



CITY OF BELLEVILLE
169 FRONT STREET,
BELLEVILLE, ON K8N 2Y8

MEDIA RELEASE – SOLAR FARM – QUINTE SPORTS CENTRE

TIME/DATE: July 27, 2010 – 1:30 pm

BELLEVILLE, ONTARIO..... The Corporation of the City of Belleville, with the technical assistance of Veridian Connections submitted a successful application to the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) under the Feed in Tariff (FIT) Program. The OPA by means of the Provincial Green Energy and Green Economy Act, 2009 has approved an advantageous kWh rate for the development of a photo voltaic solar farm (approximately 2,000 panels) to be established on the roof top of the Quinte Sports Centre.

The approved application could see up to 500 kW of solar energy generated each year which will be sold into the grid by the City at a rate of 63.5 cents per kWh guaranteed for twenty (20) years. The project is expected to pay for itself within eleven (11) years with another fourteen (14) years of generation expected before repair or replacement of the equipment is anticipated.

Mayor Neil Ellis stated “City Council has supported this project not just because it is a financial win for the City but also because it is the right, environmentally responsible thing to do. The new expanded Quinte Sports Centre will not only be a state of the art recreation centre, but also a model of energy efficiency and green energy production.”

On July 26, 2010 Council authorized staff to proceed with a formal request for proposal concerning the purchase and installation of the approximately \$5 million project.

The City will continue to work with the Ontario Power Authority on contract details to ensure the completion of this important green energy project. Installation of the panels is expected to get started in the fall of 2010.

For more information on the OPA and the FIT program please visit www.fit.powerauthority.on.ca - Tim Butters, Media Relations Specialist 416-969-6249.

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