

First Nations Power Authority Impacts Report to First Nations and Indigenous Communities

April 2025 - June 30, 2026



Inside: National Projects, Solar Success, and Indigenous Nuclear



Vancouver Island, BC

Financing Indigenous-owned projects since 2012

Founded over a quarter century ago, Stonebridge Financial has been an early adopter and ongoing promoter of socially responsible and environmentally sustainable financing solutions to Indigenous communities across Canada for more than a dozen years.

As the first infrastructure debt fund in Canada, and first lender to a 100% Indigenous-owned project, Stonebridge has introduced new institutional investors to such investments, providing capital which has helped build over two dozen infrastructure projects enriching Indigenous communities from coast-to-coast.

25+

INDIGENOUS
PROJECTS FINANCED

\$950M+

IN INDIGENOUS
LOAN COMMITMENTS

50+

INDIGENOUS
COMMUNITIES
BENEFITTED

1st

LENDER TO A 100%
INDIGENOUS-OWNED
PROJECT (2012)

Indigenous Allyship
Award (2024):

First Nations
Power Authority™

‘10 to Watch’
Recipient (2024):

Indigenomics
Institute



Weyburn, SK



Alderville, ON



Kings County, NB

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**First Nations
Power Authority™**

About FNPA

First Nations Power Authority (FNPA) was established to create opportunities for Indigenous communities through partnerships, economic reconciliation, and education. They facilitate economic and social success by prioritizing and achieving goals that are important to their communities.

FNPA bridges the gap for Indigenous communities so that they can be active participants in the energy sector by facilitating open communication among Indigenous organizations, governments, and utility companies.

Vision

Food, water, and energy
sovereignty and security for
all Indigenous peoples.

Mission

We advance an Indigenous-led
cleaner energy future.



Our History

In the early 2000's, Saskatchewan was enjoying a booming economy. There were high potash prices, oil and gas prices and the farmers were enjoying bumper crops. The people of Saskatchewan were benefitting – but Indigenous people weren't sharing in the wealth that the province was realizing.

The Government of Saskatchewan recognized this disparity and created programs for Indigenous people to become involved in generating their own power.

This was timely for many First Nations communities, as they were paying up to \$2000/ month for household electricity bills, and people in Northern communities were experiencing regular power outages.

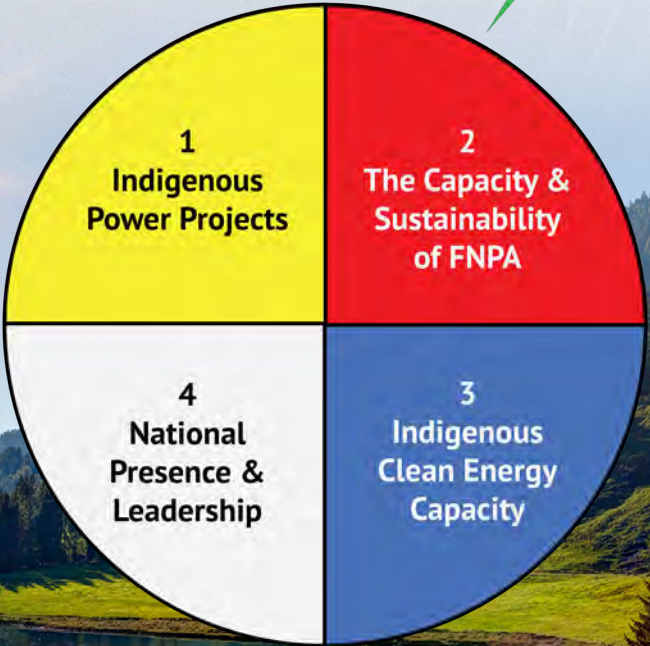
Also, many northern First Nations communities are experiencing huge effects on their lifestyles and livelihoods as caribou migrations, different hunting and gathering patterns, northern wildfires and displacement from their homes due to climate change.

It is time for our Indigenous communities to stand up and take a leadership role in our energy production, and lead the clean energy movement. As we expand into other provinces, we are starting a movement.

As long as the sun shines, grasses grow, and rivers flow.



**First Nations
Power Authority™**





**First Nations
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An address from the President & Chief Executive Officer, Guy Lonechild, MBA.

As Canada continues to advance its clean energy future, First Nations are increasingly positioned as essential partners in the development, ownership, and stewardship of energy infrastructure. Over the past year, First Nations Power Authority (FNPA) has continued to strengthen its role as a trusted partner in advancing Indigenous participation and equity ownership across Canada's evolving energy landscape. From renewable generation and transmission infrastructure to emerging technologies and workforce development, FNPA remains focused on ensuring First Nations are positioned not simply as stakeholders, but as owners, decision-makers, and long-term beneficiaries of energy projects.

This year has been marked by significant momentum across the energy sector. Growing electricity demand, grid modernization, industrial development, data centre expansion, and the increasing focus on energy security are creating unprecedented opportunities for Indigenous participation. FNPA has worked closely with First Nations, governments, utilities, industry partners, and educational institutions to help communities identify opportunities, build capacity, evaluate projects, and engage in development from a position of strength. Through technical advisory services, strategic partnerships, community energy planning, and workforce initiatives, we continue to support pathways toward economic reconciliation and long-term prosperity.

As the national conversation around energy continues to evolve, FNPA remains committed to ensuring First Nations voices are represented in discussions that will shape Canada's future. Increasingly, Indigenous communities are moving beyond consultation toward meaningful participation and ownership. This shift represents an important evolution in Canada's energy sector and creates opportunities for communities to generate revenue, create employment, build local expertise, and strengthen energy sovereignty.

