

## **THE FEDERATION OF COMMUNITY POWER CO-OPERATIVES OF ONTARIO**

### **Community Power Powers Up!**

*Toronto Ontario, Canada – July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013*

Thirty-one Ontario community power co-operatives are celebrating recent contract offers awarded to them for renewable energy generation projects. Soon, more of the power produced in some 60 municipalities in Ontario will be owned by the people of the province through community power co-operatives. Twenty-five MW in contracts have been awarded to 33 co-ops located across the province.

On June 30<sup>th</sup> the Ontario Power Authority released the results of its latest renewable energy Feed-In Tariff application review. The rules in this round provided preferential grid access to co-op applicants that will finally put community power projects on the map in Ontario; previously only 4 co-ops had projects in the ground. Sixteen of the successful co-ops hold majority interest in their projects, and a further 25 co-ops have a minority interest in a commercial project.

“This is a big moment for community power in Ontario and beyond.” says Judith Lipp, President of the Federation of Community Power Co-ops “After struggling for 10 years to participate meaningfully as power generators, we finally have a volume of projects that will demonstrate the value of community power to this province.”

The Community Power co-op model enables citizens to invest directly in projects that generate electricity from a local resource which earn them financial, social and environmental returns. This proven model has been in place in Europe for many years and is now being emulated in Ontario in a meaningful way.

Everyone in the province is eligible to invest in community co-ops and there are now lots of groups to choose from. From Aylmer to Braeside to Worthington and 60 communities in between, co-operatively owned projects may soon be springing up in a community near you. The Federation of Community Power Co-ops lists many of the co-ops in the province to help people connect with local projects and investment opportunities.

#### **About FCPC**

The Federation of Community Power Co-operatives of Ontario (FCPC) was founded in 2012 and has blossomed into an important voice for renewable energy co-operatives and other community power organizations. We exist to unite, represent and serve the community power co-op community across the province. We offer leadership, vision, and excellence in member service. As a Federation of co-ops, we share our resources and expertise with each other and work collaboratively to build community power projects that benefit the people of Ontario.

Website: [www.fcpcoops.ca](http://www.fcpcoops.ca)

Media Inquiry: Judith Lipp Cell: 647 701 6032 Email: [jlipp@trec.on.ca](mailto:jlipp@trec.on.ca)