



ERROL BLACK CHAIR

**EBC**

IN LABOUR ISSUES

**How Government Support  
for Social Enterprise Can  
Reduce Poverty and Green  
House Gasses**

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## Shifting Economic Gears

- Emerging sectors with low-hanging green fruit
- Building retrofits
- Renewable energy



# BC and Manitoba

Two provinces: one strategy

# Role of Social Enterprise in Manitoba

- Aki Energy: First Nations Social Enterprise installs **geo-thermal** heating in first Nations Communities
- **B**uilding **U**rban **I**ndustry for **L**ocal **D**evelopment (BUILD)/ **B**randon **E**nergy **E**fficiency **P**rogram (BEEP): **RETROFITS**
- Manitoba Green Retrofit (MGR):**RETROFITS**

## Decent Jobs

- BUILD/MGR employees earn between \$14 - \$25 an hour
- Manitoba minimum wage: \$10.70
- Winnipeg living wage 2013: \$14.07

# A combination of government initiatives

- Neighbourhood Renewal Corporations
  - Neighbourhoods Alive Tax Credit
- Manitoba Housing procurement policy
- New legislation to support social enterprise
- CED Policy Framework; Aboriginal Procurement Policy; Manitoba Social Enterprise Strategy

# BC Hydro/Manitoba Hydro and complementary legislation

## BC

- *BC Hydro and Authority Act*
- *The Clean Energy Act*
- *GHG Reduction Targets Act*
- *GHG Reduction (Cape and Trade) Act*
- *Environmental Assessment Act...etc.*

## MANITOBA

- *Manitoba Hydro Act*
- *Climate Change and Emissions Reductions Act*
- *Sustainable Development Act*
- *Energy Savings Act*

## *The Energy Savings Act*

- Key in allowing the three social enterprises to take advantage of the Power Smart program
- Three elements:



## Affordable Energy Fund

- Receives funds from MH exports
- Use of fund expanded to support social enterprises and community organizations



## Energy Efficiency Plan

- Plan for increasing energy efficiency
- Includes targets and a strategy
- Must report annually

## On-Meter Efficiency Improvement Program

- MH can finance the costs of home energy improvements through PAYS

# PAYS and the Energy Fund Support of Social Enterprise

- Language that includes mandate to use social enterprises and
- PAYS

Allow the social enterprises to operate



Could be much better...

- *Act* should be amended to include targets for use of social enterprise



# The case for social enterprise and the green economy in BC

Similar but different

# The Right Combination

## Manitoba

- Manitoba Hydro
- Emerging Social Enterprise Sector
- Community-based institutions
- First Nations
- Strong CED culture

## BC

- BC Hydro
- Emerging Social Enterprise Sector
- Community-based Institutions
- First Nations

# The Power of Procurement

- BC Housing
- Recommendations to recognize and accommodate social enterprises when considering procurement
- Small Business Accord recognizes social enterprise



# T'Sou-ke First Nation

- Canada's first solar First Nations community
- Commercial greenhouse project shows promise in food production on First Nations

## Raining on our parade: CETA

- Until ratified, BC could adopt Manitoba-like measures
- After ratified, only Aboriginal set-asides will be allowed
- Manitoba excluded procurement of services and goods from Manitoba Hydro so it's not restricted to Aboriginal set-asides.



Government gives;  
Government takes away

- How would a change in provincial government affect these initiatives?