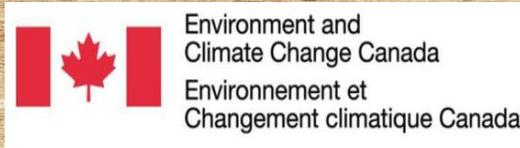


The Dehcho Wood Stove Project:

The realities of biomass in remote communities



The Dehcho Wood Stove Project: Origin Story

- The idea for Dehcho Wood Stove Project sprung out of 1st Annual Dehcho Clean Energy Planning Event held in Yellowknife from August 19th-23rd, 2024.
- The event brought together 11 Indigenous Governments from across the Dehcho Region with the goal of having the individual Indigenous Governments coming together and identify regional clean energy projects that they could work together on.
- One of the projects that had universal support at the event was a Dehcho Wood Stove Program.
- The original project Champion was Chief Kele Antoine from LKFN



The Dehcho Wood Stove Project:

Origin Story: Start with why

Traditional Knowledge

Protect the Land

Spirituality

Listening to the
animals

Youth & Elders
Involvement



Respecting / Honoring
the resources

The Dehcho Wood Stove Project:

Origin Story: Project Goals

Goal	Activities	Actuals
Energy Efficiency & Cost Savings	Install or upgrade high-efficiency wood stoves and pellet heating appliances in homes throughout the Dehcho region.	As of today we have installed 189 wood stoves. Estimated savings of \$2,235/ home or \$433,415 total. Estimated GHG Estimated reduction of 4,633 kg of CO2/home or 1,621,572kgs total.
Capacity Development & Training	Train participants for WETT (Wood Energy Technology Transfer) certification and mentorship to ensure proper installation and maintenance practices.	2 Dehcho Members have been hired and involved in all aspects of the installation and maintenance process; by the end of the program they will be WETT Certified Technicians

The Dehcho Wood Stove Project:

Origin Story: Project Goals

Goal	Activities	Actuals
Capacity Development & Training	Develop local capacity for the production of usable lumber from harvested wood, furthering economic savings and resourcefulness within the community.	Working with local wood suppliers and Indigenous Governments, Indigenous Development Corporations to develop sustainable and reliable source of dry wood cords for home owners
Capacity Development & Training	Provide comprehensive training to home owner on maintenance, and operation of high-efficiency wood stoves and chimneys.	Home owners present at time of installation, distribution of simplified instructions, follow up visits by WETT Trainees, Burn it Smart Training w/ AEA

The Dehcho Wood Stove Project:

Project Realities: Transportation

Transportation:

- Wood Stoves + most materials & supplies for installations & maintenance are produced in the south , meaning all materials must be shipped/ trucked in.
- There may not be the required equipment to off load C-Cans in most small communities

Lessons learned:

- Plan for shipping early and expect delays, build contingency upon contingency into work plans;
- Review materials list thoroughly, there is no running to Canadian Tire/ hardware store to pick up materials, it will need to be shipped in and can cause delays or costly shipping fees.
- Plan for offloading in advance of arrival.



The Dehcho Wood Stove Project:

Project Realities: Storage

Storage:

- There is a lack of a larger storage areas that protect materials from the elements.

Lessons learned:

- Purchased C-Cans served as great safe and secure storage and staging areas.

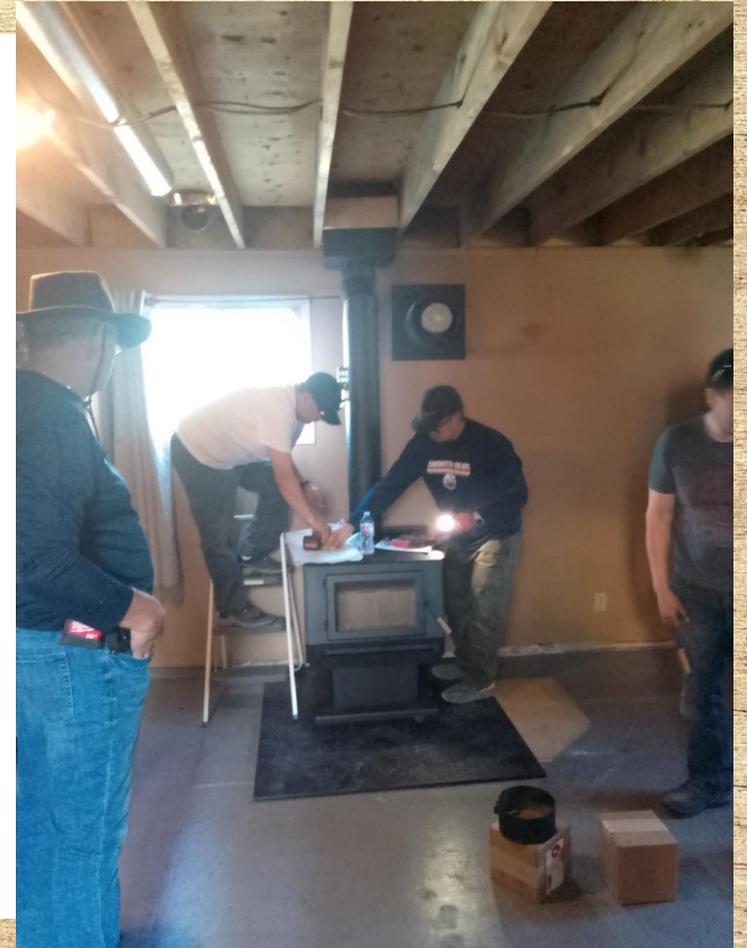


The Dehcho Wood Stove Project:

Project Realities: Installations

Installations Lessons Learned:

- Communications with home owners and all project partners through multiple accessible mediums is critical; ensuring messages are in a means that people are familiar and comfortable with;
- Re-iterate messaging through multiple means about installations multiple times – reminders are caring 😊;
- Triple check all logistical (equipment availability, access to staging yards) and travel details (accommodations and road conditions).



The Dehcho Wood Stove Project:

Project Realities: Maintenance & Operations

Maintenance & Operations

- Old habits are hard to change “you aren’t going to tell me how to light a fire”

Lessons Learned:

- It is of paramount importance to work over time through multiple accessible mediums (in person trainings, written instructions, videos, phone calls and multiple home visits) to help people understand newer technologies and how they differ from what they are replacing.

The Dehcho Wood Stove Project:

Project Realities: Maintenance & Operations

Maintenance & Operations

- Maintenance requirements for installations may differ from those in warmer climates
- Access to maintenance services may be impacted by the distance to small rural and remote communities.

Lessons Learned:

- Be prepared to adapt operations and maintenance schedules for operations in colder and harsher climates;
- Proactive maintenance planning is an absolute necessity as if we wait for problems maintenance services are not on call available.

The Dehcho Wood Stove Project:

Project Realities: Final Thoughts

Key Take Aways & Lessons Learned From Project:

- Start with establishing a reliable local supply chain of biofuel with proper centralized and storage and a distribution strategy;
- Spent before installation(s) on education and capacity development for operators/ end users to ensure new technology maintenance and operational requirements are understood;
- Learning on an installed system that people are reliant upon poses challenges.

The Dehcho Wood Stove Project:

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