FNPA has also undertaken important organizational work this year to support its long-term sustainability and growth. The organization has been advancing a corporate restructuring and governance transition process designed to position FNPA for future success. This work includes the development of transition plans for directors and officers, strengthening governance frameworks, and ensuring the organization remains well-positioned to serve its members and partners as opportunities continue to expand across the energy sector. These efforts reflect FNPA's commitment to strong governance, organizational resilience, and responsible leadership.

Looking ahead, the opportunities before us are substantial. Federal and provincial investments in electricity infrastructure, Indigenous equity participation programs, clean energy development, and emerging technologies are creating new pathways for First Nations to participate in projects of regional and national significance. FNPA's recently adopted national strategy further aligns our work with these priorities by supporting Indigenous leadership in energy development, workforce growth, economic development, and nation-building initiatives.

As we move forward, FNPA remains committed to expanding our technical expertise, strengthening partnerships, and supporting Nations as they navigate increasingly complex regulatory, financial, and commercial environments. Our mandate remains clear: to help ensure First Nations are full participants in Canada's energy future and are empowered as owners, leaders, innovators, and partners in building a more prosperous and sustainable economy for generations to come.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the FNPA team, I would like to thank our members, partners, governments, industry collaborators, and communities for their continued trust and support. Together, we are helping shape an energy future that creates lasting economic opportunities while advancing Indigenous self-determination and prosperity across Canada.



List of Board of Directors



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(Interim Chair)
DIRECTOR



Albert Derocher
DIRECTOR



Marnie Dawson
DIRECTOR



Chris Ball
DIRECTOR



+10

Vacancy
DIRECTOR

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Nathan Gamble
EVENTS
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Joshua Thomas
COMMUNITY
ENERGY PLANS

Elder Joe Quewezance

We are honouring our late mentor and dear friend, **Elder Joe Quewezance**, who passed away in October 2025. Known to many as “Joe Q,” Elder Quewezance was a compassionate and deeply respected leader within Yellow Quill First Nation and across Saskatchewan. His life was defined by service, humility, and an unwavering commitment to strengthening Indigenous communities through unity, respect, and shared purpose.



Elder Quewezance began his leadership journey at a young age, supporting hereditary and elected Chiefs across east-central Saskatchewan. In 1973, he was elected Chief of Yellow Quill First Nation, serving three terms and laying the groundwork for a lifetime of leadership. In 1982, he co-founded the Saskatoon Tribal Council, helping grow it from a modest beginning into a major institution serving tens of thousands of First Nations people. As District Representative and later Tribal Chief, he built enduring partnerships with governments, businesses, and industry—always focused on creating meaningful, long-term opportunities for his people.

Throughout his life, Elder Quewezance was a bridge-builder, negotiator, and mentor who led with compassion and integrity. His influence extended beyond policy and institutions into the lives he touched through mentorship, sport, and community leadership. A lifelong advocate for youth and athletics, he inspired many as a coach and mentor. His legacy lives on through the communities he helped strengthen, the leaders he guided, and the values he embodied. FNPA remains deeply grateful for his vision, his teachings, and his enduring spirit, which will continue to guide our work for generations to come.

Elder Angus Bear

The Legacy and Life of Trapper and Fur Trader, Energy Trailblazer and Entrepreneur ~ **Angus Bear SR** of Sandy Bay, Saskatchewan

My late mooshum, Angus Bear Sr. was born in 1907 on a trapline. Angus Bear was a highly respected Cree Elder, Trapper, Fisherman, Hunter, Fur Trader, Guide, Entrepreneur, Outfitter and highly skilled labourer from Sandy Bay, Saskatchewan. Moshum was known for his deep knowledge of the land in Northern Saskatchewan including the river systems and the mighty Churchill River. Bear played a crucial and vital role in helping to build Island Falls hydro dam for the Hudson Bay Mining & Smelting company, and was the first First Nations man to begin building energy in the North and becoming instrumental in constructing the dam that powered northern mines.

Angus Bear could not speak English back in those days (1920's), although he spoke Cree and French. He learned to speak English by spending time among the men he worked with in the camps at Island Falls Dam. Mooshum didn't attend a day at school. All of his learning, was hands on. His days of trapping, hunting, fishing and expert knowledge of the animals, birds and nature was his schooling. A man of the land.

Bear preserved the Rocky Cree (Asinikaw Ithiniwak) history and protected the oral traditions and history of the Cree people in his community of Sandy Bay and surrounding Cree communities. He also meticulously documented the history of the hydro-electricity industry. Although, he didn't have formal education, his Indigenous worldview and true understanding of natural laws of his people were imbedded in everything he did.

Angus Bear was a forerunner in the energy sector and was recognized as a trail blazer in northern Saskatchewan. He was celebrated for his resiliency, knowledge, wisdom and tenacity. My Moshum's legacy is far reaching and his work provided invaluable insights into the region's development and First Nation's perspective, making him a remarkable and highly respected figure in Saskatchewan's history, honored with the Saskatchewan Order of Merit in 1987.



His father was Pierre Bear, and mother was Maryanne Ballantyne from Cumberland House; the family name shifted from Whitebear (as the Indian agents couldn't pronounce the Cree name) and the last name became Bear over time. Mooshum was married to Antoinette Morin from the Mathias Colomb Cree Nation (Pukawagan, Manitoba) and was a father to my mother, Marie Robertson (nee Bear), and her seven siblings. He worked hard to raise his children and maintain a good life in Sandy Bay. He continued to work into his seventies as a guide for many American visitors to the far north where the fishing and hunting was good. Angus Bear travelled across Canada, and into the United States and visited Omaha, Nebraska. His nickname upon his return was “Omaha” and to this day, I get asked if Omaha was my Moshum, with a great big smile, I proudly say “yes!”

