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Saugeen Sparks Training Centre Launches Inaugural Specialized Electrical Program

Saugeen Sparks Training Centre is pleased to announce its inaugural summer Specialized Electrical Program, designed to introduce its Intermediate electrical graduates and aspiring participants from across the region, to emerging careers in the rapidly growing clean-energy sector.

The program's curriculum received a significant boost through a collaboration with NEOEN, one of the world's leading renewable-energy companies, whose technical experts will support and lead the one-week Clean Energy Solutions program running July 6–10, 2026 at Saugeen District Senior School in Port Elgin. This partnership strengthens an already-established training initiative and ensures participants gain direct exposure to the skills, technologies and industry insights shaping the future of electrical work.

The one-week program will equip students with a strong foundation in solar power, battery-energy storage and electric-vehicle charging systems at both residential and commercial scales. Participants will learn directly from experienced industry professionals, gaining practical insight into the technologies and clean-energy solutions that are rapidly reshaping the electrical field.

Students in the program will build a solid understanding of power-system fundamentals, explore the application of emerging clean-energy technologies and develop hands-on best practices essential to modern electrical work. Guided by experienced mentors, participants will gain the confidence and practical insight needed to kick-start their careers in this dynamic and rapidly evolving sector.

The program will be led by David Windley, former Conestoga College instructor, who brings more than 40 years of experience across Canada's electric-utility, heavy-industry and renewable-generation sectors. His extensive technical background and commitment to workforce development will provide students with an exceptional learning experience.

Emmanuel Pujol, Neoen's Regional CEO for the Americas, said: *"Neoen is excited to support Sparks Training Centre's excellent work in developing the skills and hands-on experience that will keep Bruce County at the forefront on Canada's clean energy transformation. We're grateful for the opportunity to give community members a jump start in this dynamic and rewarding sector."*

Bob Stanley, Saugeen Sparks Training Centre's Executive Director, said: *"The Centre's goal has always been to prepare regional students for careers and further educational opportunities emerging in the clean-energy sector "* said Rob Stanley – Executive Director of Saugeen Sparks Training Centre. *"Collaborating with NEOEN enhances the depth and relevance of our inaugural specialized program, giving*

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our students access to real-world expertise while keeping the focus on building strong, future-ready careers right here in our region.”

About Saugeen Sparks Training Centre

Founded in the fall of 2023, Saugeen Sparks Training Centre is a regional, not-for-profit organization dedicated to expanding workforce development and experiential skilled trades education in Grey and Bruce Counties. The Centre plays an active role in bridging the regional employment gap by delivering accessible, high-quality training in high-demand fields like welding and electrical. The Centre has equipped hundreds of local trainees with practical, job-ready pathways to the energy, construction and manufacturing sectors. Reflecting the diverse composition of the clean energy corridor, the Centre is guided by an executive leadership team and a 15-member Board of Directors consisting of technical educators, municipal leaders, former nuclear energy executives, trade unionists and Indigenous community leaders.

For more information: www.saugeensparkscentre.com

About Neoen

Founded in 2008, Neoen is one of the world’s leading renewable energy companies, with expertise in solar, onshore wind power and battery storage. Neoen plays an active role in accelerating the energy transition of the countries where it operates by delivering clean, competitively priced local energy. Neoen’s total global capacity in construction, in operation or under management stands at 9.9 GW. A high-growth company, Neoen intends to reach 20 GW by 2030. Neoen is managed by an international team of experts led by Xavier Barbaro, Director of Neoen Limited and BRHL UK Midco Limited, Chairman of Cartusia S.A.S., Group CEO.

Neoen operates close to 200 assets across three continents. Its flagship assets include Western Downs Green Power Hub in Australia, comprised of the country’s largest solar farm (460 MWp) and Western Downs Battery (540 MW / 1,080 MWh); Collie Battery (560 MW / 2,240 MWh) one of the world’s most powerful large-scale storage systems; France’s most powerful solar farm (300 MWp) in Cestas; and Finland’s largest wind farm (404 MW) in Mutkalampi.

For more information: www.neoen.com

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