# Ottawa Faith Building Energy Benchmarking Program

**Faith & the Common Good** 





## **Program Background**

- Ontario Trillium Foundation 2018 2021
- Target is 50 faith buildings in Ottawa (Champlain catchment area)
- Features easy-to-use, online Energy Star Portfolio Manager benchmarking system
- Track & improve energy/utility performance (electricity, gas)
- · Already a successful program in Toronto





## What does benchmarking mean?

Faith communities will find out some key information about their buildings:

- How much energy their building uses
- How much money their community spends on energy
- Their faith building's carbon footprint
- How their building's performance stacks up to other buildings in their sector
- "You can't manage if you don't measure"







## Why Benchmarking? Why Faith **Communities?**

#### **Supports Stewardship**

- Faith traditions teach stewardship.
- By reducing their energy consumption and their energy budget, faith communities become stewards of the building, people, and earth.
- Instead of wasting money on energy, faith communities can spend it on their communities.
- "It's the right thing to do."

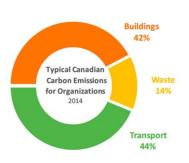




## Why Benchmarking? Why Faith **Communities?**

#### Targets carbon consumption

- Buildings account for about 42%\* of a typical faith community's carbon footprint
- Addressing carbon reduction aligns with both provincial and federal government reduction targets



\* Source: National Inventory Report 1990 2014: Canada's Submission to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (April 2016). Note: Faith Communities are part of Organizations segment and this data pertains to Organizations.







## Why Benchmarking? Why Faith **Communities?**

#### **Saves Energy and Money**

- Buildings that were benchmarked reduced energy use by an average of 2.4%\* per year
- Guides investment and operation (lowest hanging fruit for least expenditure)
- Assists future reporting requirements

\* Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; 2.4% up to a total cumulative average of 7%.







#### **How it works**



We meet with faith communities, explain the program, and answer any questions.



Faith communities agree to participate. They fill in an intake form with building information and give us permission to access their energy data.



We input their information and data into ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager.



We create reports over 3 years and work with faith communities to save energy. We create a benchmark of energy usage for Ottawa faith buildings.







### **Energy Performance Reports**



- Participating faith communities will receive 3 energy reports:
  A baseline report 2-3 months
  - after sign-up
  - Q1 2020 Q1 2021

Annualized Comparisons	Baseline Year (2015)	2016	2017	% Change 2017 vs 2016	% Change 2017 vs Baseline (2015)
Weather Normalized Site EUI (kBTU/sq. ft.)	111.3	98	101.7	4%	-9%
Total Electricity (kWh)	37143.9	37771	35091.8	-8%	-6%
Total Natural Gas (meters cubed)	65152	50211	53815	7%	-21%
Total Direct GHG Emissions (tonnes CO2e)	122.4	94.3	101.1	7%	-21%
Total Energy Cost (\$)	\$28,247	\$22,580	\$24,383	7%	-16%

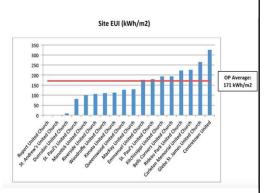




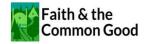


## "Peer" Benchmark Performance **Reports**

- Participants will also receive a project interim (2020) and final report (2022) that will offer an anonymous comparison of your building vs others.
- This will encourage shared learning to improve energy performance.









#### Other Tools and Resources

- Our website will feature tip sheets and downloadable **tools**, including an update of our popular "Practical Guide to Improving Energy Efficiency in your Faith Building."
- We're hosting **Energy Saving webinars and events,** which will highlight energy conservation, energy efficient retrofits, incentives and funding, and allow faith communities to connect with each other.
- Our GSS animators will do **free site visits** and present benchmarking program to property/finance committees.
- We will help faith communities access **energy audits** to further identify energy-saving possibilities.





### **Contact us!**

#### **Charlie Scromeda**

greeningsacredspacesottawa@gmail.com 902-240-7819

faithcommongood.org/energy benchmarking





