

PROGRAM

2023 First Nations Energy Symposium: The Future of Electricity – Empowering Change

November 6 – 7, 2023
Chelsea Hotel, Toronto, Ontario



Cover image: *Thunder Women*,
courtesy of Adrienne Assinewai,
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Artist's statement

This piece captures the passing on of traditional knowledge through technology and how it connects those who learn and teach to those around them and the natural environment.

Traditionally, knowledge was passed down in-person through oral storytelling and hands on learning as portrayed by the seven grandfather teachings represented as the stars in the sky. However, as time went on and communities spread far and wide, it became difficult for traditional knowledge keepers to pass on their teachings. Luckily, the availability of today's various communication platforms has enabled a whole new surge of cultural knowledge sharing online.

The Thunderbird shows us the link between the natural world and the technology we use through electricity that has allowed many people to reconnect to their roots and teachings and, more importantly, given them back a sense of community and belonging. Knowledge is a gift that empowers its possessor and can bind generations and communities together.

Message from Lesley Gallinger President and CEO, Independent Electricity System Operator



Welcome to the IESO's 7th First Nations Energy Symposium!

As we know, Ontario's electricity system is undergoing profound transformation as a result of population and economic growth and an increasing focus on electrification and decarbonization. During this transition, it is essential that we work together to ensure a reliable, affordable and sustainable electricity future for us all.

For its part, the IESO is committed to building enduring relationships and inclusive partnerships with Indigenous Nations to chart the course ahead. Building the electricity system of the future will require the procurement of new electricity supply, the construction of new transmission lines and the adoption of new technologies.

Indigenous Nations are critical allies in this work. We need you at the forefront of this journey to provide valuable skills, knowledge and expertise and to ensure energy projects are built in an environmentally sustainable way that preserves Indigenous cultural heritage.

The work ahead will require the commitment and collaboration of everyone involved,

including governments, communities and Indigenous Nations – working hand in hand to ensure decisions are made collaboratively, that everyone is heard and that our common energy needs are met.

This Symposium is one-step on the long path to reconciliation. Together we can build a future where reconciliation is embedded in everything we do. We will strive to engage with purpose and reflect on the unique perspectives and interests of all Indigenous Nations, creating powerful collaborations and meaningful outcomes.

We look forward to listening and having these conversations over the next two days.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lesley Gallinger'.

Lesley Gallinger

Ontario Energy Network Indigenous Energy Scholarship Recipient For 2023

Congratulations to Mary Pangowish for receiving the 2023 Ontario Energy Network (OEN) Indigenous Energy Scholarship.

This scholarship, jointly sponsored by the OEN and the IESO, recognizes individuals who demonstrate outstanding academic achievement and leadership and who have made positive contributions to their

community. Mary Pangowish is a Materials Engineering student at McMaster University. In high school, Mary was the captain of a Robotics Championship team, which became the first all-Indigenous team to make it to the world championships. Mary hopes to bring STEM-related opportunities and experiences to other First Nations students in her community. Congratulations from the IESO team!

Day 1 Agenda

8:00 am - 9:15 am	Registration and Breakfast
9:15 am - 10:05 am	Kahnekahnekahtahk Stan Wesley Welcome Remarks and Opening Ceremony PRESENTERS Welcome Song: Drum Group and Dancers Elder Garry Sault , Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation
10:05 am - 10:15 am	Welcome Remarks and Introduction of Keynote Speaker PRESENTER Lesley Gallinger , President and CEO, IESO
10:15 am - 10:50 am	Keynote Speaker (with Q & A session) Topic: Innovative Partnerships / Trends in the Energy Industry / How Indigenous Nations are Building Energy Resiliency PRESENTER Glen Hare , Ontario Regional Chief
10:50 am - 11:00 am	Thank you Remarks to Keynote Speaker PRESENTER Fiona Blondin , Board Member, IESO
11:00 am - 11:15 am	Break
11:15 am - 12:00 pm	MOUNTBATTEN B (BREAKOUT ROOM 1) IESO Engagement Framework (with Q & A session) The IESO will provide an update on the draft Engagement Framework and an opportunity for participants to ask questions and provide feedback to the IESO. PRESENTERS Denise Jamal , Director, Stakeholder and Community Engagement, IESO Sonia Fazari , Supervisor, Indigenous Engagement, IESO
	MOUNTBATTEN A (BREAKOUT ROOM 2) IESO Indigenous Energy Support Program (with Q & A session) This session will provide an update on the redesign of the Indigenous Energy Support Program offered by the IESO and an overview of how to apply. PRESENTERS Diana Macanowicz , Funds Advisor, Indigenous Relations, IESO Saeed Mohamed , Funds Program Analyst, Indigenous Relations, IESO

