

Exceed Solar unveils Indigenous Initiative for solar-powered, high tech housing

High tech concepts designed to disrupt costly housing industry

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– The need for sustainable, energy efficient housing is no more acute than in Indigenous communities across Canada, and [Exceed Solar](#) is pleased to announce it is meeting that demand head on with a new Indigenous Initiative.

The initiative is designed to introduce new sustainable housing concepts to Indigenous communities and replace antiquated Western style homes with living spaces more suitable to Indigenous heritage. The initiative is being spearheaded by Crystal Kosa, who has extensive experience in implementing training and education programs designed for Indigenous people across Canada. Crystal, who is Director of [Indigenous Initiatives](#) for Exceed Solar, is of Métis heritage and a successful entrepreneur based in Edmonton, Alberta.



High tech housing using sustainable materials and solar PV

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There is no better time than now to introduce a strategy that focuses on sustainable technologies that are better aligned with the needs of these communities.”

*Crystal Kosa, Director,
Indigenous Initiatives*

“The need for a new approach to Indigenous housing is well documented,” Kosa explains, “and in many of these communities the lack of suitable housing has already reached a crisis point. There is no better time than now to introduce a strategy that focuses on sustainable technologies that are better aligned with the needs of these communities.”

According to the 2016 Census, Indigenous peoples are the fastest growing segment of the Canadian population. Compared to the rest of Canada, they grew four times more than the non-Indigenous population, accounting for a 42.5% growth rate since 2006. In the next 20 years the Indigenous

community is anticipated to exceed 2.5 million people.

The most recent Canadian Census also showed that one in five Indigenous peoples live in a dwelling in need of major repair, with on-reserve housing being even worse. In fact, over 40% of homes on reserves need major repairs compared to 7% in non-Indigenous housing. While the quality of housing

varies from community to community, many reserves lack good quality homes, and in many cases those who live on reserves or in Northern Canada share accommodations with up to 16 people.

Both the provincial and federal governments in Canada have recognized the need for both better quality housing and implementing renewable technologies for more sustainable communities. In the last budget unveiled in February, 2018 the federal government announced \$300 million in new funding for Indigenous housing over the next 11 years. Similarly, provincial governments such as Alberta have also pledged millions in grants and funding to advance the transformation toward renewable energy in Indigenous communities.

Exceed has created a team and a strategy to assist these communities in accessing the required financing to make this transformation happen. The Company has partnered with industry experts to create fully sustainable, energy efficient living spaces that can meet the needs of Indigenous housing. Exceed Solar's "[Sol Spaces](#)" have been designed to both reduce carbon footprint of typical structures and to utilize available renewable energy from the sun using PV solar panels.

Unlike traditional housing that has been built for Indigenous communities using stick frame construction, Exceed Solar has taken a unique approach by leveraging cutting edge sustainable technology.

Branded under the name "Sol Spaces" Exceed Solar's living spaces are energy audited to maximize their efficiency. The Company also incorporates state of the art building technology including structural insulated panels (SIPs) as opposed to stick frame construction, making the building envelope energy efficient and structurally sound. The modular approach to these living spaces also provides significant flexibility in the size of each unit.

Exceed Solar has unveiled its new Initiative on its website, at www.exceedsolar.com, and will be actively approaching suitable communities to launch the initiative in the near future.

ABOUT EXCEED SOLAR

Exceed Solar leverages cutting edge building technologies to create fully sustainable, energy efficient, highly engineered living spaces. These "Sol Spaces" have been designed both to reduce the carbon footprint of the structures and to utilize available renewable energy from the sun via PV solar panels. Sol Spaces are easily installed and highly scalable, from backyard garden suites to solar powered greenhouses to fully sustainable recreational and residential homes. Our company objective is to exceed your expectations of what's possible.

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