



MEMO / NOTE DE SERVICE

Information previously distributed / Information distribué auparavant

TO: Members of the Environment and Climate Protection Committee

DESTINATAIRE : Membres du Comité de l'environnement et de la protection climatique

FROM: Councillor Riley Brockington

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DATE: May 4, 2018

4 mai 2018

FILE NUMBER: ACS2018-CCS-ECP-0003

**SUBJECT: CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE - CANADIAN SOLAR INDUSTRIES  
ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION**

**OBJET : PARTICIPATION À LA CONFÉRENCE - ASSOCIATION DES INDUSTRIES  
SOLAIRES DU CANADA - CONFÉRENCE ANNUELLE ET EXPOSITION**

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this memorandum is to share with Environment and Climate Protection Committee members a report summarizing my attendance at the 2017 *Canadian Solar Industries Association Annual Conference and Exposition* in Toronto. The report (attached as Document 1) will be listed as Information Previously Distributed (IPD) on

the agenda for the 15 May 2018 Environment and Climate Protection Committee meeting.

### CONTEXTE

La présente note de service vise à présenter aux membres du Comité de l'environnement et de la protection climatique un rapport résumant ma participation à la conférence de l'Association des industries solaires du Canada - Conférence annuelle et exposition, qui a eu lieu à Toronto en 2017. Le rapport (ci-joint en tant que document 1) sera inscrit à l'ordre du jour de la réunion du Comité de l'environnement et de la protection climatique prévue le 15 mai 2018 en tant qu'information ayant distribuée auparavant (IDA).

***Original signed by /***

***Original signé par :***

Riley Brockington

Cc: Mayor and Members of Council  
Maire et Membres du conseil municipal

## **DOCUMENT 1**

Report to the Environment and Climate Protection Committee

May 15, 2018

### **Introduction**

On December 4-5, 2017, I attended the annual Canadian Solar Industries Association, Annual Conference and Exposition in Toronto, Ontario.

As cities across Canada focus more on renewable energy, I attended this conference with the intent on learning more about how municipalities can both create and use more solar-produced energy and how to facilitate and encourage local business and households to install solar panels and reduce our dependency on energy derived from fossil fuels. In my capacity as both a City Councillor and Member of the Environment and Climate Protection Committee, this was a beneficial conference to attend.

### **Canadian Solar Industries Association (CanSIA) – Mission and Vision (from their website)**

#### Mission

A national, not-for-profit association, CanSIA works on behalf of its members to facilitate and promote the responsible and sustainable growth of solar energy across Canada. CanSIA provides education and networking opportunities for members, researches and develops renewable energy policy options for different levels of Canada's government and implements a broad range of communications activities on solar energy.

#### Vision

CanSIA actively represents the Canadian solar industry by promoting the unique economic, environmental and technology benefits of solar energy in Canada. Our goal is to be the source of trustworthy information about solar energy and its growing importance to Canadian energy consumers.

## **2017 Conference Summary**

The conference opened with a positive recap by John Gorman, President and CEO of the Canadian Solar Industries Association of an industry that is growing exponentially in Canada, with a much greater focus on renewable energy, significant cost decreases and governments at all levels highly supportive of both investing in and promoting solar power.

The Hon James Carr, Federal Minister of Natural Resources and The Hon Glenn Thibeault, the provincial Minister of Energy both spoke of the limitless possibilities across Canada and Ontario to harness solar power and how each government is making it more affordable to invest in the technology.

During the conference, I attended a number of workshops, as follows:

- Canada's Energy Future – Supply and Demand Projections to 2040
- Requirements for Solar, Storage and Electric Vehicle Charging
- The Great Canadian Electricity Conversation
- Advancing Solar through Strategic Relationships – Home Builders' Case Studies
- Best Practices for Rooftop Solar Operations and Maintenance
- Toronto's Home Energy Loan and High-rise Retrofit Improvement Support Programs

Although the conference was geared towards members of the solar industry, it was a highly informative conference to attend to not only understand the industry better, but also acquire tools, resources and information on how municipalities can get more involved in the solar industry.

For those who are interested, the website of the Canadian Solar Industries Association can be found by visiting, <http://www.cansia.ca>

Although I will not be attending, the next conference is scheduled for June 20-21, 2018 in Calgary, Alberta.

Submitted by:

Councillor R. Brockington