

Screening at the Fort Albany Community Hall Event Report March 26, 2013

On Tuesday, March 26th, the Fort Albany Community, Ontario, as part the 2013 Mushkegowuk Energy Summit, presented the screening of the documentary Switch. The film addresses worldwide energy production and consumption, and looks at ways that we might transition to a sustainable energy future. The audience drew mostly from First Nations.

SCREENING FACILITATOR

Mike Metatawabin

The discussion, facilitated by MC Mike Metatawabin, lasted for 20 minutes and was mainly the community members/attendees who spoke.

The topic of discussion was mainly about the proposed hydro dam that is possibly happening on the Albany River (local large river) and what kind of alternatives can be proposed instead of this proposed dam.

The suggestions put forward were mainly that:

- It is better, in the long term, to oppose the dam to protect the environment for future generations. This should be the main priority;
- There are alternative power sources such as micro hydro, solar or wind stations that are all feasible given the landscape of the communities; and
- The financial gain from allowing a dam will not transfer to future generations in a way that is truly beneficial. Be cautious about a whole host of other issues that can creep up. Make sure to be aware of the big picture.