



**FORCE**  
Fundy Ocean Research Center for Energy



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Three new solar energy projects announced in the Cumberland region**

Springhill, N.S. – Deputy Premier and Finance Minister Karen Casey announced funding from the Solar for Community Buildings Program for three new projects in Springhill, Parrsboro and Amherst. The Solar for Community Buildings Program enables eligible community groups and organizations to generate up to 75kW of solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity on their roofs or properties and sell it to their utility under a 20-year contract.

The Municipality of Cumberland will install a set of solar panels on the Dr. Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre. The 75Kw project will dramatically reduce the energy cost for the facility. The centre already uses green technology with mine water geothermal heating and cooling. The solar panels will further drive down their carbon footprint.

“The Municipality of Cumberland has the goal of being the greenest municipality in the province and to be an example of sustainable planning worldwide,” said Warden Al Gillis. “Much like other examples of renewable energy innovation in Cumberland county, such as the Springhill Geothermal Industrial Park and the spectacular FORCE tidal energy research site, this sustainable energy installation will move the municipality forward to a greener future.”

The Fundy Ocean Research Center for Energy (FORCE) will install a 25kW project on the roof of its visitor centre located near Parrsboro, N.S. The install will coincide with FORCE’s efforts to foster tidal research, another alternative energy source.

“We are very pleased to participate in the Solar Electricity for Community Buildings Program,” said Sandra Currie, FORCE’s facilities manager. “Today’s announcement will enable us to demonstrate another technology at our facility and to further contribute to Nova Scotia’s clean energy future.”

The Town of Amherst will use the funding for a project at the Amherst Stadium.

“The Town of Amherst is pleased to be awarded the opportunity to produce renewable energy under the Solar For Community Buildings Program. Municipalities have a significant role to play in the shift to a clean energy economy that will reduce emissions while keeping more money in the local economy,” said Mayor David Kogan. “We recognize the clean energy shift as a significant economic development opportunity, which is why this program and other community energy initiatives are part of Amherst Town Council’s strategic priorities. I want to thank the Province and the Department of Energy for their leadership and for giving the Town of Amherst the opportunity to take action toward a greener future.”

Representatives from all three projects gathered in Springhill for the announcement.

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