

## CANBIO MEDIA RELEASE

**For Immediate Release: March 3, 2009**

### **Bioenergy tour and workshop coming up March 11-12 in Charlottetown**

*Building on our Bioenergy Successes* is the theme of a tour and workshop to take place in Charlottetown on March 11 and 12, organized by the Maritime Bioenergy Working Group of the Canadian Bioenergy Association (CANBIO). This group has been holding bioenergy information workshops and conferences throughout the region since 2005.

“The tour and workshop are aimed at farmers and forestry people, as well as anyone with a strong interest in biomass energy applications for heat and power in the Maritimes,” says Bruce McCallum, Vice-President of CANBIO and Chair of the Maritime Bioenergy Working Group. “They will be information-packed events covering a wide range of bioenergy systems and fuels.”

The tour begins at 11:00am on Wednesday, March 11 at the district heating plant on Riverside Drive, Charlottetown where participants will see large-scale woodchip usage as well trials in burning waste grain. People not wanting to visit the district heating plant may join the tour at the Rodd Royalty hotel at 12:45pm. The tour will continue with visits to six rural sites, starting with a new automated LIN-KA big bale straw burner at VANCO in Pownal at 1:00pm, followed by visits to five recently-installed Danish and Canadian grain and pellet-burning systems that are heating farms, private homes, and small businesses in the Charlottetown and Hunter River areas. One site will feature a PEI-built system burning woodchips produced from silviculture operations. The Pellagri site will feature a new plant producing hay and straw pellets. The tour will be followed by a reception at the Rodd Royalty Hotel beginning at 6:00pm.

The workshop takes place on Thursday, March 12, from 8:00am to 4:30pm, at the Rodd Royalty Hotel. Speakers from across the Maritimes will present information on topics that range from using waste grain as an energy product, factors for success in biogas systems, to the merits of large versus small wood pelletizing plants. The event will include a mini-trade show featuring bioenergy products and services available in the Maritimes. After the workshop, there will be a meeting for anyone interested in forming an agriculture-bioenergy working group.

The workshop cost is \$75.00 (pre-registered) including lunch. The workshop is co-sponsored by PEI Department of Agriculture, and Agriculture and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada through the PEI ADAPT Council, Nova Scotia Natural Resources and Wellons FEI Corp. For information, contact Bruce McCallum at: 621-2254, [bmccallum@pei.sympatico.ca](mailto:bmccallum@pei.sympatico.ca) or see the agenda at [canbio.ca](http://canbio.ca)