



BOMA CDM Program is Poised to Expand Beyond Toronto

Successful conservation and demand management program will now be offered to LDCs across the province

By John Tenpenny

BOMA Toronto's Conservation and Demand Management (CDM) Program is poised to expand outside of the 416 area code. According to Program Manager Wayne Proulx, a deal has been brokered with the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) which will see the CDM Program offered to Local Distribution Companies (LDC).

"For two years we've been talking to the Provincial government and the OPA, initially about taking the CDM program out to the 905 area," says Proulx. "We were constantly being asked and are still being asked by property managers and owners who love the 416 program, 'When will this program be available for my properties in the 905.' So we were constantly advocating with OPA to give us at least the 905 area."

Then last fall, according to Proulx, he got word that his organization's persistence was finally paying off. Then Minister of Energy and Infrastructure George Smitherman informed Proulx,

"You will be able to benefit building owners across Ontario."

Proulx won't take all the credit. He cites both the OPA and the Electricity Distributors Association (EDA), which represents LDCs in the province, as key partners in getting this deal done.

This is all in preparation for 2011 when according to Proulx, "The world changes." That's when the Green Energy Act will mandate that LDCs deliver conservation. The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) will re-license all LDCs and deliverable conservation will be part of their licenses.

At that point the LDCs will make a decision.

"The challenge is that we have to go to every one of them and say, 'This is the product that we have, this is what we've built, this is how we're delivering it, and this is the success we've had to date inside the 416.'" says Proulx.

Currently outside of the Toronto area,

the 83 LDCs in the province (of which the six largest represent 40 percent of the market) make use of the OPA's Electricity Retrofit Incentive Program (ERIP). Under the new agreement, according to Proulx, that won't change per se. "It won't be the BOMA CDM program in Mississauga, for example, but rather an ERIP program delivered by BOMA.

"We've built an incredible delivery vehicle and we believe that the LDCs will agree that we don't need to re-invent the wheel."

Proulx says another opportunity for the BOMA CDM Program will be their ability to sell the program to the institutional market if the LDC agrees to participate.

Right now it's about building relationships and showing LDCs across the province what BOMA CDM can do," says Proulx.

"Conservation is not going away. This is the tip of the iceberg." 