

Welcome to *Eco-Connections*, a bi-weekly e-bulletin to update our members and supporters on various environmental actions, events, announcements, resources, funding, awards and job opportunities, and to provide a venue for communication across the province. Sent by the Nova Scotia Environmental Network (NSEN). To add an item to the next e-bulletin or to unsubscribe, please email nsen@cen-rce.org

* *May 31-June 6 is Canada Environment Week and HRM Bike to Work Week:*

www.halifax.ca/bikeweek/ScheduleOfEvents.html June 6 is *Trails Day* June 8 is *World Oceans Day*

June 8-14 is *Rivers to Ocean Week*: <http://www.cwf-fcf.org/en/what-we-do/issues/water/>

Be sure to CONNECT with NSEN.ca and add your event, job, announcement and action alert directly to our web site.

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- C4. THE ART OF PEACE: A CAMP FOR KIDS July 13 - 17, 2009
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A. Actions

A1.

Help Keep the Environment and Climate Change top election priorities in this NS election

Find out more about the Nova Scotia Environmental Network's 25 for the Environment Election Survey and Key Environmental Issues for the 2009 Provincial Election. This survey was sent to the Leaders of all the provincial political parties. Be sure to do your part and ask the candidates where they stand on the environment during this election: www.nsen.ca

A2.

Watch the PBS documentary "Poisoned Waters"

A far-reaching investigation into America's great waterways. They are in peril. There's a new wave of pollution that's killing fish, causing mutations in frogs -- and threatening human health. Documentary Poisoned Waters demonstrates that today's growing environmental threat comes from chemicals in consumers' face creams, deodorants, prescription medicines and household cleaners finding their way into sewers, storm drains and drinking water. Watch it online here: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/poisonedwaters/>

A3.

Tune In! Jeff Rubin "Oil & End of Globalization" on Maritime Noon Tuesday May 26

Tuesday, May 26th : Is this the calm before the storm, in terms of energy costs ? We'll be joined by Jeff Rubin, author of "Why Your World Is About To Get A Whole Lot Smaller : Oil & The End of Globalization". Our question : "How will our lives in the Maritimes change as energy gets more expensive ?"
<http://www.cbc.ca/maritimenoon/>

B. Environmental Events and Capacity-Building Workshops

B1.

All-Candidates Forum on the Environment and Economy on the Eastern Shore May 26

An all-candidates forum on the environment and the economy is scheduled for *Tuesday, May 26 in **Musquodoboit Harbour**. * It will take place from *7:00 pm to 9:00 pm** in St. Phillip Neri Roman Catholic Church hall. *The hall is wheelchair-accessible by the rear entrance. All three candidates for the Eastern Shore riding have confirmed their participation: Bill Dooks, PC; Loretta Halleran, Liberal; and Sidney Prest, NDP. The forum has been organized in response to public concern about local economic and environmental issues. The organizers hope that this forum will help voters assess all the candidates' positions. Residents are encouraged to come and participate in the question-and-answer session. Young people are especially invited to come and engage in the political process. After the meeting, refreshments will be served.

B2.

CANDIDATES DEBATE: "CLIMATE CHANGE AND OUR ENERGY CHOICES" Tues. May 26, 7pm

Participants: Howard Epstein--NDP; David Morse--Conservatives; Jane Spurr--Liberals; Brendan MacNeill--Greens. Audience members are invited to ask the candidates their climate change and energy choices questions. How to get there: Theatre A, (1st floor), Tupper Building, Dalhousie Medical School—located between Robie St. and Summer St. on the west and east, and University Ave. and College St. on the south and north. Entrance: 5850 College Street. Free. For further information, <http://www.ecologyaction.ca/content/candidates-debate-%E2%80%9Cclimate-change-and-our-energy-choices%E2%80%9D>

B3.**Williams Lake Conservation Company ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Tuesday, May 26, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.

Captain William Spry Centre, 10 Kidston Road, Halifax

<http://www.williamslakecc.org/index.html>

B4.**Canadian Environmental Network Annual General Assembly in Edmonton June 12-14, 2009**

Stay tuned for more details: <http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/index.html>

B5.**Celebrating the Past, Recognizing the Present, Envisioning the Future - 2009 Outdoor Practitioners Conference**

Organized By NSHPP and DNR

Location St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Nova Scotia Event Starts May 29 & May 31st, 2009

Interested in the outdoors? If your area of interest is in education, recreation, community programming, or adventure you will want to join us at this exciting conference. We will come together as an outdoor community to recognize past contributions, acknowledge current realities facing outdoor practitioners, and develop new directions for the future. Building on the success of the 2001 Sharing the Outdoors Conference, this will be an opportunity for fun, learning, and celebration. The conference will include hands-on experiential sessions, a trade show, an engaging series of keynote speakers, entertainment, magic and much more including the Outdoors! For more information contact Jody Conrad: 424-7589, Jody.Conrad@gov.ns.ca or Sandra Fraser: 424-5481, frasersx@gov.ns.ca

B6.**4th annual Renewable Energy Conference 2009 :Emerging Opportunitites" May 27th & 28th, 2009**

Westin Nova Scotian Hotel, Halifax, NS. You may now register online by February 21st at the Early-Bird

Registration rate of \$475.00. For AGENDA and REGISTRATION information, go to www.ENERGYEVENT.ca or contact Catherine at 902-237-7010 or

Email at Catherine@energyconsultant.ca

B7.**BIOBLITZ 2009 JUNE 5 & 6TH**

On June 5th and 6th, the second annual BioBlitz will take place. This is the only event of its kind to take place in Eastern Canada. The BioBlitz is a 24-hour taxonomy survey that identifies the biodiversity of a specific wilderness area. BioBlitz is part scientific endeavour, part contest, and part educational event. The event's first goal is to identify as many species as possible in that given area. This leads to a second goal, as the scientists take part in a contest to see who can find the most species, as well as other discoveries such as rare, previously unidentified, and other unique or unusual species. The third goal is to educate the public. The BioBlitz is designed to increase public awareness of the biodiversity in their immediate neighbourhood and the services these various species provide to improve the quality of their lives. The event will take place in Blue Mountain - Birch Cove Lakes, a Candidate Wilderness area. The 1,350 hectare area includes forests and barrens and a system of interconnected lakes, streams, and wetlands. To date, there has been no detailed survey of the diversity of species contained in this area. Thus this site likely holds among the widest array of species to be found in Nova Scotia. Last year's event, which was held on June 6th and 7th at Long Lake Provincial Park, had over 80 scientists, 250 members of the public, and exhibitors from 10 community groups in attendance. We discovered 694 species at this event, and we expect to exceed these numbers this year. Our organization includes members of Saint Mary's University, as well as individuals from the Ecology Action Centre, the Discovery Centre, the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, the Museum of Natural History, and the Nova Scotia Departments of Environment and Natural Resources, the Sackville River's Association, the Young Naturalists Club and the Halifax Field Naturalists.

<http://www.smu.ca/bioblitz/welcome.html>

B8.**"Resource Development and its Implications in the Bay of Fundy and Gulf of Maine" May Workshop**

The Workshop with theme "Resource Development and its Implications in the Bay of Fundy and Gulf of Maine" will be held May 26-29, 2009 at Acadia University. Workshop information including registration and accommodation forms can be found online. The Preliminary Program Book in PDF format suitable for printing (legal-size, landscape-orientation, double-sided) can be downloaded in PDF format. The Book of Abstracts (51 pages letter-size with author index) is also available in PDF format. Apologies for any duplications in this mailing and also thanks to those of you who may have already registered or responded to earlier notifications.

Looking forward to seeing many of you in Wolfville in May. -Jon Percy

BoFEP Communications

More info: jon-percy@ns.sympatico.ca

B9.

Introductory and advanced Fostering Sustainable Behaviour workshops in Halifax on June 11th and 12th.

While registration closes on June 8th, please note that it is likely that the workshops will fill before that date.

Online Registration: <https://register.cbsm.com/workshops/?site=Halifax>

Workshop Description

The cornerstone of sustainability is behaviour change. If we are to move toward a sustainable future we must encourage individuals and businesses to engage in a multitude of actions (e.g., waste reduction, water and energy efficiency, pollution prevention, etc.). To date, most programs to encourage such activities have relied upon disseminating information. Research demonstrates, however, that simply providing information has little or no effect on what people or businesses do.

But if not ads, brochures or booklets, then what? Over the last decade, a new approach -- community-based social marketing -- has emerged as an effective alternative for delivering programs to foster sustainable behaviour.

This June Dr. McKenzie-Mohr, an environmental psychologist, will be presenting introductory and advanced community-based social marketing workshops in Halifax (June 11th and 12th -- please note that these sessions are the only the training sessions being offered until the spring of 2010 in Atlantic Canada and the Northeast United States). Dr. McKenzie-Mohr is the founder of community-based social marketing and has written and presented extensively on the topic. We invite you to attend either or both of these workshops, as we are confident that the training they provide will fundamentally change the way you think about program delivery.

Introductory Workshop (June 11th): The one-day introductory workshop provides a comprehensive introduction to community-based social marketing and how it is being applied throughout the world to foster sustainable behaviour. Those who attend the introductory workshop will learn the five steps of community-based social marketing (selecting behaviours, identifying barriers, developing strategies, conducting a pilot, and broad scale implementation) and be exposed to numerous case studies illustrating its use.

Advanced Workshop (June 12th): The one-day advanced workshop builds on knowledge gained from the introductory workshop. It provides an in-depth exposure to community-based social marketing and provides participants with the knowledge they need to design and evaluate their own community-based social marketing programs. Participants will have extensive opportunity to discuss the application of community-based social marketing to actual programs.

Who Should Attend? If you design or fund programs to encourage individuals or businesses to engage in environmentally beneficial behaviours -- such as those involved in waste reduction, water and energy efficiency, watershed protection, pollution prevention or transportation changes -- you will find these workshops invaluable. The workshops will also be useful for environmental education professionals who work in settings such as zoos, aquariums and parks. Public health professionals who work to foster sustainable lifestyle changes, such as being more active, will also benefit from attending.

