

Manitoulin Island REPORT OF CONSULTATION

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1.0 Introduction

The purpose of this Report of Consultation is to summarize the involvement of various stakeholders throughout the process of developing the Regional Energy and Emissions Plan (REEP) for Manitoulin Island. This report was updated on an ongoing basis as stakeholder and community engagement took place.

The implementation of a comprehensive community outreach strategy is essential to the development of any research-based project and requires a substantial investment in time & resources to ensure maximum impact.

This report will summarize the steps taken to ensure maximum representation of the various stakeholders affected by the REEP including municipal & First Nation leaders, business owners, community interest groups, and members of the public.

The Smart Green Communities team wishes to thank everyone who has participated in this process, whether that be through the practice of peer review (Project Advisory Groups), participation in meetings, attendance at public & stakeholder workshops, information sessions, written correspondence, telephone calls, and other forms of awareness-building and logistical support (i.e., traditional, and social media).

The local knowledge, technical expertise, and other insights you shared throughout this process have not only enhanced the overall content and value of the REEP, but have demonstrated your commitment to its findings, and how together we can all make a difference.

A special thank you is directed to our funders at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) for making this project possible.

The remainder of this Report of Consultation will be structured as follows:

i) A summary / overview of the project timelines and goals related to community and stakeholder engagement including:

- Pre-consultation & scoping of the project parameters and goals
- Letters of support leading to the submission of funding applications.
- Individual meetings and correspondence with municipal and First Nation leaders
- Community-wide consultation (2017 – 2020)
- Project Advisory Groups
- Stakeholder workshops
- Webinars
- Smart Green Communities Practitioner Forum (AKA GNOMES)

ii) Analysis

A summary of the key issues and trends arising from our research and consultation is summarized as follows:

In undertaking this research, it has been important to recognize the differences in perspectives, including traditional and other forms of knowledge, and the associated experiences of individuals within the defined study area.

The team also identified possible barriers to implementation and the need to adapt our outreach techniques to encourage increased participation and engagement on a series of issues.

Notwithstanding the above, residents on Manitoulin Island identified several personal, business and government-led projects and initiatives that could be pursued as part of a comprehensive energy and emission-reducing strategy, including measures that could be implemented towards achieve these goals.

iii) Next Steps

Going forward, it is important to recognize that individual communities may choose to move forward at different paces and/or engage their communities to a varying degree through the process of developing Climate Action Plans.

New Community Interest Groups may emerge. New ideas and opportunities may arise. Similarly, some communities may fail to recognize the threat of Climate Change or put in place the required adaptation or mitigation measures to address these predicted challenges.

But what remains important in all communities impacted by the study is the need to:

- Identify, empower, and positively-enable local & regional leaders, including Individuals with expertise in climate action & awareness, to review local strategic assets, share resources and information, and establish robust partnerships and strategies to implement the necessary changes.
- Apply innovative community engagement techniques and facilitate a wide-reaching conversation to influence the development of strategies, plans and policies to enact these changes.
- Identify and encourage projects that can help reduce GHGs and mitigate the effects of climate change, perhaps through amendments to Official Plan Policies and/or Zoning By-Laws which support the principle of Sustainable Development.
- Create public outreach campaigns which clearly and succinctly serve as a ‘call to action’ and are both relatable and accessible to those who engage with it.
- Strengthen the role of local stakeholders and community associations in decision-making processes.
- Introduce a regular forum for discussion such as a ‘multi-stakeholder roundtable’ to discuss the issues, challenges, opportunities, and threats.

Iv) Appendices

- This Report of Consultation contains a summary of responses made to the Draft REEP Consultation between August and December 2020. The tables contain a record of individual comments and responses made on behalf of the Smart Green Communities team as to whether or how such comments were addressed within the Final REEP.
- Marketing materials, posters and flyers presented to the public and handed out at community events and workshops.

2.0 Project Summary / Overview

The Regional Energy and Emissions Plan, also known as the REEP, is a project of Smart Green Communities which is a sustainability-led Program managed by reThink Green.

reThink Green is a non-profit organization based in Sudbury, Ontario, which provides consulting and advisory services throughout Northeastern Ontario. The organization was officially founded in 2006 with a focus on regional environmental initiatives. The organization connects people, ideas, and resources to help create more sustainable communities. reThink Green operates programs, offers events, and encourages knowledge sharing and collaboration among businesses, municipalities, and other stakeholders.

Smart Green Communities is a membership-based program accessible to municipalities and First Nation groups throughout Northeastern Ontario. The Smart Green Communities Program secured funding to develop the Two (2) REEPs for Manitoulin Island and the North Shore Communities under the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Transition 2050 Program and Independent Energy Systems Ontario (IESO) under its Education and Capacity Building (ECB) Program.

2.0.1 IESO Education and Capacity Building (ECB) 6.0 Program

The Education and Capacity Building (ECB) Program provides funding to support awareness, education, skills, and capacity building initiatives¹.

This program includes four areas of focus:

- Community capacity-building initiatives
- Understanding the collection and effective use of community data
- Skill-building and project-readiness training; and
- Innovative projects and initiatives related to ECB Program objectives

This initiative has resulted in the creation of a Regional Energy and Emissions Planning Advisory Group for Manitoulin Island with the capability to strengthen existing energy planning processes and broaden the scope of renewable, clean and energy efficient solutions for Manitoulin Island as a whole. Extensive community & stakeholder engagement has taken place with Islanders since the project's inception in 2018.

2.0.2 FCM Transition 2050 Program

The Transition 2050 Program, funded by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, was developed to enable the delivery of training and support-based services via partner organizations including reThink Green, to groups of municipalities and First Nations so they may achieve deeper GHG emission reductions through peer learning, strategic planning, and operational implementation².

As a grant recipient, reThink Green has been tasked with building a comprehensive network of practitioners with the primary goal being to share information and resources that help identify the

¹ECB Overview, www.ieso.ca/Get-Involved/Funding-Programs/Education-and-Capacity-Building-Program/Overview

²Transition 2050 Partners, <https://fcm.ca/en/programs/municipalities-climate-innovation-program/announcing-transition-2050-partner-grant-recipients>

issues & challenges, plus develop practical ideas and solutions to overcome existing barriers in terms of meeting GHG reduction targets.

By participating in this initiative, municipalities, townships & First Nation Communities can learn from case study examples including peers who have faced similar issues and challenges.

Programs such as Smart Green Communities and the PCP Initiative are considered highly-important in the context of the adopted Pan-Canadian Framework on Climate Change.

As such, the Smart Green Communities Program aims to enhance knowledge of municipal, township, and First Nation Communities on matters related to climate change mitigation & adaptation, including the development of Community Energy Plans, GHG inventories, and other climate-based policies and tools.

2.0.3 Partners for Climate Protection Program (PCP):

A few municipalities and townships on Manitoulin Island are also members of the FCM-ICLEI Canada Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program. The PCP initiative has established 5 milestones and is assisting Municipalities across Canada through the development of long-term plans and projects that contribute to a low carbon transition by 2050.

The PCP Program is managed and delivered by FCM and ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability. The PCP Program guides municipal staff to act on climate change through the reduction of emissions within their municipal jurisdiction. This program is currently only open to Canadian municipalities and townships with the hope it will extend to First Nations in the future.

The program consists of five milestones, and participants are encouraged to progressively meet the requirements of each as they close-in on their emissions reduction targets.³

- Milestone One: Create a Baseline Emissions Inventory and Forecast
- Milestone Two: Set Emissions Reduction Targets
- Milestone Three: Develop a Local Action Plan
- Milestone Four: Implement the Local Action Plan
- Milestone Five: Monitor Progress and Report Results

Smart Green Communities' role in the PCP program has been to assist and support participating communities as they onboard the program; and to both guide and enable local communities to achieve Milestone One: Creating a Baseline Emission Inventory and Forecast, plus facilitating access to the necessary resources and information required to achieve each subsequent milestone.

In the following sub-sections, the Smart Green Communities team will highlight key stages in the development of the project and the actions taken to address identified issues and opportunities during the process.

³ *Partners for Climate Protection Program*, Federation for Canadian Municipalities
<https://fcm.ca/en/programs/partners-climate-protection>

2.1 Pre-consultation & scoping

As with any research project, it is important to identify the parameters and goals of the project and then formulate a plan to further “scope” out what the final report might look like, what information sources it should contain, and the research questions to be addressed.

The idea of producing a Regional Energy Emissions Plan for Manitoulin Island was first conceived back in early 2017. This was a time when the world was seemingly taking steps to address the climate crisis, including through the ratification of the “Paris Agreement” which entered into force on November 4, 2016, and the subsequent development and adoption of the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth & Climate Change on December 9, 2016.

With the implementation of this legally binding legislation, came the realization and acceptance that humans are accelerating the rate of climate change through our combined actions. Related to this, was a recognition that our current economic systems have, and continue to, have an adverse impact in terms of the environment.

In this context, there had emerged an urgent need to determine what impact communities are having and based upon such findings, establish climate action plans to help mitigate the predicted effects of a changing climate in the broadest sense.

There was also an understanding that some smaller municipalities, townships & First Nation communities do not have the capacity, financial resources, or perhaps the political will to address these challenges head-on. Therefore, a regional approach might empower and enable communities to understand their own footprint and, in due course, to inspire and develop a robust and integrated plan (and associated solutions) to address those identified issues and challenges.

The following paragraphs provide a summary of the various steps taken to engage stakeholders in this process:

2.2 Letters of support

In developing the funding application under FCMs Transition 2050 Program letters of support were received from the following municipalities and townships representing both Manitoulin Island and the North Shore:

- Municipality of Central Manitoulin
- Town of Gore Bay
- Town of North Eastern Manitoulin & the Islands (NEMI)
- Town of Spanish
- Township of Billings

3.0 Meetings and correspondence

The following text provides a summary of the meetings and correspondence which has taken place with municipal and First Nation leaders throughout Manitoulin Island. It highlights the details of each correspondences and how this has influenced the form and content of the REEP.

2017

In 2017, meetings and consultations were held in various communities on Manitoulin Island to discuss energy and emissions planning processes and community energy needs. The team also identified why energy planning is important and sought to identify barriers to energy data collection and the implementation of energy and emissions reduction-based initiatives.

Date: **Dec 12, 2017**

Title: **Community Energy Planning: December 2017 Strategic Next Steps**

Location: **Gore Bay**

Information:

- Attending staff members were asked a series of questions.
- A discussion took place on Community Energy Plans, and the potential benefits and opportunities of undertaking them.
- Details regarding Smart Green Communities' Carbon Accounting Data Checklist were shared.

Date: **Dec 22, 2017**

Title: **Community Energy Planning: December 2017 Strategic Next Steps**

Location: **Central Manitoulin**

Information:

- Attending staff members were asked a series of questions.
- A discussion took place on Community Energy Plans, and the potential benefits and opportunities of undertaking them.
- Details regarding Smart Green Communities' Carbon Accounting Data Checklist were shared.

Date: **Dec 22, 2017**

Title: **Community Energy Planning: December 2017 Strategic Next Steps**

Location: **Billings**

Information:

- Attending staff members were asked a series of questions.
- A discussion took place on Community Energy Plans, and the potential benefits and opportunities of undertaking them.
- Details regarding Smart Green Communities' Carbon Accounting Data Checklist were shared.

2018

In 2018, announcements regarding potential funding streams applicable to the Smart Green Communities Program were made by the IESO⁴ and FCM⁵ with a view to assisting municipalities, townships, and First Nation communities in achieving deep emissions reductions through peer learning, strategic planning, education, and best practice examples from other communities.⁶

Date: **Feb 12, 2018**

Title: **Billings Community Energy Needs**

Location: **E-mail**

Information:

- A staff member of Billings Township identified current renewable energy projects in the town and provided information re: geothermal heating / cooling systems associated with the community centre.
- Identified local renewable energy projects.
- Discussed current initiatives re: improving energy efficiency in corporate buildings.
- Discussed future goals re: development as a green community.

⁴ Green-energy program to help educate Manitoulin communities, Oct 17, 2018

<https://www.northernontariobusiness.com/industry-news/green/green-energy-program-to-help-educate-manitoulin-communities-1088618>

⁵reThink Green to provide FCM emission reduction training Feb 15, 2019

<https://www.manitoulin.com/rethink-green-to-provide-fcm-emission-reduction-training/>

⁶ Green Economy North makes case for competitive advantages within sustainability, April 4, 2018

<https://www.manitoulin.com/green-economy-north-makes-case-for-competitive-advantages-within-sustainability/>

Date: **Feb 17, 2018**

Title: **Central Manitoulin Energy Needs**

Location: **E-mail**

Information:

- A staff member of Central Manitoulin identified current recycling commitments.
- Provided an overview of community perspectives on energy saving projects.
- Discussed solar energy projects and the potential return on investment (ROI) to the community.
- Discussed Community Energy Needs

2019

Smart Green Communities increased its strategic and community engagement in 2019 including promotion of the Regional Energy and Emissions Plans, and the encouragement of public participation in workshops, events, and research studies⁷. Additionally, Smart Green Communities continued to encourage training, and the onboarding of municipalities and townships to adopt emission reduction strategies through the PCP Program. The team also provided educational opportunities through the sharing of best practice and peer-based learning.

Date: **March 18, 2019**

Title: **Meeting with Wiikwemkoong to discuss energy projects**

Location: **Meeting**

Information:

- Smart Green Communities Energy Plan Coordinator met with the Community Energy Planner at Wiikwemkoong Unceded First Nation to discuss the Regional Energy and Emissions Plan, current energy projects, funding applications and associated priorities.
- Discussed Wiikwemkoong's progress in moving towards energy security and its reduced dependence on fossil fuels.
- Discussed grant applications to IESO regarding the Indigenous Community Energy Plan (ICEP) program
- Discussed potential surveys for residents and their interests in switching from fossil fuel-based home heating to wood pellet/biomass-based heating systems.

⁷ Municipal, First Nation members encouraged to participate in regional energy and emissions project, March 5, 2019 <https://www.manitoulin.com/municipal-first-nation-members-encouraged-to-participate-in-regional-energy-and-emissions-project/>

Date: **May 25, 2019**

Title: **Meeting with Billings / Central Manitoulin Climate Change Coordinator**

Location: **Anchor Inn Hotel, Little Current**

Information:

- Smart Green Communities Program Manager and Green Economy North Program Manager met with Billings / Central Manitoulin Climate Change Coordinator to discuss each of their respective energy and emissions projects and collaboration opportunities.
- Planned to participate in Manitoulin Trade Fair.

Date: **May 30, 2019**

Title: **Meeting with Billings / Central Manitoulin**

Location: **Kagawong**

Information:

- 9:30am – 12:00pm
- Met with Climate Change Coordinator to discuss Community Energy Planning, ongoing projects, and discuss the next steps re: summer engagement strategies.
- Co-developed ideas re: preferred approach to community and council / stakeholder engagement

Date: **June 11 – 12, 2019**

Title: **Phone Calls to First Nations Communities**

Location: **Phone Call**

Information:

- The Smart Green Communities team contacted all First Nation Communities within the REEP study area (9 communities in all) to discuss the Regional Energy and Emissions Plan
- Questions were asked re: the projects and priorities individual communities were working on, particularly in relation to First Nation communities
- The team also questioned what help First Nations communities may need in terms of energy efficiency projects/ funding applications.

Date: **June 24, 2019**

Title: **Community Energy and Emissions Plan (CEEP) Check-In**

Location: **Online / Conference Call with the Township of Billings / Central Manitoulin Climate Change Coordinator**

Information:

- Discussed the GNOMES 'Community of Practice'
- Co-developed ideas re: the REEP steering committee
- Shared resources re: the following:
 - A spreadsheet of Incentives / rebates available to businesses and households to save on energy efficiency measures.
 - An infographic prepared to attract potential steering committee members.
- Opportunities to participate in events such as Summerfest, and local farmers markets.

Date: **July 10, 2019**

Title: **Meeting between Central Manitoulin / Billings Township, Sault Ste Marie & Smart Green Communities**

Location: **Online / Conference Call**

Information:

- Meeting between Climate Change Coordinators to discuss issues / opportunities.
- Discussed timelines and deliverables for various projects.
- Identified carbon inventory methods and best practices.
- Provided an opportunity for peer-based learning and development.

Date: **Aug 6, 2019**

Title: **Central Manitoulin Office Energy Policies**

Location: **E-mail**

Information:

- Discussed best practices re: office energy conservation policies adopted by reThink Green.
- Identified methods to reduce the municipal office's energy use through behavioural and systematic changes.

Date: **Aug 26, 2019**

Title: **Community Energy and Emissions Plan (CEEP) Check-In**

Location: **Online / Conference Call**

Information:

- Discussed the Energy Manager Application and the Partners for Climate Protection Milestone #1
- Provided inventory updates for GHG emissions and energy data.
- Discussed stakeholder engagements for the fall of 2019.
- Identified different community groups in the region that may be interested in sustainability initiatives.

Date: **September 2019**

Title: **Manitoulin Energy Manager**

Location: **Various**

Information:

- Six participants stated their support for an application by reThink Green to seek Federal funding for a new Energy Manager position to be deployed throughout municipalities and townships on Manitoulin Island.
- Communities included: Assiginack, NEMI, Central Manitoulin, Gore Bay, Billings and Tehkummah.

Date: **October 1, 2019**

Title: **EV Strategy Workshop**

Location: **Township of Billings**

Information:

- A workshop was held in the Township of Billings to identify the issues and opportunities around electric vehicle chargers.
- The premise of this workshop was to understand the need for EV chargers, barriers to adopting EVs, target setting and future planning.
- Information presented in the workshop was then refined and generalized to create a template for other municipalities to conduct their own EV strategy workshop.

