



Lower Kootenay Band

# Administration Complex Solar Photovoltaic Project



## Project Summary

The Lower Kootenay Band has successfully installed a grid-tied photovoltaic solar power system. The installation is located on the existing south facing roof of the Administration Complex. The solar power system will supplement the existing electricity that is provided by FortisBC. This has been done through a Net Metering Agreement. The project has the following attributes:

- *Capacity:* 4.23 kilowatts
- *Panel type:* Sharp 235W
- *Inverter type:* EnPhase micro-inverters (to enable monitoring of project performance and expansion)
- *Anticipated electricity output:* 5,650 kilowatt hours per year

## Key Project Benefits

This solar project represents an important milestone in the Lower Kootenay Band's growth in the clean energy sector. With the establishment of the project, the community will:

- Generate clean, low impact, renewable electricity;
- Reduce the Band's electricity payments to FortisBC;
- Further enhance the Band's presence and capacity in the clean energy sector;
- Enhance the profile of energy sustainability in the community; and
- Showcase the benefits of renewable energy technologies.

## Keys to Success

This project has been a great success for the community. This can be attributed to:

- A strong understanding of the community's clean energy objectives;
- Grant funding provided by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada's ecoENERGY program to support the development of the project;
- Good project planning and execution;
- Technical support from project partners; and
- Strong community leadership and commitment to supporting clean energy projects within Lower Kootenay.

## What's Next

With this project complete, the Lower Kootenay community continues to explore different clean energy development opportunities available to community. For example, the Band is now exploring different avenues to support a community-based biomass heating system for the Administration Complex, Yaqaan Nukiy School, and workshop buildings.

**Project Partners:**



**Omineca Solar Inc.**  
Renewable Energy Solutions

**URBAN**  
systems