

# Environmental Task Force Agenda

Time - Tuesday, August 26, 2025

Council Chambers

[Zoom Meeting Registration](#)

## 1. Call to Order

## 2. Traditional Land Acknowledgement

We begin this gathering by acknowledging and celebrating these traditional lands as a gathering place of the first peoples and their ancestors who are entrusted to care for Mother Earth since time immemorial. We do so respecting both the land and the Indigenous People who continue to walk with us through this world. Today, the Township of North Frontenac is committed to working with Indigenous Peoples and all residents to pursue a united path of reconciliation.

## 3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

## 4. Environmental Task Force Notes

- a) Notes of the Environmental Task Force Meeting dated July 29, 2025 as approved via email and being provided to Council for information at the August 28, 2025 Regular Meeting of Council. 2 - 5

[Environmental Task Force - 29 Jul 2025 - Minutes - Pdf](#)

## 5. Business Arising

- a) Work Plan Update 6 - 18
  - 1. Battery Storage Opportunities - John Inglis, Paul Asselin and Marlene Spruyt  
- Public Consultation Sessions August 27, 2025 at 3:00 pm and 7:00 pm
  - 2. Net Metering - John Inglis, Paul Asselin and Marlene Spruyt  
-Presentation to Council at August 28, 2025 Council Meeting (see attached)
  - 3. Invasive Species - Roy Huetl, Fred Fowler and Mike Ward
  - 4. Septic Inspection Programs - Bruce Moore, Kate Surra, Roy Huetl and Fred Fowler
  - 5. Short-term Rentals - Bruce Moore, Kate Surra, Ange Defosse and John Inglis

[Net Metering Proposal](#)
- b) Quarterly Newsletter  
- Content for Fall Edition

## 6. New Business

## 7. Adjournment

- a) Meeting adjourned at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m.



# Environmental Task Force Minutes

9:00 AM - Tuesday, July 29, 2025  
Council Chambers

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**Present:** Councillor Roy Huetl (Chair); Deputy Mayor John Inglis; Councillor Fred Fowler; Paul Asselin; Marlene Spruyt; and Mike Ward.

**Absent with Regret:** Ange Defosse; Bruce Moore; and Katie Surra

**Also Present:** Tara Mieske, Clerk/Planning Manager and Darwyn Sproule, Public Works Manager.

## 1. Call to Order

The Chair called the Meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

## 2. Traditional Land Acknowledgement

We begin this gathering by acknowledging and celebrating these traditional lands as a gathering place of the first peoples and their ancestors who are entrusted to care for Mother Earth since time immemorial. We do so respecting both the land and the Indigenous People who continue to walk with us through this world. Today, the Township of North Frontenac is committed to working with Indigenous Peoples and all residents to pursue a united path of reconciliation.

## 3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

None noted.

## 4. Environmental Task Force Notes

- a) ***Notes of the Environmental Task Force Meeting dated June 24, 2025, as approved via email and received for information at the July 10, 2025 Regular Meeting of Council.***

No comments.

## 5. Business Arising

- a) ***Work Plan Update***

1. Battery Storage Opportunities - John Inglis, Paul Asselin and Marlene Spruyt  
The Task Force discussed the Public Information Sessions which are scheduled for August 27, 2025 with one in the afternoon and one in the evening. Details on the times and location will be provided closer to the date. The Task Force Members

were encouraged to attend. Some Council Members and applicable staff will also be in attendance.

The FAQs have been posted on Engage Frontenac page. The Task Force requested details on the Engage Frontenac activity. The Clerk advised she would provide these details.

The Public Works Manager advised they are working on the draft lease agreement in parallel with the public consultation process. After the public consultation process, the lease agreement will not proceed if Council does not support the project.

Task Force Members advised they are hearing positive comments on the project with respect to green energy and community benefit funding. Some concerns raised include clean-up of the site at the end of the project and safety.

The Task Force requested the Public Works Manager to discuss the potential of a volunteer expert to review the contract. They also suggested reviewing contracts with other municipalities. The Task Force also felt the agreement should be reviewed by the Township's solicitor or someone who specializes in this type of project.

## 2. Net Metering - John Inglis, Paul Asselin and Marlene Spruyt

Asselin advised he is preparing the presentation to be provided to Council at the August 28, 2025 Council Meeting. The presentation will address many of the questions raised by Council and provide more details on revenue, costs and return on investment.

