

## **Wind Turbine Project**

Chestico Museum and Historical Society

The Chestico Museum and Historical Society (CMHS) is a community based non-profit volunteer association that preserves and interprets the heritage, culture and history of Port Hood and district. Founded in 1978, CMHS has collected artifacts and archival records, researched local genealogies, created exhibits and educated the public through scheduled events and activities. Our concern is not only with conserving the past for future generations, but with being a responsible and engaged organization that supports our community and its total environment in a positive way.

The CMHS has often highlighted heritage skills associated with our fishing industry, agriculture and even our coal mining past. Many of the skills developed by our ancestors were in harmony with the natural world around them. While many of these skills have been lost in daily life today, we realize they made less of an impact on the environment than many of our modern technologies. By showcasing these, the Chestico Museum and Historical Society has become more aware of our responsibility to reduce our carbon footprint. As we move forward and continue to work towards a sustainable path both for our organization and our local community, CMHS is taking advantage of an opportunity towards more energy self-sufficiency. As a result, we have entered into a partnership to build two small wind turbines in the area.

In 2014, the CMHS was approached by a young entrepreneur and resident landowner to participate in a provincial program called COMFIT. Under the regulations of this program our non-profit society was eligible to become a partner. COMFIT was an initiative of the previous provincial government to encourage small scale wind energy projects in order to decrease Nova Scotia's dependence on coal-fired electricity. After several weeks of public notices, two open houses were held at the Chestico Museum to inform the community about this project.

Two 53 metre (173 feet) wind turbines are to be erected on a parcel of forest land at 353 Colindale Road in Port Hood. These two turbines are the smallest of the three prototypes. This wind energy project will meet all federal, provincial and municipal guidelines. The placement of these two turbines will not obstruct the sight lines of current residential properties in the area and will be well set back from the few dwellings in closer proximity.

The CMHS has taken into consideration a number of concerns raised by some resident landowners who are worried about noise levels, health issues and the impact of these turbines on area wildlife. We did not enter into this project lightly and prior to our agreeing to this partnership, we did a thorough investigation. After researching a number of studies on the health, environmental impact,

economic and aesthetic effects of wind turbines, we are satisfied that this is a viable and worthy project for the area. We fully support renewable energy in our province and applaud Nova Scotia's leadership in developing sustainable energy for the future that will protect our environment.

We encourage local residents to become more informed on the subject of renewable energy and in particular wind turbines. The Chestico Museum and Historical Society will be happy to respond to any further requests for information.

---- Board of Directors – Chestico Museum and Historical Society

Here are a few links which we found useful in our research:

<http://www.davidsuzuki.org/blogs/docs-talk/2010/09/wind-power-and-human-health-no-evidence-of-direct-harm/>

<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/noise-bruit/turbine-eoliennes/summary-resume-eng.php>

<https://www.ecologyaction.ca/issue-area/position-statement-wind-energy-nova-scotia>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r\\_12B7ZCS7E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r_12B7ZCS7E) (Glen Dhu Wind Farm – Pictou County)

<http://energy.novascotia.ca/renewables/wind-energy>

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/kitchener-waterloo/wind-turbines-have-little-impact-on-property-values-study-concludes-1.2863493>

<http://www.davidsuzuki.org/blogs/science-matters/2013/04/wind-power-opponents-may-be-blowing-hot-air/>

<http://www.davidsuzuki.org/blogs/science-matters/2014/04/windmills-are-things-of-beauty/>

<http://windfacts.ca/your-health>