

TENs Project Accelerator Workshop

Hamilton, Ontario - September 28-29, 2026

THERMAL ENERGY NETWORKS PROJECT ACCELERATOR WORKSHOP

Designed to bridge gaps by offering practical energy project accelerator tools, tailored coaching, and direct access to funders and technical experts.

This intensive two-day workshop is for municipal and Indigenous community leaders and staff, project developers, energy consultants, and utility representatives actively exploring a thermal energy network project.

Art Gallery of Hamilton - 123 King St W, Hamilton, ON

From Community Ambition to Implementation

Monday, September 28

9:00 AM	Coffee & Networking
9:30	Keynote: Promising Opportunity to Backable Project
10:30	Panel 1: Lessons Learned – Overcoming Barriers, Creating Conditions for Success
11:30	Break
12:30 PM	Panel 2: From Concept to Capital – Making TENs Projects Investable
1:30	Lunch
2:30	Clinic 1: Finance Clinic 2: Strategic Alignment Clinic 3: Policy Clinic 4: Technology
3:30	Break
4:30	Clinic 1: Finance Clinic 2: Strategic Alignment Clinic 3: Policy Clinic 4: Technology
5:30	Wrap Up
6:30	Social Event: To be Announced!
7:30	

Tuesday, September 29

Coffee & Networking
Workshop Site Tour: HCE District Energy
Clinic 1: Finance Clinic 2: Strategic Alignment Clinic 3: Policy Clinic 4: Technology
Lunch
Clinic 1: Finance Clinic 2: Strategic Alignment Clinic 3: Policy Clinic 4: Technology
Break
Action Planning
Wrap Up

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PROGRAM DETAILS

Keynote

Promising Opportunity to Backable Project

Explore how community champions can reduce uncertainty, build institutional confidence, secure early commitments, and move an idea toward implementation. Plus, what makes an opportunity compelling to partners, funders, and decision-makers.

Panel Discussion & Q&A 1

Lessons Learned – Overcoming Barriers, Creating Conditions for Success

Bringing together project owners and practitioners who've implemented thermal energy networks in Ontario and beyond, the panel will share real-world case studies, discussing what worked, and what didn't, and the practical strategies that helped move projects from concept to completion.

Panel Discussion & Q&A 2

From Concept to Capital – Making Thermal Energy Network Projects Investable

Financial experts, investors, and project developers will discuss financing models, risk allocation, and the role of public funding and incentives in attracting capital. Attendees will leave with practical strategies for positioning their projects to secure the financing needed to move from planning to construction.

Workshop Site Tour

HCE District Energy

Hamilton Community Enterprises' downtown district energy network is the core of HCE's dedication to delivering transformative community-based energy solutions throughout the Greater Toronto Hamilton Area.

Clinic 1

Finance

Bring your project's financial questions and challenges to a panel of finance SMEs. Get tailored guidance on funding models, risk allocation, securing capital, and navigating available incentives and financing programs.

Clinic 2

Strategic Alignment

Work through questions of engagement, partnership structuring, and organizational readiness with SMEs focused on strategic alignment. Get support in building the internal and external buy-in needed to move your project forward.

Clinic 3

Policy

Bring your regulatory and policy questions to SMEs well-versed in the evolving TEN landscape. Get guidance on permitting, compliance, and how emerging policy may affect your project's development.

Clinic 4

Technology

Get expert input on the technical aspects of your TEN project. SMEs will be on hand to discuss system design, technology selection, integration challenges, and other technical questions specific to your project.