The Public Works Manager advised there will be a report to Council on the Micro-fit panels that are currently located on the Municipal Complex. The report includes the past 10 years of income and costs. The current contract is in place until 2033 and the Township is receiving \$0.54 per kilowatt hour. Council will consider options at the August 7, 2025 Council Meeting.

## 3. Invasive Species - Roy Huetl, Fred Fowler and Mike Ward

Councillor Huetl advised he met with Mazinaw Property Owners Association, the local MPs and MPPs, other local politicians and the Ministry of Natural Resources policy advisors (MNR) on July 16, 2025 regarding Eurasian Milfoil.

The MNR advised they do not have a budget to assist with the control of invasive species. They advised Eurasian Milfoil has been present in Ontario for 80-90 years and it is not included on the top 10 invasive species list. They noted it finds its equilibrium and there isn't much that can be done to control it. They noted it provides a habitat for fish. They advised may do a case study at Mazinaw Lake. However; they have very limited resources and staff.

Ric Bresee, MPP, Hastings-Lennox and Addington, advised he would suggest to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks about adding an additional charge of \$2.00 per car into Bon Echo Provincial Park to assist with controlling Eurasian Milfoil.

The Task Force noted there isn't much they can do except potentially provide education on invasive species and how to limit the spread within the lake and to other lakes. Meghan Ward's booth at Summerfest well received and provided a great opportunity to provide education to local residents and visitors on invasive species. There may be an opportunity to include this in the quarterly newsletter.

Councillor Huetl advised he would provide a report to Council on opportunities for the Township to provide education on invasive species, including Eurasian Milfoil.

4. Septic Inspection Programs - Bruce Moore, Kate Surra, Roy Huetl and Fred Fowler

The volunteer septic inspection program is underway and residents are being encouraged to participate. There haven't been any sub-committee meetings regarding the Mandatory Inspections.

5. Short-term Rentals - Bruce Moore, Kate Surra, Ange Defosse and John Inglis

The sub-committee has not met since the last Task Force meeting. They need to consider the elements that should be incorporated into a potential Licensing By-law. This is a complex matter and there are a lot of things to be considered. The Task Force requested information from the CAO on number and type of complaints received with respect to short-term rentals.

**b) *Quarterly Newsletter***

The Task Force discussed including educational material on Eurasian Milfoil in the fall newsletter. It was determined this would be a better topic for the next spring edition. The Task Force requested this be added to the next Agenda for further discussion.

**6. New Business**

**a) *Recycling of Beer and Liquor Containers***

The Task Force discussed the closure of the Sharbot Lake and Northbrook Beer Stores this fall and the loss of these options for returning empty beer and liquor containers. It was noted North of 7 is a depot for the returning of containers. Also, there are community groups who collect containers at the waste sites to raise funds to help with their services and programs. It was suggested this and other recycling information may be an option for the fall newsletter.

**7. Adjournment**

a) **Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m. until August 26, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.**

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Councillor Roy Huetl, Chair

# Net Metering Proposal



# Objective

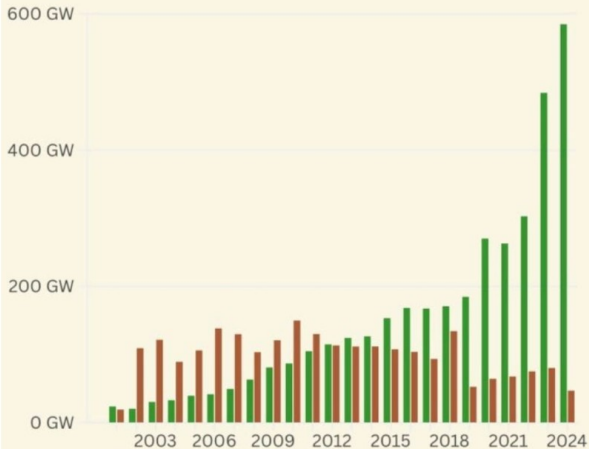
- Provide an appreciation of financial and energy security benefits
- Cash flow modeling used to communicate break even and return on investment (ROI) predictions
- Break even analysis is only a partial view as it ignores benefits after the break even point
- ROI quantifies benefits from project start to finish

