

The magazine of the Canadian Solar Industries Association Winter 2008

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EYES ON ONTARIO

The province sets an important precedent
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BIG CHANGES ON HORIZON

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Published by:

Naylor (Canada), Inc.
2 Bloor Street West, Suite 2001
Toronto, Ontario, M4W 3E2
Tel: 416-961-1028
Toll Free: 800-461-4828
Fax: 416-924-4408
Website: www.naylor.com
Publisher: Robert Phillips
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Layout & Design: Dave Reimer
Advertising Art: Allan S. Lorde
Research: Allie Hansen
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CANADIAN PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT #40064978
 
PUBLISHED MARCH 2008/CSI-B0207/6934



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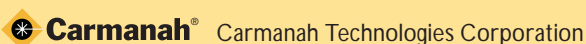
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FIRST EQUILIBRIUM DEMONSTRATION HOME OPENS IN QUEBEC

The first EQUilibrium demonstration home officially opened its doors on November 9, 2007 in the small rural community of Eastman, Quebec. In the process, the innovative project also opened a door to the future of environmentally-friendly, energy-efficient and sustainable housing in Canada.

“ÉcoTerra™ is a promising project that has great potential for expansion across the country and beyond,” said the Honourable Christian Paradis, Secretary of State (Agriculture), who attended the event on behalf of the Honourable Monte Solberg, Minister responsible for CMHC.

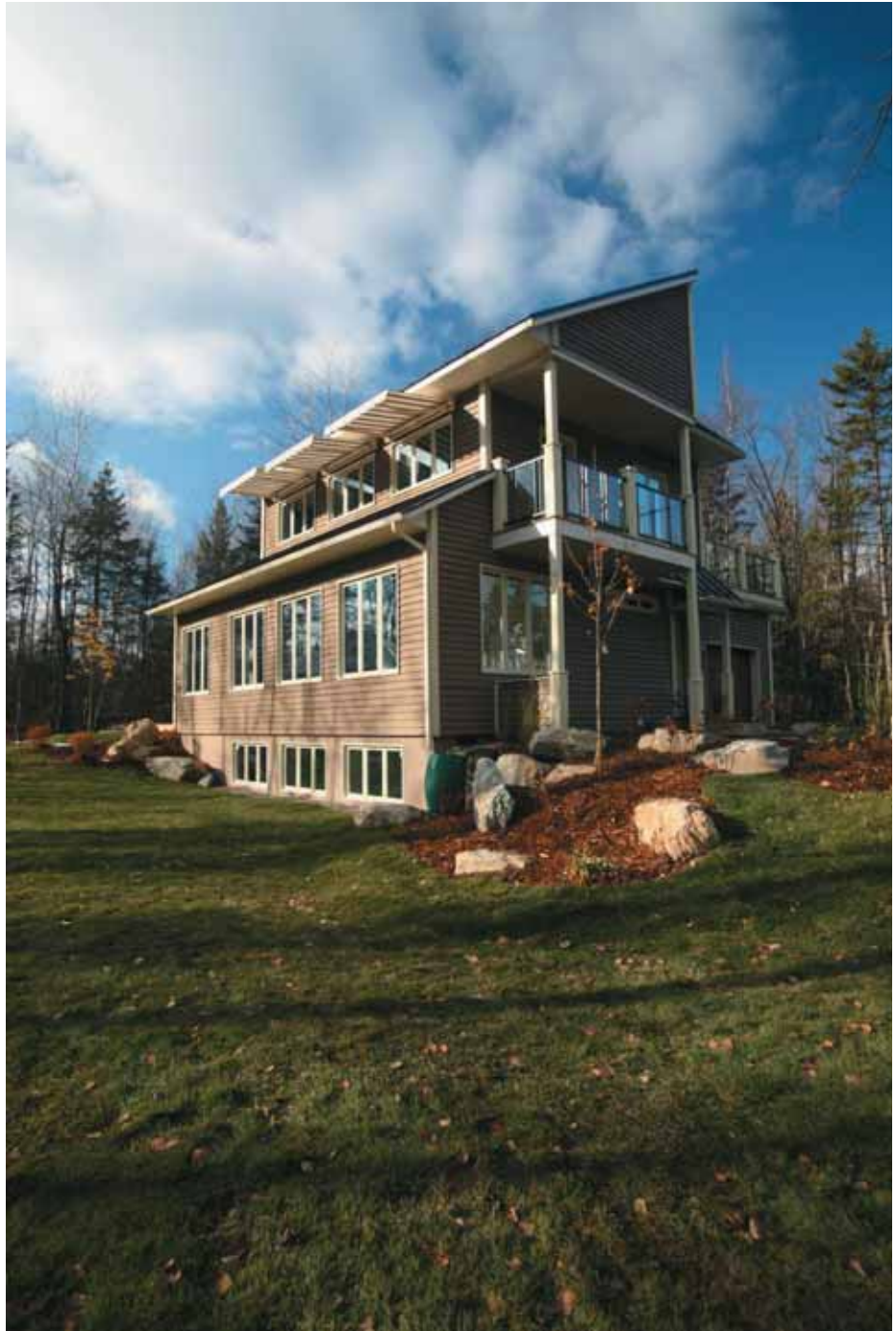
“EQUilibrium demonstration homes are...a blueprint for the next generation of sustainable housing in Canada. This project clearly demonstrates how government and industry can work together to promote healthier homes for a healthier environment.”

