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MITIGOKAA

Development Corp.

BIOMASS NORTH AGM & FORUM 2018
Government Leadership in the
Bioeconomy

INTRODUCTION



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- Director of First Nations Sustainable Communities Program, IGNITE Infrastructure Association Inc. (www.igniteassociation.org)
- Past Chief and Councillor, Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory
- Past CEO, Union of Ontario Indians, Anishinabek Nation

THE OPPORTUNITY AND THE ROADBLOCKS



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- With our wealth of sustainable forest biomass supply, why has Canada not realized the economic, environmental, and social benefits of a thriving bioeconomy?
- Why are we, for example, still heating over 1.4M homes in Ontario with expensive oil, propane and electricity, when other countries are reducing their carbon footprint, saving money, and creating jobs by using wood residues and cutting-edge clean-tech equipment to heat their homes and businesses. Why are we still powering over 25 remote First Nations here in Ontario with dirty and expensive diesel fuel when other countries are using efficient and reliable biomass CHPs?
- Main critical issue is policy and regulatory barriers. But more importantly, the will to make the change happen.

GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITIES



- Support its constituents with enhanced quality of life
- Create economic opportunities for its constituents and industry
- Attracting business and investment in its territories
- Protection of its lands and resources – policies and regulations
- Developing policies and regulations that are workable
- Investing in opportunities that will make a difference for its constituents

WHAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN



- Forest tenure reform to allow long-term access to biomass supply
- Regulatory and policy reform
 - Boiler regulations pre-date computers and related technology
 - Land permitting for First Nations
- Enhanced financial support for First Nation and community driven projects
- Support for enhanced corporate involvement in the bioeconomy

FIRST NATION PERSPECTIVE



- First Nations are self governing – First Order of Government
- First Nations through its Treaty relationships with the Crown – Agreed to Sharing of the Resources
- Indian Act – Broken Treaties and Broken Promises
- First Nations have and will continue to assert jurisdiction over its traditional lands
- First Nations want to participate in the bioeconomy

NEXT STEPS



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- We all need to stand together and push government on regulatory and policy reform
- We all need stand together to push the Ontario government on the extreme importance of the Climate Change Action Plan and to change to their position on the Cap and Trade Program
- Push Both Levels of Government on enhanced financial support for biomass projects
- We Need to Create Awareness with the Canada Public on the Biomass Opportunities and Constraints



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