Day 1 Agenda

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12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	EXHIBITOR HALL Lunch
1:30 pm - 2:35 pm	Panel Discussion: The Power of Partnerships - Empowering Communities (with Q & A session) Join this innovative panel discussion on how building partnerships is essential to powering a net-zero future. Our expert panel includes community and industry leaders from Caldwell First Nation and NRStor. They will discuss the key elements necessary in leading the way in making an impact on climate change, skills and education needs, and the importance of community engagement. MODERATOR Kahnekahnekahtahk Stan Wesley PRESENTERS Chief Mary Duckworth , Caldwell First Nation Annette Verschuren , Chair and CEO, NRStor (Oneida Energy Storage Project)
2:35 pm - 3:00 pm	Break
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Panel Discussion: Powering Ontario's Growth - The Key to Accelerating Decarbonization and Energy Transition (with Q & A session) During this session, attendees will hear from the IESO and prominent Indigenous and non-Indigenous representatives regarding what is Powering Ontario's Growth, why this is important, and what this means for Indigenous Nations. The speakers will highlight the critical role that Indigenous Nations will continue to play regarding the transition from fossil reliance to clean energy, advancing Indigenous business capacity, participation in major project development and information about the Future Clean Electricity Fund. MODERATOR Katherine Sparkes , Director, Innovation, Research and Development, IESO PRESENTERS Pat Chilton , CEO, First Nations Energy Matt Jamieson , President and CEO, Six Nations Development Corporation Gail Lawlor , President, Conservation on the Coast, Energy Matters
4:00 pm - 4:10 pm	Closing Remarks PRESENTER Denise Jamal , Director, Stakeholder and Community Engagement, IESO
5:00 pm - 7:00pm	ON-SITE AT THE CHELSEA HOTEL Evening Social Event at BB33

Day 2 Agenda

8:00 am - 9:30 am	Registration and Breakfast
9:30 am - 10:00 am	Kahnekahnekahtak Stan Wesley Welcome Remarks, Introduction of Keynote Speaker PRESENTER Carla Y. Nell , Vice President, Corporate Relations, Stakeholder Engagement and Innovation, IESO The Honourable Todd Smith , Minister of Energy
10:00 am - 10:30 am	Keynote Speaker and Q & A Session Topic: Showcasing the Energy Industry from a First Nations Perspective PRESENTER Christine Goulais , CEO, Nbisiing Power
10:30 am - 10:35 am	Thank you Remarks to Keynote Speaker PRESENTER Carla Y. Nell , Vice President, Corporate Relations, Stakeholder Engagement and Innovation, IESO
10:35 am - 10:45 am	Advancing Economic Reconciliation with Indigenous Communities PRESENTERS Emily Whetung-MacInnes , Director, Indigenous Partnerships, Ontario Power Generation Jennifer Tidmarsh , Vice President, Indigenous Relations and Partnerships, Ontario Power Generation
10:45 am - 11:15 am	Break
11:15 am - 12:15 pm	Panel Discussion: Meet the Community Energy Champions <p>This group of Community Energy Champions will discuss how they are developing innovative energy solutions for their communities/organizations. The session will highlight the projects, experiences and skills gained through participation in the IESO's Indigenous Energy Support Program and what these panelists hope to accomplish as they continue in their roles.</p> MODERATOR Saeed Mohamed , Funds Program Analyst, Indigenous Relations, IESO PRESENTERS Gina Simon , Michipicoten First Nation, Community Energy Champion Susan Sullivan , Caldwell First Nation, Community Energy Champion Jordan Beardy , Independent First Nations Alliance, Community Energy Champion
12:15 pm - 1:15 pm	EXHIBITOR HALL Lunch

Day 2 Agenda

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1:15 pm – 2:30 pm	<p>MOUNTBATTEN B (BREAKOUT ROOM 1)</p> <p>IESO Engagement Framework (with Q & A session)</p> <p>The IESO will provide an update on the draft Engagement Framework and an opportunity for participants to ask questions and provide feedback to the IESO.</p> <p>PRESENTERS</p> <p>Denise Jamal, Director, Stakeholder and Community Engagement, IESO Sonia Fazari, Supervisor, Indigenous Engagement, IESO</p>
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	<p>MOUNTBATTEN A (BREAKOUT ROOM 2)</p> <p>IESO Indigenous Energy Support Program (with Q & A session)</p> <p>This session will provide an update on the redesign of the Indigenous Energy Support Program offered by the IESO and an overview of how to apply.</p> <p>PRESENTERS</p> <p>Diana Macanowicz, Funds Advisor, Indigenous Relations, IESO Saeed Mohamed, Funds Program Analyst, Indigenous Relations, IESO</p>
2:30 pm – 2:45 pm	Break
2:45 pm – 3:05 pm	<p>The Key to Developing Sustainable Energy Projects</p> <p>This session will focus on Hydro One's Equity Participation Model and the importance of developing sustainable energy projects while balancing the economic, environmental and social values of First Nations.</p> <p>PRESENTER</p> <p>Matt Jackson, Director, Indigenous Relations, Hydro One</p>
3:05 pm – 3:45 pm	<p>Panel Discussion: Community Project Success Stories - Sharing Best Practices</p> <p>In this closing session, we will celebrate communities that have been successful in delivering energy efficiency initiatives. We will hear from energy leaders about best practices to further energy resilience in First Nations communities.</p> <p>MODERATOR</p> <p>Kahnekahnekahtahk Stan Wesley</p> <p>PRESENTERS</p> <p>Cindy Roks, Demand Side Management, IESO Dawn Lambe, Anishinabek Nation Danielle Bekintis, Sandy Lake First Nation Rashaun Harper, Sandy Lake First Nation</p>
3:45 pm – 3:50 pm	<p>Closing Remarks</p> <p>PRESENTER</p> <p>Sonia Fazari, Supervisor, Indigenous Engagement, IESO</p>
3:50 pm – 4:00 pm	<p>Ceremonial Closing</p> <p>PRESENTERS</p> <p>Elder Dorothy Peters, Seine River First Nation Travelling Song, Drum Group</p>

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