

SENSE Regional Networking Meeting AGENDA & NOTES

Place: Lockeport: Crescent Beach Centre

Date: Monday, June 7, 2010: 10:00am – 2:30pm

Objectives

- 1) Networking and showcasing successes in Lockeport, Shelburne and other surrounding jurisdictions.
- 2) Extension of ESD Ideas, getting commitment and action from local government and municipalities.
- 3) Learning and sharing what other groups are doing to advance sustainability education in the formal, informal and non formal.

Agenda

| Time: | Activity | Details |
|-------------------|--|---|
| 10:00am - 10:20am | Introductions & Ice Breakers | Sam Juru, SENSE coordinator |
| 10:20am – 10:30 | Intro to SENSE | Sam Juru |
| 10:30am - 12:00pm | Lockeport, Shelburne & other jurisdictions present | Dayle Eshelby, former Integrated Community Sustainability Plan Coordinator for the Town of Lockeport Mary Manning, Principal of Shelburne Regional high School Tricia Vanaman, The Tri-County Local Food Network Andy Stuart, Principal, Lockeport Regional high School Bill Atwood – Lockeport Project Manager, Lockeport advances |
| 12:00pm – 1:00pm | SENSE Presentation & Lunch | Janelle Frail & Sam (UNESCO AGM update) Tamara Lorincz, Nova Scotia Environmental Network |
| 1:00pm – 1:30pm | Update from EECOM conference Opportunities for Networking | Charlene Morton |
| 1: 30pm – 2:30pm | SENSE Policy Committee: Moving ESD forward | Sue Boutilier (NSCC) |
| 2:30pm – 3:00pm | Close: Draw Prizes Evaluation, wrap up & Group Walk | Sam Juru & Tamara Lorincz |

About SENSE

- Sam, Janelle and Tamara talked about SENSE: Sustainability Education in Nova Scotia for Everyone
- Information, meetings, pictures, resources, and links can all be found here:
<http://nsen.ca/education.php>

Shelburne School – Mary Manning

- ONE REBEL: Our Natural Environment – SRHS Environment Club
- Round Bay Beach Sweep
- Yarmouth Local Food Workshop, strong 4-H group
- Reading the Roseway- interdisciplinary, experiential, at all grade level
- Empower Youth – MTRI and CARP, bring back to school, history under water, creating the community garden
- From Garbage to Garden – compost, soil, cyclical, inquiry question, where does our school come from, what is farming in today's world
- Earth Day coffee less coffee house
- GOMI mini conference
- Bat boxes for Birchdale (used to be Nova Nada)
- Identify a long term project, adopt-a-stream, old growth forest, ocean study, marsh study, wetland study
- Skilled & construction trades – Grade 10 – help build the greenhouse
- Gr. 9 – sustainable energy – students on Live at 5, French immersion program as well through the Department of Education
- Youth leadership is critical – youth leading the project

Tri County Food Network, Patricia Vanaman

- Based at Tri County Women's Centre in Shelburne
- The mission of the organization is to ensure food security in Nova Scotia
- The project was developed as a result of themes that came out of the February, 2009 Food forum
- Projects include working with youth and seniors to develop intergenerational community garden plots
- Promoting 5 community gardens
- Discuss food production, preparation and preservation
- The Network has been involved in the Locavore campaign aimed at a 10% shift in how people purchase and consume
- Promoting local farmers markets
- Educating communities on the Impact of our choices
- Builds on BALLE NS: Building Alliance for Local Living Economies

Principal of Lockeport Regional High School, Andy Stuart

- School has Green Waves program
- Empower Youth program
- The school has a really good connection with Dayle and the UNESCO initiative
- We have 3 committee working on different objectives; to educate students, communities and international partnerships
- Students have been involved in a cleanup project of the Marsh
- The school has recently undertaken a green house project to get high school and elementary students involved in gardening and learning to grow their own food
- UN Flag and signage in front of school
- WORK IT program

