



## MEDIA RELEASE

### OWEN SOUND ENTERS THE SOLAR AGE

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**New 10 kW Solar Generating Facilities are now generating electricity at the Owen Sound Public Works Yard and the Owen Sound Soccer Complex.**

Mayor Deborah Haswell and City Council are pleased to announce the commissioning of two (2) MicroFIT Solar Generating Facilities on City properties.

The City of Owen Sound will now be contributing to the local production of clean energy, producing enough energy each year to avoid 14 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions that would result if the same amount of energy was produced by burning coal. This is the CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent of taking eight cars off the road each year.

The Ground Mount Seasonal Tilt solar facilities will be adjusted twice per year by City staff to take advantage of the higher angle of the sun during the summer months. There are no other moving parts so the City is anticipating trouble-free energy production for the 20-year MicroFIT contract period and beyond. The electricity produced will be fed directly into the local energy distribution network.

The two systems were purchased from Essex Energy Corporation of Oldcastle, Ontario. The City will receive \$0.642/kWh for the energy produced by the panels and the \$171,000 cost of both installations is being debentured by the City over the 20-year MicroFIT period. Essex Energy conservatively estimates that the generating facilities will pay back \$318,000 over the 20-year MicroFIT period.

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For more information please contact:

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