20 May 2009 Kirsten Walli Board Secretary Ontario Energy Board Box 2319 2300 Yonge Street, Suite 2700 Toronto, ON M4P 1E4



This letter nominates Clifford Maynes, Executive Director, Green Communities Canada, to the LEAP Conservation Working Group. Mr. Maynes will represent Green Communities Canada, which has been a leader in:

- designing and delivering low-income energy efficiency programs
- promoting awareness in Canada of high energy burden, and building support for vigorous programs to deliver low-income energy retrofits

Green 🔨 Communities

promoting excellence in program design and delivery

As Executive Director of Green Communities Canada, Mr. Maynes has led and participated in GCC's low-income energy efficiency activities over the past decade. Relevant experience and qualifications:

- Leadership in residential energy efficiency. Green Communities Canada and its member organizations have completed close to 200,000 energy audits. GCC piloted EnerGuide for Houses for Natural Resources Canada in 1998, and has contributed to the evolution of Canada's energy auditing and rating system. GCC has been a persistent defender of science-based retrofits and initiated and designed the ground-breaking EnerGuide for Houses retrofit incentive program. GCC and its members have also delivered numerous low-income energy efficiency projects, including programs with Ontario's gas LDCs, and a community-wide First Nations retrofit.
- Introduced the concept of energy poverty to Canada and raised the profile of efficiency retrofits as a means to reduce energy burden. With Équiterre and Vivre en Ville in 2001, GCC published a study by Helios Consultants showing greater benefits from energy efficiency relative to the 2000 GST rebate, a one-time federal government initiative to address high energy costs for low-income households.
- Completed program design study for a national low-income energy efficiency program. This study, authored by Mr. Maynes and Vermont Energy Investment

Corporation, documented the incidence and impacts of high energy burden in Canada for the first time, and outlined program design principles based on experience in the U.S. and elsewhere. This study influenced the design of Manitoba's low income energy efficiency program. Funding was provided by Natural Resources Canada, CMHC, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

- Convened stakeholders to discuss energy burden and retrofits. GCC partnered with Canadian Housing Renewal Association to organize Canada's first national conference on low income energy issues, in Halifax, February 2005. Over 90 delegates from across Canada attended this uniquely cross-sectoral event (including government, utilities, environmental organizations, social and housing organizations). In 2008, GCC organized a follow-up conference, *Time for Action*, that brought over 170 delegates to Toronto to discuss effective low-income energy efficiency program design. Mr. Maynes prepared pre-conference discussion papers for both the Halifax and Toronto events, and played a leading role in developing conference programs ... GCC has received broad support for its proposed Canadian Energy Poverty Network to facilitate continued nation-wide sharing and collaboration on energy burden problems and solutions.
- Designed and delivered low-income retrofit pilot for the Ontario Power Authority, 2006-07 (\$2.4 million contract). GCC was retained in 2006 by the OPA to design, deliver and evaluate Ontario's first true comprehensive "weatherization"-style program. The 2007 pilot project served 70% of Ontario's population base, created an audit and retrofit system, developed customized auditing and online database software, and established a network of referral agencies and retrofit contractors throughout the province. The program was delivered by GCC member Green Communities, independent not-for-profit organizations based around Ontario to do local marketing, auditing and retrofit management.
- Participated on a national working group on low-income energy efficiency. GCC, represented by Mr. Maynes, is a non-governmental member of a subcommittee under the Council of Energy Ministers DSM Working Group. The subcommittee is preparing a "lower-income household energy efficiency strategic framework" for recommendation to Canada's federal-provincial-territorial energy ministers.

Thank you,

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Clifford Maynes, Executive עיורפכנסr Green Communities Canada cmaynes@greencommunitiescanada.org

Box 928, Peterborough, ON K9J 7A5

Attachment: Cost Award Request

## ABOUT GREEN COMMUNITIES CANADA

**Green Communities Canada**, founded in 1995, is a national association of 30+ community-based non-profits that help people green their homes, their lives, and their communities. The weekly GCnews (since 1995) has 1,000+ subscribers. Joint programs include home energy efficiency (~ 200K energy audits), Well Aware (private well stewardship), Canada Walks (community walkability), and EcoDriver.

See www.greencommunitiescanada.org.



GREEN COMMUNITIES CANADA:

## **OEB** Cost Award Request

Request by Green Communities Canada to establish eligibility for a cost award to participate in the LEAP Conservation Working Group, **FILE NUMBER: EB-2008-0150.** 

Green Communities Canada, a non-profit organization, will bring a valuable public interest perspective to these proceedings, and a wealth of useful knowledge. For the past decade GCC has been a leader on a national scale in promoting public awareness and knowledge of high energy burden and energy efficiency as a means of reducing energy burden for low income households. Activities, outlined in more detail in GCC's application to participate on the LEAP Conservation Working Group, include the publication of studies and reports and the organization of two highly successful national conferences on the topic. GCC can also provide the benefit of its hands on experience in designing and delivering low-income energy efficiency programs, including the design and pilot for the Ontario Power Authority of a low-income energy efficiency program.

Green Communities Canada will be represented at the Working Group by its Executive Director, Clifford Maynes, who has led and participated in GCC's low-income conservation activities over the past decade.

GCC is not receiving funding from any other source to participate in this forum.

Since Mr. Maynes is an employee of Green Communities Canada, we understand that we are *not* eligible for compensation for his time in attending or preparing for Working Group meetings. However, we note that reasonable disbursements, including travel and accommodation may be eligible. Since GCC is located more than 100 km from the process, these will include travel by bus and possibly overnight accommodation, depending on the timing of the Working Group meetings.