



Belledune Port Authority
Community Workforce
Development Committee

Final Report

2023-2025



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Message from Co-Chairs

We are pleased to submit our final report on behalf of the Belledune Port Authority's Community Workforce Development Committee. This report includes forward-looking recommendations and a full account of our work with community stakeholders, rights holders and industry partners since the committee launched in December 2023.



In the past 18 months, we visited communities from east to west in northern New Brunswick, learned about opportunities and challenges with the development of biomass, hydrogen, wind, solar and battery projects, and assessed the potential economic impacts that could result from these projects.

We also shared what we learned in a series of stakeholder meetings, public open house events and in-community sessions at Eel River Bar First Nation and Pabineau First Nation. These sessions focused on communicating the results of an economic impact report by economist David Campbell, and bringing energy industry experts and stakeholders to the region to speak directly with residents.

We understand that Green Energy Hub projects have the potential to be an economic catalyst for the region, generating billions in capital investment, creating thousands of jobs and millions in tax revenue. The development of a ready workforce is critical to the success of the Green Energy Hub. We also know that our communities want and need to be full participants in the development of these projects, so that concerns are heard and benefits can be shared.

Thank you for the opportunity to fulfill this mandate. We have laid important groundwork for community education and engagement that will continue in the coming years and decades.

Betty-Ann Fortin
Katherine Lanteigne

Message from BPA

Thank you to the co-chairs and the members of the Community Workforce Development Committee, who actively participated and made significant contributions to achieving the goals of the Green Energy Hub. Thank you also to Working NB, CBDC Chaleur, and the staff team at the Port for providing essential support for the committee's work.

We share a vision of economic prosperity for northern New Brunswick and we agree on the potential for green energy, low-carbon industry and increased trade with Europe as a path to sustainable development in our region.

We also agree that meaningful connections and benefits sharing with local and Indigenous communities will be key to our success. As an organization, we commit to continuing the conversation with community members as projects progress and ensuring Indigenous communities have a seat at the table.

Working together, we can build a workforce that will be ready to help realize the enormous potential and prosperity that clean energy can bring to our region.

Denis Caron, President & CEO



Executive Summary

The Belledune Port Authority is generating economic growth in northern New Brunswick with new green energy projects (wind, solar, battery, hydrogen, clean fuels and biomass) along with complementary low-carbon industry. This transition from traditional, fossil fuel-based industry to clean energy is necessary to support Canada's climate goals and to ensure future prosperity for regional residents.

The Community Workforce Development Committee was established in late 2023 to review the Port's development goals and provide a forum for information sharing with members of neighbouring communities. With an 18-month mandate, members worked collaboratively to identify and pursue opportunities for community education, workforce development, training and recruitment related to green energy.

With representation from the Acadian Peninsula, Chaleur and Restigouche regions and First Nations communities of Pabineau and Eel River Bar, the committee met regularly to receive updates from the Port leaders and hear from experts in the green energy sector including biomass, wind, hydrogen and clean fuels. The committee also commissioned expert research from economist David Campbell exploring economic impacts of planned development projects, and hosted a series of well-attended public and stakeholder events, including three open house sessions in the northern communities of Caraquet, Bathurst and Campbellton.

As a result of this work, the Committee has developed **six key recommendations** for consideration by the Belledune Port Authority, the Government of New Brunswick and industry partners:

1. For the Belledune Port Authority and industry partners to **continue communication, dialogue and collaboration with citizens of northern New Brunswick about opportunities and challenges related to the Green Energy Hub**. In particular, for decision-makers and third-party experts to share the facts, research and rationale for the energy transition while acknowledging challenges and potential costs in plain language and simple terms.
2. For the Belledune Port Authority and the Government of New Brunswick to **extend or make permanent the mandate of the Community Workforce Development Committee**, which is successfully building strong connections between the Port and local leaders, Indigenous rights holders, business groups and educational institutions, ensuring the opportunities are understood, concerns are heard and potential benefits can be shared.
3. For the Government of New Brunswick to **support the timely creation of a skilled clean energy workforce in northern New Brunswick** through formal and outcome-focused cross

collaboration between the Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour, post-secondary institutions, the Belledune Port Authority, private industry and local economic development groups.

4. For workforce development efforts to specifically **target youth aged 15-19 who are attending high school, showcasing energy sector opportunities in skilled trades and professional degree programs through experiential learning** including co-op placements, site visits, presentations, simulations and by liaising with school-based teachers, guidance professionals and administrators.
5. For the Belledune Port Authority to **formalize Green Energy Hub community engagement efforts through a dedicated resource** mandated to connect with and provide information to local organizations throughout northern New Brunswick.
6. For the Belledune Port Authority, Government of New Brunswick and industry partners to **include Mi'gmaq communities of Pabineau, Eel River Bar and Listuguj in conversations and opportunities related to the Green Energy Hub**. In particular, for decision-makers, regulators and industry to be present in these communities and other spaces important to Indigenous rights holders, making it easy for community members to participate in discussions on their own terms and according to their own cultural values.

This important work is made possible by the efforts of committee co-chairs and members, the dedicated team at the Belledune Port Authority, partners in New Brunswick's growing clean energy sector including the Atlantica Centre for Energy, Alliance de l'Energie du Nord, Atlantic Hydrogen Alliance, Jupia Consultants, NB Power, Natural Resources Canada (Canadian Wood Fibre Centre and Fuels Sector) and the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agencies, with financial support from Working NB.

Though the committee's mandate is nearly complete, additional information sessions will be held in Belledune, Pabineau and Eel River Bar in the coming months to ensure continued education and outreach in these specific communities.

Introduction

In 2020, the Belledune Port Authority (“BPA”) embarked on a Master Development Planning process to diversify its core business and seek opportunities for a more sustainable business model for the Port.

Completed in the fall of 2022 with input from experts, industry, community members and First Nations, the Master Development Plan 2022-2052 (MDP) provided a 30-year roadmap for the future, including business development, marine development and land planning. The BPA is now focused on implementing the plan through strategic planning for key initiatives, including a Green Energy Hub development on Port lands, business planning, marketing and operational changes.

As agreements are signed with private sector partners focused on building clean energy projects, the Port is poised to change dramatically. Bringing this change to life will require significant planning, investments and community involvement. Working together, First Nations, business, government and education partners will ensure a smooth transition, a ready workforce and the realization of shared opportunities and benefits for New Brunswick.

The Community Workforce Development Committee was established in late 2023 to support this work, with membership drawn from local municipalities and regional service commissions, economic development groups, Indigenous communities, post-secondary education and non-profit environmental organizations.

