**NOVEMBER 4, 2021** 

# **Energy Efficiency Programs for First Nation Communities**

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#### **Presentation Overview**

Review of programming available to First Nation Communities:

- New 2021-2024 CDM Framework
- Timeline of Indigenous Energy Efficiency Programming
- First Nation Conservation Program
- Energy Affordability Program \*New!
- Save on Energy Business Programs
- First Nation Community Building Retrofit Program \*New!
- Remote First Nation Energy Efficiency Program \*New!



#### 2021-2024 CDM Framework

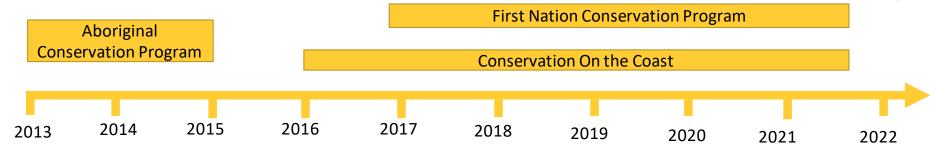
- \$692M, four-year CDM Framework launched in January 2021
- Centrally delivered by the IESO under the Save on Energy brand
- Programs target commercial, institutional and industrial customers with opportunities for residential electricity consumers
- Renewed programming for income-eligible electricity consumers and on-reserve
   First Nation communities
- Mid-term review by December 2022 to reassess budgets and targets based on customer and system needs





New Programs

Remote First Nation Pilot Program



- By the end of 2020, most Ontario grid-connected First Nation communities will have been served at least once by an IESO residential energy efficiency program
- IESO-plans to target a portion of the new framework funding for previously unserved commercial and institutional opportunities in First Nation communities



#### First Nation Conservation Program

- Helped qualified on-reserve First Nation customers improve the energy efficiency of their homes and manage their energy use more effectively
- Included a home audit at no cost to recommend upgrades and help residents understand how the new upgrades work
- As the program is now winding up, eligible residents on reserve who were not previously served by FNCP may qualify for the Energy Affordability Program





### What is the Energy Affordability Program (EAP)?

- The Save on Energy EAP is an electricity conservation program offered by the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) and delivered province-wider.
- EAP is designed for income-eligible electricity customers to help reduce their energy costs and increase the overall comfort of their homes by providing energy-efficient upgrades at no-cost.





#### **Program Benefits**

- ✓ Utility bill savings
  - Energy-efficient measures can result in a reduction of energy bill costs.
- ✓ Increased home comfort
  - Free energy-efficient measures can allow for more comfortable home temperatures in all seasons.
- ✓ Helping the environment
  - Reducing energy consumption, which can help reduce our carbon footprint.





#### **EAP Eligibility & Participation**

#### **Comprehensive Support:**

 Ontario residents who qualify for this level of support will have an energy-efficiency expert visit their home to identify opportunities to help them save energy, receive upgrades and replace eligible appliances at no cost. They may also receive insulation and weatherization measures if they heat their home with electricity.

#### **Energy Saving Kit:**

 Residents who qualify for this level of support will receive an Energy Saving Kit with easy-to-install products that will help them to save energy in their homes, such as LED lightbulbs, a drying line for clothes and faucet aerators.



### Comprehensive Support Eligibility

Participants can be living in social/non-profit housing, own, rent or lease their residence and can be the primary or secondary utility account holder listed on the utility bill.

OR

# Household's annual income before tax is the same or less than:

| Household Size (incl. dependents) | Maximum Gross Annual Income |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| 1 occupant                        | \$36,578                    |  |  |
| 2 occupants                       | \$51,729                    |  |  |
| 3 occupants                       | \$63,354                    |  |  |
| 4 occupants                       | \$73,157                    |  |  |
| 5 occupants                       | \$81,791                    |  |  |
| 6 occupants                       | \$89,598                    |  |  |
| 7 or more occupants               | \$96,775                    |  |  |

Receive government benefits or participate in a natural gas low-income DSM program during the past 12 months:

- ✓ Allowance for the Survivor
- ✓ Guaranteed Income Supplement
- ✓ Allowance for the senior
- ✓ Ontario Works
- ✓ Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
- ✓ Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP)
- ✓ Healthy Smiles Ontario Child Dental Program
- √ (LEAP) Grant Recipient



#### Comprehensive Support Upgrades



 Participants may receive free upgrades, including ENERGY STAR® certified light bulbs (LEDs), energy-efficient shower heads, faucet aerators, clothes drying line and a power bar with a timer.



