# Annual Community Energy Forum & AGM 2026

***Igniting Community-Owned Energy***

# Forum annuel et AGA 2026 de la CECC sur l'énergie communautaire

***Stimuler l'énergie communautaire***

October 8 - 9, 2026

du 8 au 9 octobre 2026

Concordia University, Montréal

Université Concordia, Montréal

# PARTICIPANT SCHEDULE

# HORAIRE DES PARTICIPANTS

*The CECC Annual Community Energy Forum & AGM is made possible through the generous support of our sponsors.*
*Le Forum annuel et l'AGA de la CECC sont rendus possibles grâce au généreux soutien de nos commanditaires.*

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# Useful Information

## Informations utiles

## Attending in Person

### Participation en personne

**Language and Interpretation | Langue et interprétation**

Each panel's language (EN or FR) is shown next to its title in the schedule. Live translation is available through LiveVoice.
La langue de chaque panel (EN ou FR) est indiquée à côté de son titre dans l'horaire. La traduction en direct est offerte avec LiveVoice.

### Live Translation | Traduction en direct

This service provides translated captions and live audio translation.
Ce service offre des sous-titres traduits et une traduction audio en direct.

**To use the live audio, please bring your own headphones.**
**Pour utiliser l'audio en direct, veuillez apporter vos propres écouteurs.**

**On smartphone or tablet | Sur téléphone ou tablette**

Scan with your camera to download the app and join the event automatically.

Balayez avec votre appareil photo pour télécharger l'application et rejoindre l'événement automatiquement.

**Or download | Ou téléchargez :**
**App Store | Google Play**

**On computer | Sur ordinateur**

On Mac, PC or Linux, open any web browser (Chrome, Firefox, etc.) and go to:

Sur Mac, PC ou Linux, ouvrez un navigateur Web (Chrome, Firefox, etc.) et allez à :

**livevoice.io/listen/574439**

**Join Live Event → | Rejoindre l'événement →**

**Then enter the code | Puis entrez le code :**

**574 439**

## Joining Online

### Participation en ligne

**Time Zone | Fuseau horaire**

All times in this schedule are in Eastern Daylight Time (EDT).
Toutes les heures indiquées sont à l'heure avancée de l'Est (HAE).

**Zoom Link | Lien Zoom**

One link for the entire event, excluding the AGM.
Un seul lien pour l'ensemble de l'événement, à l'exception de l'AGA.

**https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87338968357?pwd=8f5hAQxWFLFEWglXWyRA1HDnFaCVP0.1**

**Meeting ID: 873 3896 8357 | ID de réunion : 873 3896 8357**

**Annual General Meeting | Assemblée générale annuelle**

The Annual General Meeting is for CECC members only. Members will receive separate virtual attendance details.
L'AGA est réservée aux membres de la CECC, qui recevront séparément les détails de participation virtuelle.

# Day 1: Scaling, Financing and Reconciliation

## Jour 1 : Mise à l’échelle, financement et réconciliation

ER1431 (NGCI), 2155 rue Guy | Thursday, October 8, 2026 | jeudi 8 octobre 2026

**8:30 - 9:15 AM**

### Registration and Breakfast | Inscription et déjeuner

Light breakfast served on site. Badge pick-up opens at 8:30 AM.

Déjeuner léger servi sur place. Remise des porte-noms dès 8 h 30.

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**9:15 - 9:45 AM**

### Opening Remarks | Mot d’ouverture

***Dr. Martin Boucher, PhD***

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**9:45 - 10:00 AM**

### Welcome Address | Allocution d'ouverture

***Marc-Antoine Giroux***
***Acting Director, Strategic Relations***
***Environment and Climate Change Canada***

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**10:00 - 11:00 AM**

### Opening Keynote: International Experience in Energy Co-operatives

A keynote on international experience in building and scaling energy co-operatives, followed by an open question period.

***Dr. Jordi Pascual, PhD***

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**11:00 - 11:30 AM**

### Coffee Break | Pause-café

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**11:30 AM - 1:00 PM**

### Workshop 1: Building Municipal Partnerships for Renewable Energy Co-opertives (EN)

Community renewable energy projects often depend on strong relationships with municipalities and the broader municipal ecosystem. This panel will explore how municipalities, economic development organizations, research partners, and community energy co-operatives can work together to identify opportunities, navigate local processes, build capacity, and move projects from concept toward implementation. Drawing on practical experience from across Canada, the discussion will consider what effective municipal partnerships look like and how they can help community-owned energy projects take root and grow.

***Facilitator: Prof. Julie MacArthur, PhD***
***Speakers: Dany Robidoux, Janice Ashworth; Dr. Derya Tarhan PhD; Corey Pembleton***

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**1:00 - 2:00 PM**

### Lunch | Dîner

**2:00 - 3:30 PM**

### Workshop 2: Financing and Owning the Energy Transition (EN)

Community-owned energy projects can deliver lasting local benefits, but securing capital remains a major challenge for the sector. This panel brings together research, co-operative, and lending perspectives to explore how community energy projects can be financed and owned. Drawing on national research and practical experience from co-operatives and financial institutions, speakers will discuss member capital, financing models, partnerships, and what makes a project financeable across different provincial markets. The discussion will offer practical insights into financing and scaling community-led energy projects in Canada.