The ÉcoTerra™ project, built by Alouette Homes, is a single-family house that uses a heat recovery ventilation system, geothermal heat pump and solar power to maximize energy-efficiency and enhance indoor air quality. The home was constructed using factory pre-engineered modular sections to further reduce the environmental impact while ensuring quality and affordability.

The opening attracted more than 60 people, including journalists, housing stakeholders, members of the community, and representatives from every level of government.

EQUilibrium is a national sustainable housing demonstration initiative, led by CMHC. It brings the private and public sectors together to develop homes and communities that address occupant health and comfort, energy efficiency, renewable energy production, resource conservation, reduced environmental impact and affordability.

ÉcoTerra™ is one of 12 projects that won the opportunity to participate in CMHC's national EQUilibrium sustainable housing demonstration initiative. The other 11 project teams



are expected to complete construction and have their official openings in 2008.

To find out more about the ÉcoTerra™ project, including visiting hours and directions to the home, or for information on EQUilibrium housing initiative and the other demonstration homes currently underway, visit www.cmhc.ca and type in the search keyword “EQUilibrium.”

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CanSIA SOLAR CONFERENCE 2007 A GREAT SUCCESS

The 2007 CanSIA Solar Conference proved to be the Association's biggest and best conference in over 20 years. With 40 exhibitors set up in the Solar Showcase trade show and over 400 delegates and guests participating in the full proceedings, the conference provided ample excitement and enthusiasm which spilled over into the many informative and intelligent panel sessions and presentations.

Strong support from all sponsors and partners enabled CanSIA to help raise the profile of solar energy in Canada as the conference had strong media coverage and attracted many business people from the banking, investment and insurance industries. Both the federal and Ontario provincial governments were also in attendance and key announcements were made providing greater support for the industry.

It is clear from the conference that solar energy is now beginning to reach mainstream Canada, not only the general public but also government, business and the financial community – all of whom will be instrumental in bringing the solar industry to its next level of succession in Canada.

Next year's conference will again be in Toronto at the Westin Harbour Castle. The conference will take place from December 8-9, 2008 with training courses running from December 6-7. CanSIA expects to build upon the great success that began in 2007 and that is possible in Canada's largest city and business hub. Mark your calendars for this event and further details will be coming soon – stay tuned!!

FEDERAL SUPPORT HELPS EVALUATE NEW CANADIAN TECHNOLOGY

The federal government has kick-started four projects demonstrating new photovoltaic-thermal technology (PVT) by covering half of the projected \$2 million cost.

"These hybrid demonstration projects will turn the exteriors and roofs of homes and businesses into clean-energy systems," Natural Resources Minister Gary Lunn said in an announcement.

An interdepartmental investment program called TEAM has committed \$900,000 to the projects, to be built in Ontario and Quebec. The funding will be used to demonstrate PVT systems on four buildings including system design and controls, installation, monitoring and analysis. NRCan's CANMET Energy Technology Centre in Varennes, Quebec and the Solar Buildings Research Network (SBRN), with researchers from academia, government and industry jointly leading the project.

"We're looking at the building facade as an energy producer," says Josef Ayoub, senior planning advisor with the CANMET group in Varennes. "There is a role for this. There is definitely a market for it, but somebody has to invest money to demonstrate and to monitor and to further evaluate and to see how it can be improved and where it can go."

The technology is based on the integration of Toronto-based Conservall Engineering's Solarwall, which is a solar thermal air-heating panel, and PV modules from Vancouver's Day4Energy. Ayoub expects the installation of all four systems will be complete this summer. Monitoring will span between one and two years.



Concept drawing that shows the combination PV/thermal technology. Photo courtesy of Conservall Engineering, Inc.