Goals included:

- Working collaboratively to ensure open and transparent communication among members, regional stakeholder groups and agencies
- Educating all participants and their networks about the opportunities, challenges and requirements of projects related to the Master Development Plan
- Identifying opportunities to grow the economic impact of the BPA by involving the local and regional workforce with training and recruiting strategies
- Ensuring barriers to and opportunities for economic growth are well understood by members to ensure recommendations are based on evidence and fact.

Committee Co-chairs and Members

Katherine Lanteigne (Co-Chair)

Entrepreneur

Betty-Ann Fortin (Co-Chair)

Jean-Guy Levesque, Restigouche Regional Service Commission, Vice-President, Board of Directors

Paul Arsenault/Daniel Guitard Chaleur Regional Service Commission

Bernard Theriault, Acadian Peninsula Regional Service Commission, Vice-Chair, Board of Directors

Michel Guitard, Executive Director, CBDC Restigouche,

Denis Roy, Executive Director, CBDC Chaleur

Frederick McGraw, Executive Director, CBDC Acadian Peninsula

Chief Terry Richardson, Chief, Pabineau First Nation

Jake Caplin, former Chief, Eel River Bar First Nation

Sebastien Hache, Valores

Yannick Theriault, Chaleur Watershed Group

Cyrille Simard/Pierre Zundel, New Brunswick Community College

Dina Lavoie, Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour

Mathieu Girard



Committee Activities and Community Engagement Summary

December 18, 2023

- Formal launch of the committee at in Bathurst, NB with public/media announcement and reception
- Launched committee webpage and social media posts

January 19, 2024

- Virtual meeting
- Finalized committee Terms of Reference
- BPA overview of Master Development Plan and Strategic Profile

March 20, 2024

- Committee tour of port facilities
- In-person meeting at the Belledune Recreation Centre.
- Discussion theme: How biomass is fuelling New Brunswick's green energy transition
- Presenters:
 - BPA CEO Denis Caron, The Belledune Port Authority as Atlantic Canada's largest exporter of biomass (wood chips and pellets)
 - NB Power Station Manager Bernard Roy, Overview of Belledune Generating Station's Spring 2024 biomass test burn project
 - Adam Dick, Forest Research Project Leader, Canadian Wood Fibre Centre, Natural Resources Canada, 'Biomass and the Clean Energy Transition'
 - Adam Hodgson, Director of Forest Operations and Development, Natural Resources and Energy Development, Government of New Brunswick

May 28, 2024

- In-person meeting at Centre Culturel, Caraquet, NB, coinciding with launch of Rendez-Vous Acadie-Quebec, a semi-annual conference with regional business and local government leaders celebrating economic cooperation between New Brunswick and Quebec. Port CEO Denis Caron opened the conference with a keynote address.
- Discussion themes: Community wind energy projects and Atlantic Canada's Role in the National Hydrogen Strategy
- Presenters:
 - Justin LaBillois, Alliance de l'Energie du Nord
 - John Stronach, Senior Advisor, Natural Gas and Hydrogen Division, Natural Resources Canada



August 18, 2024

- Virtual meeting
- Discussion theme: Insights on Community Engagement and Communications
- Presenter:
 - Deborah Nobes, Violet Consulting Inc.

October 8, 2024

- In-person meeting in Campbellton, NB at CBDC Restigouche
- Discussion theme: Economic Growth and the Green Energy Hub
- Presenter:
 - David Campbell, Jupia Consultants on potential economic impacts of planned projects at the Green Energy Hub

December 3, 2024

- In-person meeting in Bathurst, NB

- Launch of economic impact report *'Belledune Port Authority: Canada's Green Energy Hub, Revitalizing Northeastern New Brunswick's Economy'* with panel discussion and networking event attended by 50 invited community and business leaders at 13 Barrels. Participants included report author David Campbell (Jupia Consultants), Michelle Robichaud (Atlantica Centre for Energy) and Denis Caron and moderated by Jennifer Cleversey Moffitt and Julie Pinette (Belledune Port Authority).

February 19-21, 2025

- Green Energy Open House Community Information Sessions hosted in public venues in Caraquet, Bathurst and Campbellton.
- Each event included a pre-session 'lunch and learn' for local leaders with presentations from Port CEO Denis Caron and David Campbell.
- The open house session included trade show-style booths from a variety of energy-related industry, advocacy and education organizations.
- The events attracted more than 500 participants including many high school and post-secondary students, with formal and informal feedback collected through various means.



June 25, 2025

- Green Energy Open House event at the Belledune Port Authority.
- Tours of the facilities were offered to the public
- Family/ kids activities were offered: face painting, touch a truck, BBQ,
- The open house session included trade show-style booths from a variety of energy-related industry, advocacy and education organizations.



- The event attracted more than 300 participants from the surrounding communities.

August 19, 2025

- Virtual meeting of the committee.
- Review of the proposed recommendations.
- Update from the Belledune Port Authority.
- Information shared about upcoming activities.

September 3rd, 2025

- Green Energy Open House event at Eel River Bar First Nation.
- Panel discussion and networking lunch.
- The open house session included trade show-style booths from a variety of energy-related industry, advocacy and education organizations.
- We had 60 people attend the event.

September 4th 2025

- Green Energy Open House event at Pabineau First Nation.
- Panel discussion and networking lunch.
- The open house session included trade show-style booths from a variety of energy-related industry, advocacy and education organizations.
- We had 40 people attend the event.

Key Committee Learnings

Economic Impact Report: Results Summary

Belledune Port Authority: Canada's Green Energy Hub, Revitalizing Northeastern New Brunswick's Economy by David Campbell, Jupia Consultants, suggests the Port is poised to be a catalyst for economic renewal in New Brunswick.

The report models the economic impact of several proposed Green Energy Hub projects including two wind-powered hydrogen plants, a wood-pellet plant and a data centre.

Together, these projects represent \$26 billion in capital investment by 2037, supporting an average of 1900 full-time jobs annually during construction in the Bathurst-Campbellton corridor.

This capital investment activity is expected to boost provincial GDP by \$6.5 billion, generating \$1.4 billion in tax revenue. The projects would create more employment and economic activity during their operational phases, which could last up to 30 years.

The report highlights the need for a ready workforce in northern New Brunswick as a potential risk to project development, suggesting plans could be delayed or even diverted to other jurisdictions where workers are more plentiful.

A workforce development strategy focused on building New Brunswick's engineering and construction labour pool will be important to the success of the projects.

February Open House Events: Community Feedback Themes

1. *Enhancing trust and confidence through transparency, communications and collaboration between industry, government and community organizations*

Open house participants want to understand why the green energy transition is necessary, and for decision-makers to share facts and research while acknowledging challenges and potential costs using plain language and simple terms.

Participants also support consistent communication, improved connection and consideration from government and industry decision-makers in southern New Brunswick, for more green energy success stories to be shared, and for all voices to be heard, including Indigenous voices, in the energy transition.

