant percentage of waste from disposal through reduction, reuse and/or recycling initiatives. Markham was honoured with the double gold level municipal award in recognition of our high municipal waste diversion rate of 72% as well as our unique Polystyrene Foam Densification Program.

Markham's Polystyrene Densifier machine compresses polystyrene foam collected from our four recycling depots, reducing the air and volume by 90 percent, creating solid, stackable bricks of plastic that make transportation easy and convenient. Now only one seventh of the trucks are required to ship polystyrene foam to end market. The plastic bricks are then made into picture frames and crown moulding. Markham's unique Polystyrene Foam Densification Program was awarded for addressing a material specific processing issue that resulted in a higher end use for a waste resource.

The Recycling Council of Ontario (RCO) is a not-for-profit, membership-based organization involved in policy, education and project work around the issues of consumption, waste generation, reduction and diversion, and recycling. The RCO's mission is to inform and educate all members of society about the avoidance of waste, efficient use of resources, and the benefits and/or consequences of these activities.

HUMAN RESOURCES CONSIDERATIONS:

Not applicable.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Not applicable.

BUSINESS UNITS CONSULTED AND AFFECTED:

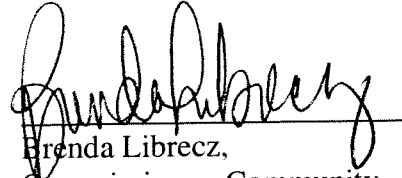
Not applicable.

RECOMMENDED

BY:



Peter Loukes P.Eng
Director, Environmental Services



Brenda Librecz,
Commissioner, Community
and Fire Services

ATTACHMENTS:

Ontario Waste Minimization Award Certificate



Recycling Council of Ontario

2011
*Ontario Waste Minimization
Awards*

MUNICIPAL
GOLD

Presented to

TOWN OF MARKHAM
DIVERSION & UNIQUE PROGRAM

*In recognition of excellence & commitment
to a sustainable environment*

OCTOBER 2011
TORONTO, ONTARIO