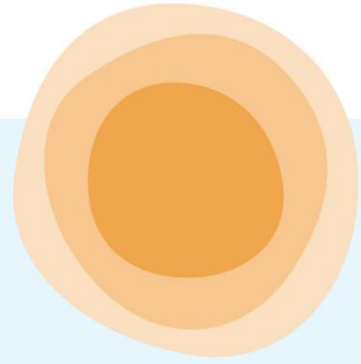
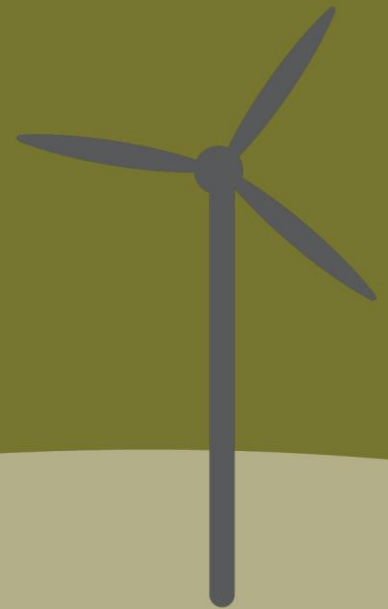


Community Energy Education and Engagement

Sucker River



The Purpose of this Report

This document shares the knowledge collected by the Community Energy Planning team through internal capacity building and engaging with Sucker River's membership, staff, and Elders. By engaging community members in discussions about energy and Community Energy Planning, valuable feedback is gathered and an ongoing relationship between the community and the project is established.

There are two sections: *Engagement with Community Members and Stakeholders*, and *Team Capacity Building*.

Engagement with Community Members and Stakeholders

SREP Advisory Committee Meetings

Established on June 23, 2022, the SREP advisory committee was created to steer the direction of the project and advise on community involvement. More specifically, the SREP advisory committee's role is to:

- Provide recommendations to Chief and Council in the development of policies and procedures for the SREP Program.
- Provide recommendations to the SREP Program management in decision making with respect to programs.

The advisory committee has been meeting regularly in-person and virtually. Meeting dates and their locations are included in **Table 1**.

Table 1: SREP Advisory Committee Meeting Dates and Location

Meeting Date	Location
October 6, 2022	La Ronge
December 14, 2022	La Ronge
February 22, 2023	La Ronge
May 17, 2023	La Ronge
July 20, 2023	La Ronge
September 19, 2023	La Ronge
October 30, 2023	La Ronge



Sucker River

Community Energy Education and Engagement | 1



December 1, 2023	Saskatoon
January 18, 2024	Saskatoon
March 14, 2024	Prince Albert

The committee is composed of at least nine elected members, with at least one member from each of the six communities, at least one member who represents LLRIB administration, one elder appointed by the SREP advisory committee to begin and close the meeting with a prayer. Urban Systems and LLRIB's Project Manager attend the advisory committee meetings to provide updates and receive direction on the project. The advisory committee currently includes:

Gladys Christiansen - LLRIB Executive Director

Gladys has held roles in senior management for more than 20 years, previously serving as the director of Education. She has been the Executive Director role for over 10 years and has provided project oversight for the Community Energy Project Manager. She also has rich experience in budget development and financial management.

Tayven Roberts - LLRIB Director of Public Works and Housing

Tayven has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering (2003), a Master's Certificate in Project Management (2008), and is a registered professional Engineer as of 2010. He is part of all project management teams for LLRIB's major capital projects.

Anant Brahmhatt - Little Red River Operations Manager

Anant has over 20 years of experience in senior management and operations. He oversees all Little Red River community programs, including housing, administration, education, health, social, and economic development.

Stanley Roberts - Grandmother's Bay Finance Officer

Stanley has over 20 years of experience in senior financial management. He oversees all Grandmother's Bay community programs, including housing, administration, education, health, social development, and economic development.

Gordon Hardlotte – Stanley Mission Operations Manager

Gordon oversees community programs, including housing, administration, education, health, social development, and economic development. Gordon has supported the project components that are related to infrastructure, data collection, and operations at Stanley Mission.



Sucker River

Community Energy Education and Engagement | 2



James Crawford - Stanley Mission Administrator

James has been an Administrator since 2008. He supports community programs, including housing, administration, education, health, social development, and economic development.

Devin Bernatchez - Sucker River Councillor

Devin has a Bachelor of Education degree and was a teacher for many years. He has also worked as an assistant to a sitting MLA. He has been involved in many projects, including capital and infrastructure. Leveraging his experience in management, Devin leads and coordinates LLRIB projects that are specific to the Sucker River community. He has supported the site assessment at Sucker River First Nation, including community engagement and data collection.

Abel Charles - Elder

Abel is a journalist from Grandmother's Bay who is proud to be Woodland Cree. He works with MBC radio, is a fluent Cree speaker, and is a community role model.

Engagement Sessions

Various engagement techniques were deployed throughout the project. Pop-up engagement booths were hosted in all six communities, and communication teams engaged in door-knocking and telephone campaigns. A website delivered online communication about the project, and social media was used to inform the public about the project's activities and upcoming engagements.

Initial Engagement

The first engagement sessions took place throughout October 4th- 13th, 2022. These sessions were intended to introduce the project to community members and offer support to members in understanding electricity bills and energy conservation and efficiency.

Elder Engagement

Throughout the month of February 2023, four Elders from the community were engaged through one-on-one visits and interviews. The value of meeting with elders provided a rich history of how energy has been used in the communities over time, which helped establish a timeline of energy usage.



Sucker River



Visioning Sessions

Two visioning sessions were held in the spring and fall of 2023, respectively. These sessions provided the community with information on the CEP, sustainable energy options, and opportunities to provide feedback on community priorities and perspectives.

Communication and outreach ensured members were aware of the visioning sessions. A variety of methods were used to ensure a wide reach. These outreach methods included door knocking, event posters hung up in community spaces, social media posts to advertise the events, and community announcements through band administration and councillors.

Visioning Session Cultural Protocol

Cultural protocol was adhered to for the visioning sessions, which created a meaningful and inclusive environment, fostering a deeper connection within the community, and honouring traditions and values. Respectful behaviour, honouring diverse voices, practicing active listening, remaining culturally sensitive, and being adaptable and flexible to the changing needs of the community were encouraged at each visioning session.