2. *Private and public sector investment in local green energy infrastructure and projects*

Most open house participants said energy is a strong component of economic growth in New Brunswick and could be even stronger with more widespread adoption of electric vehicles and charging infrastructure, and by supporting more in-province green energy production that could develop sustainable industry. Participants said the energy sector could improve community services and create new jobs. They said the sector will require an aligned strategy with investment from government and industry, and an industrial benefit model to help communities invest in their own growth.

3. *Attracting, training and retaining more skilled workers in the energy sector*

Open house participants, mostly students, wanted information about actual job types, wages and training requirements for careers in the clean energy sector. Participants said employers and advocates need to emphasize the benefits of a career in clean energy - that jobs will be stable, well paying, and contribute to a cleaner future. They also shared a desire for more job-based training, mentorships, scholarships, streamlined courses and study programs and better guidance on what to study for a career in clean energy.

Community Workforce Development Committee Interim Recommendations

Respectfully submitted for consideration by the Belledune Port Authority, the Government of New Brunswick and industry partners:

1. That the Port of Belledune and its industrial and community partners continue communication, dialogue, and collaboration with the citizens of Northern New Brunswick regarding the opportunities and challenges related to the Green Energy Hub. In particular, that decision-makers and the independent experts they engage share facts, research, and the rationale for the energy transition, while acknowledging potential challenges and costs, all in clear and simple language.
2. That the Port of Belledune and the Government of New Brunswick extend or make permanent the mandate of the Community Workforce Development Committee, which has successfully built strong connections between the Port and local leaders, Indigenous rights holders, business groups, and educational institutions, ensuring that opportunities are understood, concerns are heard and considered, and potential benefits are shared.
3. That the Government of New Brunswick support the rapid development of a skilled clean-energy workforce in Northern New Brunswick through a formal, results-focused collaboration between the Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour, post-secondary institutions, the Port of Belledune, private industry, and local economic development groups.
4. That workforce development efforts specifically target youth aged 15 to 19 in high school, showcasing opportunities in the energy sector—both in skilled trades and in professional programs—through experiential learning, including cooperative placements, site visits, presentations, simulations, and collaboration with teachers, guidance counsellors, and school administrators.
5. That the Port of Belledune formalize its community engagement efforts related to the Green Energy Hub by establishing a dedicated resource responsible for building relationships with local organizations and providing information throughout Northern New Brunswick.
6. That the Port of Belledune, the Government of New Brunswick, and industrial and community partners include the Mi'gmaq communities of Oinpegitjoig (Pabineau), Ugpi'Ganjig (Eel River Bar), and Listuguj in discussions and opportunities related to the Green Energy Hub. In

particular, that decision-makers, regulators, and industry representatives be present in these communities and in other locations important to Indigenous rights holders, thereby facilitating community participation in discussions on their own terms and in alignment with their cultural values.

Conclusion

A successful transition to clean energy and low-carbon industry in northern New Brunswick will require local communities, including Indigenous communities, to be engaged in the development process and included in decision-making. For this to be possible, community members will need to understand the potential challenges and opportunities and participate in strategic planning and labour force development to ensure future generations can share in the benefits. There is a shared onus on communities and decision-makers both to come to the table and participate in this process. Thanks to the efforts of the Community Workforce Development Committee, this work is well underway. The Belledune Port Authority and the committee wish to thank community members, presenters, industry partners and experts, and especially local students, for their insights, thoughtful questions and valuable feedback provided in meetings, public and stakeholder events. These conversations will help inform decisions and actions as the Port moves forward with the development of the Green Energy Hub. The committee also gratefully acknowledges financial support from the Government of New Brunswick through the Department of Post Secondary Education Training and Labour's Working NB division, and administrative support from CBDC Chaleur, the Belledune Port Authority Team and Hutchinson Creative.

Appendices

A. Committee Terms of Reference

Background

Climate change and the emergence of a global market for green energy have created a one-in-a-generation opportunity to transform the economy of northern New Brunswick.

With the Belledune Port Authority serving as a catalyst, the region is transitioning away from declining resource-heavy industries and fossil fuel generation toward renewable energy projects and complementary low-carbon manufacturing and processing.

This change is expected during the next few decades, with the potential to affect the fortunes of northern communities from east to west, including First Nations. To be successful in the long-term, this

transition will require broad community understanding and engagement, strategic planning, and labour force development. Communities will need to prepare for the transition, understand the challenges and opportunities this transition will bring, and share in the benefits for future generations.

The Belledune Port Authority heard from community leaders during the planning and development of its 30-year Master Development Plan that more community engagement is required to enable local residents to understand, support, and participate in future developments. The plan recommended the creation of a community-based liaison committee to provide advice and input on projects and plans being contemplated by the port.

Purpose

The Community Workforce Development Committee will provide a forum for information sharing and feedback, and enable parties to work together collaboratively to pursue opportunities for community education, workforce development, training and recruitment, and enable broader stakeholder engagement related to goals and opportunities at the Port. Focusing on projects and development opportunities identified by the BPA, this committee will be tasked with identifying economic impacts and opportunities for the region, and planning for jobs, training and community outreach.

1. Scope

The committee will address Port-related issues in Northern New Brunswick, focusing on the Restigouche, Chaleur and Acadian Peninsula regions, including the Mi'gmaq communities of Eel River Bar and Pabineau. The committee will serve in an advisory role only and will not replace government regulations, controls and other procedures that are in place for public health, safety and environmental protection.

2. Membership

The committee includes 12-17 individuals representing local municipalities, First Nations, business (via the CBDC network), post-secondary education and environment/watershed groups, and the BPA. It has two community co-chairs.

3. Length of Terms

The committee's mandate is 18 months, starting in January 2024 to June 2025. Members are appointed for the duration of this mandate, though representatives of corporate groups/businesses can be changed at the discretion of the organizations they represent..

4. Meeting Frequency

The committee will meet quarterly for a total of six (6) in-person meetings. However the committee may call for additional virtual meetings as required on an ad hoc basis. Meeting planning will accommodate as many schedules as possible.

5. Meeting Protocols

Committee chairs will facilitate, or delegate facilitation, for each meeting. Meeting documents will be kept in both official languages, though participants are encouraged to participate in their preferred

official language. The committee will strive to host meetings in various communities through the region it represents, and in-person attendance is encouraged, though virtual options will be provided. Meetings will enable the exchange of information and allow for respectful and inclusive discussions that welcome different cultures, languages and differing points of view. Disputes will be resolved through consensus and discussion. Real-time translation will be provided during meetings.

6. Meeting Agendas

Meeting agendas will be sent via email to members one week prior to the meeting to allow members to be prepared and seek input from their networks. A representative of the BPA will keep meeting summary notes that reflect the general themes and discussions of the meeting. The summary notes will be sent to committee members.

