

Toronto: a low-carbon city



More Information

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Toronto Mayor David Miller,
Chair of the C40 Cities
Climate Leadership Group

“Climate change is the issue of our time, maybe of all time. As Canada’s largest city we’re focused on innovation, leadership, and results.”

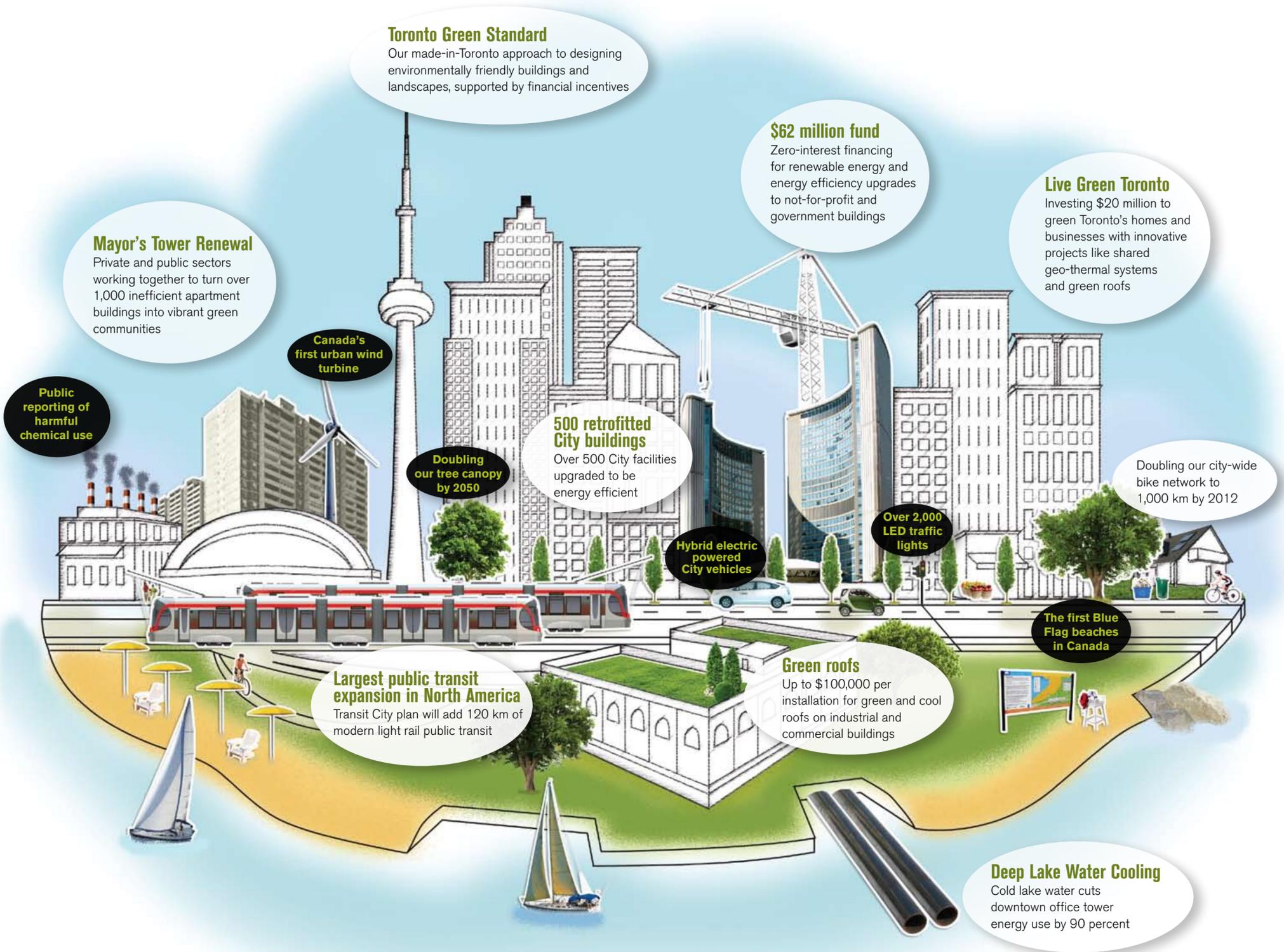
The result? Over 1 million tonnes of greenhouse gas reductions a year. We’re working with residents, community groups, and businesses to fight global warming, and getting results.

In 1988, Toronto hosted the first world conference on global warming. And in 1991, Toronto was the first city to establish an agency devoted solely to climate change. Since then, we’ve built on our green traditions, creating new programs such as Live Green Toronto to engage the public, and city-wide initiatives like Mayor’s Tower Renewal to revitalize communities while reducing energy consumption.

