



Aboriginal Energy Partnerships Program

Overview

Northern Ontario First Nations
Environment Conference

September 30th -
Oct 2nd, 2014

Ensure reliable, cost-effective, sustainable electricity supply for Ontario.

Key Activities



Long-Term
Power System
Planning



Procuring
New
Supply



Enabling
Conservation
Across the
Province

About the Aboriginal Energy Partnerships Program

The **Aboriginal Energy Partnerships Program (AEPP)** offers funding for First Nation and Métis Communities by supporting them in identifying and acting upon their local conservation and renewable energy opportunities and supporting the development of such projects.



The Aboriginal Energy Partnerships Program is administered by the Ontario Power Authority and consists of the following support programs:

- **Aboriginal Renewable Energy Fund (AREF):** provides funding to Aboriginal Communities for soft costs associated with green energy project development;
- **Aboriginal Community Energy Plan (ACEP):** assists Aboriginal Communities in developing a long term plan to improve energy efficiency, reduce electricity consumption and assess opportunities for green energy and conservation solutions;
- **Education and Capacity Building Program (ECB):** provides funding support for diverse education and capacity building initiatives that facilitates knowledge sharing and participation in Ontario’s renewable energy sector; and
- **Aboriginal Renewable Energy Network (AREN):** is an internet based resource that facilitates sharing of knowledge and best practices related to green energy.



About the Aboriginal Renewable Energy Network

The **Aboriginal Renewable Energy Network (AREN)** is a web-based resource with information on how Aboriginal communities can participate in developing renewable energy generation facilities and learn about conservation opportunities.

Key topics covered on the site include: getting started with your project, financial considerations, operational issues, types of renewable energy along with an overview of the electricity market and transmission system.

The AREN is a key part of the Aboriginal Energy Partnerships Program and will continue to evolve based on the needs and input from First Nation and Métis communities in Ontario.

The screenshot shows the website's header with the Ontario Power Authority logo and navigation links. The main content area features a large map titled "Aboriginal Community Energy Plan" with a hand pointing to a specific location. A sidebar on the left lists various programs like "Aboriginal Transmission Fund" and "Aboriginal Conservation Program". Below the map, there are sections for "News and events" and "Program Updates" with recent news items.

The screenshot shows the Twitter profile for the Ontario Power Authority (@OntPwrAuthority). The profile includes a bio: "Helping transform Ontario's electricity system by coordinating conservation efforts, planning for the long term and contracting clean electricity sources". It also shows statistics: 339 tweets, 16 photos/videos, 214 following, and 1,423 followers. Two tweets are visible, both mentioning webinars about the Conservation First Framework.

The screenshot shows the Facebook page for the Aboriginal Renewable Energy Network. The page header includes the Ontario Power Authority logo and the text "OPA First Nations & Métis Relations Community". The main content area features a post from the "OPA First Nations & Métis Relations Community" dated August 18, 2014, with 75 likes. The post text reads: "The Governments of Ontario and Canada have teamed up on a new initiative called the Small Communities Fund. Here's a link to the announcement, below in the comment section is a link to information from the Government of Canada website!". There are also photos of a road and a person in the photo section.

About the Aboriginal Renewable Energy Fund

The **Aboriginal Renewable Energy Fund (AREF)** is available to Aboriginal Communities considering developing renewable projects over 10 kilowatts. Funding is available for communities applying to the FIT Program to assist with development costs for projects with a FIT Contract. These costs include resource assessments, legal services, engineering designs and regulatory approvals.



AREF is divided into three streams of funding:

At the beginning:

- **Organizational Development Stream** provides Aboriginal Communities with funding for the independent legal costs associated with developing the corporate structure that will own the renewable energy project; and
- **Partnership Stream** provides Aboriginal communities with funding to obtain third-party, professional advice to assess the feasibility and viability of a proposed partnership.

Funding is available for 80% of actual eligible costs up to a maximum of \$40,000.

After a Contract has been obtained:

- **Development and Approvals Stream** assists Aboriginal Communities with the soft costs associated with developing the renewable energy project and obtaining the requisite regulatory approvals for the project after the project has a FIT Contract.

