



## Community Energy Plan Survey Summary #1

The purpose of the Aamjiwnaang First Nation (AFN) Community Energy Plan (CEP) Survey #1 was to gather feedback from members of AFN to determine current energy use habits, key priorities, needs, and opportunities. The survey also provided members with an opportunity to express whether they are interested to participate in future focus groups on the CEP. The online survey information and was advertised in two editions of the AFN Tribe-une, AFN CEP Newsletter #2, AFN community Facebook pages, the AFN website, and printed posters were distributed throughout the community. Printed copies of the survey were distributed by the AFN Community Energy Champion upon request. The survey was available from February 3, 2022 to March 1, 2022, and included a prize draw.

**A CEP helps communities make informed decisions on how to conserve and use energy in the most efficient way possible!**

In total, 88 members and 5 non-members completed the survey and 1 participant skipped the survey (80 online surveys, 8 phone surveys, and 6 printed surveys). The following pages provide an overview of the survey findings for the survey responses.

## Summary of Key Themes

- When thinking about energy usage, survey participants listed some of the following actions that could be taken to promote more efficient use of energy by Aamjiwnaang and our members:
  - Provide education and awareness building. Overall survey participants would like to see information sessions, open houses, and educational materials. More land based learning was also identified as a need.
  - Offer home energy kit and home inspections
  - Be more mindful energy usage in the home (e.g., off peak use for laundry, turn thermostat down, LED lights, shutting off lights when not using a room, not letting water run, cold water washing, and having newer appliances)
  - Demand industry be more accountable
  - Provide financial support for energy efficient improvement
  - Invest in solar energy, including solar panels





- Out of 93 survey responses, 51% of participants identified improving energy efficiency as a high priority, followed by 33% noting that it is a medium priority for them.
- Survey participants identified the following top three benefits to them and their families as a result of the CEP:
  - Reduce energy cost for their home
  - Reduce their impact to the environment
  - Develop renewable energy strategies for their home and future generations
- Survey participants identified the following top three benefits to the community as a result of the CEP:
  - Develop renewable energy strategies for their home and future generations
  - Reduce the community's energy impact on the environment
  - Reduce community's energy cost
- The majority of survey participants participate in the following activities:
  - Use a programmable or smart thermostat
  - Inspect, maintain and replace air filter on home furnace
  - Turn of lights in unused rooms
- Based on 90 survey responses, 75% of participants have replaced older light bulbs with LED and 59% of participants have replaced appliances with Energy Star rated units. Only 2% of participants have installed solar panels on their home.
- Cost is the number one factor that is keeping survey participants from doing more to increase household or business energy efficiency.
- Out of 94 responses, 75% of participants indicated that savings and monthly energy bills as most important when considering home/property improvements.
- Overall there is a high willingness by survey participants to explore energy efficiency measures, with the top three being: replacing older light bulbs with LED and replace appliances, windows and doors with Energy Stat rated units.
- Out of 94 responses, 66% of participants would like the see a reduction in the community's energy costs as a result of the CEP, followed by 56% would prefer renewable energy strategies being developed, and 55% would like the community's impact on the environment be reduced.

## Survey Results

### 1. When you think about energy usage, what actions could be taken to promote more efficient use of energy by Aamjiwnaang and our members? *Answered: 86 Skipped: 8*

- General Comments
  - Alternative/renewable energy sources.
  - New energy is beneficial to the development of society / country (x3)
  - To the future we live in the home of great help
  - This survey may boost the thought process.



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- Keeping up with home improvement. To ensure no extra electricity is being used. Share more knowledge of energy saving bulbs etc.
- Lowering carbon footprints, gas emissions, increasing greenhouse inventory & community gardens
  
- Home/Community Improvements
  - Solar energy and solar panels on community buildings and homes
    - Use of solar lighting for community/public spaces
    - Use of LED lighting in homes and office/work spaces
    - Use of timers on security lighting
  - Monitor appliance or update them if possible
  - Winterize home (e.g., black out curtains to help heat houses in winter as well as opening curtains in summer)
  - Making a dam at St. Clair river for energy
  - Windmills
  - Weather stripping and caulking doors and windows
  - Indoor plants that produce lots of oxygen and that can clean the air naturally
  - Test furnace and other home appliances to ensure that they are energy efficient
  - Collection of composting, better recycling in our buildings
  - Opportunity for more upgrades in the homes in the community
  - Green energy is renewable and should not be taken lightly. We should have it in place as a backup in case power is disrupted from the city.
  - Electric vehicles used where possible in maintenance.
  - Provide a household energy saving kits
  - Being more mindful about energy usage. Some examples include:
    - Off peak use for laundry
    - Turn thermostat down
    - Light bulbs / LED lights
    - Shutting off lights when not using a room
    - Not letting water run.
    - Cold water washing
    - Having newer appliances
    - Not using dishwasher
    - Using fans less
    - Changing to LED lightbulbs
    - Don't leave things plugged in
  - More insulation in buildings
  - Home inspections by having someone go through homes and make and help with suggestions
  - Proper insulation in houses



