

Low-Income Tenants' Step-by-Step Guide to Energy Savings and Neighbourhood Action



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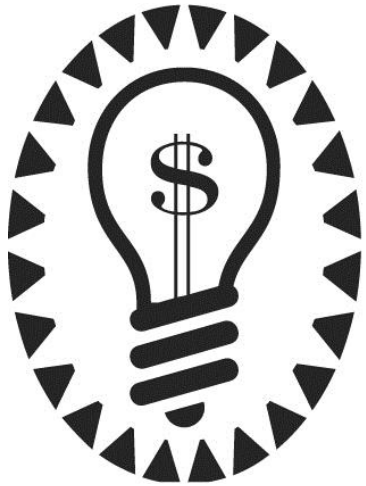
Overview of the Day

Connection 1: Neighbourhood to Networks

Connection 2: Hot Topics to Energy

Connection 3: Tenants to Tenants

Two Success Stories



**BRAHMS
ENERGY
SAVING
TEAM**

wire
walpole is reducing energy

Two Success Stories

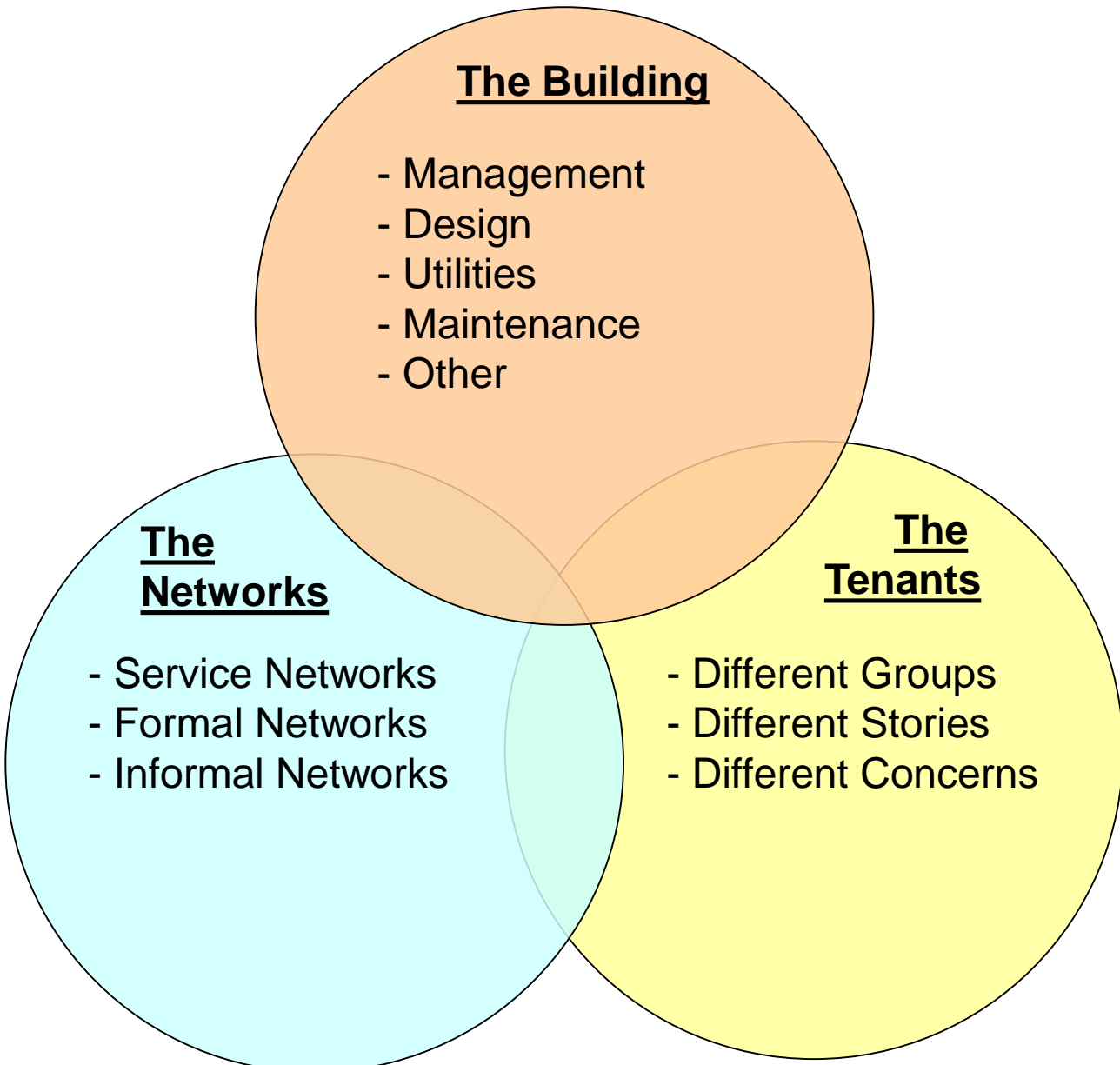
- **Brahms Energy Savings Team (BEST):**
 - 342 units, 850 tenants (over 40% children)
 - Hired and trained six tenants as community outreach workers
 - Tenants designed and delivered an energy education program in their primary language (English, Farsi, Somali, and Tamil) and in culturally appropriate ways.
 - 75% of households participated
 - 6.6% in energy reduction annually
 - Tenants helped landlord put the savings back into the building
 - Won 2006 Green Toronto Award for best community project

Two Success Stories

- **Walpole is Reducing Energy (WiRE):**
 - Downtown east end, 118 units
 - Hired and trained 3 animators
 - WIRE reached 85 households (72%)
 - 90% found the material easy to understand and use
 - 87.5% said they learned new things
 - 87.5% felt they saved money as a result of the WiRE Program
 - 96.4% also said they were more comfortable

Neighbourhood to Networks: Getting to Know the Neighbourhood

What defines the neighbourhood...