Each session adhered to the following cultural protocol, in order:

Opening Prayer by Elder: *To invoke blessings, guidance, and a sense of respect for the gathering.*

Blessing of the Meal: *Acknowledge the significance of food and the communal aspect of sharing a meal.*

Shared Meal and Community Bonding: *Foster a sense of togetherness and camaraderie among attendees.*

Teaching About the Topic of Interest: *Educate attendees on the subject matter or purpose of the meeting.*

Open Discussion and Feedback: *Encourage active participation and input from community members.*

Closing Prayer by Elder: *Offer gratitude, blessings, and closure to the gathering.*



Visioning Session #1

The first Sucker River Community Energy Visioning Session took place at the Numīpithi sihpīhk (Sucker River) Band Hall on Tuesday, May 16th, 2023 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

The event commenced with a prayer conducted by Sucker River Elder, Myles Ratt. After the prayer, attendees were invited to view a presentation introducing the CEP and the goals of the visioning engagement event. The presentation was followed by three interactive activities designed to identify preferred options and locations of sustainable energy infrastructure. Participants were served dinner and allowed to enter a draw for door prizes.

In total, approximately 50 participants attended the visioning engagement event. Attendance included Elders, Youth, and community members of all ages.

Outreach

Outreach was prioritized to make community members aware of the visioning session. A variety of methods were used to ensure a wide reach, which are outlined below:

- **Door-knocking** facilitated a face-to-face invitation to the visioning session. Informational posters were delivered to the homes of members who were not home at the time of door-knocking to ensure they were made aware of the event.
- **Event posters** were displayed in community/communal spaces to raise awareness of the visioning sessions.
- **Social media** was used to communicate information about the event through Facebook.

Purpose and Engagement Tools

The purpose of the visioning session was to:

- Provide an update to community members about the Project.
- Provide an overview of renewable energy and energy efficiency opportunities that could be explored further through the CEP process.
- Activity 1: Understand what renewable energy technologies the community supports, and which should be explored further in the CEP.
- Activity 2: Understand the community landscape, including sites of importance, ideas about how the community could look in the future, and where potential energy projects should and should not be implemented.
- Activity 3: Understand the community's concerns around energy sources, accessibility, and energy reliability, and identify possible switches to sustainable energy sources.



Outcomes – Visioning Session Summary

The visioning session identified solar, wind, and biomass as the community's top three preferred sustainable energy options to explore further. Potential locations of energy options were identified around key sites, including near new and proposed residential development along the northwest region and along the eastern region of Sucker River. Participants expressed interest in a stable and reliable energy source and supported micro-grid options to avoid mass outages. Participants also identified a need to establish backup energy sources and protocols in case of emergencies.

Activity #1: Dotmocracy

Participants were presented with a poster of sustainable energy options outlined in **Figure 1** and were supplied with three opportunities to 'vote' on those options, with results shown in **Table 2**.

Figure 1: Activity #1: Energy option dotmocracy

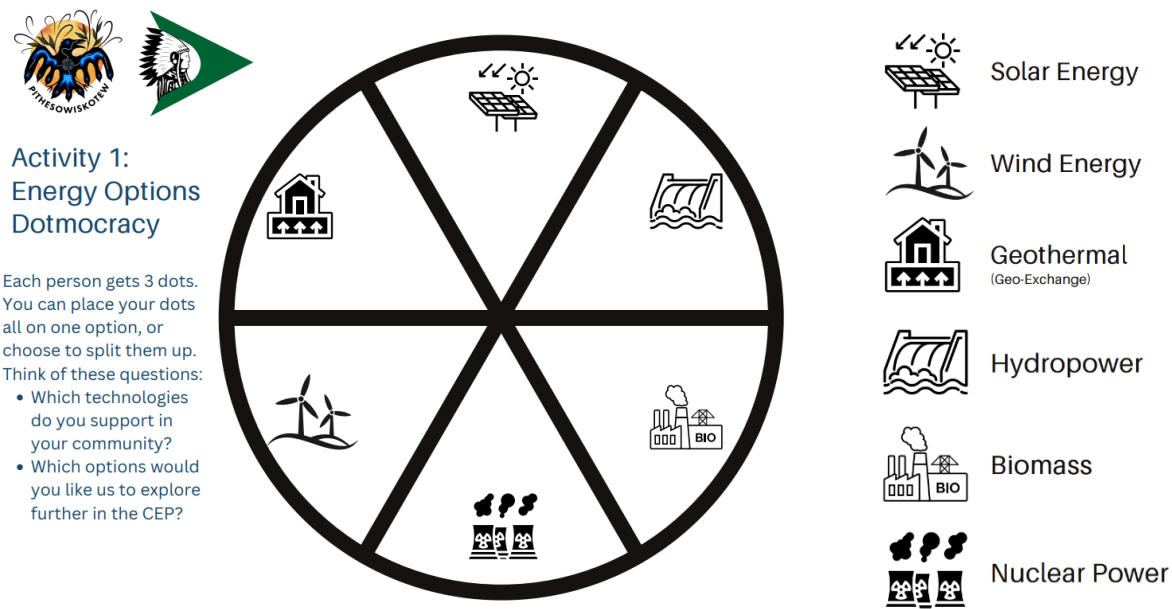


Table 2: Activity #1: Voting Results for Energy Option Dotmocracy

Energy Option	Number of Votes
Solar Energy	34
Wind Energy	25
Biomass	10
Hydropower	9
Nuclear Power	3
Geothermal (Geo-Exchange)	0

Activity #2: Mapping Exercise

Participants were asked to map key areas of their community that could be feasible for sustainable energy infrastructure, proposed development, and other sites of interest.

Figure 2 represents a compiled map of the responses collected from participants.





Figure 2: Key areas that could be feasible for sustainable energy infrastructure, proposed development, and other sites of interest

Activity #3: Energy Questions

Participants were presented with several questions related to energy options and were asked to provide feedback. Questions and feedback are outlined below. Responses may be edited for clarity:

Question #1: What are some of your concerns when it comes to energy in your community?

