

city of **Edmundston**

message from the environmental board

ladies and gentlemen,

We all hope developing our community will enable us to respond to all our current needs without jeopardizing the capacity of future generations to address theirs.

Today, we are extremely pleased to present the Green Plan for the city of Edmundston. We have in our hands an essential tool that will permit us to individually and collectively achieve the great environmental goals entrusted to us by the community. This Green Plan is the culmination of a careful deliberative process and the concerted efforts of all environmental stakeholders. Its implementation will underpin the commonly shared vision of development we all embrace.

We firmly believe that every new gesture on our part will increase the Plan's capacity to better protect and value our environment. And this environment is nothing else than a reflection of our own aspirations, since we all have contributed to the preparation of this Green Plan. Therefore, we would like to express our gratitude to all the citizens, groups and agencies that responded to our invitation during the public consultations.

We also want to thank the members of the City Council and the municipal administration who have continually supported us during this process.

The Green Plan will allow Edmundston to move from words to actions.

The members of the Edmundston Environmental Board

- Michel Dubé, City Councillor
- Jean Bourque, Director, COGERNO
- Michel Hédou, President, Écocitoyens
- Normand Morin, Director, Société d'aménagement de la rivière Madawaska et du lac Témiscouata
- Alain Laplante, Urban Forester
- Mychèle Poitras, Citizens' Representative
- Amélie Jarret, Edmundston Region Chamber of Commerce
- Pascal Hudon, Madawaska Planning Commission
- Sébastien Duguay, Coordinator for the Environment, City of Edmundston

message from the mayor

dear citizens,



I am extremely proud to present the very first Green Plan in the history of the City of Edmundston. This is a clear commitment from the elected representatives and the city administration to add value to and preserve our life environment.

The Green Plan is the culmination of many months of serious work. We consider it an accurate reflection of the concerns and expectations of our population because it was conceived in partnership with citizens, groups, agencies and city officials.

Bold and sound, the Plan has been subject to the analysis of all our departments in order to ensure the feasibility of the options proposed, with realistic objectives, budgets and time frames in mind. We have also been careful to act in accordance to our fields of competence while observing the City of Edmundston's sustainable development orientations. We thus commit ourselves to take concrete, relevant actions on a regular and continuous basis.

This means our city now has an indispensable tool that will enable us both individually and collectively to contribute to our environment and thus succeed in becoming an eco responsible community.

However, responsibility for the success of this Green Plan cannot be borne by the City alone. If we expect a significant impact for future generations, we must all commit ourselves to support the Green Plan each and every day.

I sincerely thank everyone who helped make this Plan a reality and invite you on behalf of the Edmundston City Council to embrace this environmental effort right now.

Jacques P. Martin Mayor of Edmundston

potable water

Water is essential to life. The City of Edmundston is determined to manage this resource responsibly while ensuring its quality and durability.

Interventions will thus seek to protect potable water sources and manage consumption.



potable water

| Objectives | Measures | Existing | In progress | Upcoming |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Ensure | Clean the potable water network on an annual basis | | | |
| availability of quality potable water | Regularly check the quality of the water in the water supply system | \checkmark | | |
| water | Inform owners of artesian wells about the need to ensure the quality of their water | | | \checkmark |
| | Cross connection monitoring program | | / | |
| Promote responsible consumption | Prepare a progress report on potable water consumption and set reduction goals | | \checkmark | |
| of potable water | Prepare and implement a water management policy | | | \checkmark |
| Water | Launch a water conservation campaign | | | ✓ |
| | Implement an irrigation regulation | | | ✓ |
| | Promote rainwater recovery | | | / |
| | Continue with the water meter installation program | | \checkmark | |
| | Develop a potable water conservation program | | | \checkmark |
| | Detect leaks in the water supply and sewerage networks | | \checkmark | |
| | Reduce leaks in the water supply and sewerage networks | \checkmark | | |





wastewater

The disposal of wastewater affects the quality of our environment.