Online Registration: Please visit <https://register.cbsm.com/workshops/?site=Halifax> to register for these sessions. Please consider forwarding this email to colleagues who might benefit from attending. Hope to see you in June.

Doug McKenzie-Mohr, Ph.D.

Environmental Psychologist

(506) 455 5061 voice
(506) 455 0550 fax
dmm@cbsm.com

B10.

"43rd Congress of the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society" 31 May - 4 June 2009

In Halifax, Nova Scotia - <http://www.cmos.ca/Congress2009/index.htm>.

B11.

Eco-Efficiency Centre 10th annual Excellence in Business Breakfast June 3

The Eco-Efficiency Centre is proud to announce our 10th annual Excellence in Business Breakfast to be held on June the 3rd, 2009.

Wednesday, June 3, 2009

8am – 10am

Westin Nova Scotian, Halifax

\$25 per person

For registration contact:

Eco-Efficiency Centre

t: 902-461-6704

f: 902-461-6703

2008 Award recipients and presenters e: eecentre@dal.ca

For event details please click here: <http://eco-efficiency.management.dal.ca/index.htm>

B12.

Annual Warbler Walk-May 30, 2009

The Five Bridge Wilderness Heritage Trust is please to announce that the Annual Warbler Walk will be held at Jerry Lawrence Provincial Park in Lewis Lake on Saturday, May 30 from 7 a.m. to noon. Well known bird watching enthusiast Hans Toom will lead the hike. Birders are asked to meet at the Picnic area inside the Park at 7 a.m. The warbler walk usually takes place both in the confines of the Park and along the St. Margaret's Bay Rails to Trails. The Jerry Lawrence Provincial Park is the summer home of 14 species of the twenty-one species of warblers that nest in Nova Scotia. Contact Beth McGee at 823- 2245 to obtain further information.

B13.

Municipalities for Green Mobility Open House, District of Lunenburg Thurs., May 28, 3-6:30

The Ecology Action Centre and Cities and Environment Unit of Dalhousie University will present recommendations for improving transportation options in Lunenburg District and invite the public to comment. Some of the recommendations will be incorporated into the district's Integrated Community Sustainability Plan. Refreshments and snacks provided. Funds for daycare and transportation available; location TBA - contact Laena Garrison for details: 902.429.0924 or trax@ecologyaction.ca

B14.

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING: GARDEN PARTY AND ECO-AUCTION Sun., June 7, 12-4

Saint Mary's Boat Club (1641 Fairfield Road, Halifax). John Dunsworth, Mr. Lahey from Trailer Park Boys, returns as our auctioneer and Olga Milosevich from CBC radio will be emcee. On the auction block are weekend get-a-ways, amazing art, and gift certificates to support your green home renovations. Our goal is to raise \$25,000. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors & students. Viewing: 12 pm, Live Auction 1 pm, Silent Auction closes: 2 pm. More info: www.ecologyaction.ca

B15.

Some great workshops at the Falls Brook Centre in NB this summer – check them out!

Workshops on water conservation, solar energy, and straw bale building. <http://www.fallsbrookcentre.ca/>

B16.

Green Procurement Webinar on May 27th, 2009 at 1pm EST

We will be running a webinar on green procurement on Wednesday, May 27th featuring stories from practitioners in both Halifax and Whistler who have created and implemented green procurement guidelines in their own communities. Engage in conversation while sitting at your desk! TNS Network members can participate for free as part of their membership. Full cost is \$50. Register and learn more about becoming a member of our official TNS Network.

The Natural Step Canada
355 Waverley Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K2P 0W4
thenaturalstep.org/canada
info@naturalstep.ca

B17.

"Wild for Wolfville" June 13

The Nova Scotia Nature Trust and the Town of Wolfville are thrilled to be launching an exciting, new community event that will host members of the public for an interpretive nature walk, picnic lunch, and an afternoon of stewardship activities. Learn about community conservation efforts and enjoy the beauty of one of the largest conservation sites in the region, the Wolfville Watershed Nature Preserve. Stay around after the event for a weekend of nature excursions with Nature NS (see www.naturens.ca for details) **FREE FOR NATURE TRUST MEMBERS!** A great event for the whole family. \$10/person, \$20/family..

Please r.s.v.p. to Karen at the Nature Trust. 1-877-434-5263 or 425 5263

B18.

Fifth annual Elisabeth Mann Borgese Ocean Lecture on Monday June 8

Dr Rob Huebert, Associate Professor, Political Science
Associate Director, Centre for Military and Strategic Studies, University of Calgary
Canada and the Circumpolar World: the Coming Blizzard

- 1) What are the challenges for Canada that are now developing in the Arctic?
- 2) What is Canada doing to meet these challenges and how successful have they been?
- 3) What will Canada's role be in the circumpolar world as these new realities develop?

Monday 8th June, World Oceans Day, 7:00 PM

Room 105 Weldon Law Building

6061 University Avenue

Dalhousie University campus

Reception to follow

All are welcome. For more information, contact ioi@dal.ca

IOI would like to thank the Ocean Management Research Network for its generous contribution to this event as a World Oceans Day activity. This year's lecture is also part of the Coastal Nova public lecture series, "Coastal Nova: Where Nova Scotia Meets the Sea", and we gratefully acknowledge the support of its members: the Coastal Coalition of Nova Scotia, the Ecology Action Centre, Dalhousie University's Marine Affairs Program, and the Environmental Studies Program at Saint Mary's University.

B19.

Climate Change and Extreme Weather: Designing Adaptation Policy June 4, 2009

ESANS Key Note Speaker part of AGM (5:30pm - 7:00pm) Casino Nova Scotia

Presentation by Dr. Gordon McBean: Acclaimed Climate Scientist, Member of the Order of Canada, and Review Editor of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change 2007 Assessment.

Buy Tickets in Advance: <http://www.esans.ca/events.html>

The climate is changing and with it the occurrence of extreme events, such as heavy precipitation, high winds and coastal storm surges. Much of Canada's infrastructure has been designed based on past climates, or ignoring climate weather threats entirely, making our society that depends on this infrastructure increasingly vulnerable in the future. Climate change needs to be seen and responded to not only as an environmental issue but as one of fundamental importance to human security as it is impacted through food, energy, water and other issues. With the increasing threats of extreme weather, there is a need for adoption of strategies to reduce risk and vulnerability and

build into our society the resilience to avoid loss in the future. In this presentation, the probable and possible climate-extreme weather futures and strategic approaches towards designing adaptation policies will be discussed. BIO: Gordon McBean, PhD, is a Professor of Geography and Political Sciences at The University of Western Ontario and Director, Policy Studies of the Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction. He was formerly professor of atmospheric and oceanographic sciences at the University of British Columbia and an Assistant Deputy Minister in Environment Canada. He is Member of the Order of Canada, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and shared the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize as a significant contributor to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. He received a MSc in meteorology from McGill University and a Ph.D. in physics and oceanography from the University of British Columbia.

B20.

LEAVE NO TRACE and HIKING Workshops across NS

In honour of Trails Day in June, Hike Nova Scotia, Leave No Trace Canada and local partners are holding three Leave No Trace and Hiking workshops to promote low-impact use of Nova Scotia's beautiful trails.

JUNE 6 - Dartmouth Workshop

Hike Nova Scotia and the Fairbanks Centre present a Leave No Trace and Hiking workshop in Shubie Park in Dartmouth on June 6 at 1:30 pm. Fairbanks Centre is located at 54 Locks Road (just off Waverley Road) in Dartmouth.

JUNE 13 - Cape Breton Highlands Workshop Hike Nova Scotia and Parks Canada present a Leave No Trace and Hiking workshop on the Jack Pine Trail, Cape Breton Highlands National Park at 1 pm Saturday, June 13. Travel north approximately 20 km from entrance of park in Ingonish. Turn right off the Cabot Trail at the Black Brook day use area and turn left at T intersection to the upper parking lot. You must register online for this workshop at www.hikethehighlandsfestival.com/walkforwildlife.html.

JUNE 24 - Annapolis County Workshop

Hike Nova Scotia, Annapolis County Recreation Services and the Annapolis Field Naturalist Society present a Leave No Trace and Hiking workshop at the Mickey Hill Pocket Wilderness Trail near Annapolis Royal on June 24 at 7:00 pm. Located approximately 10 minutes (8 km) south of Annapolis Royal on the east side of the road.

Special thanks to Mountain Equipment Co-op, The Trail Shop and the NS Outdoor Leadership Development Program for donating hiking related gear and experiences for a "trail prize" draw. Leave No Trace builds awareness, appreciation and respect for our wildlands (www.leavenotrace.ca). Hike Nova Scotia is the voice of hikers, walkers and snowshoers, working to create a culture of hiking in Nova Scotia (www.hikenovascotia.ca). Trails Day (June 6, 2009) is an annual celebration of trails to promote trail development, the use of trails and the healthy lifestyle they encourage (www.internationaltrailsday.blogspot.com).

B21.

Lots of great eco-retreats and workshops this summer at the Tatamagouche Centre – check them out!

Find out more about the many environmental and capacity-building workshops at the Tatamagouche Centre this summer: <http://www.tatacentre.ca/>

B22.

8th BoFEP Bay of Fundy Science Workshop, May 26-29th, Acadia University, Wolfville.

Please check out the BoFEP website at www.bofep.org for agenda and registration

B23.

Being Caribou (NFB Film) Sundays at 2 pm and Wednesdays 6:45 pm in May

Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer St., Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Month of May: Sundays at 2 pm and Wednesdays 6:45 pm auditorium Join Leanne Allison (filmmaker) and Karsten Heuer (wildlife biologist) on their epic 1,500-km-long trip on foot with the Porcupine Caribou herd. North America's great mammal migration !