FEDERATION OF CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES OPENS CARBON OFFSET MARKET TO MUNICIPALITIES

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) plans to help Canadian municipalities get into the market for carbon-offset credits.

Municipal governments are committed to reducing greenhouse-gas emissions from their operations, and upcoming federal air-emission regulations are expected to allow municipal governments to sell their emission

reductions as carbon-offset credits.

FCM has created the Green Municipal Corporation to purchase, aggregate and sell carbon-offset credits earned by municipal governments.

"A changing climate will have a profound impact on our communities, both people and infrastructure," said FCM President

Gord Steeves. "FCM's Green Municipal Corporation is another demonstration of our commitment to contribute to meeting Canada's climate change and clean air objectives. We encourage all Canadian municipalities to reduce their greenhouse-gas emissions and work with GMC to turn these reductions into carbon offset credits."

The corporation will work with provincial and territorial municipal associations to help municipal governments overcome regulatory, technical and financial barriers to entering the market and minimize the risks. The corporation's services will be financed entirely by fees for services.

For more information, contact: Doug Salloum, General Manager, Green Municipal Corporation, c/o Federation of Canadian Municipalities, 24 Clarence Street, Ottawa, ON K1N 5P3; E-mail: dsalloum@fcm-gmc.ca; Tel.: 613-219-5396.

SOLAR MANUFACTURING MOVES BACK TO ONTARIO

Conserval Engineering Inc. has announced an innovative partnership to bring back the production of SolarWall® panels to Ontario, and lay the foundation for further market expansion of the technology across Canada.

Using Conserval's proprietary machinery, the world's most efficient solar technology – in terms of both cost and energy produced – will now be manufactured locally in the Toronto area in partnership with one of Canada's leading metal roll forming companies. Both companies are excited to be laying the foundation for renewable energy-driven growth in the province.

"The SolarWall technology was originally developed and produced with the support of Natural Resources Canada's



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CANMET Energy Technology Centre. The future is bright for companies looking to develop clean energy technologies in Canada," said the Honourable Gary Lunn, Minister of Natural Resources. "When this government partners with innovative companies, we ensure that Canada continues to be at the leading edge of clean technologies as we reduce emissions and adapt to environmental change."

Demand for solar air heating in Canada and the United States is rapidly increasing. This heating process generates a compelling business case, with respect to both return on investment and the system's life cycle cost savings. Furthermore, it is ideally suited to commercial, industrial and institutional clients, which are the largest consumers of energy and emitters of CO₂.

"The solar industry in Ontario is growing rapidly through our programs and policies – and that is helping to boost the provincial economy, add manufacturing jobs, and benefit businesses looking for creative ways to incorporate renewable energy solutions into their operations," said Ontario Energy Minister Gerry Phillips. "Ontario is committed to providing a good investment climate for renewable energy initiatives to produce a healthier future for all residents."

By combining rebates from the federal ecoENERGY for Renewable Heat program and the matching Ontario Solar Thermal Heating Incentive (OSTHI), eligible applicants in Ontario's industrial, commercial and institutional sectors can offset up to 50 per cent of their installation costs (to a maximum of \$160,000) on qualifying solar thermal systems.

ONTARIO ANNOUNCES SOLAR TASK FORCE MEMBERS

The Ontario Ministry of Energy has announced members of a new task force will advise the government on "how to expand the residential solar thermal market."

"What's interesting is it's a small, tight task force with a specific delivery date of October 31. They've done it that way because they believe they can get actionable results sooner," says the new group's chairperson, CanSIA executive director Elizabeth McDonald.

The work of the four-member committee, funded by the province, will help the Ontario government achieve its goal of 100,000 new residential solar installations. How it functions, says McDonald, could model an approach to further consultation. "If it works for this it may not be the last solar task force for Ontario. That's why I think it's important."

McDonald says marketing, promotion and education will be important considerations for the committee, which will also look at existing and potential incentive programs. "One of the things I'm seeing, generally, is good intent on the programs announced, but huge barriers. Some of those are not just on the provincial level, but also at the municipal level."

In an announcement, the province indicated a solar thermal system would eliminate between 600 and 700 kilograms of greenhouse gas emissions per year when installed on a typical home, depending on whether it augmented a gas or electric water heater. It measured the significance of this benefit by comparing the reduction to a typical family car, which produces 1,000 kilograms.

"Residential solar thermal systems can cut household water heating costs by half or more and can play an important role in helping Ontario go green," said Energy Minister Gerry Phillips.

