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Notes

- Parent with two daughters at University, out of province
- They are Maritimers, more specifically proud, creative Acadians
- They want to come back to a province that supports creativity, innovation, and people that want to try out things
- This generation appears much less interested in the old-fashioned "getting a job for money's sake" - they are not coming back to work on the pipeline
- Government's responsibility: to create an atmosphere for young people to feel empowered, engaged - a climate ready and resilient province can provide for that.

Energy efficiency

- is one simple solution, creates employment, and helps families
- Our case:
 - 10 years ago bought old house, went through federal and provincial efficiency subsidy program
 - continued renovations, managed to get our home from a rating in the 20's to a 78 rating in energy efficiency
- Efficiency NB worked really well, was present, active, engaged; since NB Power took it over, it appears lackluster, disengaged.

Electric vehicles

- Our case:
 - bought a hybrid 2 years ago, to replace a failing vehicle
 - difficult because we are very low middle income
 - approx. \$7,000 more than the equivalent vehicle
 - bought the smallest, simplest Prius (Toyota) on the market
 - Prius uses maybe 2 litres less per 100 km than the equivalent gas only car (not a lot, pay back time is way too long at current gas prices)
 - still be considered "early adopters";
 - cannot afford electric, because we travel a lot;
- incentive needed to speed up adoption, of both more hybrids and electric

Renewables

- large-scale - lead needs to be NB Power
- small-scale - people
- Our case:

- we decided to install solar panels, and first wanted off grid because NB Powers HST charging and lack of feed in tariff is ludicrous and frustrating
- now will be net metered
- cost \$ 15,000 to likely cover almost 100% of electricity needs;
- will take between 7 and 10 years to pay off, with lifespan of over 20 years;
- also interested in electricity storage on site, as it will eliminate power outages (batteries still expensive, but under rapid development)
- Ensure information is readily available, lots of miss-information exists;
- Ensure training and certification for installers is implemented, or else consumers will have problems with bad advice and bad installations

Recommendations:

1. Efficiency NB agency - reinstate;
2. Incentives for electric and hybrid cars - just enough to make it easier to decide;
3. Incentives and subsidies for small-scale renewables - to help with the initial cost, reduce pay back time;
4. Subsidize replacement of gas generators with solar or wind & storage;
5. Base all incentives and subsidies on income levels, at least in part, to encourage more people to adopt electric, hybrid & small-scale renewables;
6. Remove HST charge on electricity in net metering!
7. Implement feed-in tariffs for net metering (carefully evaluate what the tariff should be, basically to shorten the pay back time)
8. How to finance those incentives? Implement carbon tax and reinvest in people, help them make better choices.