



**First Nations
Power Authority
of Saskatchewan™**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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RIBBON-CUTTING FOR FNPA'S FIRST SOLAR PROJECT

Today, First Nations Power Authority (FNPA) along with its strategic partners, Lockheed Martin Canada and FHQ Developments, held an official ribbon-cutting ceremony for its Commercial Solar Demonstration Project. Showcasing new solar technology specifically designed for Canada's climate, the project is designed to offset power consumption for the Home Inn & Suites in Swift Current, Saskatchewan.

This solar photovoltaic power generation endeavor is FNPA's first Strategic Off-Grid and Renewables (SOAR) demonstration project. It includes partners from the Government of Canada through Western Economic Diversification Canada and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Lockheed Martin Canada, FHQ Developments, The City of Swift Current, and the Government of Saskatchewan.

"By supporting First Nation Power Authority's three solar-power demonstration projects -in Swift Current, Fond du Lac First Nation and Hatchet Lake First Nation - the Government of Canada continues to take action to address climate change while providing opportunities for building capacity and financial savings in First Nation communities," added Bernard Valcourt, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development. "I would like to thank the FNPA and its partners for collaborating with the Government of Canada on bringing these important projects to life."

"Our Government is proud to support innovative ways to generate a renewable, off-grid power supply that will create economic opportunities for Saskatchewan's First Nations," said the Honourable Michelle Rempel, Minister of State for Western Economic Diversification. "The solar panels at Swift Current are a strong demonstration of this new technology at work, and I am proud of our Government's support for this project."

"The Government of Saskatchewan is pleased to provide support for this initiative," said Government Relations Minister, and Minister responsible for First Nations, Metis and Northern Affairs, Jim Reiter. "Developing innovative power generation technologies like solar power is an exciting innovation for our First Nations and the province as a whole. I applaud the First Nations Power Authority (FNPA) for this ground-breaking green initiative."

The Ministry of Government Relations provided a \$44,950.00 grant through the First Nations and Metis Engagement Projects fund. The grant supported an engineering feasibility study, project management, web-based security, promotional material, and travel.

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“This project is uniquely aligned with FHQ Development’s strategic goals and we are excited to be part of this partnership opportunity”, said Christopher Adams, FHQ Developments General Manager. “The Project is reflective of our shared commitment to partnership and collaboration, conservation and environmental sustainability, technology innovation, and economic development.”

First Nations Power Authority CEO, Leah Nelson Guay, said “We are thrilled that Lockheed Martin Canada is investing in renewable energy technology with its patented Tilt-Axis Roll Tracker. Together, our teams have worked effectively to ensure the strength of the system and its ability to withstand the consistently high winds for which Southwest Saskatchewan is well known,” Nelson Guay said.

Lockheed Martin’s advanced solar technology offers a solution specifically equipped for Canada’s climate challenges. “Success of this project will support a platform for future FNPA energy projects in our country,” Nelson Guay continued. “It will provide us with valuable data about solar energy performance and how our communities can adopt renewable technology to improve our carbon footprint.”

The solar demonstration project is expected to provide approximately 26,440 kWh/year of renewable energy to the local area and represents a reduction of CO2 equivalent of 21 metric tonnes/year.

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Visit the FNPA website for updates: www.fnpa.ca