

Media Advisory:

Fort Chipewyan to Move Forward on First Solar Project

Fort Chipewyan, Alberta – Fort Chipewyan, which lies downstream from tar sands development, has started to move forward on a different type of energy source this time from the sun. From September 16th to September 22nd solar panels will be installed on the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation Elder and Youth Lodge with an official ribbon cutting ceremony to take place on September 19th.

The installation will be the first of many projects that will be constructed in the region. Keepers of the Athabasca who hope this project will be an example; especially to other tar sands impacted First Nation communities, of the benefits solar can bring to communities supported the solar initiative.

What: Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for first solar installation project.

Where: Fort Chipewyan, Alberta.

When: September 19th, 12:00 p.m.

Who: Member of ACFN, son and father solar installers Sid and Jerry Paschen and supporters.

“While we continue to stand-up for the rights and health of our members we must also be actively seeking solutions,” said Chief Allan Adam of the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation. “We are proud to help lead the way and hopefully this is only one of many solar projects we hope to bring to our community and the province.”

“The possibilities for solar in Alberta are almost endless,” said Jesse Cardinal with Keepers of the Athabasca. “First Nation communities especially ones that are isolated and reliant on diesel for power stand to benefit the most from a transition. These panels are an example of the type of solutions our communities should be implementing ones that create jobs, lower energy costs and don’t hurt the environment to do it.”

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