

CFUW Kincardine, July 2012.

### **Summary of Background Information for the Resolution:**

CFUW Kincardine supports Green Energy sources and the need for green technology, however, we do not support the existing process involved with the siting/placement of industrial wind turbine developments. There is a need for research so that negative effects on people, animals, the environment and the economy can be avoided.

This Resolution brings awareness of environmental issues that affect health, democratic principles and the rights of individuals. There is growing public concern because the developments seem to be driven by profit instead of research-based criteria.

Due to the lack of unbiased scientific research, our Resolution is requesting research so that fair and standardized national regulations can be created.

Our Resolution was based on the most credible sources we could find at the time we did the research. We included information from 33 different sites such as journal articles, authors, texts, research studies, anecdotal reports, internet sources and professional sources. Some of our sources include: Dr. Robert McMurtry (former Assistant Deputy Minister of Population and Public Health Branch of Health Canada), Dr. Hazel Lynn (Grey-Bruce Medical Officer of Health), the Environmental Protection Act, Canadian government websites, a Mayor, Dr. Nina Pierpont (MD PhD, New York), Prof. Mariana Alves-Pereira (Dept. of Environmental Sciences and Engineering, Portugal), Dr. S. Laurie (MD, Australia), Jim McCarter (Ontario Auditor General), Michael Trebilcock (LLB, LLM University of Toronto), Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation, the Species at Risk Foundation, Save the Eagles International, and Bob Runciman (Canadian Senator). We included as much relevant information as possible in only 4 pages of documentation.

CFUW Kincardine has observed this issue evolve from a grassroots movement into world-wide concern and demand for more research into the effects of poorly placed industrial wind turbines. As the developments spread across Canada, they are becoming a national issue.

In the time since we completed our Resolution, The Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (59,000 members) and The Ontario Federation of Agriculture (37,000 members) have also requested a moratorium on industrial wind turbine development. Most recently, in a press release (July, 2012, p. 1) David S. Michaud PhD, Principal Investigator, Health Canada, indicated that "Health Canada is working with Statistics Canada and other experts to design a research study to explore the relationship between wind turbine noise and the extent of health effects reported by, and objectively measured in, those living near wind power developments."

Aboriginal people are urging that they have the right to be included more in the initial consultation process. There are flaws in the current process that could be rectified by impartial scientific research and national standards.

There are no health studies on the effects of low frequency noise and stray voltage on infants, babies, pregnant women and livestock living in proximity to industrial wind turbines. We also have a moral and legal obligation to protect wildlife and their habitats from poorly sited wind turbine developments. This resolution is attainable through public awareness, education and political will.

