

# COMMUNITY ENERGY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2024



## RENEWABLE ENERGY IN OUR COMMUNITY

In 2022, JAZZ Solar Solutions Inc. supported Sheshegwaning First Nation with an application for funding through the IESO's Education and Capacity Building (ECB) program. In January 2023, the IESO officially approved the application and awarded \$125,000 of Funding. This project is expected to be complete by February 2024 and will provide training to the Community Energy Champion and 2 selected individuals. These 3 individuals will create the newly formed Sheshegwaning Energy Team. The training provided will be geared towards Solar Operations and Maintenance (O&M) for the newly installed solar systems at the Band Office and Health Centre.

As a First Nations community, renewable energy is key to our future. Through renewable energy projects, we can reduce our reliance on external sources, enact our values of protecting the land and environment, and work towards energy sovereignty. Additionally, through net metering, we can gain credits for excess energy that we produce, generating savings for our community.

**WHY CARE ABOUT  
RENEWABLE  
ENERGY?**

# OUR 2024 ENERGY PROJECTS

Funded by



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## »»» INDIGENOUS ENERGY PROJECTS

The IESO's Indigenous Energy Projects (IEP) Program supports Indigenous communities in Ontario by providing funding, resources, and technical assistance for developing renewable energy projects. It aims to foster community-led energy initiatives, enhance local capacity, and promote sustainable development while respecting Indigenous knowledge and rights.

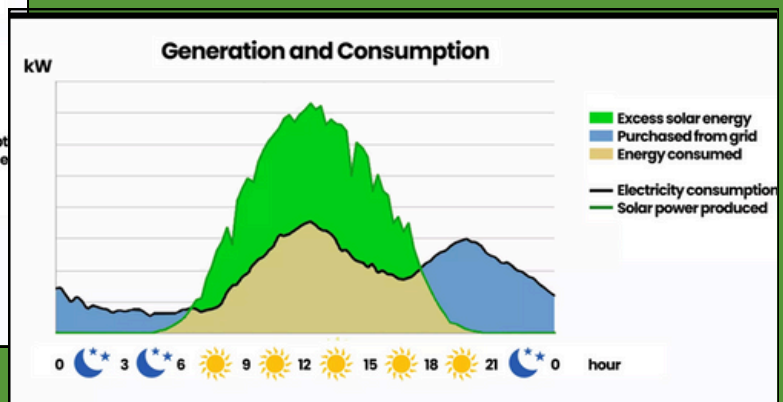
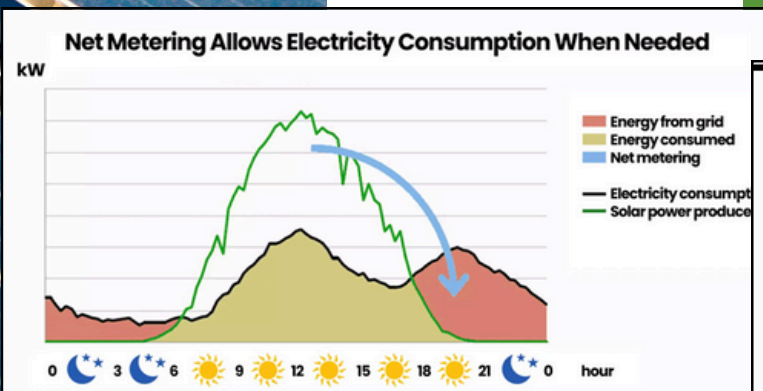
## »»» CAPACITY BUILDING

The Education & Capacity Building program supports awareness, education, skills, and capacity building initiatives that help prepare communities and organizations to fully leverage energy opportunities.



## WHAT IS NET-METERING?

Net metering is an arrangement with your Local Distribution Company which allows your community to save on electricity costs by generating power through solar panels while staying connected to the grid. On-site generated electricity is used directly, and any excess is sent to the grid. A bi-directional meter tracks both incoming and outgoing energy. At the end of each month, the net energy exported or generated is credited to the account for future use.



# EDUCATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM UPDATE

## PROGRAM SUMMARY

### Type of Program:

Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) training

**Funding Available:** \$125,000

**Goal of Program:** Increase knowledge of solar systems and capacity to build solar projects

**Project Timeline:** 12 Months Estimated Program duration

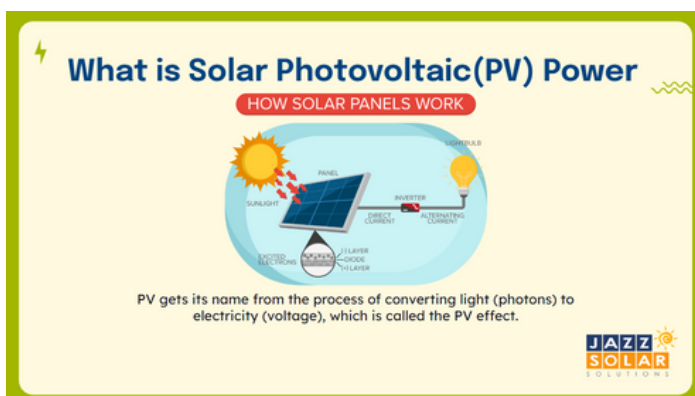
### Project Description:

- Energy Team will develop knowledge and skills relating to solar systems
- Hands-on solar installation training
- Training on Project Management, Solar Construction and Post-Construction knowledge

## ONLINE TRAINING MODULES

Our Energy Team is completing 4 online training sessions on the following topics:

- Solar Theory & General Knowledge
- Project Management
- Solar Build
- Post-Solar Build



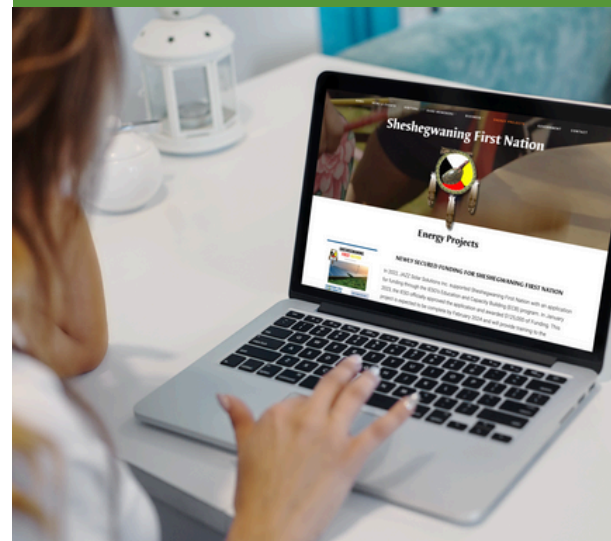
## IN-PERSON HANDS-ON TRAINING

During the installation of our solar project, our energy team will receive hands-on solar installation training, In preparation for the Hands-On Training, our energy team will also complete and receive certification for Working At Heights.



## COMMUNITY ENERGY EVENT

We will host a Community Energy Event to update our community on existing and planned energy projects and collect input on these plans.



## ONLINE UPDATES

We will provide periodic online updates on our energy initiatives, including opportunities to get involved, such as this one.

## >>> UPCOMING PROJECTS

In 2024, Sheshegwaning First Nation is proud to announce the installation of two new net-metered energy systems at the Drop-In Centre and the Works Depot. These installations are a significant step toward achieving energy self-sufficiency, as each system will generate enough power to cover 100% of the buildings' energy needs. Net metering allows any excess energy produced to be fed back into the grid, offsetting future use and contributing to long-term cost savings and sustainability for our community. These advancements align with our ongoing commitment to renewable energy, resilience, and environmental stewardship for Sheshegwaning First Nation.

## >>> MEET THE ENERGY TEAM



### CHRIS SAVAGE

Chris is the Community Energy Champion for the Sheshegwaning Community. Chris has overseen the IEP project and works closely with all of the departments within the community. Chris and the Energy Team are being trained to be the primary caretakers of the solar systems.



### DEANNA SAMPSON

Executive Assistant & Energy Team Member for Sheshegwaning First Nation. Deanna takes care of the administration duties for the Executive Director as well as Chief and Council. Deanna has joined the Energy Team and is being trained to be one of three caretakers of the solar systems.



### GWENYTH MCLEOD

Gwen has been working as a summer student in the community as a story collector and coordinator. She has recently joined the Land First Youth Initiative, a group at Sheshegwaning whose vision is healing the community through empowerment. Gwen has also planted over 20,000 trees in Ontario and Manitoba.

**QUESTIONS?  
COMMENTS?  
CONCERNS**

## CONTACT:

**Chris Savage**  
Community Energy Champion  
705-283-1518  
[chris@sheshegwaning.org](mailto:chris@sheshegwaning.org)

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