- Technology could break, and there is no way to service it.
- Geothermal: How deep do you dig?
- Want more info about examples of projects (what did they look like for/in Indigenous communities)?
- Electric vehicles: too dangerous, too much snow, too cold. If there is an electrical problem, they might blow up.
- There should also be an emergency center in the community for anyone who does not have alternate power.
- If the main power grid is interrupted, small communities should have alternate energy sources/production to provide essential services. Right now, some families have small generators to power freezers, fridges, and lights, but this is not a renewable power source. There is a need for a mini-grid on hydro/wind, or a solar panel/batteries/inverter for emergencies or to supplement grid power.
- Flooded south end - block sturgeon
- Sandy Bay dam is dangerous for canoe/muskrats

Question #2: Are there other “technologies” or opportunities that you would like to explore through the Community Energy Plan? (Electric vehicles, micro-grids, battery storage, anything else)

- Micro-grids
- Sun vehicles
- Water vehicles
- Solar panels
- Greenhouses
- Windmills
- Micro-grid
- Generators
- Batteries
- More education on nuclear



General Verbal Comments

- An Elder shared concerns about relying on the grid for power and what they will do in an emergency. Discussions included an explanation of micro-grids, and the opportunity to create a set of buildings in the community that would be energy self-sufficient in the event of an emergency.
- Elders shared where future subdivisions will be built, and discussed the potential for co-locating a neighbourhood-scale energy project that could power or heat a group of homes.
- A participant with an educational background in renewable energy stated that a community this size would need electricity that is available, cheap, and resilient, with a backup that can kick in during failures.

Questions

Question #1: What is the difference between geothermal drilling and the geothermal you would have in your house?

- Deep Geothermal: Electricity is generated from drilling deep into the Earth to heat and pressurize water into steam, which is used to produce electricity. This type of technology is not possible in Sucker River, as it does not have the required temperatures accessible underground.
- Geo-Exchange: Heat is transferred from an exchange system embedded in the ground to harness the Earth's natural heat resources, which is used to heat and cool homes/buildings. These systems can be laid horizontal and as shallow as any other pipes you may need within a home (e.g. water, sewer), but can also be drilled deeper into the ground/rock to reach a desired reservoir.

Question #2: Is there hydroelectric that doesn't include dams?

- Run-of-the-River System: Utilizes the natural flow of a river to generate power, instead of the power of water falling at a large distance with the force of gravity (dam system).

Question #3: What projects will you be implementing?

- The engagement comments received from this event will be used to determine community interests and priorities. The project team will evaluate the community's preferred options and return to the community to present and discuss feasible options that could be actioned. In consideration on this and future engagement, an implementation plan of prioritized actions will be presented in the CEP.



Visioning Session #2

The second visioning session occurred at the Numīpithi sihpīhk Band Hall on Wednesday, September 20th, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., with a supper provided across the river at the Culture Days site.

The event commenced with a prayer conducted by Elder Abel Charles. After the prayer, attendees were invited to view a presentation that re-introduced the project, provided a project update, and followed up on what had been discussed at the previous engagement. The presentation was followed by four interactive activities designed to better understand home energy use, community goals and priorities, and preferred options for sustainable energy projects. Participants were allowed to enter a draw for door prizes, which were drawn sporadically throughout the evening.

In total, approximately twenty participants attended the Visioning Session. Attendance included Elders, Youth, and community members of all ages.

Outreach

Outreach was performed to make community members aware of the Visioning Session. A variety of methods were used to ensure a wide reach to encourage attendance, which are outlined below:

- **Event posters** were displayed in community/communal spaces to raise awareness of the event.
- **Social media** was used to post information about the event through Facebook.
- **Community announcements** were made by the Band administration and councillors to inform the public of the event.

Purpose

The purpose of the second visioning session was to update community members about the Project and provide an opportunity to share what we heard during the first visioning session. Feedback was collected from the community related to energy efficiency upgrades and renewable energy options for homes and the community scale.

Outcomes – Visioning Session Summary

Many community members expressed interest in home upgrades, with some noting that they have implemented some upgrades in their homes already. Costs were identified as the main barrier to implementing home upgrades. Many community members supported wood stoves as a method of heating homes. Ground-mounted solar, community-building solar, and community biomass were indicated by community members as the preferred community renewable energy options.



Activity #1: Home Energy Activity

The activity presented participants with examples of energy costs of a typical home in Sucker River based on available data and average home statistics. Participants were invited to explore energy efficiency upgrades and actions that could reduce their energy bills. They were asked to comment on how these upgrades and actions could be implemented in their homes.

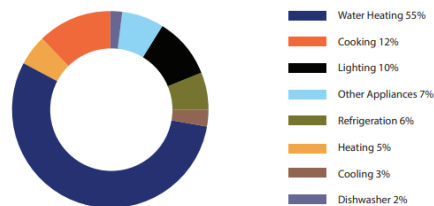
Figure 3: Activity #1: Home Energy Stats

Example Home Stats:

- 500-1600 sqft
- 5 occupants
- Some insulation
- Gas furnace/boiler w/ central air
- Electric water heat
- 1 fridge
- 1 freezer
- 1 washer
- 1 dryer
- 1 computer
- 1 TV
- 1 laptop
- 1 game console
- Lights: A few CFLs/LEDs
- No pool, no hot tub

Average Annual Electric Cost Breakdown

The average home pays ~\$200/month on electricity



**Is this what you're seeing in your home?
What's different?**

Is this what you're seeing in your home? What's different?

- 6" walls with insulation and exterior foam + half log siding: Noise reduction, helps with heat, (made the) change 5-6 years ago, changed all lights
- Propane and wood: eight (8) loads (1/2 tonnes each) a year for wood
- 3 deep freezers (hunter gatherers) Moose shack could replace this in winter, preserving meat (pemican)
- \$500/month, 7 bedrooms, fluorescent lighting in one area, rest are LED's
- Electric furnace replaced with wood stove
- 2 occupants, propane heating
- \$60/month vs. \$1000/month

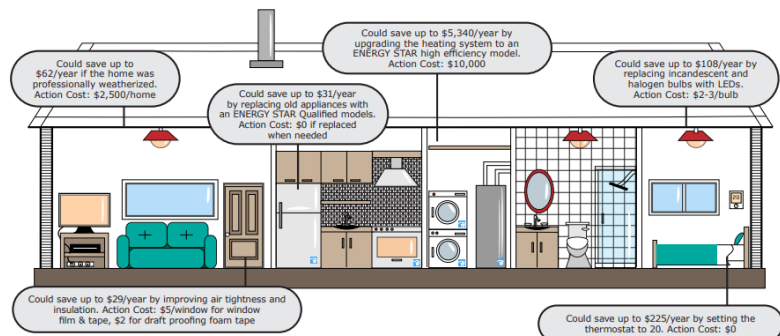
Figure 4: Activity #1: Energy Saving Tips

How can we reduce energy bills?

