

<b>To:</b>	Warden Hicks and Members of Grey County Council
<b>Committee Date:</b>	January 28, 2020
<b>Subject / Report No:</b>	EDTC-CW-03-21
<b>Title:</b>	Clean Energy Frontier Program
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Savanna Myers, Director of Economic Development, Tourism & Culture
<b>Reviewed by:</b>	Kim Wingrove, CAO
<b>Lower Tier(s) Affected:</b>	All
<b>Status:</b>	Recommendation adopted by Committee as presented per Resolution CW26-21; Endorsed by County Council February 11, 2021 per Resolution CC16-21;

## Recommendation

1. That Report EDTC-CW-03-21 regarding the Clean Energy Frontier Program be received; and
2. That Grey County join Ontario's Clean Energy Frontier Program; and
3. That staff bring forward regular updates for approval on the direction, tactics and messaging from the Program to ensure Council's ongoing support.

## Executive Summary

Grey County joined the *Nuclear Economic Development and Innovation Initiative (NEDII)* at its launch in 2016 with Bruce Power, Bruce County and Huron County, along with key industry stakeholders. The initiative was tasked to enable the successful attraction of nuclear suppliers to the region and prepare for the influx of demand on skilled trades for Bruce Power's Major Component Replacement.

In September 2020, Bruce Power, Bruce County and the Nuclear Innovation Institute regrouped the NEDII's Regional Liaison Committee to relaunch the program and move to a new phase, known as the *Clean Energy Frontier Program (CEFP)*.

## Background and Discussion

From 2016 to 2020, more than 60 nuclear suppliers relocated to the region through the work of the Nuclear Economic Development and Innovation Initiative (NEDII). The Initiative also supported the development of Sydenham Campus and the introduction of new apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs at Georgian College's Owen Sound Campus to aid the increased demand on skilled trades locally.

While attracting new supply chain companies to the region will no longer be the primary focus of the Clean Energy Frontier Program, fostering and maintaining positive relationships with existing supply chain companies and deepening the local footprints of these companies in the region will remain a critical element of the program's success.

Beginning in 2021, the Clean Energy Frontier Program is proposed to shift focus towards a more intensive marketing and education role both locally and provincially. The five goals of the proposed Program include:

- Goal 1: Establish province-wide recognition of the Tri-County Region as Ontario's Clean Energy Frontier.*
- Goal 2: Improve energy literacy and support for clean energy industry across the region and beyond.*
- Goal 3: Create new networks of support across the Province/Country.*
- Goal 4: Maintain/support existing relationships and enable new opportunities for clean energy companies and the local communities they operate in.*
- Goal 5: Identify and enable the frontier to take advantage of new and emerging clean energy technologies.*

An overview of the Program framework is linked at the end of this report.

County staff see merit in the continued support of this regional work, especially in terms of the economic development benefits of retaining, attracting and embedding business and people in the region. It is important this message is shared and acknowledged more broadly as per the goals of the Program.

Staff recommend preparing a report for Council consideration following each Regional Liaison Committee meeting to ensure the County remains aware of the direction, strategic tactics and messaging that Grey would be supporting as a proponent of this work.

## Legal and Legislated Requirements

There are no legal or legislated requirements relating to this report.

## Financial and Resource Implications

There are no finance implications of this report. Kim Wingrove and Savanna Myers are appointed members of the Regional Liaison Committee. Staff resources are included where necessary as part of the overall EDTC workplan.

## Relevant Consultation

- Internal – Chief Administrative Officer, Communications Manager
- External – Clean Energy Frontier Program Director

## Appendices and Attachments

[Clean Energy Frontier Overview](#)

[Clean Energy Frontier Program Website](#)