



WATERLOO-WELLINGTON

Local Initiative for Future Energy
Co-operative Inc. (LIFE)
P.O. Box 5158, Baden ON
N3A 4J3
www.lifecoop.ca

Newsletter

Issue 2, Spring 2007

The pioneer spirit has become a LIFE in our community. What started out as a single turbine wind power project has caught so much wind that it has grown into a Renewable energy Co-op with members interested and plans for everything from energy conservation to anaerobic digesters. The Co-op has come alive in a barn raising effort with members of the community sacrificing their leisure time and pulling together their skills and resources to pave the way for sustainable energy sources, green power for the fastest growing region of Canada.

Linda Laepple, President



Laepple Organic booth at New Hamburg Market

Upcoming Annual General Meeting:

When: Early May

Where: tentatively, Wilmot Centre
Missionary Church, Bleams Road.

Agenda: Information session open to the public and LIFE Co-op members. AGM to follow, with the election of a board of directors, financial statement, and approval of By-Laws.

Board and Committee meetings:

Board meetings are held once a month. Committees meet in between as required, depending on needs.

Project update: Local Wind Resource Assessment:

On April 1, 2007, LIFE Co-op will have one year of preliminary data available from 30 and 40 meter levels. Details about an 80 meter test tower are currently being worked out and installation will take place as soon as all permits are in place. The location of LIFE wind power research site 1 will be announced shortly.

Members Directory:

We would like to encourage members to send us a one page write up about ways in which they conserve energy at home or work. We would also like to hear about any local backyard renewable energy projects you want to share with us. This information will be made available to co-op members upon request to connect those pursuing a private project and seeking information.

We are growing:

Membership applications are coming in steadily and new members are approved at each board meeting. Our goal, to have 200 members by August 2007, is well within reach.



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Featured member: Hans Ohlman

Hans Ohlman has owned and operated Ventax Robotics in Ayr for many years. Trained in Germany as a mechanical engineer, he had throughout his entire life entertained a keen interest in alternative energies, particularly wind power. Based on his recent invention of a revolutionary VAWT (Vertical Axis Wind Turbine) he has recently started a new company, Ventax Wind Power Inc. He is currently putting the finishing touches on the first commercial prototype of a 20kw turbine. It is installed on a windy ridge 5km west of Ayr, visible from the 401.



Vertical Axis Wind Turbine

Special Thanks...

Thank you to all the members who contributed with a founder investment to the budget for the wind resource assessment. Without these contributions we would not have been able to go ahead with the project.

The power of fire and stone:

Wood is nature's way of storing solar energy. Did you know that in a good sized wood-fired brick oven you can bake 20 loaves of bread and roast 40 lb of meat with one banana box of softwood? In Austria the majority of energy for space heating comes from wood, a renewable source.

Financial Matters:

Co-op laws restrict new Co-ops to accepting only up to \$1000. per member per year in investments until the Co-op has an Offering Statement approved by FSCO (Financial Services Commission of Ontario).

Wanted:

We are looking for members willing to staff a booth at a variety of events over the next half year. Also wanted: a coordinator for the list of events and of course a sponsor for promotional materials.

LIFE Co-op is also offering a **Pioneer Sponsor Program** to local businesses who want to demonstrate efforts to fight climate change. Sponsors will be recognized in all our promotional materials and at events. Please inquire.