For more info: Brenda Boutillier

Curator Visitor Services, Public Information & Marketing
Museum of Natural History
1747 Summer St., Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
ph: 902-424-6513 fax: 902-424-0747
email: boutilbr@gov.ns.ca
Discover the natural wonders of Nova Scotia's land and sea at
<http://nature.museum.gov.ns.ca>
A part of the Nova Scotia Museum family.
<http://museum.gov.ns.ca>

B24.

Bat Walk, Smiley's Provincial Park on Saturday June 20 from 9:45 pm – Midnight

(Rain date: TBD)

Cost: Free Register now! Celebrate Summer Solstice with bats and Museum Zoologist, Andrew Hebda.

On this popular evening prowl . Pre-registration required call (902) 424-3563. Space is limited.

For more info: Brenda Boutilier

Curator Visitor Services, Public Information & Marketing

Museum of Natural History

1747 Summer St., Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

ph: 902-424-6513 fax: 902-424-0747

email: boutilbr@gov.ns.ca

Discover the natural wonders of Nova Scotia's land and sea at

<http://nature.museum.gov.ns.ca>

A part of the Nova Scotia Museum family.

<http://museum.gov.ns.ca>

B25.

"Evaluation in your Community" June 16/09 from 9:00am-4:00pm Halifax

At the Best Western Chocolate Lake Hotel, Halifax

Organized by the Canadian Evaluation Society, Nova Scotia Chapter.

This workshop would be of interest to government policy/program people, community and non-profit groups. The registration fee is \$390.

The keynote speaker, Dr. Arnold Love, is a world-renowned evaluator and will bring a wealth of knowledge to the event. Presentations from local evaluators will provide concrete examples of evaluation working in the community.

For more information, contact cesns@evaluationcanada.ca .

B26.

Bike Week Webinar & Panel Discussion - Creating a cycle friendly HRM

Wednesday June 3rd between 12:30 and 2 p.m. in the Kenneth Rowe Building Room 1020 at Dalhousie University (6100 University Avenue) for the webinar and panel discussion.

The Office of Sustainability at Dalhousie University is proud to host a webinar (web seminar) as an event for HRM Bike Week 2009 with John Luton, the Executive Director of Capital Bike and Walk Society and Coordinator for Vancouver Island Cycle Tourism Alliance. John Luton is a cycling and walking consultant with over 10 years of experience working with local governments, community organizations and neighborhood interests to develop innovative solutions to promote cycling and walking for transportation. John has greatly influenced the success of many projects through his participation in analysis of existing conditions, design development and public consultation facilitation processes in Victoria and Saanich, and several other Capital Regional District municipalities. Mr. Luton has participated in the instigation and/or shaping of many projects in the improving cycling and walking conditions in various regions and municipalities. Mr. Luton will be participating in a live webinar focusing on the use of bicycles as sustainable means of transportation and the key components required to make communities more cycle friendly. Following the webinar, there will be a panel discussion from local representatives from the HRM cycling community focusing on key strategies and initiatives to better create a city of cyclists in the HRM. Join us, Wednesday June 3rd between 12:30 and 2 p.m. in the Kenneth Rowe Building Room 1020 at Dalhousie University (6100 University Avenue) for the webinar and panel discussion. Light snacks will be

provided. This event is free of charge and open to anyone with an interest in sustainable transportation and cycle friendly communities. HRM Bike Week (May 29th-June 7th) is a celebration of all forms of cycling in HRM, and provides lots of unique cycling opportunities and education for HRM residents. For more information on HRM Bike Week 2009 events go to www.halifax.ca/bikeweek for details.

Contact: Please RSVP Christopher Boyle, CH840595@dal.ca by June 2nd, 494-7448

Website: <http://office.sustainability.dal.ca/>

B27.

Run, Walk and Roll for Cancer Prevention Saturday, June 13, 1-4 p.m.

What: 5 km run, walk or roll (bike, stroller)

Where: Dingle Park Halifax

How: Follow the link below to either join my team or create your own team and start collecting sponsors. If you cannot participate personally on the 13th, I ask you to make a donation to my team, PayPal is set up and is easy to use to make donations. <http://www.womenshealthyenvironments.ca/cpc/index.html>

choose "sponsor participant" or "register now" to join my team or to create your own fundraising team for this event.

B28.

Cancer Prevention Challenge Launch at the Wooden Monkey Restaurant May 31

What: Live music, slide show presentation, silent auction

When: Sunday, May 31 1-4 p.m.

Where: Wooden Monkey Restaurant 1707 Grafton St., Halifax - food and drink will be available for purchase \$5 suggested donation

B29.

Yoga & Dance for Cancer Prevention

What: Karma Class

When: Friday, June 5 8:30 p.m.

Where: Moksha Yoga 1512 Dresden Row, Halifax

Donations for the class will go to Prevent Cancer Now

Dance for Cancer Prevention

What: Barefoot Ecstatic Dance

When: Saturday, June 13 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Where: DanSpace 1531 Grafton St., Halifax

\$10 donations for Prevent Cancer Now

www.barefootecstaticdance.blogspot.com

B30.

“THE END OF THE LINE” – Atlantic Premiere Film Screening on Thursday, June 4, 2009

Time: 7:00pm

Location: Ondaatje Hall, Dalhousie University

Imagine an ocean without fish. Imagine your meals without seafood. Imagine the global consequences. This is the future if we do not stop, think and act. On June 4th, join WWF-Canada, Ecology Action Centre, CPAWS NS to watch The End of the Line: the world's first major documentary about the devastating effect of overfishing to premiere at Sundance Film Festival. A discussion session will follow. The story the film describes is shocking. And much of it plays out in Atlantic Canada, right here in our backyard. The good news – we have a unique chance, right now, to take real steps toward better protecting our ocean environment in the Scotian Shelf and Bay of Fundy region. To learn more, please visit www.wwf.ca/oceansaction

B31.

THE BURDEN OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON WOMEN with Joanna Kerr on June 15

WHERE ARE WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE IN THE SOLUTIONS?

Keynote: Joanna Kerr

Director of Policy and Outreach

Oxfam Canada

Monday June 15th, 7pm - 9pm

Sobey School of Business, Room 255

Saint Mary's University

FREE ADMISSION - RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

A JUST IN TIME presentation by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Public Affairs and Oxfam Canada

For more info: www.ccepa.ca www.oxfam.ca

B32.

"WORKING TOGETHER TO LEAVE NO CHILD INSIDE" Luncheon Presentation on June 17

RECREATION NOVA SCOTIA'S 2ND ANNUAL LUNCHEON LUNCHEON KEYNOTE: "WORKING TOGETHER TO LEAVE NO CHILD INSIDE" Wednesday, June 17th from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m at Pier 21, Halifax, Tickets: \$50 per person/\$500 table of 10

Luncheon Speaker: Martin LeBlanc, Co-founder of The Children and Nature Network, and National Youth Education Director, Sierra Club. A growing number of experts are concerned that we are raising the first generation of indoor children (more screen time, less green time). Martin's keynote will focus on No Child Left Inside a rapidly spreading back to the outdoors' international movement initiated by The Children and Nature Network. The No Child Left Inside movement bring individuals, communities, organizations and governments together to find ways to reconnect our children with nature and get our 'digital-age kids' outside for healthy, unstructured play. To reserve tickets, contact RNS Office at 425-1128 or email bmahon@recreationns.ns.ca

B33.

All Candidates Forum on the Green Economy in West Hants on May 26

Belmont Hall (1090 Belmont Road) Tuesday, 26 May 2009, 7-9 pm

Guest Speaker: Allison Kouzovnikov, Business Alliance on Local Living Economies (BALLE)

Meet our Provincial candidates and hear their vision for a green economy in West Hants

How can we achieve prosperity as envisioned in Nova Scotia's new Environmental Goals and Sustainable Prosperity Act? Many people are concerned about our environment and our communities, and in the economic downturn many are looking for better ways to do business. Given our agricultural heritage and tradition of innovation and self-sufficiency, is West Hants well positioned to pursue a more stable, healthy, and local economy that is not so dependent on global market forces? Come and meet our provincial candidates and hear their vision for a green economy in West Hants. Guest Allison Kouzovnikov, from the NS Business Alliance on Local Living Economies (BALLE), will speak about the building blocks of community vitality. Hosted by the Avon Peninsula Watershed Preservation Society. Belmont Hall (1090 Belmont Road) Tuesday, 26 May 2009, 7-9 pm. For more information contact apwps@xplornet.com

B34.

McNabs and Lawlor Islands Beach Cleanup Sunday, June 7 – 10 am – 4:30 pm

(Rain dates: June 13 or June 14)

Join the Friends of McNabs Island Society for the annual cleanup of McNabs and Lawlor Islands Provincial Park. Celebrate Oceans Day and Environment Week by cleaning up the beautiful beaches of these Halifax Harbour islands. Meet at Murphy's on the Water, Cable Wharf on the Halifax Waterfront before 10 a.m. Space on the boat is limited to 150 people. Bring work gloves, drinking water, a lunch and ENTHUSIASM. We will supply the garbage bags and FREE transportation to the island for volunteers willing to clean up the beaches. Groups of more than ten must pre-register with the Friends of McNabs Island by calling Cathy at 434-2254 (evenings) or Carolyn (477-0187) or by e-mailing mcnabs@chebucto.ns.ca. Visit www.mcnabsisland.ca for more details.

This is the 16th year that the Friends of McNabs Island have organized a beach cleanup of the Halifax Harbour islands. Since 1991, volunteers have collected more than 8,250 bags of garbage and recyclables from McNabs and Lawlor Islands Provincial Park. For more information contact:

Cathy McCarthy 434-2254 (evenings) 456-9167 (cell) mcnabs@chebucto.ns.ca www.mcnabsisland.ca

B35.