The other members of the Ontario task force are the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's Brian Rosborough; Rob McMonagle, from Toronto's energy efficiency office; and Larry Brydon, a senior executive with Reliance Home Comfort. ●



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EYES ON ONTARIO

CANSIA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Elizabeth McDonald says government action in Ontario encouraging every aspect of solar energy development is setting “a very important precedent” in Canada. “Whether or not all the policy instruments are as we would like them, Ontario is clearly taking the lead.”

At the core of Ontario’s actions are three programs offering financial incentives to install solar thermal air and water heating systems, as well as photovoltaic technology, in both residential and commercial applications. Specifically, there are two ST incentives mirroring federal programs, one for homeowners and one for businesses and institutions, and a third offering 42¢ kWh for grid-connected PV generation. “There’s a lot of interest in Ontario,” says McDonald. “There’s a lot of economic activity.”

A program gaining ready industry acceptance is the Ontario Solar Thermal Heating Incentive, dubbed OSTHI. Its four-year \$14.4 million budget is targeted at inspiring 500 ST air or water heating systems in the commercial,



Mondial Energy’s 108 panel solar thermal system for Woodgreen Community Services in Toronto. Photo courtesy of Mondial Energy.

institutional and industrial sectors. It offers a 25 per cent rebate on installation costs, to a maximum of \$80,000, and is matched by the federal ecoEnergy for Renewable Heat program.

“Fifty per cent of capital costs for solar thermal installations – we think these incentive programs are some of the best in North America,” says Mondial Energy’s Patty Hargreaves. Hargreaves, a CanSIA director, says Mondial is focused on large commercial ST and just beginning to process projects that might benefit from OSTHI.

Andrew McKegey of SolarOntario.com, a company marketing small- and large-scale ST systems, says he has one customer on his books connected to the combined 50 per cent incentive and anticipates it may be the first of several, “if not many.”

“We’re getting a lot of enquiries,” he says. “There is certainly a lot of interest from medium-sized applications, anywhere from 10 to 50 collectors, on condominiums, carwashes, municipal buildings—typically recreation buildings—and that type of thing.”

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McKegney is less enthusiastic about Ontario's incentive program for small ST installations. The five-year, \$88-million Home Energy Retrofit program is encouraging residential energy efficiency upgrades. It offers a \$500 rebate on the installation of a solar domestic hot water system, once again matched by a \$500 federal ecoEnergy rebate, but McKegney and other installers don't think the sum is enough to stimulate real market growth.

"The retrofit budget is for everything from heat pumps to better insulation. I think a very small fraction of that will go towards solar hot water," McKegney says, explaining \$1,000 might cover 15 per cent of a residential install. And at current natural gas prices, he believes a homeowner's return on this investment could easily take more than a decade to realize.

On the PV side, Ontario's Renewable Energy Standard Offer Program, or RESOP, is now more than a year into its mandate and appears to be a startling success. Through the Ontario Power Authority, it pays 42¢ kWh for PV projects less than 10 MW on a 20-year term. At the start of 2008, the OPA had signed 145 PV contracts totaling a little more than 252 MW. The vast majority of this capacity is divided between four companies, with numerous 10 MW contracts and intentions to build utility-scale solar parks.

Michelle Chislett works for SkyPower, a Toronto company in a joint venture with a Canadian subsidiary of Maryland-based SunEdison. Listed in the OPA's year-end tally, SkyPower has three PV contracts totalling 28.2 MW. Chislett is pleased with the new Ontario market opportunities but says the sum of contracted PV megawatts is making provincial electricity agencies like the OPA, as well as the solar industry, uneasy.

"Right now, if you look at the sheer number of megawatts signed up, it's enough to make somebody say 'We've got enough, thank you very much,'" says Chislett. "But I think it's misleading, and the OPA and the government are wondering if all of this is really going to be built."

Chislett says her boss, SkyPower CEO Kerry Adler, is predicting only 25% of RESOP's PV tally may come to

fruition. But while everybody wants to see "somebody put a shovel in the ground," and SkyPower has plans to do that this year, she explains big solar projects are facing utility interconnection issues and municipal regulatory challenges.

"There's a lack of standardization for each municipality as it pertains to solar parks," says Chislett. "For wind, there are standards for setbacks, noise and so on. But when people have solar projects come to them, they don't know what to think and we have to change that."

While RESOP continues to draw interest from large-scale developers, it is not clear the program will, as on the ST side, move the small-scale market.

"At forty-two cents on a small scale, it's hard to justify for most homeowners," says Chislett. "People buy a house and live in it for five to seven years. You cannot realise the savings of putting a PV panel on your rooftop in that amount of time."

