



peace energy
COOPERATIVE

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President's Message...

Dear Members:

I would like to thank the previous board for a job well done on behalf of the membership and those who let their names stand for board election; it's great to see an interest in keeping our cooperative progressive and vibrant. Board members that have completed their terms are Rupert Kirk and Linda Eby. Raymond Chmielewski and Bill Studley found that, due to personal reasons, they could not complete their term. Our new board members are Ron Moch, Don Pettit, Robert Carter and Fred Feddema.

Our cooperative is in transition, as we say good bye to our Executive Director, Valerie

Gilson, and say welcome to our new Executive Director Nicola Peacey. I would like to invite all our members to stop into the

Peace Energy office to wish Valerie a fond farewell and to say hello to Nicola.

The Research and Development committee has met once since the AGM and are on our way to investigating a number of options of energy projects from wind turbines to biomass heating. We encourage members to participate or share any ideas they may have. We are always seeking alternative energy sources which can become profitable for our cooperative.

I look forward to representing Peace Energy Cooperative and helping shape the it's future.

President—Fred Feddema

PEC Welcomes the NEW Executive Director...

Hello Members:

I am very pleased and excited to be joining Peace Energy Cooperative as your new Executive Director, and also as a new member. I grew up in Victoria and spent the majority of my life living on the west coast of BC. Two years ago, I moved to Dawson Creek to follow my husband who had taken a position working for Northern Lights College. Upon my first visit, I was struck by the beauty and diversity of the region.

My career background is in retail management; however, for the past 18 months I was working in the not-for-profit sector in the solid waste reduction field for the Northern Environmental Action team (NEAT). This experience allowed me to interact in communities throughout the Peace River Regional District and enriched my introduction to the northern ways of life. My personal passion stems from my belief in leaving the world a better than you found it, taking no more than you need, trying not to harm the environment and making amends if you do.

I'm looking forward to the journey ahead and learning more about the members and their passions that combine to make Peace Energy Cooperative such a unique group.

Executive Director— Nicola Peacey

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President's Farewell Message...

Dear Members:

I write to you all as the outgoing President of Peace Energy Cooperative.

We held a successful AGM and elected some fine people to keep our Cooperative strong. I feel confident that we are in good hands for the near future.

My time as president was one of transition, from the successful conclusion of the Bear Mountain Wind project to the gathering of new ideas for our Cooperative to work towards for the benefit of our members.

The research and reporting for the proposed Centennial Green project has concluded that the conversion of the Centennial swimming pool building was not viable and sadly, after many hours of effort to see some fruition from this project, it was not to be. However, we have learned much more about district heating systems and the design and costs associated with them, and hope in the future we may have the opportunity to utilize this knowledge. (See Centennial update below.)

The Board of Directors and the Research and Development Committee continue to discuss new opportunities for other worthwhile projects for investment (and revenue!), and the new board has the task of pursuing these options. They are not without help as many of the previous board members remain involved at the committee level. I encourage our members to inquire about being part of the process. Call the office and see how you can make our Cooperative a more profitable one.

I thank everyone for their support, and especially Valerie Gilson our tireless Executive Director. We will miss her as she moves back to Ontario to be closer to family.

I wish the new board of directors and new president good luck as we forge ahead with new project and a prosperous future.

President (Past) - Rupert Kirk

Centennial Green Update...

Centennial Green Committee chair, Rupert Kirk, presented the final report on the Centennial project at the 2011 AGM.

The structural engineering reports, which were integral to the project, pointed to a solid structure from which to construct the new building but, unfortunately, the subsequent engineering reports on energy generation indicated many factors that did not make the project a financially feasible project for return on investment (ROI).

Many factors, including upgrading of mechanical equipment at the school and the new KRUK Centre for the Arts and necessary infrastructure upgrades and associated costs at the Centennial building, indicated that construction of a district heating facility was not a sound investment.

Through early 2011, the committee continued to investigate the potential of using the centennial building as a stand-alone facility rather than building a district heating system. Though there was very attractive potential for this type of development, using the building as a commercial rental space, with PEC offices, retail and other proposed tenants, the ROI still did not make for a financially sound business model.

The committee solicited the assistance of a commercial real estate professional to determine costs associated with conceiving the best ROI, then solicited a construction company for costs associated with building. The final report from the construction company left no doubt in the mind of the committee members that it was not in the best interest of the cooperative to continue with the project and have discontinued the agreement with the city for investigation on the project.

A newly organized Research and Development Committee is continuing investigation on existing and new potential project developments. Information will be brought to the members via updates as they are available. Many projects hold a lot of confidential information and cannot be discussed in the early stages in order to not jeopardize the viability; we will let you know as soon as possible!

News from the office...

Dear Members:

Many of you are already aware that I will soon be leaving my position as the Executive Director of Peace Energy Cooperative (ED, as I am frequently called!). To those who I haven't seen in a while, or who were unable to attend the AGM where the announcement was made, it may come as a surprise.

Gregory and I received an opportunity to return to Ontario at a time when our family there were needing us, and decided that it was time to heed that call.

I have very much enjoyed the time I have been with you, the thick and the thin, and will miss you...and the Peace Region...very much. As I toured the Bear Mountain Wind Park today, for what was likely my last visit in a while, I remembered what it looked like 5 years ago and smiled again with joy at the accomplishment that we have had together in the building of this beautiful place. Though there were some trials along the way, I wouldn't change ...much of... it for anything!!

I have been working with Nicola over the last two weeks and we have another few days together before I leave. I believe she will be a great asset to the cooperative and I wish her all the best in her new position as Executive Director.

I am a member too, and I am not leaving the cooperative, only Dawson Creek. I will remain in-touch and involved, as I can from the east, and will return again to visit.

So I don't say goodbye, only 'adieu'.

Keep '*generating the future*', for you and yours!

Valerie V. Gilson—ED



Executive Director Valerie V. Gilson and President Rupert Kirk, as Valerie is presented with a framed print of the Bear Mountain Wind Park; a gift of appreciation for her work with Peace Energy Cooperative. Thank You!!!

Annual General Meeting Brief...

The Annual General Meeting was held at Grace Lutheran Church Hall on Saturday April 30th with 40 members, and 3 guests attending. We had 5 proxy votes from eligible members over 80km away.

Elections for new 3-year terms were held to replace retiring directors Rupert Kirk and Linda Eby. These two positions were filled by Fred Feddema and Ron Moch. A 1-year term to complete the vacancy left by Raymond Chimelewski was filled by the election of Don Pettit. Subsequent to the AGM, the 1-year term to complete Bill Studley's resignation was filled by Robert Carter. Robert was appointment by the Board of Directors at their May 5th Meeting.

The Board of Directors also elected a new president at their May 5 meeting; Fred Feddema takes the chair from Past President, Rupert Kirk.



Directors, from right, Joanne Dueck, Linda Eby, Rupert Kirk, Bill Jackson, ED Valerie Gilson.



View from the back of the room at the 2011 Annual General Meeting, April 30.