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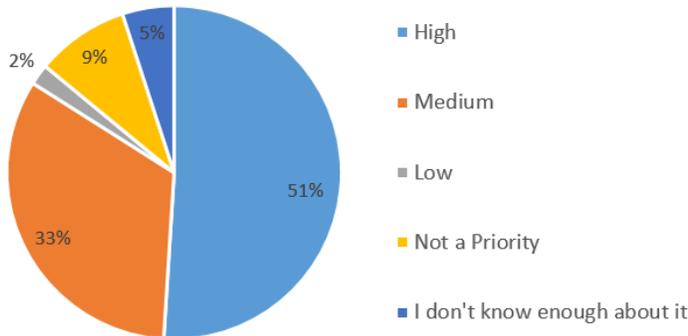
- Emissions test for car
- Having a spare fuel tank
  
- Education and Awareness Building
  - Info sessions / clinics
  - Tips & tricks for energy efficiency- replacing old windows, waterless hot water tanks, unplugging unused electronics, lights on timers, etc.
  - Provide ideas that people may not know about
  - It's better to get his benefits across
  - Understand its advantages
  - Fully understand the benefits of new energy for the future
  - Education and communication to the membership regularly.
  - When we have a discounted time of day, it is best to try use e.g., hydro at the discounted time, rather than peak times.
  - Flyers highlighting ways to conserve energy limiting battery/light usage using energy efficient lightbulbs
  - Education for community members - how to conserve energy. Explore renewable energy options. Switch to energy efficient equipment/devices when upgrades are needed.
  - Awareness of energy use and consumption
  - Education to community members about available options, i.e. solar, wind, how to weather proof our homes to be more energy efficient.
  - More land-based teachings
  - Educating the community on ways to improve home efficiency, basic information packages and ideas for resources
  - Social media could be used for this.
  
- Assistance and Cooperation
  - Do your best to help them
  - Cooperate if necessary
  - Kits to help with home efficiency, funding for insulation, windows and doors
  - Demanding industry be more accountable and included to assist us in making goals and achieving them
  - Better quality homes, buildings and infrastructure that are energy efficient and not the cheapest bid
  - Invest in energy efficient alliances
  - Financial support for those needing major upgrades
  - Giving things to community members like power strips, energy reducing light bulbs and maybe solar lights for outside



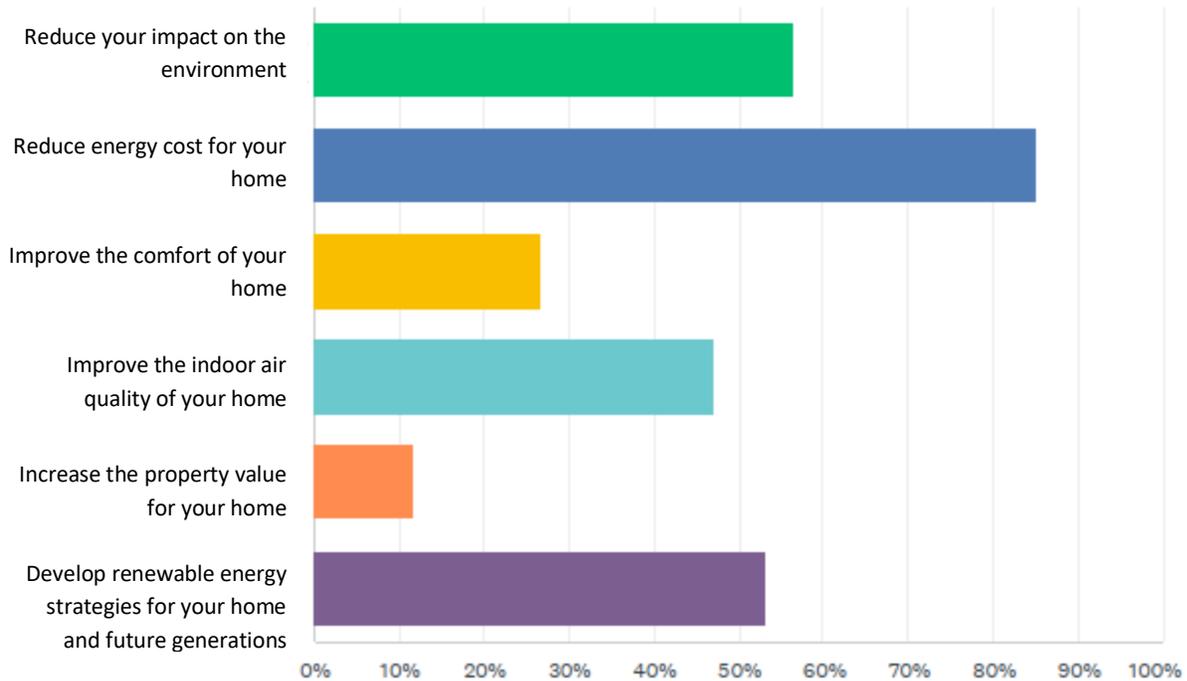
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2. To what extent is improving energy efficiency a priority for you? *Answered: 93 Skipped: 1*



