

**8.00 Coffee & Registration****8.20 Chair's Opening Remarks**

Adrienne Baker, Director, **Canadian Clean Energy Conferences**

**8:25 Opening Keynote Introduction**

David Hickey, CEO, **Siemens Wind Power Limited**

**8.30 Opening Keynote: Key Milestones and Next Steps for Renewables in Alberta**

The Honourable Margaret McCuaig-Boyd, Minister of Energy, **Government of Alberta**

**8.50 Keynote: Realizing Saskatchewan's Renewables Roadmap**

The Honourable Scott Moe, Minister of the Environment, **Government of Saskatchewan**

**9.10 Keynote Panel: Analyzing Opportunities in Alberta's Changing Energy Landscape**

Alberta is in the midst of a comprehensive overhaul of its entire energy sector impacting all forms of generation with the overall aim of reducing carbon emissions while diversifying the economy. Central to Alberta's Climate Leadership Plan is the replacement of coal-fired plants over the next 13 years with renewables and natural gas and the introduction of carbon pricing. This keynote session will bring together energy leaders across all generation types to provide strategic insight into the changing opportunities and dynamics of Alberta's new energy landscape.

- How do energy leaders view the changing dynamics and resulting opportunities under provincial climate and energy goals?
- How are these changes impacting business strategies for the provinces and beyond?
- What areas of concern or uncertainty have energy leaders identified under this transition to a diversified energy market?
- What role are different technologies expected to play in this energy diversification?
- How is the low pool price in Alberta shaping strategic plans for the province?
- Feedback from natural gas suppliers on the impacts and strategies of carbon pricing in Alberta
- How do energy leaders see Alberta's move to a capacity market affecting business opportunities?

**Chair: Chris Benedetti**, Principal, **Sussex Strategy Group**

**José María Sánchez Seara**, President and CEO, **NaturEner Canada**

**Mark Zimmerman**, Senior Vice President Corporate Development & Commercial, **Capital Power**

**Allen Wiley**, Vice President, Development - Canada and Northeast U.S., **NextEra Energy**

**Chris Jarratt**, Vice Chair, **Algonquin Power & Utilities**

**Peter Karl**, Vice President of Commercial Power, **AltaGas**

**9.50 Q&A with Session Speakers****10.00 Networking Break****10.30 Session 1: Critical Updates on Current and Future Renewables Procurement**

System operators in Alberta and Saskatchewan recently launched competitive bids for new renewables generation, specifically 400 MW in Alberta and 200 MW of wind and 10 MW of solar in Saskatchewan. These are the first tranches in the provinces' plans to meet their significant renewables goals for 2030. This session will offer critical updates on current and future renewables procurements from system operators.

**10.30 Keynote Introduction and Session Chair**

**Chair: Grant Sprague**, Associate Council, **Miller Thomson LLP**

**10.35 Keynote: Alberta's Renewable Electricity Program: Key Updates and Next Steps**

**Michael Law**, Senior Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, **Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO)**

**10.55 Q&A****11.10 Keynote: SaskPower's Renewables Roadmap: Current Progress and Future Plans**

**Guy Bruce**, Vice-President, Planning, Environment and Sustainable Development, **SaskPower**

**11.30 Q&A****11.45 Alberta's Move to a Capacity Market: Potential Impacts for Renewables**

- Key considerations for Alberta's move to an energy and capacity market
- What are the potential challenges for renewables in a capacity market?
- Insight from US capacity markets and the impacts on renewables

**George Katsigiannakis**, VP of Wholesale Power Markets, **ICF**

**12.05 Luncheon Welcome**

**Michael Weidemann**, Executive Vice-President, **ENERCON Canada**

**12.10 Networking Lunch** Sponsored by:  **ENERCON**  
ENERGY FOR THE WORLD**1.10 Opportunities and Challenges for Renewables in Saskatchewan**

**Chad Eggerman**, Partner, **Miller Thomson LLP**

**1.30 Realizing Wind Project Success in Alberta and Saskatchewan**

- What unique approaches to these markets can ensure large-wind's long-term success?