I'm so proud of my late Moshum, Angus Bear for he left a huge legacy for the next generations of our family and other First Nations peoples. I even named my own business, “Muskwa (meaning Bear in Cree) Productions and been in operations for almost twenty five years as a writer, producer, director and communicator. I believe the spirit of his tenacity and determination courses through my veins and blood memory. I'm forever grateful to be the granddaughter of a a highly respected Cree Elder, Trapper, Fisherman, Hunter, Fur Trader, Guide, Entrepreneur, Outfitter and highly skilled Labourer from Sandy Bay, Saskatchewan (Treaty No.6). Tiniki, Kinanaskomitin.

Respectfully,
Nicole Robertson
 Granddaughter of the late Angus Bear Sr.
 Asinikaw Ithiniwak-Sandy Bay, Saskatchewan

Indigenous Clean Energy Projects Across Canada

The **First Nation's Power Authority (FNPA)** continues to deliver on its member mandated strategy of developing powerful pathways for Indigenous communities across Canada to not only participate in, but to lead, the clean energy transition.

Leveraging the organization's deep experience in economic development, capacity building, policy and technical expertise, FNPA has led or supported the successful origination, development, and execution of a nation-wide portfolio of Indigenous clean energy projects.

In total, these projects have collectively spurred close to a half a billion dollars in direct investment activity; provided demonstrable and intentional knowledge transfer to our Indigenous partners and participating communities; and articulated a clear and economical pathway for the mitigation of approximately 180,000 annual tonnes of eCO₂^{eq} across the First Nations we serve.



Calls for Power Across Canada

The energy transition has changed the plans of governments and utilities across the country. As a result, many jurisdictions are looking to increase the supply of clean electricity through a process usually referred to as “calls for power.” These are requests for private companies, typically in partnership with Indigenous partners, to submit proposals to develop, finance, build, own and operate power plants to supply the required electricity.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

BC Hydro is seeking to add 3,000MW to 4,000MW of clean generating capacity by 2030. To date, they have released two Clean Power Calls (one each in 2024 and 2025) with more expected in the future. Key features of these calls include:

- Emphasis on Indigenous equity by Nations whose traditional territories projects will be located on (minimum Indigenous ownership requirements)
- Emphasis on other Indigenous economic benefits such as employment and vendor opportunities. These attributes give projects a relative competitive advantage
- Emphasis on wind generation projects
- Minimum project size of 40MW

MANITOBA

In its Integrated Resource Plan, Manitoba Hydro notes it will need to add about 1,760MW of capacity to its system over the next ten years. This additional generation will come from various clean sources. In 2025, an initial call for power was released. Key highlights include:

- A total of 600MW of wind energy projects will be selected
- Projects must be majority Indigenous-owned
- Projects must be a minimum of 90MW up to a maximum of 200MW in size
- Projects must be located within a 20km radius of 14 identified substations



NEW BRUNSWICK

NB Power is focused on doubling its renewable energy generating capacity by 2028 through partnerships that prioritize Indigenous ownership and long-term, sustainable energy. A number of Requests for Expressions of Interest (REOI) have been released including. Highlights include:

- In 2025, the REOI offered a 15 year contract for Battery Storage Energy System projects for 50MW of capacity and 4-hour duration
- In 2025, two streams for renewable energy REOIs were released. Each stream calls for 200MW of energy, with one focusing on projects of varying size and the other for large scale projects (100MW or greater)
- In 2023, a REOI sought up to 220MW of renewable power (wind, solar, and tidal) as well as 50MW of storage



NOVA SCOTIA

Nova Scotia is planning to release multiple Request for Proposals (RFPs) with the goal of achieving 80% renewable electricity by 2030. Aimed at reducing the province's reliance on coal fired generation, the goal is to add over 1,000MW of renewable energy. Highlights include:

- Released In 2021, the Rate Base Procurement is on-going and seeks up to 350MW of new solar and wind generation
- The province is exploring the opportunity to export large amounts of off-shore wind power to the state of Massachusetts
- Additional procurement rounds are planned for 2027

The energy transition is unfolding very quickly. This means the amount and types of clean energy required across provinces is constantly changing as well. We invite you to watch our website for updates on procurement opportunities or, even better, call us directly or come to our office to discuss over coffee!



ONTARIO

Indigenous Energy Support Program

Ontario's Indigenous Energy Support Program (IESP), administered by the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO), provides funding to help First Nation and Métis communities and organizations build energy capacity, pursue economic development opportunities and strengthen long-term energy security.

For First Nations considering an application, FNPA can help turn an energy priority into a strong, actionable project. Our team can work with Nations to identify opportunities, develop project scopes, coordinate technical expertise and prepare Community Energy Plans and other supporting work needed to move energy initiatives forward.

The program provides four key funding opportunities:

1. Capacity Building: Community Energy Champion

The Community Energy Champion stream helps Nations build dedicated energy expertise within their own community or organization. Funding can support the salary, wages and benefits of a Community Energy Champion, along with eligible training, equipment, travel and other costs required to carry out the role.

Community Energy Champions can help communities coordinate energy priorities, build internal knowledge, engage members and partners, and identify opportunities for future energy development.

Funding: Up to \$195,000 per application, including eligible Community Energy Champion salary and expenses over three years.

2. Capacity Building: Energy Knowledge and Skills

The second Capacity Building stream supports projects that strengthen community knowledge, awareness and skills related to energy.

Eligible initiatives can include community workshops and meetings, youth and Elder engagement, technical and project training, energy project management certification, operations and maintenance training, energy financial modelling and innovative approaches to sharing energy knowledge and data.

This funding can help Nations develop the internal capacity needed to evaluate opportunities, participate effectively in energy projects and prepare community members for employment and leadership within the sector.

Funding: Up to \$150,000 per application, subject to individual project-type limits.



3. Economic Development

The Economic Development stream is designed to help Indigenous communities move energy opportunities toward development and participation.

Funding can support feasibility studies, technical and design assessments, economic assessments and due diligence required to evaluate potential partnerships. It can also support the development of energy infrastructure projects, including renewable generation, transmission, battery energy storage and emerging technologies.