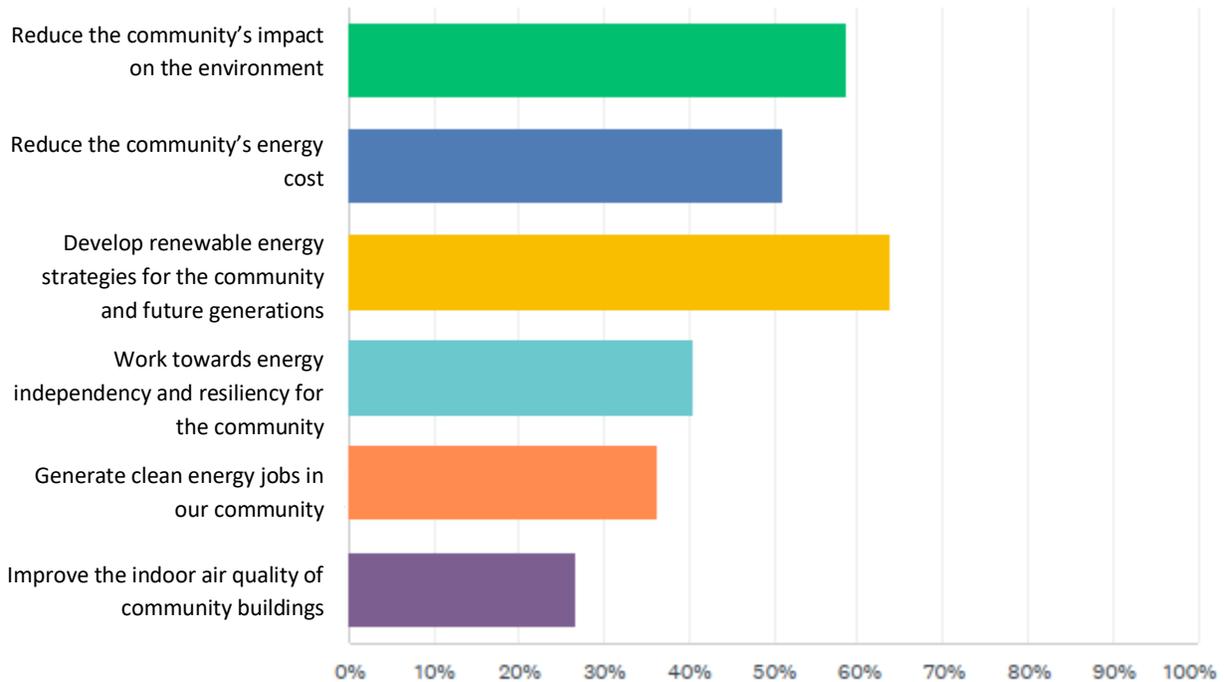
3. Which benefits of a Community Energy Plan do you feel are most important to you and your family? *Answered: 94 Skipped: 0*



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## 4. Which benefits of a Community Energy Plan do you feel are most important to the community as a whole? *Answered: 94 Skipped: 0*



