



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Want to Cut Your Energy Costs *and* Reduce Your Footprint?
Participate in the NSFC Energy Survey!**

FACT: The Northeast Superior Region of Ontario spends an estimated \$25 million annually for the provision of heat and hot water from electricity, fuel oil, propane, and wood.

To help address this issue, the Northeast Superior Forest Community (NSFC), in cooperation with the Northeast Superior Regional Chiefs' Forum (NSRCF), will be conducting a telephone survey to determine the opportunities for renewable energy solutions in our region. The results of the survey could lead to innovative solutions that might cut energy costs for local residents, businesses, and institutions. Such solutions may affect individual buildings, a group of buildings, or even entire communities. Following the survey each municipality will be responsible for giving identified energy options further consideration, and for voluntary application. The results of the survey may also point to new industry opportunities for the region, stimulate greater self-sufficiency in energy generation, and contribute to improving our region's environmental footprint. In essence, the survey is a step in the right direction towards 'going green'.

Over the next few months, the economic development offices from communities throughout the region will be conducting telephone surveys to determine how local businesses, residents, and institutions currently heat their buildings, and also how they heat their water. The first round of surveys will be undertaken in Manitouwadge, and will begin around December 10th, 2010 followed by White River later in the month. The remaining communities will be surveyed in early 2011.

The NSFC urges residents and businesses to contribute to this economic development initiative by taking the time to participate in the survey when they are called. The survey will take just a few short minutes, and all information gathered will be kept completely confidential. The survey is not for property taxation or property insurance purposes, and the information will only be used for determining how heat is provided in the region and the estimated quantities of energy used annually.

To find out more about the survey contact the NSFC at (705) 864-2031, or your community Economic Development office.

About the Northeast Superior Forest Community

The NSFC is a partnership between six municipalities; Manitouwadge, White River, Hornepayne, Dubreuilville, Wawa, and Chapleau, as well as the Northeast Superior Regional Chiefs' Forum which represents Chapleau Cree, Brunswick House, Michipicoten, Missanabie Cree, Pic Mobert, and Hornepayne First Nations. The NSFC is also one of 11 Forest Community sites funded by Natural Resources Canada's *Forest Communities Program*, and part of a network of 15 sites across the country who combine to form the Canadian Model Forest Network (CMFN).

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