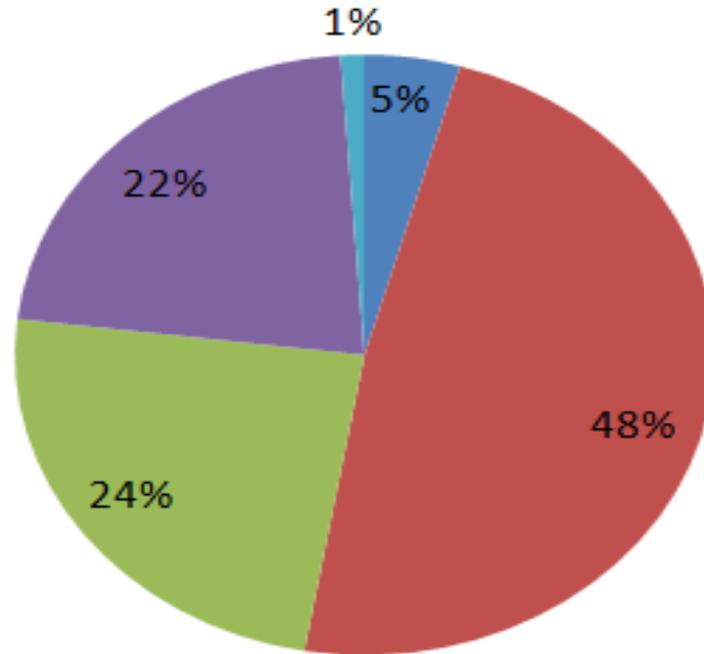
Funding is available for 50% of actual eligible costs up to a maximum of \$100,000 for small projects (10-500 kW) and up to \$500,000 for large projects with a FIT Contract signed before December 13, 2012.

The AREF has committed a total of **\$8.2 million** dollars in funding to support **44 unique First Nation and Métis Communities**; and **540 unique renewable energy projects** in Ontario.



AREF Projects Supported by Renewable Energy Fuel

■ Bio-energy ■ Solar ■ Water ■ Wind ■ TBD



About the Aboriginal Community Energy Plan



The **Aboriginal Community Energy Plan (ACEP)** program assists First Nations and Métis Communities in funding the development of a community energy plan or to update an existing community energy plan. A community energy plan is a comprehensive long-term plan to improve energy efficiency, reduce electricity consumption and assess opportunities for green energy solutions.

ACEP Funding is intended for activities such as community engagement, gathering and analysis of energy data and the creation of the plan.

The ACEP program will provide a maximum of up to \$90,000 per proponent for the development of a community energy plan or to update an existing plan. Remote Communities may be eligible for up to \$5,000 in additional funding. The OPA will reimburse 100% of total project costs up to the maximum funding approved.



A Community Energy Plan can provide a number of benefits, including helping Communities conserve energy, reduce costs, use cleaner sources of energy and support economic development and local opportunities in business development.

*In 2014, **22 Proposals were approved for a total of \$2.5M in funding** which supported **29 Aboriginal Communities across Ontario**, including remote, northern and southern First Nations, in developing or updating their community energy plans.*



About Education and Capacity Building

The **Education and Capacity Building (ECB)** program provides funding support for diverse education and capacity-building initiatives that facilitates knowledge-sharing and the participation of Aboriginal communities, municipalities, public sector entities and co-operatives in Ontario's renewable energy sector.

The ECB Program is available to different groups in Ontario:

- Aboriginal Communities
- Aboriginal Organizations
- Municipalities
- Public Sector Entities
- Registered Charities
- Not-for-Profit Organizations
- Co-ops

Initiatives funded under the ECB Program should be designed to target one or more of the following Audiences:

- Aboriginal Communities
- Municipalities
- Public Sector Entities
- Co-ops

*In the 2013 Call for Proposals, **11 Initiatives were selected to receive funding for a total of \$770,208 in funding.***

Some of the Successful ECB Proponents:



- **Algonquins of Pikwakanagan and Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve**
 - Development and publishing of seven renewables themed interactive success case studies from Ontario Aboriginal communities and Forums and Interactive Quizzes
- **Confederation College**
 - Quantify the benefits and capital and operating costs of biomass heat in two selected communities in northwestern Ontario not served by natural gas (one remote, off grid; one road accessible, on grid)
- **Nipissing First Nation**
 - Create a workforce education program which is focused on training Nipissing First Nation community members about renewable energy through awareness sessions, internships, formal training and on-the-job training
- **Shibogama First Nations Council**
 - A three day conference which will provide workshops, presentations and focused training on renewable energy
- **Toronto and Region Conservation Authority**
 - Converting existing resources developed by the TRCA into a web based E-learning format to make them freely available to municipalities, Aboriginal Organizations, Aboriginal Communities, co-ops, public sector entities and not for profit organizations to raise the level of knowledge and skills



ABORIGINAL ENERGY PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

Together we have the power to
build our future



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Disclaimer

This presentation is intended to provide a high level overview of the Aboriginal Energy Partnerships Program, Rules and Funding Agreements. Any information provided is not legally binding on the OPA.

To the extent that there is any conflict or inconsistency between this presentation and the Program Rules, Standard Definitions, or Funding Agreement, the Program Rules, Standard Definitions and Funding Agreement shall govern.