**David Hickey**, CEO, **Siemens Wind Power Limited**

**1.50 Session 2: Current and Future Bids in AL & Sask: Insight from Leading Developers**

With a combined potential for 7,000 + MW of new renewables generation and additional opportunities for smaller-scale projects, renewables developers of all technology-types and sizes are watching these markets. This session will bring together leading developers to share their views on current and future bids and provide insight on the key market and regulatory changes shaping renewables success in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

- Feedback from developers on current RFPs in Alberta and Saskatchewan
- What has been the experience so far in these markets and are there remaining areas of concern?
- What would assist project proponents to prepare for future competitive bids?
- What would developers like to see in terms of transparency on connection capacity in planning greenfield projects?
- Do developers anticipate any challenges in meeting construction timelines for the first round?
- Outside the 7,000 MW + goal for renewables, what additional opportunities are expected for renewable energy in these markets?
- What is the level of interest in smaller, community-partnered projects and what business-models and criteria would work best for these projects?
- What regulatory and permitting changes would help support the volume of renewables generation anticipated?
- Are there concerns over the long-term sustainability of these programs?
- What role can the renewables industry play to help ensure public support for renewable energy?

**Chair: David Estill**, Head of Sales and Strategy for Canada, **Siemens Wind Power Limited**

**Ray McKay**, Vice President Operations and Business Development, **ENMAX**

**David Thornton**, Manager, Stakeholder Relations, **EDF EN Canada**

**Grant Noll**, Vice President Operations and Business Development, **Fortistar Biomass Group**

**Colin Edwards**, Vice President & Director, **Pattern Energy**

**2.30 Q&A with Session Speakers****2.40 Networking Break****3.10 Session 3: Realizing Renewables Goals: Lesson Learned from Other Jurisdictions**

This session will bring together key market players from other jurisdictions to share their challenges and experiences in succeeding and surpassing ambitious renewable energy targets and realizing economic development and climate goals.

**3.10 Case Study: Positioning Large-Scale Wind for Success: Lessons Learned from Iowa**

The development of large-scale wind has put the State of Iowa in a strong position to meet climate goals and has resulted in as many as 7,000 jobs. Local utility MidAmerican Energy has been central to the State's success over the last decade with 23 wind farms now under construction or in operation and partnerships with more than 2,400 Iowa landowners. This presentation will offer insight on lessons learned from this market on how to position large-scale wind for success.

**Rob Berntsen**, Senior Vice President & General Counsel, **MidAmerican Energy**

### 3.30 Jurisdictional Energy Leaders Panel: Experiences from Other Markets

- What have been some of the key challenges in realizing renewable energy goals and integration in these jurisdictions?
- What are the main drivers for renewable energy procurement and how is this informing the longevity and success of these programs?
- What groundbreaking reforms are helping these jurisdictions integrate large amounts of distributed generation and incentivize capital investment?
- What has been the public narrative around renewable energy and how is that contributing to program success?
- What has been the role of smaller-scale and community-partnered projects in realizing broader renewable energy goals?
- What has been the economic impact of these programs for rural communities?
- How are these markets evolving today: current goals for additional renewables integration, energy storage and innovative partnerships, i.e. corporate renewables?
- How can these experiences help inform the challenges and strategies for Alberta and Saskatchewan?

**Chair: Robert Hornung**, President, **Canadian Wind Energy Association (CanWEA)**

**Kenneth Ragsdale**, Principal Market Design and Development, **Electric Reliability Council of Texas**

**Craig Glazer**, Vice President - Federal, Government Policy, **PJM Interconnection**

**Rob Berntsen**, Senior Vice President & General Counsel, **MidAmerican Energy**

**Clarke Bruno**, Principal, **Anbaric**

### 4.10 Q&A with Session Speakers

### 4.20 Analyzing the Feasibility of Large-Scale, Community-Partnered Wind: Lessons Learned from Europe

- What lessons from Europe's success with large-scale, community-partnered projects can be applied to the Alberta and Saskatchewan markets?
- What are some of the potential challenges in trying to adopt this approach in Western Canada?
- How has the European model succeeded in creating and sustaining broad public support for renewable energy?

**Hassan Shahriar**, Senior Commercial Manager, **Enercon Canada**

### 4.40 Session 4: Municipal Leaders Roundtable: Building Partnerships and Support

As Alberta and Saskatchewan move forward with renewable energy goals, rural municipalities will play a major role in hosting and supporting projects. With current large-scale procurements emphasizing municipal support and consultation, and Saskatchewan moving forward with 20 MW of community-based solar projects, municipalities are central to the success of provincial renewable energy plans. This session will bring together municipal leaders from both provinces to share their views on renewables in their regions.