Undaunted by the challenge of small-scale economics, the Clean Air Foundation's Stephanie Thorson is working on Go Solar, a provincially funded information program promoting Ontario's residential PV and ST markets. The non-profit foundation has a one-year budget from the province to operate a 1-800 hotline, website and public outreach program, which entails the periodic set up of a solar information booth at public events and retail centres.

"There is a portion of the market that will buy this technology, and it seems based on a value, instead of economic, decision," says Thorson. "There is a payback period, so people know their investment will pay off. And if they sell their house before the payback period is up, they know the system will add value to their home. That's the message we have to get out to people."

Go Solar's funding ends March 2009, and the Clean Air Foundation and Ontario Ministry of Energy are both counting on solar industry support to keep it alive. While rebates and incentives are important, McDonald says good consumer information is essential. "There is interest, and hopefully we can find the ways and the money to be able to answer questions, because it will make a huge difference," she says.

CanSIA ARGUES SOLAR CASE IN ONTARIO PLAN

CanSIA is a registered intervener in the regulatory approval of the Ontario Power Authority's 20-year *Integrated Power System Plan*. The OPA filed the plan with the Ontario Energy Board August 2007, projecting 88 MW of large-scale commercial PV, and a further 126 MW from installations under 500 kW, by 2027.

CanSIA's Elizabeth McDoanld says the association is arguing the PV forecast is too low, and she says it is simply

unacceptable the province's long-term comprehensive electricity plan "barely mentions" solar energy.

"There are interconnection problems, municipal problems," she says. "We also want to see an increase in smaller projects, which have a challenge because of the (RESOP) rate. There is a series of issues, and regulatory processes can't be ignored. It will be difficult if we don't participate to say later that something is wrong."

Documents filed by the association can be found on CanSIA's website. ●



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ONTARIO Foothold LEADS TO HIGHER GROUND

THE NEXT NINE MONTHS could bring pivotal changes to the Canadian solar industries, says CanSIA president David Egles.

"There is an expectation the solar industry is at a breakthrough point, and indeed it is because of what's going on in Ontario."

If 2008 is a pivotal year; it will be because Ontario solar programs succeed within the province, proving the economic and environmental benefits of solar energy to Ontario's public, municipalities, utilities and provincial government.

"This is going to cascade throughout the country," says Egles. "We think successful Ontario programs will be something other provinces will want to use as a starting point. We'll be able to say look at what's happening in Ontario, look how well it works."

Egles has good reason to be confident. In some cases, an investment in solar thermal technologies is already an attractive hedge against escalating utility costs. It stands to reason solar thermal rebates, now covering up to 50 per cent of installation costs in Ontario, should succeed. And the open-floodgate response to Ontario's renewable energy standard offer program, which pays a premium for PV energy, is evidence of what solar power might do.

"Are we about to see an explosion? Yes. Are the programs in Ontario going to get things right so other provinces can follow suit? They're getting there."

Egles explains there are interconnection and regulatory obstacles to the prompt completion of Ontario solar parks, as well as barriers to the enrolment of small-scale PV. And the association is facing substantial work on solar thermal adoption in the province.

"They've got all kinds of speed bumps. CanSIA's role is to help that along, to point out some of the best practices out there. So a lot of barrier removal at the bureaucratic and regulatory level, that's what CanSIA can help with."

Egles says the association has another priority for 2008: to convince the federal government solar technologies need to be a bigger part of Canada's energy future. In aid of this goal, CanSIA has established a national target for solar energy penetration. As Canada's demand increases for electric and thermal energy, at roughly two per cent per year, says Egles, CanSIA is recommending 10 per cent of new supplies come from solar resources.

"The technology is evolving; the industry is there, and the benefits are clear," he says. "There is no reason why this shouldn't happen." Roughly speaking, Egles says this means 15 per cent of Canadian rooftops could be contributing 10 per cent of new energy needs by 2025.

"I wish our federal government would take some leadership," says Egles, pointing out energy and environment programs in the U.S., Germany, Japan and Spain promote solar technologies far beyond what Canada appears ready to consider. Although he adds that the federal Ministry of Natural Resources seems to be gaining interest in designing an energy strategy that could show greater recognition of solar technology. NRCan, he says, has initiated a dialogue with CanSIA to learn more about the industry.

Following the twin priorities of working with NRCan and the province of Ontario, Egles believes CanSIA may soon turn its attention toward British Columbia. An ambitious BC energy plan released a year ago says the province must be capable of meeting all its own electricity needs by 2016, and that "clean or renewable" power will account for at least 90 per cent of total generation. It also promises to "promote energy efficiency and alternative energy systems, such as solar thermal and geothermal throughout the province."

