

# Indigenous Conservation Programming Report: Update for Mid-Term Review Advisory Group

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# Background

- IESO offered the Aboriginal Conservation Program (ACP), which delivered energy efficiency and in-home energy assessments for First Nations communities as part of the 2011 - 2014 conservation framework
  - Forty five of Ontario's Indigenous communities participated in this Program
  - Over 3,000 homes received retrofits achieving 8 GWh of verified net savings
- Under the Conservation First Framework (CFF), delivery of programs transferred to LDCs who were required to serve all customer segments, including First Nations communities within their service territory
  - First Nation Conservation Program offered in Hydro One Service Territory
  - Conservation on the Coast Program being delivered in Attawapiskat First Nation, Kashechewan First Nation and Fort Albany First Nation
- On October 26, 2017 the IESO received a Direction from the Minister of Energy to prepare a report on options to improve conservation programs, and access to programs, for First Nations and Métis including communities served by independent power authorities (IPAs)
  - Report to be submitted alongside the Mid-Term Review of CFF and informed by engagement with First Nations and Métis

# Indigenous Conservation Programming Report

## Approach for report development:

- Reviewing existing Aboriginal Community Energy Plans (ACEP)
  - Conservation priorities identified in every ACEP
  - Retrofit existing infrastructure like band administration buildings
  - Retrofit residential homes to increase comfortability and reduce energy usage
  - Implement energy efficiency requirements for new residential buildings
  - Education/Capacity Building required in order for Conservation programs to be successful
- Analyzing third-party evaluation report findings
  - Evaluation report for Aboriginal Conservation Program (2013-2015)
- Collecting feedback through surveys and community meetings
  - Regional meetings in Thunder Bay, Sudbury, Ottawa, London and Vaughan
  - Community meetings planned for Chippewas of the Thames, Georgina Island First Nation, Six Nations of the Grand, & Wunnumin Lake First Nation (remote IPA)
  - Surveys sent to every First Nation in Ontario, as well as external service providers who have supported the development of Aboriginal Community Energy Plans

# Preliminary Findings

## Survey

- Over 80% of First Nation communities who participated in the survey identified the following areas requiring substantial repairs:
  - Windows & doors
  - Air quality & mold remediation
  - Heating
  - Structural weaknesses throughout the home
- 86% of First Nation communities who participated in the survey do not have a staff (neither full-time nor part-time) devoted to Energy/Energy Conservation

## Meetings

- Evolve the funding model into a partnership with First Nations
  - Set Energy Savings Targets with First Nation communities
  - Work with individual First Nations to develop appropriate programming instead of using a one size fits all approach
- Education & Capacity Building needs to be a priority

# Next steps

- Continue gathering feedback on opportunities to improve programming
- Publish draft report of Indigenous Conservation Program recommendation for review and comment (December 2017)
  - Public Webinar in December 2017
  - Stakeholder feedback will be received until mid January 2018
- Finalize report to submit with Conservation First Framework Mid-Term Review Report (Q1 2018) to Ministry