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## **Solar Power: Energy Autonomy**

Generating clean renewable energy is already possible right here in Ontario. The technology and policies are now in place. Programs like "Net Metering" and the Renewable Energy Standard Offer Program (RESOP), government retail sales tax rebates for solar panels, and home efficiency upgrade subsidies are just a few examples. Now anyone can generate their own clean green renewable power and help prevent global warming while at the same time ensuring energy security. And it isn't as costly or as complex as you might think. Find out how on Saturday September 6th, at the seventh annual SunFest, where John Wilson and his family will give guided tours of their award-winning straw bale solar powered home.

"People want to prevent global warming and eliminate our dependence on coal, oil and nuclear. The difficulty is knowing what to do, how to do it, and how much it costs. Lots of myths and old information make it hard to figure out what can and can't be done." says John Wilson. "That's why we started SunFest. People have to be able to come and see things, ask questions and get hands-on with how it all works. When people see how the solar panels generate kilowatts every day, they begin to see how they can start to reduce their reliance on coal and nuclear generated electricity."

We've all seen how volatile oil prices are getting. If we proceed to build nuclear you can also be sure that our electricity prices will escalate substantially. Planning now to implement renewable energy systems for energy autonomy makes sense on so many levels: long term income generation (Ontario pays 42 cents/kW for solar generated electricity), independence from the hydro companies, long term price guarantees and knowing you are doing something to prevent climate change. If we all do our part by reducing our energy consumption and generating of our own power with renewables we can secure a clean and safe future for our children. In fact Ontario could be powered 100% by renewable energy in the next five to ten years if we simply do what Germany has done. Learn how at SunFest.

John and his family don't live in a "demonstration" eco-home that nobody could afford. Instead, using some simple building techniques that anybody can learn, John and his family are comfortable all year round. How do they do it? By being efficient, using solar design, straw bale walls, a green roof, solar panels, and a wind turbine. Anybody can transform their home, urban or rural, into a renewable energy powerhouse.

John will conduct tours of his home, located about an hour north of Toronto, between 1 pm and 4 pm on Saturday September 6th, 2008. An additional highlight this year will be a new solar awning system designed to provide shading as well as generate electricity and money (on the Ontario governments RESOP at a rate of 42 cents/kW).

For more information see [www.NaturalLifeNetwork.com](http://www.NaturalLifeNetwork.com) .

Media interested in a tour, interview, photos, video or more information before or during the SunFest should contact John Wilson at 519-942-3266 or 416-450-2499 or visit the web site at <http://www.NaturalLifeNetwork.com/SunFest2008/> for more details and directions.