"We have members right across the country, and they all have an interest in getting programs in their own regions," says Egles. "We have three people on staff within the organisation and a lot of volunteers. With the resources we have, we've decided to get Ontario tuned up and going – BC is the second project." ●



Dave Egles



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ST TRAINING INCHES FORWARD

AN AMBITIOUS PLAN TO improve national solar thermal skills training, involving government, industry and education organizations, is slowly making progress.

"We're moving the bar, inch by inch, but the main thing is we're looking at getting consultants involved, that will help us garner more money from the federal government to get this development process in place," says CanSIA training committee member Richard Thorne. "It's very important as the industry grows."

Thorne explains the association has submitted a proposal to the federal Ministry of Natural Resources, which describes CanSIA's ambition to launch a detailed study of its existing solar installer certification process, as well as alternatives. NRCan's Al Clark, senior manager for renewable heat programs, says his department has an interest in helping CanSIA put together a strategic plan and is giving the research project "serious consideration" for completion before the end of March 2008.

Recommending a process for installer certification is a primary role for CanSIA as part of a larger plan to increase Canadian solar thermal industry capacity through skills training. NRCan is funding the effort. The Electricity Sector Council is developing occupational standards, scheduled for completion by mid- to late-2008. And the Association of Canadian Community Colleges is tasked with developing a curriculum that can be adopted by post-secondary schools.

Thorne is hopeful CanSIA can identify aspects of ST training that overlap skills required by PV installers, so both sides of the industry will benefit from this national initiative. Clark is not opposed to this idea but stresses his budget, and indeed his office, is focused on renewable heating technologies.

"With the growth of PV in Ontario, PV training cannot continue to be ignored," says Thorne. "It has to be done at some point." ●



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GLOBAL SOLAR CELL PRODUCTION JUMPS 50 PER CENT IN 2007

By Jonathan G. Dorn
Earth Policy Institute (www.earthpolicy.org)

PRODUCTION OF PHOTOVOLTAICS (PV) jumped to 3,800 megawatts worldwide in 2007, up an estimated 50 per cent over 2006. At the end of the year, according to preliminary data, cumulative global production stood at 12,400 megawatts, enough to power 2.4 million U.S. homes. Growing by an impressive average of 48 percent each year since 2002, PV production has been doubling every two years, making it the world's fastest-growing energy source.

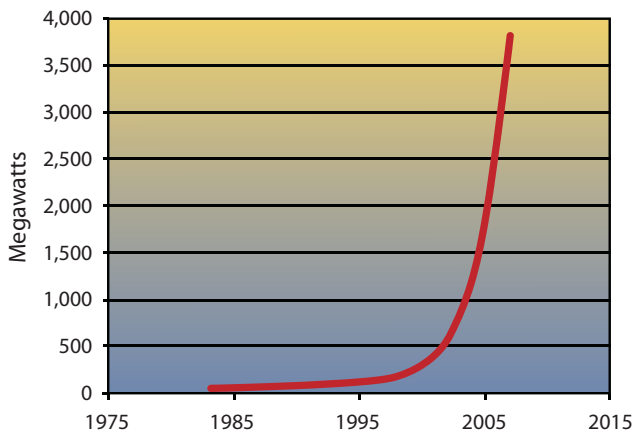
depositing extremely thin layers of photosensitive materials on glass, metal, or plastics. While the most common material currently used is amorphous silicon, the newest technologies use non-silicon-based materials such as cadmium telluride.

A key force driving the advancement of thin-film technologies is a polysilicon shortage that began in April 2004. In 2006, for the first time, more than half of polysilicon production went into PVs instead of computer chips. While thin films are not as efficient at converting sunlight to electricity, they currently cost less and their physical flexibility makes them more versatile than traditional solar cells. Led by the United States, thin film grew from four per cent of the market in 2003 to seven per cent in 2006. Polysilicon supply is expected to match demand by 2010, but not before thin film grabs 20 per cent of the market.

The top five PV-producing countries are Japan, China, Germany, Taiwan and the United States. Recent growth in China is most astonishing: after almost tripling its PV production in 2006, it is believed to have more than doubled output in 2007.

