

Horizon Utilities help bridge the “digital divide” through community partnership

Local utility donated over 600 computer systems in the last six years

(HAMILTON, ON) December 15, 2016 – Horizon Utilities Corporation is proud to donate “retired” computer systems to local non-profit organizations who refurbish and donate them to low-income families and children in need. Horizon Utilities has been donating end-of-life laptops to the St. Leonard’s Society of Hamilton’s greenBYTE Program for more than six years.

Horizon Utilities employees were at Cathy Wever Elementary School (Hamilton) to present 25 students with refurbished computer systems. The partnership with St. Leonard’s of Hamilton has helped bridge the digital divide – specifically during the holiday season - for the past six years.

“Horizon Utilities is proud to assist in helping youth have equal access to technology and connectivity,” said Mario Cangemi, Chief Information Officer at Horizon Utilities. “It’s gratifying to know that through our retired computer system donations, we can help kids acquire the technological skills they will need to be successful as adults.”

In 2016 with Horizon Utilities’ support, St. Leonard’s greenBYTE Program also provided every graduating grade eight student (66 in total) at Cathy Wever Elementary School a laptop for high school. In addition, 25 students at Hess Street Elementary School received computers, IT service was provided to the WAVE afterschool program’s computer lab and ten laptops were donated to an adult literacy program.

St. Leonard’s Society of Hamilton’s greenBYTE program, a not-for-profit organization, has provided more than 4,000 computer systems in the last 15 years to low-income families and children in Hamilton. Refurbishing these units has diverted unnecessary electronic waste from landfills and returned them to useful operation.

To learn more about Horizon Utilities’ community efforts, visit horizonutilities.com.

About Horizon Utilities Corporation

Horizon Utilities Corporation is proud to be Canada's first Sustainable Electricity Company™, a designation of the Canadian Electricity Association. The company, which provides electricity and related utility services to 245,000 customers in Hamilton and St. Catharines, is one of the largest municipally owned electricity distribution companies in Ontario. In addition to triple bottom line reporting on its own operations, the company leverages its assets and resources to contribute to the sustainability of its communities. Horizon Utilities' employees are committed to delivering a safe and reliable supply of electricity, providing unparalleled customer value, and helping to create a culture of energy conservation in Ontario. The company has been named a Top 10 Employer in Hamilton-Niagara six years running. Learn more at horizonutilities.com or follow us [@HorizonLink](https://twitter.com/HorizonLink).

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