Energy – Launch Newsletter

Welcome to the Energy People Power Challenge! Over the next [enter number] weeks, [enter organization name] will be working together to fight climate change.   There are many fun events and activities that you can complete to earn points and drive positive environmental action at home, at work, and in your community. [If your organization will be providing prizes for participation, insert that information here]. Your sustainability champion is [insert name]; contact them with any questions.

LEARN MORE

Title: Webinar Watch Party: Energy Leaders Training

Subtitle: Join your colleagues on **(insert date and time**) for a watch party!

The webinar will share top tips on how people can reduce their energy bill at home such as how to avoid peak timing, using smart appliances, house updates, as well how to be energy efficient in the office.

Register here **[INSERT LINK]**

UPCOMING EVENT

Title: How to Talk About Climate Change

Subtitle: Presented by Ryerson Leadership Lab on **[INSERT EVENT DATE]**

While the numbers are slowly falling, still almost one in three Canadians say they are not convinced that climate change is caused by human and industrial activity. Emerging evidence shows that talking with colleagues, friends, and family is an important way to change people's minds and increase the urgency of action on climate change.

Join us on **[INSERT EVENT DATE]** for an interactive event by the Ryerson Leadership Lab on how to talk about climate change. This event will provide concrete tips and tricks for how to reach your community and inspire climate action.

Register here **[INSERT LINK]**

TAKE ACTION

To earn points, send pictures of yourself completing the following activities to **[insert champion name and contact details].**Each activity is worth 50 points and can be completed multiple times.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity**  | **Description**  | **Photo proof**  |
| **Check your thermostat**  | Save on your next electricity or gas bill by adjusting your thermostat to at least 22° C in the summer or 20° C in the winter.  | Photo with your thermostat set to 22° C in the summer or 20° C in the winter.  |
| **Switch to LED light bulbs**  | Make sure you are using efficient LED lightbulbs in your home. These use a fraction of energy of incandescent bulbs and last longer.   | Photo with the LED lightbulbs in your home.  |
| **Use that power bar to power down**  | When electronics are plugged in but turned off, they still use energy (called "standby" or "phantom" power). Plug in your electronics such as a TV cable box, computer, cell phone charger, or portable speakers into a power bar. Be sure to turn off your power bar when you are not using your electronics. This can save money on your energy bill!  | Photo with your power bar with at least 3 cords plugged in.  |
| **Use energy efficient appliances**  | Show that your home has energy efficient appliances. Look for the "ENERGY STAR" logo on large appliances such as fridges, dishwashers, washers, and dryers.  | Photo with at least one ENERGY STAR appliance.  |
| **Discuss climate change with your family & friends**  | Use the resources provided to have a conversation with your family and friends about climate change and the impacts our actions have on the health of the planet. This is a great opportunity to discuss concerns that some might have, and brainstorm ways you can have a positive impact on the earth.  | Photo of the discussions happening with family members, roommates, or friends (these can take place via an online platform).  |
| **Air dry your laundry**  | Hang your clothes to dry on a drying rack or a clothesline. This will reduce your need to turn on the dryer and save you money.  | Photo of your clothesline or drying rack with clothes being hung to dry.  |
| **Wash your clothing in cold water**  | Washing your clothing in cold water reduces shrinkage, wear and tear on clothes, and reduces wrinkles. It is also great to help you reduce your energy consumption and bills!   | Photo of your washing machine showing that the cold water setting is on. This photo should show clothing in the washing machine as well.  |
| **Create a family eco-pledge board**  | Like a sustainability board you might find at your workplace, set up an area of your home where you can display your family's commitment to leading more eco-conscious lives. Be open to the different actions individuals want to commit to and encourage dialogue and brainstorming.  | Photo of your eco-pledge board. If you would like to be in the photo, even better!  |
| **Bike/walk to work & for errands**  | Bike or walk to work, or while you do errands, if possible.  | Photo of you biking or walking to the office or on your way to do errands.  |

EXPLORING THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

In each newsletter, we will be focusing on one or more of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) and bringing you videos, articles, and news stories to help increase awareness around these critical global goals.

Title: SDG Goal #7: Affordable and Clean Energy

Subtitle: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all

While the proportion of the global population with access to electricity has increased steadily, there are still 1.1 billion people across the world that live without it. By 2030, the goal of the United Nations is to enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technologies, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and cleaner fossil-fuel technology. The goal also emphasizes a need to promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology.

Canadian businesses are able to take action to move forward with this goal by investing in research and development related to sustainable energy services, bringing new technologies to the market quickly, by committing to ensuring all employees and their families have access to a reliable and affordable source of energy by investing in local infrastructure, and by prioritizing energy efficiency across operations (examples of this include prioritizing telecommunications and setting science-based targets to reduce overall demand for energy).

**Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hnb4aUSPUZY**

**LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SDGS:**[**https://partnersinprojectgreen.com/sustainable-development-goals/**](https://partnersinprojectgreen.com/sustainable-development-goals/)

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

* [**Advice and Tips for Every Ontario Home**](https://saveonenergy.ca/For-Your-Home/Advice-and-Tips), Save on Energy (webpage)
* [**How to Save**](https://www.enbridgegas.com/Using-Natural-Gas/How-To-Save), Enbridge (webpage)
* [**Renewable Energy Projects in Canada's Remote Communities Have Doubled in Past Five Years**](https://thenarwhal.ca/renewable-energy-canada-remote-communities-pembina/), The Narwal (article)
* [**Clearing the Air: How Electric Vehicles and Cleaner Trucks Can Help Reduce Pollution, Improve Health and Save Lives in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area,**](https://clearingtheair.ca/) Environmental Defence and the Ontario Public Health Association (article)
* [**What is an Energy Efficient Home**](https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/energy-efficiency/energy-efficiency-homes/what-energy-efficient-home/20548), Natural Resources Canada (website)
* [**Cool It, Hot Stuff!**](https://www.eib.org/en/podcasts/climate-podcast-energy-efficiency), Climate Solutions (Podcast)
* [**Top 10 Reasons to Line Dry Laundry**](https://www.thespruce.com/reasons-to-line-dry-laundry-2145997), The Spruce (webpage)
* [**Canadian Provincial Energy Efficiency Scorecard (2019),**](https://www.scorecard.efficiencycanada.org/) Efficiency Canada (website and report)