For the average home electricity bill

- Which actions are you most interested in?

- What are the biggest barriers to doing these actions?



Sucker River

Community Energy Education and Engagement | 12



How can we reduce energy bills? Which action are you most interested in?

- High-efficiency lighting
- Increased insulation
- Roof and floor insulation
- High-efficiency appliances
- Thermostat programming
- Windows
- New furnace
- Most interested in replacing light bulbs & unplugging where possible

What are the biggest barriers to doing these actions?

- High costs (propane is getting high)
- Takes time for retrofits to come into the community. I want my vents cleaned, but it has been 30 years.
- Propane costs
- Doors get stuck in the winter
- Plastic on windows
- Retrofits left mess and paint chips around windows and doors
- Replacing appliances feeling less attainable, barrier is cost
- Would like to cover windows, but not sure how or what materials are needed

Activity #2: Community Energy Activity

Information was presented to community members to help them understand energy usage across the entire community, including community energy usage and cost by energy type (natural gas, wood, and electricity). The activity included a visioning element that outlined goals for the community to respond to.



Figure 5: Activity #2: Community Energy Stats

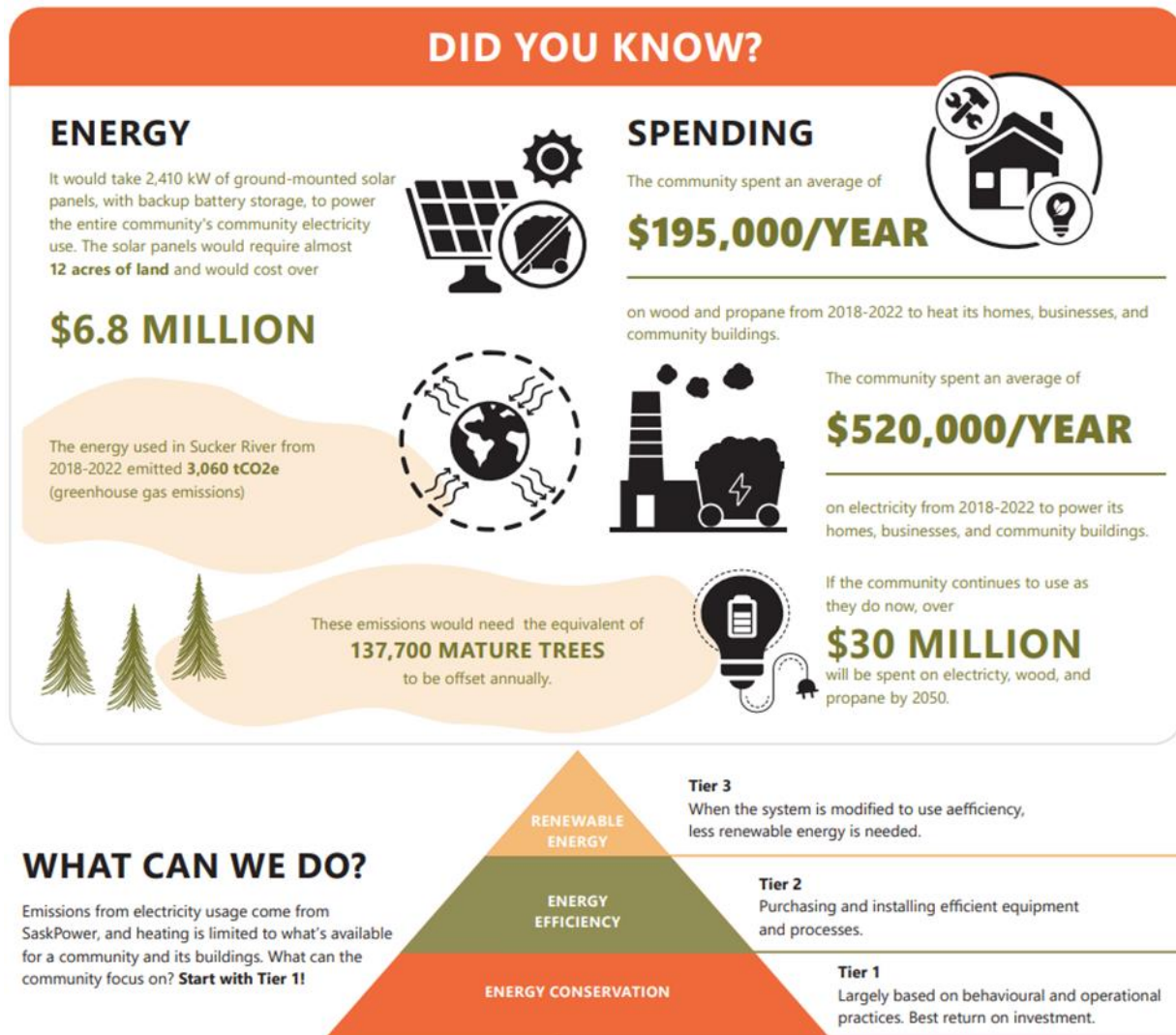
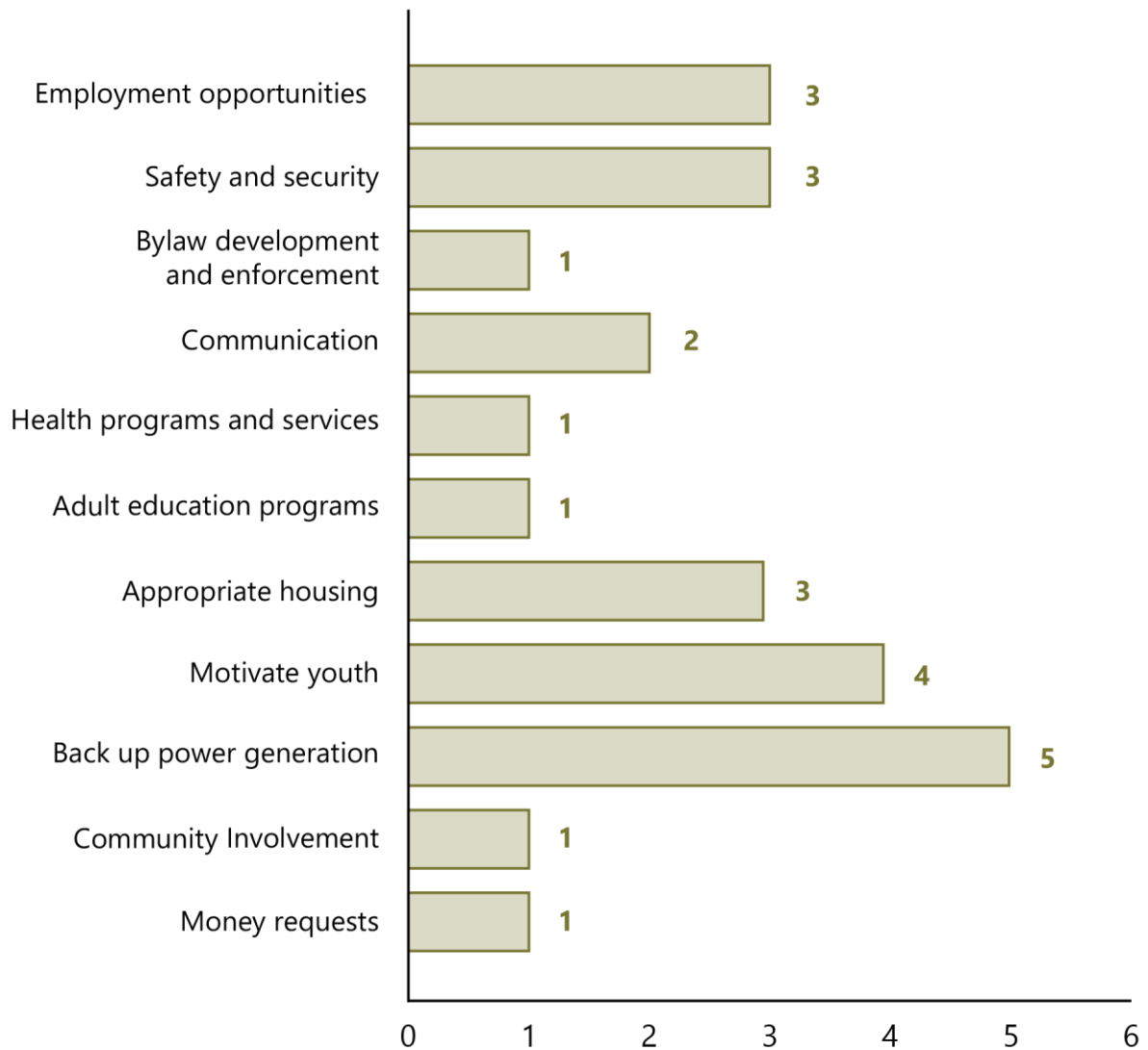


