



# WIND ENERGY PROJECT PARTNERSHIPS

CCC PUBLIC ENERGY SUMMIT

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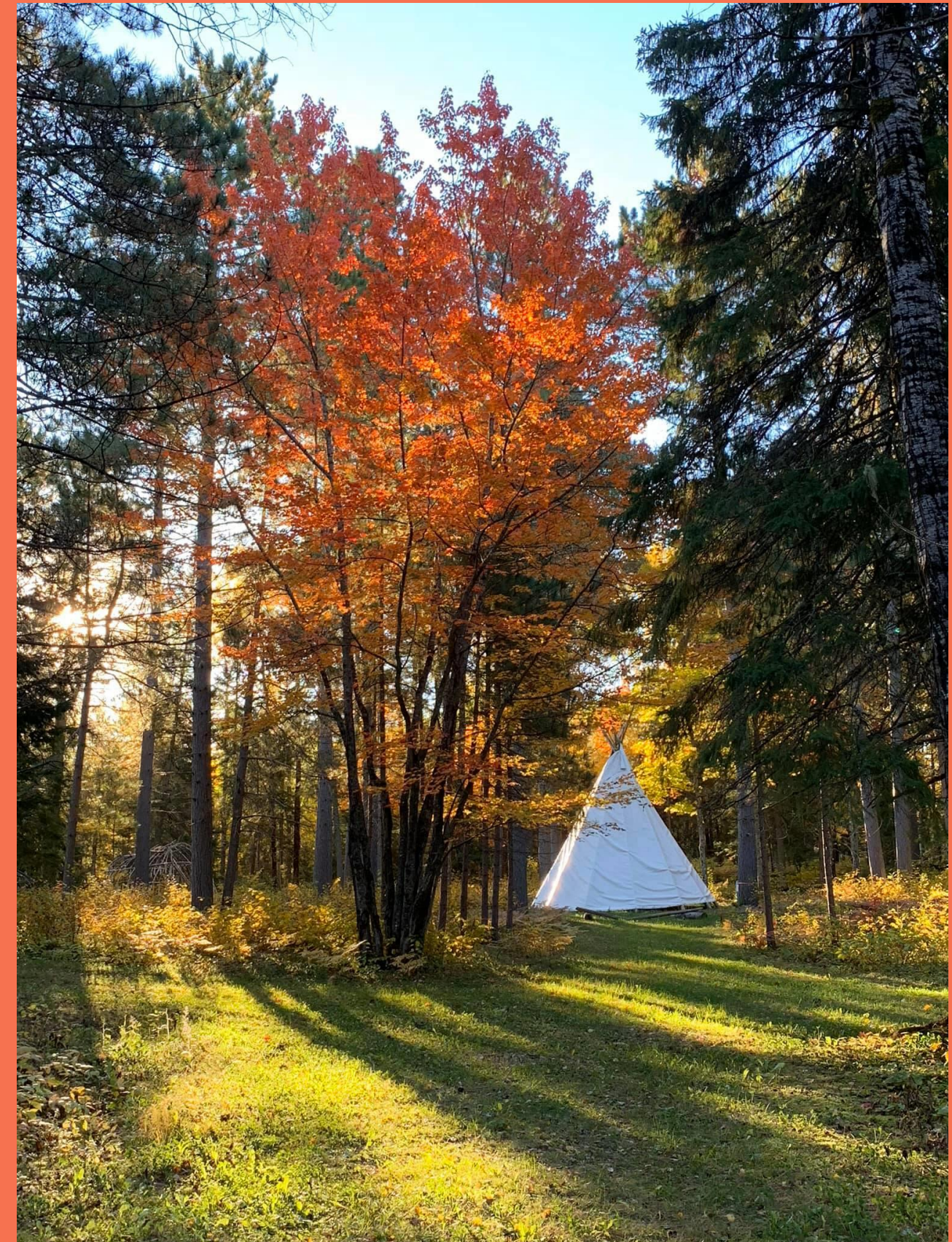




## TOBIQUE FIRST NATION (NEQOTKUK)

- Tobique First Nation (Neqotkuk) is one of six Wolastoqiyik or Maliseet Nation reserves in New Brunswick, Canada.
- It is the largest rural Wolastoqiyik reserves in NB with a population of approximately 2500.
- Wolastoqiyik means people of the beautiful river, people that have occupied this traditional territory since time immemorial.

## WOLASTOQIYIK NEQOTKUK



# HOW WE STARTED



- We are progressive forward-thinking community.
- We wanted to develop projects that would generate revenues for the community.
- Wanted to be part of projects that aligned with our values and vision for the future generations.
- Chief and Council decided to search for these types of opportunities – with wind energy projects.



## SEARCH FOR PARTNERSHIP & TRUST

- Finding the right partner is important.
- Natural Forces' values aligned with ours.
- Our partnership was not formed overnight; it developed and strengthened over the course of several years.
- Over the period of time, we reached a point of mutual understanding and were able to establish a sense of trust between us.



Honesty



Commitment



Flexibility



Compassion



## Equal Partnership with Collaborative Decision-Making

- Created a partnership where each partner had equal shares.
- No preferred share structure.
- This makes sure we work together to make important decisions.
- We brought two different perspectives and made better decisions together.
- Helped build a better project.