7. Reporting

The committee will report quarterly on its activities on the BPA website and to the Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour. Committee members are encouraged to share Committee-related matters with their respective networks unless information is identified as confidential or proprietary in nature. All communication will be objective, respectful and try to convey meeting information with appropriate context and supporting materials.

The committee will issue a final report with recommendations at the end of its mandate.

8. Committee Roles and Responsibilities

The committee will:

- Identify opportunities to grow the impact of the BPA by involving the regional workforce through the creation of training and recruiting strategies
- Support ongoing engagement activities between industry, municipalities, Indigenous Peoples, and BPA representatives.
- Facilitate the community's education of port-related matters of mutual interest.
- Receive and exchange information on BPA, or BPA lessees, activities, and operations as they affect or may affect the community
- Provide input to decision makers on a range of matters, including responses to community concerns.

Individual members will:

- Receive information in good faith and give feedback to their respective community or management.
- Seek feedback and input from the committees and constituencies they represent and share such feedback with the liaison committee.
- Bring forth ideas and agenda topics for consideration.
- Conduct themselves in ways that promote inclusion and respect for all members and all opinions.

- Attend meetings on a regular basis: community-member representatives who miss three successive meetings may be asked to resign at the discretion of the committee.
- Support the implementation of decisions reached by the committee.
- Are encouraged to utilize the resources of the membership as base of knowledge through the meeting coordination to seek information about concerns occurring outside of meeting times.
- Report topics to the committee in a timely manner for inclusion on agendas.

BPA will:

- Provide accurate and clear information to committee members to allow for informed discussion.
- Delegate a project manager to plan and facilitate meetings, agendas, and move the work of the committee forward.
- Seek opportunities for meetings to be held in a variety of community spaces to be inclusive of the committee member's locations.
- Ensure that the appropriate staff with specific expertise are present at discussions on specific matters to assist the committee with technical needs and information.
- Coordinate briefings related to proposed port development projects that are not led by the BPA.

9. Media protocol

The co-chairs are the official spokespersons for this committee. Media requests will be directed to the meeting coordinator and circulated to the committee for consideration and response as required. Individual members are not authorized to speak on behalf of the committee without the committee's prior approval.

10. Funding

Funding for the committee is being provided by the Government of New Brunswick's Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour, and the Belledune Port Authority.

B. Approved Minutes of Meetings

Minutes of Meeting BPA Community Workforce Development Committee

Date	January 19, 2024 9-11 am
Attendees	Betty-Ann Fortin, Bernard Theriault, Matthieu Girard, Jake Caplin, Daniel Guitard, Denis Roy, Dina Lavoie, Frederick McGraw, Jean-Guy Levesque, Michel Guitard, Yannick Theriault, Terry Richardson, Jennifer Cleversey Moffitt, Denis Caron
Regrets	Pierre Zundel, Roger Clinch
Review minutes of last meeting	N/A
Review action items from last meeting	N/A
Meeting Agenda	9 AM - Facilitator welcome (Deb) - Welcome and opening remarks from co-chairs - Welcome and opening remarks BPA (Denis Caron, CEO BPA) - Roundtable introductions/icebreaker from committee members - Housekeeping items: - Approval of Committee Terms of Reference - Request to complete survey - Discussion of proposed meeting schedule, preferred format - Next meeting date - Green energy hub overview - Strategy, Planning, Projects and Engagement so far (BPA) - Roundtable discussion - questions, concerns,

	ideas
Discussion	Education and Engagement: • Desire among members to know more factual information about GEH projects and plans to be able to explain, promote and justify port's goals with community members and constituents. Committee needs to hear from experts and be guided on the best ways to explain projects to the public. Committee needs to be sensitive to the fact that people are sometimes misinformed. Members need to help get the right information out. Climate change: • Youth in northern communities are concerned about their future and the committee will need to help them understand how the new 'clean' industry is better for the planet than previous technologies. Need to help them understand how these projects and products will be different and have less environmental impact than what they are replacing. Acknowledgement that potential environmental impacts of new/proposed clean energy and technology projects are not yet fully understood. • There is significant urgency to act immediately on these projects/opportunities because of climate change impacts happening now (extreme weather, changing wildlife habits, shrinking habitat). "The animals are speaking to us." Projects should be advanced with consideration of four key pillars: Environment, Culture, Social, Economic. Risk of becoming bogged down in bureaucracy. Committee role:

	This committee is an opportunity to 'be the example' of how to do community engagement well.
Key Decisions and Action Items	General: - Bilingual meeting materials to be provided one week in advance of discussion as attachment to the meeting invite. Terms of Reference - Amend the ToR to reflect the significant cultural and economic shift represented by the Green Energy Hub - a generational turning point and opportunity for northern NB (Deb) - Explore potential for more frequent meetings (every 6 weeks vs 12 weeks), alternating between virtual and in-person. (Deb, co-chairs and BPA) Proposed date for next meeting (Feb 23) conflicts with association of francophone municipalities AGM. New dates will be proposed to the committee for consideration.
Next Meeting	March 20

Date	March 20, 2024 1-4 pm
Attendees	Betty-Ann Fortin, Bernard Theriault, Matthieu Girard, Daniel Guitard, Denis Roy, Dina Lavoie, Frederick McGraw, Jennifer Cleversey Moffitt, Denis Caron, Mario Pelletier, Daniel Theriault, Michel Guitard, Sebastien Hache, Julie Pinette, Aimee Etse, Rick Hutchinson

	Guests: Bernard Roy, Adam Hodgson, Adam Dick, Monica McKendy
Regrets	Pierre Zundel, Roger Clinch, Jake Caplin, Terry Richardson, Frederick McGraw, Jean-Guy Levesque
Review minutes of last meeting	January 19 minutes approved by consensus
Review action items from last meeting	Updated Terms of Reference approved by consensus
Meeting Agenda	Tour of Port facilities Green Energy Hub update from BPA • Introduction of team • Overview of biomass exports and activity • Planned activities for 2024 ○ UK Biomass Conference ○ Rotterdam Conference ○ Indigenous-led Energy Conference NB Power Biomass Test Burn Update • Bernard Roy, Belledune Generating Station Manager • Q and A Biomass in New Brunswick Co-presenters: • Adam Dick, Forest Research Project Leader, Canadian Wood Fibre Centre, NRCAN • Adam Hodgson, Director of Forest Operations and Development, NDRED Q and A
Discussion	Key questions from participants • whether NB has sufficient wood and wood pellet supply to support a plant conversion and if not, where the 'black pellets' will be sourced. • the number of trucks required to transport pellets to the station

	the capacity and cost for local mills to adapt/convert to making black pellets vs white pellets, timelines required for plant conversion.
Key Decisions and Action Items	N/A
Next Meeting	May 28, Caraquet