Despite cloudy skies two-thirds of the time, Germany has been the leading market for PV installations since it overtook Japan in 2004. In 2006, Germany, adding 1,050 megawatts, became the first country to install more than one gigawatt in a single year. Driven by a feed-in tariff that guarantees the price a utility must pay homeowners or private firms for PV-generated electricity, annual installations in Germany alone have exceeded those

World Annual Photovoltaic Production, 1975-2007



Source: Worldwatch; Prometheus Institute; REN21

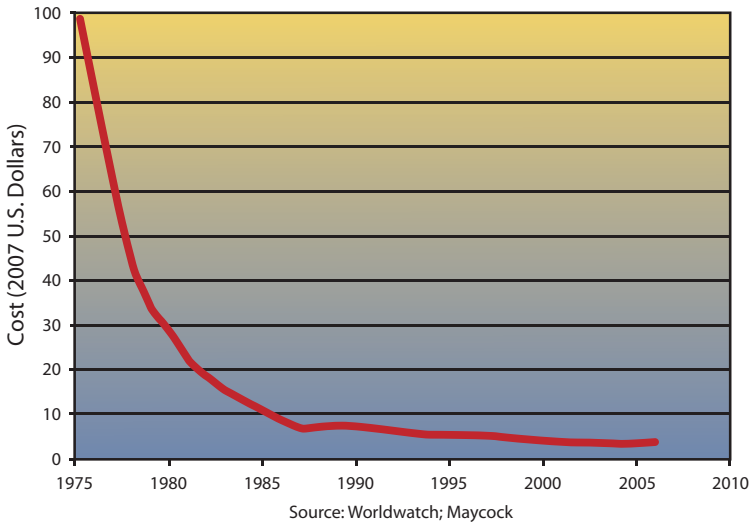
Photovoltaics, which directly convert sunlight into electricity, include both traditional, polysilicon-based solar cell technologies and new thin-film technologies. Thin-film manufacturing involves

in all other countries combined since 2004. There are now more than 300,000 buildings with PV systems in Germany, more than triple the initial goal of the 100,000 Roofs Program launched in 1998. Growth is set to remain strong, as a feed-in tariff of 49¢ per kilowatt-hour will remain in place through 2009.

The average price for a PV module, excluding installation and other system costs, has dropped from almost \$100 per watt in 1975 to less than \$4 per watt at the end of 2006. With expanding polysilicon supplies, average PV prices are projected to drop to \$2 per watt in 2010. For thin-film PV alone, production costs are expected to reach \$1 per watt in 2010, at which point solar PV will become competitive with coal-fired electricity.

With concerns about rising oil prices and climate change spawning political momentum for renewable energy, solar electricity is poised to take a prominent position in the global energy economy. ●

World Average Photovoltaic Module Cost per Watt, 1975-2006



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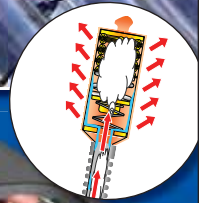


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CanSIA AWARDS SHINE LIGHT ON EXCELLENCE

CanSIA'S ANNUAL SOLAR AWARDS were presented on November 20, 2007 during the Association's annual conference held in Toronto, Ontario.

"The CanSIA awards recognize those who embody the belief that Solar Energy holds the promise of our future, both Canada and the world, said **Elizabeth McDonald, CanSIA Executive Director**. "To some it is the environmental solution, to some it is a great business opportunity, to some it is the right thing to do at the right time. Collectively these reasons – and many more – are making solar a greater part of Canada. CanSIA's awards make an effort to recognize those dedicated to bringing solar forward in Canada."

2007 Award Recipients

Solar Leader of the Year: Awarded to the political leader who has provided solar leadership and vision on the national stage.

* Calvin Kruk, Mayor, City of Dawson Creek

Solar Industry Leader of the Year: Awarded to the individual whose volunteer and/or professional efforts and dedication have increased the use of solar technologies in Canada and/or abroad.

* Rob McMonagle, Senior Energy Consultant, City of Toronto

Solar Public Servant of the Year: Awarded to the government or utility employee who during the year has worked to bring down barriers to solar energy, allowing it to be used more broadly in Canada.

* Doug McClenahan, Manager, Active Solar R&D Program, Natural Resources Canada

Solar Journalist of the Year: Awarded to a news article or story that has either increased the profile of solar in general, or has covered an issue or project in detail.

* Tyler Hamilton, Energy Reporter, Toronto Star

Solar Advocate of the Year: Awarded to the individual or organization that has championed the use of solar energy in Canada.

* Nitya Harris, Project Leader, BC Sustainable Energy Association

Solar Thermal Project of the Year: Awarded to the solar thermal project that either through high visibility or innovative

features, has helped the solar thermal industry become mainstream.

* GTAA, Fire and Emergency Services Training Institute, 240 m2 Solar Air Heating System

Solar PV Project of the Year: Awarded to the photovoltaic project that either through high visibility or innovative features, has helped the photovoltaic industry become mainstream.

