

NEWS RELEASE : FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Scotian WindFields endorses Ecology Action Centre's call for Sustainable Infrastructure

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Scotian WindFields is endorsing the Ecology Action Centre's call for sustainable infrastructure spending. "The Ecology Action Centre's approach to the economic crisis by encouraging investment that helps transition Nova Scotia to a low carbon economy is bang on with what we've been recommending," Chief Operating Officer, Dan Roscoe said regarding today's release from the Ecology Action Centre.

"It makes good business and economic sense, and it also suits the government's strategy to meet the targets of the Environmental Goals and Sustainable Prosperity Act by addressing both sustainability and prosperity" added Roscoe.

The policy analysts at Scotian WindFields added practical recommendations to the call for sustainable infrastructure funding. These recommendations meet government's twin goals of facilitating long term strategic reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and of fueling economic growth in the green-tech and green-collar job sectors.

Recommendation One:

Invest in onsite renewable energy and energy efficiency measures at public buildings, for example:

- Onsite wind turbines at schools, and large public infrastructure like water supply and treatment facilities
- Solar hot water panels at hospitals, long care facilities, recreation centers
- Lighting and insulation improvements at public offices and administrative facilities

Recommendation Two:

Triple the funding for energy auditors in the province, and cover all of the associated costs to the home and business owners. (The current wait time of 4-5 months, with a prohibitive upfront cost is a major barrier to most homeowners.)

Recommendation Three:

Provide 10 year interest free loans for all onsite renewable energy generation – all active forms from commercial to residential, including all net metered wind turbines.

By comparison, these initiatives will cost far less than the anticipated \$100 Million earmarked for the twinning of Highway 104 and building of new Jails. These recommendations will also have a far more immediate and long lasting economic ripple effect, creating many times more jobs and economic development.

Enactment of these recommendations will set Nova Scotia up well, both economically and environmentally. By taking leadership with direct measures and by empowering residents to make local changes, the province will make the kind of infrastructure investment that can have long-term effects and ensure a sustainable future for its citizens.

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About Scotian WindFields

Scotian WindFields Inc is a Nova Scotian corporation that is dedicated to ensuring Nova Scotians take ownership of the province's abundant renewable energy resources. The company was formed by an agreement among eight Nova Scotian community-owned WindFields Community Economic Development Corporations. Scotian WindFields Inc is mandated to develop investment opportunities in renewable energy for funds raised within Nova Scotia by the eight community WindFields.

We are experts in developing innovative partnerships to implement renewable energy solutions.