

Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Unite to Fast Track Strategic Energy Management

Grid Innovation Fund Project Details

Lead Proponent: Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

Partners: Excellence in Manufacturing Consortium, SME participants

Strategic Area(s):	Wholesale Market Integration
Project Total Cost:	\$342,321
Year Contracted:	2019
Status:	Active
Location:	Various municipalities in Toronto and surrounding Region (e.g. cities of Toronto, Vaughan, Brampton, Mississauga and others)
Economic Development:	N/A

Project Objectives

Combining three program models that support energy users in implementing Strategic Energy Management (SEM) – peer group knowledge exchange, one-on-one advisory services and financial assistance – this project will guide Small-to-Medium Enterprise (SME) manufacturers along a streamlined curriculum to leapfrog the initial hurdles faced when implementing Strategic Energy Management (SEM) best practices.

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) will act as the focal point of a network of regional organizations that support SMEs in saving energy, improving competitiveness and increasing business resiliency, to trial a program model which engages the SME industrial sector and provides a forum to collaborate with peers in achieving long-lasting and high impact energy efficient operations.

Expected Outcomes

If successful, this project will result in a market-driven, self-sustaining, scalable Community of Practice (CoP) program model that supports industrial SMEs to integrate persistent Strategic Energy Management practices into their business activities.

Project communications and knowledge dissemination will lead to further engagement and recruitment of a wider audience of small manufacturers to scale the Community of Practice model across Ontario.