...connects the neighbourhood

Activity #1

- Introduce yourself & who you represent
- Answer 1 of 3 questions

The 6-Step Model

1. Getting to Know the Neighbourhood
2. Involving the Neighbourhood
3. Turning Great Ideas into a Plan
4. Getting Ready to Act
5. Turning a Plan into Action
6. What's Working and What's Not

STEP 1
GETTING TO KNOW THE
NEIGHBOURHOOD
a. What makes up the
neighbourhood?
b. Finding answers
c. Discovering the
neighbourhood connections
d. Uncovering the energy
situation
e. Creating a draft strategy



STEP 2
INVOLVING THE
NEIGHBOURHOOD
a. Bouncing ideas off the
neighbours
b. Bringing together a
neighbourhood action team



STEP 6
WHAT'S WORKING AND
WHAT'S NOT?
a. Finding ways to measure
your success
b. Learning lessons from
what's happened so far
c. Identifying future actions

**WORKING TOGETHER
ALL THE TIME**
- ongoing feedback and
flexibility
- ongoing support for tenants
and the team
-



STEP 3
TURNING GREAT IDEAS
INTO A PLAN
a. Coming up with goals
b. Choosing which actions to
take
c. Promoting the program and
educating tenants
d. Finding support for your
plan
e. Timing your actions



STEP 5
TURNING A PLAN INTO
ACTION
a. Launching the new
program
b. Getting people committed
c. Getting early results
d. Sharing successes and
maintaining momentum
e. Offering ongoing support



STEP 4
GETTING READY TO
ACT
a. Training the team
b. Creating a team work
plan
c. Getting people excited
about the program



1. Getting to Know the Neighbourhood

How are tenants engaged?

- Tenants share information about their neighbourhood
- Tenants share information about themselves
- Tenants help uncover the energy situation

2. Involving the Neighbourhood

How are tenants engaged?

- Tenants confirm what you've learned
- Tenants contest what you've learned
- Tenants share their ideas
- Tenants become part of the Neighbourhood Action Team

3. Turning Great Ideas into a Plan

How are tenants engaged?

- Tenants design the plan
- Tenants find support for the plan
- Tenants recruit more tenants to the team

4. Getting Ready to Act

How are tenants engaged?

- Tenant leaders get training
- Tenant leaders learn from each other
- Tenants start to see, hear and experience the program through the tenant leaders' outreach work

5. Turning a Plan into Action

How are tenants engaged?

- Tenant leaders motivate other tenants to participate in program
- Tenant leaders teach other tenants about energy and show them how
- Tenants choose which actions they want to take and start saving

6. What's Working and What's Not?

How are tenants engaged?

- Tenant leaders evaluate program
- Tenants evaluate program
- Tenants decide what (if any) next steps should be taken

Hot Topics to Energy

What are the hot topics in the neighbourhood?

- Tenant concerns and complaints
- Does everyone agree?

Energy Connections

How do you know what hot topics might link to energy?

- Talk to tenants
- Talk to the landlord
- Talk to an energy expert

Activity #2

- Break out into groups
- Identify 3 hot topics
- Identify possible causes
- Identify energy connections
- Report back

Energy Connections

Hot topics	Possible Causes	Energy Connections
Dust, bugs, noise	Cracks and holes	Hot and cold air can flow through
Mould	Bad air flow, dampness from humidity or leaks	Harder to heat or cool the unit. Humidity from kitchen or bathroom make the room overheat
Stuffy	Bad air flow	Room feels hotter than it is, extra energy used to cool down house or to heat house if window is opened
Too hot	Sun shining in, heat is up too high, not enough air flow	Overheating wastes energy in summer and winter
\$\$ bills	Lack of efficiency and conservation	Wasted energy

Tenants to Tenants: Neighbourhood Action Team

Why have a neighbourhood action team?

- Tenants are a credible source
- Tenants can set an example
- Tenants can involve other tenants

Tenants to Tenants: Neighbourhood Action Team

Who should be part of the team?

- Are connected to other tenants
- Can speak the language
- Are enthusiastic
- Are good listeners
- Have time to spare
- Can offer experience/skills

Tenants to Tenants: Neighbourhood Action Team

How to build a team?

- Shortlist tenants you have already met
- Get help from other tenants
- Get referrals through formal and service networks

Guide Feedback

- Draft Guide and feedback form sent by email last week
- We want to hear your comments because the Guide is designed for people like you!

Workshop Feedback

- Questions or comments to discuss?
- Please fill out the workshop evaluation form and drop it in the box!