Journey of Balance: Air, Fire, Water and Earth in July

Calling all Activists, Helpers, Healers, Caregivers, Educators and Parents~ Have you been caring and doing too much for too long? Are you working too hard, but can't remember why? Are you missing your zest for life? Do you feel more short-tempered, more easily frustrated, more distracted, more resentful than usual? Can you use your vision cleared, your energy rejuvenated? Join us on a journey to create balance in an unbalanced world. 4 dates: June 13: Air: Take a Breath of Fresh Air; June 20: Fire: Rekindle Your Passion For Life; July 18: Water: Flow with the Currents of Change; August 15: Earth: Reach Out to All Our Relations. Receive a certificate for your self development portfolio. Register for 1, 2, 3, or all 4 sessions. Individual sessions are \$100. each or all 4 for \$350. Facilitators are Dr. Fyre Jean Graveline Adult Educator, Activist, Helper and Art Therapist and Michele Graveline, Lifelong Learning Educator, Activist, Herbalist, Eco-practitioner. Call to register 902-827-3619 or email circleworks@circleworksconsulting.com. You may also register online at www.circleworksconsulting.com "Seminars" <http://circleworksconsulting.com/seminars.php>

B36.

Environmental Interpretation: Sharing Nature with Children & Youth on June 20

Saturday, June 20, 9:30-5:00, Fleming Park, Halifax: This session is offered through the Nova Scotia Outdoor Leadership Development Program. It teaches fun and engaging activities for use with children and youth to give them joyful and profound experiences of nature. Cost is \$30.00. Register at wonder@senseofwonderee.ca or (902) 494-7644. Find details at http://www.gov.ns.ca/hpp/publications/environmental_interpretation.pdf.

B37.

"Working Together To Leave No Child Inside" Keynote Luncheon Wednesday, June 17th

Recreation Nova Scotia's 2nd Annual Luncheon Luncheon Keynote:

from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m at Pier 21, Halifax, Tickets: \$50 per person/\$500 table of 10

Luncheon Speaker: Martin LeBlanc, Co-founder of The Children and Nature Network, and National Youth Education Director, Sierra Club. A growing number of experts are concerned that we are raising the first generation of indoor children (more screen time, less green time). Martin's keynote will focus on No Child Left Inside a rapidly spreading back to the outdoors' international movement initiated by The Children and Nature Network. The No Child Left Inside movement bring individuals, communities, organizations and governments together to find ways to reconnect our children with nature and get our 'digital-age kids' outside for healthy, unstructured play. To reserve tickets, contact RNS Office at 425-1128 or email bmahon@recreationns.ca

B38.

JD Kline Water Treatment Plant And Pockwock Watershed Tour on June 3

In conjunction with Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, Elmsdale Lumber Company, Halifax Water, RPFANS, and CIF-NS, an information workshop and tour will be held at the JD Kline Water Treatment Plant and Pockwock Watershed. The Workshop is aimed at communicating and educating how Halifax Water and the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources jointly manage the Pockwock Watershed with water quality in mind. The Pockwock Watershed supplies the greater urban core of Halifax, Bedford, Sackville, Fall River, Waverly and Timberlea. Halifax Water is responsible for managing and protecting the Pockwock Watershed and has developed a Source Water Protection Program consistent with the Nova Scotia Drinking Water Strategy. The workshop will be held on June 3rd, 2009 at the JD Kline Water Treatment Plant, 1749 Pockwock Road (off of the Hammonds Plains Road) with a watershed tour to follow. The workshop and tour will begin at 9:00am and finish by 4:30pm; lunch and refreshments will be provided. A \$10 registration fee payable up arrival is required along with a hard hat and steel toed boots as operations may be taking place. For those of you interested in obtaining a few good CFE credits; 18 Credit Hours will be allotted for this workshop. Please contact Barry Geddes at 869-4304 or Tim O'Brien at 893-5628 to pre-register as space is limited to 35 people.

B39.

Ecology Action Centre's Annual General Meeting Will be held June 22, 7-9 pm

Multipurpose Room, Bloomfield Centre. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Agenda will include election of new board members, and consideration of a special resolution. More info: www.ecologyaction.ca

B40.**CPAWS-NS, Annual General Meeting June 10, 2009**

5:30 to 7pm

Location: TIANS Office (near Pier 21, in the same building as Garrison Brewery), 1099 Marginal Road, Suite 201, Halifax

More: Everyone is welcome! Join the staff and board of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, Nova Scotia Chapter for an exciting review of our successes over the past year! Enjoy an engaging multimedia presentation while partaking in locally-sourced refreshments. Don't miss your chance to join the chorus of Nova Scotia's pre-eminent voice for wilderness protection! Contact: Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, Nova Scotia Chapter www.cpawsns.org Ph. 902-446-4155

B41.**MAY CRITICAL MASS on Friday, May 29 from 6-9pm**

"the momentum is building"

What: Pep Rally

Host: Halifax Critical Mass

Where: VICTORIA PARK, Halifax, NS

B42.**We're Starting a Community Garden in Dartmouth – Breaking ground! May 30th, 1-3 pm**

Goodness Grows! and the Findlay Community Center invite you to our 'Breaking Ground' Celebration!

When: May 30th, 1-3 pm, (Rain Date May 31st, 1-3 pm)

Where: Findlay Center, 26 Elliott Street, Dartmouth

There will be Treats, Games, Gardening and Music. For more information please contact Mary-Jo at 463-9326 or goodnessgrowsdartmouth@gmail.com. Goodness Grows! is supported in part via the Dartmouth Community Health Board's Community Development Fund

B43.**Sustainability Film Series "How Cuba Survived Peak Oil" on June 16**

The Power of Community – How Cuba Survived Peak Oil is the second film in the Halifax Shambhala

Sustainability Initiative's Sustainability Film Series. Tuesday, June 16 at 7 pm at the Shambhala Centre, 1084

Tower Road, Halifax. Organic farmer Norbert Kungl will speak of his experiences in Cuba following the film. \$5 cover charge as a donation to Imagine Bloomfield Community Garden.

For further information, contact Julia Creighton at juliamcreighton@eastlink.ca or 405-9111

B44.**Fundy Tidal Energy Demonstration Project Update May 27**

Minas Basin Pulp & Power on behalf of FORCE (Fundy Ocean Research Centre for Energy) invites the public to an Update on the Fundy Tidal Energy Demonstration Project.

Wednesday May 27, 2009

7 pm-9 pm

Atlantic Theatre Festival Building

386 Main St

Wolfville, NS

The proposed project consists of a demonstration facility in the Minas Passage to test underwater turbines to generate electrical power from tidal currents, and will consist of 3 underwater turbine berths, marine to shore power cables, onshore substation and connection to the power grid. The Forum will provide an update on the Proposed Project and include presentations by engineers and scientists (John Woods, Minas Basin Pulp & Power; Gordon Fader, Atlantic Marine Geological; Patrick Stewart, Envirosphere; and, Russell Dmytriw, AECOM) gathering information on the environment in the Minas Passage, followed by a Question and Answer session.

More information on the Proposed Project is also available on the website: www.minas.ns.ca

B45.

Halifax Fairview All Candidates Forum Wednesday, June 3, 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Fairview United Church (lower level), 3524 Dutch Village Road. Free community event. Come out to meet the candidates! Brad Armitage Liberal Party www.liberal.ns.ca; Paul Henderson Conservative Party pccparty.ns.ca; Jane Hester Green Party www.greenparty.ns.ca; Graham Steele New Democratic Party www.ns.ndp.ca. Moderated by CTV's Rick Grant. This is a great opportunity to listen to the candidates and to ask them questions. Find out where they stand on the issues. Learn more about the political parties. Organized by community stake holders, members of Fairview and Clayton Park Community Action Network (CAN) and the space action group of the CAN. Make an informed decision. Your vote matters! For more information, please phone Natalie Brown, Executive Director Fairview Family Resource Centre/ Parent 'n Tot 3524 Dutch Village Road, Halifax, 902-443-9569 office, 902-431-2000 fax, parentntot@eastlink.ca, www.parentntot.com

B46.

7th Annual Indian Point Young Naturalist Club Summer day camps

I will be hosting my annual summer science and nature day camps again this summer. If you know any keen young naturalists ages five to twelve who will be in the Halifax area in July and August, please contact me for more information: [Scott Pelton ospreys@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:ScottPelton@ns.sympatico.ca)

B47.

“Peaceful Gardener: A hands-on medicine and food workshop” July 17-19, 2009 Bakers Settlement

“Peaceful Gardener: A hands-on medicine and food workshop” will be held the weekend of July 17-19, 2009 at The Pollination Project in Bakers Settlement, Nova Scotia. Registration for the entire workshop is \$300.00 and includes a full lunch on both Saturday and Sunday consisting of organic, mostly farm grown food and snacks served throughout the day. The fee also includes all necessary materials for salve and tincture making. The following are available for additional cost - dinner, rhythmic massage, and on-site room rentals and tent sites, both including breakfast. Note: prices in Canadian dollar

To hold a place contact Cameila at: 902-624-1979 or email: camelia@palpable.ca Several work scholarships are available. More info: http://www.ashtreepublishing.com/bookshop/press/pressrelease-Nova_Scotia09.php

B48.

Woods, Waterways & How We Can Work With Nature May 30 CPAW NSB

Saturday May 30 2009 (9:00am - 4:00pm), Baie Verte Community Hall (NB) with afternoon field trip to a local woodlot.

A workshop by Bob Bancroft and Marc and Michael Spence on woodlot wildlife and aquatic management. CPAWS NB's upcoming woodlot management workshop.

Pre-registration is required for each workshop. Fee: \$20 per day (includes coffee/drinks and snacks) **Bring your own lunch** To register and for any inquiries please contact Robin Musselman at r.musselman@ns.sympatico.ca 902-455-2202

B49.

HRM Bike Week – Lots of great events from May 29-June 7

<http://www.halifax.ca/bikeweek/>

C. Non-Environmental Events

C1.

The ACIC's AGM & Symposium "Inspiring Change" June 4-6th in Saint John, NB.

Check our website for updates and registration information. www.acic-caci.org

C2.

War is a Racket & The Black Book of Canadian Foreign Policy Café Discussion June 7

Sunday, June 7 2:00-4:00 PM Just Us Café! 5896 Spring Garden, Halifax.