For Nations considering equity participation or developing their own energy projects, this funding can provide important resources for evaluating opportunities, reducing early-stage project risk and making informed investment decisions.

Funding: Up to \$250,000 per applicant per calendar year across eligible Economic Development applications. Identified remote First Nations may also qualify for separate funding of up to \$500,000 per year for projects designed to reduce diesel reliance.

4. Energy Resiliency & Monitoring: Community Energy Plans

Community Energy Plans provide Nations with a long-term roadmap for understanding current energy use, identifying priorities and determining where future investments can have the greatest impact.

The Energy Resiliency & Monitoring stream provides funding for the development of a new Community Energy Plan or an update to an existing plan. These community-led plans can identify challenges and opportunities related to energy security while helping establish priorities for efficiency, infrastructure, renewable energy and future development.

Funding: Up to \$135,000 per application for the development of a new Community Energy Plan or the update of an existing plan.

FNPA CAN HELP

Funding is most valuable when it helps move a Nation's own priorities forward. FNPA works with First Nations to understand their energy goals and translate those goals into practical plans, projects and partnerships.

Whether a Nation is looking to develop a Community Energy Plan, build internal capacity, investigate a renewable energy opportunity or assess participation in a major energy project, FNPA can help determine which IESP funding opportunity may be the best fit and support the work required to move the project forward.

For 2026, IESO has made up to \$25 million available annually through the Indigenous Energy Support Program. The current application intake closes **October 2, 2026**.

FNPA National Projects

BRITISH COLUMBIA

The province of British Columbia continues to be a source of current and future growth opportunities for FNPA and our members. A significant shift in provincial policy, driven by the rapidly growing demand for clean energy, resulted in the province launching its first clean energy call in over a decade.

Ni Thi Wind

FNPA was excited to be engaged by the Stelat'en First Nation to provide due diligence, financial modelling, business structuring and advisory services to support the Nation's participation in the Ni Thi Mountain wind project.

This 200MW project, located in the Bulkley-Nechao region of northern British Columbia was one of only ten projects to be awarded a thirty year Electricity Purchase Agreement (EPA) by BC Hydro under its 2024 Call for Clean Energy Projects.

This exciting development is truly generational in nature. Not only will the sale of energy generate a long-term source of own-source revenue for Stalle'tan First Nation, the knowledge transfer and capacity building associated with the development, execution and operating of the facility will pay a social dividend for generations to come.

FNPA continues to build on its presence in the BC market. We expect to see continued growth in the region as the province continues its pursuit of its clean energy objective through the issuing of multiple rounds of BC Hydro clean power calls in the near future. As this process continues to unfold, FNPA will be there to support First Nations that are in need of our expertise every step of the way.

ALBERTA

The FNPA is approaching our ten-year anniversary of championing Indigenous-led clean energy opportunities in Alberta. Over the years, we have participated in the development and structuring of the Indigenous-led Renewable Energy Procurement, worked with a First Nation to kick-start the province's largest Indigenous-led solar project, and completed several Nation Energy Plans to help First Nations prioritize energy conservation and renewable energy investment opportunities.

In 2025, we proudly opened a brand-new Alberta Corporate Office located on the Tssut'ina Nation, just west of Calgary. This renewal of our commitment to the province will enable us to better serve our current and future Alberta-based members and clients.

Currently, we are focused on two exciting Indigenous-led developments in the province.



Ermieskin Nation

FNPA was approached by the partners of Ermieskin Nation to assist with finding a buyer to purchase renewable energy from their jointly owned Gleichen solar project. This 13MW plant is currently producing energy that is sold at market prices into the Alberta energy market. FNPA is helping the partnership reduce the project's reliance on variable market prices by finding a buyer who will pay a fixed price for the energy over a long time period.

Wind Power

The renewable industry in Alberta has been facing significant headwinds since the change in policy direction from the Alberta government. The focus of many Nations and Independent Power Producers (IPP's) in the province is shifting from development to consolidation and acquisition opportunities.

The FNPA has been retained by a consortium of partners to apply our Indigenous engagement expertise to support the structuring, financing and ultimately, closing of the proposed acquisition of an Alberta-based wind generating asset.

With an installed operating capacity of 280MW, and the opportunity to expand by an additional 180MW, this acquisition represents a significant opportunity for First Nations looking to enter the renewable energy sector in a meaningful way.

FNPA is leading the identification of, and commercial due diligence for, one or more First Nations that may be interested in taking an ownership position in this asset. This transaction is expected to close by the end of Q2 2026.

We've created record-low costs on Wind power in Alberta

FNPA played a key role in Alberta's Indigenous Technical Electricity Working Group (ITEWG). Formed to secure Indigenous participation in the renewable energy sector, the ITEWG led the structuring of Alberta's Renewable Electricity Program (REP) round 2 to accommodate Indigenous ownership and participation. FNPA is proud to have participated in this process which resulted in the award of contracts for 368MW of Indigenous owned wind energy at record low prices. Building on this success, FNPA is championing the reestablishment of the ITEWG and is currently in discussions with the government of Alberta for this purpose.

Ready 4 SMR Alberta

Building on the success of its Ready4SMR program in Saskatchewan, and in partnership with the Organization of Canadian Nuclear Industries (OCNI) as well as the Government of Alberta, FNPA is in the planning and development stage of a similar program for Alberta.

FNPA broad-based membership base of First Nations (General Members) and corporations (Industry Members) puts us in a unique position to support your energy projects

If you are a First Nation seeking a private partner, or a corporation seeking an Indigenous partner, our PIP is specifically designed for you!

Contact us!