# Recent Electricity Grid Facts

## Renewables dominate new power-plant construction

Global annual capacity additions, in gigawatts

Renewable Non-renewable



Source: IRENA

CANARY MEDIA

- 92.5% of 2024 grid capacity additions were renewable
- 91% of 2024 large new renewable projects delivered cheaper electricity than the lowest-cost fossil fuel alternative
- Grids are falling behind demand globally, including in Ontario, requiring major new investments
- Future grid energy prices expected to rise significantly to pay for these investments
- Example 1: Ontario residential electricity rates rose an average of 7.1% per year from 2006-2015 and 3.8% per year from 2016 to present
- Example 2: New York State residential electricity rates have increased 15% in 2025

Controlling one's own energy cost is becoming increasingly profitable

# Net Metering Recap

- Allows a facility to install solar panels that feed electricity back into the grid
- Energy fed to the grid is deducted from the energy used by the facility
- The facility is billed for the net amount of energy used
- Credits are assigned when more electricity is generated than used within a billing period
- Credits expire if not used within one year

Note that the current microFIT system is fully independent of a proposed Net Metering system. It does not lower electricity bills but instead provides an independent revenue stream.

# Net Metering Cost

- It is best to match annual panel output to annual facility use for optimum return on investment
- System cost is derived from solicited quotes by Quantum Energy and Eco Alternative Energy
- Cost of a system balanced with township office and fire hall electricity usage is estimated at approximately \$225,000, including required consulting fees

South Frontenac deployed a Net Metering system on one of their fire halls



# Cash Flow Model

- A spreadsheet modeling tool was specifically developed for this presentation to demonstrate annual cash flows (i.e. annual savings) arising from the project.
- Example model output:

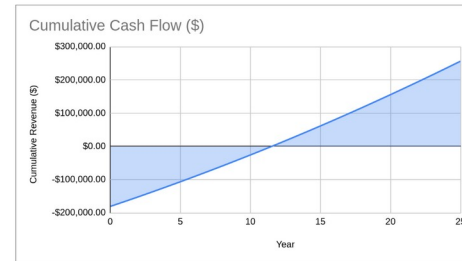
Cash Flow Variables

Cash Flow Calculator	
System Cost (\$):	\$180,600.00
System Capacity (kW):	77.4
Electricity Rate Increase (%/year):	3.00%
Inflation Rate (%/year):	3.00%
Panel Efficiency Loss (%/year):	1.00%
Annual Mtce Cost (% of initial system cost):	1.50%
Average Daylight Hours (hrs/day):	3.3
Electricity Export Rate (\$/kWh):	\$0.18

Loan Variables

Loan Calculator	
Principal Amount (\$):	\$180,600.00
Term (years):	0
Rate (%):	3.00%
Annual Payment (\$):	\$0.00

Year	Capacity (kW)	Loan Payment (\$)	Savings (\$)	Cumulative Cash Flow (\$)
0	77.40		\$0.00	-\$180,600.00
1	76.63		\$14,321.41	-\$166,278.59
2	75.85		\$14,573.02	-\$151,705.57
3	75.08		\$14,826.84	-\$136,878.72
4	74.30		\$15,082.72	-\$121,795.95
5	73.53		\$15,340.72	-\$106,455.23
6	72.76		\$15,600.57	-\$90,854.66
7	71.98		\$15,862.20	-\$74,992.47
8	71.21		\$16,125.48	-\$58,866.98
9	70.43		\$16,390.29	-\$42,476.69
10	69.66		\$16,656.48	-\$25,820.21
11	68.89		\$16,923.88	-\$8,896.32
12	68.11		\$17,192.34	\$8,296.02
13	67.34		\$17,461.68	\$25,757.69
14	66.56		\$17,731.70	\$43,489.39
15	65.79		\$18,002.20	\$61,491.60
16	65.02		\$18,272.98	\$79,764.58
17	64.24		\$18,543.81	\$98,308.38
18	63.47		\$18,814.43	\$117,122.82
19	62.69		\$19,084.61	\$136,207.43
20	61.92		\$19,354.06	\$155,561.49
21	61.15		\$19,622.51	\$175,184.00
22	60.37		\$19,889.64	\$195,073.64
23	59.60		\$20,155.14	\$215,228.78
24	58.82		\$20,418.67	\$235,647.44
25	58.05		\$20,679.87	\$256,327.31



# Discounted Cash Flow

- Goods and services purchased in the future cost more in an economy experiencing inflation
- It is equivalent to say that future dollars have less purchasing power than present dollars
- Future dollars are discounted compared to present dollars
- Analogy – actual temperature versus “feel like” temperature

