



## REPORT OF COUNCIL-IN-COMMITTEE

*For City Council – October 11, 2022*

**From:** Office of the City Clerk  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 27, 2022  
**Title:** NB Power's Plug-In NB Charging Rebates Initiative

### **Description:**

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Council-in-Committee, at its session held on September 26, 2022 considered an administrative report from the Manager of Building Services & Fleet Services which sought Council approval to enter into an agreement with NB Power for the Plug-In NB Charging Rebates for Business Rebate Initiative.

With the adoption of the Corporate and Community Energy Plan the City is looking for opportunities to promote and advance technologies that will complement the Energy plan(s) and reduce carbon emissions within the community. NB Power has received funding for the program through Natural Resources Canada's Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program (ZEVIP). The objective of the program is to increase the availability of charging stations where New Brunswickers live, work and play. NB Power's program will help Businesses with the installations of the vehicle charging infrastructure. Installations must be completed within 12 Months of signing of this agreement. Staff have identified locations within the municipality that would be a benefit to the public for installation of these electric vehicle chargers. Staff are recommending installing at Willie O'Ree, Grant Harvey, East End Parking Garage, Frederick Square Parking Garage and York Carpark. We are seeking approval to enter into an agreement with NB Power for the Plug-in NB Charging Rebates for Business Rebate Initiative.

NB Power will assist the successful applicants by providing financial rebates to help offset expenditures for the purchase and installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure. Rebates up to 50% of project costs or a maximum of \$5000 per charger. The City has chosen to install at five (5) locations with two charge stations per location. Capital costs for this project will be budgeted in 2023, the engineers estimate for installations at the five locations including chargers is approximately \$300,000. The City should receive \$50,000 in financial incentive for the installation of the Charging units as part of this program, for a net cost to the City of \$250,000 or 83% of the project cost.

With respect to the operations of these units after installation the City of Fredericton will receive 70.3% of revenue from the chargers, cost of charging will be consistent with the eCharge network (\$1.50/hour, prorated per minute), and there will be a subscription to the City of Fredericton to be part of the eCharge network. The subscription cost will be

\$150 annually. Costs that are recovered by the municipality will be directed back to Building Services to offset the utility cost provided to the charging infrastructure.

This project provides the supportive infrastructure to accelerate the transition to electric vehicles (EV) for our residents and visitors to our community, in convenient locations where vehicles will already be accessing our services, which will directly reduce vehicle related GHG emissions. Current rebates and increased knowledge have recently led to a growing number of EVs and plug-in hybrids on our streets; however, range anxiety and access to convenient charging remain some of the top barriers for people considering the purchase of an EV. These are barriers that can be addressed by increasing the number of charging stations in places where people will be spending longer amounts of time.

We have ensured that the model of charger that will be purchased (SmartTWO) is appropriate for current and changing weather patterns. This model of charger is built to function in harsh weather conditions and a large temperature range (-40°C to 50°C).

The Committee directed that the following resolution be forwarded to City Council for consideration:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Fredericton hereby approves and authorizes the Participation Agreement between the New Brunswick Power Corporation and the City of Fredericton with respect to the Plug-in NB Charging Rebates for Business Rebate Initiative for the installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure in public places; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to execute the Agreement on behalf of the municipality and such further legal documents as may be required to facilitate the Agreement and this resolution.