

# Invenergy

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Dear Resident;

December 2023

This update follows our two newsletters last year where we introduced Invenergy (the Company), the Laconia Wind Project (the Project), and summarized our initial development activities.

**The Current Opportunity:** To get beyond the development stage and into construction, every wind project needs a contract to sell the power it will generate, and our Laconia project is no different. An opportunity to compete for just such a contract was recently announced. Under its “Green Choice Program” (GCP), the Province of Nova Scotia intends to procure 350 megawatts (MW) of new renewable energy in maximum project sizes of 150 MW. For reference, individual wind turbines currently being constructed typically generate between 4.5 and 6.5 MW.

**No Turbines on Crown Land:** A very challenging aspect of the GCP is a requirement that *turbines may not be located on crown land*. The viability of our Project has been affected by this condition. While we are heartened that ~50 owners representing ~5200 acres have so far made their Laconia-area land available to the Project, we had also hoped to be able to place turbines on some adjacent crown parcels. More turbines can help project economics, lower the price we can offer power at, and make the Project more competitive in the GCP. We really hope to replace these crown land locations with new private land sites.

**Objective: Adding Private Land:** Setbacks from residences, roads, non-participating properties and wetlands severely limit where wind turbines can be placed, leaving few construct-able locations. If you own land within the Project area and may have previously declined our offer to lease, please reconsider this opportunity to join with neighbours in hosting a project that, together with other potential benefits set out in this newsletter, will generate clean, renewable electricity for use within the community, the region, and the province. Your involvement could make the difference.

**Personal and Community Benefits of the Project:** Once operational, a 50 MW to 75 MW project is expected to contribute \$350,000 to \$525,000 in annual municipal tax revenue. In addition, Invenergy has committed to funding a Community Benefit Fund such that every year \$25,000 - \$37,500 (based on a Project size of 50 – 75 MW) will be directed by local volunteers towards deserving local facilities and services and/or new projects for the benefit of the entire area. As a community member, you could be involved in how this money is spent, e.g., the purchase of new fire and/or other emergency equipment.

Prior to construction, the financial benefits that flow to private landowners who participate in the Project are admittedly modest (\$20/acre first year), as during this period your land is not being used. However these amounts increase substantially (minimum \$25,000/turbine) once the Project is producing electricity. During the operations phase, significant revenue and perfect compatibility with a property's existing traditional uses (e.g. forestry, agriculture, etc) can be expected, all within a very small footprint.

For any questions or comments regarding leasing land to the Project, please reach out to Richard Deacon or Sumaya Moore at the numbers/emails below.

**What the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg (MoDL) says:** The MoDL has advised they support Invenergy's wind project for its anticipated positive effect on its economy, on its municipal tax base, on its

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short and longterm employment opportunities, and due to its compatibility with and enhancement of the local forestry industry through upgrading and expansion of the area’s road network.

**Project Perimeter:** As the map below illustrates, we have adjusted any lands under consideration to exclude frontage on Minamkeak Lake. This adjustment was in response to feedback from the MoDL, the Bridgewater Public Service Commission, and the Watershed Alliance Group.

**Current Community Involvement:** In January we met with the Chief and Deputy-Chief of Tri-District Fire Rescue. Underscored by the devastating fire season the province went through this past June, clearly there is no more vital a community service than Tri-District. We have therefore commenced annual funding to help support the four stations it manages, and look forward to increasing this funding once the Project reaches its operating phase. As we have in previous newsletters, we invite residents to contact us should they be aware of other key organizations and/or services that deserve similar consideration.

**How to reach us:** Please contact us directly with any questions or comments. You can also visit our [www.laconiawind.com](http://www.laconiawind.com) website for news and information as we progress the Project.

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