



**Community Energy Planning: Getting to Implementation in Canada  
Advanced Training Session Participant Discussion Guide  
FCM Sustainable Communities Conference  
February 10, 2014 | 8:30am - 12:00pm  
London, Ontario**

**Agenda**

**Introduction**

[8:30am] 1. **Welcoming remarks** - Richard Laszlo, QUEST

[8:40am] 2. **Presentation** - *Lessons learned from CEP implementation in Canada*  
Sarah Marchionda, QUEST

**Part I - Making the Economic Case for Community Energy Plans**

*This panel will present initial findings from research synthesizing and summarizing the key economic benefits from community energy planning. This research will be complemented by real-life examples from City of London, including the City's strategy of building support for their CEP through a focus on economic development and cost-benefit fundamentals, as well as the challenges in implementing plans for a net-zero neighbourhood. What does a strong economic case do for your CEP? What turns an energy plan into a local economic investment strategy? Workshop participants will be encouraged to ask their questions about implementation.*

[8:50am] 3. **Presentation** - *Broadening the business case for CEPs*  
Stephanie Cairns and Adam Baylin-Stern, Sustainable Prosperity

[9:10am] 4. **Presentation** - *London's Community Energy Action Plan*  
Jamie Skimming, City of London

[9:20am] 5. **Presentation** - *Building a net-zero community in London*  
Derek Satnik, S2e Technologies Inc.

[9:35am] 6. **Interactive roundtable discussion** - *The economics of CEPs*

[10:20] *Break*

**Part II - Normalizing Community Energy Plans as regular municipal business**

*This panel will share their first-hand knowledge about what it takes to get CEPs initiated and implemented. How can you get decision-makers on-board about energy and make it a municipal corporate strategic priority? What turns an energy plan into a local economic investment strategy? What are the tools and approaches that have gotten CEPs moving? Workshop participants will be encouraged to ask their questions about implementation.*

[10:30am] 7. **Presentation** - *Implementing CEPs from the perspective of a practitioner, decision-maker and funder*  
Devin Causley, FCM  
Karen Farbridge, Karen Farbridge & Associates

[10:55pm] 8. **Interactive roundtable discussion** - *Normalizing CEPs*

[11:40] 9. **Roundtable highlights and wrap-up**  
– What's the key thing you learned today that you will act on?  
– What's the key outstanding item that is leaving you wanting more?

## Advanced Training Session | Discussion Guide Questions

### PART I: Making the Economic Case for Community Energy Plans

#### **Communities just starting out (no CEP) – discussion focused on developing plans**

- What are the approaches you are considering taking in your business case? Emissions reductions? Job creation? Efficiency?

#### **Communities that are part of PCP but plans do not focus on energy – discussion focused on the energy gaps in the current planning framework**

- What are the barriers to quantifying the intangible benefits?
- What are some ideas/examples of how people have quantified things that are not as obvious (e.g. energy savings are obvious, but how do you make the intangibles tangible)?

#### **Communities currently implementing PCP plans and/or CEPs – discussion is focused on implementation challenges and solutions**

- For those who have already established a business case for their CEP, how did you modify the case as you moved forward?

### Part 2: Normalizing Community Energy Plans as regular municipal business

#### **Communities just starting out (no CEP) – discussion focused on developing plans**

- What are the corporate priorities or related community initiatives that you can leverage to kick-start a conversation about the role of energy in your community? (e.g. environmental plan, update to an OP/MDP/CP etc., utility regional energy plan)
- What funding avenues are available to you to support the development of a CEP? (e.g. GMF, Ontario Municipal Energy Plan Program, Utility programs)
- What opportunities have you identified to build momentum and interest within your community? (e.g. inviting key stakeholders interested in energy issues together for an informal meeting)

#### **Communities that are part of PCP but plans do not focus on energy – discussion focused on the energy gaps in the current planning framework**

- Are there examples of information that could be shared that would help you advance as a PCP municipality or support the development of a CEP? (E.g. BC Energy and Emissions inventory).

#### **Communities currently implementing PCP plans and/or CEPs – discussion is focused on implementation challenges and solutions**

- We would be further ahead if... (i.e. participants are encouraged to discuss what their current barriers are and solicit suggestions from experienced communities)
- Please share the opportunity or strategy discussed today that could advance your PCP or CEP?
- What are opportunities for municipalities to work together/collaborate? Are there examples of information that could be shared that would help municipalities? e.g. inventories in BC