2020

In 2020, public consultation on the Draft Regional Energy and Emissions Plans took place⁸. Steps taken included background research & analysis, verification of information sources and the finalization of the REEPs in written form⁹. Smart Green Communities also hosted educational webinars and shared resources through newsletters, e-mails, webinars, social media posts; plus providing engaging content on its website.

Date: **June 16, 2020**

Title: **Meeting with Climate Change Coordinator**

Location: **Online**

Information:

- Discussed Central Manitoulin and Billing's Draft Energy and Emissions Inventory Management Plan with its replacement Climate Change Coordinator
- Provided an overview of the Regional Energy and Emissions Plan process
- Confirmed plans to facilitate a comprehensive consultation on the Draft REEPs in August 2020
- Confirmed arrangements re: SGC webinars to take place in July 2020 and October 2020.

Date: **Aug 11, 2020**

Title: **Draft REEP Consultation Launch, including a Media Conference**

Location: **Public Square adjoining NEMIs Municipal Offices**

Information:

- Smart Green Communities officially launched the public consultation on the Draft REEP.
- Given the social distancing restrictions in place (due to the COVID-19 pandemic) this event was held outside beside NEMI's municipal office in the Town square.
- The consultation space included the Draft REEPS, supplementary materials, and interpretive display boards - which allowed the team to engage individuals on different levels.
- The event showcased the findings of the Regional Energy and Emissions Plan (REEP) and was accompanied by an online social media campaign.
- It predicted the effects of climate change and served as a call to action to all municipalities, townships and First Nation Communities on Manitoulin Island and the North Shore.
- Details re: the event were shared in over 20 online and printed media new sources across Northeastern Ontario and a news report was included as part of CTV's Northern Ontario News: [Re-Think Green releases its two-year study on climate change on Manitoulin Island and the North Shore | CTV News](#)

⁸ reThink Green releases its two-year study on climate change on Manitoulin Island and the North Shore, August 11, 2020. <https://northernontario.ctvnews.ca/re-think-green-releases-its-two-year-study-on-climate-change-on-manitoulin-island-and-the-north-shore-1.5060175>

⁹Smart Green Communities launches energy, emissions plan for Manitoulin Island, Sept 15, 2020. <https://www.elliottlaketoday.com/local-news/smart-green-communities-launches-energy-emissions-plan-for-manitoulin-island-2703217>

Date: **Aug 12, 2020**

Title: **Stakeholder Consultation & Workshop Event**

Location: **Online Webinar - Live from NEMIs Municipal Offices**

Information:

- A presentation was delivered which summarized the key findings of the REEPs for both Manitoulin Island and the North Shore.
- The presentation was followed immediately by a workshop in which feedback was sought from affected municipalities, townships, and First Nation Communities re: current/emerging strategies associated with Sustainable Development, low carbon development projects and other best practices within the defined study areas.
- The Smart Green Communities team also discussed climate-led issues in person together with representatives of NEMI.

Date: **Aug 13, 2020**

Title: **Consultation for REEP**

Location: **Tehkummah Municipal Office**

Information:

- Discussed the Draft Regional Energy and Emissions Plan for Manitoulin Island
- Requested feedback on the REEP.
- Discussed current municipal and community initiatives and the potential impacts of climate change in the community.
- Discussed current municipal initiatives and future initiatives.

Date: **Aug 13, 2020**

Title: **Consultation for the REEP**

Location: **Gore Bay Municipal Office**

Information:

- Discussed the Draft Regional Energy and Emissions Plan for Manitoulin Island
- Requested feedback on the REEP.
- Discussed current municipal and community initiatives and the potential impacts of climate change in the community.
- Discussed current municipal initiatives and future initiatives.

Date: **Dec 1, 2020**

Title: **REEP Update**

Location: **Videoconference**

Information:

The following topics were discussed:

- Met with municipal staff to provide an update on the REEP Consultation process
- Discussed ongoing community level initiatives / opportunities.
- Discussed the potential for a future EV initiative.
- Outlined the benefits of having a Smart Green Communities Membership
- Explained the REEP evaluation process.

Date: **Dec 8, 2020**

Title: **Meeting with NEMI**

Location: **Artisan Centre, NEMI**

Information:

- Provided a further in person update on the REEP and the proposed next steps re: the launch.
- Conducted an Interview for the REEP Launch Video

Letters and Follow-Up E-mails

1. Letter to the CAOs and Band Chiefs of all affected Municipalities, Townships & First Nation Communities - July 22, 2020

- Purpose of the letter:
 - Provided a summary update re: programs & services offered by reThink Green.
 - Identified upcoming events and webinars.
 - Identified other opportunities for community leaders to partner on broader sustainability-led initiatives.
- Key information contained:
 - An Itinerary of the stakeholder engagement week (Aug 10 – 13, 2020)
 - Promotion of the Regional Energy and Emissions Plan including a request for feedback through the consultation process.
 - Options re: available funding streams and opportunities for businesses and municipalities to take part in (as of August 2020).
- Call to action:
 - Stakeholders were asked to provide feedback regarding the REEP and reach out if they have any questions or wish to discuss matters in detail.
 - They were encouraged to participate and share information and resources within the defined study areas.

2. Letter to the CAOs and Band Chiefs of all affected Municipalities, Townships & First Nation Communities Sept 16, 2020

- Purpose of the letter:
 - To further promote consultation & feedback on the REEP
 - Schedule meetings to further discuss the REEP if interested in Fall 2020 (October)
- Key information contained:
 - Promotion of an upcoming visit to Manitoulin Island (in Fall 2020) if stakeholders were interested / available.
 - Scheduling a meeting to further discuss the REEPs, their purpose, findings, and potential projects available to mitigate the effects of climate change.
 - An extension of the timeline for providing comments on the REEPs to September 30, 2020 (Note: this was later extended again to allow for continuous input and feedback throughout the process of drafting the Final Reports)
- Call to action
 - To provide feedback on the REEP
 - To schedule meetings for the upcoming visit - if interested

3. E-mail to the CAOs and Band Chiefs of First Nation Communities Oct 6, 2020

- Purpose of the e-mail:
 - A further and final promotion of the Draft REEPs and a specific request for additional consultation feedback on behalf of First Nation Communities
 - The promotion of an upcoming webinar entitled: *“Planning for Change: Implementing Low-Carbon Development Projects.”*
- Key information contained
 - Follow-up on previous e-mail correspondence regarding the REEPs
 - The promotion of conversation and feedback related to the Draft Regional Energy and Emissions Plan
 - Provided access to a website to review the REEPs.
- Call to action
 - A request for feedback on the REEPs
 - Registration details regarding the upcoming webinar

4. Additional calls and e-mails to Municipal, Township, and First Nation Communities - Nov 30 / Dec 1, 2020

- Purpose of the email / calls:
 - Follow up on previous correspondence on REEP feedback consultations.
 - Discussion re: on-going energy / emissions initiatives
- Call to action
 - A request to provide feedback or comments on the REEP.
 - A request to provide information re: current energy projects and initiatives.

5. Letter to the CAOs and Band Chiefs of all affected Municipalities, Townships & First Nation Communities - Dec 16 – 18, 2020

- Purpose of the letter
 - To confirm the REEP is now complete and provide a summary overview of its key findings and recommendations.
 - To identify the proposed launch as being Monday January 25, 2021
 - To highlight benefits of Smart Green Communities and/or Green Economy North Memberships
- Call to action
 - A request to identify projects & initiatives in their respective communities from which to act upon the findings of the REEP.

4.0 Community-wide Consultation

This section will provide a summary of the community and stakeholder engagement sessions that Smart Green Communities has initiated and attended to increase awareness of the SGC program, the Regional Energy and Emissions Plan, and receive feedback from the community regarding their energy consumption.

Note: Prior to conceiving the Smart Green Communities Program, Green Economy North (GEN) was the only program available to municipalities, townships, and First Nation Communities within the defined study areas. GEN continues to provide access to webinars and workshops including information that is relevant to Smart Green Communities Program members, and the communities they serve.

2017

Date: **May 9, 2017**

Title: **Sharing for a Sustainable Future**

Location: **Living with Lakes Centre, Sudbury**

Information:

- 9:00am - 3:00pm
- Hosted by Wahnapiatae First Nation and Green Economy North
- Discussed the topic of sustainability and why it is important to measure and manage energy usage and set targets.
- Outlined the programs & services from Green Economy North re: providing support to help First Nation Communities both set and meet sustainability targets.
- Introduced information related to carbon measurement & reporting, energy auditing, and action planning.

2018

Date: **Feb 21, 2018**

Title: **Public Information Session: Assessing Community Energy Needs**

Location: **Park Center, Kagawong, Billings Township**

Information:

- 11:30am - 12:30pm
- Information session as part of a larger regional conversation in Northeastern Ontario identifying energy issues that matter to residents, business owners, and community leaders.
- Working with municipalities, townships, and First Nations to better understand changing energy needs.
- Residents and business operators were invited to join community leaders to learn more about community energy planning and provide feedback on energy issues that may concern them.
- Attendees were made aware of the Community Energy Planning Conference taking place on March 27, 2018.
- Wawa's award-winning Community Energy Plan was explained.
- The need to be prepared for future funding opportunities was outlined.

Date: **Feb 21, 2018**

Title: **Public Information Session: Assessing Community Energy Needs**

Location: **Community Hall, Gore Bay**

Information:

- 2:30pm - 3:30pm
- Information session as part of a larger regional conversation in Northeastern Ontario identifying energy issues that matter to residents, business owners, and community leaders.
- Identified opportunities to work with municipalities, townships, and First Nations to better understand their changing energy needs.
- Residents and business operators were invited to join community leaders to learn more about community energy planning and provide feedback on energy issues that may concern them.
- Attendees were made aware of the Community Energy Planning Conference taking place on March 27, 2018.
- Wawa's award-winning Community Energy Plan was explained.
- The need to be prepared for future funding opportunities was outlined.

Date: **Feb 21, 2018**

Title: **Public Information Session: Assessing Community Energy Needs**

Location: **Mindemoya Community Hall, Mindemoya, Central Manitoulin**

Information:

- 5:30pm - 6:30pm
- Information session as part of a larger regional conversation in Northeastern Ontario identifying energy issues that matter to residents, business owners, and community leaders.
- Working with municipalities, townships, and First Nations to better understand changing energy needs.
- Residents and business operators were invited to join community leaders to learn more about community energy planning and provide feedback on energy issues that may concern them.
- Attendees were made aware of the Community Energy Planning Conference taking place on March 27, 2018.
- Wawa's award-winning Community Energy Plan was explained.
- The need to be prepared for future funding opportunities was outlined.

Date: **April 21, 2018**

Title: **Connecting Climate and Citizens: Community Energy and Emissions Planning**

Location: **SMASH Talk: Kagawong Green Living Expo**

Information:

- A presentation was delivered re: The Smart Green Communities Program, and how this can support Northeastern Ontario communities
- Presented information on Community Energy Plans (CEP)
- Outlined the phases involved in creating a community energy plan.
 - Phase One: Establish a leadership team including representatives of the administration, council, industry, the SME sector, institutions, and residents.
 - Phase Two: Undertaking data analysis in accordance with Ontario Reg. 397/11
 - Phase Three: Consultation on the issues
 - Phase Four: Funding: Identifying opportunities

Date: **October 30, 2018**

Title: **Sudbury 2018 Green Expo**

Location: **Holiday Inn, Sudbury**

Information:

- 12:00pm - 4:00pm
- 64 people RSVPed
- The event comprised a region-wide sustainability and technology-focused event which brought together businesses and individuals with sustainability expertise.
- The event included panels of experts engaged in peer-to-peer discussions and showcased eco-friendly practices that improve savings and reduce our environmental impacts.
- The Expo included a green technology tradeshow which highlighted the different ways consumers can save money and reduce their carbon footprint.
- Speakers and panelists included:
 - Drew Adams, LGA Architectural Partners
 - Mike Carson, Chief Financial Advisor, Carleton District School Board
 - Alex Benzie, Senior Lead, QUEST
 - James Walker, Energy Business Development Coordinator, Greater Sudbury Utilities

Date: **Nov 22, 2018**

Title: **Emerging Trends in Community Energy Planning**

Location: **Online**

Information:

- Presented at the IESO Northeast Ontario Regional Electricity Forum
- Outlined the Smart Green Communities Program, and the Regional Energy and Emissions Pilot Project
- Presented findings on residential surveys conducted in 2018 re: energy efficiency upgrades occurring in the community.
- Findings included:
 - Low-hanging fruit for energy efficiency upgrades which are already happening in the community.
 - The importance of behavioural changes was identified, including among those who said energy conservation was “not important.”
 - The costs of upgrades were identified as a barrier.
 - Concerns re: the perception that renewable energy may be more costly than conventional energy sources.
- The need to identify opportunities for incorporating energy planning and efficiency measures into economic development programs, including incentives, and some of the technological and design innovations available, plus the need for training, workshops, and webinars to bring increased knowledge and awareness on these issues.
- Identified the ‘next steps’ regarding how attendees could get involved

2019

Date: **March 5, 2019**

Title: **Regional Sustainability Planning Workshop**

Location: **Manitoulin Hotel & Conference Centre, 66 Meredith St E, Little Current**

Information:

- 9:30am - 3:00pm
- 21 people RSVPed
- Presentations were given by Victoria Ervick, Climate Change Action Plan Coordinator and Melanie Kawalec, Sustainability Manager from the City of Peterborough.
- Provided guidance on municipal reporting requirements for public sector emissions and the preparation of action plans under O. Reg 507/18.
- Facilitated a roundtable discussion including an overview of the Regional Energy and Emissions Planning Project, upcoming events and timelines, the benefits of participating, and what is expected of participating communities.
- Introduced the Partners for Climate Protection program, including a summary of tools and how regional advisors can provide one-on-one support for the community.

Date: **March 8, 2019**

Title: **Municipal, First Nation members encouraged to participate in regional energy and emissions project¹⁰**

Location: **Manitoulin Expositor / News release**

Information:

- Smart Green Communities invited all municipalities, townships and First Nations on Manitoulin Island and the North Shore to participate in the Regional Energy and Emissions Project as part of Federation of Canadian Municipalities Climate Innovation Program and IESO's Education and Capacity (EB) Program
- The release outlined the Smart Green Communities program and how it can support municipalities, townships, and First Nation Communities in developing energy profiles including carbon accounting and sustainability reporting, and actions to reduce energy usage and emissions.
- An outline of the regional plan including long-term priorities for climate adaptation.
- Support for municipalities, townships, and First Nations to meet the reporting requirements under O. Reg. 507/18: Broader Public Sector - Energy Reporting and Conservation and Demand Management Plans.
- Involvement on behalf of the Township of Billings, NEMI, and Gore Bay

¹⁰ Municipal, First Nation members encouraged to participate in regional energy and emissions project, March 8, 2019 <https://www.manitoulin.com/municipal-first-nation-members-encouraged-to-participate-in-regional-energy-and-emissions-project/>

Date: **March 13, 2019**

Title: **Municipalities Meet to “Rethink” Green Community Policies¹¹**

Location: **Manitoulin Expositor / News Release**

Information:

- Discussion re: the workshop held on March 5, 2019 including a briefing from speakers discussing energy reduction initiatives.
- How reThink Green / Smart Green Communities is helping municipalities achieve energy planning initiatives.
- Identifying the next workshop to attend (April 10)
- Encouraged increased participation in the energy planning process.

Summer 2019

In the spring and summer of 2019 Smart Green Communities attended four public events, three of which were held on Manitoulin Island & one within the North Shore Communities. These included:

- The Manitoulin Trade Fair (MTF)
- Summerfest
- Providence Bay Fair
- Massey Fair (North Shore Communities)

These festivals generally receive approximately 3,000 - 7,000 guests who attend from locations including Manitoulin Island, the North Shore Communities, and other parts of Northern Ontario.

We provide a summary of the events that took place as follows:

Date: **May 24 - 26, 2019**

Title: **Manitoulin Trade Fair**

Location: **NEMI Recreation Centre, Little Current**

Information:

The Manitoulin Trade Fair is a biannual event that is hosted by LaCloche Manitoulin Business Assistance Corporation (LAMBAC), which is a branch of the Community Futures Development Corporation, and was held at the NEMI Recreation Centre in the Town of Little Current between May 24-26, 2019.

The primary purpose of the event was to bring businesses together to share information and resources re: the range of products and services available in the Manitoulin-La Cloche area, and to provide a forum for businesses to promote themselves to a broader audience. The Manitoulin Trade Fair generally draws over 8,000 visitors from across Northeastern Ontario region.

¹¹ Municipalities Meet to Rethink Green Community Policies, March 13, 2019
<https://www.manitoulin.com/municipalities-meet-to-rethink-green-community-policies/>

At the MTF, a survey was administered asking attendees what actions they were taking to improve their energy efficiency, and barriers to addressing this. (See section '9.1.2: Manitoulin Trade Fair Survey Results).

The Smart Green Communities team discovered there was a need to engage proactively with attendees who may not be forthcoming with this information. However, as the event was taking place in an indoor setting, the weather did not affect attendance as much as compared to an outdoor event. In addition, this event was business oriented so numerous participants did have some knowledge regarding energy use and sustainability.

Date: **July 20-21, 2019**

Title: **Kagawong Summerfest**

Location: **Kagawong, Ontario**

Information:

Kagawong Summerfest is an annual event that usually occurs in mid-July to celebrate the village of Kagawong. It features fun family activities, food, and entertainment.

