



JOHNSON SHOYAMA
Canadian Centre for the
Study of Co-operatives
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Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Canada's Renewable Energy Co-operatives

This lecture is part of the ***Creating A League of Our Own: A Renewable Energy Co-operatives in Canada*** Discussion Series.

#RECLEAGUE

SPEAKER:

Derya Tarhan

Assistant Professor (Teaching Stream), Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto and Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Royal Roads University

WEDNESDAY, February 15

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. (Saskatchewan time or Central Standard Time)

Online via Zoom (no cost to attend)

[Click here to register!](#)



Recent studies from Europe and Canada have shown that membership bodies of renewable energy co-operatives (RECs) predominantly consist of affluent white men. This demographic concentration points at a disconnect between REC activity and its often-assumed potential in simultaneously advancing decarbonisation and social justice. This presentation will build on interviews with leading members RECs in Ontario to identify factors driving the exclusion of marginalised and frontline communities from REC initiatives. Findings reveal that a combination of inadequate policy support and complex preparatory activities in Ontario geared the pursuit of REC development towards affluent, professional class groups with access to necessary practical capacities. The presentation will conclude with a discussion of paths forward for Canada's REC sector and the broader co-operative movement to act on the principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion.

This discussion series is supported by:

