

## **Quill Lake Credit Union Leads the Way Environmentally**

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Staff members at the Quill Lake Credit Union have high hopes for their new wind turbines.

"Overall, we're really looking forward to seeing what it is going to produce for energy for us, and over the long run we're hoping we're going to see some very positive results," says Guy Martin, with the Credit Union.

The wind turbines are an environmentally friendly, energy source. Martin acquired the turbines through Raum Energy, a Saskatoon based company.

"Anybody who wants to offset their energy with wind can install one of these on a weekend and get rolling," explains Raum Energy President, Darryl Jessie.

In 2008, Raum Energy sold about sixty units to buyers across North America and in Europe. The 1.3 kilowatt model works with the local power grid. It sends power back to the grid when there's a surplus of wind energy and it draws power from the grid when there's a deficit.

"There's many benefits to owning your own wind turbine. One of them is the empowerment, so you're producing your own power. Another is you are helping the environment by offsetting carbon dioxide emissions from the utility," says Jessie.

"We just felt that we wanted to do our part to do some green and it just made sense," adds Martin.

The Quill Lake Credit Union plans to upgrade to a 3.5 kilowatt model next August. They see the turbines as an investment, and the benefits will far outweigh the \$50,000 input cost.

"We're comfortable. It's looking like a 10-12 year turn around and that was prior to the increase that Saskpower announced at the end of 2008, taken that into consideration we're very comfortable with what we're doing," says Martin.

Martin says that Quill Lake is the only Credit Union in Western Canada with the turbines so far, but he's hoping other branches will catch wind of his green idea.