



DWEA Initiative: **Canada**

Overview

Due to reduced organizational resources and limited revenue from its recent annual conference, CanWEA has ended its Small and Community Wind program and has absorbed DW activities into CanWEA's existing regional policy caucuses along with other member priorities.

Priorities

1. **Wind-Diesel:** Secure federal funding (creation of a federal revolving fund) to support wind projects in Canada's Northern and Remote communities and mining facilities. CanWEA's NORWIP proposal was well received with policy makers; however, there are two elements in the proposal that may have compromised it at the cabinet table: 1) the word incentive, to which the current federal government is hostile; 2) it is a five year program, and the government is looking for programs of a maximum of 2 years. Unofficial discussions with officials suggest exploring the option of creating a revolving fund for wind diesel projects in the north. This would consist in a one-time grant from the federal government. Funding would be provided to projects, and once some these projects are in the ground, they would pay back into the fund. Projects eligible under the fund would include both community projects (300 kW) and larger industrial projects. While this pathway still needs to be discussed with a number of stakeholders, a working group on wind diesel issues could help to pursue policy options to support this market.
2. **Ontario Green Energy Act:** Monitor opportunities for improving FIT rates for distributed wind.