The Smart Green Communities team attended this event with the Central Manitoulin / Township of Billings' Climate Change Coordinator between July 20 – 21, 2019.

This was the first event Smart Green Communities staff attended to promote the program, raise awareness of the REEP, and ask people to sign up for our newsletter to receive further updates. No surveys or interactive activities were conducted, but instead a more informal outreach-based approach was taken to inform people about the Program and the REEP in general.

Date: **August 16-18, 2019**

Title: **Providence Bay Agricultural Fair**

Location: **Providence Bay, Ontario**

Information:

The Providence Bay Agricultural Fair is an annual fair that is held for three days beginning on the third Friday of August. The event has been running for 134 years and provides fun activities and entertainment for families.

Events held include livestock judging, a heavy horse pull, horse shows, and talent shows. It also provides an excellent venue for [exhibitors](#) to show off their accomplishments, and [vendors](#) to display their wares.

Smart Green Communities attended this event with Central Manitoulin / the Township of Billings' Climate Change Coordinator between August 16 – 18, 2019 and hosted an outside booth with a canopy. An interactive activity was conducted for this event; however, with the windy conditions, this made interacting with attendees difficult.

2020

A comprehensive Public Consultation exercise on the Draft findings of the REEP took place between August 10 to November 30, 2020. During that time, the Smart Green Communities team applied a range of different methods to build awareness and garner public interest and responses on the matters and issues raised.

This Final Report of Consultation summarizes the steps taken and provides examples of the various consultation materials produced and distributed throughout Manitoulin Island communities to gain the broadest perspectives on the issues identified.

A summary of the written responses received by the Smart Green Communities team is contained within the Appendices of this Report for reference.

Date: Tuesday August 11, 2020

Title: Manitoulin Island Draft REEP Consultation: Public Information Session

Location: Public Square beside NEMIs Offices, Little Current, ON

Information:

The public information session held at the public square beside NEMI's municipal office featured a series of posterboards with findings from the Regional Energy and Emissions Plan. Posterboards with messaging such as:

“Moving to sustainable practices and preparing for climate change is how you can help secure your homes, livelihoods and create a greater sense of well-being. The Manitoulin Regional Energy and Emissions Plan outlines the current state of regional emissions so you can help prevent the negative effects such emissions have on our beautiful Northern environment.”

“Manitoulin Island's rainy season is during the autumn and winter months according to weather data collected for the Regional Energy and Emissions Plan. More rain in the colder months means that there will be increased snowfall and ice in the winter. The parts of winter that are unsafe and costly will get even more dangerous and expensive for you, your neighbours, and your municipality.”

While attendance numbers were lower than hoped (primarily due to the Covid-19 Pandemic) a range of individuals were willing to discuss the impacts of climate change in terms of their lifestyles and livelihoods.

Analysis

Having attended the above, the Smart Green Communities' team learned that attendance at public events to promote environmental awareness, and the surveying of individuals on environmental actions, can be beneficial in terms of engaging the public.

Community-wide consultations were important to engage the public on various topics such as: Climate Change, Community Energy Plans, Federal / Provincial incentives for consumers on energy efficiency initiatives and current projects that Smart Green Communities and reThink Green is working on.

Survey responses showed that most energy/emission reduction changes identified by individuals and households were behavioral, perhaps reflecting a general desire to do "something"; but also, indicating we have a long way to go in terms of identifying and sharing some of the many best practice measures available to reduce our collective impact on the environment.

The survey indicated that educational material and/or information sessions which highlight positive behaviors could be well received. Such information and awareness campaign(s) should not only be accessible, but easily understood by people of all ages and income levels.

Despite this, and having reflected on this experience, the Smart Green Communities team is largely of the impression that attendees, including families, were mainly seeking other forms of entertainment on these particular weekends, and were not necessarily 'primed' to receive a tutorial on energy efficiency levels, greenhouse gas emissions, and broader climate-science.

The consultation exercise also speaks to the need to advertise the availability of public information sessions clearly and consistently so the public can gain a more solid understanding.

5.0 Project Advisory Groups

To ensure the accuracy of information presented within the Final REEP, it was identified early in the process that the formation of a Project Advisory Group for Manitoulin Island could provide a valuable source of local knowledge, insight & technical expertise to help guide the project.

Project Advisory Group Members were asked to review and accept the Terms of Reference (ToR) which served as an important reference point for participating members to understand what was expected from each committed person.

Due to delays incurred in delivering the project, not least the COVID-19 pandemic, an extension was granted by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) which increased the timeframe for the submission of all deliverables from April 30, 2020 to January 31, 2021.

In this context, updated Terms of Reference (TOR) were then produced to reflect the approved extension. A sample version of the updated TOR is contained within Appendix A of this Report of Consultation for reference.

The REEP Advisory Group was first convened on February 19, 2020 at the Town of NEMI's Boardroom. At this time, the Smart Green Communities team provided an update on the REEP and facilitated a broader discussion on the issues. The event provided an opportunity for individuals to raise questions on specific components of the study including its structure, scope, content, form, and other information as such relates to the communities they represent.

A diverse range of Project Advisory Group Members were sought in the development of the Study including, but not limited to municipal, township and First Nation leaders, business owners, community interest groups, technical experts, and other stakeholders.

A total of 6 Project Advisors agreed to review the Draft Manitoulin Island REEP with the pre-consultation review taking place between June 19 and June 30, 2020. The deadline for advisors to provide feedback was later extended to July 24, 2020, and a total of 3 responses were received during this extended timeframe. Responses from Project Advisors can be found in [Appendix B: Project Advisory Group Feedback](#).

6.0 Stakeholder Workshops

A series of Stakeholder Workshops were held between February 2018 & August 2020. This Final Report of Consultation summarizes the various consultation materials produced and distributed throughout Manitoulin Island communities during the project, and summarizes non-confidential letters produced and submitted to municipalities and First Nation communities regarding the project. Sample copies will be provided within the Appendices of this report.

The following provides a summary of stakeholder workshops and information sessions organized by the Smart Green Communities team:

Date: **Nov 30, 2017**

Title: **Northeastern Ontario Community Energy Planning Webinar: Project Overview**

Location: **Online**

Information:

- Stakeholder members were invited to join a discussion about community energy planning, what it entails, the benefits, factors contributing to success, and the processes involved in creating a Community Energy Plan.
- Members consisted of five communities within Manitoulin Island and the North Shore.
- Presented attendees with a case study of the Wawa Energy Plan
 - Top 10 steps to motivate small-scale community energy planning.
- Sought to build capacity among participant communities on Community Energy Planning issues by:
 - Identifying and engaging potential key stakeholders
 - Gathering and analyzing energy data
 - Hosting an initial community consultation on energy issues
 - Preparing applications for funding

Date: **March 27, 2018**

Title: **Community Energy Planning and Conference - Building Capacity to Plan**

Location: **Manitoulin Hotel & Conference Centre, Little Current**

Information:

- Time: 9:30am - 3:00 pm
- 32 people RSVPed
- Municipal, Township and First Nation leaders from Manitoulin, Sudbury, and Algoma Districts discussed community energy and emissions planning processes.
- Best practices from across the region were explored.
- Individuals learned how to build local capacity and succeed in the new low carbon economy.

Date: **April 19, 2018**

Title: **Low-Carbon Economy Challenge Funding Opportunity**

Location: **Online**

Information:

- 1:00pm - 2:00pm
- The webinar included the following:
- A discussion re: the upcoming event entitled: '*Annual Members Meeting*' which took place on May 24, 2019.
- Energy Star Certification
- The Low Carbon Economy Challenge (Federal funding from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change)
- Member opportunities to participate with projects that have low overall dollar-per-Tonne of CO₂e reduced
- Project-based assessments for funding
- Funding applications and associated timelines

Date: **May 24, 2018**

Title: **Annual Members Meeting**

Location: **Lexington Hotel**

Information:

- Meeting 11:45pm - 1:00pm
- Optional Workshop 1:00pm - 1:45pm
- A networking opportunity was provided.
- Two-minute case studies of other communities and municipalities were presented.
- The Program Advisory Group was created.
- A member feedback session was conducted to evaluate how the program can continue assisting members to reach their goals.
- An optional workshop was entitled: "GHG Accounting 101" took place later that day.

Date: **June 26, 2018**

Title: **Changing Government Priorities for the Green Economy**

Location: **Online**

Information:

- Members of Green Economy North were invited to discuss new provincial and federal legislation changes that could make a difference towards the Green Economy.
- The following topics were discussed:
 - The proposed Cap and Trade system
 - International Energy Trading Association
 - The Green Ontario Fund
 - The CME Smart Green Program
 - Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds
 - Energy Conservation Programs

Date: **Dec 5, 2018**

Title: **Year-End Update**

Location: **Online**

Information:

- Members of Green Economy North were invited to a year-end update discussion re: achievements made during the year.
- The B-Lab Assessment tool was introduced.
- The following topics were also discussed:
 - Changing policy landscape & potential funding through Federal Carbon Pricing
 - Ontario's Environment Plan
 - Annual reporting processes and the leaderboard
 - Business certification initiatives and Ready2Save

Date: **April 10, 2019**

Title: **Asset Management Workshop**

Location: **175 Avery Drive, Espanola, ON**

Information:

- 9:30am - 4:00pm
- 42 RSVPs. # of participants: 32
- This event provided interactive sessions by front-line practitioners who had first-hand experience developing municipal and First Nation asset management plans with integrated climate change considerations.
- The sessions included:
 - Where are we with our asset management plans and what are our immediate priorities and needs?
 - An overview of asset management regulations, a discussion re: key findings + role-playing activity re: Strategic Asset Management Policy Roles (SAMP)
 - Asset management requirements from the perspective of Ontario Municipal staff
 - Integrating climate considerations into municipal, township and First Nation infrastructure planning through asset management
- Facilitated by the following speakers.
 - MFOA: Municipal Financial Officers Association of Ontario
 - AMOntario: Asset Management Ontario Community of Practice
 - City of Kenora & OFNTSC / STANTEC (First Nation Infrastructure Resilience Toolkit)

Date: **Sept 23, 2019**

Title: **Milestone 1 / 2 Workshop**

Location: **Science North Conference Room**

Information:

- 11:00am - 4:00pm
- Hosted by Ontario Regional Advisors for the FCM Partners for Climate Protection Program
- A hands-on workshop that focussed on details using the PCP Online Tool for completion of Milestones #1 and #2
- The objective is to provide technical support on the use of the PCP Tool.
- Attendees brought with them energy and emissions data which they had collected to date and were provided with support from facilitators and peers towards achieving their milestones.

Date: **February 19, 2020**

Title: **Smart Green Communities Project Update**

Location: **North Eastern Manitoulin & The Islands (NEMI) Boardroom, 14 Water Street, Little Current**

Information:

- 10:00am - 12:00pm
- # of Participants: 13
- Smart Green Communities staff gave a further update / presentation on what a Regional Energy Emissions Plan (REEP) is, and how attendees can get involved.
- The discussion around the table was positive, and attendees were keen to learn more.
- The “Terms of Reference” for advisors was circulated, and dialogue was encouraged regarding the key issues, information, and resources that participants would like to see in the Two (2) REEPs for Manitoulin Island and the North Shore.
- Contact information for attendees was collected and those who consented were added to the Smart Green Communities mailing list.

Date: **Aug 12, 2020**

Title: **Stakeholder Consultation & Workshop Event**

Location: **Online Webinar - Live from NEMIs Municipal Offices**

Information:

- 9:00am to 12:30pm
- A presentation was delivered which summarized the key findings of the REEPs for both Manitoulin Island and the North Shore.
- The presentation was followed immediately by a workshop in which feedback was sought from affected municipalities, townships, and First Nation Communities re: current/emerging strategies associated with Sustainable Development, low carbon development projects and other best practices within the defined study areas.
- The Smart Green Communities team also discussed climate-led issues in person together with representatives of NEMI.

7.0 Webinars

Throughout the duration of the project, the Smart Green Communities team developed and delivered a series of webinars, that shared information and resources pertinent to the work of stakeholders within the two (2) defined REEP study areas, and beyond.

The Final Report of Consultation will provide a summary / overview of the dates, times, topics, and other pertinent information shared by the team, and our partners throughout the course of delivering these webinars and the collaborations and opportunities that were achieved as a result.

Date: **Mar 5, 2020**

Title: **Energy 101**

Information:

- Online webinar took place between 11:00am - 12:00pm
- Attended by 18 people, and (as of December 2020) viewed by a further 22 people.
- Green Economy North's Sustainability Profiling and Assessment Officer hosted a webinar that discusses the introduction to energy in the context of production, efficiency, and options for the future.
- The following was discussed:
 - The different types of non-renewable energy and renewable energy, their benefits, and disadvantages:
 - Non-renewable energy: coal, oil, and natural gas
 - Environmental impacts of non-renewable energy
 - Renewable energy sources: solar, wind, hydroelectric, tidal, geothermal, biomass, WTE, nuclear
 - Electricity generation, transmission, distribution, power factors & organizations
 - Conservation of energy - costs, demands, and their impact on the environment.

Date: **July 22, 2020**

Title: **Planning for Change: Climate Change Adaptation & Mitigation Through Asset Management**

Information:

- The event took place between 1:30pm - 3:00pm
- It was attended by 11 people and (as of December 2020) has been viewed by a further 16 people.
- The webinar was hosted by Smart Green Communities in partnership with Hassan Rouhani, Climate Change Specialist from the Township of Bonfield.
- The following was discussed:
 - What is considered a municipal asset?
 - How municipalities can apply a sustainable approach to asset management
 - The legislation that required municipalities and townships to create up-to-date asset management plans.

- Identifying and exploring the barriers to sustainable asset management
- Considerations when integrating climate change mitigation and adaptation measures in asset management plans.
- The factors that cause extra pressure on municipal assets

Date: **August 12, 2020**

Title: **Stakeholder Engagement Workshop**

Information:

- The event took place between 9:00am - 12:00pm and was attended by 6 stakeholders.
- The event provided a preview of the Regional Energy and Emissions Plans, followed by a stakeholder workshop where municipalities, townships, and First Nation Communities were able to discuss existing best practices and potential future project ideas and goals to achieve reduced energy use and emissions.
- Participating stakeholders agreed that sustainability plays an important role in their communities.
- Examples of how sustainability and climate change have been incorporated include: ensuring asset management and the construction of public infrastructure projects is viewed from a climate lens.
- Stakeholders noted this involves adapting to, mitigating, and preventing potential climate impacts within the community.
- In discussing strategies to implement sustainability-oriented projects, stakeholders shared similar ideas re: team-based approaches, noting that projects with the most interdisciplinary and cross-sectional support were the most successful.
- It was identified this generally involves engaging different parts of the community as well as ensuring clear lines of communication between different departments.
- Stakeholders cited a variety of different challenges they faced (specific to their own communities) in developing and implementing sustainability plans.
- This included understanding how their community planning process fits into the larger regional planning process, fostering a sense of 'trust', and setting expectations among projects stakeholders.
- The feasibility of initiating and delivering projects was also acknowledged as a barrier to some organizations, including a lack of data, and the resources needed to develop plans.
- Interpersonal and communication challenges in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic were also seen as a potential barrier to progress.
- Finally, stakeholders mentioned several projects and initiatives which they are considering for the future, including the preparation of Climate Action Plans.

Date: **October 28, 2020**

Title: **Planning for Change: Implementing Low Carbon Development Projects**

Information:

- The event took place between 10:30am and 12pm
- 23 Individuals reserved and the event was attended by 17 people.
- It has since been posted online and (as of December 2020) viewed publicly by a further 45 people.
- The webinar started with an update on Smart Green Communities and the Regional Energy and Emissions Plans (REEPs) for Manitoulin Island and the North Shore.
- The webinar also discussed a range of existing funding options available for municipalities, townships, and First Nation communities in a northern Ontario context.
- The focus of the webinar was on project identification and implementation, with guest speakers from across northeastern Ontario who delivered 10-minute presentations summarizing their experience in the preparation, planning and delivery of low-carbon development projects.

Guest Speakers Included:

- **Renewable Energy Systems**
 - (Craig Timmermans, Owner - [CFRM-FM Radio](#) and [Country 103 – Great Lakes Country](#), Little Current, ON)
- **Public Transit**
 - (Joahna Berti, Executive Director, [United Manitoulin Islands Transportation Co-Operative Inc. \(UMIT\)](#), Manitoulin Island, ON)
- **Sustainable Food Systems**
 - (Ambrose Raftis, Chairman - [Northern Ontario Centre for Sustainable Development](#), Charlton, ON)
- **Green Building Designs**
 - (Laura Fylyshtan, [Low-Carbon Retrofit Project](#) - reThink Green, Sudbury, ON)

The speaker presentations were followed by a 20-minute Q&A including a roundtable discussion and questions from the audience.

8.0 Smart Green Communities Practitioner Forum (AKA GNOMES)

Running parallel to the development of the REEP, the Smart Green Communities team has established a 'Practitioner Forum', previously referred to as the “*Group for Northern Ontario Municipal and First Nation Energy and Sustainability*” (GNOMES) Community of Practice.

The forum brings staff working on climate change initiatives together and has been instrumental in the development of tools and the sharing of information, resources, and best practice techniques on matters including but not limited to:

- Help with solving problems in a Climate Change Coordinator's day-to-day role.
- Assistance with finding relevant information.
- Peer-to-peer mentorship and support
- Access to practitioners with many combined years of climate change, energy management and asset management experience.
- Access to successful sample documents, RFPs, policies, etc.
- Ability to coordinate action for greater support from institutional partners (i.e., obtaining energy use data from Hydro One)
- Providing a sound board for new ideas
- Sharpening the value proposition and how to ensure buy in from the organization's leadership.
- Opportunities to stay up to date with industry and sector news.
- Training and skill development
- Access to a pool of shared resources and practices

There are currently 24 members in the group that meet quarterly to discuss their project progress, share resources, tools, webinars, and useful information. They also identify solutions to common issues that municipalities, townships and First Nation leaders face when working with the adaptation and mitigation scope of climate change.

