

HORIZON UTILITIES:

Interactive Hydro Gallery and Energy at Niagara's



Brian Smith, Manager of Conservation and Demand Management, Horizon Utilities (left), provides Max Cananzi, President and CEO, Horizon Utilities (right), with a demonstration of the powerWISE® Home, an interactive energy conservation educational tool that was recently provided to the Children's Discovery Centre of Niagara for use in delivering education programs for school-age children.

(Photo courtesy of Horizon Utilities)

In June 2006, Horizon Utilities President and CEO Max Cananzi unveiled a major upgrade of the interactive hydro gallery at the Children's Discovery Centre of Niagara located in St. Catharines and announced funding for delivery of energy conservation education programs by the Centre.

The highlight of the upgrades to the gallery is the addition of the 'powerWISE® Home', a high-tech, energy conservation teaching aid that is the first of its kind in Canada.

The hydro gallery includes a large doll house where children turn on lights and watch a gauge indicate how much power is used when lights are left on. There's an interactive unit known as 'Hazard Hamlet', which shows children, in a hands-on way, the importance of electrical safety. A large wall map educates children on the different types of electricity generating stations and how electricity is distributed in Ontario. There's

an interactive light bulb display as well where children learn how much less energy compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) use than traditional incandescent bulbs.

"Building a culture of conservation in Ontario is a key part of ensuring a reliable supply of electricity. One of the most effective ways to do that is to educate children at a young age about the importance of energy conservation," said Mr. Cananzi. "Children are the consumers of the future and if we can teach conservation in an interesting and interactive way, they will retain that knowledge and use it the rest of their lives."

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The Children's Discovery Centre of Niagara is a not-for-profit organization providing hands-on, interactive learning experiences for children of all ages.

Horizon Utilities Corporation is the third largest municipally owned electricity distribution company in Ontario and provides electricity and related utility services to over 230,000 residential and commercial customers in Hamilton and St. Catharines.

Conservation Educational Programs Children's Discovery Centre

SmartPaks Give-away Delivers Energy Conservation Message to Students

At the end of this school year, Horizon Utilities presented each grade six student at thirty nine schools in Hamilton's Wentworth District and Catholic District School Boards with a powerWISE® SmartPak. 1,900 children received a backpack full of energy saving devices and information about how families can reduce their energy use around the home over the summer.

The contents include compact fluorescent light bulbs, a low-flow showerhead, a faucet aerator, hot water pipe wrap, a temperature gauge, and a Smart Guide containing energy saving tips. Also included is a game about energy use that the students can play on-line.

"By delivering the energy conservation message through children, along with information and some preliminary tools, our hope is that families will talk about energy conservation and will work together to reduce their energy use," said Brian Smith, Horizon's Manager of CDM. "It is a great project for families to work on over the summer when children are out of school and air conditioning use drives up energy costs."

Demand Experience when implementing your utilities' Demand Response Programs

As one of Ontario's first load curtailment providers, Rodan has earned the confidence of some of Ontario's largest energy users, local distribution companies and the Ontario Power Authority in our ability to design, implement and manage reliable and verifiable demand reduction programs.

Rodan has been contracted by the Ontario Power Authority to engage energy consumers to participate in reliability demand response activities in the Region of York.

Rodan is pleased to offer its demand management expertise to local distribution companies in all aspects of program development, delivery and operation, including:

- Customer acquisition and qualification
- System operation
- Settlement and payment processing
- Program management
- Measurement, verification and evaluation

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