Energy Solutions Centre First Nation and Municipal Partnerships



QUICK FACT:

ESC has helped several Yukon communities with 'green' projects including Teslin, Haines Junction and Mayo. **First Nations** – Although the funding that supported the First Nations Energy Analyst position, formerly held within the Energy Solutions Centre, has been transferred to the Council of Yukon First Nations (CYFN) umbrella, the Energy Solutions Centre is committed to working in partnership with individual First Nations, CYFN, and other agencies such as the federal government to identify opportunities to improve energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy within First Nations communities.

Municipal – To assist Yukon communities in their efforts to improve energy efficiency and enhance the use of renewable resources, the Government of Yukon (through the Yukon Development Corporation and Energy Solutions Centre) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Canada, the Association of Yukon Communities and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. The purpose of this MOU is to identify and pursue long-term financially and environmentally feasible energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions in Yukon municipalities. The MOU identifies the Energy Solutions Centre as the Yukon government's agency through which Yukon communities would be provided with assistance to help them achieve these goals. Since the MOU has been in place, the Centre has helped several Yukon communities with 'green' community projects, including Teslin, Haines Junction, Mayo and Watson Lake.

Partnership Projects

Haines Junction municipal groundwater heat project: Over the past year, the Energy Solutions Centre continued its joint venture with the Village of Haines Junction to advance the community's groundwater heat project. Current efforts are focused on integrating the First Nations into the joint venture agreement and establishing funding for the next steps of the project.

The goal of the project is to use the warm water (16.9°C) from the aquifer underlying the community in combination with a heat pump system to heat municipal buildings in Haines Junction.

Village of Mayo municipal groundwater heat project: In the 1980s, a heat pump system was installed in the Village of Mayo to use energy from groundwater to heat the buildings on the main street of the village. The project failed because of several problems that are now well understood. Since the installation of the system, new technologies and methods have been developed to cost-effectively resolve those problems.

As a result, in April 2004 the Village of Mayo signed a joint venture agreement with the Energy Solutions Centre to rehabilitate the geothermal heating system and again obtain heat from groundwater. Under this agreement, ESC will choose a consultant in the fall of 2005 to conduct a resource assessment, a heating load assessment for the village and attempt to remediate the wells and the distribution system, with the ultimate goal of heating four or five buildings in the community.

For more information on this or other ESC programs, call us at **(867) 393-7063**.