

# Arctic Bioenergy Summit and Tour

*Sustainable Bioenergy for Northern Communities:  
Reliable. Affordable. Local.*

Location: Caribou Room, Chateau Nova, Yellowknife, Northwest Territories

<b>January 26, 2026</b>		<b>Tour, Registration &amp; Reception</b>
7:30 am – 8:30 am		Registration for tour participants in front of the Caribou Room
8:45 am – 5:00 pm		<b>Bioheat and Bioenergy Tours</b> (separate agenda)
12:00 pm – 5:00 pm		Exhibit set-up and Registration
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm		<b>Reception</b>
<b>January 27, 2026</b>		<b>Setting the Stage &amp; Exploring the Supply Chain</b>
8:00 am – 9:00 am		<b>Registration, Breakfast and Networking</b> Meet participants and explore exhibitor booths.
9:00 am – 9:30 am		<b>Welcome Remarks</b> Moderator: Mark Heyck, Executive Director, Arctic Energy Alliance (AEA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deputy Mayor Rob Warburton, City of Yellowknife</li> <li>• Robert Sexton, President of the Board of Directors, AEA and Director, Strategic Energy Policy and Program, Department of Infrastructure, Government of Northwest Territories (GNWT)</li> <li>• Fahimeh Yazdan Panah, Associate Executive Director, Wood Pellet Association of Canada (WPAC)</li> </ul>
9:30 am – 10:30 am		<b>Bioenergy in Canada's North</b> This session explores the evolving landscape of bioenergy in Northern Canada, highlighting regional strategies, technological advancements and policy frameworks that support sustainable energy development in remote and Indigenous communities. Moderator: Mark Heyck, Executive Director, AEA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fahimeh Yazdan Panah, Associate Executive Director, WPAC</li> <li>• Robert Sexton, President of the Board of Directors, AEA and Director, Strategic Energy Policy and Program, GNWT</li> <li>• Fred Behrens, Senior Administrative Officer, Wekweètì</li> </ul>
10:30 am – 11:00 am		<b>Break &amp; Networking</b> Meet participants and explore exhibitor booths.

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11:00 am – 12:00 pm	<b>Bioenergy Success Stories and Lessons Learned</b> Learn about practical applications of bioenergy in Northern Canada, including successful projects and the valuable lessons gained from their implementation. Moderator: Derek Erasmus, Project Coordinator, AEA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ken Miller, Owner, J&amp;R Mechanical</li> <li>• Mischa Malakoe, Manager, Housing Projects, GNWT</li> <li>• Geoffrey Cartwright, Community Energy Coordinator, Teslin Tlingit Council</li> </ul>
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	<b>Lunch &amp; Networking</b> Meet participants and explore exhibitor booths.
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm	<b>Supply Chain Challenges and Opportunities</b> Experts from industry, government and academia will share insights into current barriers and innovative solutions for improving access to sustainable energy in remote communities. Moderator: Tanner Nygaard, Energy Management Specialist, AEA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• David Dubois, Manager of Business Development, Fink Machine Inc.</li> <li>• Fahimeh Yazdan Panah, Associate Executive Director, WPAC</li> <li>• Omid Gholami Banadkoki, Post Doctoral Fellow, UBC</li> <li>• Sheena Adams, Project Manager, Energy Infrastructure, GNWT</li> </ul>
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm	<b>Break &amp; Networking</b> Meet participants and explore exhibitor booths.
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	<b>International Experience</b> Learn about success stories and lessons learned from international leaders in sustainable energy. Gain insights into how different regions are leveraging biomass and district energy systems. Moderator: Fahimeh Yazdan Panah, Associate Executive Director, WPAC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jamie Stephen, Managing Director, TorchLight Bioresources</li> <li>• Hannes Tuohiniitty, Sector Manager, The Bioenergy Association of Finland</li> <li>• Tim Kalke, General Manager, Sustainable Energy for Galena Alaska, Inc. (SEGA)</li> </ul>
4:30 pm – 4:45 pm	<b>Day 1 Wrap Up</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mark Heyck, Executive Director, AEA</li> </ul>
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	<b>Reception</b>

<b>January 28, 2026</b>		<b>From Technology to Community Action</b>
8:00 am – 9:00 am		<b>Breakfast and Networking</b> Meet participants and explore exhibitor booths.
9:00 am – 10:15 am		<b>Advancing Combined Heat and Power and District Heating Systems</b> With a focus on practical applications, technological innovation and policy support, explore how biomass district energy and combined heat and power (CHP) can contribute to energy independence, economic development and climate resilience in northern and remote communities.  Moderator: Sheena Adams, Project Manager, Energy Infrastructure, GNWT
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jamie Stephen, Managing Director, TorchLight Bioresources</li> <li>• Noel McKinnon, Maintenance &amp; Infrastructure Development Technician, UBC Alex Fraser Research Forest</li> <li>• John Rathbone, CEO &amp; Co-Founder, Rathco</li> <li>• Sebnem Madrali, Engineering Projects Leader, Natural Resources Canada</li> </ul>
10:15 am – 10:45 am		<b>Break and Networking</b> Meet participants and explore exhibitor booths.
10:45 am – 11:45 am		<b>Panel Session: Community Benefits and Co-Benefits</b> Panelists will share the wide-ranging benefits of bioenergy projects in northern and remote communities, going beyond energy generation to highlight economic, social, health and environmental impacts.  Moderator: Derek Erasmus, Project Coordinator, AEA
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geoffrey Cartwright, Community Energy Coordinator, Teslin Tlingit Council</li> <li>• Ken Miller, Owner, JR Mechanical</li> <li>• Murray Sibbeston, Fort Simpson</li> <li>• Michelle Leger, Program Coordinator, AEA</li> <li>• David Dubois, Manager of Business Development, Fink Machine Inc.</li> </ul>
11:45 am – 1:00 pm		<b>Lunch and Networking</b> Meet participants and explore exhibitor booths.

1:00 pm – 2:20 pm	<p><b>Practical Skills and Support</b></p> <p>Explore the hands-on knowledge, tools, and partnerships needed to successfully plan, fund, install and maintain bioenergy systems in northern and remote communities. Experts and practitioners will share real-world experiences and resources that support community-led clean energy initiatives.</p> <p>Moderator: Tanner Nygaard, Energy Management Specialist, AEA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dana Tizya-Tramm, Director, Nadlii Society</li> <li>• Brad Morrissey, Operations Manager, AEA</li> <li>• David Dubois, Manager of Business Development, Fink Machine Inc.</li> <li>• Jason Collard, CEO, Gonezu Energy</li> <li>• Tim Kalke, General Manager, Sustainable Energy for Galena Alaska, Inc. (SEGA)</li> </ul>
2:20 pm – 3:00 pm	<p><b>Forests, Carbon and Bioenergy</b></p> <p>Experts will discuss how sustainable forestry practices and bioenergy systems can contribute to climate mitigation, wildfire resilience, and community well-being.</p> <p>Moderator: Sheena Adams, Energy Project Manager, GNWT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jamie Stephen, Managing Director, TorchLight Bioresources</li> <li>• Reg Renner, President, Renner Consulting Ltd.</li> </ul>
3:00 pm – 3:15 pm	<p><b>Closing Remarks and Next Steps</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mark Heyck, Executive Director, AEA</li> </ul>