

Energy Efficiency and Community Energy Systems  
 Indigenous Technical Session Discussion Summary

Tuesday, October 18, 2016  
 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm  
 Grand Ballroom D, Shell Place  
 McDonald Island Park, Fort McMurray

In what ways is energy efficiency an important topic to be discussing?	Rationale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Energy efficiency is a global issue, and Canada is behind in terms of policy and programming.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>China is one of the world leaders in energy efficiency. The northern regions in Alberta and Canada is definitely laggards.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adapting to the effects of climate change will be critical.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Housing in indigenous communities is especially vulnerable.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce consumption, or lower the cost of supply.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must work on both ends in indigenous communities. Increasing efficiency in a poorly insulated and crowded home may be a challenging.</li> </ul>

What may SUPPORT energy efficiency programming for First Nations people and communities? (i.e., opportunities)	Rationale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce the cost of energy, and enable communities to participate in smaller cogeneration.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lower cost access to supply to gas/energy.</li> <li>If energy producers are incented to joint venture with indigenous communities, they not only benefit from the production of energy, but can purchase lower cost energy.</li> <li>Should be policy incentives for large and small producers to be commercially affiliated with Indigenous communities.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training individuals in the communities to complete the assessments, energy efficiency audits.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indigenous peoples can then work in their own communities.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Many communities are not aware of the opportunities that could come with potential programs. Education will play a large role with the deployment of programs.</li> <li>Provide a resource centre for information that is credible.</li> <li>Set targets in the province for municipalities, cities and Indigenous communities.</li> <li>Provide a networking opportunity for Nations in similar communities to share best practices and success stories.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uncertainty on opportunities stems from lack of knowledge about the technology, and regional challenges where this technology could be deployed.</li> <li>Choice typically is to build houses, or build fewer energy efficient buildings, but typically not both due to the upfront costs.</li> <li>Are there risks from a health perspective?</li> <li>Assessing the objectives of the province, and utilizing Indigenous communities, and different tactics must be used for different</li> </ul>

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	communities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A community-based approach should reflect where communities are at a certain point in time.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sit down with the designated individuals in communities who do capital expenditures and provide infrastructure.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educational requirements may be different in each community.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Off-grid communities play by a totally different set of rules. Typically energy consumption is extremely costly. Infrastructure (i.e. utilities) in these areas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What resources should be allocated towards energy efficiency and what resources should be spent trying to bring up the standard for people so that they can even take advantage of programming?</li> <li>• A more efficient use of funds could be to go to each community and examine what currently exists there, and invest there with a lens on energy efficiency. It is extremely difficult to assess what programs to use when you do not go to each individual community.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn from communities in remote communities, especially communities that need power 24/7. Provide resources on planning, installation, running, and ongoing maintenance.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reach children in schools so that these ideas can come home with children.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sending kids home with lightbulbs and a furnace blanket. These items (in a kit form) will provide families with a taste of what it takes to be energy efficient. The savings will incent future behaviour.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indigenous stakeholders see themselves as a constant part of the conversation as this work evolves.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These meetings are only the start of the conversation.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify a more consistent communications approach across government jurisdictions.</li> <li>• Outline key contacts and timing of initiatives.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stakeholder fatigue.</li> <li>• Similar requests with indecipherable differences between asks in participation.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have key contacts/representatives in the energy efficiency agency that deals specifically with Indigenous communities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board members (decision-makers) and employees should address Indigenous considerations.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agency needs to have appropriate resourcing to carry out the objectives within Indigenous communities to build relationships, to be on the ground and bring knowledge to these communities.</li> </ul>	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provincial jurisdiction spending funds raised from the carbon levy on reserves.</li> <li>• Typically the provincial government does not spend on reserve.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Typically the relationship is strained.</li> <li>• Recognition of the role of First Nations governments in the allocation of any funds to governments.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not just an educational awareness program.</li> <li>• May need a First Nations housing program, not just with community buildings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of the greatest sources of energy inefficiency is in housing.</li> <li>• Poor quality due to a variety of fiscal reasons.</li> <li>• Much higher energy cost/inefficiency.</li> <li>• Not just education.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allocate a portion of the \$645 million to a First Nations entity in an ongoing manner.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rather than addressing First Nations need with a pilot program, create long-term programming.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make energy efficiency a coordinated multi-level government initiative.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jurisdictional issues in providing.</li> <li>• Rationalize this outside of the “rights framework”, and create this as a policy initiative.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of capacity to write proposals.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outreach on resources available is critical for indigenous communities.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the potential uses for reclaimed sites that could not otherwise be used for traditional use following the legacy of industry?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Could lead to long term sustainable energy in communities.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Even small-scale use of renewables could work in conjunction with.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If resources are not put in place to provide Indigenous communities with the support to write the grants or plan the project, there will be little uptake.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use low hanging fruit (i.e. changing light bulbs) to introduce the concept of energy efficiency, create easy wins, and spark further individual initiative, then scale up programs further after there is uptake.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should be supplemented with accessible in-person events, cross media promotion, education.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure resources go into another area for your band, where there would not be investment otherwise. Use the savings from energy efficiency to redeploy elsewhere.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communities have a larger percentage of Elders.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commercial/common buildings.</li> <li>• Residential buildings.</li> <li>• Each would require.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that there is not a one-time rush or money-grab. The panel wants to ensure that communities are not taken advantage of by</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do we protect fund to ensure that there is long term sustainability of programs for the end user, versus those who profit off the</li> </ul>

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developers.	installation of panels. How do we prevent energy developers from dominating the landscape?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Nations and Métis relations do not know where to go for funding. Should be a one-stop-shop in terms of government departments that are in play.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that linkages across ministries are accounted for.</li> <li>• Given that there are challenges in interacting with different levels of government, it is important to acknowledge the interrelatedness and collaboration. It is important to acknowledge what departments/ministries are doing what.</li> </ul>