



CIB, Alexander First Nation Chief, George Arcand, Terry Hui from Concord Pacific, and FNpower announce the Tilley Solar Project

The group to commemorate Tilley close and discuss greater First Nation involvement in other large scale renewable energy projects in Canada

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- CIB loans \$33 million towards the **\$52 million Tilley Solar facility** in Newell, Alberta.
- The **First Nations' investment is expected to generate returns** for the community which can be re-invested into other economic development projects.
- Will **reduce greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 14,200 tonnes annually**.
- **Innovative funding model with Tilley could be scaled up and applied to a variety of proposed renewable projects in Canada**

NEWELL/VANCOUVER – Alexander First Nation, First Nation Power Development (FNpower), Concord Green Energy (a subsidiary of Concord Pacific), and the Canada Infrastructure Bank (CIB) have reached financial close on the Tilley Solar Project.

The CIB committed \$33 million to the Tilley Solar project, located 200 kilometres southeast of Calgary in Newell, Alberta, on Treaty 7 Territory. The total project cost is **\$52 million** and will include the economic interests of the Alexander First Nation and FNpower, an Indigenous-owned organization dedicated to empowering First Nation community ownership and participation in the emerging renewable energy industry.

The CIB's investment towards the solar facility advances First Nation economic participation in the clean energy transition, along with improving grid stability and reliability by adding needed electricity generation.

With First Nations in an ideal position to take on meaningful ownership and drive economic reconciliation opportunities, this project demonstrates a First Nation-led initiative actively participating in the renewable energy industry while aiding in diversifying the sector.

The 23.6-megawatt solar farm, which includes 69,450 fixed-tilt solar photovoltaic panels, will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Alberta by approximately 14,200 tonnes annually.

The sustainable, large-scale energy project will support long-term socio-economic benefits for the Nation and their partners. The project will generate more than 280 full-time jobs at peak and is estimated to create \$14 million in direct labour income and \$6 million of indirect labour income.

In collaboration with the Alberta Indigenous Clean Energy Initiative, led by PrairiesCan, Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) contributed \$1 million to Alexander First Nation towards its investment in the Tilley Solar Project. The ISC support advances reconciliation in securing First Nation ownership of the clean power project.



Following the CIB's recent investment in the Deerfoot and Barlow Solar projects in Calgary, Tilley Solar represents the CIB's second Indigenous Community Infrastructure Initiative clean power investment to reach financial close in Alberta.

The CIB will continue to collaborate with First Nation, Métis and Inuit communities on infrastructure projects in partnership with, and for the benefit of Indigenous communities across Canada.

Endorsements

Directly impacting the Alexander First Nation through job creation and long-term economic prosperity, our investment in the Tilley Solar Project will help foster economic reconciliation while advancing a more sustainable grid. Our collective approach to project development sets an example for future partnerships of Indigenous leadership in renewable projects that can be replicated across Canada. ***Ehren Cory, CEO, Canada Infrastructure Bank***

With the CIB's investment in the Tilley Solar Facility, the renewable energy sector will continue to expand as Indigenous communities lead the way in the transition toward a greener economy. Projects like the Tilley Solar Facility help ensure that Indigenous communities continue to benefit economically while contributing to the transition toward a greener renewable energy sector for generations to come. ***The Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure***

I would like to thank the CIB for their tremendous support and dedication to the Tilley Solar Project. This signifies the economic viability of the project for our Nation for many years to come. With that comes long-term careers/jobs for our Nation members, consistent revenue for the Nation, and our footprint into the green energy space. I would also like to thank and congratulate Alexander Business Centre, First Nation Power Development, and Concord Green Energy for their unwavering hard work and commitment to bring this project into fruition. I am beyond excited to see the end product as a green energy source which is important to us as First Nations people who are stewards of the land. Hiy hiy
Chief George Arcand Jr, Alexander First Nation

"As CEO of ABC and an Alexander First Nation member as well, it is with great pride that we were able to complete this investment that will generate a consistent revenue stream for our Nation over the next 30 years. I want to thank Hillary Thatcher and all her team at CIB for their tremendous support and commitment to ensuring this investment would be financially viable for our Nation. I want to thank Firman Latimer from First Nation Power Development for all your hard work, commitment and efforts to pull this project together and for including Alexander First Nation. Finally, I want to thank Concord Green Energy and Concord Pacific for their engagement and commitment to ensure this project is majority owned by its First Nations Partners and for providing the financial support we needed, our entire Nation is so very thankful for your generosity and your commitment to our participation. Lastly, I believe there will be more Green and Clean Energy Investments that our Nation, as we see combining Environmental Stewardship and Economic Participation as the future business model for our Nation."



