



## **Collaboration Policy**

**Approved by the OREC Board - January 20, 2015 (Revised June 28, 2015)**

OREC is interested in entering into collaborations with organizations that share and advance our vision and goals.

### **Vision**

OREC's vision is to promote renewable energy technologies that are environmentally, socially and financially sustainable in order to improve the quality of life for all residents of Eastern Ontario.

### **Goals**

The Co-op's goals are:

1. Generate decentralized renewable electricity in Eastern Ontario;
2. Create a democratic, self-reliant, environmentally, socially and financially sustainable business model for community power in cooperation with other community-based cooperatives in Eastern Ontario;
3. Increase the accessibility and awareness of sustainable energy technologies by providing leadership and advocacy and building social capital;
4. Through social financing improve the market for renewable energy and other forms of sustainable technology in Eastern Ontario;
5. Provide a fair return for co-operative members who wish to invest in local renewable energy production; and
6. Partner with other organizations, companies and government agencies to develop a variety of projects that achieve our vision.

### **1. Benefits**

We are interested in working with companies and organizations that can bring us as many of the following benefits as possible:

- new members
- benefits for our members
- technical resources
- marketing opportunities
- more support for our sector

### **2. Approach**

Ways we plan to collaborate include:

- a) renting roof space
- b) sharing technical knowledge

- c) joint ownership of projects
- d) media release of collaboration
- e) cross promotion in newsletters
- f) logos on websites
- g) guest blogging on websites and sharing through social media
- h) incentives for members
- i) sharing of event updates on websites and social media networks
- j) co-hosting of events
- k) sharing of flyers at promotional information tables

### **3. Attributes**

We will collaborate with those companies and organizations that have at least two of the following attributes:

- a) rooftop/property owners willing to lease space for renewable energy installations and/or co-own these installation
- b) locally owned and operated companies and organizations that have a local Ottawa (Eastern Ontario) focus
- c) companies providing environmental products or services
- d) organizations incorporated as non-profit or co-operative enterprises or organizations
- e) credit unions and community development funds
- f) corporations certified as providing community and environmental benefits ( B-corps)
- g) organizations providing education services
- h) organizations providing community or social services
- i) municipal and other government agencies

### **4. Avoid**

To avoid conflicts of interest, and remain non-partisan, we will avoid collaborating with the following types of companies or organizations:

- a) those using us for greenwashing purposes
- b) the conventional energy industry - fossil fuel and nuclear power producers, transporters, or industry groups
- c) those that have links to political parties