According to a survey conducted among members of the Smart Green Communities Practitioner Forum (SGCPF), respondents found that the materials presented in the group were helpful. Testimonials suggested that group members were able to connect with “*outstanding climate change coordinators and have learned from them*”.

Additionally, the quarterly check-in has proved to be valuable from the perspective of sharing successes / challenges (especially in 2020 - when the COVID-19 Pandemic forced all to connect virtually). In 2021, the Smart Green Communities Practitioner Forum aims to build upon these established partnerships and foster new synergies between practitioners.

9.0 Analysis

The Smart Green Communities' team has learned a great deal from attending various events, while promoting awareness on the REEP project and engaging community leaders, staff, and residents re: the actions they have / are taking to reduce their energy usage and emissions.

Public events also have brought increased awareness to environmental issues, and the surveying of individuals on environmental actions can be beneficial to our understanding of community priorities when addressing community-wide emissions and energy use.

Challenges

Some of the perceived and actual challenges and barriers to implementation which Smart Green Communities has identified include:

- The need and growing demand for energy efficient initiatives, EV charging stations, and renewable energy sources - with current costs remaining the primary barrier.
- Council agreement - especially where the proposed initiatives are considered costly in practice.
- Synthesizing information and grouping common themes which apply to the whole study area was also challenging because each municipality, township, and First Nation community has different capacities, funding, and timelines to adopt environmental initiatives.
- Residents of Manitoulin Island stated their willingness to adopt behavioural changes that reduce personal emissions and energy use, however, they also emphasized that businesses, industry, and local governments should be seeking to reduce their emissions.
- Some people identified they were not able to do more beyond their limited capacity to incorporate emission-reducing actions.
- Initiatives associated with the uptake of renewable technologies (i.e., solar panels) and the creation of plastic-free grocery options and broader recycling options require more investment.
- Many residents confirmed they were not able to invest in a transition to clean energy solutions without financial incentives in place.

Successes

- Encouraging continuous engagement and conversation surrounding climate change, and identifying how it may impact communities, including the impacts on municipal assets.
- The sharing of resources and information, and the development of partnerships, strategies, plans and initiatives to address these issues head-on.
- Webinars, workshops, and seminars have highlighted the need for more educational materials to be made available to the public to build awareness, knowledge, skills, and habits.
- Community leaders have also benefitted from an enhanced understanding of the perspectives and identified needs of their constituents.
- While there remains a large amount of work to be done on Manitoulin Island in terms of addressing climate change issues, the REEP has been a step in the right direction as it has enabled the collection of data, while inspiring new knowledge and ideas, and encouraging engagement and collaboration between different partners.

10.0 Next Steps

The Smart Green Communities team recommends the following from a stakeholder and community engagement perspective:

- Adopt actions identified within the REEP.
- Identify local assets & resources and empower / enable partners to come together and share information.
- Continue to identify projects and best practices which reduce GHGs and mitigate the predicted effects of climate change.
- Continue to foster professional ties, and the sharing of information and resources among participating municipalities, townships, and First Nation communities
- Build upon the existing Smart Green Communities Practitioner Forum, by identifying and implement actions to reduce GHG emissions.
- Encourage increased community involvement in the planning process.
- Produce engaging public outreach strategies which clearly and succinctly summarize issues associated with climate change and serves as a *'call to action'* that is both relatable and accessible to those who engage with it.
 - As highlighted in the REEP Report (Section 6.2) the emphasis on 'Doom and Gloom' messaging is not considered the most effective method when it comes to encouraging residents to act against climate change.
 - Behavioural science indicates that more positive and motivational messaging will encourage residents to participate in emission-reducing activities and behaviours.

Appendices

Appendix A: Terms of Reference for Advisors

Manitoulin Island - Regional Energy Emissions Plan (REEP)

Updated Terms of Reference

(May 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020)

Background

The Regional Energy and Emissions Plan (REEP) is a project deliverable within the [Smart Green Communities](#) Program led by [reThink Green](#). Funding support is provided by the [Federation of Canadian Municipalities](#) (FCM) and [Independent Electricity System Operator](#) (IESO).

Terms of Reference

The following updated Terms of Reference apply to all Project Advisory Group members throughout the process of planning, preparing, and producing the REEP for Manitoulin Island:

1. Authority

The REEP Advisors (“the Advisors”) are subject matter experts who volunteer their local knowledge and insights to both guide & assist the development of affected communities identified within the defined study area shown within Appendix A to this agreement.

The Advisors agree to support reThink Green (C/o its Smart Green Communities Program) by identifying climate action-based activities, projects, and initiatives that can be implemented in the short, medium, and longer-term within the defined study area.

2. Scope

Project Advisors will contribute to the development of the REEP for Manitoulin Island by:

- Sharing expertise, to guide the projects’ ongoing development and application.
- Engaging other project advisors and members in the **Smart Green Communities Practitioner Forum [1]**
- Attending a small number of in-person and / or virtual project advisory group meetings to both debate and resolve project-specific issues & challenges.
- Contributing to the development of practical solutions (*i.e., community engagement, awareness, and capacity-building activities*) that encourage new ideas, projects, and initiatives; plus.
- Supporting and advancing the development and implementation of robust strategies & plans that lead to systemic change through the adoption of sustainable development principles.

[1] Formerly known as the ‘Group for Northern Ontario Municipal and First Nation Energy and Sustainability’ (*GNOMES Community of Practice*).

3. Delivery Team

Simon Blakeley (*Smart Green Communities Program Manager*) will provide strategic guidance and oversight to the Advisory Group, ensuring the project remains in line with identified funding objectives and other program-led requirements. Simon can be reached as follows:

E-mail: Simon.Blakeley@rethinkgreen.ca

Angela Jiang (*Smart Green Communities Program Officer*) will serve as a day-to-day contact for Advisory Group members, by coordinating and assisting the delivery of project-based outcomes, plus responding to inquiries. Angela can be reached as follows:

E-mail: Angela.Jiang@rethinkgreen.ca

4. Communications

Smart Green Communities will request feedback from the advisors on an as-needed basis. If a group meeting is required a time/date will be organized by doodle poll and an agenda will be circulated one week beforehand, with follow-up minutes provided approximately a week later.

Members of the Advisory Group are responsible for ensuring the Smart Green Communities (SGC) team is in possession of the most up-to-date and preferred means of contact information, and that responses to inquiries made are submitted within the allotted timeframe(s).

5. Advisory Group

The SGC team aspires to have broad representation, including participatory engagement on behalf of the following key groups and associated individuals:

- 4 Municipalities
- 2 First Nation Communities
- 2 Businesses
- 2 Members at large

The precise balance of representation can be modified, where applicable, subject to member availability. Members of the Advisory Group are encouraged to promote and share details of the REEP and secure maximum interest and participation among the public at large.

There will be no regular Advisory Group meetings. Instead, these will be held at the discretion of the Project Manager based upon polling, or other communication which confirms the preferred availability of members.

6. Role of Advisors

The role of advisors is guided by the following goals and principles:

1. Mutual respect for the time effort and stated opinions / beliefs of fellow advisory group members
2. A solid understanding of the issues related to climate change including, but not limited to contributing factors, plus alternative / emerging approaches to development including mitigation measures and/or adaptation techniques.

3. A strong understanding of the study area including, but not limited to geography, climate, seasonal weather, topography, geology, hydrology, ecology, human, social & economic factors, etc.
4. An overarching commitment to increased efficiencies and reduced GHG emissions, at the same time as increasing resilience, and reducing operational costs in the longer-term.
5. Advisors will bear no liability or responsibility for the outcomes of the Smart Green Communities project.

8. Language

All communications produced by reThink Green under the Smart Green Communities Program will be conducted in English, with some materials produced in French. Advisory group members that speak different languages are encouraged to explain the parameters and benefits of the project, and secure / interpret more wide-ranging feedback on behalf of stakeholders and the community at large.

9. Other Communication

- Smart Green Communities will coordinate all communications and/or public relations related to the project - both internally and external to the advisory group
- Any / all inquiries made to advisory group members by the media or other interested parties shall be referred to the Smart Green Communities Project Manager (Simon Blakeley), and/or Director of Communications (David.Stgeorges@rethinkgreen.ca).
- All public announcements and promotions will involve a process of coordinated review within reThink Green prior to their release, including but not limited to due diligence and/or fact checking.

10. Conflict of Interest

Any actual, perceived, or potential conflicts of interest arising with regard to the project or the advisors shall be brought to the attention of the Smart Green Communities Program Manager. reThink Green and its personnel adhere to an internal conflict of interest policy.

11. Duration

The responsibilities of advisory group members as outlined in this agreement will cease to exist at 11:59pm on **Thursday December 31, 2020**. Advisors may agree and/or be considered to participate in further public participation and consultation opportunities beyond that specified date / time.

Funding Partners



Manitoulin Island - Regional Energy Emissions Plan (REEP)

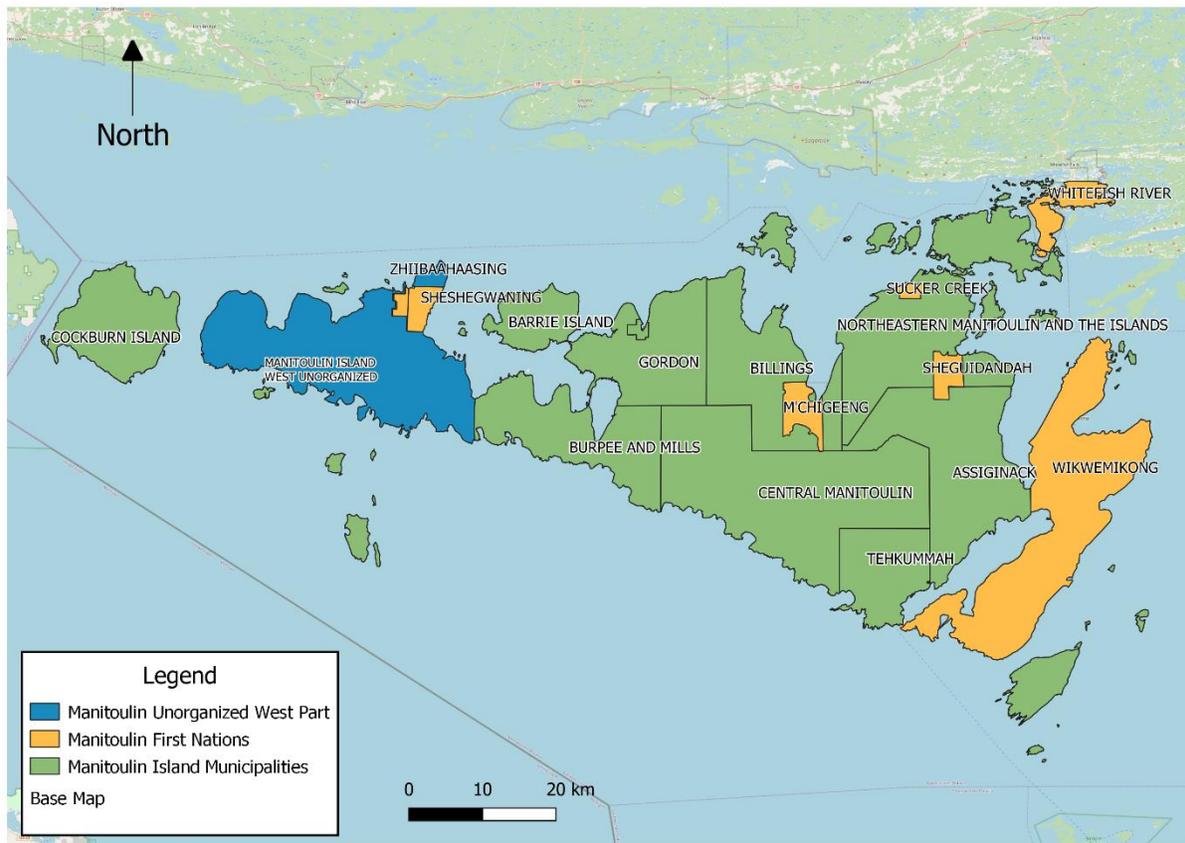
Updated Terms of Reference

(May 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020)

APPENDIX A

“The Study Area”

Manitoulin Island Municipalities and First Nation Communities



Appendix B: Project Advisory Group Feedback

The following section identifies comments received from advisors between June 19 to July 6 after reviewing the Draft Regional Energy and Emissions Plan. A total of (3) three project advisors provided feedback on the Manitoulin Island REEP.

Advisor Feedback	Smart Green Communities Response
The Executive Summary didn't summarize the findings or outline the goal of the report.	The Executive Summary will be updated upon receipt of all Project Advisory Group responses and once certain modifications have been made to the report in its final form.
Re: Low hanging fruits: shift residential and commercial heating sources from oil to others like geothermal, wood, wood pellet, or even propane would be a big way to reduce emissions	The study will suggest some methods by which homeowners can reduce their energy use from fuel oil to geothermal, wood, wood pellet or propane.
Re: Low hanging fruits: use technology to reduce commuting/transportation	Suggested methods for reducing transportation to/from work, and other destinations - include telecommunication-based technologies, virtual meetings, smart technologies, etc. to identify peak service demands among transit users, etc.
Re: Long Term actions: Encourage sectors such as agriculture to adopt clean technology and lower carbon techniques	The study will include some recommendations regarding clean technology & sustainable agricultural practices. Further research & development is required.
Re: Long term actions: Mass transit seems out of place - low ridership levels. Suggests ridesharing instead	A pilot project is being rolled out on Manitoulin Island as of Mid-July 2020 in conjunction with United Manitoulin Island Transit (UMIT). Monitoring and evaluation of this project to determine its longer-term feasibility will be required.
Re: Section 4.9 - Reiterate why there is no quantitative data for commercial/businesses and explain why it is you are using a qualitative approach with profiles	Section 4.10 in the REEP explains why the Smart Green Communities team has applied a qualitative approach to the collection of data as part of its methodology regarding businesses. reThink Green has another program, Green Economy North (GEN) which applies to businesses. The organization is happy to engage in further detail with businesses on the Island to identify emissions arising from different sectors of Industry, and to incorporate such findings as part of municipal, township, or First Nation-led assessments.

<p>Calculations re: energy and emissions seem to relate directly to the population. Can you identify any examples of initiatives that were implemented which can demonstrate a direct impact (i.e., Gore Bay changing to LEDs, or perhaps some other municipal examples)</p>	<p>The Green Economy North (GEN) program has some established members on the Island and case studies are included within the final report where applicable. Municipalities who are members of the Smart Green Communities program were also invited to share examples of investments in capital assets and other infrastructure which has resulted in reduced energy usage and associated emissions.</p>
<p>Re: Section 5.1.2 - High water levels on Lake Huron or actual flooding? Define flooding for the purposes of this report, and give concrete examples of flood-related damage on the island</p>	<p>Flooding has been defined in the BAU forecast. This recognizes that there could be an adverse impact arising from increased high-water levels and associated flooding.</p>
<p>Perhaps include some concrete examples of damage caused to infrastructure due to high-water levels</p>	<p>The final study will include strategies to help prevent infrastructure damage among affected communities.</p>
<p>Need to mention the impact of summer droughts and expand on that. List some actual examples</p>	<p>The study has identified a projected increase in the occurrence of droughts in the summer months within the BAU forecast, and how this could lead to an increase in forest fires.</p>
<p>Re: Section 5.2.4 / 5.2.5. There is a percentage change mentioned but not a +/-</p>	<p>The percentage change now includes a + sign to signify population growth in Manitoulin District</p>
<p>Re: Section 5.2.7 - The number eg.'s don't add up. Not sure if its due to how the sentence is written.</p>	<p>The sentence was confusing to interpret but has now been changed.</p>
<p>Re: Section 5.2 / 5.3. The Business as Usual (BAU) Section seems to conclude with BAU #s for the whole province and not Northern Ontario / Manitoulin Island specifically.</p>	<p>It is to highlight that BAU forecasts have the potential to impact the region, the province, and the whole world.</p>
<p>Re: Section 6.2, Point 4 - Manitoulin Island has very little mass transit so this may not resonate. Could mention Ontario Northland and Manitoulin Transport CO-OP from a transportation perspective.</p>	<p>Additional information has now been added re: Ontario Northland scheduled services, and the UTMI pilot project launched In July 2020.</p>
<p>Re: Section 7.1 Governance - what has worked previously on the Island is a loose collective of committed citizens working towards a focused goal / project. The island definitely requires more champions. Ideally those champions would be paid by a supportive organization as part of their work (EDOs or CED officer at Lambac... etc.) Then eventually a new non-profit, co-op, or other business structure is formed - Manitoulin Transport and the Manitoulin Abattoir are great examples.</p>	<p>The REEP Action plan suggests that community champions can influence municipalities and communities and encourage their adherence. Sustainability initiatives are often guided by a perception of need in the community, which drives municipal, township & First Nation leaders to work together. Local environmental groups are often the frontrunners who advocate for sustainability initiatives.</p>
<p>Re: Section 7.3 Community Involvement - again the Manitoulin Transport Coop is a great example, and the loose collective that is 'Resilient Manitoulin'.</p>	<p>Smart Green Communities has reached out to Manitoulin Transport throughout this project but has not received a response prior to publication of the REEPs. Some municipalities, townships, and First Nation Communities have elected</p>

	Councillors and environmental committees who are seeking bold changes and environmental action. All communities have their own issues and challenges.
Re: Section 7.4 Alignment of REEPS with other Strategic Plans - This really requires a Municipal champion to get this ball rolling. Also, related to point 7.1 above, could SGC/RTG have a funded person on staff who would work with a committed group on Manitoulin?	RTG remains willing and able to work alongside local champions at the same time as providing professional services to the benefit of businesses and communities across the Island. RTG has developed a new membership-based model which will enable further service delivery to support the advancement of the low carbon economy.
On-going progress tracking - will the plan include concrete project ideas that a group of committed citizens might want to run with?	One of the key priorities of the Stakeholder and Community Outreach Sessions which took place on the island between August 10 – 14, 2020 was to identify additional projects (both implemented, in the works, and other "dream projects)" which can help the Island achieve longer-term energy emission reduction targets.
The document provides an extensive "preamble". It is pg. 49 when actual action items are discussed, and the details of which are limited. The current approach may not be the most engaging from a reader perspective.	The preamble is an important section to include within the REEP as it includes well-established practices expected by the funder. This includes an introduction to the delivery partners, defining the purpose and scope of work, outlining the context, summarizing the methodology and describing the findings and limitations of the study. That said, a greater degree of emphasis can be placed on existing action items and a strong recommendation made that further research be undertaken to determine the nature, availability, and feasibility of specific projects.
The terms "First Nations Communities" and "First Nations groups" are used throughout the document, but it may be more appropriate to simply reference such populations as First Nations. For instance, M'Chigeeng is a First Nation, singular. (Also, the map provided is missing the name of one First Nation: immediately to the East of Zhiibaahaasing - namely Sheshegwaning. You could use "communities" in places where you're trying to refer to BOTH municipalities and First Nations at the same time though, to keep things general.	Where applicable the language used has been changed from First Nation Communities/Groups to First Nations. The map has also been updated to ensure proper labelling.
On a related note, there are many instances throughout the reports where municipalities or "municipal staff" are referred to, but not terms that would include First Nations	Further clarification has been provided within the report where applicable.

