Program Overview

The City is committed to water and energy conservation in our community. Water conservation helps protect the environment, while deferring or eliminating the costs of water system upgrades to serve a growing community.

Different programs were proposed to provide water conserving fixtures free of charge to businesses and institutions such as the Business Water and Energy Saving Program and the Expanded Water and Energy Saving Kit Program. The goals were to:

- Save businesses and households on energy and water costs.
- Evaluate businesses and institutions for deeper energy and water conservation opportunities, and connect them with additional programs that can further reduce energy and water consumption.
- Determine if "carbon balancing" credits can be generated via the programs, to count towards the City's carbon neutral commitments, and subsequently develop these credits.

Participants and Partners

The Business Water and Energy Saving Program program initially targeted businesses and institutions with commercial kitchen facilities. The program provided direct installation of efficient pre-rinse spray-valves (used to clean dishes) as well as low-flow faucet aerators. Additionally, participants were provided with an energy, water and waste Opportunities Assessment, to identify additional conservation opportunities. The program subsequently communicated with participants, to connect them with further sustainability opportunities, such as FortisBC's "Efficiency A la Carte" service for restaurants, BC Hydro incentive programs, and others. Communications of retrofit options were uniquely tailored based on each business or institution's Opportunities Assessment. The program initially target 100 participants.

Results:

In 2016, the City delivered an efficient water fixture program for businesses in partnership with FortisBC. The fixture upgrades are projected to save participating businesses a total of:
- $220,000 each year.
- 465 tonnes of CO_2 each year.
- 63 Million liters of water each year.