In an effort to limit this impact, the City of Edmundston plans to upgrade its network and practices, thus helping to protect our watercourses.



wastewater

| Objectives | Measures | Existing | In progress | Upcoming | |
|---|---|----------|--------------|--------------|--|
| Limit untreated wastewater | Identify untreated wastewater discharge points within the city | | | | |
| discharge and promote the treatment of any liquid | Identify possible solutions to reduce untreated wastewater discharge points | | | \checkmark | |
| discharge | Take necessary measures to limit untreated wastewater discharge points | | | \checkmark | |
| | Through control measures and with necessary equipment, make sure we limit the discharge of over-flows | | | \checkmark | |
| | Gradually reduce unitary sewage networks | | \checkmark | | |
| | Analyze the water quality of storm drainage system outflows | | | \checkmark | |
| | Optimize the performance of treatment plants | | | \checkmark | |
| | | | | | |



surface water

Surface water feeds our potable water sources, is essential for certain leisure activities, provides a habitat for many fish and bird species and allows our community to generate electricity.

In this light, the City of Edmundston wants to preserve the drainage basins that feed its territory and limit the amount of pollutants and runoff water that go directly into our watercourses.



surface water

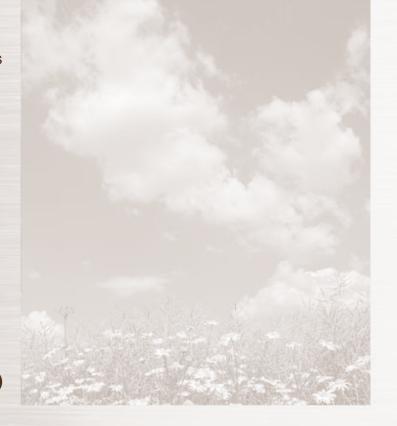
| Objectives | Measures | Existing | In progress | Upcoming | |
|---|---|--------------|-------------|--------------|--|
| Adopt measures which promote | Put in place different actions to insure water quality | | | \checkmark | |
| the preservation of watershed catchment | Naturalize the Rivière-à-la-Truite, Madawaska and Iroquois riparian strips | | | \checkmark | |
| basin | Control the use of de-icing salt and choose environment-friendly alternatives (sand and gravel) | | V | | |
| | Propose developments and good practices aimed at protecting riverbanks and their naturalization | | | | |
| | Make an inventory of existing riperian lands and exceptional ecological areas | | | | |
| | Adopt a program aimed at maintaining, improving and acquiring community riparian lands and exceptional ecological areas | | | \checkmark | |
| | Pursue the municipal participation in the Iroquois/Blanchette drainage basin management committee | \checkmark | | | |
| | Adopt methods to control surface runoff (infrastructure design) | | | / | |
| | | | | | |



air

The air that we breathe affects both our health and our overall quality of life. Besides, a sizeable portion of air emissions contributes to climate change.

To address this issue, the City of Edmundston wants to put in place measures to create a more pleasant life environment while curbing our contribution to climate change.



air

| Objectives | Measures | Existing | In progress | Upcoming |
|--|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Promote the use of shared, | Set up a taxibus service administered by a not-for-profit organization in Edmundston | | | \checkmark |
| public or alternative | Promote carpooling | | | \checkmark |
| transportation to reduce | Promote the creation of an organization or business which could plan and organize carpooling | | | \checkmark |
| greenhouse gases | Remove snow from sidewalks, bike and walking paths | | | |
| | Build new sidewalks to promote walking as a means of transportation | | | \checkmark |
| | Pursue the development of a cycling network that would link each sector of the city | | \checkmark | |
| | Promote and facilitate the installation of bike racks near businesses and service centres | | | \checkmark |
| Decrease idling | Raise the awareness of city employees regarding unnecessary idling | | | \checkmark |
| | Promote de synchronization of traffic lights | | | / |
| | Study the possibility of adopting anti-idling regulations | | | \checkmark |
| Reduce and compensate | Calculate the amount of greenhouse gas produced by municipal activities | \checkmark | | |
| for the green- house gases produced by | Evaluate the different compensation options available to the municipal organization (Planting trees, carbon credits, etc.) | | \checkmark | |
| municipal activity | Respect our commitment to reduce greenhouse gases as established by our membership in the "Partners for Climate Protection" | | \checkmark | |
| Improve air quality in | Find solutions in regards to air quality problems (odors, particles, location of air quality probes) | | | \checkmark |
| the city | Raise citizen awareness regarding responsible use of heating apparatus (wood types, weather conditions, etc.) | | \checkmark | |
| | Adopt municipal regulations on wood stoves | | \checkmark | |
| | Adopt municipal regulations to control outdoor fireplaces (smoke, odors, etc.) | | | ✓ |