<p>Strong feelings were expressed that economic growth should not be considered an imperative/ universal good anymore. The drive for growth (at all costs) was considered to be a major flaw in our society / contributor to climate change. It was recognized that smaller / under-developed economies could reasonably hope to grow more but the language surrounding "growth" should be removed from "sustainability" documents such as this - especially in the developed world. For example, the Municipality of Central Manitoulin and the Township of Billings are talking about using the money saved through efficiency gains to (potentially) reinvest in climate change mitigation projects. Such measures could contribute to a "thriving" local economy not centred around the premise of "growth". A link to the following Ted Talk was provided: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1BHOflzxPjI</p>	<p>The current capitalism-led model of economic development has, in many ways, contributed to the polarization of people and societies, and has resulted in the unfair distribution of wealth in favour of a relatively small number of rich individuals, at the same time as millions of people are being unduly affected by poor incomes and entrenched Poverty. While the purpose of the study is to focus on Regional Energy and Emissions, it is important to recognize that the three primary pillars of sustainability (including Social, Economic & Environmental factors) need to be considered in a holistic manner to help achieve GHG emission reductions. At the time of producing this report, the COVID-19 Pandemic has demonstrated just how vulnerable our human population, and the economic systems we have created are from a public health and broader environmental perspective. The "Green Economy" has a significant role to play as we restructure our economies and societies in a way that normalizes sustainability in practice. We will need to see 'growth' in Industries that support those objectives.</p>
<p>Sections - Executive Summary</p>	
<p>what is #ForFutureGenerations?</p>	<p>The hashtag "ForFutureGenerations" is loosely based upon the first known definition of "Sustainable Development" as presented in the 1989 World Commission on Environment and Development (WECD) Publication entitled: "Our Common Future" (or the "Brundtland" Report). The publication defined Sustainable Development as being: <i>"Development that meets the needs of present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs"</i>. The hashtag, therefore, represents the basis of a movement that can easily be recognized among populations throughout Northeastern Ontario and beyond.</p>
<p>why are sustainability and climate change capitalized?</p>	<p>Changes have been made where applicable.</p>
<p>It would be good if there were a title of some sort for the numbered list - it is not clear to the reader what that list is supposed to be for.</p>	<p>This amendment has been made.</p>
<p>Should be just 'discuss climate change' not 'discuss about'</p>	<p>This amendment has been made.</p>
<p>Would the transportation emissions not include those of tourists?</p>	<p>It was difficult to obtain concrete data to identify how many tourists visit each year to be able to calculate emissions generated by tourists.</p>

	<p>Additionally, visitors travel in different modes of transportation (i.e., personal boats, the Chicheemaun Ferry, rental cars, RVs, etc.) which makes it difficult to account for specific emission factors. Smart Green Communities proposes a system that identifies baseline emissions generated by permanent residents, and then quantifies the different modes of transportation used to travel throughout the region to track emissions from tourists.</p>
<p>In general, it was hoped that the Executive Summary would have outlined some of the major actions proposed within the plan.</p>	<p>The REEP Project Advisory Group was advised that consultation on the Draft plan would be ongoing and that further opportunities for engagement would take place during the proposed Community & Stakeholder w/c Monday August 10, 2020, and up until publication of the Final Report itself.</p>
<p>Terms defined</p>	
<p>A suggestion was made that the Smart Green Communities team should reconsider the definition provided in relation to Climate Change to ensure/make it clearer that the climate change effects we are currently experiencing are anthropogenic; whereas climate change more generally refers to longer-term changes in the average weather experienced at any given location.</p>	<p>The definition of climate change has been edited to include weather patterns and anthropogenic effects. The definition was directed quoted from IPCC.</p>
<p>For the CO₂-equivalent, it should be the amount of GHG emissions that result in the same amount of warming (or radiative forcing) as a tonne (or whatever unit you're using) of CO₂, not the other way round.</p>	<p>This definition is taken directly from the IPCC report.</p>
<p>Re: Radiative forcing - I don't think you need an apostrophe after "units"</p>	<p>Amendment made</p>
<p>Re: Section 1.2.5, it was suggested that the word "understanding" could be replaced with a statement that identifies options to access tools and information, etc.?</p>	<p>This statement was amended to state: "...enhance knowledge of Municipal, Township and First Nations on matters related to climate change mitigation and adaptation..."</p>
<p>A question was raised as to whether Municipalities and First Nations really are able to be part of PCP, as indicated in the report?</p>	<p>This was an error in the original copy. PCP is only available to Municipalities through FCM.</p>
<p>A question was raised as to whether or how the REEP will be setting targets?</p>	<p>The REEP only acts as a guide for the region to set its own targets. It cannot be enforced in any jurisdiction within the region - unless adopted. The REEP, therefore, serves as a guide to municipalities, townships, and First Nations re: the levels of reduction in GHGs that will be required to mitigate the projected effects of climate change within the study area. In this context, it is important to foster enhanced working relationships between all communities. a whole.</p>

Section 2.8 Guiding Principles	
<p>In regard to point 2 re: Addressing Transportation Emissions, it was suggested there is not currently significant demand and/or enthusiasm around EV uptake on Manitoulin Island other than among the environmentalist population. It was further suggested that elements of the general public might be skeptical. Therefore, although this was recognized as a worthy option it should not be seen as the "be all and end all" solution. A primary issue identified was that most people on the Island cannot afford an electric vehicle, so finding an affordable solution to address transportation and associated emissions was recommended.</p>	<p>Increasing the accessibility to chargers would significantly reduce emissions associated with transportation especially among tourists to the Island. Encouraging this behaviour would result in an increased uptake of EV vehicles, especially if aligned with provincial rebates and/or incentives. While EV is not an option for many now, it is still important to plan for future improvements when grants, rebates and other incentives become available.</p>
<p>A question was raised as to why Fleet Management was included in the <i>"Reducing Commercial & Residential Sector Emissions"</i> Section? The respondent also was unclear which "policies" the Smart Green Communities team was referring to (i.e., whether reference was being made to new builds, retrofits, equipment upgrades, etc.?) It was questioned whether specific policies would/ should be named.</p>	<p>Fleet insofar as company vehicles, and municipal fleet is considered part of the Commercial Sector for the purpose of calculating emissions.</p>
<p>In regard to point 4, it was suggested that the Municipality of Central Manitoulin and the Township of Billings Wastewater Facilities are fairly efficient; however, that water conservation measures should and could be improved on the part of end users.</p>	<p>The report has now been amended to clarify that the practices of water conservation and demand management should apply to the Island/Region as a whole.</p>
<p>In regard to part 5, it was questioned whether the term "crippling" is a widely accepted word anymore, and even so, whether it paints a slightly too dramatic picture in this context?</p>	<p>The word has been substituted.</p>
<p>It was suggested that Manitoulin Island is expected to have less snow, and not more. It was further questioned what was meant in relation to airborne diseases?</p>	<p>The Business-as-Usual Section in the REEP identifies that there will be increased average precipitation in future years. This can also mean increased occurrences of extreme weather patterns such as large snowfall amounts and rainfall. While the number of precipitation events may decrease, the amount of precipitation may increase. Climate change may also increase the probability and lengthen the transmission seasons of vector-borne diseases and alter their geographic range.</p>
<p>It was again emphasized that average winter temperatures are projected to increase and not decrease.</p>	<p>This statement was amended to clarify there will be more extreme changes in seasonal weather patterns that are not consistent with the season.</p>

<p>In regard to part 6, it was suggested the Report might say: “do not” comprehend as opposed to “cannot”. It might alternately be said in simpler terms that strong leadership on climate action is necessary. It was also stated that local plans are mainly about reducing local emissions as opposed to their carbon footprint - which would include emissions caused elsewhere to support our current lifestyles. It was further suggested that some local emissions technically are not part of the Island's Carbon Footprints (i.e., those arising from tourists). It was also acknowledged that this issue is mentioned later in the report.</p>	<p>Amendments have been made.</p>
<p>The statement “the negative effects of climate change will be borne equally by all” was suggested to be untrue as marginalized groups are already being hit harder than wealthier populations.</p>	<p>Amendments have been made.</p>
<p>Profiles</p>	
<p>It was suggested that "Mnidoo Mnising" is a direct translation of Manitoulin Island even though it does translate literally in English as "Spirit Island"?</p>	<p>This was taken directly from Manitoulin Tourism’s website: "Hello, Aanii, Bonjour! Welcome to beautiful Manitoulin Island – Mnidoo Mnising in the Anishnaabeg language - the Heart and Spirit of the Great Lakes of Canada!" Changes have been made to reflect language provided by the United Chiefs and Councils of Mnidoo Mnising (UCCMM)</p>
<p>It was clarified that Resilient Manitoulin, the Manitoulin Streams Improvement Association, and other local permaculture groups are not municipal committees</p>	<p>Amendments have been made</p>
<p>In regard to Billings Township, a request was made to change the term “Community Energy Plan” to “Climate Action Plan”.</p>	<p>Amendments have been made</p>
<p>In regard to Central Manitoulin, the respondent stated they were unclear why an assumption was made that the Municipality was willing to invest in renewable energy. Although a worthy cause, it was clarified there is not currently an agreed-upon commitment in this regard.</p>	<p>Changes have been made - changed to "Municipal staff will continue to investigate avenues of cooperation or partnerships to achieve energy usage and GHG emission reductions through the Climate Action Plan being produced for 2021”.</p>
<p>Clarification was also sought on comments made re: the availability of vacant and brownfield municipal lands.</p>	<p>That section has been removed.</p>
<p>The respondent also was not aware of specific considerations mentioned in regard to preparing for impacts (i.e., capital investments, etc.) and questioned whether that was an Asset Management Policy?</p>	<p>This information was taken from Central Manitoulin's Asset Management Plan: http://www.centralmanitoulin.ca/sites/default/files/central_manitoulin_asset_management_plan_mar_31_version.pdf</p>
<p>Central Manitoulin has now completed Milestone 1, as has Billings Township</p>	<p>Amendments have been made.</p>
<p>It was confirmed that Baymouth is one word in South Baymouth</p>	<p>Amendments have been made.</p>

<p>In regard to the section on “Wiky”, the respondent was not sure it is correct to say it “includes” Manitoulin Island as an unceded Indian Reserve. A point was made regarding the past amalgamation of First Nation communities. It was advised that further clarification should be sought from a representative of Wikwemkoong. It was further questioned whether the people of Wikwemkoong would call the land “the homelands of the Peoples of the Three Fires Confederacy” in recognition that the whole island falls within what is termed the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy.</p>	<p>An email was sent to Wiikwemkoong seeking guidance re: accurate communication for the First Nations Community. As of December 2020, a response has not been received. Correspondence also took place with Sagamok First Nation who indicated that use of the term “First Nation Communities” may be the best way to proceed.</p>
<p>It was advised that clarification should also be sought regarding the Sheguiandah First Nation who were understood to have been forced to relocate when settlers moved onto the Island. It was suggested this could be an opportunity to recognize Shegeuiandah First Nation has been around for a considerable period of time.</p>	<p>More information has been added.</p>
<p>Reference was made to the following link: http://www.blacksbay.com/aboriginals/treaty_series_part_1.htm</p>	<p>References have been made in the First Nation Community Profiles in Section 4.0 of the REEP.</p>
<p>It was questioned whether the term Three Fires should be used specifically in regard to M'Chigeeng, acknowledging that people from the Three Fires live in other places on the island too.</p>	<p>The source of this information is from M'Chigeeng First Nation's website. With more research, that section has now been moved to the general Manitoulin Island description</p>
<p>It was suggested that Zhiibaahaasing used to be located on Cockburn Island</p>	<p>That was identified in the text</p>
<p>It was suggested that the order of Municipalities and First Nations should be amended so the First Nations are listed first.</p>	<p>The PCP Tool is largely focused on municipal and community energy and emissions tracking hence the order of the report. Nonetheless, Smart Green Communities recognizes the importance of assisting First Nation Communities reach their energy and emission goals which is why we continue to provide workshops, webinars, and assistance to support individual First Nation Communities' energy planning processes.</p>
<p>In regard to pg. 21 it was questioned how the 'per person' information was generated and whether the primary difference would have been the age and type of housing.</p>	<p>Provincial averages re: the age of housing and energy output for single detached homes were used. These were calculated in the tool and divided by population numbers in the census data.</p>
<p>In regard to pg. 22, it was mentioned that some individuals in the community had been skeptical about the breakdown of 65/20/10/5 and that a higher proportion of the PP is currently using electricity and less so wood. It was suggested that the Municipality of Central Manitoulin and Township of Billings had applied a breakdown of 25/25/25/25 respectively.</p>	<p>The estimated breakdown of fuel consumption reflects what we understand could apply to the region as a whole. The tool developed is interactive, so Individual municipalities, townships and First Nations can input their own identified ratios for heating sources.</p>

<p>It was suggested it is not very "meaningful" to see graphs of the total amount of emissions per fuel type in each Municipality / First Nation as this mostly depends on population size. It was advised that a similar principle should also apply to the ranking of Municipalities on pg. 30.</p>	<p>Yes, it is redundant to show energy use by municipalities as larger populations typically use more energy and, therefore, create more emissions. However, this is part of a detailed breakdown for the report to focus on each community individually. It is also important to highlight that this data is received from the Ontario Public Sector energy reporting for 2011 - 2016 and may not, therefore, be 100% accurate for each community as some databases have been updated but are not yet publicly accessible.</p>
<p>It was questioned whether the amount of fuel purchased in Section 4.6 re: Stats Canada would be a provincial avg.</p>	<p>The provincial average was calculated by taking the total amount of fuel sold in that year, divided by the population of Ontario to receive the predicted average Ontario person's consumption of fuel. It was then multiplied by the population of Manitoulin Island as a region to obtain specific amounts consumed based upon population and average consumption in the region.</p>
<p>In regard to population growth (pg. 40) the Smart Green Communities team was pointed in the direction of a report produced by the Manitoulin Planning Board which has a partial estimate on this. It was clarified that the estimation is "partial" because they only serve some communities on the Island.</p>	<p>The source of the population growth is based on Census Tract Data and Sudbury Health Unit Data.</p>
<p>In regard to pg. 45 on the subject of temperatures it was again emphasized that winters on avg. are getting warmer.</p>	<p>Amendments have been made</p>
<p>Section 6.0 REEP Action Plan</p>	
<p>Questions were raised re: the term "status quo" and whether this could be reworded.</p>	<p>Reworded</p>
<p>Re: Pg. 49 - Section 6.2. It was questioned whether points 1 and 2 were effectively the same and could be combined.</p>	<p>Combined</p>
<p>In regard to electricity, it was suggested it is not just grid capacity but high costs for users that remain a barrier</p>	<p>Reworded</p>
<p>Re: Pg. 51 - It was questioned why the SGC team mentions sequestration in coal plants or national-level carbon pricing mechanisms, as those wouldn't be components of this local action plan.</p>	<p>This is part of the research from Provincial actions that are identified by the Auditor General's report. That section has now been removed since coal is not in focus for Ontario.</p>
<p>Section 7.0: Implementation Framework and Next Steps</p>	
<p>Re: Section 7.2. It was noted that the Municipality of Central Manitoulin and/or Billings Township is converting streetlights to LEDs</p>	<p>This has been added in Section 7.</p>
<p>Re: Section 7.3. The respondent provided separate comments in regard to stakeholder engagement.</p>	<p>Section 7 has now been updated.</p>

<p>Re: Section 7.4 The respondent suggested it might make more sense for SGC to assist in the alignment of plans between municipalities and First Nations and not "within" (per se). It was further acknowledged that Internal facilitation could be a method that works for other communities forming part of the REEP Study Area.</p>	<p>This has been added in Section 7.</p>
<p>Re: Section 7.5. It was suggested the Municipality of Central Manitoulin is most likely going to track its emission reductions based on how much identified actions have been implemented, with each action item having an estimation of the emissions reductions achievable. Data collection was recognized as an important factor whereby each community on Manitoulin Island would report its data to the Smart Green Communities team on an annual basis.</p>	<p>This has been added in Section 7.</p>

Appendix C: Public Consultation Feedback

The following chart provides a summary of responses gained as part of the Public Consultation that took place on the Draft REEP for Manitoulin Island between 10 August 2020 and December 2020.