Our custom designed Partnership Identification Process (PIP) is a tool that is designed specifically to leverage this base to identify the right partner(s) for the right project(s) in an effective and cost efficient manner



The program will identify gaps existing in the province's nuclear supply chain and help to close these gaps through knowledge and capacity transfer programs. The objective is to ensure all stakeholders - including First Nation communities and vendors - are "SMR Ready". This will be achieved through increasing knowledge and understanding of the business processes, rigorous safety culture, and quality assurance standards unique to the nuclear industry.

The primary focus of the program will be the development of an Indigenous Nuclear Supplier Database, webinar classes on various aspects of supply chain SMR readiness, and in person-workshops. We expect to announce the Ready4SMR Alberta program shortly and with webinar and workshops planned for later in 2026.

SASKATCHEWAN

Saskatchewan is our home province. It has set the stage for not only our Canada-wide success to date, but for future opportunities, as well. As we continue to nurture and grow our membership base in Saskatchewan, our dedication to the market and trust built with Indigenous, private sector, educational, and government entities will provide us with the solid foundation needed to continue to grow and deliver additional energy-related opportunities to Indigenous communities in the province.

FNPA 100MW Solar Request for Proposals

In a landmark move in July 2024, FNPA forged a powerful partnership with SaskPower in July 2024. The collaboration was dedicated to designing and executing a Indigenous-led Request for Proposal (RFP) process.

The goal? To secure a twenty-five (25) year Power Purchase Agreement with SaskPower for a significant 100MW of solar energy.

Crucially, the RFP was strategically engineered to not only procure power but to also maximize Indigenous equity ownership, employment, and lasting capacity-building opportunities directly tied to this transformative project.

Under the leadership of a first-of-a-kind all Indigenous evaluation team and independent fairness monitor, the RFP was brought to market in August of 2024. The RFP process was very successful attracting a significant number of high-quality bids with significant Indigenous participation and ownership.



Request for Supplier Qualifications (RFSQ)

- Open invitation to all interested vendors
- Respondents pre-qualified based on established criteria



Request for Proposals (RFP)

- Pre-qualified vendors invited to submit proposals
- FNPA evaluates proposals based on established criteria
- FNPA recommends a proposal to SaskPower



Definitive Agreements

- SaskPower assesses submitted proposal
- Detailed interconnection study
- Final Form of PPA

The successful applicant, Mino Giizis Solar Ltd., has signed a power purchase agreement (PPA) to build and operate a new 100-megawatt (MW) solar facility near Lajord, southeast of Regina. At 50 per cent Indigenous ownership from Kinistin Saulteaux Nation, Zagime Anishinabek Nation, Cote First Nation, The Key First Nation and Yorkton Tribal Council Mino Giizis will be one of Saskatchewan's largest solar facilities, generating enough emissions-free electricity to power 30,000 Saskatchewan homes. Though the terms of the purchase agreement are confidential, SaskPower CEO Rupen Pyanda noted the project came in at the lowest cost of all SaskPower's solar projects and will help Saskatchewan reach its goals for renewable power.

Belle Plaine

Adjacent to the Trans Canada Highway, approximately 21km east of Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, the Belle Plaine site is large enough for a solar project that could be as large as 300MW. In close proximity to existing SaskPower infrastructure and to a potential corporate off-take customer, the site holds considerable promise and would be large enough to be able to accommodate equity participation by a number of First Nations located in the general area.

The FNPA secured a parcel of land through an FNPA Industry member and has completed financial, technical and commercial due diligence. As the project advances, a number of potential Indigenous partners have been identified. The next step is to confirm potential interconnection costs and negotiate a First Nation Opportunity Agreement (FNOA) with SaskPower.

Due to its size and location, this project has the potential to be transformative for participating First Nations. FNPA will continue to progress and evaluate this project by working collaboratively with interested First Nations and SaskPower.

300 MW Data Centre

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is experiencing rapid growth, driven by widespread adoption, investment, and technological innovation. The energy required to support this growth is significant and will increase the need for computing power which, in turn, will increase demand for clean energy.

FNPA is currently working with Industry partners on the development of up to 300MW of solar power electricity for the exclusive use of an AI based data centre proposed for Saskatchewan. FNPA has secured the land the solar plant would be built on and will contribute its power experience and uniquely Indigenous lens to the partnership, with the Industry member providing data center development knowledge.

Project development work on this project will be on-going throughout 2026 and into 2027.



Greener Neighbourhoods Pilot Program (Natural Resources Canada) /

Energiesprong technology is an innovative way to provide energy efficient housing for Indigenous communities. The approach wraps a home in an energy-efficient "envelope" including walls, roof, windows and doors to reduce drafts and loss of heat.

The FNPA was successful in \$1 Million in funding from the NRCAN Greener Neighbourhoods Program to collaborate with ten Saskatchewan First Nations in Southern Saskatchewan to retrofit five to ten homes with the Energiesprong approach.

We aim to save 50% in Energy and 80% in Carbon Dioxide emissions in each home.

MANITOBA

In 2025, Manitoba Hydro released its 2025 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) which includes a ten-year road map for the province's electrification and decarbonization efforts. Emphasizing the importance of clean electricity, wind generation, and Indigenous participation, the plan highlights the need for significant capital investments required to expand capacity and decarbonize the grid.

As one of the first actions, Manitoba Hydro announced its plan to procure 600MW of Indigenous-based energy.

Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs

The FNPA is working with the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) to develop an executable strategic plan for the development of an Indigenous-owned energy-based company in Manitoba. The AMC requested FNPA to help them with developing an FNPA affiliate structure within the province.

The objective is to provide the AMC with a turnkey solution to develop and stand up an affiliated corporation; including strategy, action plan, governance structures and identification and solidification of key partnerships with Manitoba industry and government.

Manitoba is a key market for FNPA moving forward. By strategically deploying resources and being laser focused on specific opportunities, we expect to gain considerable traction in this region over the coming years. Ultimately, we want to ensure Indigenous communities are provided with a pathway to efficient and equitable participation in Manitoba's clean energy future.



