



## 2017 Powering Prosperity Award Winners

February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*2017 Powering Prosperity Award Winners Announced!*

(TORONTO, ON February 2, 2017) The OSEA 2017 Powering Prosperity Awards were presented tonight during the Powering Prosperity Gala & Ceremony. The awards honour the champions of Ontario's sustainable energy sector.

The awards were presented after a speech by Hon. Glen Murray, Ontario's Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, and by the keynote speaker Dr. Harry Lehmann, Head of Division I for "Environmental Planning and Sustainable Strategies" of the German Federal Environment Agency.

### **Special recognition awards:**

#### **Special Recognition Award for most outstanding Green Energy Doors Open 2016 Host -**

Presenter: Dr. Dianne Saxe, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario

Recipient: SeaContainerCabin.ca

#### **Special Recognition Award for Excellence in Conservation -**

Presenter: Dr. Christine Koenig, Ontario Sustainability Service (OSEA Board Member)

Recipient: Savings by Design by Enbridge Gas Distribution

#### **Special Recognition Award for Most Innovative Business Model -**

Presenter: Obie Agusiegbe

Recipient: Polaron Solar Tech

### **Powering Prosperity Award Winners:**

#### **Community Project of the Year Award**

Award winner: Economic Development Corporation of Wawa

**Manufacturer of the Year Award**

Award winner: Silfab

**SMARTpreneur of the Year Award**

Award winner: Ryan Duffy, Blackstone Energy Services Inc.

**Community Developer of the Year Award**

Award winner: Beach Community Energy Co-operative

**Non-Profit of the Year Award**

Award winner: Sustainability CoLab

**Developer of the Year Award**

Award winner: Anvil Crawler

**Sustainable Project of the Year Award**

Award winner: Canadian Energy

**20/20 Leadership Award**

Award winner: Bullfrog Power – Representative: Ron Seftle

For more information, please contact Don Huff, ECO Strategy, [huffd@ecostrategy.ca](mailto:huffd@ecostrategy.ca) or call 416-972-7401.

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*The **Ontario Sustainable Energy Association (OSEA)**, works to initiate, facilitate and support the work of local sustainable energy organizations through membership services and province wide capacity-building and non-partisan policy work. It promotes the benefits of Community Power and renewable energy through advocacy, public outreach and capacity building.*

*About the Winners:*

*The Wawa Energy Plan Project demonstrates innovative community engagement, best practices and shines the light on the project lead, Economic Development Corporation of Wawa, whose grassroots and capital initiatives encourages energy conservation in Wawa. The Economic Development Corporation of Wawa (EDC of Wawa) was contracted to develop the Wawa Municipal Energy Plan (Wawa MEP). An EDC of Wawa Energy Committee was formed to lead*

*and oversee the development of the planning process which was comprised of municipal, community and energy stakeholder representatives. A strong partnership with the local distribution company (LDC) Algoma Power Inc. was maintained throughout this project. The capstone engagement initiative of the plan “Wawa Green Days 2015” was of importance as it reiterated that residents of Wawa are passionate about embracing a culture of conservation and adopting energy plan recommendations into their daily lives. The Wawa Energy Plan created the building blocks to move forward with a strategy that aligns with community, provincial and global sustainability goals by leveraging partnership, research and innovation.*

*Silfab Solar is a quality international leader in the development, manufacturing and distribution of ultra- high efficiency PV modules with just-in-time manufacturing. Silfab’s state-of-the-art, 300 megawatts manufacturing facility located in Toronto has helped pioneer smart module technology, glass on glass solutions and bifacial modules. Silfab’s technically innovative process produces superior reliability and performance specifically designed for the North American market. Each year their facility in Mississauga contributes over 300 megawatts of solar panels which produce pollution free, clean energy that is put back onto the grid and helps green our energy systems. This 300 megawatts is the equivalent to 557,768,112 pounds of carbon dioxide, which is the comparable to carbon dioxide emissions from 37, 360 home’s electricity use for one year. They also implement water and energy conservation, landfill reduction and recycling initiatives.*

