

# **Peterborough Renewable Energy Planning (PREP) Team**

## **Who We Are**

After the passage of the 2021 Peterborough Town Meeting warrant article in which the community decided with (74% of voters in favor) to commit to 100% Renewable Energy by 2050, the Peterborough Renewable Energy Planning (PREP) Team was appointed by the Peterborough Select Board and asked to:

- research and write a general action plan for the community of Peterborough to meet its goals of 100% renewable electricity by 2030 and 100% renewable heat and transportation by 2050. Energy efficiency and renewable energy will be used to reduce and permanently replace the use of fossil fuels. Also included will be projects that increase the town's energy resilience in the face of more extreme weather and a vulnerable grid. The plan will be completed by December, 2022.
- use our report and findings as the basis for a new energy chapter for the town's Master Plan.

For the purposes of this plan, the Peterborough Community includes all municipal, residential, commercial and industrial community members.

## **Why Are We Doing This?**

This work is urgent. As predicted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in 1990 and confirmed in each subsequent report, extreme weather events are causing deadly and costly temperature extremes, storm damage, droughts and coastal and inland flooding globally, nationally and in New Hampshire, with significant economic loss among other effects. Drastic reductions in fossil fuel use and greenhouse gas emissions soon are needed to respond to the IPCC report findings.

## **What Will We Do?**

Our research will include discovering the latest in sustainable energy technology and trends to help inform our recommendations as well as learning what other communities are doing or have done. Recommendations based on our research will include tried and

true solutions, such as energy efficiency, as well as new solutions available under New Hampshire law.

Solutions that have a large impact, are data-driven and cost-effective, meet multiple community goals, and make the town more climate resilient will be sought and prioritized. Solutions will be consistent with Peterborough community values and goals including equity and cost savings.

## How Will We Work?

We are committed to working in a way that is:

- Fair, accessible, inclusive, transparent
- Data driven
- Collaborative - regularly communicating with and getting input and help from the community, citizens, businesses, schools, other organizations, etc.
- Pragmatic - striving for realistic solutions, not perfection
- Unbiased - Looking at any and all solutions, big ways and small ways to meet our goals
- Focused “locally” - for example, keeping energy dollars in the local community.
- Cost aware and also pushing the boundary of recognizing the “value stack” that includes self sufficiency, economic and infra-structure resilience, and energy efficiency
- Health conscious - Improving the health of our citizens and the beauty of our town by eliminating pollution caused by using fossil fuels