



peace energy COOPERATIVE

Spring 2012...

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President's Message...

Dear Members:

I am very pleased to be writing to you once again as the newly elected president of Peace Energy Cooperative. After having a year away from the board, (and missing it!) it is an honour to be elected back as a director and as the board chair.

This will be a very exciting year for the Cooperative!

As you know, our previous Executive Director, Nicola Peacey, unfortunately had to leave us late last fall. We were very fortunate to be able to bring Valerie Gilson back as Executive Director Pro Tem for a six-month contract to complete our financial year-end, 2012 budgeting, assist with strategic planning, and hire and train a new Executive Director.

As you see below, Brigitte Schilds joined the cooperative in mid-April as the new ED. We are pleased to have Brigitte join us; please stop in

and say hi to her.

Though our AGM fell on an unexpected snowy day, we had a good attendance to hear reports of PEC activities over the last year and the following exciting news; Peace Energy is now the proud distributor of the VBINE!

VBINE is a small-wind, vertical axis, turbine. We made the announcement at the AGM and launched it the following weekend at the Dawson Creek Trade Show, to rave reviews. There is a small scale model in the office and Brigitte can fill you in on its attributes; see the last page for more info!

So, as we say good-bye to Valerie once again, and hello to Brigitte, I also say thank you for the opportunity to serve you again as a director and as president.

It is an honour to serve in this capacity and I will continue to promote our cooperative at every opportunity.

Have a wonderful summer!

Rupert Kirk - President

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PEC Welcomes the NEW Executive Director...

Greetings Members!

I am very excited to be writing to you from the Executive Director's position. I was born and raised in Dawson Creek, however for the last six years I have been living in Toronto and Vancouver while I completed my post-secondary education. I have always had a soft spot for my hometown, and I am beyond elated that I was given the opportunity to move back and work in the region.

I graduated from South Peace Secondary School in 2006 and completed an Honours Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science as well as a Specialist Certificate in International Development Studies from the University of Toronto in 2010. I have always been actively involved in the Dawson Creek community, as a former President of the Dawson Creek Interact club as well as a regular volunteer at local science fairs. My passion and experience focus mainly on environmental education and community outreach, and I am very excited to be working to promote and develop renewable energy sources throughout the Peace region (and the rest of Canada!).

The Peace Energy Cooperative is an incredibly unique group of individuals and I am excited for the opportunity to work in such an environment. I look forward to meeting and working with all of the members now and in the future.

Executive Director– Brigitte Schilds

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Annual General Meeting Brief...

The Annual General Meeting was held at St. Mark's Anglican Church Hall on Saturday April 14th with 27 members and 1 guest attending. We had 1 proxy vote from eligible members over 80 km away.

Elections for new 3-year terms were held for three positions. Bob Carter had been appointed by the Board to complete the final year of a previous director's term and was standing for re-election to the same position. Don Pettit had been elected at the previous AGM to complete the final year of a previous director's term and was standing for re-election to the same position. Rupert Kirk was standing for the director position vacated by Fred Feddema earlier in the year. The Board of Directors also elected a new president and treasurer at their April 25th meeting, with Rupert Kirk and Bob Carter filling those positions respectively.



Directors Bob Carter and Bill Jackson



Executive Director Pro Tem Valerie Gilson



The view from the front of the room at the 2012 AGM

Executive Director Pro Tem Valerie Gilson made an exciting announcement this year; that Peace Energy Cooperative had officially become a dealer for VBINE wind turbines! Peace Energy will now be the dealers of a 5kW vertical axis wind turbine manufactured out of Manitoba. This dealership was a number of years in the making, and the Board of Directors couldn't be more excited for this promising new enterprise.

The 2012 Kiwanis Trade Show

This year's Kiwanis Trade Show fell right after Peace Energy's announcement that we had gained a VBINE dealership. The Director's took the opportunity to talk to members and the public about these new turbines, along with the other aspects of the cooperative.



Executive Directors Brigitte Schilds and Valerie Gilson, Director Trevor Reeves and member Roy Mumby with the VBINE banner



Executive Director Valerie Gilson and Director Bill Jackson



Director Bill Jackson discussing VBINE

Announcements

Join Peace Energy Cooperative and South Peace SuccessBy6/Children First Initiative as we celebrate Global Wind Day. There will be lots of activities for the kids, including book give-aways, craft tables and kite flying. There will be a raffle to win an autographed copy of Don Pettit's book, Power Shift. Come out and learn more about wind in the Peace Region!



VBINE QUICK FACTS

Peace Energy Cooperative recently announced that we had become dealers for a new type of turbine, called a VBINE. The product has been developed with the help of 4.5 million dollars in privately raised funds, and the design has been submitted for 4 worldwide patents.

Some key points that make the VBINE turbine different from traditional Horizontal Axis Wind Turbines (HAWT) are as follows:

- Blades take wind from any direction
- Measures less than 3 meters of swept area
- Low rate of rotation
- Self starts in wind speed of 1.2 m/s
- Low rotation speed eliminates vibration
- Will produce full power at 11 m/s
- Has top blade speed of 45 mph compared to 200 mph for HAWT
- Low rotation speeds ensures safety of birds and bats
- Will operate in extreme conditions
- Low sound levels (66 decibels in wind tunnel)
- Roof mountable on commercial buildings
- Low rotation eliminates EMI (no interference with telecom broadcasts)



VBINE turbines are unique among VAWT's as well. The following are some of the unique characteristics featured in the VBINE turbines:

- No drive shaft, brushes, bushings or slip rings (maintenance items)
- 2 long-life sealed bearings expected to provide 20 plus years of service
- Turbine self starts in low winds and can still handle high winds
- Unique blade configuration captures maximum power from small swept area
- Each blade produces power on 180 degrees out of the 360 degree rotation
- Centre shaft does not rotate allowing lightning rod or antenna install above turbine
- Extremely durable in a variety of climates

The VBINE 5kW Turbine is designed for a variety of locations including: telecommunication towers, high rise buildings, commercial property, residential property, remote homes/cabins, schools, farm yards, factories, oil and gas facilities, northern communities, small wind farms and linear wind farms.