* University of Calgary's, Child Development Center, 43.4 kW BIPV Power System

"I'd like to draw attention in particular to our recognition of Calvin Kruk, Mayor of Dawson Creek. Not only has he shown leadership in the application of solar technology, but he continues to look strategically at how to enable its widespread use in the future," said McDonald

Kruk led Dawson Creek in applying and enabling solar energy in the community. Solar thermal systems have been installed on the Fire Hall and City Hall and there are plans to install systems on the RCMP station, two community halls and at the airport. He also worked with Northern Lights College in support of their Energy House Demo and development of a Solar Thermal installers course. Kruk is also involved in the 100,000 solar roof program currently being proposed in BC.

"I would also be remiss if I didn't highlight my predecessor Rob McMonagle," McDonald added. "Rob has been involved with solar ever since he converted his parents' pool while still in school. He was instrumental in getting CanSIA to where it is today – pushing it forward to lead the way in solar. His dedication is now bringing that same energy to the city of Toronto. His drive is clearly visible in having made them the lead city in Canada in terms of renewable." ●



City of Dawson Creek Mayor Calvin Kruk (left) and David Elzinga (right).

BECOME A CanSIA MEMBER

IT HAS BEEN MORE than a quarter century since the Canadian Solar Industries Association (CanSIA) was formed. Today, CanSIA continues to provide the vital services for solar industry professionals in Canada, providing the resources essential to improve the climate for solar technologies and stimulating the market for ongoing growth and corporate success.

WHAT IS IN A CanSIA MEMBERSHIP?

1) Canadian Solar Industry Directory:

- * Your organization will be listed on our high traffic web database providing information on your organization's services and operations, while also providing a link to your company's website.
- * CanSIA is creating the new *print version* of the Canadian Solar Industry Directory. This edition will provide all the same company information, however in a fresh and glossy format to be widely distributed to government offices, building associations, trade associations, etc.

2) Referral Service:

- * CanSIA's national office receives numerous phone calls and emails every day from potential clients looking to do business with solar companies across Canada. CanSIA sends these inquiries to the Canadian Solar Industry Directory where your company will be listed, helping to generate sales for your business.

3) CanSIA's Annual Solar Conference:

- * The Association's annual conference is growing every year, bringing together solar companies from across Canada and the United States with builders, architects, manufacturers, distributors, installers, and other members of the business and finance community. Your CanSIA membership will provide you with discount rates on registration, exhibitor packages, workshops and other events related to the conference.

4) Business Opportunities:

- * The CanSIA Members section of the website provides listings of Requests for Proposals (RFP) from local and national government agencies and other CanSIA proposals.

5) Press Release Service:

- * Press release placement on the "News From Members" section of the CanSIA website.

6) Job Placement Service:

- * Place your organization's job opportunities on the CanSIA website to ensure you attract qualified candidates to help manage and grow your business.

7) CanSIA Newsletter and eNewsletter:

- * Receive the CanSIA bi-annual *SOLutions* print newsletter. Also receive CanSIA's eNewsletter *Solar Currents* published monthly. These publications will keep you informed about solar and renewable energy current events.

8) Other Benefits:

- * CanSIA is currently working on insurance, financing and bulletin board programs to create greater value for your CanSIA membership.

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Corporate 4: 1-2 employees	\$400
Non Voting:	
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Supporter 2: Small government agencies and small distribution companies	\$500
Supporter 3: Large non-profits and educational institutions	\$400
Supporter 4: Small non-profits and community groups	\$250
Advocate/Individual: Not involved in commercial gain from the industry	\$100
Advocate (Student/Senior)	\$50

HOW DO YOU JOIN CanSIA?

Easy – simply go to CanSIA's website at www.cansia.ca/join.asp to fill out the application form and find out more information on member benefits. You can also call the CanSIA office at 1-866-522-6742 or e-mail: info@cansia.ca. ●



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 June 19-21, 2008
 Paris, France

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 July 30-August 1, 2008
 Tokyo, Japan

3rd Canadian Solar Buildings Research Network Conference / 33rd Annual Conference of the Solar Energy Society of Canada
 August 20-22, 2008
 Fredericton, New Brunswick

Alternative Energy Sources & Technologies Conference & Exhibition
 September 15-17, 2008
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Solar Power 2008
 October 13-16, 2008
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CanSIA Solar Conference 2008
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For more information on these and other upcoming events, visit the CanSIA website at: www.cansia.ca/upcoming_events.asp.



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