***Facilitator: Prof. Dr. Ursula Eicker, PhD***
***Panellists: Jodi Conuel; Joost Sluis, CFA; John Kirkwood; Dr. Basma Majerbi, PhD***

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**3:30 - 4:00 PM**

### Coffee Break | Pause-café

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**4:00 - 5:30 PM**

### Workshop 3: Indigenous Leadership, Community Energy and Renewable Energy Co-operatives (EN)

Indigenous-led and Indigenous-partnered community energy projects are creating new opportunities for local ownership, economic participation, and community decision-making. Drawing on experience from Haida Gwaii and other communities across Canada, this session will explore practical approaches to Indigenous community energy development, from building partnerships and developing community-owned projects to navigating technical, regulatory, and financial challenges.

Speakers will share perspectives on Indigenous leadership, economic development, youth engagement, and the role renewable energy co-operatives can play in supporting community-owned energy. The discussion will explore lessons from projects underway and opportunities for co-operatives and Indigenous communities to work together through project development, investment, capacity building, and knowledge sharing.

***Facilitator: Darcie Lanthier***
***Panellists: Tomika Pinay; Kuan-Jian Foo; Gavin Jackson; Dr. Mariia Iakovleva, PhD; Dr Reddi Sekhara Yalamala, PhD***

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**5:30 - 6:00 PM**

### Break, Group Photo and Move to District 3

**Pause, photo de groupe et déplacement vers District 3**

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**6:00 ~ 8:00 PM**

### Keynote Reception and Networking | Conférence, réception et réseautage

Evening keynote followed by a networking reception. Drinks and light bites available.

**Conférence en soirée suivie d'une réception de réseautage. Cocktail de clôture.**

***Keynote Speaker: Guy Lonechild***
***President and CEO***
***First Nations Power Authority***

***District 3, FB-6-610.00, 1250 rue Guy, 6th floor | 6e étage***

# Day 2: Charting a Roadmap to Resilience

## Jour 2 : Tracer une feuille de route vers la résilience

ER1431 (NGCI), 2155 rue Guy | Friday, October 9, 2026 | vendredi 9 octobre 2026

**8:00 - 9:00 AM**

**Breakfast | Déjeuner**

**9:00 - 10:30 AM**

**Workshop 4, Part 1: A Roadmap to Resilience for Community Energy in Canada (EN)**

The Roadmap to Resilience project team will share findings from a year-long exploration of the opportunities and challenges shaping Canada's renewable energy co-operative sector. Drawing on international research, a regulatory scan across all provinces, and stakeholder workshops in six locations across the country, the session will highlight common themes, regional differences, and priority areas for building a more resilient community energy sector.

***Facilitator: Dr. Martin Boucher, PhD***
***Panellists: Josie Ward ; Daniel Curwin ; Maya Willard-Stepan***

**10:30 - 11:00 AM**

**Coffee Break | Pause-café**

**11:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

**Workshop 4, Part 2: Facilitated Table Discussions (EN / FR)**

Participants will move into small-group discussions to reflect on the findings and explore what they mean for the sector going forward. Discussions will consider shared challenges and opportunities, differences across provinces, opportunities for greater collaboration, and how the community energy movement can work more closely together while maintaining local relevance.

**12:00 - 1:00 PM**

**Lunch | Dîner**

**1:00 - 2:30 PM**

**Workshop 5: How Can We Develop More Participatory Energy Planning Processes and Energy Communities in Quebec in 2026? (FR)**

*Atelier 5 : Comment mettre sur pied des processus de planification énergétique plus participatifs et des communautés d'énergie au Québec en 2026? (FR)*

*Alors que le Québec se prépare à transformer son système énergétique, les communautés locales, les citoyennes et citoyens, les coopératives et la société civile restent peu associés à la définition des besoins, aux choix de projets et à la gouvernance des infrastructures. Ce panel examinera les possibilités offertes par les processus délibératifs, la planification territoriale, les coopératives, les microréseaux et la propriété collective, ainsi que ce que pourrait signifier une communauté d'énergie au Québec en 2026. Il abordera également les rôles possibles des coopératives, des municipalités, d'Hydro-Québec, de la Régie de l'énergie et des mouvements citoyens, ainsi que les principaux obstacles réglementaires, institutionnels, financiers et organisationnels.*

***Responsable du panel : Karl Janelle***
***Panélistes : Damien Tholomier; Alexandre Rechnitzer; Rachel Fahlman; Gaëlle Crête; Benoit Delage***

**2:30 - 3:30 PM**

**Closing Remarks | Mot de clôture**

***Dr. Martin Boucher, PhD; Prof. Julie MacArthur, PhD***