



NEWS RELEASE

Canadian Electricity Association Goes North to Discuss Energy Inequality, Clean Growth

Ottawa, ONTARIO – February 7, 2017. Canada was built on the principles of equality and opportunity. Yet many remote and northern communities still lack access to safe and reliable power. The Honourable Sergio Marchi, President and CEO of the Canadian Electricity Association (CEA), will be heading to Canada's north on February 8-15, 2017 to meet with government representatives, stakeholders and communities about the opportunities and challenges of electrifying the north.

Canada suffers from significant energy inequality when it comes to remote and northern communities. Despite the enormous potential for clean energy, the vast majority of these communities rely on imported diesel-fuel for meeting their basic energy needs. The cost of electricity in these regions is estimated to be over 10 times higher per kilowatt-hour than the Canadian average. This lack of access to affordable power limits economic opportunities and stifles growth and prosperity.

During his trip to the North, Mr. Marchi will be travelling to locations in both Yukon and the Northwest Territories, where he will speak at several Chambers of Commerce, meet with government representatives and first nations and Aboriginal leaders, visit Yukon College's Cold Climate Innovation Centre, tour electric utility facilities, and officially appoint Yukon Energy as CEA's most recent [Sustainable Electricity Company™](#).

Despite the efforts of individual utilities, there is still much work to be done to achieve widespread clean growth in the North. The Canadian electricity sector is ready to support a northern clean energy transition. We are ready to engage stakeholders, particularly government and regulators, and find ways of funding affordable energy solutions. Sustained support from governments is critical to making such transformational investments possible.

[Click here](#) to read more about electrifying the North in CEA's *Driving Clean Growth* paper.

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About the Canadian Electricity Association

Canadian Electricity Association (CEA) members generate, transmit and distribute electrical energy to industrial, commercial, residential and institutional customers across Canada every day. From vertically integrated electric utilities, independent power producers, transmission and distribution companies, to power marketers, to the





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manufacturers and suppliers of materials, technology and services that keep the industry running smoothly -- all are represented by this national industry association.

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