Figure 6: Vote for the goal(s) you wish for the community to prioritize, or write something different you'd prefer



Voting results: Vote for the goal(s) you wish for the community to prioritize, or write something different you'd prefer:

Goal	Votes & Comments
Create employment opportunities for members	3
Enhance safety and security in the community	3
Bylaw development and enforcement	1
Improve communication between members and leadership	2
Ensure access to health programs and services in the community	1
Enhance adult education programs and services for adults	1
Ensure members have appropriate housing	3
Motivate and inspire youth to achieve their goals	4
Invest in back up power generation	5
Whole community involved in decision making	1
Faster money requests from Indian Affairs	1



Activity #3: Home Renewable Energy Opportunities

Community members were presented with information on home energy options, including rooftop solar and ground-source heat pumps. The activity asked participants to review each option's eligibility requirements and costs and provide feedback through comments.

Comments on rooftop solar and ground source heat pumps for home energy:

- Some things have to be tried to see if there is a better way. Must go forward
- Power plant at the cabin
- Not knowing what heat pumps are
- Costs too much
- Really cold basement
- Solar panels/battery/inverter for trapper cabins
- Need heat pumps for reserve houses
- Programable thermostat
- Energy-efficient furnaces
- Heat sink walls (passive solar)
- Both rooftop solar and air source heat pumps are out of reach financially for individual households to invest
- Not sure about reliability of heat pumps without having a backup energy source past -25C

Activity #4: Community Renewable Energy

Information was presented to community members on community energy options, including community solar, hydro, wind, and biomass. The activity asked participants to review the eligibility requirements, pros and cons, and costs associated with each option and provide feedback through a voting activity.

Figure 7: Activity #4: Project Option Dotmocracy

Project					
	Community Building Solar 	Ground Mount Solar 	10,000 kW Wind (Little Red River) 	Community River Micro Hydro 	Community Biomass 
Installed Capacity	99 kW	500 kW	10,000 kW	<20kW or less than the electricity consumed onsite	~70-80% of buildings' space heating needs
Annual Electricity Production	91,300 kWh/year	697,000 kWh/year	7,424,000 kWh	Depends on flow rate and elevation drop	Depends on building needs
Capital Investment	\$373,000	\$1,988,100.00	\$20,790,000	~\$30,000-\$250,000, depending on size of system	~\$500,000-2,500,000 depending on building size and spacing
Payback Period	\$2,600/year	\$14,400.00/year	\$336,600	Depends on building electricity needs and more site specifics	~20 years, depending on building heating needs and more site specifics
Votes					
Veto					