Ontario First Nations Energy Efficiency

First Nations Community Building Retrofit Program (FNCBPR)

Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) launched the FNCBPR in 2022. All 103 First Nations communities connected to the Ontario electricity grid could receive up to \$330,000 in funding to implement energy-efficiency projects in each community.

The FNPA engaged 57 First Nations to coordinate the application intake, community meetings, Band Resolution approvals and initial virtual energy audits. Our partners at Summerhill helped the communities implement the recommendations with building retrofits like windows, insulation, streetlighting, refrigeration improvements and more.

Demonstration Projects in Ontario

FNPA is collaborating with Associated Engineering with the Six Nations CNPP Pilot Program in Ontario. Six Nations was successful in \$10 million in funding to retrofit at least 100 homes in Six Nations. The FNPA is helping with exploring innovative approaches to deep energy retrofits for the project.



Nation Energy Plans or Community Energy Plans

Nation Energy Plans (NEPs) are a cornerstone service offering at FNPA and are a critical first step for Indigenous communities seeking advice and guidance on how to incorporate traditional knowledge and community vision into their sustainable energy futures.

An NEP is an iterative process that starts with estimating current energy demand and emissions profiles. This analysis is then used to forecast a Nation's future energy demand. Understanding where the community is and what the future may look like allows for the development of Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Timely (SMART) objectives regarding community energy and emission reductions.



A critical part of the NEP to engage the community through identification of key stakeholders, including a Nation energy champion. A key component is the staging of a Nation visioning session that canvasses all community members, including youth and elders, for their thoughts and vision for what the energy future of the community should look like. Ultimately, the plan is a living document that should be updated and compared to original objectives on a regular basis.

Over the past fiscal year, FNPA is proud to have developed a number of NEPs across Western Canada, including:

- Big Island Lake Cree Nation
- White Bear First Nation
- Zagime Anishinabek First Nation
- Pasqua First Nation
- Piapot First Nation
- Big Grassy Narrows

Generally speaking, a well-done NEP is quite labour intensive and time consuming (3 or more months) as it involves site visits, community engagement, and data collection and analysis which typically requires interacting with the local community.

As NEPS can be quite labour intensive, developing a NEP on their own can be challenging for many Nations. FNPA has the bench strength and experience to deliver quality NEPs in a cost effective manner.

Nuclear Engagement

The Canadian nuclear industry is undergoing a significant transformation, with provinces like Saskatchewan, Alberta, Ontario, and New Brunswick actively exploring the potential of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) to meet their clean energy goals and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This shift requires a revitalized workforce with significant participation from traditional lands and rights holders.

Ready4SMR

The Ready4SMR Saskatchewan Program is crucial for preparing Saskatchewan's industrial base, especially Indigenous-owned enterprises, to become suppliers within the Small Modular Reactor (SMR) supply chain. This program was led by the FNPA in partnership with the Organization of Canadian Nuclear Industries (OCNI) and the Saskatchewan Industrial and Mining Supply Association (SIMSA).

This initiative directly supports Canada's SMR Roadmap, reinforcing the commitment by Saskatchewan, Ontario, and New Brunswick to deploy safe, clean, and affordable nuclear energy solutions.

Phase 1 of the project was centered on education, engagement, and capacity assessment to ensure that all stakeholders are "SMR Ready" by understanding the unique business processes, rigorous safety culture, and quality assurance standards demanded by the nuclear industry.



This project had several deliverables:

Indigenous Supplier Gap Analysis:

The core responsibility of the FNPA within this program was to ensure meaningful and verifiable Indigenous participation. We created a Comprehensive Gap Analysis of existing supplier databases and tracking mechanisms across the nuclear industry. When we learned that there were significant gaps in tracking Indigenous ownership, we began the process of developing a Indigenous Nuclear Supplier Database. The database will focus on robust verification, detailed certification tracking, and comprehensive business profiles, ensuring accurate, reliable data that will effectively connect qualified Indigenous businesses with high-value nuclear opportunities.

Webinar Workshop Series Success

FNPA and its partners successfully delivered a series of ten targeted webinar workshops. This series was designed to rapidly educate and de-risk the entry process for contractors, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, seeking to enter the nuclear supply chain. The workshops featured expert speakers from key nuclear energy players like Clean Energy Connections, Westinghouse, Atkins Realis, OCNl, OPG, GE Hitachi, and the CSA Group. The workshop recordings have been posted on FNPA.ca to serve as a permanent resource for ongoing upskilling.

In Person Workshops

We also offered two full-day in-person workshops:

“Building Indigenous Partnerships in the SMR Supply Chain” convened industry, government, and First Nation leaders to discuss establishing the fundamental relationship frameworks necessary for an effective Indigenous nuclear supply chain. Key discussions included a panel on relationship-building (featuring SaskPower, FNPA, and White Bear First Nation) and a dedicated presentation on the influence of Traditional Knowledge on SMR development.

“Maximizing Indigenous Procurement Opportunities in New Nuclear” shifted the dialogue to practical, actionable steps for Indigenous businesses to qualify and secure contracts. Panels addressed the business case for participation, the specific qualification standards (featuring OCNl and GE Hitachi), and the value of joint ventures and partnerships in building capacity.



The Ready4SMR Project is effectively laying the groundwork for sustainable Indigenous economic participation in Canada’s nuclear future. Our next steps are to develop targeted resources to navigate nuclear procurement complexities; continue to facilitate dialogue between Indigenous communities and nuclear stakeholders; promote the meaningful incorporation of Traditional Knowledge; and advocating for procurement policies that actively prioritize long-term, sustainable Indigenous inclusion.

White Bear First Nations

Strategic Partnership and Negotiation Progress

As White Bear First Nations (WBFN) and SaskPower move towards a Strategic Partnership Agreement for a proposed Small Modular Reactor (SMR) development in WBFN’s Traditional Territory, the FNPA is managing this complex, Nation-led process.