 Based on the results of the in-home assessment, participants may also qualify for ENERGY STAR® certified replacement appliances, such as a fridge, freezer, window air conditioner, and/ or dehumidifier.



 If home is electrically-heated, participants may also be eligible for insulation in their walls, attic and basement as needed, as well as comprehensive home draft-proofing and weather-stripping.



### **Energy Saving Kit Eligibility**

#### To qualify, the participant must:

- 1. Be an individual who owns, rents or leases a residence in Ontario and is listed as the primary or secondary utility account holder.
- 2. Not meet the eligibility for comprehensive support, AND
- 3. Have an annual household income for the previous year that does not exceed the limits identified in the table:

| Household Size (incl. dependents) | Maximum Gross Annual<br>Income |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|--|
| 1 occupant                        | \$46,748                       |  |  |  |
| 2 occupants                       | \$58,453                       |  |  |  |
| 3 occupants                       | \$70,158                       |  |  |  |
| 4 occupants                       | \$81,863                       |  |  |  |
| 5 occupants                       | \$93,568                       |  |  |  |
| 6 occupants                       | \$105,273                      |  |  |  |
| 7 or more occupants               | \$116,978                      |  |  |  |



# **Energy Saving Kit Upgrades**



✓ LED Lightbulbs



✓ Faucet Aerators for electric hot water heating



Retractable Clothesline



✓ Door Sweep & Weather Stripping Tape for electricallyheated customers



✓ Handheld Shower Head for electric hot water heating



✓ Block Heater Timer



#### How to Apply for EAP

- Fill out the online form at SaveOnEnergy.ca/EAP or call 1 (855)
   591 -0877 to start the application process with a program service provider.
- 2. The program service provider will verify eligibility and schedule an inhome assessment. Participants will be asked basic information to determine if you meet the program criteria.



# Role of Community Energy Champions in promoting EAP

#### 1. Identify possible eligible households

- Is your community connected to the IESO-controlled grid?
- Is the community member having trouble with their electricity bill payments and have old or inefficient equipment in their home/ have not recently participated in the FNCP?
- Are they the primary or secondary utility bill holder?
- Do they fit the criteria to be eligible for EAP?

# 2. Ensure applicants are calling the program service provider phone number on the back of the brochures/ marketing material

• The program service provider will get the application process started for residents over the phone.

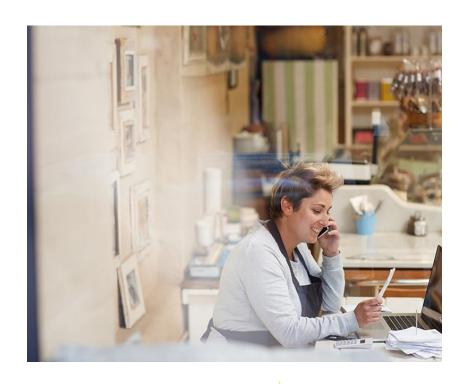
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#### 3. Assist clients in filling out referral form or online contact form

- Clients may have challenges applying on their own and may need help
- If you require additional support or accommodation, please contact the IESO at EAP@SaveonEnergy.ca

#### Save on Energy – Business Programs

- Ontario businesses, large and small, have access to incentives for retrofits and other energy-efficiency projects to lower energy costs
  - Small Business Program
  - Retrofit Program
  - Energy Performance Program
  - Energy Manager Program
  - Training





### First Nation Community Buildings Retrofit Program



#### **Program Overview**

- The IESO will be launching a new program targeted at energy efficiency upgrades in band-owned buildings on reserve, the "First Nation Community Building Retrofit Program"
  - Each participating community will receive up to \$100,000 investment in energy efficiency projects
  - A "Virtual Energy Manager" will provide technical assessment and project support, at no cost to communities
  - Program Launch Q2 2022



#### Program Overview (cont'd 2)

- "Virtual Energy Manager" Technical Support includes:
  - Energy benchmarking all band-owned buildings, based on energy data provided by community
  - Energy assessments in-person audits of up to four buildings
  - List of eligible project opportunities (with estimated energy savings, costs, and timing requirements) to help inform project selection by band council
  - Oversight of installation process and post project reporting



### Program Overview (cont'd 3)

- IESO will provide up to \$100,000 in funding for eligible projects identified in the energy assessment and selected by the band council that include:
  - Energy saving equipment offered through a direct install track and/or community install track, depending on the type of project.
  - Detailed engineering study by a third party to scope more complex projects in the Community Install Track (up to \$10,000 out of the \$100,000)



