

Living the dream

Living Energy Laboratory a success

CONTRIBUTED

The Town of Bridgewater and its Energy Partners are excited to share the results of the Living Energy Laboratory event held on Saturday, Feb. 4 at the Bridgewater Mall.

The Living Energy Laboratory is a project incubator for innovative energy projects that demonstrate practical approaches to achieve smart, clean energy solutions that the whole community can learn from.

Ten Bridgewater and area individuals, organizations, and businesses were welcomed into the Living Energy Laboratory and successfully competed for over \$5,400 in cash and prizes.

“What would happen if our community had no fear of experimenting with innovative ideas and tools to achieve a local energy economy, and instead actively gathered resources and support to make them happen?”

This is the challenge that the Living Energy Laboratory seeks to answer by supporting these innovative projects. The Living Energy Laboratory is part of Energize Bridgewater — a community-wide initiative to accelerate the transition of our community toward a “local energy economy.”

The projects accepted into the Living Energy Laboratory are:

Business or Organizational Initiative

1. “Mashup Lab: Energy Edition” proposed by Mashup Lab. The project won \$1,000 in cash, plus 6.5 hours of professional time from local energy experts.

2. “Promoting Energy Effi-

10. “Story Time - Energy Stories for Young Readers” proposed by Donna Foulkes. The project won \$400 in cash, plus one hour professional time from local energy experts, and \$75 in copy services from Staples Bridgewater.

A special thank you to our panel of judges — Mayor David Mitchell, Jennifer Naugler, Reno Roy, Madeline Myers, and Ernie O’Neill for awarding the prizes.

The Living Energy Laboratory prizes have been sponsored by: L&B Electric, RJ Roy Energy Management Services, South Shore Breaker, LighthouseNOW, LaHave River Credit Union, Staples Bridgewater, and the Town of Bridgewater. The award program has been organized by the Town of Bridgewater and Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation.

The results of each project will be showcased at the Energy Fair in the fall of 2017.

For more information about the projects, and about the Living Energy Laboratory and Energize Bridgewater, visit www.energizebridgewater.ca



Amy Buckland-Nicks of the Mersey Tobiotic Research Institute was the winner of the people’s choice award, shown here with Leon DeVreede, Bridgewater sustainability planner.

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2. "Promoting Energy Efficiency with Eco Green Loans" proposed by the LaHave River Credit Union. The project won an advertising package from LighthouseNOW.

3. "Renewable Energy Monitoring System for MTRI" proposed by the Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute. The project won \$400 in cash, 2.5 hours of professional time from local energy experts, and was also presented with the People's Choice Award for the most online votes received.

4. "Renewable Energy Monitoring system for IGF" proposed by Indian Garden Farms. The project won \$500 in cash.

5. "Clean Energy Financing for Homes" proposed by the Town of Bridgewater and the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg. The project did not request any start-up resources.

Community Project

6. "Local Energy Improvement Database" proposed by the Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation. The project will receive support in setting up partnerships with local businesses and organizations.

New Venture

7. "The Wayfinders Program" proposed by The Windship Co-operative. The start-up won an advertising package from the South Shore Breaker, and a letter of support.

8. "New Business: Renewable Energy Solutions" — proposed by Laval Paradis. The start-up won a Mashup Lab attendance fee, plus five hours of professional time from local energy experts

Home Improvement or Lifestyle Change

9. "Greenhouse Heating Study: A Tinkerer's Journey" proposed by David Maxwell. The project did not request any start-up resources.