

Ecological Forestry Forum  
Nova Scotia Department of Lands and Forestry

June 25, 2019

## SMALL SCALE WOOD ENERGY INITIATIVE

### Project Objective

To replace fossil fuel heating systems with wood chip heating systems in select public buildings (e.g., schools, government offices, health facilities), ensuring the use of locally-sourced wood chips primarily from small private woodlots on a long-term basis. Benefits include building the market for lower grade wood fibre; substituting fuel imports with local, renewable, carbon-friendly fuel; providing reliable, stable and predictable heating costs for public buildings; and supporting sustainable forest management and strengthen wood supply chain.

### Project Team Lead

Rany Ibrahim, MBA, Director, Economic Development, Lands and Forestry (L&F)

### Project Partners

- 10 provincial government departments including: Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, Internal Services, Education and Early Childhood Development, Labour and Advanced Education, Agriculture, Business, Municipal Affairs, Environment, Energy and Mines, and Health and Wellness
- Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency
- Expert economists from the Nova Scotia Innovation Hub and Saint Mary's University

### Key Deliverables

- Phase 1 deliverable includes implementing wood heat energy systems into a select number of public buildings, aiming to be ready for the 2019-2020 heating season
- Subsequent phases will involve expanding the number of facilities

### Expected Areas of Stakeholder and/or Public Participation (may not be limited to)

- Interested wood chip suppliers will have the opportunity to participate in the procurement process. Energy service providers will be required to acquire the appropriate wood supply primarily from local private sector woodlot sources.
- Woodlot owners can become aware of opportunities by maintaining contact with local woodlot associations, cooperatives, and/or direct contact with energy service providers.

### Next Steps and Timelines

- Spring/Summer 2019: Identify a selection of prospective buildings for Phase 1
- Fall 2019: Tender a request for qualified suppliers for service providers for Phase 1
- Phase 2: Future expansion based on lessons learned from Phase 1

**What are the most important criteria needed to effectively transition to small scale wood heat energy systems in provincial buildings?**