- What role do municipalities see for themselves in meeting provincial renewables goals?
- Municipal leaders' views on how the transition to renewables will impact their communities - local benefits and challenges?
- How can this energy transition help mobilize rural economic development?
- Are municipalities considering any regulatory changes in light of the anticipated increase in renewables development in their areas?
- What are some of the key acceptance criteria for new renewables generation?
- Views on how municipalities would like to be consulted during the approvals process?
- What is the appetite for partnering on projects and what are the potential roadblocks?
- How do municipal leaders see the market for community-led renewables evolving?

**Chair: Helmut Herold**, CEO, Managing Director, **Senvion North America**

**Todd Pawsey**, Development Officer, **County of Paintearth**

**Kym Nichols**, Mayor, **Village of Carmangay**

**Vern Lymburner**, Mayor, **Town of Valleyview**

**Ray Orb**, President, **Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities**

### 5.20 Q&A with Session Speakers

### 5.30 Networking Drinks' Welcome

**Helmut Herold**, CEO, Managing Director, Senvion, **North America**

### 5.35 Networking Drinks

Sponsored by: **SENVION**

## 8.40 Session 5: Smaller-Scale Renewables Opportunities in Alberta and Saskatchewan

Both provinces have carved out tranches for smaller-scale and community-led projects to play a role in climate targets and economic development for rural and indigenous communities. In addition, Alberta recently announced its program to support the development of rooftop solar projects across the province. This session will bring together leading project developers specializing in smaller-scale and community-partnered projects to discuss the opportunities and challenges of smaller-scale renewables in Western Canada.

- How are developers assessing opportunities for smaller-scale and community-partnered projects in these markets?
- What can be learned from the successes and failures of smaller-scale renewables in other jurisdictions?
- How does this compare to other jurisdictions in terms of the uptake of community-partnered projects?
- What are some of the innovative finance models available for these projects?
- What additional regulatory changes would help boost the development of small-scale, community-partnered projects?
- What needs to happen to realize the full potential of smaller-scale solar in Alberta and Saskatchewan?

**Chair: David Kelly**, CEO, **SkyFire Energy**

**Kevin Bergeron**, President and CEO, **miEnergy**

**Clifton Lofthaug**, President and CEO, **Great Canadian Solar**

**Colin Rioux**, Director, **Alberta Solar Co-op**

**Justin Wilson**, Director, Policy and New Markets, **Clean Energy Collective**

**Jason Praski**, Board Member, **SES Solar Cooperative**

## 9.20 Q&A with Session Speakers

## 9.30 Session 6: Navigating New Project Permitting and Regulatory Guidelines

How are the permitting and project approval processes in Alberta and Saskatchewan changing to meet new renewable energy program demands? This session will bring together regulatory experts to provide updates on current and proposed changes as both markets prepare for higher volumes of project proposals in line with renewable energy goals.

## 9.30 Understanding Key Changes and Considerations for Project Approvals & Guidelines

**Rob Simieritsch**, Regional Resource Manager, **Alberta Environment and Parks**

## 9.50 Managing Permitting and Project Approval Processes in Alberta

**Wade Vienneau**, Executive Director – Facilities, **Alberta Utilities Commission**

## 10.10 Environmental Guidelines and Permitting Processes for Renewable Energy Projects

**Sharla Hordenchuk**, Director, Environmental Assessment and Stewardship, **Ministry of Environment, Government of Saskatchewan**

## 10.30 Networking Break

## 11.00 Session 7: Sheltering Energy Diversification from Political Cycles

In order to reap the many benefits of a low-carbon economy, political support for renewable energy has to continue through election cycles. How can renewables build a narrative that appeals to the broader public and is more insulated from political cycles in Alberta and Saskatchewan?

- How vulnerable are current renewable energy goals to political change?
- Insight on current public support and opposition for climate policies and renewables
- How are the narratives around renewable energy and climate leadership being shaped in these markets?
- Examples of effective messaging and campaigns to garner broad support for renewables
- How can renewable energy goals be maintained through future election cycles?
- What is the potential impact of evolving federal policies on provincial energy goals?
- What can the renewables industry do to ensure broad public and cross-party support?

