

City of North Bay

Press Release

North Bay Launches its Solar Photovoltaic Project as a Community Demonstration Project

Issued at 10:00 am

North Bay Ontario, May 22, 2008: Today at 11:00 am North Bay Mayor Vic Fedeli and Engineering and Work Chair, Councillor Judy Koziol will cut a ribbon to launch the City of North Bay's first Green Energy project. A 10-kilowatt photovoltaic solar array has been mounted on the lower roof of North Bay City Hall as a solar demonstration project. Solar power is being generated and fed into the "grid" under a 20-year Renewable Energy Standing Offer contract with the Ontario Power Authority. The City will receive 42 cents per kilowatt hour for power generated by the photovoltaic system. The project demonstrates the benefits of producing renewable energy through solar power production in North Bay and a live website has been set up for the public to view power "as it is produced" and to track and interpret historic generation over time.

Project design and construction management was carried out by Carmanah Technologies Corporation through their British Columbia and Toronto offices and construction was undertaken by Earl Wilson Electric of North Bay. This \$120,000 project was made possible through a \$50,000 grant from North Bay Hydro. More than 100 projects sponsored by North Bay Hydro have been completed over the last three years to reduce energy consumption and shrink environmental footprints of business customers. The photovoltaic system is expected to generate more than 1000 kilowatt-hours per month and a web site is tracking the environmental benefits of the project.

Mayor Vic Fedeli has stated "This may be a first small first step in combating global warming but it is a big step in the right direction and I look forward to continuing to find other renewable energy projects that make sense for us to look at. We know that global warming is a big problem and we have to continue to address it or we leave a huge problem for our children to try and solve. We know that our electorate wants governments of all levels to address this problem and we are looking at a variety of things that we can do. North Bay is a green community and we want to continue to provide leadership on this issue."

Councillor Judy Koziol reflects the Mayors sentiment: "I think this is a good start to developing a green portfolio and North Bay is well positioned to take advantage of green technology and ride the wave of solutions to this global problem. If we can show leadership, this will attract green investment to North Bay and this market is huge. North Bay has always been green but we cannot just continue to rely on our beautiful lakes, abundant forests and a high quality life style to maintain our position as "a green community". We have to embrace and demonstrate the use of green technology and get our hands dirty in finding out how it works and how we can use it. This is a good start and watch for more to come!"

For more information please contact:

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Web Link is: <http://view2.fatspaniel.net/EarWilsonElectric/northbaycityhall/HostedAdminView.html?&eid=111914>