### Direct Install Track vs. Community Install Track

| Direct Install Track   | Community Install Track  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| IESO oversees the installation including procurement of equipment  | Community does the installation (community can contract with a third party)                    |  |  |
| Standard direct-install efficiency measures (lighting, controls, thermostats, window air conditioners, fan motors, power strips) | Customized measures (e.g. variable frequency drive, arena cooling)                             |  |  |
| Projects identified in the energy assessment   | Projects identified in the energy assessment   |  |  |
| Does not require a detailed engineering study  | May require a detailed engineering study (up to \$10,000 funded from the per community budget) |  |  |
| Projects funded from \$100,000 per community budget  | Projects funded from \$100,000 per community budget  |  |  |
| Benefit: standardized measures, streamlined approach, faster project implementation  | Benefit: specialized projects requiring more detailed technical expertise                      |  |  |



### **Program Participation Process**

Program

Application



*Benchmark*All buildings



**Energy Assessment**Up to four buildings

List of Project
Opportunities
Choose your projects



Project Plan



Project Installs

Up to \$100,000



# List of Project Opportunities – Example\*

| Project                         | Electricity<br>Savings<br>(kWh / year) | Bill Savings<br>(\$/year) | Project<br>Cost<br>(\$) | Project<br>Timing | Install                    |
|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Band Office<br>Interior Lights  | 18,000<br>kWh/year                     | \$2,750                   | \$16,000                | Spring<br>2023    | Direct<br>Install Track    |
| <b>School</b> Interior Lights   | 22,000<br>kWh/year                     | \$3,300                   | \$26,000                | Summer<br>2023    | Direct<br>Install Track    |
| School<br>Exterior Lights       | 11,000<br>kWh/year                     | \$1,600                   | \$12,750                | Summer<br>2023    | Direct<br>Install Track    |
| Waste Water<br>Treatment<br>VFD | 50,000<br>kWh/year                     | \$7,400                   | \$47,000                | Fall 2023         | Community<br>Install Track |



<sup>\*</sup>estimated from past projects, may not apply to your buildings

#### **List of Project Opportunities**

List of Project Opportunities



Direct Install
Track



Community Install Track Band council chooses which project opportunities to pursue, up to the \$100,000 cap



#### Project Installation and Follow Up

- Post-project
  - IESO's program delivery vendor will follow-up and provide support to ensure that measures have been installed and are being operated according to specifications
  - IESO's program delivery vendor will recommend considerations for long-term operations and maintenance





#### **Next Steps**

#### Program Launch (Q2 2022)

#### **Get Ready to Participate**

- Review your Indigenous Community Energy Plan
- Discuss the opportunity with your Band Council
- Apply for a Community Energy Champion
- Identify a Community Coordinator



### Remote First Nation Energy Efficiency Program



#### Background

- A pilot program available since 2019 to Kasabonika Lake, North Caribou Lake,
   Sachigo Lake and Wunnumin Lake First Nation, will soon be ending
  - Registration Phone Surveys Completed 270
  - Audits and Basic Install Completed 193
- Building on the success of the pilot, the IESO will expand the program to additional remote First Nation communities that will be connecting to Ontario's electricity grid



#### **Eligible Communities**

- Communities eligible for the program include:
  - Bearskin Lake First Nation
  - 2. Deer Lake First Nation
  - 3. Keewaywin First Nation
  - 4. Kingfisher Lake First Nation
  - 5. Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug
  - 6. Muskrat Dam First Nation
  - 7. North Spirit Lake First Nation

- 8. Pikangikum First Nation
- 9. Poplar Hill First Nation
- 10. Sandy Lake First Nation
- 11. Wapekeka First Nation
- 12. Wawakapewin First Nation



#### About the Program

- The program is voluntary and free for participants
- Participants will receive an energy audit to identify opportunities for the installation of energy-efficient products
- Energy efficiency measures will be available to homes, small businesses, recreational facilities and band-owned buildings
- Measures include: basic energy efficiency upgrades, appliance replacements, insulation and draft-proofing upgrades, commercial lighting and thermostats (for businesses only)
- The program will contribute to long-lasting bill savings while also contributing to the safety and comfort of homes
- The program will operate from 2021 until 2024 and is planned to be delivered to up to 12 communities over the term

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#### **Community Coordinator**

- Program provides funding support to hire a designated community coordinator to assist the delivery agent with program implementation and management.
- The community coordinator will work with the delivery agent to ensure home energy audits are conducted and to ensure the comfort of the resident while the audit is underway.
- The program delivery agent will begin recruitment once the community has enrolled in the program.



# **Next Steps**

• Program Launch – December 2021



#### Thank You

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