

Watt's Happening

Peace Energy Cooperative Newsletter

Autumn, 2014

peaceenergy.ca

In this issue: Hudson's Hope gets first solar; Peace Energy Coop moves into retail sales; successful Solar Open House in Dawson Creek; Electric bikes and scooters take off; Amazing Energy Facts

Feature Story

First Solar in Hudson's Hope

I am grateful to Peace Energy Coop for helping make this possible and encourage others to support them in their continued work in renewables.



Hudson's Hope resident Guy Armitage has recently installed a 12 kilowatt grid-tied PV array on the roof of his home, a system designed and supplied by Peace Energy Coop and installed by Moch Electric Ltd. Guy answers the simple question: Why?

“Why did I invest in a solar system?”

Renewable energy has been an interest (passion) of mine for many years. A concern for the environment, obviously, but also to have control of my own energy production. I've considered all types of renewables, but chose solar because of its simplicity and maintenance-free operation.

You can't easily produce fuels, such as gas and oil, for energy, but you can produce your own electricity.

I also have an ideal location at my property in Hudson's Hope, having great exposure to many hours of sunlight.

Lastly, I wanted to be part of, and support, this fast growing, global industry. I am grateful to Peace Energy Coop for helping make this possible and encourage others to support them in their continued work in renewables. The enthusiasm I felt as I followed this industry through the years pales to the feeling I have as I watch my own system perform. People spend lots of dollars on toys such as vehicles, boats, etc. My 'toy' sits on my roof, turning out power from the sun.

Don't ask me about financial pay-back time. I don't know. It'll come sooner or later.”

“You must be the change you wish to see in the world.”

Mahatma Gandhi



Like us on Facebook
and share our newsletter.

New directions for PEC

Greetings!

The Board and I would like to wish you all well as your Cooperative moves forward in promoting green energy and carbon neutral projects. Your Board of Directors, Executive Director and member volunteers are constantly researching and evaluating a wide variety of opportunities in renewable energy, but this is quite a challenge with the entire energy field evolving and changing so rapidly. The world is moving to renewables, no doubt about it, so we know we're headed in the right direction!

Solar power sales taking off

Over the past few months we have sold several solar power systems in Dawson Creek and Hudson's Hope. We have quite a few more on the books to be fulfilled this year, and many serious inquiries. People are beginning to think solar, and with the price of grid energy going up while the price of solar goes down, many are considering this green and clean alternative.

Please contact Wayne Cleve our salesperson for information about Peace Energy Coop's entire product line. Wayne is also very knowledgeable about our solar hot water systems, which have perhaps the fastest pay-back of any solar application.

MEMBERS' DISCOUNT on bikes and scooters

Your cooperative is now selling quality Motorino electric bikes and scooters at very reasonable prices.

And right now, even more reasonable! Order before Christmas and ask about our end-of-season "Member's Discount!"

ED stepping down

Now the hard part. It is with regret that Fred Feddema our current Executive Director has to retire at the end of October. Those of you who know Fred are all too familiar with his excellent work ethic and how Fred has brought the Cooperative to its present viable state over the past 2 years by initiating other forms of income while we seek out new opportunities for investment. We sincerely thank Fred for all his efforts and a superb job.

▶ *That means we will be looking for an Office Administrator in the near future. Look for the advertisement we will be posting on-line with details.*

We have started this year on a positive note, and, thanks to our retail sales of clean energy products, a positive cash flow for your Cooperative. There is also, on the near horizon, an opportunity to invest in a large new project. We hope to give you an update in the Spring if not before.

Rupert Kirk, President

Your coop board thanks you for your continued support of clean energy!

Growing interest in solar

2200 kilometers

Well, it has been a busy summer travelling the region to meet with clients and check out their potential solar sites. I have travelled over 2200 km throughout the South Peace, and have enjoyed every minute of it!

Solar PV arrays are starting to pop up on roofs around the area, thanks to the efforts of your Cooperative and a growing interest in solar power.

Our region has a huge solar resource, one of the best in Canada. Why not use it?



Free site visit and estimate

Remember, a site visit and detailed estimate for a solar power system for your home, farm, ranch or business is without charge or obligation.

