

## WORK WITH US

Our integrated solutions bring multiple benefits to First Nations communities and their partners.

We invite you to partner with us as we work to launch our program in several new communities this fall. We are currently building relationships with First Nations, government agencies, utility corporations and financial institutions.

We'd be very excited to talk with your community or agency about how you could play a role in helping First Nations communities achieve renewable energy independence and economic autonomy.

For more information, please contact:

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*These changes in the world are happening very quickly – there's absolutely no time to waste. — ART NAPOLEON, ARTIST AND FORMER CHIEF.*

energy  
community  
integration  
autonomy

energy  
community  
integration  
**Innovative partnerships that put energy in the hands of First Nations communities.**

**FIRST POWER** is a unique organization that blends business innovation with social purpose. Our vision is simple: to empower First Nations communities by giving them the means to create their own renewable energy.

We are a union of Taylor Munro Energy Systems – a leading BC solar energy company, and the Centre for Integral Economics – an award-winning charitable organization that specializes in community engagement.

We believe that the best solutions come from inside First Nations communities, and work to turn their vision into reality by building partnerships amongst diverse sectors.

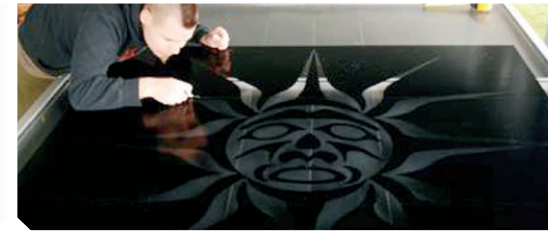
### WHAT WE DO

We make affordable, renewable energy solutions available to First Nations communities.

We design green technology energy training and conservation programs that are tied to First Nations culture and meet the needs of oral learners.

We create job training and economic development opportunities in the renewable energy industry.

We build mechanisms for fund development and project financing.



*We see energy as a perfect fit to create autonomy in our village and in our territory. This is a power project but what it means to the Hesquiaht people is an empowerment project.*

— CAROL ANNE HILTON, HESQUIAHT NATION



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## HOW WE HELP

Our integrated solutions bring multiple benefits to First Nations communities and their partners.

### ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions
- Reduced air, water and land pollution from reliance on dirty fuels

### SOCIAL BENEFITS

- **Community empowerment** built on meaningful involvement in developing programming that recognizes the unique values, traditions and long held practices
- **Community members learn a trade** in a way that recognizes their unique oral learning styles
- **Community pride and ownership**, as well as improved community capacity and leadership
- **Greater equity in energy access** with less reliance on outside skills and technology
- **Energy autonomy** – communities own and control the technology and have skills locally to maintain and repair problems with systems
- **Energy security** – communities have a more secure energy supply, and are less impacted by price volatility
- **Improved health** by eliminating airborne particulates causing serious illnesses such as asthma

### ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- **Annual savings** of up to \$15,000 per household in some First Nations communities previously reliant on diesel
- **Job creation** in communities with the highest unemployment rates in Canada

## WHY IT WORKS

Our approach is successful for a number of key reasons:

- We engage communities through meaningful relationships and partnerships. We build relationships with community leaders and members based on trust and respect.
- The communities we work with own the knowledge, tools and technologies. We make sure First Nations don't just deploy renewable energy technologies, but that they also own them.
- We involve the community in every part of our program development and decision-making processes. We get input elders, artists, and many of the other diverse interests that make up First Nations communities.
- We use "oral tradition" teaching methods and materials to reach First Nations learners. This means we include elements such as cultural references, humour, story telling, video, illustrations and hands-on learning by doing.
- Our training addresses urgent community needs. We help communities reduce some key costs, and move toward autonomy and greater community well being.

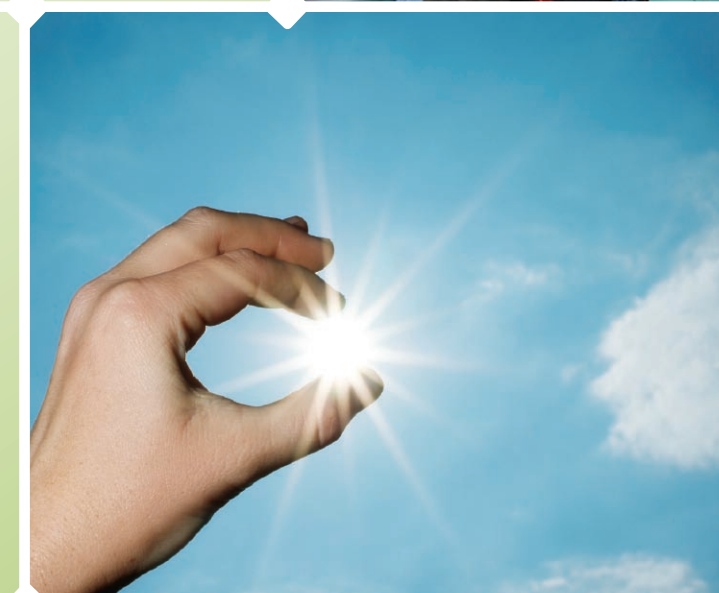
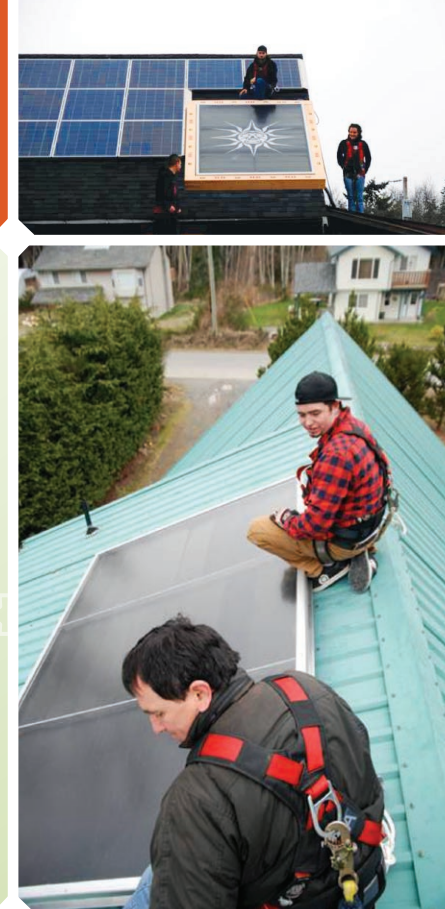
### CASE STUDY:

#### T-SOU'KE NATION PILOT TRAINING PROGRAM

In March 2009, we completed an important pilot training program with the T'Sou-ke First Nation. Results of the pilot program include:

- 9 people graduated with certificates in Solar Hot Water Installation
- 26 solar hot water systems were installed in one month, with 60% of the labour provided by trainees
- 6 people were trained to be trainers themselves, including a Metis from the interior of BC
- The community helped create a "Solar Art Panel"
- Orally-based trades training materials were developed, and these can be replicated in other communities
- Funds were successfully leveraged from government and private sources

respect



*It's training the way the trades used to be taught.*  
- JOE THWAITES,  
TAYLOR MUNRO ENERGY SYSTEMS

*For First Nations and Halalt people it's about respecting the environment. We don't want to be part of a problem. We are in the 21st century so we have to evolve and use technology that is going to benefit everybody at the end of the day" - CHIEF THOMAS, HALALT NATION*

empowerment