

# SOLSHARE ENERGY

## Powering communities with community-owned solar systems for a brighter and cleaner future



### The Organization

SolShare Energy is BC's first community-owned solar energy investment program. Its mission is to enable investors to share in ownership of a diverse portfolio of renewable energy installations that offer financial, social, and environmental returns.



### The Need

There was a need for a solution that allows individuals to invest in solar projects that are not on their property and gives them a return on investment. There was also a need to create investment opportunities for individuals who believe in the benefits of renewable energy, but do not have a lot of capital.



### The Solution

SolShare partners with property owners who want solar power plants on their property but lack the capital and expertise for the projects. SolShare's community of investors fund the projects. They collectively own the power plants, and SolShare is responsible for installation and maintenance of the systems. Investors earn annual dividends from revenue generated by selling power to the property partners, generating a positive impact on the environment and community. IRP capital was utilized for capacity building to attract more investors.



### In Their Own Words

"With the rise in bank interest rates, we need to target high return projects to compete for investors."

## Key lesson(s) or best practice(s) shared

Social purpose organizations need to understand financing options, and which are a fit. Because they are innovative, community investment models face challenges of potential partners and investors resisting what they do not understand.

## AT A GLANCE

### Type of organization

Social Enterprise

### Social finance approach

Social enterprise activity and IRP non-repayable capital

### Sustainable development goal(s)



### Investment readiness stage

Social financial awareness



Business model/  
plan development

Organizational ability



Impact measurement and reporting

Network development

