

SUMMERSIDE WILL MOVE TO 60% RENEWABLES WITH SUNBANK



An innovative project by the City of Summerside and Samsung Renewable Energy Inc. will demonstrate and commercialize the endless potential of renewable energy.

The use of renewable energy is often limited by the perception of its volatility. An electrical utility can generate power using fossil fuels, but it cannot control when the sun shines or the wind blows. What if technology could help store and manage such renewable energy more efficiently to maximize its use?

That is exactly what Summerside and Samsung Renewable Energy have planned for the Summerside Sunbank. Scheduled for completion in 2022, this clean technology project combines a solar farm and large-scale battery storage to provide a stable power source. The project offers the potential to further green Summerside's electrical grid, generate wealth in the community, and break down some of the technical barriers in green energy use for power utilities.

The \$66-million project includes a 21 MW solar power farm (48,000 solar panels) plus a 10 MW/28 MWH battery storage system, with the solar farm located on a city well-water field

to maximize the use of the land base as a source of clean drinking water and clean energy for residents.

Completing the project will increase Summerside's reliance on renewables to more than 60 per cent (approximately 42 per cent wind and 21 per cent solar) of its energy use. With more renewable power generated and stored in the city, the project will also keep more dollars in the community.

Finally, this municipal project will showcase the potential of net zero energy to other communities and utilities across the globe.

Other key partners in the project include Aspin Kemp & Associates, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and the federal and provincial governments.

Samsung Renewable Energy has been a key partner in Summerside's Living Lab, which offers access to city infrastructure to explore entrepreneurial opportunities that offer real-world solutions.

Sunbank incorporates similar technology as that used in a demonstration project by Summerside and Samsung Renewable Energy at the city's recreation facility in 2017.

The two partners have plans for a third-phase project and a joint venture to explore related opportunities in Summerside and beyond.