Please join the Halifax Peace Coalition in our second annual book club café. We will be discussing two books: the anti-war classic War is a Racket by US General Smedley Butler, one of the most decorated American Generals, written in 1935; and we will also be discussing Yves Engler's new book, The Black Book of Canadian Foreign Policy. The books can be purchased at Outside the Lines Bookstore, 6265 Quinpool Rd, Halifax (902) 422-3544.

You can also buy the book through Amazon www.amazon.ca please give yourself 2 weeks. There will also be a special screening of Conscience Canada's short-film: Work for Peace, Stop Paying for War. Free. All welcome. Organized by the Halifax Peace Coalition. For more information, please contact HPC: hfxpeace@chebucto.ca

C3.

SECURITY CERTIFICATE ADIL CHARKAOUI SPEAKS OUT in Monday, June 1 at 7:00pm.

A discussion about Canada's security Certificate process with a former detainee

Lecture. Host: NSPIRG and HPC.

Start Time: Monday, June 1 at 7:00pm- 9:00pm

Where: Room 105, Weldon Law Building, Dalhousie University, Halifax

C4.

THE ART OF PEACE: A CAMP FOR KIDS July 13 - 17, 2009

From 9 am to 4 pm Saint Mary's University, Robie St., Halifax

Come and Explore with us this summer! This summer, Peaceful Schools International (PSI) is hosting the Art of Peace Summer Camp for 8 - 13 year-olds . This camp will offer children an opportunity to creatively explore the meaning of peace – within ourselves, in our communities and in the world. More info:

<http://peacefulschoolsinternational.org>

C5.

THE 2009 MARITIME SECURITY CONFERENCE 11 - 12 JUNE 2009

"Interoperability: Achieving Maritime Security Under the North American Free Trade Agreement."

The Scotiabank Auditorium, The Marian McCain Arts and Social Sciences Building

6135 University Ave., Dalhousie University

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

More info here: <http://centreforforeignpolicystudies.dal.ca>

C6.

Pugwash Peace Exchange Fundraising Dinner & Silent Auction on July 11

Our guest speaker for this event will be Talatbek Masadykov, Chief of the Political Affairs Unit for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA).

With special musical guest, soprano Barbara Hannigan

Tickets: (902) 243-2328 or mail@pugwashpeaceexchange.org

Date: July 11th, 2009

Time: 5:30pm

Tickets: \$50 (\$10 off for Pugwash

Peace Exchange members)

Location: Pugwash District High School

<http://www.pugwashpeaceexchange.org/>

C7.

Amnesty International Canada Annual General Meeting Halifax June 5-7

The Amnesty International (AI) Canada Annual General Meeting (AGM) is taking place in Halifax this year. There are opportunities to attend or volunteer, or both. Amnesty members and staff will be gathering from across Canada to learn, share and plan the future of AI from Friday, June 5 to Sunday, June 7 at Dalhousie University. For more info, contact Alison Etter at aette055@alumni.uottawa.ca as soon as possible.

D. Announcements

D1.

Deadline for the Digby Wind Power Project EA May 30, 2009

Proponent: SkyPower Corp. and Scotian Windfields Inc.

Location: Gulliver's Cove, Digby County, Nova Scotia

Class: I

Project Status:Under review

Description

This is to advise that on April 30, 2009, a partnership between SkyPower Corp. and Scotian Windfields Inc. registered a wind energy project for environmental assessment, in accordance with Part IV of the Environment Act. The purpose of the proposed undertaking is to construct and operate a 30 megawatt (MW) wind energy facility consisting of 20, 1.5 MW wind turbine generators with a transmission line (approximately 10.6 km long) to connect to the existing NSPI electrical grid. This facility is proposed to be located in Gulliver's Cove, Digby County, Nova Scotia. The Proponent anticipates start of construction by September 2009, pending permits and approvals, with the facility becoming operational in the Spring of 2010. The estimated lifespan of the facility is anticipated to be approximately 20 years. Public comments on the Registration Document will be accepted from April 30, 2009 to May 30, 2009. All comments received, including any personal information, will be available to the public at the Nova Scotia Environment Library, 5th floor, Halifax Office, 5151 Terminal Road. More info: <http://www.gov.ns.ca/nse/ea/digby.wind.sky.power.asp>

D2.

Free Transit for a Day in HRM on June 3

Clean Nova Scotia and Kings Transit is offering riders free bus transit for Clean Air Day, June 3rd. Let's celebrate Clean Air Day with by thinking about alternative transportation. Each bus can take up to 40 cars off the road! Come on out and ride the bus!

Tanya Canam

Program Officer for DriveWiseR

902.420.7924

www.drivewiser.ca

D3.

Free Green Auto Check Ups from June 1st-6th

Participating auto dealers around Nova Scotia are offering FREE Green Check Ups during Canada Environment Week from June 1st-6th. Drivers can go to www.drivewiser.ca for a list of dealers and can contact them directly for an appointment. The Check Up is an analysis of the components of your vehicle which affect fuel efficiency and emissions. The service technician can advise you on how to lessen your environmental tireprint and save money in the meantime!!

Tanya Canam

Program Officer for DriveWiseR

902.420.7924

www.drivewiser.ca

D4.

Society launches YouTube video to support fundraising goal

Pictou County, NS, May 19, 2009...The Friends of Redtail Society has created a video, which it is hoping will shed light on its cause to a worldwide audience. The Society's "Sheltering Forests" fundraising campaign has kicked-off to help the group raise funds to protect and preserve 313 acres of forest and delicate habitat in western Pictou County. The Society has until December 2009 to raise \$250,000, which includes applicable taxes. The struggle to preserve the land began two years earlier when residents of the area became aware of plans by the American landowner, Wagner Forest NS Ltd., to have the forest clear cut. "Industrial forestry practices have radically transformed Nova Scotia's forests so that the Acadian forest system is considered one of the most endangered in North America," says Bernadette Romanowsky, newly installed Society Chair. "We came together as individuals sharing a common concern about the consequences of industrial forestry practices in rural communities and we have found a way forward that will bring our community back into the equation." ... With little more than 6 months to go before closing the deal, the Society's fundraising activities have gone into full swing. The Sheltering Forests campaign provides as many avenues as possible for people to get involved; supporters can donate directly or host their own fundraiser for the campaign. There will be events taking place throughout the province all summer, providing the public with the opportunity to support events closer to home. The new video is available on YouTube by searching "Sheltering Forests" and on the Society's website, visit www.friendsofredtail.ca or call (902) 485-4561 for more information.

D5.

All expenses paid: Youth environmentalists trip to the BiodiverCity conference! Deadline May 25

Get involved in the RCEN youth movement and make a difference by contributing your voice to environmental issues in Canada.....for free!!!

Deadline to apply: May 25th, 2009

What: Canadian Environmental Network (RCEN) 2009 Annual General Assembly

Where: Edmonton, Alberta

When: June 12th to 14th 2009

The RCEN is looking for 10 youth participants (ages 18 to 30) from across the country to come and represent Canadian youth at this annual gathering of grassroots environmental organizations. This gathering is meant to tackle the most important environmental and policy issues faced in Canada and internationally. By mobilizing a group of youth, we hope to better integrate your voices in these issues, get you involved in the RCEN and give you an opportunity to meet other youth engaged in environmental issues, as well as some of the most experienced environmentalists in the country!

BiodiverCity: Cities of Nature, In Nature

To highlight the important relationship between cities and biodiversity, speakers at the event will explore the impact of urban demands on resources to the possibilities of growing more food locally and the benefits of natural areas within cities. Other scheduled activities include: panels on environmental assessment and sustainable community management; a workshop nuclear energy; an inter-organizational fair; and a slam poetry session/music jam. More information about the AGA

Registration and Transportation

Selected delegates will have their registration fees - \$150 value - and transportation covered by the RCEN. This includes all meals during the conference. Please note that accommodation is not included (we can help you find a place to stay though).

Selection Criteria

Candidates must be:

- Between 18 and 30 years of age (preference will be given to youth under 25)
- A Canadian citizen or a permanent resident of Canada
- Involved or interested in environmental issues in Canada, such as climate change, species protection, sustainable agriculture, water, etc.
- Prepared to attend a conference call before and after the AGA (1 hour each)
- Prepared to participate in all AGA activities (see the Agenda)
- Willing to be partnered with senior RCEN caucus members during the AGA

How to Apply

If you are interested in participating, please email Monique Lefebvre, Youth Caucus Coordinator, at monique@cen-rce.org with the following information:

1. Name:

2. Address:

3. Contact information (email and phone #):

4. Age:

5. Areas of Interest (please choose 1-3 subjects such as agriculture, climate change, forests, etc):

6. Involvement in environmental issues (5 sentences max.):

7. What do you hope to gain from this experience? (5 sentences max.):

Looking forward to seeing you at the AGA!

D6.

HELP MAKE NOVA SCOTIA FREE OF COSMETIC PESTICIDES - THIS ELECTION!

This election is a key time to win a commitment to ban the sale and use of cosmetic or lawn pesticides in Nova Scotia. (This has already been achieved in Ontario, Quebec and Prince Edward Island.) It will also happen in New Brunswick soon.

CALL each candidate in your riding.

LET THEM KNOW that you want both their personal commitment and that of their party to enact a province wide pesticide ban, if they form the government.

Ask for a response.

ASK this question when candidates come to the door, or at all party meetings. "Will your party adopt legislation banning the sale and use of cosmetic pesticides if you form the government?"

EDUCATE. Use the information posted on Ecology Action's Website to educate your candidates, neighbors and friends about why we need a pesticide ban now. Pesticide Free Nova Scotia material is available on line at <http://www.ecologyaction.ca/content/publications-0#pesticides>.

INVOLVE OTHERS. Once you have called your candidates, ask two friends to do the same.

Nova Scotian politicians need to know that protecting children with a ban on the sale and use of pesticides has wide support.

FROM THE GRASSROOTS UP, MAKE A PESTICIDE FREE NOVA SCOTIA AN ELECTION ISSUE.

M Reynolds

on behalf of Pesticide Free Nova Scotia (PFNS)

D7.

