**Title:** Portrait of skills and training required for renewable energy projects

**Summary:** This research will focus on developing a detailed portrait of skills and training required for renewable energy projects, and an analysis of how accessible these are to rural and remote communities in Canada who wish to advance renewable energy projects.

**Proposed research elements:**

*Typology:* The student will develop a comprehensive typology of jobs involved in/required for the development, construction, and maintenance of different types of renewable energy projects (i.e. solar, wind, biomass) from opportunity identification to full implementation. This includes business/project development skills; partnership/relationship building/community engagement; construction; operations and maintenance; and more.

*Linked training and skills:* For each job/role “type,” the student will also detail the type(s) of training and skill development that would be required/helpful, and the avenues/delivery organizations (i.e. college/university programs, on-the-job training, apprenticeships, other) for accessing this kind of training. This section could include a compendium of training opportunities, or case studies where appropriate.

*Discussion and analysis:* Based on the information identified above, the student will analyze and discuss potential opportunities and barriers, as well as regional trends, for community-led access and participation in renewable energy project development, with a specific focus on Indigenous, rural, and remote communities in Canada. If there are access gaps, drawing on their research, the student could make recommendations for how to address them.

**Scope of work:** Natural Resources Canada’s Clean Energy for Rural and Remote Communities (CERRC) Program aims to support community-led renewable energy, energy efficiency, and capacity building projects that reduce the reliance of diesel fuel for heat and power in rural and remote communities in Canada. The clean energy project stream may support projects related to deployment of renewable energy technologies; innovative demonstrations to reduce diesel use; and BioHeat to reduce fossil fuel use. The capacity building stream funds community-led projects in support of knowledge, training and skill development opportunities related to clean energy in rural and remote communities. The CERRC program team is seeking a fuller, more detailed portrait of skills and training communities want as they advance their vision of an energy future. This research could inform future areas of focus for federal programming in this space, as well as future research.

We have proposed this project for the student’s review and consideration. We are flexible with the focus of this research and are willing to adjust the specific focus based on student’s interests and abilities. The project research will be mostly qualitative, but there could be opportunities to include quantitative and statistical analysis, should the student wish to expand their analysis. Areas of focus could include training and skills as they related to energy efficiency, remote education, Indigenous education, and community economic development.
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