

## Generating Community Energy

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The use of community-owned power facilities using renewal resources is rapidly gaining popularity across Ontario.

Wind energy is the fastest growing source of energy in the world. Since 1990, wind energy has increased at an average rate of 25% per year, a trend driven largely by dramatic improvements in wind power technology.

Community organizations in Thunder Bay, Temagami and Huron and Perth counties are collaborating to bring a new kind of energy to their communities.



Partially based on the successful WindShare demonstration in Toronto, the recently established CountrySide Energy Cooperative in Huron and Perth counties are actively considering community power projects for their communities. A community engagement process will be launched this autumn to inform, invite and hopefully bring the community together as owners of a windmill farm. If successful, Huron Perth will be the first community to actually use a community engagement process to foster community interest and to establish a community owned utility.

The CountrySide initiative is being closely watched by the provincial government and may become a model for all interested communities throughout the province.

The Ontario Sustainable Energy Association is providing technical support to interested groups and, with Tamarack's assistance, will prepare a resource manual for communities that want to use a similar approach to develop community owned power facilities.

### Related Links:

- [WindShare Cooperative \(Toronto\)](#)
- [Canadian Wind Energy Association](#)
- [Ontario Sustainable Energy Association](#)
- [Community Wind Power Network](#)



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