materials

From the manufacturing process to their burial as waste, the goods we consume require the use of natural resources and create different types of pollution. If our goal is to conserve our environment, we should choose as harmless and eco-efficient products as possible.

The City of Edmundston is determined to lower its consumption-related impact by implementing measures and programs that encourage the community and the municipal organization to become responsible consumers.



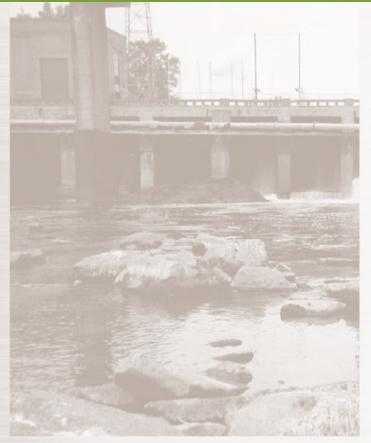
materials and matter

| Objectives | Measures | Existing | In progress | Upcoming |
|-----------------------------------|---|----------|--------------|--------------|
| Promote the | Establish a residual matter characterization and set reduction goals | | | 1 |
| 3-R principle: Reduce, | Identify means to establish a door-to-door type separate collection Promote domestic composting and "grasscycling" | | | ✓ |
| Recycle, Reuse | Create a section on the municipal web site dedicated to the | | \checkmark | |
| | environment and all related information Compost all green residuals produced by municipal activities | | \checkmark | |
| | Implement procedures aimed at promoting garbage reduction at | / | | |
| | its source, recycling, reusing, and giving new life to products and materials used by the City | | \checkmark | |
| | Reduce the amount of residual matter produced during popular events | | | |
| | During City-organized meetings, receptions and other events, use alternatives to individual plastic water bottles and promote the use of reusable and recyclable tableware | | | \checkmark |
| | Promote the use of reusable diapers by offering a financial incentive program | | | \checkmark |
| | Promote the use of reusable bags | | | / |
| | Use well identified recycled paper for all documents printed by the City | | | \checkmark |
| | Photocopy all municipal documents using both sides of the paper and promote the use of the computer as a means of sharing documents between municipal services to reduce the need for printed documents | | | / |
| | Study the possibility of implementing a paper-free City Council | | | |
| | Promote the use of long-lasting materials made of recycled matter if possible and which need minimal maintenance, ex: recycled plastic park benches | | | ✓ |
| | Promote organizations which allow a sound redistribution of goods | | | / |
| | Inform entrepreneurs and citizens of the possibility of giving new life to construction, renovation and demolition waste, when issuing permits | | | ✓ |
| Promote eco-conscious consumption | Adopt a low environmental impact procurement policy for the municipal organization Promote local products | | | ✓ |
| concampaon | Buy goods made of recycled or recyclable materials Adopt an eco-friendly maintenance policy for municipal buildings Buy long-lasting, low-maintenance goods | | | ✓ ✓ |
| | Develop evaluation grids to choose products which have little impact on the environment | | \checkmark | |

energy

Our society consumes large amounts of energy, whether from fossil fuels or electricity. Producing and utilizing these types of energy produces greenhouse gases, can reduce the quality of our air and generate other types of pollution.