We have coordinated over twenty engagement sessions in White Bear, Regina, Saskatoon and Calgary ensuring that traditional protocols were observed and Elder, Women and Youth committees were directly involved. We’ve attended site visits to both Rafferty and Boundary Dam candidate sites and coordinated a tour of Humber College to explore potential partnerships for nuclear career training. We also spearheaded the Request for Proposals (RFP) process that led to the engagement of Dillon Consulting for the Traditional Knowledge and Land Use and Occupancy Study (TKLUOS), ensuring the assessment is Indigenous-led and grounded in WBFN’s Traditional Territory. We look forward to working the WBFN and SaskPower as they enter into negotiations for the Commercial and Equity Ownership process.



The Traditional Knowledge and Land Use Occupancy Study (TKLUOS)

The completion of the TKLUOS & Preliminary Impact Assessment is providing WBFN with the technical and legal foundation for their negotiations. The TKLUOS, led by Dillon Consulting, is not a simple environmental report; it is a legal and cultural document that supports WBFN's assertion of inherent Treaty and Aboriginal Rights in the proposed SMR project area. It not only explores WBFN's inherent rights, title, and sovereignty in relation to the two proposed SMR sites (Rafferty and Boundary Reservoirs), it also captures historic and current use of lands for traditional purposes, including hunting, fishing, trapping, gathering, and ceremonial use.

Through this report, we learned that the proposed SMR sites are on unceded territory with profound cultural significance. The Rafferty site, for example, is identified as an ancestral gathering location, featuring a buffalo rubbing stone and evidence of a buffalo jump, tipi rings, and ceremonial grounds—tangible heritage that would be permanently lost to development. The project area has already been subjected to severe Post-Contact Cumulative Impacts from colonial policies, the reserve system, and prior industrial developments (such as the unconsulted construction of the Rafferty Dam), which flooded sacred places and disrupted traditional governance. The proposed SMR project, through water withdrawal/warming, ground disturbance, and long-term nuclear waste storage, poses severe Direct Project-Related Impacts on the ability of WBFN members to exercise their rights to fish, hunt, gather medicines (like rat root and sweetgrass), and practice cultural ceremony, thereby eroding cultural continuity and worsening cumulative effects.

By providing this detailed evidence, the TKLUOS has shifted the nature of the negotiations: the focus is now on how SaskPower will accommodate and compensate WBFN for the permanent, irreversible impacts on their inherent rights and title, rather than simply proving that rights exist.

National Presence and Public Engagement



FNPA is actively participating in national SMR and clean energy conversations, ensuring the principle of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) remains central to development plans across the country.

FNPA executives and representatives are regular speakers and attendees at key industry events, including the annual FNPA Clean Energy Forum, Canadian Nuclear Society Annual Conference, Canadian Nuclear Association Annual Conference, SMR Summit, SMR and Advanced Reactor, World Nuclear Congress, all touching on SMR policy, economics, and reconciliation.

We have directly supported the development of Indigenous technical expertise through initiatives like the Nuclear Energy Management School (NEMS) at the University of Saskatchewan, where FNPA interns and representatives completed intensive training on the nuclear energy lifecycle, furthering Indigenous capacity within the sector.

Strategic Expansion and Partnership

FNPA is executing a strategic plan to deepen its engagement in other provinces pursuing SMR development, particularly Alberta and Ontario, as stated in our commitment to the Canada SMR Action Plan.

Alberta Expansion: We are actively leveraging the interprovincial SMR MOU (which includes Alberta) to initiate dialogue with Alberta utilities and First Nations, focusing on SMR opportunities for both grid-scale power and remote heavy industry (like oil sands and mining), where SMRs offer a diesel displacement solution. Our goal is to ensure Alberta's SMR strategy incorporates strong Indigenous equity and procurement pathways from the outset. Our current strategy is to begin by deploying a Ready4SMR program in Alberta, in which proposals are underway for funding.

Ontario Hold: Our focus in Ontario is shifting toward establishing stronger partnerships that link technical training to job creation.

VirtualWare Tech Hub: In a significant move to create a technical pipeline for the nuclear sector, FNPA has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with VirtualWare. This partnership aims to establish a Tech Hub Center in southeast Saskatchewan. This center will be dedicated to building Indigenous capacity in the nuclear sector by providing specialized training, leveraging virtual and augmented reality tools, and creating career pathways in high-demand nuclear trades and technologies for First Nations youth and workers. This initiative provides a tangible link between our advocacy work and real-world economic opportunity.

The ongoing expansion and active participation solidify FNPA's leadership role in driving economic reconciliation through the responsible, informed, and consent-based development of Canada's nuclear energy future.

The past year has solidified the First Nations Power Authority's position as a national leader in advancing Indigenous participation within the clean energy transition, particularly in the nuclear sector.

Our work has successfully achieved three key outcomes:

Established the Foundation for Consent-Based Development: With WBFN, we have moved the SMR conversation past consultation and firmly into the realm of negotiation, anchored by the completed TKLUOS and the WBRIA Framework. The focus is now on delivering an equitable Impact Benefits Agreement (IBA) that addresses the Nation's inherent rights and title.

Built Tangible Industry Capacity: The Ready4SMR program has identified and engaged a pipeline of Indigenous businesses, armed with the knowledge and foundational skills necessary to meet nuclear supply chain standards.

Expanded National Mandate: Through strategic partnerships and expansion efforts in Alberta and Ontario, FNPA is actively positioning Indigenous communities to secure economic and capacity benefits from SMR deployment across the country.

FNPA's forward strategy is clear: we will continue to assert Indigenous rights and drive reconciliation by actively creating technical and economic capacity. Our goal is to ensure that the deployment of SMRs in Canada is not only a climate solution but a fundamental platform for Indigenous self-determination and prosperity for the next seven generations.