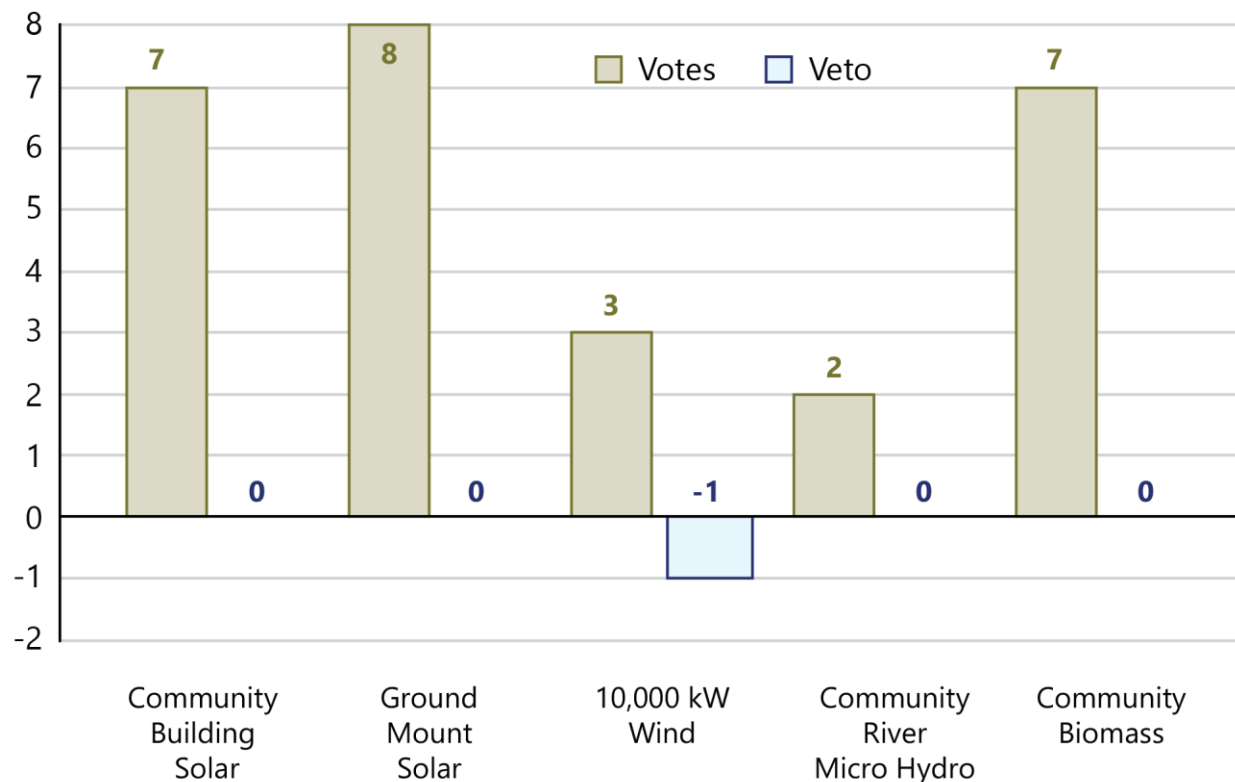


Sucker River

Community Energy Education and Engagement | 17



Figure 8: Voting Results for Community Energy Options



Voting Results for Community Energy Options		
Community Energy Option:	Votes:	Veto:
Ground-Mount Solar	8	
Community Building Solar	7	
Community Biomass	7	
10,000 kW Wind	3	1
Community River Micro Hydro	2	

Comments:

- More info needed on biomass and hydro
- Community building and ground mount solar seem attainable financially for the community
- Need more information on hydro, biomass, unsure about investment and impact
- For shared community power or powering individual buildings, we need different sources for different seasons: Spring - micro hydro, Summer - solar, SaskPower credits to reduce winter power bills, Fall/Winter - shared wood



Additional Engagement Comments

- Power bars provided by the Northern First Nations Home Retrofit Program were not working and were ultimately taken out.
- Still waiting for the promised insulation upgrades from the Northern First Nations Home Retrofit Program.
- It is hard to monitor whether the energy-efficient upgrades were making a difference (it could take a year or more to observe changes)
- Interested in having homes assessed for energy efficiency and recommended upgrades
- Sucker River should be investigated for its hydropower potential. The turbine could be located across from Highway 102.
- Interest in converting the deep water well near the old school into a geothermal well.
- Passive solar and grouping houses together to share energy use should be considered

Education

Education opportunities were used to inform the community on what the CEP strives to achieve, practical actions that members can do to reduce their individual energy use, and programming that supports larger changes to homes to reduce energy use. The following events and programs were attended by the Pithesowiskotew for improved energy literacy and knowledge in the community, as seen in **Table 3** Error! Reference source not found..

Table 3: Sucker River Community Events and Education Programs

Sucker River		
Activity	Date	Description
Sucker River Cultural Day	August 26, 2022	The Pithesowiskotew team went to Sucker River's cultural day to meet community members and event planners. This event served the purpose of a preliminary stakeholder engagement by handing out business cards, meeting all stakeholders (Elders, Youth, and community members), and hearing their suggestions about the project. This event also gauged project interest and increased awareness to pass the word for future community events.
Northlands College Pow Wow	September 23-24, 2022	The Pithesowiskotew team attended the Northlands College Pow Wow to network with the College and find connections for future renewable energy schooling opportunities. The team found it valuable to see how the College facilitated the Pow Wow and engagement, taking inspiration for future events.



Sucker River		
Kick-off Community BBQ	October 12, 2022	The team hosted a project kick-off BBQ and pop-up booth in the community, which was promoted through flyers distributed within communities. The event aimed to introduce the team to community members in a casual environment.
Energy Education Workshops	November 30, 2022	The Pithesowiskotew team set up and facilitated several workshops that served as the formal introduction to the project. These events were hosted in community buildings and centers throughout all six communities, Prince Albert and Saskatoon. Around 15 people attended the workshop for Sucker River. Posters were created and displayed around the room, encouraging attendees to walk around and visit each poster, where a team member was present to speak to each poster. These posters discussed the energy plan, how energy transition works, available data, opportunities for energy auditing, home energy efficiency, the conversion of power, and the benefits of switching appliances. Community members could provide feedback on what energies they wanted their community to invest in and share their perspectives on the good and bad for each energy type. The team provided snacks to attendees.
Elder Engagement	February 7 & 14, 2023	The Pithesowiskotew team organized and conducted one-on-one elder visits and interviews. These interviews aimed to establish a timeline of energy usage within the communities and record any traditional knowledge related to the community and the environment.



