

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

Version 11 dated March 17, 2025

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

Audience comments, questions, and discussion to take up about a third of most sessions.

- 8:00-9:00 am** **Coffee and tea etc. available**
Looped video on the Boltzmann Institute’s Two Pathways project – with Boltzmann Institute funders’ and land acknowledgements.
- 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.
- 9:30-10:15 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 be available all day. This session will give an overview of heating planning in Germany, its aim, schedule, realization, and costs – as part of achieving climate neutrality in Germany by 2045 (EU by 2050). Moderator of both sessions: Professor **James Cotton**, Director of the McMaster Institute for Energy Studies.
- 10:15-10:45 am** **Break** (refreshments provided)
- 10:45-11:30 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 structures – all with the aim of identifying approaches that could be useful in Canada.
- 11:30 am-12:15 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. **Adam Kliber**, supervisor of IESO’s long-term forecasting group, will present. No one from Enbridge’s energy transition planning team can be available. Instead, McMaster’s **James Cotton** (see above) will briefly explain how, in the matter of space heating, he would guide Enbridge through the upcoming energy transition. **Gabriella Kalapos**, Executive Director, Clean Air Partnership, will moderate.
- 12:15-1:15 pm** **Lunch at the Faculty Club** (provided, menu to follow)

- 1:15-2:00 pm** **Lessons from the Two Pathways project – panel discussion**
Kelton Friedrich (McMaster Institute of Energy Studies), **Sanda Yee** (FVB Energy Inc.), and **Martin Green** (Boltzmann Institute) will set out the importance of and major results from this project, indicating how the experience could serve as advice to those about to undertake heating planning. **John Stephenson** (Boltzmann Institute) will moderate.
- 2:00-3:00 pm** **Governmental perspectives on heating planning – panel discussion**
Panelists include **Richard Gilbert** (Boltzmann Institute), **Ian McVey** (Manager of Sustainability, Durham Region), **Graham Seaman** (Director, Sustainability & Asset Management, City of Markham), and **Christine Tu** (Director, Office of Climate Change and Energy Management, Peel Region). **Michael Wiggin** (Boltzmann Institute) will moderate.
- 3:00-3:30 pm** **Break** (refreshments provided)
- 3:30-4:30 pm** **Non-governmental perspectives on heating planning – panel discussion**
Panelists are **Michael Conte** (Manager of Engineering at FVB Energy), **Dennis Fotinos** (former Toronto councillor and CEO of Enwave Energy, now CEO of Noventa Energy), **Jerry Huang** (Manager of Projects, Oshawa Power), and **Darryl Neate** (VP Sustainability, Real Property Association of Canada [REALPAC]). **Stephen Taylor** (Boltzmann Institute) will moderate.
- 4:30-5:00 pm** **Wrap-up session**
Assisted by his graduate students, **Bryan Karney**, Professor of Engineering at the University of Toronto, will briefly overview the day’s proceedings, followed by a discussion and an invitation to answer the title question via responses to an emailed questionnaire.
- 5:00-7:00 pm** **Social event at the Faculty Club** (snacks provided, cash bar)

For more information about the Boltzmann Institute, see www.bi-ib.ca, including information about registration, the Boltzmann Institute personnel in the program, and municipal heating planning.

Registration is being handled by EventBrite ([link](#)). The \$75 registration fee covers use of the Faculty Club, lunch, snacks before, during, and after the event, and non-alcoholic beverages.

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

To support the mandate of Canada’s Net-Zero Advisory Body related to research, this project was undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada. Funding was provided through the Environmental Damages Funds’ Climate Action and Awareness Fund, administered by Environment and Climate Change Canada.

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Ce projet a été réalisé avec l'appui financier
du gouvernement du Canada.