## Working with NB Power

- We worked with NB Power to ensure that First Nation participation was included in the next call for power.
- We showed them it was important to have First Nations involved in energy projects.
- NB Power launched a call for Power in 2017 called the LORESS program.
- Together with Natural Forces, we submitted the application and won the power purchase agreement in 2018.



## WOCAWSON ENERGY PROJECT

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- The project includes 5 turbines for a total of 20 MW.
- It supplied electricity for approximately 5,000 homes.
- It took 2 years to permit the project.
- The environmental studies and permitting work was completed in 2019.



# Project Construction

- Construction on the project began in 2019 and the project was commissioned in December 2020.
- The construction included:
  - Building and upgrading roads
  - Building and pouring concrete foundations
  - Building electrical circuits and distribution lines
  - Building a substation
  - Installing the turbines
  - Commissioning the turbines
- This all happened during covid, so we really had to make sure we worked with our partners to get this done right and safely.







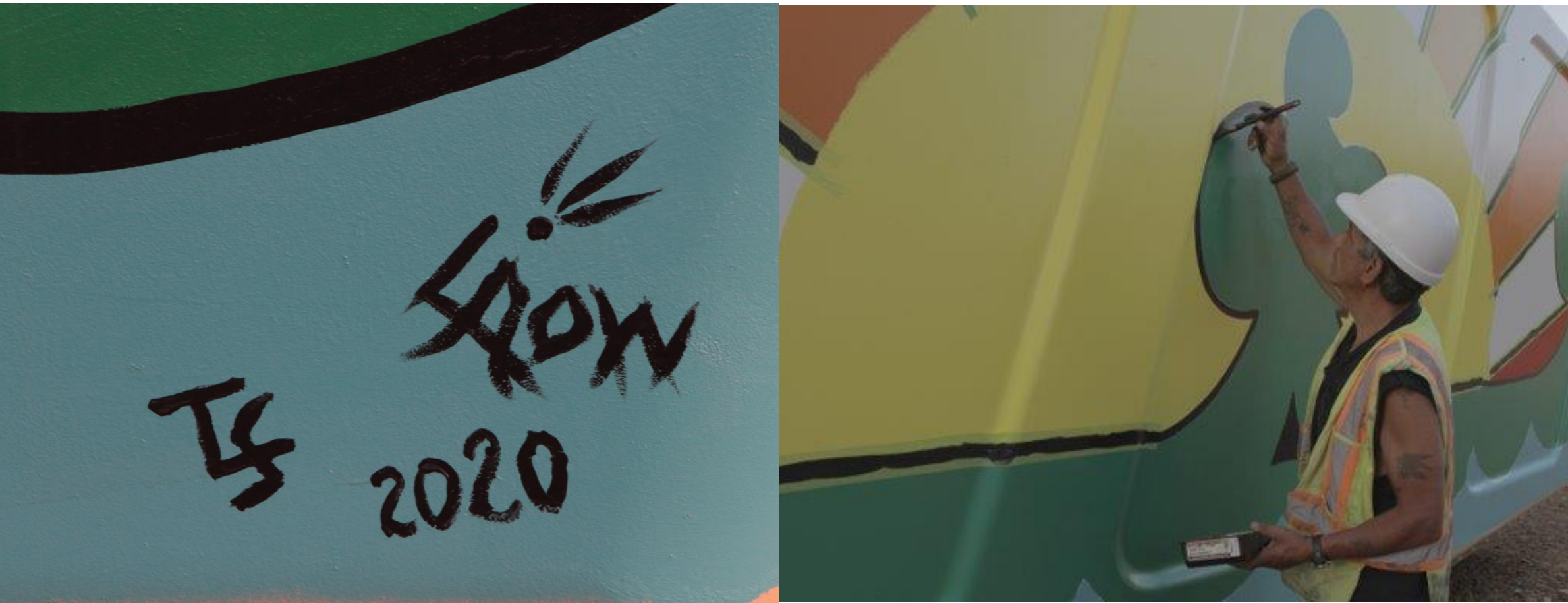
## Project Financing

- The project was financed through non-recourse project loan.
- Stonebridge financials arranged the debt.
- The benefits of financing with this type of loan was to help protect Neqotkuk in case of any issues.
- The lender would take over the project if ever in default of payments.



## Project Operations

- The project has been operational since Dec 2020.
- The project offsets approximately 22,000-44,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide annually.



TS 2020





## Second Opportunity: Burchill Wind Project

- After working on the Wocawson Energy Project, we learned a lot.
- We were prepared to work on new energy projects.
- And when the opportunity came up to work on the Burchill Wind Project for Saint John Energy, we were ready to take on the larger project.
- Burchill Wind Project is a 42 MW in Saint John, NB.
- Project was commissioned in June 2023.
- Majority owned by Tobique First Nation (Neqotkuk).



# Benefits of Working on Renewable Energy Projects

- Revenue for the community.
- Participating in energy projects on traditional lands.
- Developing skills in the community to develop and build these types of projects.
- Building projects for the future generations.
- More job opportunities for the community.



THANK YOU