Charlene Morton – UBC

- Speed dating questions: 1. Nature deficit disorder? 2. Favourite green space? 3. Most neglected subject? 4. Favourite lunch? 5. Most needed cross-curricular course?
- Need to pay more attention to cross-curricular
- This isn't about change, we are in crisis
- We need transformation – what are we transforming to?
- Leave out the cozy language
- Need an analysis of power structure
- What do the naysayers say? Have a response prepared
- Where's the call for action? We need citizen engagement
- Too anthropocentric
- Mother Earth Day – People's Climate Justice Conference in Bolivia – recognized by the UN
- Push the contradictions
- Get away from the good v. bad
- Toronto Star: Happiness in Math & Science classes in Bhutan
- What about values and happiness?
- 60 million teachers and 60 million military personnel

Discussion –Sharing Ideas & Resources

- 11th Hour – Gloria Flora “Money is Power. Every dollar you spent is a vote.”
- Daniel Heath – Avatar – film used for school
- 4days.ca
- Green job strategy for Nova Scotia
- Canadian Council of Ministers of Education (CMEC): <http://www.cmec.ca>
- Environmental Education & Communication (EECOM): <http://www.eecom.org/>

Moving Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Forward Sue Boutilier

An Interconnected Web of Intention, Action & Activity

ESD is very much a complex and interconnected web. It combines the elements of formal, informal and non formal learning, the intertwined pillars of sustainable development, the lifelong continuum of learners and the continuum of lifelong learning opportunities at the community's local, provincial, national and international levels. ESD relates to everyone. Since NSCC is Canada's Portfolio College, this strategy session models portfolio learning, and focused on looking back, looking within and looking forward.

Sue led participants through a reflection exercise

Looking Back: Where am I now? Reflect on Successes

Looking Within: Where do I want to be? Identifying Strengths and Goals

Looking Forward: How do I get there? Strategies & Action to Build on Strength & Accomplish Goals

Action Strategies ~ Our Collaborative List

- Ensuring success stories are heard
- Ensuring success stories are shared
- How can we work together to benefit the people here...how do we benefit from the knowledge and experiences of people in the room...
- Take action to engage in sharing stories at existing venues like the Green Roots Symposium...take advantage of existing opportunities to share stories from the schools
- ESD is about participatory representation. It is key to have stakeholders speak in their own words and to use their own voices to share their own stories
- A Green School Program is currently being developed by Clean NS and there is a great opportunity to provide collaborative input on the development of this resource
- In Lockeport the threat of losing the school galvanized the community to action. Now that this has been solved new priorities emerge...
- Need to give back and share successes seek out existing avenues for doing so such as the Power of Green Conference and the Green Roots Symposium
- Share resources the example was given of 4Days.ca which is about social and community development stemming out of the Hub Business Incubator

- Communities need to decide what they want to see happen and start to dig in to figure out how they can make it so
- We need to work on finding the disconnects in the system in order to connect the bingo hall discussions with the board room discussions
- We need someone who is willing to be the conduit to help translate ideas to action and help navigate the system. You need go to people who can help make things happen.
We need to build linkages between the things that need to be done and people who can do them
- There are systemic issues. The lines of communication can be frustrating. The communication can be challenging.
- Helping the province with the communication about EGSPA - ESD is an opportunity to more fully engage in the communication about EGSPA
- The example was given of the Table of Youth Champions as a Best Practice that needs to be shared
- The opportunity to provide feedback to CMEC on their draft report
- The necessity and absolute imperative to follow up on the ICSP Process- to articulate the difference that people like Dayle have made and to work together to find ways to encourage and facilitate the implementation of the ICSPs - This ICSP follow up has many levels including local, provincial, national levels
- To document successes. To tell the story of how the ICSP process engaged Bevan on a personal and professional level and allowed him to take action to make transformational changes in his business and in his life. This particular success story would be a good fit to highlight in the EGSPA follow up report document.
- Look at the LSF Best Practices Criteria for evaluating ESD resources and proactively communicate and use these criteria in developing new resources
- Articulating support for successful initiatives like the NSYCC and the Empower Youth opportunity
- Advocacy messages and action concerning the provision of government funding towards an Environmental Trust Fund
- Working together for balance...
- Balancing the needs of our natural environment and the built environment...
- Balancing the need for economic growth with the need for sustainable prosperity...

- The dialogue and action continue...