Sucker River		
Winter festival pop-up booth engagement	February 17, 2023	The Pithesowiskotew team held pop-up engagement booths at the LLRIB Winter Festivals, which coincided with creating the Pithesowiskotew social media account to spread awareness online. Here, the team handed out flyers with links to the social media pages, connecting the public with the online presence to build a following around the project. This event aimed to build excitement around the project with the public.
School visits, focusing on sustainability and home energy	February 16- March 10, 2023	Like the Energy Education Workshops, this event aimed to build excitement and awareness around the project among school-aged youth and help them understand its guiding principles. Here, materials were made to be easily understood by a Youth audience to empower Youth to make energy-conscious decisions and help their families build better energy habits. Materials were presented that taught Youth how to make small habit changes to lower their home's energy usage, take care of their homes, and encourage their families and Elders to make energy improvements to their homes.
LLRIB career fair symposium (pop-up booth)	May 8-9, 2023	The Pithesowiskotew team set up pop-up booths at a community centre to participate in the LLRIB career fair, sharing the opportunities for careers and education in renewable energy and clean energy. High school students were bussed in from all six communities (except for Little Red), where they had an opportunity to engage in activities where they could pick their favourite form of renewable energy and learn about various careers in the industry. Students were awarded small door prizes and candies for stopping by the booth and following and liking the Pithesowiskotew on social media.



Sucker River		
Community Clean up contest (sponsored by Community Energy Team)	May 17, 2023	The Pithesowiskotew team was sponsored to travel to Sucker River to help clean up the community. Community members were encouraged to clean up their homes, and each participating household was entered to win a CO-OP gift card.
National Aboriginal Day (Family Event)	June 21, 2023	For National Aboriginal Day, the Pithesowiskotew team and LLRIB planned and hosted a Pow Wow for the cultural event. The event began with a smudge followed by a large parade from the band office to the culture centre, where the opening ceremony occurred. There were various cultural performances, such as drumming, Pow Wow dancers, hoop dancers, jiggers, and fiddlers from all communities. Each performance included education about the meaning and importance of the performance and regalia. Pithesowiskotew had a pop-up booth inside their Tipi, where attendees could check out the Tipi and sign up for a home energy assessment to win an e-scooter.
Sucker River Art Camp	July 17-19, 2023	In partnership with SIIT and Keisha (Erwin and Cook), the team helped to facilitate an art camp for 15 Youth at the Keeweetan Camp. Here, Youth could learn about science, technology, engineering, arts, and math. Topics included art, environmental science, botany, and the history of technology. Activities included pottery, birch bark baskets, and birch paintings.



Sucker River		
Community BBQ	July 25, 2023	The Pithesowiskotew team set up small booths at each community to spread awareness of the project, increase the social media following, educate people about reducing energy usage, and provide a sign-up for energy assessments. The team made homemade Bannock Timbits to give away to attendees. During the same event, Jonah and a few summer students went door-knocking to inform homeowners about home energy assessments. Jonah also performed impromptu energy assessments for interested homeowners.
Solar Skills Training	October 17-18, 2023	In partnership with Iron and Earth, the Pithesowiskotew team participated in a Solar Skills training session where interested community members were introduced to solar energy and solar intensity. Jason Cook-Studer is trained as a Solar Technician and plans to host future Solar Skills Training events.
Earth Day Pithesowiskotew Open House	April 19, 2024	The Pithesowiskotew team set up a booth outside the Band Office with educational posters and the Horizon Energy kit displayed to visually explain various renewable energies. This event was intended to spread awareness of the project amongst the community and share ways to reduce energy usage. Popcorn and lemonade were given out to everyone who came to the booth. Like the Community Clean Energy Contest, the team hosted a contest across all six communities. The contest encouraged families to do an activity that does not require electricity, take a photo, and submit the photo to Lands and Resources for a chance to win camping supplies.
Sucker River Treaty Day	May 7, 2024	The Pithesowiskotew team set up pop booths at the Numipithi sihpikh Band Hall from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm to promote the project and increase education about renewable energy. Demonstrations of the Horizon Energy Models were displayed to explain various renewable energies in action. Sign-up sheets were available at the event to encourage Youth and Elders to sign up for future engagement opportunities.



Sucker River

Career Day	May 14 - 15, 2024	The Pithesowiskotew team set up a booth at the JRMCC with LLRIB energy posters, sign-up sheets for energy auditor training, Catalyst 20/20 information, Iron and Earth posters, brochures, mailing lists sign-up forms. The event aimed to share opportunities and education in renewable energy with the broader community.
-------------------	-------------------	--



Sucker River



Team Capacity Building

Working Group

An internal working group was established throughout the project to deliver project tasks and various deliverables. This working group intended to build capacity in the Pithesowiskotew team by implementing CEP actions and empowering them to sustain their work. The Pithesowiskotew team led the working group, where they would plan and work through specific tasks. Every Monday, the Pithesowiskotew team regularly met with Urban Systems to check on each other's task progress.

Training and Conferences

The following training opportunities and conferences, shown in **Table 4**, were pursued by the Pithesowiskotew team to build internal capacity in delivering the project and develop skills that will support the team in their careers:



