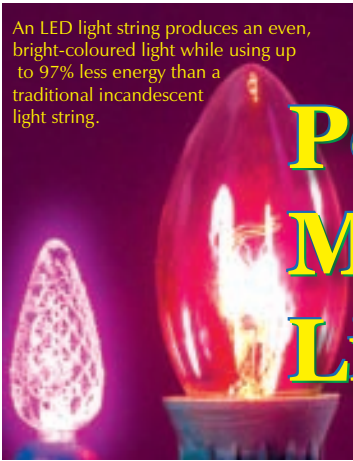


An LED light string produces an even, bright-coloured light while using up to 97% less energy than a traditional incandescent light string.



# Power Smart\* Municipal LED Holiday Lighting Program

LED holiday lights will be adding some extra sparkle to the 2005 festive season around the province.

Earlier this year, Manitoba Hydro extended an offer to all municipalities to exchange their current incandescent holiday lights for new energy efficient LED (light emitting diode) lights at no cost. Almost all of the eligible municipalities took part.

"We're excited to have nearly 100% participation in this program," said **Jack Dent**, Municipal Relations Officer with Manitoba Hydro. "We value the relationship we have with the municipalities, and this kind of enthusiastic response shows us we're on the right track." An LED light string produces an even, bright-coloured light while using up to 97% less energy than a traditional incandescent light string. In fact, an entire 70-light LED string uses less than four watts of energy in total – half the energy used by a single seven-watt incandescent bulb.

LED lights are extremely durable and will last 50,000-100,000 hours, compared to up to 6,000 hours for incandescent bulbs. The lights purchased by Manitoba Hydro for this exchange are guaranteed by the manufacturer for seven years.

The lights require virtually no maintenance and the bulbs are not removable; their one-piece construction means moisture can't penetrate the socket and cause premature failure.

Manitoba Hydro's one-time Power Smart\* LED Holiday Lighting Program saw municipalities exchange almost 13,000 incandescent light strings for LED strings. At a saving of approximately 125 watts per string, that's an energy saving of nearly 1 gigawatt-hour province-wide – enough energy to power 31 electrically-heated homes.

"With this program, everybody wins," said **Cheryl Pilek**, Manitoba Hydro's Commercial Lighting Marketing Specialist.

"The municipalities save energy and money on their holiday lighting, and move one step closer to achieving their targets for reducing their greenhouse gas emissions. At the same time, Manitoba Hydro saves energy that can be used elsewhere," she said, adding she hopes that once the municipalities have a chance to use the LED lights and see them in action, they will consider changing all their remaining incandescent strings that didn't qualify for the program.

Now that the municipal LED Holiday Lighting Program is nearly completed, Dent said he's already started working on his next project – exploring energy saving ideas for recreational centres.

"I'm here to help, and work together with all municipalities in the province. We're always trying to develop new and more energy efficient ways of doing things," said Dent.

"As we find ways to save energy, we're also saving operating costs for the municipality – money that can be reinvested in future opportunities and back into the community." §

*\*Manitoba Hydro is a licensee of the Trademark and Official Mark.*



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