



Edmonton Federation of

**Community Leagues**

...where neighbours meet and great things happen!

## **EFCL Position Light Efficient Community Policy**

EFCL encourages the City of Edmonton to become a Light Efficient Community by adopting the following policies, principles and programs, aimed at reducing energy consumption, light pollution, and light trespass, while maintaining or enhancing safety.

### **1) Artificial Lighting Policy**

Artificial light will be used only where it is needed, when it is needed, and at levels suited to the task. The City of Edmonton will follow the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) guidelines regarding design and installation of light sources. Lighting that creates unsafe conditions or harmful glare for drivers, pedestrians or other community members will not be permitted. Appropriate lighting will be used strategically to maximize public safety while discouraging criminal activity. Light trespass onto adjoining properties will be eliminated or minimized. All new developments will follow responsible lighting best practices. This policy will be integrated into rules and regulations in Municipal Engineering Standards, Zoning Regulations, and Land Use Bylaws.

### **2) Light Efficient Community Principles**

The EFCL encourages the City of Edmonton to take a leadership role in becoming a Light Efficient Community by adopting the following principles for our Municipal facilities, parks and streets:

- Only full cut-off luminaires, properly-directed and shielded, will be used for exterior lighting.
- Luminaires will feature distribution patterns that confine light to the area needing illumination.
- Consumption in overnight hours will be reduced by using artificial lighting only when needed. Motion sensors, and time of day controls will be used wherever practicable.
- Lighting technology will be selected to address visibility needs energy-efficiently as is practical.
- Lighting guidelines consistent with this policy and the specific needs of residents will be developed, along with educational programs on this topic for staff, citizens, and businesses.

### 3) Light Efficient Community Programs

The EFCL recommends that the City of Edmonton undertake the following specific programs, and develop plans to make changes for compliance with the above principles:

- Audit lighting in our facilities, parks and natural areas.
- Review all lighting plans for community development.
- Replace non-conforming luminaires with conforming luminaires when upgrading area, facility or street lights; or any time major repair or replacement is required.
- Make available a database of approved lighting fixtures, along with sources of such fixtures, to meet community needs.
- Introduce time-of-day controls for existing facility lighting so that lights are only lit when facilities are in use.

The EFCL also encourages the City of Edmonton to develop public awareness resources such as :

- a Light Efficient Community public education program for our staff and community
- a web-site resource for responsible lighting information and links
- a reporting and updating service through our web-site and other media, stating plans and actions required to meet our goals, and a means to measure progress
- community events and presentations encouraging public participation in becoming a Light Efficient Community
- a plan for development and distribution of materials regarding responsible lighting practices to the entire community

Through the application of good lighting principles the City of Edmonton will improve the quality of life in the community, reduce waste, and encourage adjacent areas to adopt similarly responsible lighting practices.

Adopted by EFCL Board, April 8, 2010

Approved by the President, David Gibbens

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Gibbens', is written over a horizontal blue line.