Date	May 28, 2024 1-4 pm
Attendees	Betty-Ann Fortin, Roger Clinch, Bernard Theriault, Matthieu Girard, Daniel Guitard, Dina Lavoie, Frederick McGraw, Jennifer Cleversey Moffitt, Denis Caron, Mario Pelletier, Daniel Theriault, Sebastien Hache, Julie Pinette, Rick Hutchinson, Yannick Theriault, Yves Ange, Terry Richardson, Jim Richardson, Chuck Harn, Jean-Guy Levesque, Cyril Simard, Denis Roy Guests: Justin Labillois, John Stronach, Dani Ryan La Cave media
Regrets	Pierre Zundel, Michel Guitard
Review minutes of last meeting	March 20 minutes approved by consensus
Review action items from last meeting	N/A
Meeting Agenda	Welcome and Committee business Green Energy Hub update from BPA Update on activities for 2024 - UK Biomass Conference & update on biomass test burn and supply options for fuel - Rotterdam Conference - Federal hydrogen strategy and investment tax credit

	○ Indigenous-led Energy Conference Presentation: Justin Labillois - Northern Energy Alliance Presentation: Federal Hydrogen strategy ● John Stronach, Senior Advisor, NRCAN ● Dani Ryan, Q and A
Discussion	● Biomass test burn at Belledune Generating Station and possible conversion to biomass. What is the potential for local biomass suppliers to provide fuel for the NB Power plant? What are the cost impacts to convert the plant? How can we harvest biomass from the forest in an economic way? These subjects were addressed in March 20 meeting with NB Power and NRED and will continue to be explored as the utility determines whether the project is feasible. ● Role of project proponents in explaining potential environmental impacts to the community vs the port and members of this committee: It is up to the project proponents to explain potential project impacts of the community as part of the environmental approvals process. The port plays an important role in ensuring sustainable development for the region, but it is not a project proponent. Work is underway to understand regulatory requirements for the projects that are currently being proposed. ● Provincial government support for this project: The Port is more advanced in infrastructure to support hydrogen production while NS/NL is more advanced in regulatory approvals and investment commitments. Our government needs to do more to promote the NB-based projects. ● Munis/community leaders can do more to share information about wind and other renewable energy projects vs proponents in ways that citizens can

	understand and support them - This committee can help identify gaps in training and other necessary support/enablers of the new green economy, including housing, transportation and child care. This can be supported by funding and other incentives from the federal government. - NS and NL projects may receive approvals for federal funding soon, because they have advanced project descriptions through regulatory processes. The hydrogen project at Belledune has not yet advanced to this point. How to move the conversation beyond this table? Communicating priorities beyond this group - how do we reach youth, newcomers, those who are more difficult to convince? This is a priority discussion for future meetings
Key Decisions and Action Items	N/A
Next Meeting	August 13, 2024

Date	August 13, 2024, 9-11:30 PM (virtual)
Attendees	Betty-Ann Fortin, Roger Clinch, Jean Guy Levesque, Dina Lavoie, Frederick McGraw, Jennifer Cleversey Moffitt, Denis Caron, Sebastien Hache, Julie Pinette, Rick Hutchinson, Yannick Theriault, Jean-Guy Levesque, Deb Nobes, Paul Arseneault, Cyrille Simard.
Regrets	Pierre Zundel, Michel Guitard, Bernard Thériault, Mathieu Girard, Daniel Guitard, Denis Roy, Terry Richardson, Chief Jake, Diane Arseneault.
Review minutes of last meeting	May 28, 2024, minutes approved by consensus
Review action items from last meeting	N/A
Meeting Agenda	Welcome and Committee business Green Energy Hub update from BPA

	Update on activities for 2024 ○ Ramp up for the Fall ○ Biomass conversion update for NB Power ○ Atlantic Indigenous-Led Energy Symposium update (Sept 18-20 - NSMTC Indigenous-Led Energy Symposium (nsmtcenergy.ca)) ○ Canada committing to \$300 million to support clean hydrogen trade with Germany. (Link: Government of Canada Announces \$300 Million in Port Hawkesbury on Canada - Germany Hydrogen Alliance - Canada.ca) ○ Atlantica Center for Energy will be launching the results of their literacy on energy campaign. Presentation Public opinion and market research results and insights from 2022-2024– Deb Nobes Digital Media presentation – Rick Hutchinson Open discussions
Discussion	● The committee would like to be notified in advance about milestones for Green Energy development. and would like a timeline of events and timing for development when projects are known. ● Share MDP Plan with committee (Master Development Plan 2022-2052 Belledune Port Authority (portbelledune.ca)) ● Make sure our communication is clear and precise. ● Give the committee the tools to talk about our development (ex: cheat sheet, etc)

	• Make sure we adapt our message to the different groups (youth, boomers, family, etc.) • Use a very basic language, make it easy to understand. • The committee's mandate also includes events. Discussion was made around a series of open house events around the region. A plan will be draft and presented at the next meeting.
Key Decisions and Action Items	N/A
Next Meeting	October 8, 2024

Date	October 8, 2024 9h00-12h00 CBDC Restigouche
Attendees	Charles Harn, Dina Lavoie, Denis Roy
Regrets	Frederick McGraw, Sebastien Hache Michel Guitard, Jean-Guy Levesque Betty Ann Fortin, Nancy Savoie (CCNB), Julie Pinette, Denis Caron, Jennifer Cleversey Moffitt, Deborah Nobes Guests: David Campbell, Jupia Consultants
Review minutes of last meeting	August 13 minutes approved by consensus
Review action items from last meeting	N/A
Meeting Agenda	Green Energy Hub update from BPA • Infrastructure upgrades at the Port completed - improvements to terminals and plans for bulk conveyor system powered by electricity

	• Update on potential plan to convert NB Power plant to biomass at Belledune and potential to produce torrefied pellets in the region • Update on two potential hydrogen projects and long-term SMR potential • Update on plans to host community-based open houses on GEH and green energy. Timing - as soon as possible. Presentation of draft findings of economic impact assessment results by David Campbell of Jupia Consultants. The report considers impacts and benefits of five potential green energy and related projects for the regional and provincial economy and will be shared as final product with the committee at the next regular meeting.
Discussion	• Status of lease agreements with the port and proponents • \$300 M support from Canada and recent news stories. • Where do the pellets come from now (black and white pellets)? The resource is there but do the companies have the capacity to produce? Need to make sure we have the infrastructure to support this new industry. • How do you plan to transport hydrogen? Immediate demand is Europe via shipping. Medium to long-term demand is to use it here to decarbonize existing industry and develop cleaner heavy industry (e.g. Atholville mill). • How to move the conversation beyond this table? Communicating priorities beyond this group - how do we reach youth, newcomers,

	those who are more difficult to convince? This is a priority discussion for future meetings • Will we have the types of jobs that will be required? What will the workforce profile be? This will come from the proponents. The next version of the report will be more specific but ultimately the answer will have to come from the proponents. • How to make sure communities' benefit from developments on Crown land - including municipalities and Indigenous communities? This will need to be negotiated. Open houses - please consider having them sooner than later. Before the holidays.
Key Decisions and Action Items	Follow up on discussion and plans to host open house/public events as quickly as possible.
Next Meeting	December 3, 2024

