

# Fashion ups the ante

Continued from page 2

along with the charger cord.

Pricing for the Fusion Energi starts at \$35,088 for the SE, \$37,288 for the Titanium and \$45,088 for the Platinum as tested here, not including a \$1,680 shipping fee.

This is partially offset by governmental incentives of \$4,000 in Quebec, \$7,730 in Ontario and \$2,500 in BC.

Mileage depends entirely on how far you are prepared to go to take advantage of the Energi's plug-in ability.

You can travel at speeds up to 100 km/h on battery alone, but it uses up juice pretty fast, while the battery-only range is about 20 or so miles.

In his recent book, *The Guide To Electric Hybrid And Fuel-Efficient Cars*, Canadian co-author Daniel Breton averaged 30 km (19 miles) on pure electric with an average fuel consumption of 4.7L/100 km (50 mpg), which is exceptional for a sedan weighing in at a hefty 1,808 kg (3,986 lb) or almost two tons.

Compare this to the 2017 Fusion Hybrid at 5.5/5.7/5.6L/100 km city/highway/combined.

I drove the Energi Platinum from Montreal to my home north of Toronto and, by

the time I filled up and returned it to Ford, I covered 581.5 km, primarily on Highway 401 on cruise until around Kingston, when the pace picked up due to volume so I drove at the flow of traffic.

Despite the fact there was little chance to use regenerative braking, I still averaged 4.9L/100 km for the first stretch and that was at highway speeds. By the end of the journey the readout showed 5.6L/100 km.

A Smart Gauge with EcoGuide is standard. The configurable MyView screen can show things such as the Brake Coach that helps the driver send the most recoverable energy back to the battery.

Using the five-way control on the steering wheel, the driver can modify and improve efficiency. As the driver gets better, visual green leaves on vines start growing on the right side of the gauge cluster.

Making the journey all the more enjoyable is the standard SYNC 3 with voice-activated navigation and emergency 911 Assist.

The Ford SYNC system used to be pain but this third generation has changed that so now you can ask the system to find a gas station, ATM or the best rated coffee shop.

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