Important Anti-Uranium Vigils in Halifax on May 29 & June 5

During this provincial election period, the Voice of Women for Peace will lead three Friday anti-uranium vigils in front of Spring Garden Public Library. Join us between noon and 1pm on May 29 and June 5th as we call upon all Nova Scotians to support a complete ban of Uranium mining. We will be distributing pamphlets and asking people to sign petitions. All are welcome! Rain or shine.

For more information, please contact ruthbishop08@gmail.com

D8.

New University Cooperative Summer Course 09

The New University Cooperative is pleased to announce our inaugural 2009 Summer Short Course Program, being held in Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia, from August 1st to August 28th.

The theme of the course is Sustainability and Social Justice; Capacity for Social Transformation.

A full-time, residential program, the Summer Short Course Program combines a range of learning experiences to help students develop the skills and understanding necessary to be involved in movements for social transformation.

Directed by two resident educators. Wilma Van Der Veen, PhD, is an academic activist and professor of sociology at Okanagan College and a New University board member. Ted Rutland is a PhD candidate at the University of British Columbia. He has lectured at several Canadian universities, and writes frequently on issues of environmental and economic justice. The course also will be enlivened by guest lectures, field trips, community service learning, and workshops, the course also provides opportunities for hands-on learning in such areas as gardening/farming, carpentry, renewable energy, pottery, green building, art and music.

Core course content is structured around four sub-themes, including:

- Non-violence, Power and privilege: From the personal to the societal
- Movements for economic and environmental justice
- Ecological lifestyle and community development
- Sustainability and social justice education.

Each theme is explored through a variety of means: readings and discussions; talks from activists and educators in the region; hands-on skill building; practices of personal transformation; research and writing.

More information available at: <http://newuniversity.ca> or email: info@newuniversity.ca

D9.

Cape Split Provincial Park Reserve Preliminary Management Plan- Public Meeting May 28 & June 4

Situated in a dramatic coastal setting near Scots Bay, Kings County, the 428 hectare Cape Split provincial park reserve is the most ecologically-intact portion of the North Mountain and one of the most important undisturbed areas on the Bay of Fundy. The property includes several rare or threatened plant species, old forest, prehistoric sites, rare and semi-precious minerals and one of the most prominent coastal hiking trails in Nova Scotia. To ensure the intrinsic values of Cape Split provincial park reserve are protected for the benefit of present and future generations, the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources has prepared a preliminary management plan that defines a vision and philosophy that will guide future management decisions affecting the park. To encourage public participation, the Department is hosting two open house events. The first is being held on Thursday May 28 at the

Scots Bay Community Hall, Highway 358, Scots Bay. The second open house is on Thursday June 4 at Clark Commons, University Avenue, Acadia University, Wolfville. Both open houses will run from 4 pm to 8 pm. Written comments may be left at the open houses or mailed to:

Brian Kinsman, Senior Parks Planner,
Parks and Recreation Division,
Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources,
RR 1, Belmont, Colchester County,
Nova Scotia, B0M 1C0,
1-902-662-5069

bkinsman@gov.ns.ca

Comments would be appreciated on or before June 30, 2009.

E. Jobs & Internships

E1.

East Coast Environmental Law - Executive Director

The East Coast Environmental Law Association (ECELAW) is seeking a new Executive Director for its Halifax office. The Executive Director will be responsible for the overall development, management, administration, representation and organization of all activities, initiatives, programs and affairs including but not limited to the following: law & advocacy - program planning and implementation; Communications and public relations; and operations and administration. The ideal candidate will have: management and organizational experience; strong communications skills; and experience with public relations, among other qualifications. The deadline to apply for this position is June 1st, 2009. For more details about this job opportunity, please visit <http://www.ecelaw.ca/>.

E2.

Clean Annapolis River Project Aquatic Habitat Technician

Clean Annapolis River Project (CARP) is accepting applications for the position of Aquatic Habitat Technician. This is a contract position, to commence as soon as possible, for a period of six months. CARP is a charitable, community-owned corporation created to work with the community and interested organizations to foster the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of the freshwater and marine ecosystems of Nova Scotia's Annapolis River and its watershed.

This is a Science Horizons position, supported by Environment Canada's Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network (EMAN) Coordinating Office. To be eligible for this position, applicants must:

- have graduated from a recognized post-secondary academic institution in one of the environmental or related disciplines
- be out of school (fulltime studies)
- be an unemployed or under-employed young scientists or post-secondary graduate in the sciences who are 30 years of age or under
- be legally entitled to work in Canada (This includes permanent residents of Canada but does not include 1) those awaiting permanent status, 2) persons with temporary work visas, such as students who have graduated and have temporary work visas)
- not have participated in Science Horizons or any other federal Youth Employment Strategy program except where (1) the work experience was terminated early due to employer business failure, participant became ill or incompatibility between employer/youth or (2) the component of the Youth Employment Strategy the youth participated under was for summer employment.
- consent to participate in the assessment of the program and may be required to provide their Social Insurance Number (SIN)

Duties

1. Undertake monitoring of physical, chemical and biological water quality in the Annapolis watershed.
2. Participate in both terrestrial and aquatic ecological monitoring activities, including field collection, data management, analysis of results and report writing.

3. Support community groups and volunteers in the delivery of ecological monitoring programs.
4. Work collaboratively with partner agencies to achieve the above.
5. Other duties as required by the supervisor.

Qualifications

1. Post-secondary training in Chemistry, Biology, Environmental Science, Agriculture, Forestry or related fields.
2. Familiarity with water quality and ecological monitoring techniques.
3. Experience in the handling and processing of water and biological samples.
4. Willingness and ability to undertake fieldwork, in sometimes wet, cold, physically demanding and uncomfortable conditions.
5. Good oral and written communications skills.
6. Strong numerical skills.
7. A valid drivers license and access to a vehicle.

To apply, please forward a cover letter and resume, including references to the Executive Director, Clean Annapolis River Project, as soon as possible at carp@annapolisriver.ca. Only those candidates selected for interview will be contacted.

E3.

Opportunities for Working and Volunteering at Falls Brook Centre

<http://www.fallsbrookcentre.ca/employment.htm>

E4.

Position: Office/Membership Coordinator (full-time) Nova Scotia Nature Trust

The Nature Trust is a land conservation charity dedicated to protecting Nova Scotia's most important natural areas, through private land conservation. The Trust's protected areas network encompasses over 4000 acres of outstanding conservation lands on 29 sites throughout the province. The office/membership coordinator is a central position to the Nature Trust, essential to the effective, efficient and professional operations of the organization and the Nature Trust's staff team, volunteers and Board of Directors. This Jack/Jill-of-all-trades keeps the entire office and operations running smoothly, coordinate events and volunteers, manages our database, provides the friendly voice/face of the Nature Trust to the public and our supporters, and is responsible for our membership communications and support. The position is fast-paced, dynamic and challenging with a diversity of tasks and ongoing opportunities for learning and development. The office/membership coordinator works closely with the staff team who depend on the office coordinator for logistical, administrative and technical support.

Duties/Responsibilities:

Database management

- * Oversee all management of Nature Trust database in Raisers' Edge (data entry, management, quality control, data systems and procedures, administrative/management function for database)
- * Provide queries and reports from Raiser's Edge to Executive Director and staff as required (e.g. reports on campaign successes, active volunteers, queries to create tiered mailings etc.)
- * Maintain up-to-date database records (e.g. current records of members, donors, sponsors, in-kind supporters, professional contacts, event attendees, project funders etc.) including overseeing regular updates of key information from relevant staff members

Donor/Member management

- * Track donations/memberships (files, electronic, data input and upkeep etc.)
- * Oversee donor appreciation (thank yous, personal notes, gifts etc.)
- * Oversee issuing of tax receipts (tracking/distribution)
- * Manage E-list
- * Manage query, mail merge and production aspects of

fundraising/membership mailouts (queries, mail merges, coordination of delivery etc.)

- * Ongoing contact with members through telephone, email and in person

- * Oversee production and distribution of newsletter and other communications

- * Provide support for annual membership drive and other fundraising mail campaigns (securing prizes, assisting with mailouts, sponsorships and prize donations)

Volunteer management

- * Assist with recruitment, orientation and appreciation for office/administrative volunteers

- * Direct oversight of volunteers (e.g. office, web)

- * Maintain office volunteer schedule

- * Manage administration of volunteer communications (information requests, confidentiality forms, thank-you letters, etc)

Events and meetings

- * Set up various in-house meetings (such as Board and executive meetings), book venues, caterers, send reminders

- * Provide planning, organization, promotion, administration and logistical support for events such as:

- * annual general meeting, strategic planning session, open house and other core events and activities

- * public events such as property celebrations

- * annual gala dinner and auction

- * other fundraising events and activities such as raffles and donor events

- * Oversee all administrative and office support aspects of the annual dinner (e.g. ticket reservations, management of attendee list,)

- * Provide other support as required for all fundraising events/activities and staff members such as funding proposals, mail campaigns, major gift program

Public Relations

- * Assist with public relations (sending out press releases, public service announcements, updating media contacts list, assisting with writing educational/promotional literature)

- * Support production of newsletter, annual report and other publications

- * Provide support and administration for Nature Trust public relations and outreach events and activities (guided walks, property excursions etc.)

- * Assist in keeping website current with regular information-gathering, postings and updates.

Support to Nature Trust staff

- * Provide direct administrative support to the Executive Director

- * Orient new staff and volunteers on office procedures

- * Provide a welcoming space for staff and volunteers

- * Provide other administration and assistance as required to support the general operations of the Nature Trust, its programs, projects and land securement work

- * Keep staff up-to-date and informed about deadlines, external/internal events and maintain communications within the office and staff team

Computers/Server

- * Oversee computer storage system/network backup daily/monthly

- * Oversee and maintain computer system/server (setting up users, passwords, updates/upgrades, routine maintenance, trouble-shooting, acquiring new equipment as needed etc.)