Date	December 3, 2024 12:00-2:00 13 Barrels, 215 Cunard Street, Bathurst, NB
Attendees	Betty Ann Fortin, Katherine Lanteigne, Dina Lavoie, Denis Roy, Frederick McGraw, Bernard Theriault, Julie Pinette, Denis Caron, Jennifer Cleversey Moffitt, Deborah Nobes Guests: David Campbell, Jupia Consultants, Michelle Robichaud, Atlantica Centre for Energy
Regrets	Paul Arsenault, Terry Richardson Sebastien Hache, Jake Capelin, Nancy Savoie (CCNB) Jean-Guy Levesque, Michel Guitard

Review minutes of last meeting	October 8 minutes approved by consensus
Review action items from last meeting	Update on community open house events planned for early 2025
Meeting Agenda	Green Energy Hub update from BPA • Master Development Plan update and progress timeline • Update on GEH projects: Hydrogen, Battery, Biomass, Access agreements, Site studies and partnership with FN communities. • Update on terminal improvements • Update of new 25-year lease agreement signed with QSL Update on plans to host community-based open houses on GEH and green energy.
Discussion	
Key Decisions and Action Items	
Next Meeting	February 2025

Date	August 19, 2025, 11-12:30 PM (virtual)
Attendees	Betty-Ann Fortin, Katherine Lanteigne, Jean Guy Levesque, Dina Lavoie, Frederick McGraw, Jennifer Cleversey Moffitt, Denis Caron, Julie Pinette, Rick Hutchinson, Chief Chris Gerge, Cyrille Simard, Denis Roy
Regrets	Michel Guitard, Bernard Thériault, Mathieu Girard, Daniel Guitard, Terry Richardson, Diane Arseneault.

Review of final recommendations and final report	The committee reviewed the final recommendations and insisted that they might need to be updated after the upcoming engagement sessions. It was discussed that the project's deadline was extended to October 31st and that if any money was left it could easily be extended.
Review and discussion about past and upcoming activities	Results of past activities were presented, and discussions were had around upcoming engagement session with First Nations on September 3 & 4. Betty-Ann talked to the committee about the Gaia Project- an organization that empowers youth to take action on climate change through education and how their mandate ties into one of the recommendations
Green Energy Update	Green Energy Hub update from BPA Update on activities for 2025 ○ Economic Development Corporation with First Nation planned to be launched soon ○ May 2025: World Hydrogen Conference in Rotterdam ○ Signature of a MOU with the Port of Antwerp-Bruges ○ Working a new mission in November with Antwerp-Bruges and Rotterdam in collaboration with ONB ○ Lease sign with a battery storage proponent. ○ Update on the cleaning of Glencore Open discussions and questions
Key Decisions and Action Items	N/A
Next Meeting	TBD

C. What Was Said Report - Community Open House Information Sessions Feb. 19-21, 2025

The Belledune Port Authority is in the midst of an exciting industrial transition focused on green energy projects including wind, solar and battery, hydrogen, clean fuels and biomass. Over three days in February 2025, the Port brought together a first-of-its-kind series of public information sessions to share information about potential green energy projects and hear concerns and aspirations directly from residents of Northern New Brunswick. More than 500 residents, including students, community leaders and business owners attended the events, which included presentations, question and answer sessions and trade-show style booths from a variety of industry, education and advocacy partners.

The energy projects will be located on a special development district on Port lands known as the Green Energy Hub. They are intended to replace traditional resource-based industries that have declined in recent decades and will bring clean energy jobs and sustainable growth to northern New Brunswick. To support its goals, the Port is building strong connections with local leaders, Indigenous rights holders, business groups and educational institutions, ensuring the opportunities are understood, concerns are heard, and potential benefits can be shared. A key contributor to this is the Port's Community Workforce Development Committee, with members from Restigouche, Chaleur and the Acadian Peninsula, which serves as a forum for port and local leaders to share information and discuss challenges and opportunities. The committee spearheaded the community open houses with support from the Port team and partners.

Major themes identified during the sessions included **enhancing trust and confidence through transparency, communications and collaboration between industry, government and community organizations**, the need for **private and public sector investment in local green energy infrastructure and projects**, and **attracting, training and retaining more skilled workers in the energy sector**.

During the open house events, committee members identified the need to hold more sessions in other communities. The next event is planned for the Village of Belledune in June 2025.

Open House Engagement Summary

Green Energy Open House Community Information Sessions were hosted in publicly accessible venues in three of northern New Brunswick's largest communities from east to west between February 19-21, 2025.



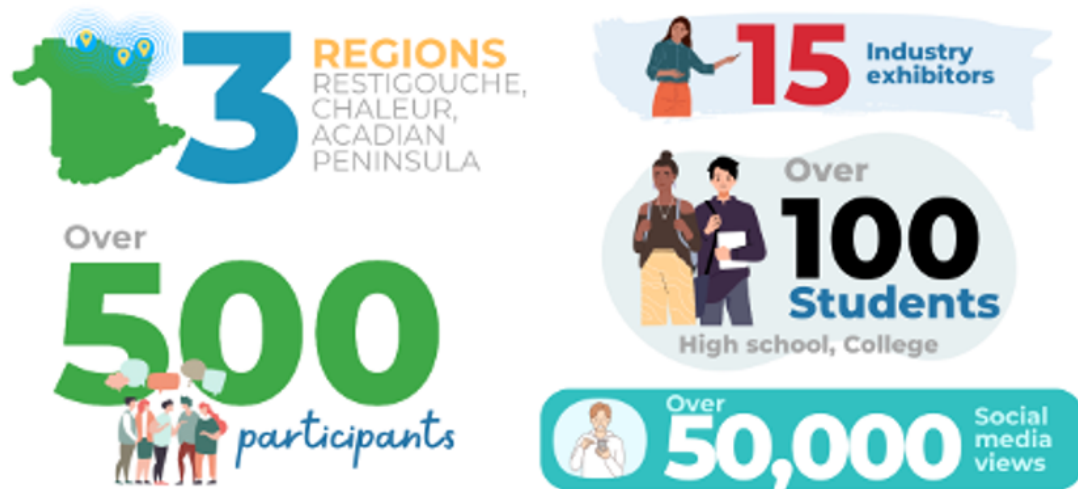
Each event included an invitation-only pre-session 'lunch and learn' for local leaders with presentations from Port President and CEO Denis Caron and Jupia Consultants Inc. economist David Campbell, who shared [his report](#) on the potential economic impacts of five planned projects for the Green Energy Hub.