## 5. How often do you participate in the following activities? *Answered: 94 Skipped: 0*

*Answered: 94 Skipped: 0*

Activity	All of the time	Most of the time	Some of the time	Never
Use a programmable or smart thermostat	50%	19%	15%	16%
Inspect, maintain and replace air filter on home furnace	58%	23%	14%	5%
Turn off lights in unused rooms	56%	30%	14%	0%
Use wood as a source of heating fuel	3%	9%	10%	78%
Purchase renewable energy (e.g., Bullfrog Power, Enbridge OptUp, etc.)	13%	14%	13%	59%
Unplug appliances when not in use to avoid consuming "phantom power"	20%	16%	37%	27%
Check weather stripping on exterior door to see if it needs to be replaced	20%	27%	34%	19%
Wash laundry in cold water	43%	24%	22%	11%
Use a drying wrack or clothesline instead of the dryer	11%	24%	37%	28%

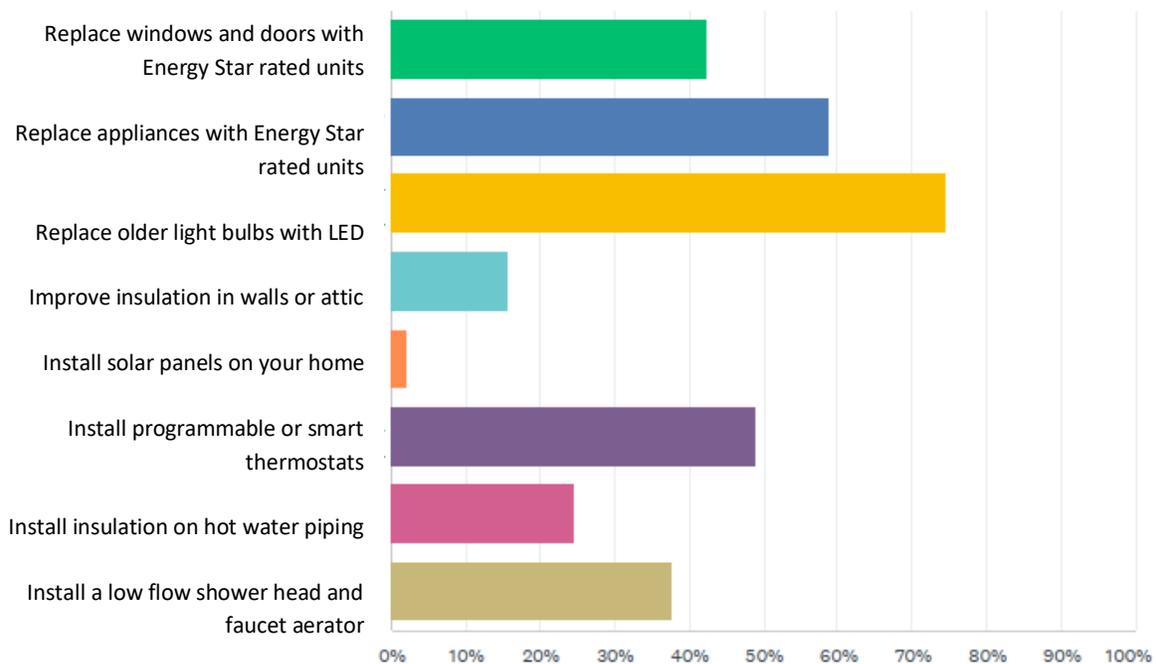




## Other responses provided:

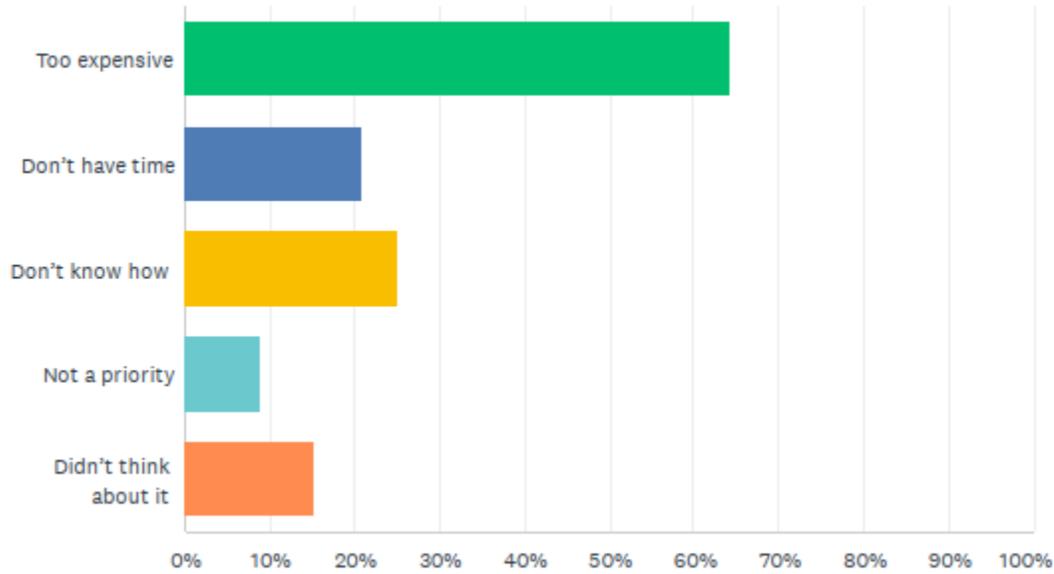
- Using cold water for laundry the pods in 83 degree temperate to melt them and in reality you only need 1 tbls of detergent pods have 3 this messes with the sensors in your washing machine
- Do laundry during off-peak times
- I wash and dry laundry at the laundromat, but dry heavier items on a drying rack in the room where woodstove is located. I do that to save me money and also to reduce the amount of energy that the dryer uses
- Keep thermostat at a lower temp
- Only use washer/dryer during off peak hours
- Lower thermostat at night