- * Oversee maintenance of virus and other key software (regular updates) on all computers

- * Oversee email and web server management

- * Maintain proficiency in all software applications/assist staff as needed

Oversee the smooth functioning of the office and daily operations of the Nature Trust office

- * Oversee management of all incoming and outgoing mail

- * Oversee file management system and maintain complete and up-to-date files (paper/digital)

- * Oversee inventory and supplies (monitoring, ordering)

- * Liaise with service providers (printing, graphic design, telephone, appraisals, legal, audit etc.)

- * Respond to inquiries or forward to appropriate staff member
- * Maintain updated files with registry of joint stock companies (board changes, bylaw changes)
- * Maintain current board/staff lists
- * Carry-out graphic design/layout for basic in-house and promotional materials (business cards, posters, raffle tickets etc.)
- * Maintain the "survival guide" (especially procedures for database, donor entry, other types of entry, other key systems)
- * Organize and maintaining the physical space, office equipment, supplies and office systems, building lease and insurance
- * Support book-keeping/finance function of the organization in cooperation with the book-keeper (e.g. Petty cash management, management of incoming cheques, invoicing, cash boxes)

Other

- * Oversee staff/social events and activities (birthdays, meetings etc.)
- * Participate in and support the overall work of the Nature Trust

Qualifications

- * Strong computer aptitude and confidence in a range of applications including word, excel, website maintenance, database management (not simply data entry) * Ability to multi-task and handle more than one project at a time* Ability to manage tight deadlines and thrive in a fast-paced environment
- * Great attention to detail (particularly with data management and ensuring high quality of communications leaving the office)
- * Highly organized and systematic with strong administrative skills
- * Independent and self-motivated, but able to work closely with others on a regular basis
- * Ability to delegate tasks/direct volunteers/staff when necessary
- * Professional and responsible with sensitive/confidential issues
- * Strong communication skills (verbal, writing, email)
- * Exceptional people skills, diplomacy, ability to creatively and amicably problem-solve with members, the public, service providers
- * Ability to learn quickly and independently (including technical knowledge)

Other desirable assets

- * Web page maintenance/management
- * Graphic design and layout (Adobe Creative Suite)
- * Experience managing a computer server system
- * Experience working with Raisers' Edge
- * Experience working in a non-profit environment
- * Interest in conservation/environmental issues

Application Procedure

Please send a resume, cover letter and the names of 3 references by fax, email, mail or in person to:

Bonnie Sutherland

PO Box 2202 Halifax, NS B3J 3C4 or Fax (902) 429-5263 Email jobs@nsnt.ca

Application deadline: May 31, 2009

Start Date: June 29 (some flexibility)

Salary: \$30,000-\$36,000. We greatly appreciate your interest in applying for this greatly valued and central position at the Nature Trust, and thank you for your time and interest. Only applicants who are successful in obtaining an interview will be contacted.

E5.

Ecology Action Centre Office Coordinator Job Posting

The Ecology Action Centre, established in 1971, is Nova Scotia's largest and most active environmental organization. We are seeking a full-time Office Coordinator. The position is a 14 month educational leave replacement. Overview of the Position: This position is central to the effective functioning of the Ecology Action Centre. It reports to the Internal Director and works closely with all core staff. EAC Office Coordinator Responsibilities: In addition to supporting the overall functioning of the Ecology Action Centre and other duties as required, the Office Coordinator has four primary areas of responsibility: *Office maintenance & information management* involves ensuring the smooth functioning of the centre and maintaining a welcoming space for staff

and volunteers. This includes organizing and maintaining the physical space, office systems and general communications; ensuring a smoothly functioning IT system; and orienting new staff and volunteers on office procedures. *Financial record keeping *responsibilities are in close collaboration with our Financial Director and fall into the category of general bookkeeping, such as petty cash reconciliations, processing memberships and donations, tax receipting, data entry and invoicing. *Volunteer coordination *managing our team of Front Desk volunteers; attracting, appreciating, and managing volunteers; coordinating volunteer tasks; and working closely with the Volunteer Committee.*Acting as the public face at EAC* coordinating our response to public inquiries and visitors; and assisting with other membership and outreach activities.

***Skills Required**

- * Excellent organizational skills
- * Creativity and ability to take initiative
- * Excellent interpersonal communication skills
- * Friendly, outgoing, detail oriented, energetic, motivated, team orientated, conscientious, and with a sense of humour.
- * Environmentally concerned with knowledge of and desire to inform the public on environmental issues (preferred).

*Start Date: *June 22, 2009

*End Date: *early September 2010

*Hours and Wage: *35 hours/week at \$15/hour; this position *receives four weeks paid vacation per year and is eligible for EAC's staff benefits package.

Location: Halifax, Nova Scotia

*Application Deadline: *May 26, 2009 at 4:00pm

*Application: * Please e-mail cover letter, resume and contact information for two references to Maggy Burns, EAC Internal Director at centre@ecologyaction.ca <<mailto:info@ecologyaction.ca>> <<mailto:info@ecologyaction.ca>>

F. Volunteer Opportunities / HelpWanted

F1.

The Nature Conservancy of Canada Conservation Volunteer Events

This summer, The Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) will be hosting a series of four Conservation Volunteer Events in NS. These are one-day events in which volunteers help perform on-the-ground stewardship at one of NCC's properties. The days we have planned for this year include things such as a Loon survey, a Waterfowl survey and trail maintenance days. All the events will have an educational aspect, with talks from local environmental professionals and/or biologists. All the information for the events, as well as online registration forms, can be found at www.conservationvolunteers.ca. For further information, please contact Kendra MacDonald at (902) 480-3608 or kendra.macdonald@natureconservancy.ca.

F2.

Green Party of Nova Scotia Looking for Candidates

Nova Scotians go to the polls on June 9, and the Green Party of Nova Scotia is searching for candidates to round out our team. The Green Party is a means for us to raise the bar for politics in Nova Scotia. We can do better for our communities and families. We can do more for our environment. We can transform our economy into the strong green economy of the future. In this election we aim to give every voter in Nova Scotia the chance to cast a ballot for the Green Party. If you support this work and would like to help us reach that goal, please get in touch by email at ryan@ryanwatson.ca or by phone at the number below.

Thank you,

Ryan Watson

Leader

Green Party of Nova Scotia

<http://www.greenparty.ns.ca>

902.482.6100

G. Funding & Awards

G1.

Awards: Ducks Unlimited Canada seeks wetland leaders

When it comes to what is on people's minds these days, the environment is close to the top of the list. Wetlands play an important role in a healthy environment from providing habitat and breeding ground for the continent's waterfowl population to helping filter the water we drink. There are many Nova Scotians who recognize the value of wetlands and are working to conserve them. So who are these people? That's what Ducks Unlimited Canada wants to find out.

"Ducks Unlimited Canada knows there are many people in NS that work tirelessly to conserve our wetlands," says Neil Downey, president of Ducks Unlimited Canada. "We want to thank these dedicated people and showcase their efforts to all Nova Scotians."

You can call them the stewards of the land or the unsung heroes of the earth. It could be the farmer who manages his land to enhance livestock and wildlife productivity, the environmental group that works together to restore a wetland, or a youth group that works to clean up a wetland area. Maybe it's the company that chooses to conserve wetlands in their operating areas or the volunteer who plans events to bring awareness of wetland values to the community. These are people in this province who are making a difference in wetlands conservation.

If you know a person or organization that has made an outstanding contribution to protect and preserve Nova Scotia's wetlands, nominate them for the 2009 Lieutenant Governor's Greenwing Conservation Award. The nomination deadline is June 15, 2009. Please find the nomination criteria and form attached.

This award recognizes those who have demonstrated leadership in a project or activity that has contributed to the public awareness of conserving wetlands for the benefit of waterfowl, wildlife, and people. The award is sponsored by Ducks Unlimited Canada and presented by the Honourable Mayann Francis, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia. More info:

Kelly MacDonald

Marketing and Communications Coordinator

Ducks Unlimited Canada, Atlantic

Office: (902) 667-8726 ext 226

Mobile: (902) 694-0151

www.ducks.ca

Active by nature.

G2.

\$1 billion Community Adjustment Fund (CAF, part of Canada's Economic Action Plan)

Recently announced to assist natural resource-reliant communities to identify and pursue new economic activities. The Atlantic Regional allocation is \$100.4 million. The CAF will support such projects as science and technology initiatives, community transition plans that foster economic development and other measures that promote economic diversification. Projects must be completed by March 31, 2011. Funding priority will be given to projects in rural, single-industry communities that: Generate immediate employment; Create the most near-term employment per dollar of federal investment; Leverage funds from provinces, territories and other funding partners; Build on partnership arrangements already in place and existing programs; and Provide a legacy of longer-term ecological and/or economic benefits. Organizations eligible to apply for funding under CAF include: Non-profit organizations; Post-secondary institutions; Individuals, for purposes of undertaking research, or those engaged in operating a business; Co-operatives; Small-and-medium sized commercial, duly incorporated, for-profit enterprises; First Nations governments; Provincial government departments, agencies and Crown corporations; and Municipal Governments and organizations created by them. Individuals interested in learning how to apply for funding under the Community Adjustment Fund are encouraged to contact their local Regional Development Authority. For more information on the Community Adjustment Fund application process, visit:

Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency:

www.acoa-apeca.gc.ca / 1-800-561-7862

G3.

Ecology Action Centre's Annual Awards nomination deadline is June 1

It's that time of year again to nominate ecologically-notable people or groups (good or bad) for the Ecology Action Centre's Annual Awards:

- * The Sunshine Award
- * Tarred Duck Award
- * Bubby Mooers Award
- * Tooker Gomberg Award

Be sure to include the following information:

- Person/Group being nominated
- Award they are nominated for
- Description of why they deserve the award (max 150 words)

Please send your nominations by June 1.

More information on each award and how to nominate may be found at:

www.ecologyaction.ca/content/annual-awards

H. News

H1.