*Ryan Duffy is the President & CEO of Blackstone Energy Services Inc., a Toronto-based firm that manages energy portfolios for a diverse range of companies across North America. Blackstone is a leading provider of integrated, custom energy management solutions that help large energy users achieve efficiency improvement, renewable generation and carbon offsetting. In 2003, when he started Blackstone from the ground up, Ryan’s vision was to help underserved market of large energy users in North America. Thirteen years later, Blackstone manages approximately \$3billion worth of energy portfolios for a diverse range of 700+ clients across North America, and has a client retention of 98%. One of the most important initiatives that Ryan is currently leading is the implementation and growth of the new Energy Solutions team on the Blackstone roster. The Energy Solutions team was created to help hospitals, universities and condominiums minimize their energy consumption and carbon footprint.*

*BCEC is a renewable energy cooperative based in the east end of Toronto comprised of parents and staff of the Kew Beach Junior Public School. In 2009, BCEC urged the school administration to participate in a competition for a provincial grant for a new school roof, solar panels and other conservation upgrades, which were installed in 2011. In March of 2014, BCEC was awarded a FIT 3.0 contract, which created an investment opportunity for BCEC and achieved commercial operation on September 2, 2016. This pilot project demonstrates the viability of community investment in solar energy on school rooftops. The solar panels on Kew Beach Junior Public School produce one third of the school’s annual electrical needs, 15 tonne GHG emission reduction and showcases the power of community collaboration. BCEC sees local public schools*

*as potential community energy hubs that could help reduce the carbon footprint of each neighbourhood.*

*Sustainability CoLab launched in January 2014 to scale a successful model from the Waterloo Region of engaging businesses in the solution to climate change. In just 3 years, CoLab has grown to support a network of 8 non-profits in communities across Ontario that are collectively working with 200 businesses locally to set and achieve targets to reduce their environmental impacts. They support their members through 1:1 coaching, providing programs and tools and resources, organizing peers learning opportunities, making connections and building partnerships that will accelerate the launch and growth of their programs. As a backbone organization, CoLab also mobilizes funding, and share the on-the-ground business success stories to build public will and create the political space for more ambitious investments and policies that can accelerate the transition to a more sustainable economy.*

*Anvil Crawler Development Corp. is a sustainable energy developer that is changing the way people think about green energy. They provide simple, yet powerful options for energy production and storage that are not only good for their clients, but great for the planet. In just one year, their team has developed an impressive shelf of customizable energy production and storage products, which can be combined to create hybrid energy solutions. Their products include; The Anvil E-house, a customizable pre-outfitted energy inverter room; Micro Combined Heat and Power Systems; Electric Car Charging Stations. With their expertise in construction and renewable energy, the electrical industry, and real estate management, they realize the challenges and needs that need to be met when making the transition to off-grid energy. Their systems have been implemented at dozens of sites across Ontario, saving countless megawatts of power.*

*Canadian Energy is a leader in renewables and energy storage. Their off-grid Aerospace Assembly/ Operations Hanger is the world's first ever off-grid aircraft maintenance facility. The project is a collaborative joint-venture between Solar Ship Inc., Canadian Energy and Legacy Building Solutions. The innovation lies in the integration of various commercial off the shelf elements into a pre-engineered building that meets all the government code requirements for a regulated urban airport setting, yet also meets the robust reliability needs of an off-grid, remote setup. Load-shifting micro-grids sources by distributed generation still require a large amount of customized planning, engineering and construction expertise, and Canada is in a position to lead the global race in adapting PV to remote settings.*

*Bullfrog Power has played a unique role over the past ten years in helping Ontario to move closer to achieving a thriving sustainable energy sector through their core renewable energy offerings, which enable businesses and individuals to choose renewable energy (including electricity, biogas and even the transportation sector with biofuel) for their homes or businesses. Through their customers' support, Bullfrog Power has contributed to the development of more than 70 community-based renewable energy projects across Canada, with more than 20 in*

*Ontario including; Queen's Solar Education Centre, Kew Beach School Solar Project, ZooShare, SolarShare and Oxford Community Energy Co-operative. Bullfrog Power also hosts regular events for their residential and business customers to continuously engage the bullfrogpowered community.*