

Oak Park Neighbourhood Centre Utility Assistance Application

All information collected is considered confidential and will not be discussed with anyone outside our agency without your permission. Please bring ID for everyone in the home, SIN #'s, utility bills, 2 months of **all** Bank statements for all over 17, Notice of Tax Assessment line 236. **YOUR NAME MUST BE ON THE BILL**

1. Applicant Information

Date: _____ Name: _____ Email _____
Birth Date: _____ Country Born _____ Years in Canada _____ First Language _____
Address: _____ Unit # _____ Postal Code: _____
Phone #: _____

Have you received a LEAP grant before? Yes When _____ No

Do you have a Canada Learning Bond for children? Y or N _____ N/A

Ontario Electricity Support? Yes No ... First Nations? Respiratory Equipment? Baseboard Heating

Do you need other help? Finances Basic Needs Employment/volunteering Education Health

Goals Other _____

2. Household Information

Others in Home ...Name:	Relationship to Applicant	Date of Birth day/mth/yr)	Proof ID
1.) _____	_____	___/___/___	_____
2.) _____	_____	___/___/___	_____
3.) _____	_____	___/___/___	_____
4.) _____	_____	___/___/___	_____
5.) _____	_____	___/___/___	_____
6.) _____	_____	___/___/___	_____

3. Housing Information

Do You Own your home? Halton/Co-op/Social housing? Rental

Primary Heating Source: Natural Gas Oil Furnace Electrical

4. Utilities Arrears & Service Provider Information

Union Gas Arrears Information

Account # _____ Total Owed: \$ _____ Cut Off Notice? Yes NO

Last Payment Date ___/___/___ Disconnect Date: ___/___/___

Oakville Hydro Arrears Information or Unit Sub-Meter Provider Name _____

Account # _____ Total Owed: \$ _____ Cut Off Notice? Yes NO

Last Payment Date ___/___/___ Disconnect Date: ___/___/___

Arrears Reason: High Costs Job loss Illness Pending EI Marital Breakdown Other: _____

You are eligible for energy conservation programs. If you do not wish to be contacted initial here: _____

5. Income Information

Employment Income

Applicant \$ _____
 Other household members \$ _____

Support Payments

Employment Insurance \$ _____
 Ontario Works \$ _____
 Ont. Disability Support (ODSP) \$ _____
 Canada Pension Plan (CPP) \$ _____
 Old Age Security \$ _____
 WSIB Workplace Safety/Ins Board \$ _____
 Child Tax Benefit \$ _____
 Other _____ \$ _____

Expenses

Rent/Mortgage \$ _____
 Phone/Internet \$ _____
 Utility \$ _____
 Insurance \$ _____
 Cable \$ _____
 Car Payment \$ _____
 _____ \$ _____
 _____ \$ _____
 _____ \$ _____

Monthly Income: \$ _____ **Annual Income:** \$ _____ **Total Expenses:** \$ _____

Have you accessed Halton Region's funds in the last 24 months? Yes Date: _____ NO

Service Agreement & Consent to Disclose

I, the undersigned, affirm the information provided is true. I acknowledge that should any information provided be untrue, I will not be eligible for Assistance Programs. I understand that payment of funds is not guaranteed. If my bill is over \$500 I agree to make a payment arrangements for the balance. I understand that if I fail to make payments then my utility service(s) may be disconnected. I have read, understood and agree to these conditions and requirements.

 Applicant Signature Date

Pursuant to the *Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act* and the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*

I, _____ of _____
 (insert full name), (city/town)

grant my consent to Oak Park Neighbourhood Centre and my service providers to disclose, share and obtain information regarding my account and application, for the purpose of providing assistance. Check off or add providers below that you allow sharing between/with:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Union Gas | <input type="checkbox"/> Oakville Hydro or Sub metering |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Halton Region | <input type="checkbox"/> Salvation Army |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kerr Street Mission | <input type="checkbox"/> Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Town Of Oakville Recreation Connection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food 4 Life foodbank- Clearview/St Lukes | <input type="checkbox"/> Home Suite Hope |

Other: _____

 Signature of person giving consent Date

Small changes make a big impact! Tips and changes to reduce your energy bills.

If something is plugged-in then it is drawing power. Unplug things when not in use to save money- computer, laptop, stereo, games, coffeemakers, tv's, cable box, nightlights

- Laptop computers should be unplugged once charged to save money and increase the life of the computer.
- Purchase power bars with auto-shutoff that detect when electronics go into sleep mode and cut their power.

Change to LED bulbs as your old ones burn out. They are more expensive to purchase but will save a great deal of energy and last 30x longer. Think twice before turning on a light and remember to turn off. Turning on lights costs money.

Your heat should be set to no higher than 20C during the day and can be reduced to 17C at bedtime. Sweaters worn during the day and an extra blanket on the bed at night will save a lot of money. During warm months the temperature should be set to 22C or higher.

- A ceiling fan only uses 10% of the electricity needed to run an air conditioner. Use a fan in the room you are in and remember to turn it off. Fans are meant to cool people, not rooms.
- In the summer close curtains on warm days to keep out the heat and open upstairs windows on cool nights.
- Electric space heaters and gas fireplaces left on are more expensive to run than a furnace. Don't use them.
- Weather stripping, and caulking reduces energy bills. Use to seal drafts around windows, baseboards, doors and air vents. Keep doors and windows locked to reduce drafts. Purchase insulation inserts to put in electric outlets on exterior walls.

For hot water tanks, reduce the setting on the dial at the bottom of the tank. Move at least 2 notches. This also reduces the chance of young children burning themselves with tap water.

- Wrap your electric water heater with heater insulation to reduce costs by 30%
- Pipe wrap will reduce heat loss and bring hot water to your faucet faster. Do not use wrap on plastic pipes.

Do all laundry and run dishwashers after 7pm or before 7am or on weekends.

- Do all your wash in cold water.
- Put up an indoor and/or outdoor clothesline.
- Clean out the dryer lint filter after every load. Vacuuming the dryer exhaust once a year.
- Take showers at night rather than in morning

If you are using two fridges or a freezer try and reduce to only one fridge to reduce costs or buy an energy efficient appliance. Check that your freezer is set to no lower than -18C.

Watch for water waste

- Fix dripping taps and toilets. Check for leaks in toilets by adding drops of food colouring to the back tank after it fills and wait half an hour. If the water in the bowl changes colour you have a leak. Turn off the water shut off taps underneath toilet or sink when not in use until you can afford to fix them.
- Install a low-flow showerhead and faucet aerator on sinks. Free kits are available from Union Gas.
- Take shorter showers. Use a \$ store timer to limit your showers to five minutes or less.
- Do not leave the faucet running when you're brushing your teeth, washing your face or shaving.
- If you must use the bath, don't fill it up all the way, plug the drain before you turn on the tap.
- Only water your garden every other day for 15 minutes – and only if it hasn't rained in at least two days
- Keep cold drinking water in the fridge. This will save running the tap for cold water.
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