

Report Card on the Environment

Green issues are always a hot topic as witnessed by the close to sellout attendance for the March luncheon program. Three speakers talked about various incentive programs, both past and present, available to condominium corporations.



Mara Del Bianco, TowerWise Conservation Advisor, Toronto Atmospheric Fund

The TowerWise program focuses on improving the energy efficiency of Toronto's highrise condominium and rental apartment buildings as a way of reducing emissions from a sector that produces 40 per cent of Toronto's residential emissions. Mara Del Bianco, TowerWise Conservation Advisor with the Toronto Atmospheric Fund spoke on



Steve Garvin, Commercial Account Advisor, Union Gas

various new programs including the Run it Right program focused on operational improvements and available through Enbridge. She explained water incentives, the Better Buildings Partnership program, the Ontario Power Authority's MURB program for 2011–2014 and a custom retrofit program that includes three tracks for prescriptive, engineered and custom retrofits.

Steve Garvin with Union Gas updated members on their fossil fuels, explaining how these are among the safest and cleanest of all fuels. He demonstrated the large shale deposits in the eastern part of the United States and Canada that contribute to the price of natural gas and reflect that the price of natural gas has gone down.

Among the enersmart™ incentive programs Union Gas offers to multiunit residential buildings that use natural gas to heat their hot water and not electric are: free showerheads and aerators for every unit. The space-heating program offers programmable thermostats for common areas.



Nathan Helder, president Gelderman Landscaping and chair, Landscape Ontario Environmental Stewardship Committee

Nathan Helder president of Gelderman Landscaping spoke on the environmental damage caused by 'Environmental Smoothies' – a repeat use concoction that's made up of millions of gallons of water and thousands of tons of road salt. □

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