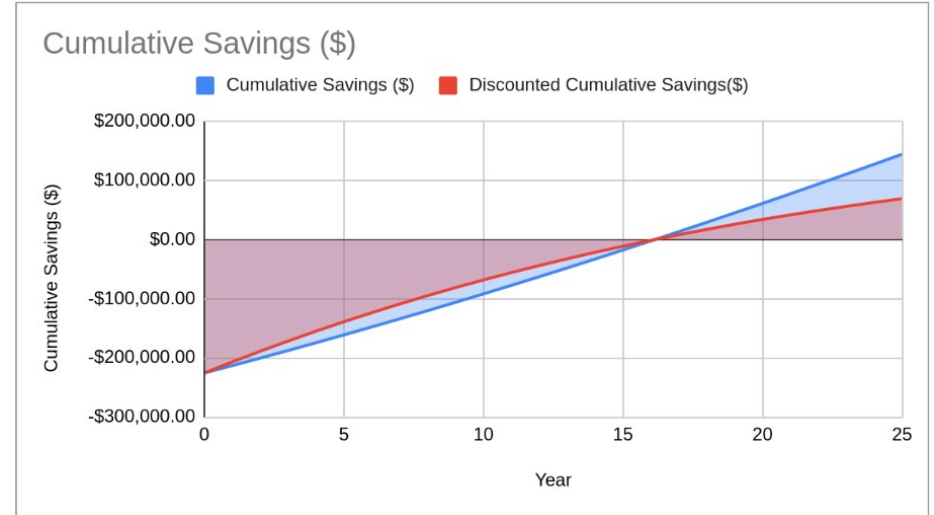
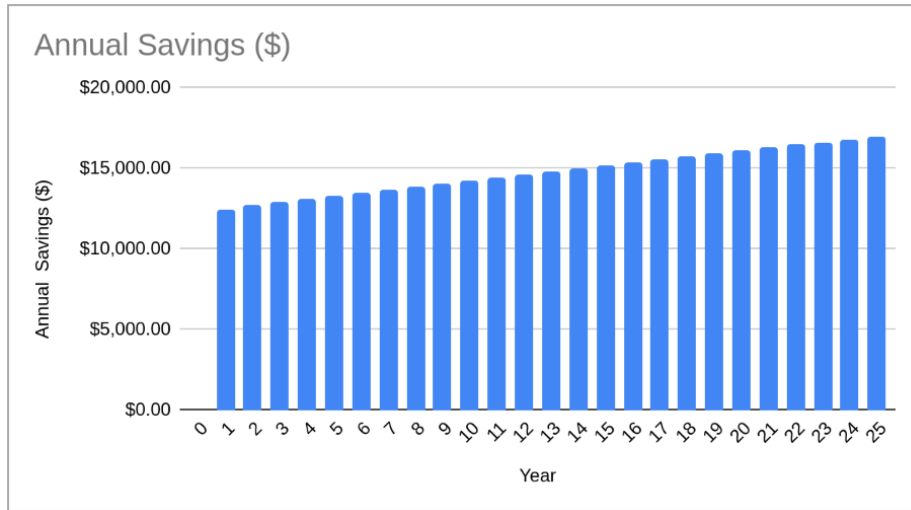
# Model Accuracy

- There are numerous input variables, each of which impacts model results.
- Most input variables require some form of prediction:
  - future electricity rate increases, inflation rate, panel efficiency loss, maintenance costs, average daylight hours
- Two model outputs are provided:
  1. Conservative – each input variable is set to the most conservative value
  2. Optimistic – each input variable is set to the most optimistic value
- Reality likely lies somewhere in the range between these two models.
- As is usually the case in statistics, output quality is a reflection of input accuracy!

