

INNOVATION FUND

Jana Brunel



INNOVATION FUND OBJECTIVES

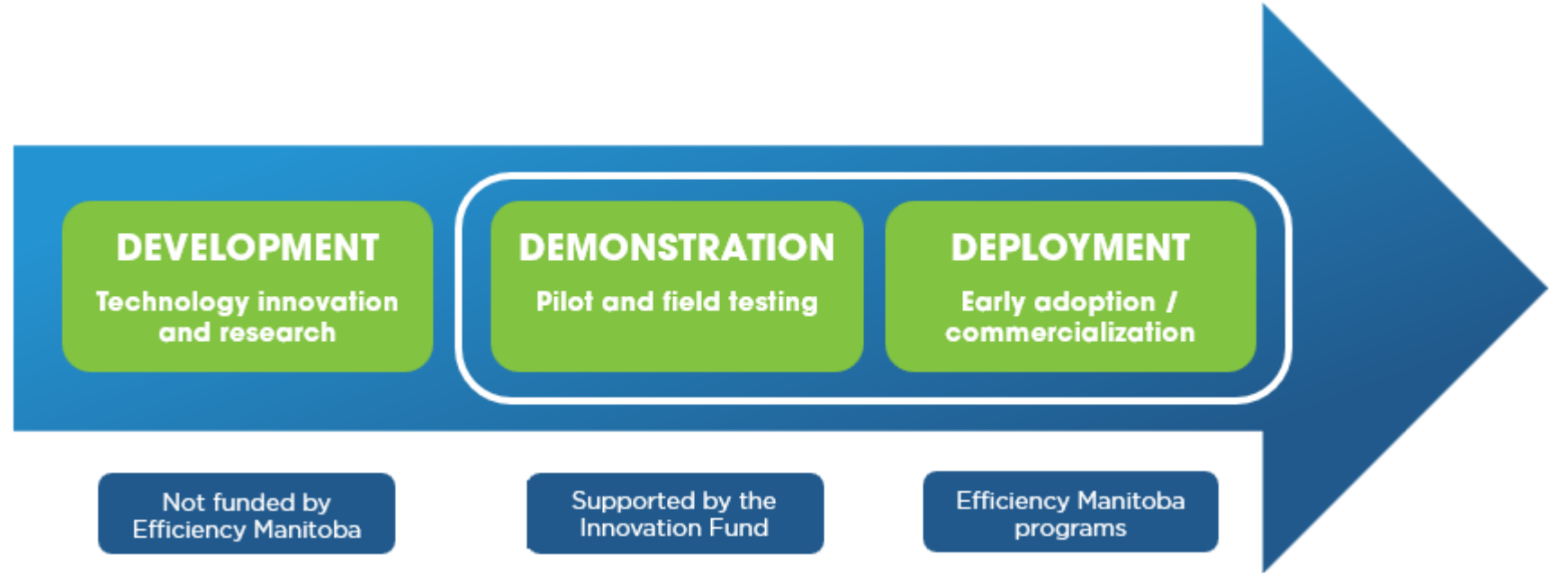
Evaluate the effectiveness of technologies and approaches within the Manitoba context.

Support the development of electricity and natural gas savings technologies and approaches to be incorporated into efficiency programs.

Foster economic development through capacity building and local project delivery.

Enable participation by Indigenous organizations/communities and support the development of projects that address the unique needs and context of Indigenous Manitobans.

STAGES OF INNOVATION & FOCUS OF THE INNOVATION FUN



INNOVATION FUND OFFER

- Up to 75% of eligible project costs to a maximum of \$250,000
- Project can participate in other EM programs if the innovative aspect is above and beyond main program parameters
- Co-funding from other sources is encouraged
- First step is an expression of interest to learn high level details about the project

Technology Demonstration Stream

- ✓ Proves financial and energy savings models
- ✓ Lasting benefits for pilot/test participants
- ✓ Local economic development

Market Capacity Stream

- ✓ Deeper understand of market barriers and reduction techniques
- ✓ Market awareness and understanding
- ✓ Increase accessibility or availability

COMMUNITY-DEFINED INNOVATION

The Innovation Fund desires to strengthen Reconciliation in-practice by adapting engagement, intake, and support mechanisms so Indigenous-led or Indigenous-defined innovation can participate more fully and deliver community-relevant outcomes



ANY QUESTIONS?