Just call and I will be happy to answer your questions, assess your solar potential, and give you some price options to choose from. Peace Energy Coop has already done great research for best price and quality of equipment, and we strive to make the process of owning your own solar power system as easy and simple as possible. And remember, solar arrays can be set up in the winter too!

Electric bikes and scooters are proving to be a popular addition to Peace Energy's line of clean energy products. These slick machines are fun to ride, they're great looking, and very reasonably priced. No license required!. Oh, and if you order before Christmas you may be eligible for our special end-of-season **MEMBER'S DISCOUNT!** Call me!

Wayne Cleve
Peace Energy Coop sales rep.
cell: 250-784-8963



Watt's Been Happening

Peace Energy Cooperative has embarked on a new and exciting path: retail sales of clean energy products. We are researching the best products, prices and expertise,

and organizing group purchases, all with the goal of making renewable energy practical and affordable in the Peace Region. Here are some 2014 highlights:



▶ **Real bikers never say die** The Meunier's were the proud purchasers of a Motorino electric scooter this spring. Peppy and well-built, our new line of all-electric bikes and scooters are fun, practical and green. Call our sales rep Wayne Cleve for a test drive! 250-784-8963

Win an electric spaceship!

Councilor Cheryl Shuman isn't just riding an electric scooter, its a far-out space machine. The City of Dawson Creek has partnered with Peace Energy Coop to offer a draw for this delux electric scooter worth almost \$3000. Enter to win at City Hall or wherever the scooter is displayed! ▼



Dawson Creek's South Peace Chiropractic goes solar

▶ This 4-kilowatt grid-tied solar array with battery backup was installed this winter and fired up in the spring. Should the BC Hydro grid go down (and it sometimes does!) the building automatically switches to battery power to keep lights, computers and other equipment running for the better part of a working day. "A few days like that," says owner Dr. Chris Garwah, "and the battery system will have paid for itself, while providing better service for my patients."



▶ **Our Solar Open House** was held in May at Peace Energy's sun-powered headquarters in Dawson Creek. Well attended, with lots of solar tours, information sharing, plus a barbecue and electric bike test drives. Cool.



Winter PV install

▲ Yes, solar power can be installed in the winter! Here the intrepid crew of Moch Electric Ltd. finishes up the 4-kilowatt solar array at South Peace Chiropractic in Dawson Creek this past winter.

At the DC Trade Show

▼ Board members, sales rep Wayne Cleve, ED Fred Fedemma and other volunteers manned (and womanned) the popular Peace Energy booth again this spring. Interest was high in solar power and Motorino electric bikes and scooters.









Order before Christmas






and you may be eligible for a special "Member's Discount" on our Motorino electric bikes & scooters!



Amazing Energy Facts for a clean energy future

-  Tesla Motors is building a gigafactory in Sparks, Nevada, that will produce enough batteries for half a million all-electric Tesla vehicles each year. The plant's economic impact should be USD \$100 billion over the next 20 years, and will employ up to 6,500 workers.
-  Recent counts put the number of homes and businesses now generating solar energy at half a million in the U.S., 1 million in Japan, 1 million in Europe and two million in Australia. Canada? Lagging far behind.
-  *Bloomberg New Energy Finance* says that two thirds of the nearly \$8 trillion earmarked globally for new electricity generation will be invested in solar, wind and other renewables.
-  Worldwide, more than 6.5 million people now work in the renewable energy industry, up 14 percent from last year. China is leading the way with 2.6 million employed in wind, solar, liquid biofuels, small hydro and geothermal.
-  India's new prime minister, naming renewable power as its highest energy priority, has vowed to place a solar panel on every home by 2019, bringing clean-energy light to 400 million people.
-  Canadian Solar, headquartered in Guelph, Ontario, ranked third on a new list of the world's largest solar electric panel manufacturers. Chinese companies hold seven of the top 10 spots, including number one.



-  The environmental choice.
-  Long range and fast charge.
-  Bikes feature light weight and powerful lithium batteries.
-  Speed limited to 32 kph: no licence required!
-  Lots of colours and styles to choose from.



Traditional styling and rugged.



**Folds for easy storage.
Light weight and fast!**



**Many scooter styles and colours
to choose from!**