Ian Arcand, Chief Executive Officer, Alexander Business Corporation

Having worked for First Nation communities over the last 15 years, it's been incredible to witness the evolution in economic participation. Extraordinary leaders like Chief George Arcand of Alexander First Nation and Ian Arcand, CEO of Alexander Business Corp, have persevered over many years to create these opportunities and drive momentum, demonstrating that First Nations people can create their own methods for meaningful economic participation, especially in emerging industries like the renewable energy sector. For this project we were very fortunate to have met an industry partner that understands the importance of inclusion and how to build meaningful relationships; Concord Pacific's renewable energy division Concord Green Energy is setting the bar for economic reconciliation within the energy industry. I would like to express my gratitude to Terry Hui for demonstrating true leadership in this regard. Most importantly, the partnership would not have been possible without the support of CIB, Hillary Thatcher, and her Indigenous and Northern Infrastructure team, who are truly looking out for the interests of the Indigenous partners. ***Firman Latimer, CEO, First Nation Power Development***

This great partnership with Chief George Arcand and the Alexander First Nation is our second major solar project with Alberta First Nations. We have been seeing this sector grow in Alberta and look to scale up on more projects in solar and hydro like Amisk Hydroelectric on the Peace River. ***Terry Hui, President and CEO, Concord Pacific Group***

Indigenous leadership in the clean energy space is resulting in more job-creating projects that will deliver affordable, reliable, and clean power to communities. The Alexander First Nation's Tilley Solar Project is an innovative example of economic reconciliation, as we build our net-zero future. The Government of Canada is pleased to support this vital work.

The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources

The Tilley Solar project will reduce carbon emissions, contribute to a greener and more sustainable economy, and support Indigenous Peoples continuing to be leaders in green energy. Alexander First Nation's equity purchase of the project will advance the Nation's economic prosperity with the creation of jobs and mentorships for their community members. Congratulations to Alexander First Nation on the financial close of the Tilley Solar Project.

The Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Indigenous Services, Government of Canada

The efforts of the Alexander First Nation to embrace partnerships and collaboration to bring this project forward are commendable. Job creation from partnerships on clean energy projects is exactly what we need to be considering today. I look forward to seeing future economic developments that follow Alexander First Nation's example of creating sustainable energy and community opportunity.

The Honourable Randy Boissonnault, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Official Languages, Government of Canada

[Media Images and Video](#)



About Us

CIB: The Canada Infrastructure Bank (CIB) invests in revenue-generating infrastructure which benefits Canadians and attracts private capital. We are a catalyst for private investment in projects that support economic growth. We are working on investment opportunities, from coast to coast to coast, which reflect our priority sectors for investment – green infrastructure, clean power, public transit, trade and transportation and broadband infrastructure.

Alexander Business Corporation: We operate by a 5 Pillar model: Community, Investment, Training, Revenue, and Employment. When each of these pillars is successfully maintained, we create sustainable economic and professional growth for members across our Nation and the partners we serve. With 50% of our revenue going back into our community, supporting ABC also supports the families, band members, and all persons who call Alexander home.

First Nation Power Development Inc. (FNpower): FNpower is a First Nations-owned enterprise that drives economic development among Nations through participation in the renewable energy sector. FNpower has established a framework that enables First Nation communities to acquire ownership positions in the sector by facilitating access to capital, technical knowledge, and cultural understanding that brings vetted partners to the table to create holistic partnerships.

Concord Pacific / Concord Green Energy: Concord Pacific has had a 35 year commitment to environmental responsibility in all aspects of its operations and transit oriented community builds. Through Concord Green Energy, Concord Pacific has emerged as a leader in the clean energy sector over the past 14 years through numerous hydro, solar, and wind projects in 5 provinces. With the completion of Tilley Solar this year, Concord Green Energy will surpass 300MW in its active portfolio. Concord has another 600 MWs in various stages of planning and development including the \$5B, 375 MW Amisk Hydroelectric project in Alberta. The project will bring \$4B in economic activity to Alberta and generate 1000 jobs during its construction.

Learn More:

[Canada Infrastructure Bank](#)

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