# Input Variable Predictions

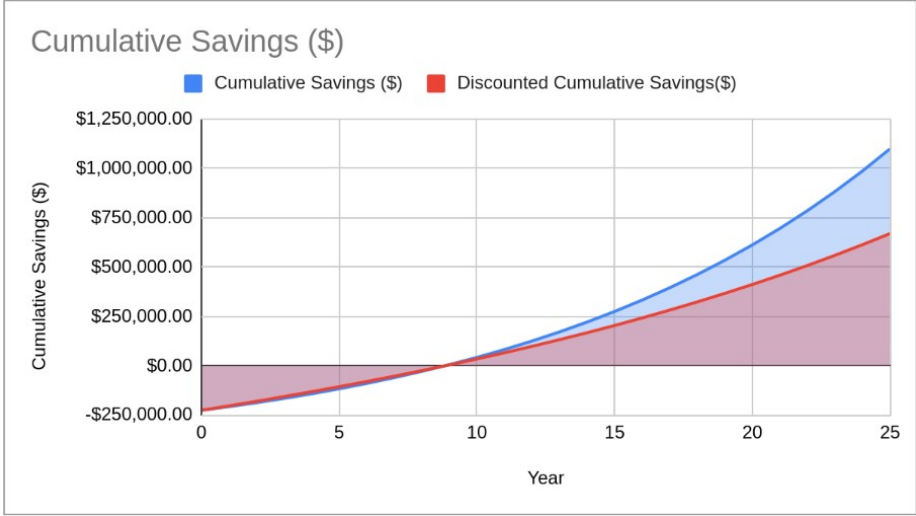
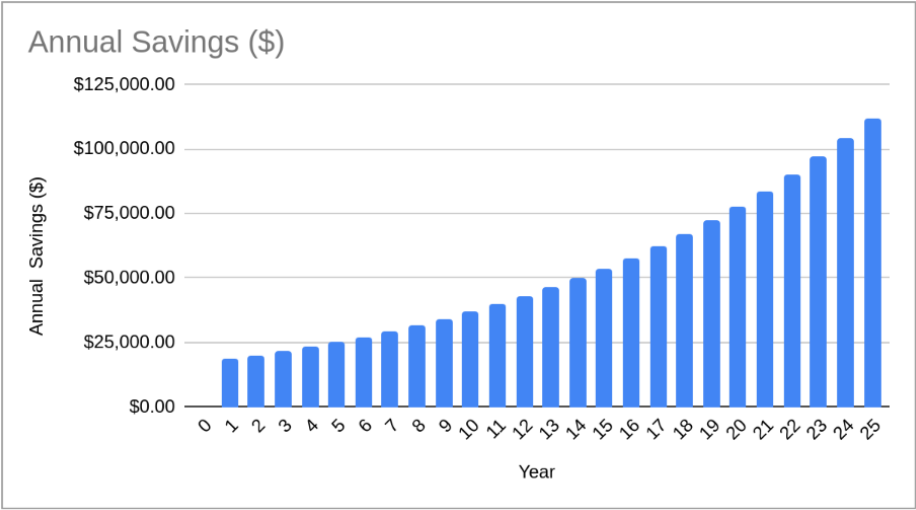
Input Variable	Description	Conservative	Optimistic
Electricity Rate Increase (%/year)	Electricity rate increase average over a 25 year period	3%	8%
Inflation Rate (%/year)	Inflation rate over a 25 year period	3%	2%
Panel Efficiency Loss (%/year)	Amount of panel capacity loss, as a percentage of the original panel capacity, over a 25 year period	1%	0.5%
Annual Mtce Cost (% of initial system cost)	Annual maintenance cost, as a percentage of the initial system cost, which increases by the inflation rate over a 25 year period	2%	1%
Average Daylight Hours (hours/day)	Number of average daylight hours per day averaged over an entire year	3.3	3.8
Electricity Export Rate (\$/kWh)	The portion of the electricity rate that applies to usage (Hydro One does not apply Net Metering credits to fixed delivery charges)	0.18	0.18

# Conservative Model



Generates approximately \$370,000 of cumulative savings over 25 years  
Return on investment (ROI) equals 4.2%

# Optimistic Model



Generates approximately \$1,300,000 of cumulative savings over 25 years  
Return on investment (ROI) equals 23.4%



# Conclusions

- Investing in a Net Metering system yields significant ROI over a long period of time
- Project ROI increases the more electricity rates are increased
- Provides the township with electricity price security
- The proposed maximum municipal office configuration has a significant startup cost of ~\$45,000 which reduces ROI and delays break even milestones:
  - Estimated \$15,000 Hydro One connection fee for township office
  - Estimated \$15,000 Hydro One connection fee for fire hall
  - Estimated \$15,000 for a roof structure and roof surface engineering study



# Proposed Next Steps

1. Complete a business case for the approved microFIT project, including a transition to Net Metering post 2033
  - Assumes a 25 year warranty on recently approved new panel installation, which is standard for today's panel technology
2. Investigate a  $\leq 10$ KW Net Metering installation for the fire hall roof if the maximum office and fire hall configuration is not approved
3. Widen potential township site scope to assess opportunities for additional township buildings

The intent is to build a comprehensive road map for reducing electricity costs and increasing energy security over time