SouthWest Power Pool

SaskPower has applied for a permit from the Canadian Energy Regulator (CER) to build two 6 km long transmission lines, starting approximately 15 km SW of Estevan Saskatchewan and connecting to the Southwest Power Pool System at the US border.

As the proposed transmission line runs through the traditional territories of White Bear First Nations, the Nation engaged FNPA to assist with asserting their Rights under the regulatory process that is currently underway. In this capacity, FNPA has helped the Nation understand the complex CER process, helped the rights holders identify impacts and benefits of the project, and managed the creation of a Traditional Knowledge and Land Use Occupancy Study (TKLUOS).

Work on this project will continue on this throughout 2026 with the goal of the Nation entering into a Impacts and Benefit Agreement with SaskPower that honours their status as rights holders of this territory.

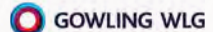
 **SaskPower**



List of General Members

					
JA Power Tech Systems	MARZ Evolution	EcoDesign Property	MR Equipment & Services Inc	Farm Credit Canada	Emineskin REA Ltd.
					
Northwest Angle #33 First Nation	Scout Engineering	Gabbez Pipefitting Inc	Brunswick House	M'chigeeng First Nation	Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs
					
Key-oh Business Development Corporation	Red Earth Cree Nation	Dene Energy	Stratus Electrical & Instrumentation	Big Grassy River First Nation	Aurora Renewables
					
Kinistin Saulteaux Nation	Muskwa Central Renewable Energy Partnership	Cowessess First Nation	2Nations Bird Construction	Zagime Management Authority Ltd	Kahkewistahaw First Nation
					
Mathias Columb Cree Nation					

List of Industry Members

					
Borea Construction ULC	Bruce Power	Electricity Canada	SWEB Development	BWXT Canada	Nuclear Waste Management Organization
					
Canada's Building Trades Unions	Bird Construction	Stonebridge Financial	Fluor Canada Ltd.	CGA Enterprises Inc	Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority
					
EDF Renewables Development Inc	McMaster University	GE Vernova Hitachi Nuclear Energy	Upplands Energy	Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP	JUNO Engineering
					
Canada Infrastructure Bank	Jones DesLauriers Insurance Management Inc	ENMAX Corporation	Rainco Alberta Cia	ABB Canada	McCarthy Tetrault LLP
					
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Ontario Market

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Michipicoten First Nation		Wahta Mohawks First Nation		Shawanaga First Nation	
Mississauga First Nation		Thessalon First Nation		Couchiching First Nation	
Garden River First Nation		Lac Seul First Nation - (Frenchman's Head Band, Kejick Bay Band, Whitefish Bay Band)		Shoal Lake #40 First Nation	
Whitefish River First Nation		Big Grassy River First Nation (Mishkosiminiziibiing)		Mattagami First Nation	
Ogemawahj-Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation		Onyota'aka Kahsatst'la' Ltd(OK LTD)-formerly Oneida Nation of the Thames)		Moose Cree First Nation	
Temagami First Nation		Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation		Missanabie Cree First Nation	
Aamjiwnaang First Nation		Nipissing First Nation		Matachewan First Nation	
Sagamok First Nation		Batchewana First Nation		Henvey Inlet First Nation	
Pikangikum First Nation		Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek (Rocky Bay First Nation)		Aundeck Omni Kaning	
Ogemawahj-mnjikaning- Chippewas of Rama		Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte		M'Chigeeng First Nation	
Wasauksing First Nation		Red Rock Indian Band Lake Helen Reserve		Ginoogaming First Nation	
Chippewas of Kettle and Stoney Point First Nation		Serpent River First Nation		Walpole Island First Nation	
Six Nations of the Grand River		Wahnapiatae First Nation		Anishinabe of Wauzhushk Onigum (Rat Portage)	
Wahgoshig First Nation/ Apitipi Anicinapek Nation		Alderville First Nation		Grassy Narrows First Nation	
Magnetawan First Nation		Ogemawahj-Beausoleil First Nation		Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing(Big Island) First Nation	
Eagle Lake First Nation		Chippewas of the Thames First Nation		Sheguiandah First Nation	
Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek First Nation		Rainy River First Nation		Sheshegwaning First Nation	
Chapleau Cree First Nation		Brunswick House First Nation		Constance Lake First Nation	
Wikwemkoong Unceded Territory		Moravian of the Thames Delaware Nation		Curve Lake First Nation	

**FIRST NATIONS
POWER AUTHORITY**



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TOGETHER YOUTH, INDUSTRY
LEADERS, AND KNOWLEDGE
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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2026

**FIRST NATIONS UNIVERSITY OF CANADA., REGINA, SK,
TREATY 4 TERRITORY**





Indigenous Insights is Earnscliffe Strategy Group's flagship syndicated research program and Canada's largest ongoing, statistically representative survey of Indigenous public opinion. Since 2016, the study has conducted quarterly national surveys of First Nations (on- and off-reserve), Métis, and Inuit respondents, creating a robust longitudinal dataset on key policy, social, and economic issues.

Recent Indigenous Insights findings show that roughly one-third of Indigenous respondents experience energy insecurity, with significantly higher rates among First Nations living on reserve. These findings align with the Assembly of First Nations' estimate that \$349.2 billion in investment is required to close the First Nations infrastructure gap by 2030 and highlight the need for Indigenous-led, scalable energy solutions.

In partnership with the First Nations Power Authority, Earnscliffe is applying Indigenous Insights data to further research on Indigenous-led power development, with a focus on policy barriers, market access, and infrastructure readiness. This collaboration is intended to translate Indigenous public opinion into actionable insight that supports FNPA's work advancing clean, reliable, and community-driven energy projects across British Columbia and beyond.

