

## **Energy Conservation Day**

# "Energy Conservation in My First Nation"

#### **Overview**

The FNEI Conservation Program, is holding an *Energy Conservation Day* in Attawapiskat, Fort Albany and Kashechewan as an annual event to promote and re-enforce energy conservation behavior through fun-filled and informative events that appeal to the entire family, household and community. We now have the approval of Chief and Council for this event and they will make a declaration of a Community Energy Conservation Day.

#### **Timing**

In mid-September as the fall has certain advantage since students are back in school and Energy Conservation Day may be coordinated with the teaching of energy conservation in the school curriculum.

#### **Declare Energy Conservation Day**

The Chiefs and Councils have agreed to declare a day mid September as *Energy Conservation Day*. The declaration needs to occur at least two months prior to holding Energy Conservation Day to provide sufficient time for organization and promotion.

## **Establish Energy Conservation Day Steering Committee in Each Community**

We would like to ask members of the elders committee, the youth committee and the women's committee, and others to form a steering committee that will work with FNEI program staff to help with the preparations for Community Energy Conservation Day.

#### **Promoting Energy Conservation Day**

- News Release announcing Council's declaration of Energy Conservation Day
- Announcement of Energy Conservation Day Declaration over Wawatay Radio as a news item or PSA,
- Posters for Community Bulletin Board, Cable etc.
- Facebook
- Banner for each community announcing Energy Conservation Days put up two weeks prior to alert community members

#### **Elder and Youth Presentation on Conservation**

We would like to invite Elders to speak on conservation as a tradition and ask Youth to speak about the importance of applying the conservation tradition today.

#### **Energy Conservation Song, Dance and Drumming Contest**

A month or two prior to Energy Conservation Day, promote energy conservation with a Song, Dance or Drumming Contest and encourage youth and community member to send in tape recording or video of their performance. On Energy Conservation Day in mid-September have all the songs, dances and drumming performed. The best song and drumming (as judged from applause) from each community will be recorded and sent to Wawatay Radio to be produced prior to being aired. The dances may be videotaped and placed on FNEI Conservation Page YouTube site (to be developed).

## **Energy Conservation Demonstrations**

The following demonstrations will be held on energy conservation

- How to apply interior plastic window shrink wrap, caulking and weatherstripping
- How to reduce moisture in the home and control mold
- Introducing a variety of energy efficient products, including those already installed in each home
- Cookless meals demonstration of meals made without using stove for cooking
- Kids can have fun without wasting electricity. Active games and quizzes that don't require electricity, including making a solar-powered hot dog cooker

## **Conservation Pledge Sign-Up**

Ask people to sign up for the *Conservation Pledge Program*. Participants agree to sign up for a year and pledge to practice their chosen conservation activity during that time. All entrants must agree to give the FNEI Conservation Program access to power bill consumption information to monitor progress of their conservation effort. The person who keeps their pledge to conserve energy and conserves the most power wins. Winners will be announced and prizes awarded at the next Energy Conservation Day celebration, or at some other suitable time.

#### **Energy Conservation Calendars**

The energy conservation calendars may be produced in time for Energy Conservation Day. As part of the event, the "first calendar" will be handed out to the Chief and Council and to the students who contributed art. The rest will be delivered to all residential and non-residential addresses.

## **Involving the Entire Community**

The institutions (school, health care centre, churches etc) and retailers will be asked to participate in the day with posters/displays/activities at their locations. Community members will be invited to prepare and sell food at the event.

#### **Main Site**

The main activities should take place at a facility with outdoor and indoor space available (in case of inclement weather), for example the school or arena. Timing for the day requires input from each community – e.g. 10 am to 4 pm or 1 pm to 7 pm. The schools and the community centre are being considered as the main venue for the event.

## **Proposed Agenda**

- Welcome and Declaration of Energy Conservation Day Chief and CEO FNEI
- Presentation of the first FNEI Conservation Calendar to Chief and Council
- Presentation of Conservation Calendar to students who submitted artwork
- Musical Performance Special Guests Vern Cheechoo and Lawrence Martin are being considered
- Guest Speaker Male Elder on the tradition and importance of energy conservation
- Youth musical performance(s)
- Guest Speaker Female Elder on the tradition and importance of energy conservation
- Introduction of Dance Performers
- Guest Speaker GM of LDC Announce Community Energy Challenge
- Guest Speaker FNEI Conservation Manager
- Introduction of Drummers
- Guest Speaker Youth talking about what energy conservation means to them
- Children's games, demonstrations, mural painting etc. continue for the duration of the event

Produce a video of Energy Conservation Day – "Energy Conservation on My First Nation"

-Students, community members are asked to shoot videos of energy conservation in the community and on Energy Conservation Day. Final video will be edited and posted on YouTube and linked to FNEI website and Facebook page

#### Follow up with Wawatay Radio, CBC North, CTV North, APTN on:

- -recording best Energy Conservation Song and broadcast it
- -broadcasting video about Energy Conservation on My First Nation including the performances
- -broadcasting elder's talk on the tradition of conservation
- -broadcasting youth speech about energy conservation

#### For more information, contact:

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