The City of Edmundston wants to improve its energy performance and provide the community with the necessary tools to make its energy consumption more efficient.



energy

| Objectives | Measures | Existing | In progress | Upcoming |
|---|--|----------|--------------|--------------|
| Promote energy | Encourage citizens to reduce their fuel consumption | | | \checkmark |
| conservation to citizens | Raise public awareness regarding the many energy saving programs offered by Efficiency NB | | | \checkmark |
| | Inform citizens of the different energy reduction means available (through the municipal web site, feature stories, conferences, ENERGY STAR products) | | | \checkmark |
| Promote energy | Do an energy audit of municipal buildings and facilities | | \checkmark | |
| conservation in municipal buildings | Prioritize and make improvements to municipal buildings and facilities (street lighting, water treatment, etc.) | | | |
| Sananigo | Replace traditional city lights with LED lighting | ✓ | | |
| Reduce fuel consumption | Evaluate the environmental performance of municipal vehicles | | | ✓ |
| in municipal vehicles | Establish environmental performance purchasing guidelines for municipal vehicles | | | \checkmark |
| | Offer municipal vehicle operators training for eco-friendly driving methods | | | J |





nuisance

All human activities inside a community are likely to generate irritants (smoke, dust, noise, light, etc.). These have a negative effect on the quality of life of our citizens.

The City of Edmundston wants to reduce the amount of irritants on its territory, thus enabling our community to enjoy a pleasant life environment.



NOISE, ODORS, LIGHT POLLUTION, UNSIGHTLY PREMISES)

| Objectives | Measures | Existing | In progress U | lpcoming |
|-----------------------|---|----------|---------------|--------------|
| Reduce the sources of | Identify potential sources of nuisance | | | \checkmark |
| nuisances | Inform any responsible party of potential sources of nuisance of the regulation and offer support to reduce said nuisance | | | |
| | Revise and apply noise and nuisance regulation | | | |
| | Improve, if needed, municipal by-laws pertaining to light and noise pollution | | | ✓ |
| | Regularly inform citizens and businesses of the requirements regarding noise and light pollution | | | / |
| | Modify the by-law on public signage to improve public safety on streets and sidewalks and to reduce visual pollution | | | |
| Make sure | Map out vacant lots within the city | | | <u></u> |
| are maintained | Identify problem areas relating to nuisances, environmental cleanliness and lack of maintenance | | | \checkmark |
| | Inform owners of problem cases of the regulatory requirements and possible solutions | | | \checkmark |
| | Assist developers in their planning of buffer zones to limit nuisances | | | \checkmark |
| | Modify the Edmundston by-law when buffer zones are needed | | | ✓ |



territory

Our territory is our only immobile wealth. Protecting, conserving and developing it in an optimal way are therefore a top priority.

Whether by developing green areas and urban forestry, protecting our natural environments or adopting new methods for development, the City of Edmundston aims to preserve this wealth that is our territory.



territory

| Objectives | Measures | Existing | In progress | Upcoming |
|---|--|----------|-------------|-------------|
| Ensure a balanced distribution of green spaces and public parks | Make an inventory of green spaces Establish a green space management plan Use native species and wild plants in the city's parks and green spaces Devote 10% of the territory to green spaces for any future residential developments Pursue the development of the "Le Prospecteur Trail" | | | |
| Promote the responsible development of our environment | Study the implementation of ecological subdivisions | | ✓ | ✓ |
| Promote the protection of the natural environment | Make an inventory of natural areas Identify and protect natural landscape (landscape management) Ensure the maintenance and improvement of quality natural areas Identify protection measures and management of exceptional ecosystems | | | ✓ ✓ ✓ |
| Promote the development of the urban forest | Develop and adopt a Tree Code Develop an urban forest management plan Make an inventory of the forest canopy and evaluate its worth Identify protection and improvement zones for the forest canopy Pursue tree plantation in parks, street side and in public spaces Adopt a municipal tree planting program for private lands Identify potential tree planting sites Promote the benefits and advantages of trees Ensure strict guidelines for tree cutting Create an urban forestry committee Pursue the development of the ecological complex Prepare and implement a disease and pest infestation program Prepare and implement a tree maintenance and protection program | | | |