Sucker River



Table 4: Pithesowiskotew Training and Conference Attendance

Conference / Training Opportunity	Description	Date	Jason Cook-Studer	Joshua McCann	Florence Veteri	Desiree Maurice	Jonah Ratt	Jared McKay
First Nations Power Authority Conference	Listened to the issues and opportunities with energy planning from the perspective of Indigenous participants within Saskatchewan. There was also a chance to network with MLTC and colleagues in renewable energy.	2022	✓					
MLTC BioEnergy Centre Tour	Visited the MLTC BioEnergy Centre Biomass plant, learned from operators, and networked with MLTC Energy Coordinators.	October 16-18, 2022	✓					
SEIMA SustainTech Conference	The conference highlighted the latest environmental practices and technologies from industry, consultants, and regulators to address sustainability issues over the lifecycle of Saskatchewan's principal resource sectors, including agriculture, mining, and energy.	March 22-23, 2023	✓					
Urban Systems Weekly Lunch and Learn Workshops	Urban Systems hosted eight Lunch and Learn Workshops on Wednesdays from March 29th to May 31st, 2023 to create regular learning and capacity-building opportunities. These workshops allowed the Pithesowiskotew team to learn about facilitation, grant writing, hosting workshops, desktop assessments, engagement, CEPs, renewable energy 101, and many other helpful topics that would grow their capacity and skill set.	March 29-May 31, 2023	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
First Nations Power Authority Conference	Listened to the issues and opportunities with energy planning from the perspective of Indigenous participants within Saskatchewan. There was also a chance to network with MLTC and colleagues in the field of renewable energy. The Pithesowiskotew team will be presenting in 2024 and playing golf with organizers.	June 27, 2023		✓			✓	
Indigenous Clean Energy Forum in Vancouver, 2023	Listened to the issues and opportunities in energy planning from the perspective of Indigenous participants across Canada. The forum provided a chance to network with colleagues working in renewable energy from outside of Saskatchewan. Met with the CEO of Indigenous Clean Energy, James Jenkins and Alex Lemay, to discuss home energy advisor training and funding.	July 25, 2023	✓	✓				
Carbon RX Global First Nations Carbon Summit- Dakota Dunes	This Summit fosters essential dialogue, collaboration, and innovative approaches to carbon management while emphasizing the unique perspectives and contributions of First Nation communities in addressing global climate challenges.	October 3, 2023				✓		
Solar Installation condensed training from Iron & Earth	This 2-day training focused on understanding PV system design and installation considerations in a condensed format. This course offers hands-on and conceptual learning opportunities meant to empower program participants to find and pursue meaningful work along related career pathways	October 17-18, 2023			✓		✓	
Prince Albert Grand Council Clean Energy Conference	The conference, hosted by Ty Roberts from LLRIB Lands and Resources, discussed sustainability, net-zero initiatives, and clean energy sources for First Nations communities. The team had a chance to network with new faces and present on topics related to the CEP goals and visioning sessions.	November 13-15, 2023		✓			✓	



Conference / Training Opportunity	Description	Date	Jason Cook-Studer	Joshua McCann	Florence Veteri	Desiree Maurice	Jonah Ratt	Jared McKay
Electricity Canada - Electricity Fundamentals In Canada Webinar	Course providing a high-level overview of all aspects of the electricity industry.	November 29, 2023			✓		✓	✓
Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies- Digital Drone Training 360	Trained in the basics of drone operation and application to community projects.	December, 2023				✓		
SMR Summit- Wanuskewin	The summit brought together technology suppliers, EPCs, governments, regulators, utilities, First Nations, NGOs, and end users. The two-day conference facilitated informed discussions on the future of nuclear opportunities, the drawbacks, required investment, and how Canada moves forward to support an SMR industry.	February, 2024				✓		
Young Women in Energy Summit in Canmore, 2024	Attended the summit to be empowered by fellow emerging female leaders in the energy industry, learning topics around diversification, decarbonization, and digitization in the energy sector.	February, 2024			✓			
National Coalition of Chiefs Clean Energy Transition Summit in Calgary	Attended the summit to be a part of the conversation about how Indigenous Leaders can support the clean energy transition and how to end on-reserve poverty.	February 15-16, 2024		✓				
Saskatchewan Urban Municipal Association (SUMA) Convention	Attended the SUMA panel on La Ronge's housing shortage and how to address the homelessness & unhoused crisis.	April, 2024			✓	✓		
Canadian Solar Institute- Solar Technician Training	Training to be a certified solar technician.	April-May, 2024	✓					✓
McMaster's Community Energy Transition workshop	Attended the McMaster University workshop and visited the 5MW Nuclear Reactor and learned from operators.	May, 2024	✓					
USask's School of Environment and Sustainability (SENS)- International Energy Forum	The forum brought together the leading minds in energy from around the world. It discussed strategies and research on the future of energy, the role of critical minerals, innovations for the energy transition, and policymaking in this field.	May 13, 2024		✓				

Conference / Training Opportunity	Description	Date	Jason Cook-Studer	Joshua McCann	Florence Veteri	Desiree Maurice	Jonah Ratt	Jared McKay
Home Technician Training	Training to perform Home Assessments for energy efficiency upgrades through SaskPower.	N/A					✓	
Indigenous Clean Energy - Charge Up workshop	The workshop provided information about how Indigenous Clean Energy is working to support the installation costs of electric vehicle charging stations for Indigenous communities and businesses.	N/A	✓			✓		
Natural Resources Canada - Keeping The Heat In	Education on basic principles of building science and how to provide guidance in home retrofit projects such as insulation and air sealing improvements.	N/A			✓		✓	✓
Office Administration Training	Training in Microsoft software such as Word and Excel and people interaction.	N/A					✓	
SaskPower Community Power Representative Training	Training to connect communities with SaskPower and the Indigenous Customer Care Team to increase energy literacy and deliver energy efficiency tools in the community.	N/A					✓	
Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies- AR/VR Training	Learned the basics of using an Oculus headset and orientation on developing games through the Unity engine. This training will be used to set up a VR tour.	N/A					✓	
Master of Sustainability: Energy Security (MSs) at USask School of Environment & Sustainability	In the process of completing a Masters in Sustainability.	Ongoing	✓					
Natural Resources Canada - Energy Advisor House Level Exam Prep Training	Training to be a certified NRCAN energy advisor to deliver EnerGuide rating services to homes.	Ongoing					✓	
Natural Resources Canada- Energy Advisor Foundational Level Exam Preparation Training	Training to be a certified NRCAN energy advisor to deliver EnerGuide rating services to homes.	Ongoing					✓	

Conference / Training Opportunity	Description	Date	Jason Cook-Studer	Joshua McCann	Florence Veteri	Desiree Maurice	Jonah Ratt	Jared McKay
Read Energy Auditing materials	As described.	Ongoing	✓					
SaskPower Energy conservation and home retrofit techniques	Training to perform Home Assessments for energy efficiency upgrades through SaskPower.	Ongoing					✓	
Self-directed Research	Self-directed research on different types of energy efficiency measures and clean and renewable energy.	Ongoing					✓	
Urban Systems CEN training	Urban Systems designed training materials and sessions focused on the ins and outs of energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy opportunities. The training also featured hands-on opportunities to build and practice engagement and facilitation skills, which supported various project activities.	Ongoing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