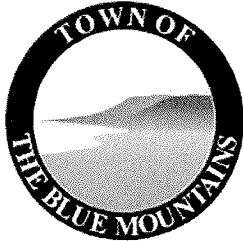


STAFF REPORT: Engineering and Public Works Department



REPORT TO: Council
MEETING DATE: May 14, 2007
REPORT NO.: EPW.07.61
SUBJECT: Solar Powered Sign Lighting
**PREPARED BY: Jeffery Fletcher, Manager of Solid
Waste and Environmental Initiatives**

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report EPW.07.61, "Solar Powered Sign Lighting" and does approve funding at a total cost not to exceed \$7,000.00 for the installation of solar powered lighting for both of the new "Thornbury" signs on the east and west ends of the Thornbury Highway 26 corridor.

B. Background

The Thornbury BIA with assistance from the Town have installed two new "Thornbury" signs on the east and west sides of Town adjacent to Highway 26. Upon request of the BIA, Town Staff have researched the price comparative between illuminating the signage with standard hydro and photovoltaic (solar) power.

The attached memo dated April 30, 2007 outlines the cost comparisons. The comparison of costs show that within one year the solar power system will be more cost advantageous – due to the estimated \$1,300 electrical operating cost. The solar powered system will have no operating costs in the first year.

The solar lighting system will include a solar panel to collect light during the day. A battery will store collected power to provide dusk to dawn illumination of the signs. The battery will power two 6 watt LED spot lights to fully illuminate the signs.

This project will provide a visible example of The Town's commitment to sustainable infrastructure and renewable resource use. This project will also contribute to the Town's efforts in greenhouse gas reduction and assist with the Town's partners for climate protection commitment, in a modest but symbolic way.

It is proposed that the installation would be complete in time for the 2007 Canadian Skins Game, June 18 and 19.

Should Council authorize participation in the program, funding would come from

the Federal Gasoline Tax Reserve.

C. The Blue Mountains' Strategic Plan

Strategic Action: Undertake a "Green" strategy to proactively protect air, water and land features and sites. This action will provide use of renewables and zero primary GhG emissions.

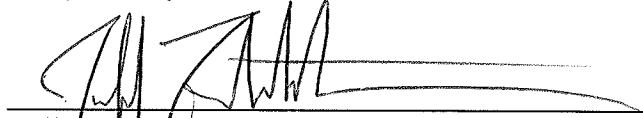
D. Budget Impact

\$7,000.00 from Federal Gasoline Tax Reserve, balance of \$122,450.32 before expenditure.

E. Attached (Relevant documentation not personal information about an identifiable person)

Memo, April 20, 2007, Subject: Illumination of "Welcome to Thornbury" Signs

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffery Fletcher,
Manager of Solid Waste and Environmental Initiatives