The public open house session included trade show-style booths from a variety of presenters, including but not limited to the following:

- **Belledune Port Authority** and its certification by the Green Marine Program, the leading environmental certification program for North America's Maritime Industry, which adopts practices and technologies to minimize the environmental footprint of marine operations.
- **Clean Energy Connections** hosted a 'listening session' designed to encourage participants to share their thoughts and concerns about the clean energy transition, supported by Research NB and the Smart Grid Innovation Network.
- **NB Power** shared information about a potential project to convert the Belledune Generating Station from its current fuel source of coal to renewable biomass (wood pellets).
- **Alliance de l'énergie du Nord**, an alliance of municipalities from the Acadian Peninsula, Chaleur and Restigouche regions and the First Nations communities of Pabineau and Eel

River Bar pursuing partnerships with renewable energy producers to locate projects in northern New Brunswick and generate revenue for local governments and Indigenous communities.

- **Atlantica Centre for Energy**, an advocacy organization that proactively engages with industry, government, education and research sectors and the public to foster sustainable growth related to energy opportunities in Atlantic Canada.
- **QSL**, the Belledune Port Authority's logistics and cargo handling partner since 1997, which recently strengthened its partnership with the signing of a new 25-year lease agreement that will help transform the Port into a green energy hub and enhance supply chain opportunities with Europe. The Port and QSL share a vision of innovation, infrastructure investment and sustainable growth. QSL is a key supply chain player in port terminal operations, stevedoring, marine services logistics and transport throughout North America.
- **Mi'gmawe'l Tplu'taqnn Inc. (MTI)** A not-for-profit organization created by the nine Mi'gmaq First Nations in New Brunswick to promote and support recognition, affirmation and implementation of Aboriginal and Treaty rights.
- **Working NB** provides services to New Brunswick employers and job seekers looking for support in career development, recruitment, retention and training through the Government of New Brunswick's Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour.
- **Atlantic Hydrogen Alliance**, an industry, government and research coalition supporting the development of a vibrant low-carbon hydrogen value chain to enable the transition to a prosperous low-carbon economy in Atlantic Canada.
- **Opportunities NB** is New Brunswick's lead economic development agency, focused on attracting global investment and supporting local businesses in their growth, scaling, and export endeavors. The agency offers tailored services such as assistance with business navigation, regulatory alignment, export market access, access to funding, and guidance on adopting new technologies like AI and automation to foster productivity and innovation.
- **Seafarer AI** is pushing the boundaries of environmental and security monitoring. Again, using PORT WATCH AI to monitor underwater noise and surface water, the system creates an ambient 'noise library' that helps identify specific sound sources, such as ships or construction activities. This is a pilot project at the Belledune Port Authority.



The events were promoted through direct email invitations, community billboards, pre-movie cinema ads and on social media through Facebook and LinkedIn. Event pages and content had approximately 50,000 impressions throughout the course of the campaign.

During the events, a videographer conducted mini interviews with exhibitors to introduce their organizations and explain their relationship to the Green Energy Hub. The videos were shared on social media channels following the events to encourage further engagement.

The events attracted more than 500 participants in the three locations, including many high school and post-secondary students. This included an environmental studies class from Sugarloaf Senior High School in Campbellton, approximately 100 students from CCNB Bathurst, and 75 students (three classes) from Polyvalente Louis-Mailloux in Caraquet.

Informal feedback from participants was collected through the question-and-answer sessions, and conversations with presenters. Formal feedback was collected through facilitators at the Clean Energy Connections 'listening session' booth, who struck up conversations with participants and encouraged them to write down ideas and responses to a series of values-based questions posed on large flipcharts.

French and English media outlets covered the sessions with radio interviews and television, print and digital stories that promoted the events and provided important context about the need for green energy development in New Brunswick and the potential opportunities at the Belledune Port Authority.

Exhibitors shared positive feedback from all three events on social media channels, focusing comments mainly on LinkedIn.



Betty-Ann Fortin · 1st
CEO, Restigouche RSC

Well put together and great exhibitors 🍷

Like Reply



Derek Estabrook · 1st
Executive Director, Atlantic Hydrogen Alliance
22h · Edited · 🌐

I was pleased to represent the [Atlantic Hydrogen Alliance](#) as an exhibitor at the [Port of/de Belledune](#) Open Houses last week in Caraquet, Bathurst, and Campbellton.

Over 3 days I talked to hundreds of interested and engaged residents, students, companies, and professionals who are excited about the economic, environmental, and employment potential for green hydrogen and the Green Energy Hub at the Port of Belledune.



Josh Perry · 2nd
Client Relationship Manager at Research and Productivity Council of Ne...

4d ...

Very nice events, great opportunity for networking and information. Thank you and well done!



Michelle Robichaud · 1st
Driving Business Growth & Innovation | Public Relations | Community En...

5d ...

Great discussions and loved having the students invigorate the conversation!



Andre Pelletier · 1st
Never stop learning! Life is way too short to spend too much of it being ...

Looking forward to the next two!



Key Feedback Themes

Enhancing trust and confidence through transparency, communications and collaboration between industry, government and community organizations

Open house participants want to understand why the green energy transition is necessary, and for decision-makers to share facts and research while acknowledging challenges and potential costs using plain language and simple terms.

Participants also support consistent communication, improved connection and consideration from government and industry decision-makers in southern New Brunswick, for more green energy success stories to be shared, and for all voices to be heard, including Indigenous voices, in the energy transition.

Private and public sector investment in local green energy infrastructure and projects

Most open house participants said energy is a strong component of economic growth in New Brunswick and could be even stronger with more widespread adoption of electric vehicles and charging infrastructure, and by supporting more in-province green energy production that could develop sustainable industry. Participants said the energy sector could improve community services and create new jobs. They said the sector will require an aligned strategy with investment from government and industry, and an industrial benefit model to help communities invest in their own growth.

Attracting, training and retaining more skilled workers in the energy sector

Open house participants, mostly students, wanted information about actual job types, wages and training requirements for careers in the clean energy sector. Participants said employers and advocates need to emphasize the benefits of a career in clean energy - that jobs will be stable, well paying, and contribute to a cleaner future. They also shared a desire for more

job-based training, mentorships, scholarships, streamlined courses and study programs and better guidance on what to study for a career in clean energy.

Open House at the Belledune Port Authority- June 25, 2025

Open House Community Information Session was hosted at the Belledune Port Authority on June 25, 2025. Tours of the facilities were offered and so were family activities including touch a truck, face painting and BBQ.