Date	Method of Communication	Comments	Smart Green Communities Response
8/10/2020	E-Mail	Our emphasis has been on sequestering carbon in trees, and less on emissions reduction. Both are good. We have been selling carbon offsets from our land. I encourage your members to think about selling offsets by reducing harvest of their forested lands.	Carbon sequestration through the conservation and restoration of natural systems including the tree canopy should certainly form part of the solution in terms of reducing the net emissions contained within the atmosphere. It is also important to recognize that logging will continue to take place, so wood can be harvested as a sustainable resource. What is important is that producers embrace sustainable forest management techniques in their approach. Amendments will be made to the REEP where applicable to reflect this suggestion.
08/19/2020	E-Mail	The chart of propane use and emissions looks odd. It goes to zero in 2013 and then back up. Is that an error, if not can you give me an explanation please?	In the absence of a specific reference point it is assumed this comment applies to Assiginack's Municipal data - with years missing in 2013 and 2015. This data has been sourced through the Government of Ontario's Energy and Emissions Reporting legislation. The REEP identifies that Smart Green Communities cannot account for any data gaps or errors in which municipal reporting has occurred. With that said, one goal of the REEP is to motivate individuals, households & communities to pursue more accurate data collection on the Island in a consistent manner to both track energy and emissions use.
08/26/2020	Survey Online	So happy you are doing this work. Wonderful!	Thank you for your comment. As an organization responsible for generating awareness on climate change and mobilizing groups to pursue action in this field, it is always important to gain feedback from different stakeholders so

			combined solutions can be developed to effectively mitigate the effects of climate change.
08/28/2020	Survey Online	<p>The findings presented in the REEP do not accurately reflect what is happening in the community with respect to sustainability and energy/emission reduction efforts. The document is not a plan, it is a study. The consultation period was too short and the advertising about the consultation was done in a way that did not inspire confidence in the process. Meetings with participating municipalities and first nations were not made public or shared with relevant community groups. Key stakeholders in the community and listed in the REEP did not respond to requests for engagement from reThink Green because they did not feel engaged or included in the writing of the REEP prior to its release. Many municipalities and first nations did not even know that reThink Green had funding to create a REEP and that you would approach it in this way, combining all our information into one document. People on this island are accustomed to receiving notice well in advance of public consultation sessions and consultation periods often last for more than a month. The consultation periods, dates and timeframe were not approved or even reviewed by key stakeholders prior to release.</p>	<p>These comments are far from the truth. reThink Green as an organization has conducted extensive consultation with a wide range of stakeholders including elected representatives and staff on behalf of municipalities, townships, and First Nations across the two REEP Study areas from the point of inception through to their publication.</p> <p>In developing the reports, Smart Green Communities reached out to a broad cross section of Individuals across the affected communities to request their participation in the process, including as Project Advisors. Once the research was complete, and the REEPS were in Final Draft form (August 2020) telephone calls, emails, letters, and face-to-face meetings took place with many community leaders from across the Island to bring awareness to the consultation. All stakeholders were provided access to the Draft REEPS along with a summary of their findings, and the timeframes & processes involved, plus posters that apply specifically to the Draft Consultation itself. A request was also made that individual community leaders (CAOs & Band Chiefs) assist the Smart Green Communities team by circulating details of the consultation far and wide among their networks within each affected community.</p> <p>The Smart Green Communities team also engaged with Community Interest groups on social media, and strategically placed posters throughout the Two (2) Study Areas as part of a week-long tour of the Island and North</p>

			<p>Shore Communities to bring awareness to the REEPs and the consultation.</p> <p>A Media Conference was held on the morning of Tuesday August 11, 2020 and a story on the consultation was carried by CTV's Northern Ontario News and over 20 online and printed media publications across the Two (2) Study Areas.</p> <p>In the end, a decision was taken to extend the consultation window beyond the initial deadline of August 30 to September 30. This was later extended again to allow for ongoing input specific to the identification of low carbon development projects and associated best practices and opportunities to help address the findings of the REEP. As such, feedback has continued to be received right up until the point of publication.</p> <p>As an organization, we actively encourage public participation in community-based planning exercises as we know that the solutions often come from "within". This Report of Consultation highlights the many steps taken to engage stakeholders and the public - both prior to and during the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>
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<p>08/31/2020</p>	<p>Survey Online</p>	<p>I am responding as a resident of Gordon-Barrie Island. Thank you for the opportunity to respond, provide comment, and ask questions.</p> <p>First of all, I would like to acknowledge the work that has gone into this document. What follows will likely come across as highly critical. It is provided with only my best intentions of helping to create a product that will be well received and well utilized by island communities/Nations.</p> <p>Overall, the REEP leaves me with the impression that whoever wrote it knows very little about the island. The community profiles (at least two of them that I looked at, maybe others) are plagiarized from the municipal webpages. References to local First Nations and their languages should be consistent and accurate. Some details are inaccurate (e.g., the Manitoulin Transport headquarters is actually in Gordon-Barrie Island, not Gore Bay). Are any of these details crucial in the grand scheme of things? No. But they do matter. It reads like the plan was built 'for us, without us', and this is a sore point for residents of Northern Ontario. Stakeholder engagement, in your own assessment as expressed in the Community Consultation Summary Report, was largely unsuccessful. It is disappointing that this plan was continued to this stage without further attempts at more successful stakeholder engagement.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments. Municipal profile information was taken from sources including municipally produced Asset Management Plans, Conservation & Energy Demand Management Plans, and their own municipal profiles. All due credit was given to these communities as we considered them to be an important and accurate source of local information. Our intention has always been to engage stakeholders and the public throughout this process. The Report of Consultation identifies the various visits and meetings that have taken place on the Island and virtually, and the REEPS themselves provide further context re: the methodology undertaken. After cross referencing numerous sources, Smart Green Communities confirms that Manitoulin Transport is in Gore Bay. Going forward, we will continue to rely upon credible publicly sourced information, combined with our own inquiries and analysis to ensure accuracy.</p>
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		<p>With respect to the climate projections prepared for the REEP, they seem to contradict projections completed for Manitoulin by the Climate Risk Institute. The CRI has done several presentations over the last two years around the island which include projections of warmer winter temperatures and less winter precipitation. I cannot say which projection is more accurate, but it is confusing to the average person to have two groups saying the opposite things. This might be something to investigate with CRI?</p>	<p>Smart Green Communities has relied upon Climate Atlas Canada and Natural Resources Canada for a regional climate projection. Specific areas can experience warmer winter temperatures and less precipitation but in the overall scope of the Island, residents on the island can expect increased precipitation and temperatures - if unmitigated. The Island is already currently seeing an increased prevalence of heatwaves and the flooding of local marinas, and our projections point towards more extreme weather events if a “business as usual” approach continues to be followed.</p>
		<p>Where did the 30% reduction target come from? Is this just the national target, or is this based on an analysis of what is realistic and attainable for the Island? If the latter, will this analysis be provided?</p>	<p>This is a proposed target which aligns with the commitment made by the Federal Government within the Pan Canadian Framework on Climate Change. Some experts suggest that even a 30% reduction in GHGs by 2030 may not allow Canada & the World at large to limit increases in temperature to between 1.5 and 2 degrees above 1990 levels. Community leaders are encouraged to discuss whether the proposed reduction target should apply in their own communities.</p>
		<p>Section 2 could be clearer in explaining the purpose of the REEP. Is it a starting point for individual municipalities to develop their own plans? Who administers the REEP? Who is accountable for/to it? As a citizen reading this document, I have nothing to hold my local government accountable to, other than requesting their commitment to participating in an ambiguous island-wide climate action planning process.</p>	<p>The REEP serves as a starting point for each individual municipality, township, and First Nation community to develop their own data and create Community-level Climate Action Plans. The REEP provides a snapshot of Manitoulin's current conditions, and helps stakeholders gain an understanding of where the climate is heading; plus identifies potential policies, best practices & projects.</p>
		<p>I take some issue with the statement that "[t]he negative effects of climate change will be borne equally by all" -</p>	<p>This statement highlighted that the effects of climate change would affect</p>

		<p>this is clearly not the case and we need to start acknowledging it.</p>	<p>everyone. It has been re-worded for the final copy of the REEP.</p>
		<p>Lastly, section 9.2. This appears to be an earlier draft or excerpt from another document on your resources page. Suggest you include the full document or remove it from the REEP as the excerpt currently included does not in and of itself constitute a 'strategy' or 'workbook' – it's just a list of responses to questions.</p>	<p>This section will be removed and moved to the 'resources' section of the Smart Green Communities Website. This will help the REEP focus more on the report itself.</p>
<p>09/15/2020</p>	<p>E-mail</p>	<p>Hello. I am currently reviewing this document. I have a question about the hyperlink on page 22. Draft for Consultation Purposes Aug 2020 22 P a g e 4.3 Estimated Household Energy and Emissions Intensity by Municipality per person. This section identifies the estimated emissions per person on Manitoulin Island. It uses the population of each area and the calculated community household energy use. The determining factor for energy intensity is based on the ages of private dwelling homes and emission intensities from different energy types. The Smart Green Communities team has not clarified whether any of these homes have implemented their own infrastructure improvements which may increase the energy efficiency of some older homes and, therefore, a provincial average from Statistics Canada was used to determine an estimate. Please refer to Error! Reference source not found. for more information on calculation. Can you please send me a link to the StatsCan document that was used for your estimates. Thank you.</p>	<p>The following information was emailed to the respondent: "all the information regarding calculations and sources are contained within the REEP document. The reference section refers to Appendix C: Community Household Energy and Emissions Calculations. The specific details of each calculation and estimations are made clear in that section.</p>

4. What efforts are you or your business already doing in energy conservation/efficiency strategies?

- Lighting improvements
- Adjusting temperatures by a few degrees to use less energy
- Programmable thermostat
- Changing Energy Star rated appliances
- Replacing hot water system with more efficient one
- Install weather stripping
- Adding insulation
- Switch to an electric vehicle
- Replacing windows/doors
- Other (please specify)

5. What do you hope to do more in the future?

- Upgrade lightbulbs with CFLs or LEDs
- Install programmable thermostat
- Install rooftop solar panels
- Conduct an energy audit
- Replace/seal doors/windows
- Install wall insulation
- Switch to an electric vehicle
- Action plan for upgrades
- Action plan for upgrades
- Other (please specify)

6. What challenges do you face or anticipate facing in reducing your energy consumption?

- Building owned/operated by others
- Cost
- Lack of time/staff
- Lack of support/programs/information
- Not enough education/awareness/knowledge of the subject
- Return on investment is small/doubtful
- Energy is not a priority
- Other (please specify)

7. What type of technology /projects/ initiatives do you want to see more?

- Solar
- Wind
- Tidal
- Energy auditing programs for homes
- More workshops about sustainability in the community
- Other (please specify)

8. Do you have any specific comments/observations of the REEP?

9. What's your household income?

- \$0 - \$24,999
- \$25,000 - \$49,999
- \$50,000 - \$74,999
- \$75,000 - \$99,999
- \$100,000 - \$149,999
- \$150,000 or more

10. Age

- 0 – 17
- 18 – 24
- 25 – 34
- 35 – 44
- 45 – 54
- 55 – 64
- 65+

11. Education

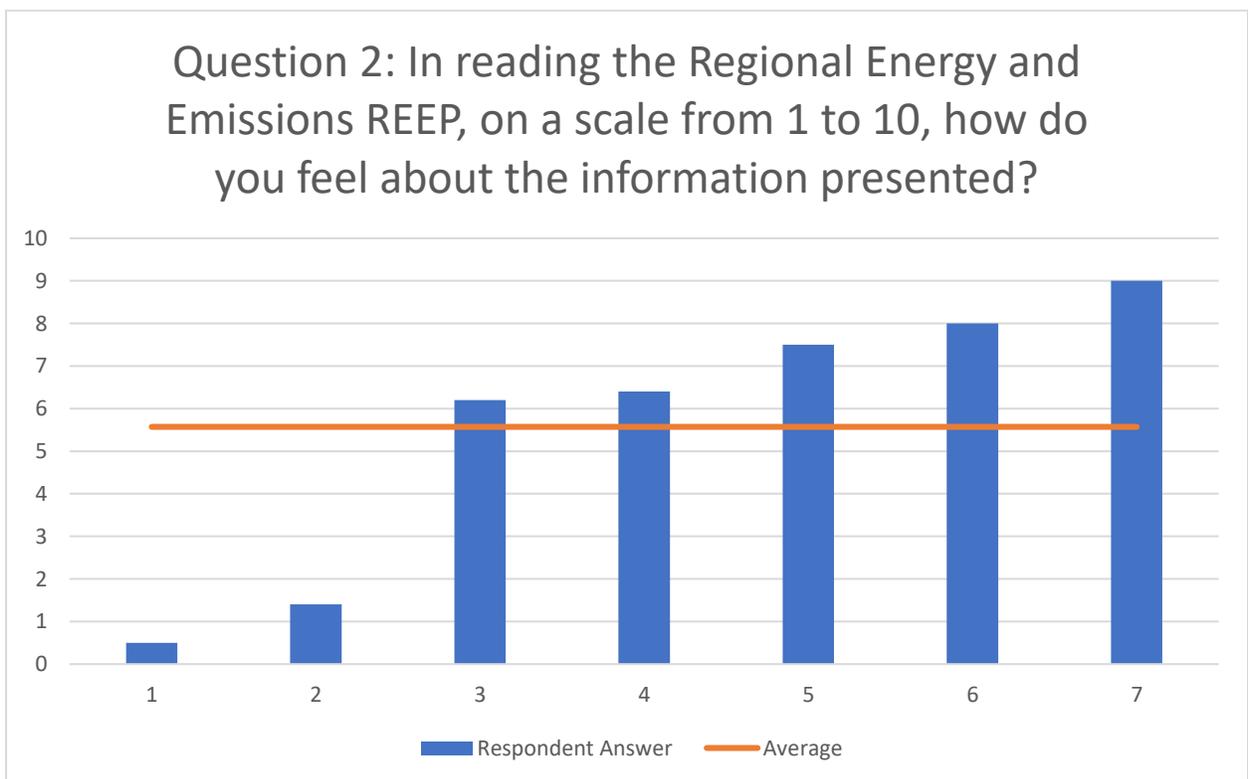
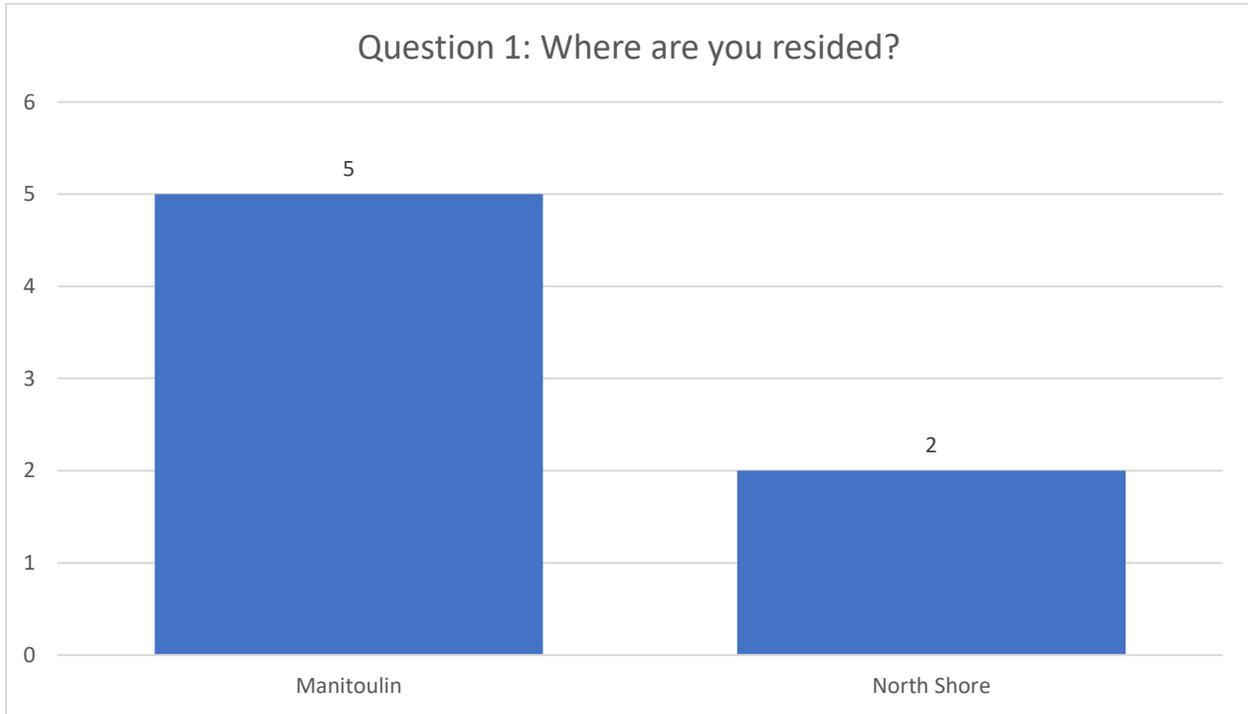
- High School Diploma or less
- College
- Bachelor's degree
- Graduate degrees