- Cook outside during summer months to avoid heating the house inside, thus reducing the air conditioning usage while cooking
- Work cloths I don't dry

## 6. Have you or the building/home owner carried out any energy efficiency activities in the last 5 years? *Answered: 90 Skipped: 4*





**7. What has held you back from doing more to increase your household or business' energy efficiency?** *Answered: 92 Skipped: 2*



**8. Are you planning any home or building renovations within the next 5 years?**

*Answered: 93 Skipped: 1*

- No – 33%
- Don't Know – 28%
- Yes – 39%

**9. On a scale of 1 to 5, how willing are you to explore the following energy efficiency measures, where 1 is not willing and 5 is very willing?** *Answered: 94 Skipped: 0*

Energy Efficiency Measures	1	2	3	4	5	NA
Replace windows and doors with Energy Star rated units	0%	6%	9%	11%	52%	21%
Replace appliances with Energy Star rated units	1%	3%	14%	12%	52%	18%
Replace older light bulbs with LED	1%	2%	2%	12%	69%	14%
Improve insulation in walls or attic	4%	8%	10%	18%	45%	15%
Install solar panels on your home	6%	9%	14%	16%	45%	11%
Install programmable or smart thermostats	1%	1%	12%	11%	46%	30%
Install insulation on hot water piping	2%	0%	17%	15%	49%	17%
Install a low flow shower head and faucet aerator	5%	6%	11%	18%	38%	21%





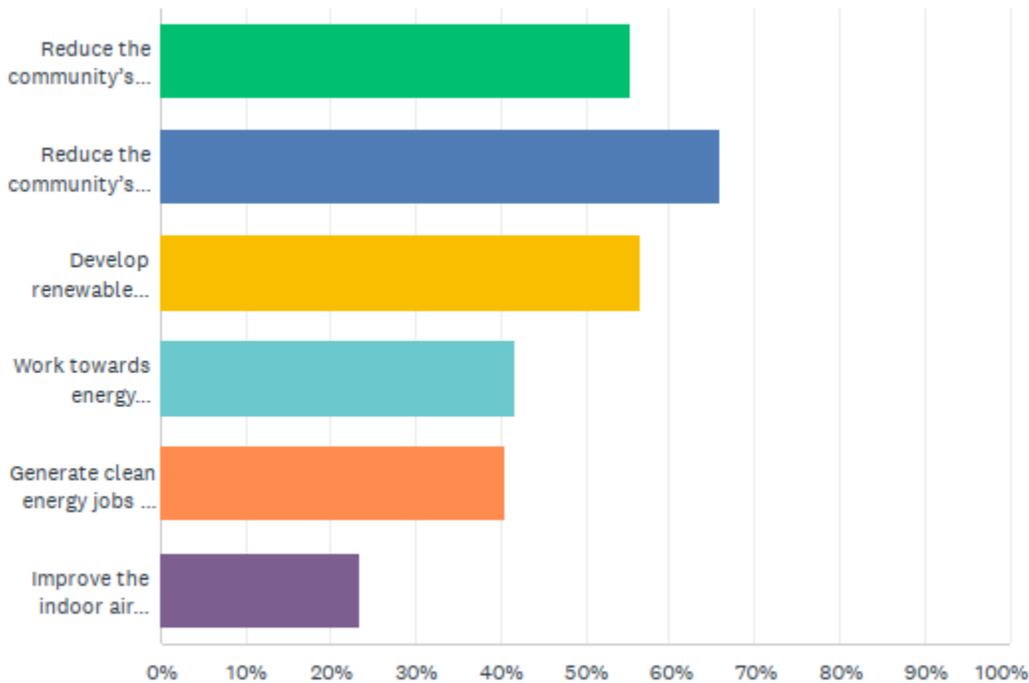
## 10. What is most important to you when considering home/property improvements?