territory

| Objectives | Measures | Existing | In progress | Upcoming |
|--|---|----------|--------------|--------------|
| Promote land protection by | Identify soil contamination and degradation sources within the city | | | \checkmark |
| eliminating activities which could cause | Support and promote the provincial law on topsoil and its regulations | | | \checkmark |
| erosion and contamination | Promote the use of on-site soil in any landscaping project | | | \checkmark |
| | Implement a riverside cleanup program | | | \checkmark |
| Reduce | Inform citizens on alternatives to pesticides | | | \checkmark |
| pesticide use | Establish clear guidelines relating to pesticide use on municipal properties | | \checkmark | |
| | Support and promote the provincial law on pesticide control | | \checkmark | |
| Reduce the | Control and limit the use of de-icing salt | | | ✓ |
| impact of used snow | Research and make an inventory of alternatives to de-icing salts | | | <u> </u> |
| | Use domes for storage of de-icing salt | | \checkmark | |
| | Study the possibility of implementing "white neighborhoods" | | | \checkmark |
| Develop a rehabilitation | Identify potentially contaminated lands within the city | | / | |
| program for contaminated | Keep a register of contaminated lands | | \checkmark | |
| land within the city | Create a municipal brownfield redevelopment program complete with a work schedule | | | \checkmark |





municipal management

The implementation and follow-up of the Green Plan depend largely on the municipal organization.

The City of Edmundston must therefore live up to its ambitions by setting up measures that enable it to reach its objectives.



city management

| Objectives | Measures | Existing | In progress | Upcoming |
|--|---|----------|--------------|--------------|
| Implement the Green Plan | Communicate the goals and directions of the Green Plan to municipal employees | | | ✓ |
| | Invest in training and on-going professional development of municipal employees and citizens | | | |
| | Produce an annual environmental report | | | |
| | Offer conferences, during different local events, on the city's environmental actions and yearly report | | | \checkmark |
| | Organize open-house events to the city's environmental facilities | | | ✓ |
| | Listen to local environmental organizations, citizens, businesses and any other stakeholders | | | \checkmark |
| | Organize information sessions and discussions with citizens and organizations following the publication of the annual environmental report | | | \checkmark |
| Improve the City of Edmundston's | Evaluate, according to a pre-established timeline, the results of our different action plans and make the necessary corrections if needed | | | \checkmark |
| environmental performance | Develop indicators that will allow us to measure progress in the accomplishment of the Green Plan's different objectives | | \checkmark | |
| | Implement an environmental management system for any and all municipal activity | | | \checkmark |
| | Do regular environmental conformity verifications for municipal activities | | | \checkmark |
| | Promote a good environmental ethic, namely in the decision-making process, for city employees, elected officials and any other municipa partner | | | \checkmark |
| | Integrate the environmental function to project analysis grids submitted to the City | | | \checkmark |





are you eco responsible?

| What is your commitment? | Current | Future |
|---|---------|--------|
| I use active transportation (walking, bicycle, etc.) and carpooling. | | |
| I avoid letting my vehicle to idle. | | |
| I make responsible use of wood heaters and choose less polluting alternatives whenever possible. | | |
| I look for alternatives to chemical pesticides and fertilizers for the lawn and the garden. | | |
| I leave the grass clippings on the lawn (grasscycling). | | |
| I use existing recycling facilities. | | |
| I use reusable shopping bags. | | |
| I avoid buying personal water bottles. | | |
| I recycle batteries by placing them in designated containers. | | |
| I recycle household hazardous waste by taking part in collection programs offered by COGERNO, the City and participating companies. | | |
| I adopt practices to reduce my energy consumption. | | |
| I prefer buying local products. | | |
| I follow municipal regulations and avoid wasting water. | | |
| I throw as little garbage in the sink as possible. | | |
| I use phosphate-free detergents and alternative cleaning products. | | |