Canada's Disappearing Farmland by by Tanya Brouwers

Canada is a nation of vast spaces and varied terrain. Nationwide, however, this seemingly endless land base has limited agricultural potential. In fact, 94% of Canada's lands are unsuitable for farming. Of that small percentage of land that will support agricultural endeavours only 0.5% is designated as class 1, where there are no significant limitations to farming activity. Unfortunately, due to urbanization, poor farming practices and other non-agricultural activities, this small percentage of viable farmland is shrinking at an alarming rate. Statistics Canada, for example, reported that between 1971 and 2001, over 14,000 square kilometres of our best agricultural land had been permanently lost to urban uses. Read more:

http://www.oacc.info/NewspaperArticles/na_disappearing_farmland_tb.asp

H2.

Professor Anthony Costello: climate change biggest threat to humans (Health & Climate Change)

From The Times

May 14, 2009

Sam Lister, Health Editor

Climate change poses the biggest threat to human health in the 21st century but its full impact is not being grasped by the healthcare community or policymakers, a medical report concludes.

The report, compiled by a commission of academics from University College London and published in The Lancet, warns that climate change risks huge death tolls caused by disease, food and water shortages and poor sanitation. The authors said that the NHS would face serious incremental pressures from heat and hygiene-related illnesses because of increasingly hot summers, greater pathogen spread with warmer temperatures, and the heightened risk of flooding.

Professor Anthony Costello, a paediatrician and director of UCL Institute for Global Health, said that he had not realised the full ramifications of climate change on health until 18 months ago.

Describing the threat as a "clear and present danger" that would affect billions of lives, he said that the world needed a 21st-century public health movement to deal with climate change. He added that failure to act will result in future generations feeling the same moral outrage as is felt today towards those "who brought in and did nothing to stop slavery".

"The big message of this report is that climate change is a health issue affecting billions of people, not just an environmental issue about polar bears and deforestation," Professor Costello, the commission leader, said. "The impacts will be felt not just in the UK, but all around the world — and not just in some distant future but in our lifetimes and those of our children."

The UCL Lancet Commission focused on six areas for their report, Managing the health effects of climate change: patterns of disease and mortality, food security, water and sanitation, shelter and human settlements, extreme events, and population migration.

The commission considered a number of ways that climate change could affect health. Changing patterns of disease and mortality would emerge in a greater rate of transmission and geographic spread of traditionally tropical endemic diseases such as malaria and dengue fever.

Heat will also have a serious effect on mortality, as will food and water security, with scientists predicting that crop yields could drop by 17 per cent with a 1C change in temperature.

Professor Costello said that the health lobby "had come to the issue late and should be saying more".

The commission said that there was the need for health leaders to join the debate on mitigation strategies — policies aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions to tackle climate change — and emphasise the importance of action. It added that there must be a focus on health systems, in particular the inequalities between developed and developing nations, and a drive by healthcare professionals to outline how adopting low-carbon lifestyles can improve human health, reducing obesity, heart and lung disease, diabetes and stress.

"We believe that all the main players — health, political, scientific, technological, and civil society must come together," Professor Costello said. "We have laid out a framework for action, and we have called for a collation of information on the health effects of climate change. We need a new 21st-century public health movement to deal with climate change."

An international team of researchers, led by Professor Sir Andrew Haines from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, is investigating the potential health benefits of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The results of the study will inform the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in December this year.

Professor Mark Maslin, director of UCL's Environment Institute and a co-author, said that it should act as "Stern Report for Health and for medics", in reference to the economic review of climate change conducted by Sir Nicholas Stern.

Richard Horton, the editor of The Lancet, added: "This really hasn't been an issue on the table for anyone in health over the last 10 years. They must take a leading part in this debate."

H3.

Canadians rank near bottom of 'green' survey

Updated Wed. May. 13 2009 5:59 PM ET

CTV.ca News Staff

Once again, Canadians rank almost at the bottom of the National Geographic Society's annual survey on consumer behaviors that impact the environment. Among consumers in 17 countries in the "Greendex" survey, Canadians came in second last, trailing slightly behind consumers in the United States. That's despite many improvements average Canadian consumers have made in the last year to "go green."

Indians scored the highest overall ranking, getting a Greendex score of 59.5. Brazilians came in second at 57.3. U.S. consumers had the lowest score at 43.7, with Canadians second-worst at 47.5.

The "Greendex" ranks consumers in 17 countries around the world according to the impact of their choices in such areas as housing, transportation, food and consumer goods.

About 17,000 consumers were polled online (1,000 in each country) by international polling firm GlobeScan, and earned a score out of 100, reflecting the environmental impact of their consumption patterns.

Consumption was determined both by the choices consumers actively made -- such as repairing rather than replacing items, choosing green products rather than environmentally unfriendly ones -- and choices that are controlled more by their circumstances, such as the climate they live in or the availability of public transport.

Canada's ranking suffered in large part due to our big homes. But the report also says Canadians, Russians and Argentineans are "more likely than others to have sealed drafts in their homes, installed thermal windows, or installed or upgraded insulation this past year."

Our perpetual love affair with large cars and SUVs and resistance to use public transit also pulled our ranking down. Canadians ranked among the lowest in public transit use, with just 22 per cent saying they use it at least once a week.

"Car and truck ownership is above the 17-country average (86 per cent compared with 74 per cent) and, of those who drive, Canadians are among the most likely to drive large vehicles," the survey found.

"Canadians have the third highest rate of driving alone most days (56 per cent)."

Consumers in developing countries, in contrast, tend to live closer to work and use more environmentally friendly transportation, such as walking, cycling, and public transportation.

On the food sub-index, Canadian consumers ranked ninth. While we reported above average beef consumption (37 per cent consume beef several times a week), that was mitigated somewhat by high levels of eating locally grown foods (again, 37 per cent do that several times a week). Also, Canadians are above-average in their consumption of fruits and vegetables, and well below average in their use of bottled water.

The survey found that while environmental concerns were motivators in consumers adopting more environmentally sustainable behavior over the past year, a bigger motivator was cost.

Greendex 2009 Overall Scores (2008 scores in brackets)

Indians 59.5 (58.0)
Brazilians 57.3 (58.6)
Chinese 56.7 (55.2)
Argentineans 54.7 (NA)
South Koreans 54.6 (NA)
Mexicans 53.8 (52.7)
Hungarians 53.3 (51.7)
Russians 52.0 (51.1)
Spanish 51.4 (48.0)
Germans 51.1 (48.1)
Swedes 51.1 (NA)
Australians 50.5 (47.8)
French 49.5 (46.5)
British 49.4 (48.2)
Japanese 49.3 (47.4)
Canadians 47.5 (46.3)
Americans 43.7 (42.4)

H4.

Federal Court orders publication of all mining pollution data

Friday, April 24, 2009

cbcnews.ca

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2009/04/24/court-mining-pollution865.html>

The Harper government must report in a national public database all the pollution being produced by mining companies, a Federal Court judge ruled Thursday.

The National Pollutant Release Inventory (NPRI), created in 1993, details all the industrial and commercial pollutants released into the air, water and land in Canada.

Since 2006, NPRI has also required that all pollutants released during mining activities must be reported. Some of the waste found in tailings and waste rock — including mercury, sulphuric acid and arsenic — is deemed toxic by law and must be reported in the NPRI.

But due to the government's interpretation of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA), the NPRI has not included the pollutants present in the tailings and waste rock produced during the extraction of ore.

In Thursday's ruling, Justice James Russell said the government "erred" in its interpretation of the law.

In his ruling, Russell wrote that "it is clearly unsatisfactory that such an important part of the pollution picture in Canada is not being reported to the public under CEPA."

Environment Minister Jim Prentice said the government will comply with the court's ruling.

Ecojustice, formerly known as the Sierra Legal Defence Fund, had filed suit against the government in 2007 on behalf of two environmental groups, Great Lakes United and Mining Watch Canada. The suit alleged the government broke the law by failing to collect the pollutant information and publish it in the NPRI.

Prentice and a consortium of mining companies had fought against publishing the information in the NPRI, but conceded that the public should know which chemicals are present in waste rock and tailings. Both groups called for the establishment for a separate database that would detail this information.

Their discussions to establish such a record had gone on for 16 years without yielding results, a pace Russell called "glacial." He said there "is still no clear indication from the minister as to how and when this important information is going to be gathered and provided to the Canadian public."

Ruling praised

Russell's ruling was praised by the two environmental groups that brought the suit.

"Canadians living in places like Sudbury, with mining operations in their backyards, were blindfolded while millions of kilograms of carcinogens and heavy metals accumulated in tailings ponds and waste rock piles across the country," John Jackson of Great Lakes United said in a statement.

"With this decision, the blindfold comes off and citizens can truly hold these companies to account for their pollution and the environmental and health dangers they pose."

But the executive director of the Chamber of Mineral Resources in Newfoundland and Labrador — which produces between 10 and 12 per cent of all of Canada's minerals — disagreed.

Gerry O'Connell told CBC News on Friday that tailings and waste rock are "not a major source of pollution. It's material that's simply removed in the process of mining to get at the ore. So waste rock could hardly be considered pollution. It would be same as a rock cut on the highway."

Jamie Kneen of Mining Watch Canada agreed that the material is naturally occurring, but said it is made hazardous after being brought to the surface and processed.

Metal mine tailings and waste rock accounted for 27 per cent of all pollutants produced in the United States in 2007, according to the Toxic Release Inventory, the U.S. equivalent of the NPRI.

I. Resources

I1.

Stephen Lewis and Margaret Atwood Nova Scotia Nature Trust Speeches DVDs now available

Nature Trust dinner presentations and speeches by the acclaimed Stephen Lewis and Margaret Atwood, are now produced on dvd for sale by the Nature Trust. \$12. Please order at 425 5263 or nature@nsnt.ca

I2.

Canada's Sustainable Sushi Guide NEW!

Check it our here: <http://www.seachoice.org/page/guides>

I3.

Dr. Woerlen's talk "Germany's Renewable Energy Policies" on CREST's You Tube channel.

http://www.youtube.com/view_play_list?p=69E908A8C3C9528F

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NSEN : Connecting for a Sustainable Future