

Presentation to the April 30, 2018 Meeting of City Council

My name is Catherine Gibson and I appreciate the opportunity, albeit in absentia, to speak in favour of the motion to explore the opportunities for placing Solar Panels on the rooftops of buildings belonging to the City of Regina. The timing could not be better – in these past few months a group of Regina and area home-owners have taken their interest in solar energy to an all new level – that of forming Wascana Solar Co-operative.

Before commenting on the current situation, I want to acknowledge the past contributions of the many that pioneered a “Suitable for Saskatchewan” format of alternative and renewable energy, and who took the financial risk when the cost of panels was sky high. I also want to express gratitude for the lessons learned from the *SolarTour* Team through their organized visits by bus to various installations in Regina and area.

As of today, I believe that the body of knowledge shared by Saskatoon Solar Co-op, with its emphasis on large scale rooftop installations, and Wascana Solar Co-op, with its two-pronged approach of (1) small scale residential and (2) large scale commercial installations, is such that City Administration will need to look no further than our own province to develop their recommendations on this proposal.

For the immediate future, I look forward to seeing a virtual sea of rooftop panels on city buildings bringing in enough financial resources to lower my taxes, and, in addition, bringing about an improvement in the health of the environment.