The open house also included trade-show style booths from a variety of presenters, including the following:

- **Belledune Port Authority** and its certification by the Green Marine Program, the leading environmental certification program for North America's Maritime Industry, which adopts practices and technologies to minimize the environmental footprint of marine operations.
- **NB Power** shared information about a potential project to convert the Belledune Generating Station from its current fuel source of coal to renewable biomass (wood pellets).
- **Alliance de l'énergie du Nord**, an alliance of municipalities from the Acadian Peninsula, Chaleur and Restigouche regions and the First Nations communities of Pabineau and Eel River Bar pursuing partnerships with renewable energy producers to locate projects in northern New Brunswick and generate revenue for local governments and Indigenous communities.
- **Atlantica Centre for Energy**, an advocacy organization that proactively engages with industry, government, education and research sectors and the public to foster sustainable growth related to energy opportunities in Atlantic Canada.
- **QSL**, the Belledune Port Authority's logistics and cargo handling partner since 1997, which recently strengthened its partnership with the signing of a new 25-year lease agreement that will help transform the Port into a green energy hub and enhance supply chain opportunities with Europe. The Port and QSL share a vision of innovation, infrastructure investment and sustainable growth. QSL is a key supply chain player in port terminal operations, stevedoring, marine services logistics and transport throughout North America.

- **Mi'gmawe'l Tplu'taqnn Inc. (MTI)** A not-for-profit organization created by the nine Mi'gmaq First Nations in New Brunswick to promote and support recognition, affirmation and implementation of Aboriginal and Treaty rights.
- **Working NB** provides services to New Brunswick employers and job seekers looking for support in career development, recruitment, retention and training through the Government of New Brunswick's Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour.
- **Opportunities NB** is New Brunswick's lead economic development agency, focused on attracting global investment and supporting local businesses in their growth, scaling, and export endeavors. The agency offers tailored services such as assistance with business navigation, regulatory alignment, export market access, access to funding, and guidance on adopting new technologies like AI and automation to foster productivity and innovation.
- **Seafarer AI** is pushing the boundaries of environmental and security monitoring. Again, using PORT WATCH AI to monitor underwater noise and surface water, the system creates an ambient 'noise library' that helps identify specific sound sources, such as ships or construction activities. This is a pilot project at the Belledune Port Authority.

The events were promoted through direct email invitations, community billboards and on social media through Facebook and LinkedIn. Event pages and content had approximately 50,000 impressions throughout the course of the campaign.

During the events, a videographer filmed the whole event and some of the images were used to create video content. The videos were shared on social media channels following the events to encourage further engagement.

The events attracted more than 300 participants from the community.

French and English media outlets covered the sessions with radio interviews and television, print and digital stories that promoted the events and provided important context about the need for green energy development in New Brunswick and the potential opportunities at the Belledune Port Authority.

Exhibitors shared positive feedback from all three events on social media channels, focusing comments mainly on LinkedIn.

Key Feedback Themes

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The open house event at the Belledune Port Authority was well received overall, with participants appreciating the opportunity to learn more about ongoing projects and future development plans. Key feedback highlighted the value of clear and accessible information, particularly around green energy initiatives, environmental impacts, and employment opportunities. Many attendees emphasized the importance of maintaining open and transparent communication, as well as ensuring continued engagement with both local residents and First Nations communities. Participants appreciated the tour portion, and it made them better understand the current activities of the Port. Others suggested that similar events should be held every year providing more opportunities for two-way dialogue, allowing stakeholders to ask questions and share concerns directly with project leaders.

Engagement Sessions with First Nations -September 3rd and 4th

Engagement Sessions were offered to both First Nation Communities Eel River Bar on September 3rd and Pabineau on September 4th.

The engagement session offered a panel discussion on Green Energy Development in New Brunswick. The participants were: Denis Caron, CEO Belledune Port Authority, Michelle Robichaud, President, Atlantica Center for Energy, David Campbell, Economist and Owner of Jupia Consultant and Chief Terry Richardson, Pabineau Falls.

The engagement sessions also included trade-show style booths from a variety of presenters, including the following:

- **Belledune Port Authority** and its certification by the Green Marine Program, the leading environmental certification program for North America's Maritime Industry, which adopts practices and technologies to minimize the environmental footprint of marine operations.
- **NB Power** shared information about a potential project to convert the Belledune Generating Station from its current fuel source of coal to renewable biomass (wood pellets).
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- **QSL**, the Belledune Port Authority's logistics and cargo handling partner since 1997, which recently strengthened its partnership with the signing of a new 25-year lease agreement that will help transform the Port into a green energy hub and enhance supply chain opportunities with Europe. The Port and QSL share a vision of innovation, infrastructure investment and sustainable growth. QSL is a key supply chain player in port terminal operations, stevedoring, marine services logistics and transport throughout North America.
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The events were promoted through direct email invitations, community billboards and on social media through Facebook and LinkedIn. Event pages and content had approximately 50,000 impressions throughout the course of the campaign.

During the events, a videographer filmed the whole event and some of the images will be used to create video content.

The events attracted more than 100 participants in total within both communities.

French and English media outlets covered the sessions with radio interviews and television, print and digital stories that promoted the events and provided important context about the need for green energy development in New Brunswick and the potential opportunities at the Belledune Port Authority.

Exhibitors shared positive feedback from all three events on social media channels, focusing comments mainly on LinkedIn.

Key Feedback Themes

First Nations communities have expressed concerns regarding the green energy development at the Belledune Port Authority, emphasizing the importance of meaningful consultation, environmental protection, and respect for treaty rights. Many worry that large-scale industrial projects, even those framed as “green,” may negatively impact traditional lands, waters, and resources that are central to their cultural practices and way of life. There are also concerns about whether these projects will bring direct benefits to Indigenous communities, such as employment, training, and long-term economic opportunities, or if they will primarily serve external stakeholders. Ensuring transparency, ongoing dialogue, and genuine partnerships will be essential to addressing these concerns and building trust as the Port pursues its vision of becoming a hub for green energy.

Final Word

The Belledune Port Authority and the Community Workforce Development Committee wish to thank the community members, presenters, partners and students for their energetic participation in these events, their thoughtful questions and valuable feedback. These conversations will help inform decisions and actions as the Port moves forward with the development of Green Energy Hub. The committee also gratefully acknowledges the support of the Government of New Brunswick through the Department of Post Secondary Education Training and Labour, along with the Port staff team who worked tirelessly to organize and execute these sessions.

D. Economic Impact Report by David Campbell, Jupia Consultants (October 2024)

[Belledune Port Authority: Canada's Green Energy Hub
Revitalizing Northeastern New Brunswick's economy](#)