**Chair: Sara Hastings-Simon**, Associate Regional Director, **Pembina Institute**

**Randy Dawson**, Managing Principal, **Navigator**

**Trevor McLeod**, Director of the Natural Resources Centre, **Canada West Foundation**

**Ken Boessenkool**, Founder, **KTG Public Affairs**

## 11.35 Q&A with Session Speakers

## 11.45 Session 8: Evolving Renewables Opportunities for Indigenous Communities

By developing and partnering on renewables projects, indigenous communities will play a pivotal role in the energy diversification of Alberta and Saskatchewan. Both provinces have launched programs for First Nations and Metis communities to lead on smaller projects and are supportive of large-scale projects that include indigenous partners. This session will offer candid views on the opportunities for indigenous communities to partner and lead on renewables in the region.

- How do provincial climate goals align with indigenous community economic development and energy infrastructure goals?
- How do community leaders view the opportunities for small and larger-scale renewables in their regions?

- What are the expectations in terms of direct economic benefits and overall energy savings from these projects?
- What has been the experience of communities that have implemented projects?
- What are some of the current challenges communities face in trying to initiate these projects?
- What role do communities see for partnerships with project developers on small-scale and larger-scale projects?
- What types of funding is available for supporting renewables projects for indigenous communities?

**Chair: Erika Ritchie**, Sustainability Business Consultant, **E.S. Ritchie Consulting**

**Vickie Wetchie**, General Manager, **Green Arrow Corp. Akamihk**

**Albert Derocher**, Economic Development Officer, **Flying Dust First Nation**

**Leah Nelson Guay**, Chief Executive Officer, **First Nations Power Authority**

## 12.20 Q&A with Session Speakers

## 12:30 Luncheon Welcome

**Chris Benedetti**, Principal, **Sussex Strategy Group**

## 12.35 Networking Lunch

Sponsored by: **sussex**

## 1.30 Session 9: Financing Alberta Projects: Lenders Comfort Levels and Concerns

While the Indexed-REC structure has allayed much of lenders' concerns around financing renewables in a merchant market, there are some remaining areas of concern. This session will bring together leading debt and equity providers to discuss their comfort levels and any ongoing financing challenges.

- Feedback from lenders on the contract and financing structure for Alberta projects
- Have issues around counterparty risk and curtailment been adequately addressed?
- Are there ongoing areas of concern for lenders - and how might they be resolved?
- What key criteria will lenders use to assess risk for these projects?
- Are there any new considerations going into the due diligence for these projects?
- Lenders views on whether the Indexed-REC will be used in future competitions
- How do lenders see the move to capacity markets impacting renewables prospects?

**Chair: David Timm**, Vice President, **Sussex Strategy Group**

**Julien Dumoulin-Smith**, Executive Director - Equity Research, US Electric Utilities, Alt Energy, & IPPs Group, **UBS Securities**

**Andrew Cogan**, Director, Infrastructure, **Fengate Real Asset Investments**

**Michael Switt**, Managing Director, **Manulife Financial**

**Tyler Jans**, Director, Business Development & Land, **BluEarth Renewables**

## 2.10 Q&A with Session Speakers

## 2.20 Session 10: Potential Project Development Challenges Within Evolving Grids

Will Alberta and Saskatchewan's systems change in line with the anticipated volume and timescales of new renewables development and what issues could developers encounter? This session will bring together renewables experts to discuss potential project challenges as grid infrastructures evolve to integrate higher volumes of intermittent, distributed generation.

- What would developers like to understand about interconnection processes in these markets?
- What are current expectations for connection capacity availability for future competitive bids in Alberta & Saskatchewan?
- What role is energy storage expected to play in addressing renewables integration challenges in these markets?
- Are interconnection and queue processes expected to change for future RPFs?
- What potential grid connection and integration challenges should developers be aware of for future procurements?
- How are curtailment plans evolving and how might this change for future projects?
- What solutions are being proposed to match renewables resource availability with connection availability?
- How should expected capacity developments inform project siting?
- Could the coal phase out in Alberta open new opportunities for connection capacity?
- What further investments and policy changes would help support the integration and connection of new renewables generation in these markets?

**Chair: Paula Olexiuk**, Partner, Energy, **Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt**

**Dan Chapman**, Director of Business Development & Projects, **NRStor**

**Kris Aksomitis**, Director, **Power Advisory**

**Carmine Marcello**, Executive Vice President, **Sigma Energy Storage**

**Rob Miller**, Vice President, Utility Energy Projects, **3G Energy**

## 3.05 Q&A with Session Speakers

## 3.15 Chair's Closing Remarks

**Adrienne Baker**, Director, **Canadian Clean Energy Conferences**

## 3.20 Conference Close