

Indigenous Partnerships in the Push Towards Electrification

James Jenkins, Executive Director Indigenous Clean Energy

November 2, 2023

The landscape of Indigenous participation

- Indigenous clean energy projects represent 20-21% of Canada's electricity generating infrastructure.
- 38.% growth in medium to large (higher than 1 MW) clean energy projects with Indigenous participation since 2019.

Project scale and diversity

- Indigenous communities and business have been active in solar, wind, biomass and hydro for 20 years
- Recent projects have included energy storage, housing efficiency, and advanced clean technologies
- The minerals industry will also see new Indigenous partnerships. Minerals currently employ 16,500 Indigenous workers, or 12% of the mining sector labour force.



Meadow Lake Bioenergy Centre



Oneida Battery Storage

Economic benefits to communities and regions



North Kent Wind

- Indigenous participation in clean energy drives Indigenous enterprises, job growth, and generates an estimated \$350 -\$400 million in annual net revenue for Indigenous communities
- Indigenous partners reinvest revenue in economic development, infrastructure, and social services.

Eelectrification and growing demand

- Provinces and territories will experience on average 2% compounded electricity growth over the next 20 years.
- All provinces and territories are taking great strides to expand electricity generation, with several having defined mechanisms to promote Indigenous participation.
- Electricity demand growth will need enhanced demandside efficiency, grid expansion and smart grids, and new technologies such as hydrogen/ammonia production.
- Indigenous leadership and participation are essential to meet electricity requirements.

The Duty to Consult and Accommodate

- The Duty to Consult and Accommodate is a legal requirement of the Crown that has been established and reaffirmed by Canadian case law over the last decade.
- The Crown has a legal duty to consult with a First Nation when any activity may impact Aboriginal rights, treaty rights, or Aboriginal title.
- The Duty to Consult and Accommodate has resulted in provincial funding for First Nations and Métis consultation staff. This made it more feasible for Indigenous communities to review and participate in projects.



A NextEra solar facility in Lambton County, ON

Impact Benefit Agreements

- Beginning around 2000, many First Nations and Métis organizations secured Impact Benefit Agreements (IBAs) with proponents. These were promoted by provincial and federal regulatory agencies that represented the Crown.
- Until about 2015, municipalities were considered distinct from the Crown and were rarely involved in IBAs. This has changed rapidly over the last 8 years. Municipalities can no longer defer Indigenous relations to the Province or federal government.



Emerging priorities

- Rapid development of a new fund for deep energy efficiency retrofits of existing Indigenous housing, as well as net-zero energy efficient new homes.
- Increased capacity building to equip Indigenous communities/leaders with clean energy expertise, as well as skills training for Indigenous youth and women, and adults transitioning from other sectors through organizations like Indigenous Clean Energy (ICE)

Leadership and Capacity Development

ICE Network, On-site intensives, Youth Programing, Advocacy





INDIGENOUS CLEAN ENERGY



FIND OUT MORE indigenouscleanenergy.com

FOLLOW US @IndigClnEnergy Of fin y