



New Partnership Formed to Develop a Canadian Bioenergy Strategy

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For Immediate Release

(Kingston, ON and Calgary, AB) — The BIOCAP Canada Foundation, a multi-stakeholder research foundation, and EnergyINet Inc., a national energy innovation network, announced today they will join forces to facilitate development of a bioenergy strategy for Canada. The new partnership will focus on developing a vision for bioenergy in Canada and integrating bioenergy into the existing energy system as part of an environmentally sound and sustainable energy supply, while addressing the long-term energy challenges of the future.

The partnership between BIOCAP and EnergyINet is timely and relevant, as soaring energy prices and public opinion show. According to a recent poll conducted by GPC Research, Canadians view alternative energy research as vital to the reduction of energy prices. An overwhelming 77% of respondents chose increased funding for alternative energy research as a response to increasing energy prices. The poll also showed that 53% of Canadians believe finding new sources of energy should be a higher priority for the government than keeping prices down.

With 10 percent of the earth's forests and some 68 million hectares of farm land, Canada has a "green advantage" in the quest for bioenergy. Technological advances allow us to convert wood, crop remains and other waste products into transportation fuels, power and heat to complement our existing use of fossil fuels. Improved resource management and new technologies help us grow trees and crops more efficiently and sustainably, providing the raw materials for bioenergy. By incorporating bioenergy into the existing energy infrastructure, we can reduce greenhouse gas emissions in an economically viable and biologically sustainable manner.

The partnership between BIOCAP and EnergyINet combines the unique strengths of each organization. BIOCAP is ideally positioned to address the bioenergy questions of industry and government through targeted research in forest and agriculture management, as well as the development of new technologies for the production and conversion of biomass to energy. EnergyINet's expertise lies in their ability to integrate alternative energies, such as bioenergy, into mainstream energy supplies, and to bring broad and diverse groups of stakeholders together to reach shared objectives.

EnergyINet's CEO, Dr. Michael Raymont, stated that "the strategic relationship between EnergyINet and BIOCAP is an important partnership that helps us find new ways to integrate alternate and renewable energy sources into our plans to help make Canada a world superpower in energy. We look forward to the process we are starting with BIOCAP and are excited to see the long-term benefits our joint work will provide."

Dr. David Layzell, CEO of BIOCAP, said, "BIOCAP's partnership with EnergyINet will extend our reach and better integrate our work on bioenergy into the larger energy sector in Canada. We look forward to the challenge and to launching a national strategy on bioenergy."

The BIOCAP Canada Foundation is a national, not-for-profit research foundation that is harnessing Canada's research capacity to find biologically based solutions to the challenges of climate change and clean energy.

EnergyINet Inc. is a Canadian not-for-profit network that brings industry, researchers and governments together to help develop new environmentally responsible hydrocarbon and renewable energy technologies that will produce an abundant supply of clean energy for Canada.

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