12. Are you a ____ (Check all that apply)

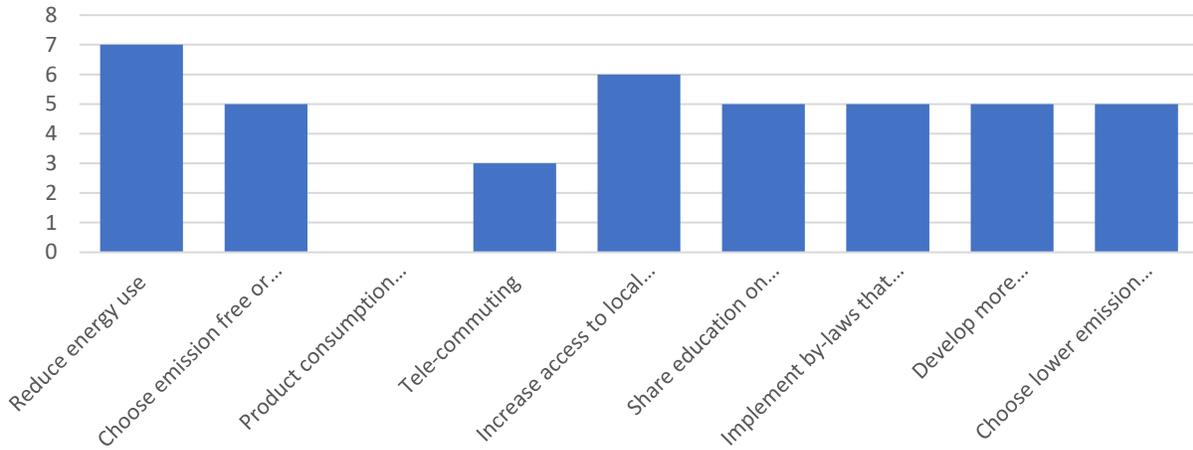
- Renter
- Homeowner
- Business owner
- Landlord

Appendix C-2: Results from Public Consultation

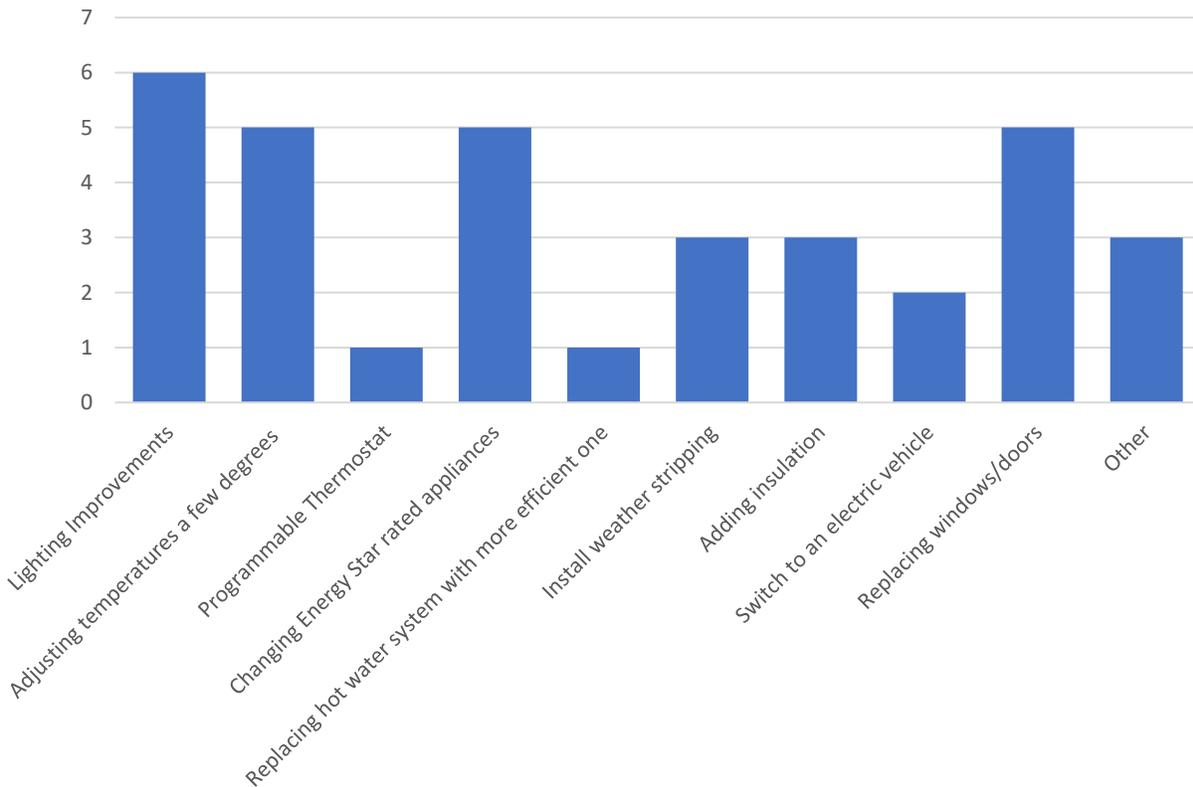
A public survey commenced on August 10, 2020 and ran through to September 30, 2020. Responses to each question are provided below for reference:

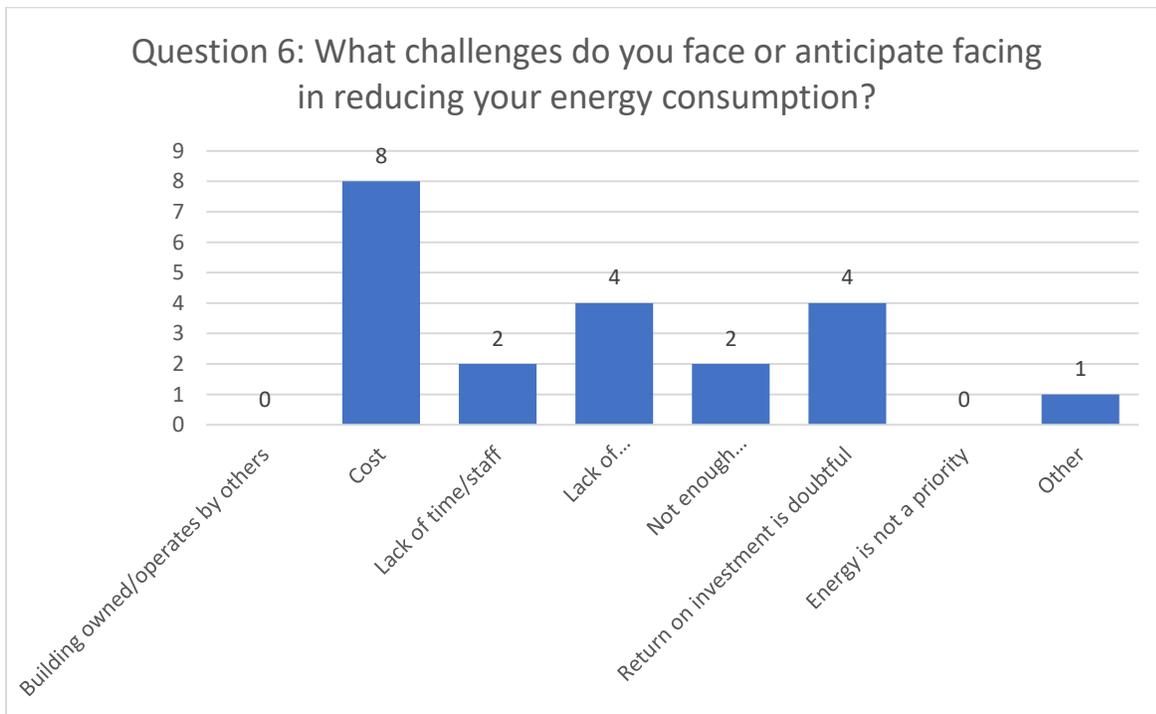
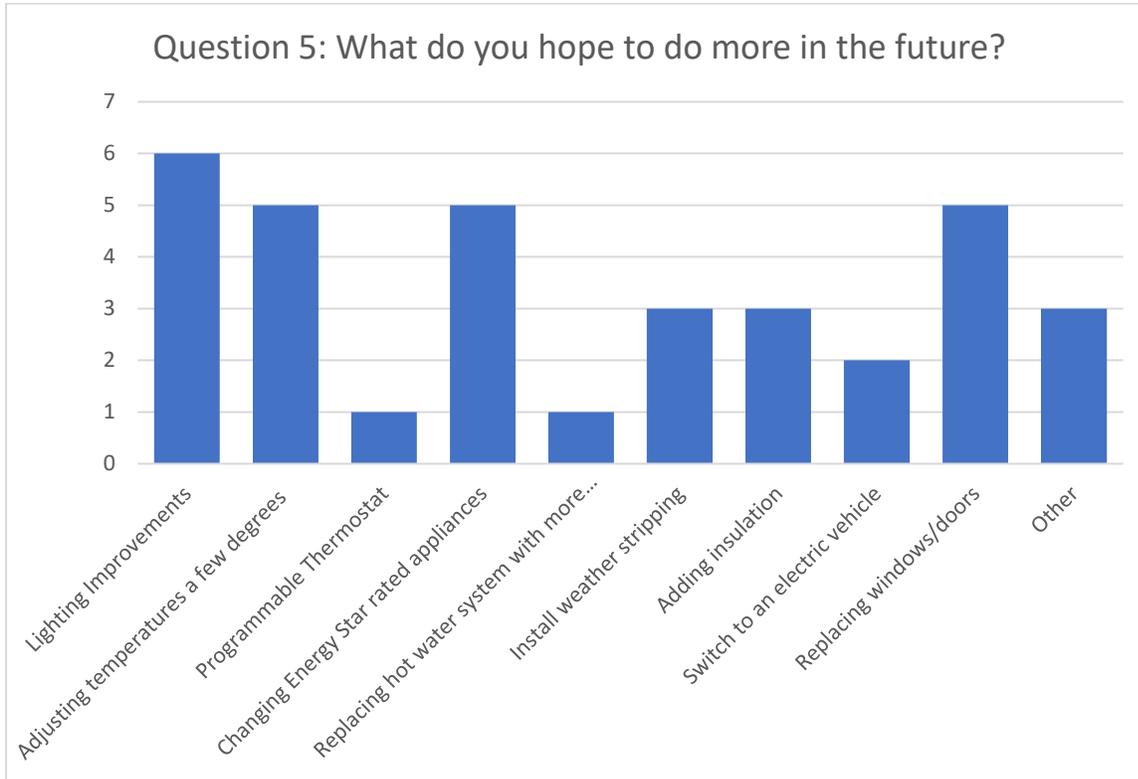


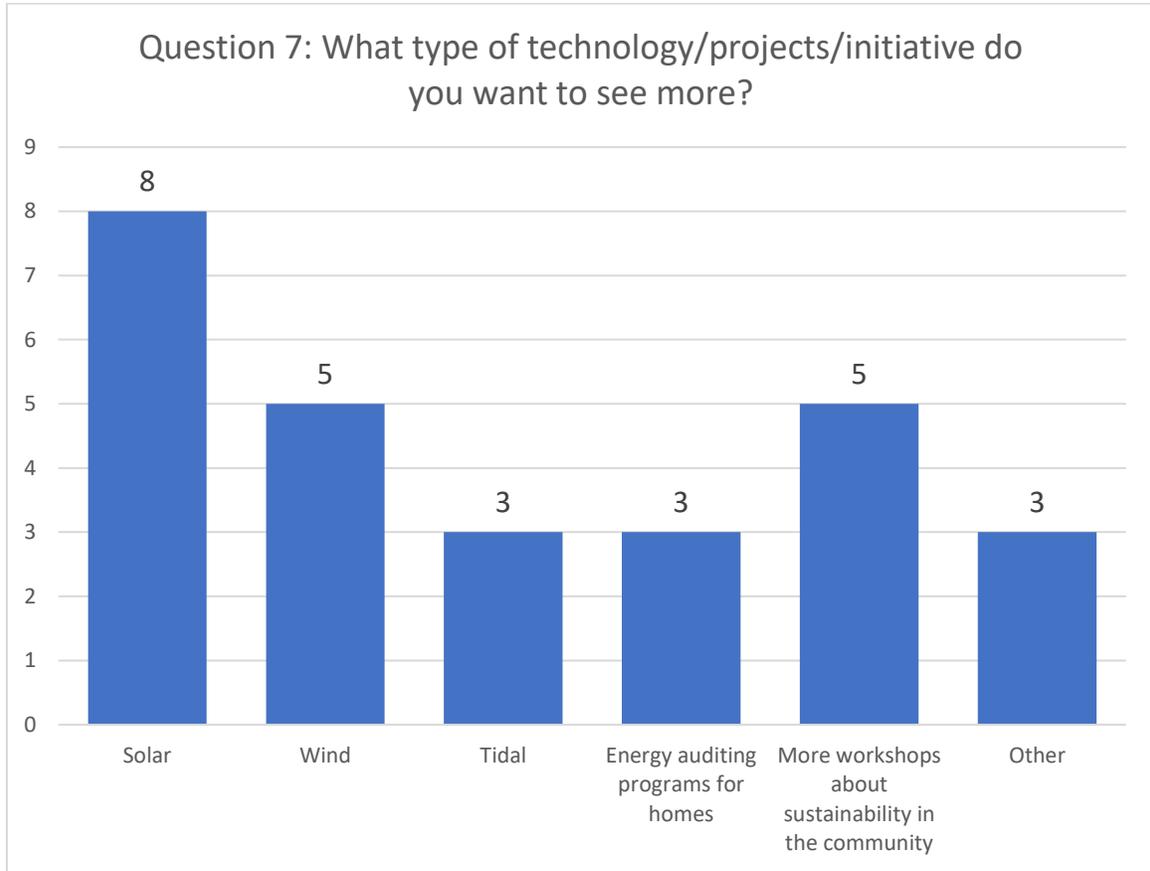
Question 3: What actions would you like to partake as an individual or as a community that could support the REEP?



Question 4: What efforts are you or your business already doing in energy conservation/efficiency strategies?







Appendix D: Promotional Materials for Consultations

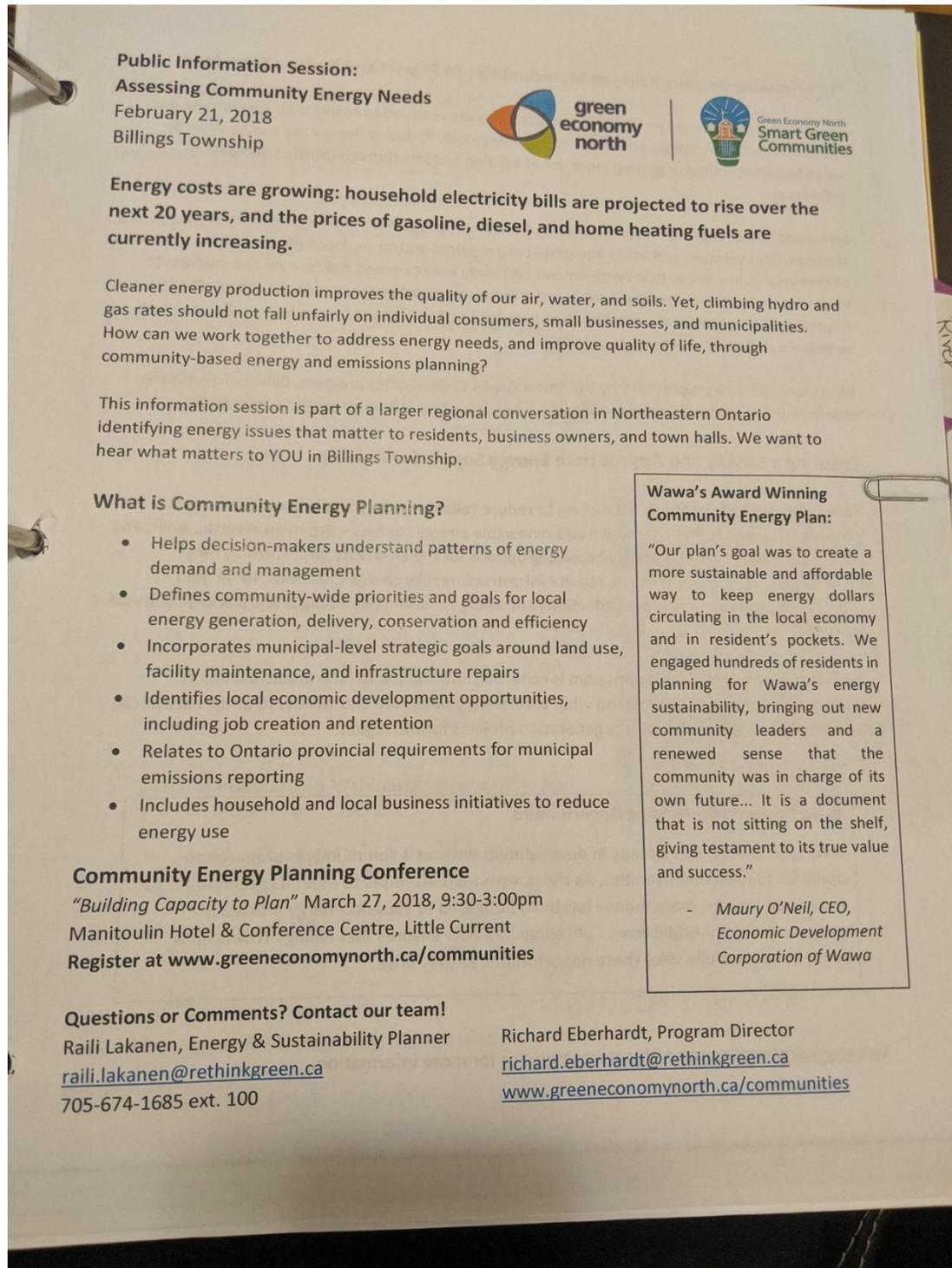


Figure 1: Public Information Session: Assessing Community Energy Needs

February 21, 2019

Public Information Session on Community Energy Needs

February 21st 2018 - you are invited to participate

Are your energy needs changing? Are you concerned about energy affordability? Green Economy North is working with municipalities on Manitoulin Island and the North Shore to better understand changing energy needs. Residents and business operators are invited to join community leaders to learn more about community energy planning and provide feedback on energy issues which concern you. All are welcome and light refreshments will be provided. Send us your input through our short online survey at www.greeneconomynorth.ca/communities.