DEMAND RESPONSE AND FIRST NATION COMMUNITIES

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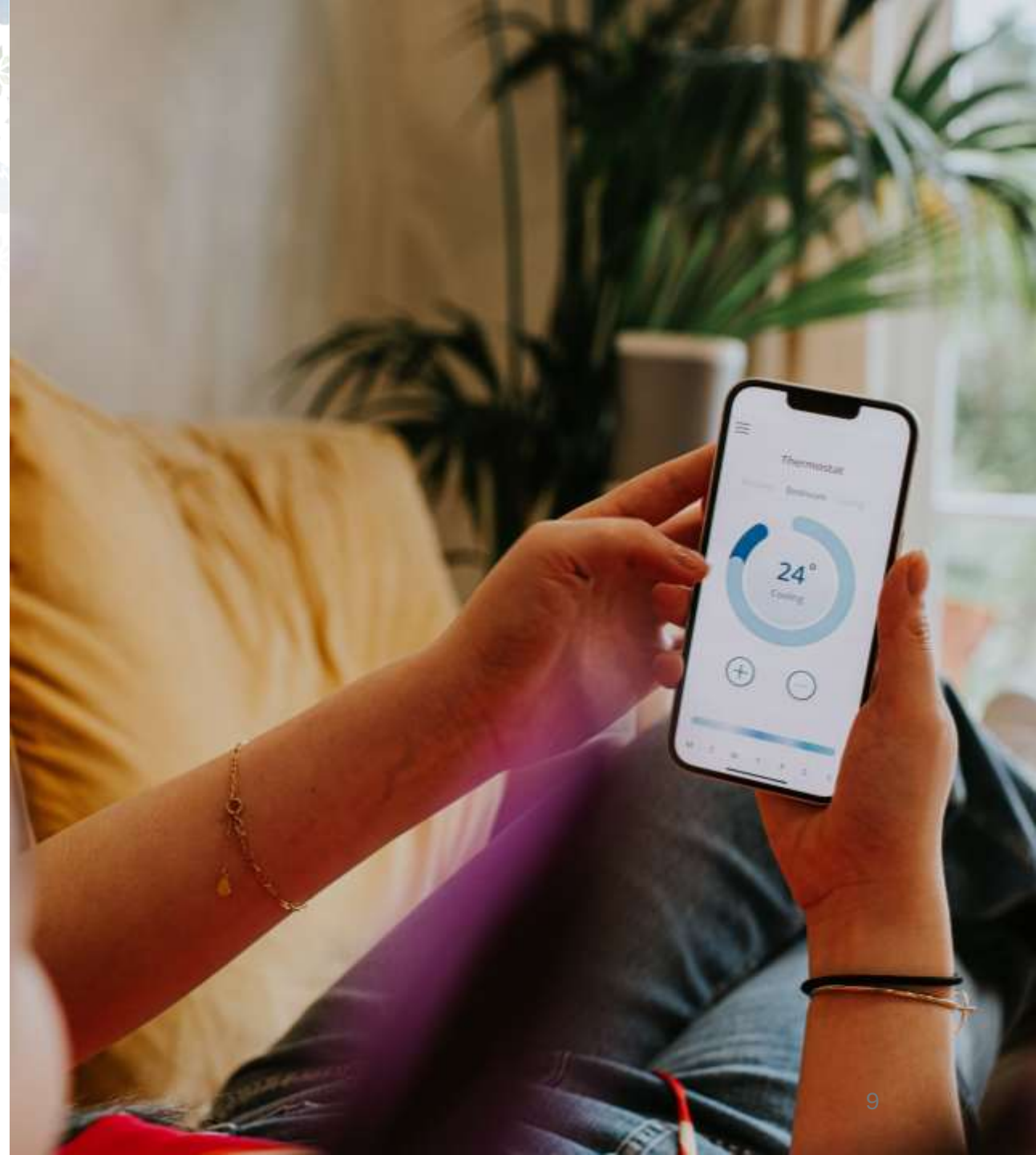


MANITOBA'S ENERGY RUSH HOUR

- Roads get busy at predictable times when many people are commuting at the same time
- Our energy rush hour happens on the coldest winter days when homes use electric heat to warm up
- Moments when energy use across the province is at its highest is known as peak demand
- Even though this only happens a few days a year, the electricity grid needs to be prepared

DEMAND RESPONSE

- Shifting *when* energy is used (away from peak times)
- Customer notifications and smart device adjustments
- One-time enrollment and seasonal participation incentives
- Voluntary, can opt out anytime
- Temporary behaviour changes vs. permanent energy efficiency savings



DEMAND RESPONSE | INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN

- Manitoba Hydro's Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) identifies upcoming peak demand and capacity constraints.
- Demand response (DR) is included in the IRP as a flexible, near-term capacity resource to help manage peak demand and reduce the need for new generation.
- Residential DR is one of the customer-side solutions being explored, to support system reliability, particularly during winter peaks.
- Residential DR programs are expected to take a voluntary, incentive-based approach.
- Participation is enabled through customer-owned technologies (like smart thermostats) that allow short-duration adjustments across many homes.
- Near term action is to launch a residential smart thermostat demand response pilot



DEMAND RESPONSE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

- Learnings from the pilot will inform broader program scaling on items such as customer experience and incentive amounts
- Subsequent expansion for smart thermostat and other demand response programs to Indigenous communities will consider and facilitate approaches that reflect differences across communities
- Engagement will ensure consideration of local priorities, housing conditions, and regional factors.



Good energy,
together

WELLNESS BREAK