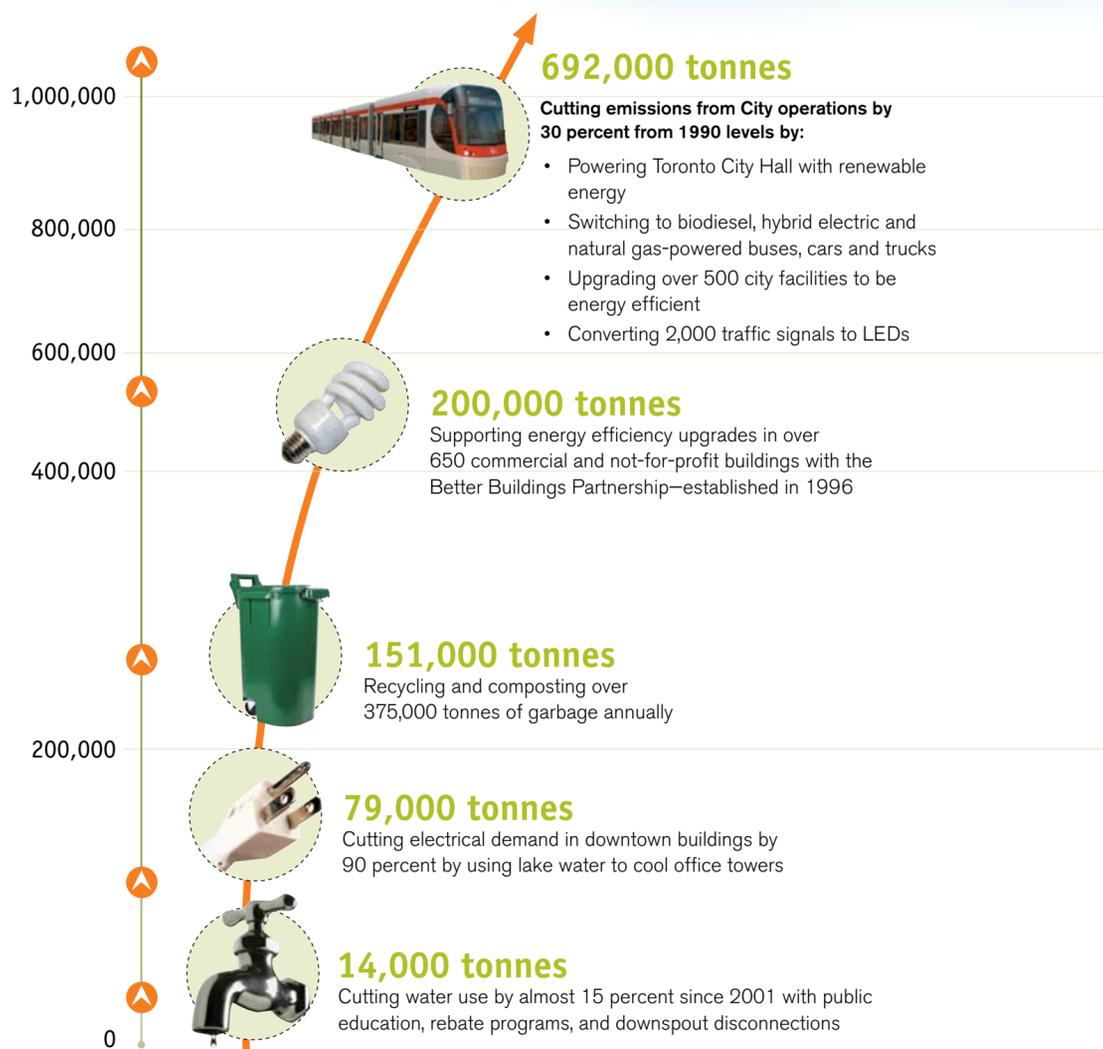
Our goal: reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent by 2050.
Strong commitment, innovative programs, and over \$8 billion in investments are getting results and transforming Toronto into one of the greenest cities in the world.

Big goals, bold measures

Big goals, bold measures



Cutting greenhouse gas emissions by over 1 million tonnes a year



Green facts about Toronto

- More solid waste diverted from landfill than any major city in North America, including over 200,000 tonnes of compost a year.
- With 464 million rides a year, Toronto's transit system is the third largest in North America, after New York and Mexico City.
- Toronto's deep-lake water cooling system is the largest in the world, cooling downtown office towers and reducing energy consumption by 90 percent.
- The first municipality in Canada to require more than 5,000 businesses of all sizes to publicly report their use of harmful chemicals.
- Seven of Toronto's beaches are Blue Flag certified—the first in Canada to achieve the international standard for water quality.
- A renewable energy leader with the first urban wind turbine in Canada and a 100 kilowatt solar PV system, one of the largest in the country.
- The Toronto Atmospheric Fund, established in 1991, has funded over 300 leading-edge projects to reduce emissions and improve air quality.
- Local food procurement policy is the first for a major urban centre in Canada.
- Torontonians are innovators. Each year, the Green Toronto Awards recognize individuals, non-profits, and businesses.
- Toronto has received five Sustainable Community Awards from The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (2001-2008) and numerous public sector quality awards.