For more information contact:
Railii Lakanen
Energy & Sustainability Planner
✉ railii.lakanen@rethinkgreen.ca
🌐 www.greeneconomynorth.ca/communities
☎ (705) 674-1685 x100

Billings Twp.
Public Information Session on Community Energy Needs
Wednesday February 21, 2018
11:30 am - 12:30 pm
Park Centre, Lower Hall
39 Henry St. Kagawong

Gore Bay
Public Information Session on Community Energy Needs
Wednesday February 21, 2018
2:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Community Hall
52 Meredith St., Gore Bay

Central Manitoulin
Public Information Session on Community Energy Needs
Wednesday February 21, 2018
5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Mindemoya Community Hall
6032 Hwy. 542, Mindemoya

Figure 2: Public Information Session: Assessing Community Energy Needs, Locations across Manitoulin Island, February 21, 2019

Green Economy North Smart Green Communities

**PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION
On COMMUNITY ENERGY**

Are your energy needs changing? Are you concerned about energy affordability?

Green Economy North is working with municipalities on Manitoulin Island and the North Shore to better understand changing energy needs. Residents and business operators are invited to join community leaders to learn more about community energy planning and provide feedback on energy issues which concern you. All are welcome and light refreshments will be provided.

Send us your input through our short online survey at www.greeneconomynorth.ca/communities.

**Billings Township
Wednesday, February 21 2018
11:30 – 12:30 pm
Park Centre, Lower Hall
39 Henry St, Kagawong**

For More Information contact visit www.greeneconomynorth.ca/communities
Or contact: Railii Lakanen, Energy & Sustainability Planner
Green Economy North / reThink Green
(705) 674-1685 x100
Railii.lakanen@rethinkgreen.ca

green economy north **rethink green**

Handwritten notes on sticky note:
What do you consider to be the benefit(s) of generating an energy plan?
In your opinion, what goals or priorities should guide an energy planning process?
What barriers or challenges do you foresee regarding the energy planning process?

Figure 3: Promotional Material for Public Information Session, February 21, 2018

REGIONAL SUSTAINABILITY PLANNING WORKSHOP

Register Online:

[www.rethinkgreen.ca/
regional_sustainability_
planning_workshop](http://www.rethinkgreen.ca/regional_sustainability_planning_workshop)

MARCH 5 2019

9:30am - 3:00pm

Lunch & light refreshments provided

Manitoulin Hotel and Conference Centre

66 Meredith St E

Little Current, ON

PRESENTATIONS

Victoria Ervick

Climate Change Action Plan Coordinator
Sustainable Severn Sound

Melanie Kawalec

Sustainability Manager
City of Peterborough

Municipal requirements for public sector emissions reporting and action plans under O. Reg. 507/18 - and how the Green Economy North technical staff can help you report.

ROUNDTABLES

An overview of the Regional Energy & Emissions Planning Project, a collaborative opportunity for municipalities and First Nations on Manitoulin Island and the North Shore of Lake Huron: upcoming events and timelines, benefits of participating, and what is expected of participating communities.

TRAINING

Introduction to the Partners in Climate Protection program, and how their tools and regional advisors can provide one-on-one support for your community.

Financial Support by:



A Project by:

Figure 4: Poster re: The Regional Sustainability Planning Workshop, March 5, 2019

Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Program

A 5-step milestone framework that helps your municipality reduce greenhouse gas emissions

The Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program is a network of Canadian municipal governments that have committed to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and acting on climate change



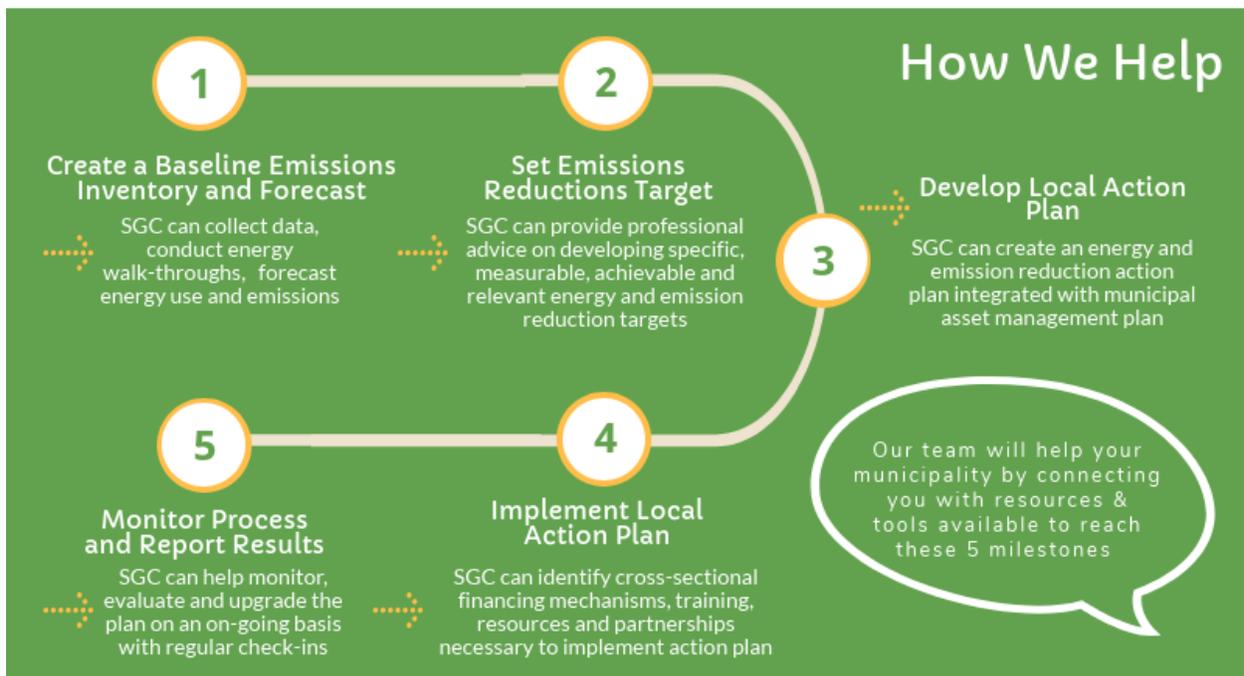
↑
When your municipality joins the PCP program
and
← If your municipality is in this region
then
Your municipality unlocks the full suite of Smart Green Community's support !
Flip for details! →

Figure 5: Promotional Material Handed out in Summer 2019 (Front)

Smart Green Communities Managing Your Energy Priorities

Smart Green Communities is a membership-based program for municipalities and First Nations in Northeastern Ontario, focused on supporting communities as they set, meet and advance their energy goals and priorities.

Our program provides technical and interpretive support for municipalities undertaking processes of energy and emissions planning.



Our Sponsors



Contact

Abhi Kantamneni
Program Manager Smart Green Communities
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Maureen Strickland
Manitoulin Energy Plan Coordinator
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maureen.strickland@rethinkgreen.ca

Figure 6: Promotional Material Handed out in Summer 2019 (Back)

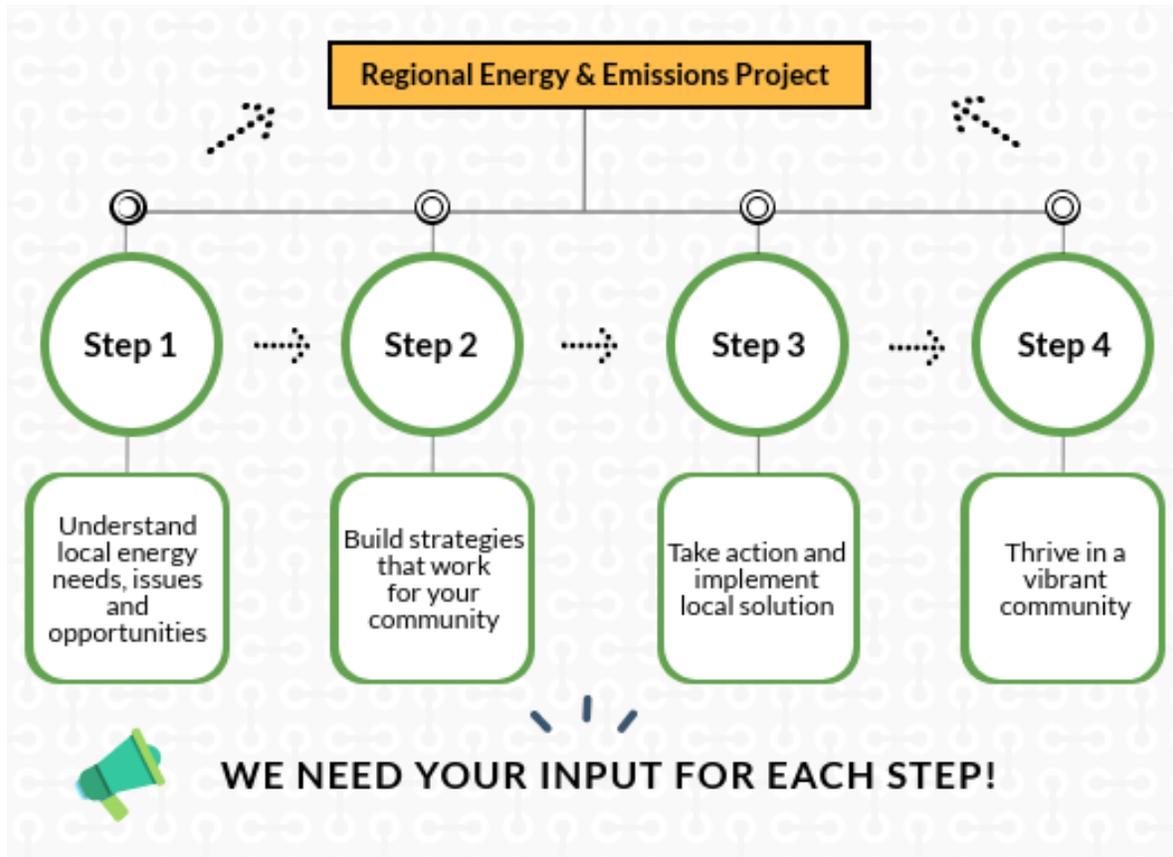


Figure 7: Promotional Material seeking Public and Stakeholder (Front)

Regional Energy & Emissions Planning Project

Achieve your community's goals and priorities through energy and emissions planning.

Residents, businesses, staff and leaders of municipalities and First Nations on Manitoulin Island and the North Shore are encouraged to take part.

Participants of all knowledge levels and experience levels are welcome. Join stakeholder groups, provide input or data, or join our steering committee.

Contact

Abhi Kantamneni
Smart Green Communities
Program Manager
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akantamn@rethinkgreen.ca

Maureen Strickland
Manitoulin/North Shore
Energy Plan
Coordinator
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Angela Jiang
Smart Green Communities
Program Officer

angela.jiang@rethinkgreen.ca

Our Sponsors



FEDERATION OF CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES
FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DES MUNICIPALITÉS



CAMBRIAN
COLLEGE



Connecting Today.
Powering Tomorrow.

Figure 8: Promotional Material seeking Public and Stakeholder (Back)

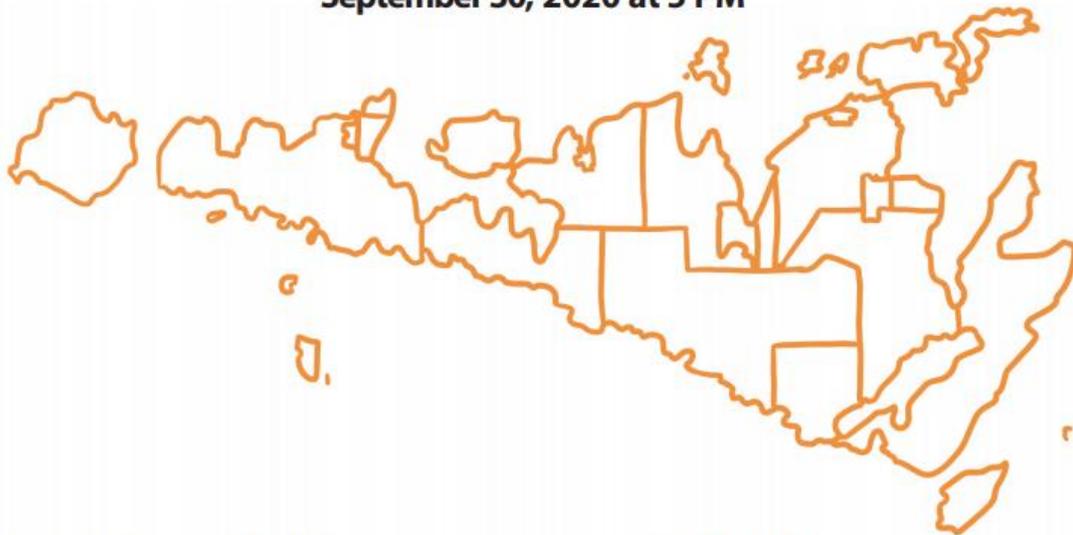
Have Your Say!

Manitoulin Island and North Shore Regional Energy and Emissions Plans (REEP)

To read the Manitoulin Island and North Shore
Regional Energy and Emissions Plans
and take a short survey please visit:

smartgreencommunities.ca

Accepting survey results until
September 30, 2020 at 5 PM



The result of two years of work between Smart Green Communities, Municipalities, and First Nation Communities on Manitoulin Island and North Shore. The REEPs are paving the way for more work to be done in data collection methods to reduce energy costs and decrease carbon emissions while mitigating climate change risks. The REEPs take into account the unique climate change effects in each community and municipality on Manitoulin Island and the North Shore.

Moving to **sustainable** practices and preparing for climate change is how you can help secure your homes, livelihoods, and create a greater sense of **well-being**. The Manitoulin and North Shore Communities Regional Energy and Emissions Plans outline the current state of your Manitoulin Island and North Shore Regional **emissions** so that you can help prevent the negative effects that these emissions can have on the beautiful **Northern environment**.

Figure 9: Posters Shared Around Manitoulin Island and the North Shore, Summer 2020

Manitoulin Island's rainy season is during the autumn and winter months according to weather data collected for the [Regional Energy and Emissions Plan](#).

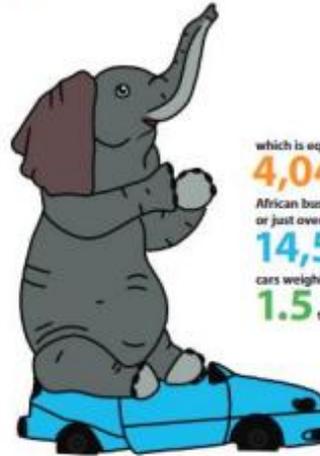
More rain
in the colder months means that there will be increased
snowfall
and
ice
in the winter.



The parts of winter that are unsafe and costly will get even more
dangerous
and
expensive
for you, your neighbours, and your municipality.



An estimated
5,953,150
vehicles drive on Manitoulin Island's highways every year which creates nearly
21,822 tonnes of carbon emissions.



which is equivalent to
4,041
African bush elephants
or just over
14,500
cars weighing an average of
1.5 tonnes each.

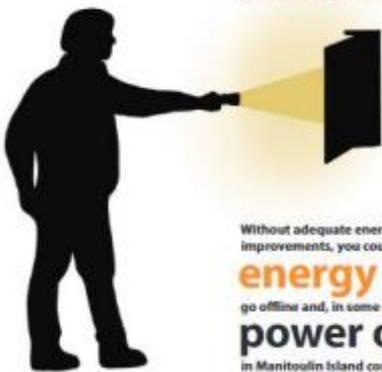


The
demand for energy

to cool yourself in the summer or heat your home in the winter will

increase
and
surge

on the
most extreme
weather days, according to
the [Manitoulin Island Regional Energy and Emissions Plan](#).



Without adequate energy infrastructure improvements, you could see parts of the
energy grid
go offline and, in some cases, complete
power outages
in Manitoulin Island communities.



Manitoulin Island is projected to have more
extreme weather patterns

If we don't act against climate change, the summer will get less rain and be warmer according to information collected in the [Regional Energy and Emissions Plan](#).

Less rain,
more heat,
means higher chances of
forest fires
and
droughts.



The warm summer days will become
scorching

to the point that staying indoors will be the only reasonable way to get through the heat. Climate change will impact the beautiful and fun parts of summer on Manitoulin Island.



Figure 10: Examples of full-size display boards displayed at the Media Launch and Public Consultation event in NEMI on Tuesday August 11, 2020