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BC LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TAKE THE LEAD ON ENERGY ACTION

Minister Terry Lake presents Surrey, Nakusp and City of North Vancouver with Climate & Energy Action Awards. City of North Vancouver, Regional District of Nanaimo and City of Rossland receive Honourable Mentions.

[Victoria] The Honourable Terry Lake, Minister of Environment presented awards recognizing the leadership of Surrey, Nakusp and City of North Vancouver at the Union of B.C Municipalities convention. I want to thank these communities because they are leading examples of the impressive momentum that there is in local governments across B.C. in the quest to reduce the size of their carbon footprint,” said Minister Lake. “Local governments that become more energy-efficient are showing they can save money while addressing climate change.”

The City of Surrey won in the Community Planning and Development category for the planning and development of Surrey City Centre. Over the past ten years, City Centre has transformed into a high-density, transit-oriented community – changes that have been driven by vision, commitment and investment. In accepting the award, Mayor Watts said “As we create the second metropolitan centre of the region, it’s important to shape growth and advance new clean technologies. Our new district energy system, zoning regulations and sustainable transportation infrastructure will help us create healthier communities.”

The Village of Nakusp won in the *Corporate Operations* category. The Village has implemented renewable energy retrofit projects, reduced GHG emissions and reduced energy costs. Capturing latent heat from hot springs water, installing 6,500 W of solar power, and a completing a micro hydro project are just a few of the projects undertaken. “As a small community, Nakusp has limited resources,” said Karen Hamling, Mayor of Nakusp. “These successful renewable energy projects have reduced operating costs, moved us closer to achieving carbon neutral operations and demonstrated leadership.”

The City of North Vancouver won the Public Sector Collaboration category for the Lonsdale Energy Corporation and School District 44 Education Service Centre/Arts for Kids project, which showcases a geothermal heat pump system and recycling of surplus heat. By saving energy and reducing greenhouse gases, the project allows more of SD 44’s budget to be directed towards its education mission, while allowing Lonsdale Energy Corporation to integrate heat recovery and geo-exchange systems into its district energy system. “The City’s district energy vision is one of flexibility and responsiveness, using the most appropriate energy source at all times,” said Mayor Darrell Mussatto. “This project serves as a model of collaboration and renewable energy to other school districts and communities throughout BC.”

“The awards draw attention to the diverse challenges of achieving energy sustainability – and to the creativity and tenacity of those who are overcoming them,” said Mike Bernier Co-chair, Community Energy Association and Mayor of the City of Dawson Creek.

Honourable Mentions were awarded to:

- City of North Vancouver for its energy efficient buildings density bonusing initiative.
- Regional District of Nanaimo for a regional memorandum of understanding for corporate emission reduction projects.
- City of Rossland for the Rossland Energy Diet.

The awards are organized annually by the Community Energy Association in partnership with the Province of British Columbia, Union of B.C. Municipalities, B.C. Hydro and FortisBC.



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Contact:

Dale Littlejohn, Executive Director, Community Energy Association
Ph: 604-628-7076 Cell: 604-785-5130

For more information on applicants and their projects, visit Community Energy Association's website at:
<http://www.communityenergy.bc.ca/>