MEDIA RELEASE

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Town casts a new glow over Banff Avenue

The Town of Banff is continuing its testing of energy-saving street light technology, with additional installation of both multi-chip LED and induction on Banff Avenue between Wolf and Elk streets today (November 1).

Two companies, Westcana Electric and Seventh Generation Solutions Inc. are supplying the town with energy-saving streetlight fixtures free of charge to test over the course of Banff's dark and chilly winter nights. Banff's street lamps are on approximately 14 hours a day in December, and make up a significant portion of municipal energy consumption.

The Town is installing six Lumisave multi-chip LED fixtures and six Think induction fixtures on 12 existing poles to compare light output, light pollution into dark sky, colour and definition, and electricity usage. Community feedback on the trial is welcome and can be delivered to Chad Townsend, environmental coordinator, at 403.762.1110.

While the light output should be the same, energy consumption by the 160 to 200 watts replacement fixtures instead of the 400 watt existing streetlamps, promises to be at least 50 percent less. The lifespan is equally impressive. Both multi-chip LED and induction technologies require no maintenance and should last 10 years. The initiative helps the Town meet the Community Plan goals to minimize energy consumption and become an environmental role model for communities around the world.

The Town began testing the latest LED technology in streetlamps in 2007 with installation of eight free fixtures from town hall to Central Park, realizing approximately 30 percent savings in energy costs a year.

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