

Provisional program for the March 20, 2025, event to address the question, “Should Ontario municipalities be required to engage in heating planning?”

Version 5 dated December 18, 2024

TO BE HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO FACULTY CLUB, 41 WILLCOCKS STREET, TORONTO

Audience comments, questions, and discussion to take up a third of each session.

- 8:00-9:00 am** **Coffee and tea etc. available**
Looped video on the Boltzmann Institute’s Two Pathways project – perhaps spliced with funders’ promos?
- 9:00-9:30 am** **Welcomes and opening remarks**
Brief presentation on the Canadian context re. emissions from buildings; reasons for considering the question in the title of the event; overview of the day’s proceedings, and how they will address the question.
- 9:30-10:30 am** **German and other north European experience with heating planning 1**
Two of Germany’s leading experts on heating planning, Dorian Holtz and Raphael Wittenburg, will speak and respond during this and the next session, and will be available all day. This session will give an overview about heating planning in Germany, its aim, schedule, realization, and costs – all as part of achieving climate neutrality in Germany by 2045 (Europe by 2050).
- 10:30-11:00 am** **Break** (refreshments provided)
- 11:00-11:45 am** **German and other north European experience with heating planning 2**
This session will present conclusions from many heating planning projects in municipalities of various sizes and differing structures – all with the aim of identifying approaches that could be useful in Canada. Both sessions will be chaired by Professor James Cotton, McMaster University.
- 11:45 am-12:30 pm** **How heating planning in Ontario is conducted today.**
Much of today’s planning is done by Enbridge, whose natural gas heats about 70% of floor space in Ontario and by Ontario’s Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO), which will oversee the main source of energy for space heating if electrification of heating is to be the main

means of its decarbonization. Both organizations have been invited to participate. Adam Kliber, supervisor of IESO's long-term forecasting group, will present.

- 12:30-1:45 pm** **Lunch at the Faculty Club** (provided, menu to follow)
- 1:45-2:45 pm** **Governmental perspectives on heating planning – panel discussion**
Representatives of federal, provincial and municipal governments will provide five-minute overviews of their perspectives followed by a 20-minute discussion among the panellists.
- 2:45-3:15 pm** **Break** (refreshments provided)
- 3:15-4:15 pm** **Non-governmental perspectives on heating planning – panel discussion**
A panel of four persons will provide five-minute overviews of their perspectives followed by a 20-minute discussion among the panellists. Represented could be the real estate industry (developers and/or building managers), heating providers and contractors, local electricity distribution companies (LDCs), NGOs, and others.
- 4:15-5:00 pm** **Wrap-up session**
Overview and discussion of the day's proceedings, with an invitation to answer the posed question via responses to an emailed questionnaire.
- 5:00-7:00 pm** **Social event at the Faculty Club** (snacks provided, cash bar) – perhaps with some brief interventions by dignitaries.

Registration opened on December 12, 2024, and is being handled by EventBrite for participants paying the \$75 registration fee (covering use of the Faculty Club, lunch, snacks before, during and after the event, and non-alcoholic beverages).

To register via EventBrite, please click here: [link](#).

Questions about the event should go to march20@bi-ib.ca.