Answered: 94 Skipped: 0

- Upfront costs of improvements – 56%
- Savings on monthly energy bills – 76%
- Reducing impact on the environment – 38%
- Improving the comfort of my home – 45%
- Improving property value – 12%
- Investing in my family home for future generations – 46%

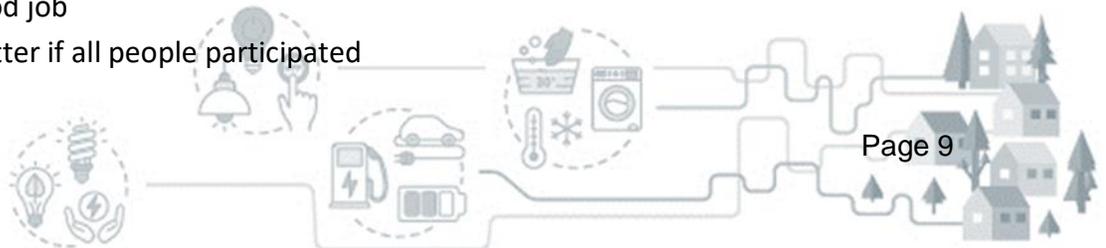
## 11. What would you like to see as outcomes of the Aamjiwnaang Community Energy Plan?

Answered: 94 Skipped: 0



## 12. Any other comments or ideas you would like to share to help shape the Aamjiwnaang Community Energy Plan? Answered: 92 Skipped: 2

- Get more people involved
- We should cooperate with each other to increase the sharing of new energy
- We can use celebrity publicity to get more people involved
- I've done a good job
- It would be better if all people participated



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- I think with many people now recognize the new energy, do more activities
- There's nothing to say. It's good enough.
- I think it's important to advocate new energy
- You did a great job, well done
- Understand its advantages, let more people know
- New energy is still very good for the future development of the country, support
- We will improve the energy inspection system, adhere to the combination of daily and monthly inspections, promptly correct and stop waste, and regularly publish the results of energy inspections, assessment notices and rectification deadlines.
- Good, no problem
- People need to learn to do stuff for themselves instead of wait for the Band to do it for them ...but them if they did that it would never ever get done!!!!!!
- More information shared with the membership. Examples rebates for new construction and renovations. Community event so membership can meet the Community Champion and explain what is being worked on. Open house style.
- Good imitative
- I always thought it would be a great idea to install a small windmill at each home for wind power, but don't know the process for installing the necessary equipment to store the power and use the power. Educational materials so they know how would be awesome!
- Independent electricity supply for the community
- Get the kids involved. They're our future.
- More understanding of it
- Solar panel and insulation workshops. Share survey results with community. Provide energy efficiency kits
- Using the river as an energy source
- No, I just know our rez will do the right thing and I'll do mine to help out!
- I do feel members indoor air quality should be one of the focuses of our community
- Promotion of ways to save energy and select a home to receive the energy improvements (e.g. Solar panel) for free
- Help every home, not just Band owned homes save and conserve energy and insulate and/or save their house
- Building a big solar panel for all of Aamjiwnaang so our energy costs are reduced
- Follow-up on home inspections



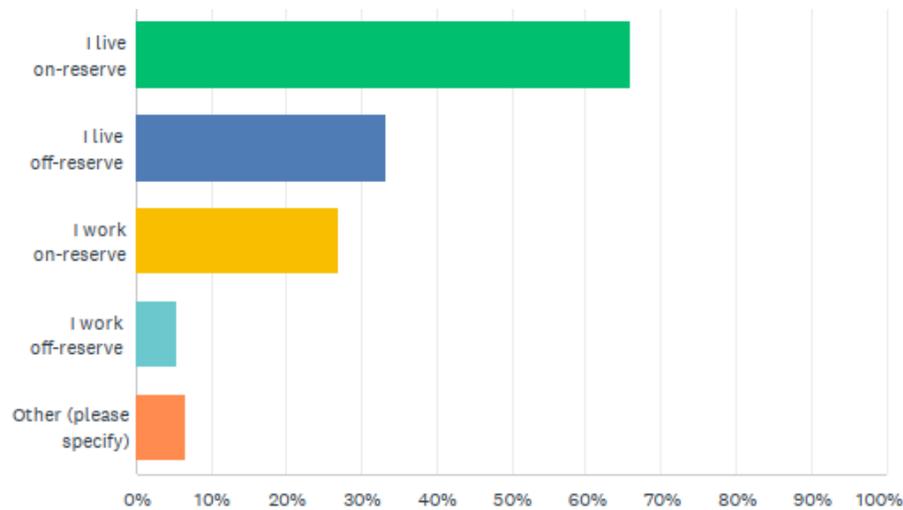


## Who Participated in the Survey?

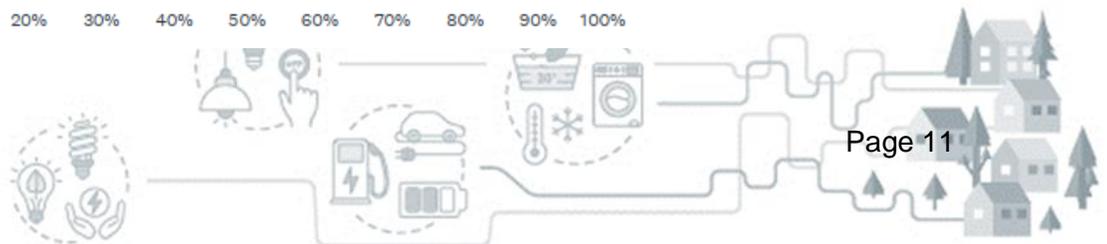
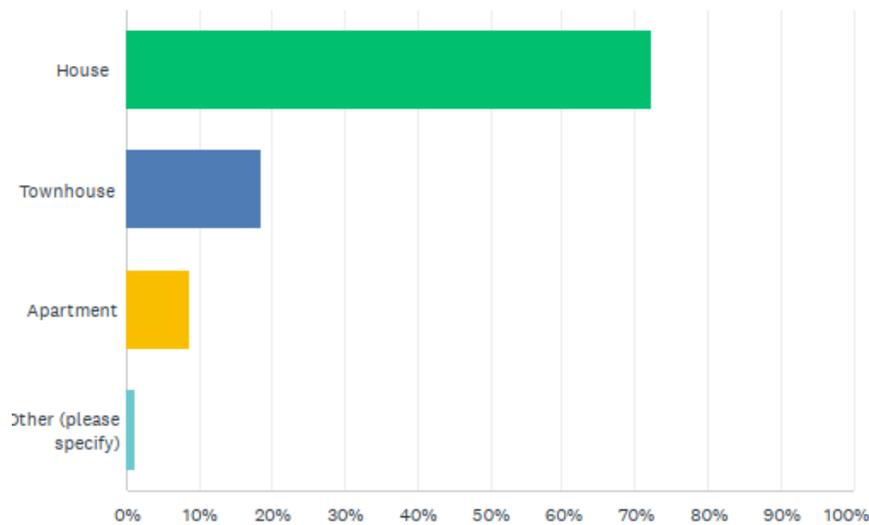
### 13. How many participants were members or non-members?

- Members -94% /88 participants
- Non-Members – 5% / 5 participants

### 14. Where do participants live? *Answered: 92 Skipped: 2*



### 15. What type of building do you live in? *Answered: 93 Skipped: 1*



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16. Do participants own a business? *Answered: 93 Skipped: 1*

- Yes, located on-reserve but separate from my home – 5%
- Yes, located off-reserve – 11%
- Yes, located within my home – 6%
- No – 77%

17. Average Age: *Answered: 93 Skipped: 1*

