

Green Roots Symposium

Community Action on Sustainability, Education and Partnerships

Friday, March 26, 2010 & Saturday, March 27, 2010 at the Prince George Hotel, Halifax, Nova Scotia

Overview

Nova Scotians are invited to attend the *Green Roots Symposium*, an exciting provincial gathering dedicated to sustainability in Nova Scotia with a focus on education and partnerships. This symposium is a collaborative effort of the Nova Scotia Department of Environment (NSE), the Nova Scotia Department of Education, and SENSE: Sustainability Education in Nova Scotia for Everyone Working Group. *Green Roots* will encompass two events running concurrently: the Third Annual SENSE Symposium and a celebration of the work done by community groups, which is sponsored by Nova Scotia Department of Environment.

Background

This year marks the half-way point in the United Nations' Decade (2005-2014) on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). Canada signed on and committed to advancing sustainability across the country. In Nova Scotia, the province has launched many important sustainability initiatives including: The *Environmental Goals & Sustainable Prosperity Act*; the Ministers' Roundtable on the Environment & Sustainability Prosperity (NSE); working under the Council of Ministers of Education Canada to develop an Education for Sustainable Development Framework for Collaboration and Action; the creation of the *Second Nature* web site, which focuses on the province's vision for the environment and the economy, and the provincial Sustainable Procurement Program.

Keynote

- Albert Marshall, Elder Advisor to the Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources and the Institute for Integrative Science at Cape Breton University who will speak about "*Etuaptmumk* (Two-Eyed Seeing): A Guiding Principle for Sustainability"

Themes & Goals

- Planning ways forward on the sustainability path by building on our strengths and exploring opportunities for greater partnerships
- Showcasing successes and organizations using best practices for sustainability education and partnerships
- Linking sustainability initiatives to schools and communities
- Contributing to provincial sustainability education and partnership initiatives

Target Audiences

- Teachers & Educators
- Sustainability Coordinators and businesses pursuing sustainability
- Environmental non-governmental organizations
- Community groups, youth and individuals

Cost

The cost for the 2-day Green Roots symposium is \$20. If cost is a barrier to attendance, please contact us. **Please note that advance registration is required.**

Sponsors

The Symposium is sponsored by the Nova Scotia Department of Environment, the Nova Scotia Department of Education and the Nova Scotia Environmental Network. SENSE's work is also sponsored by the Nova Scotia Teachers' Union, Sage Environment Foundation, and the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources.

Contacts

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Friday, March 26		
12:30 – 1:15 pm	External tour of the NSCC Waterfront Campus & Center for the Built Environment NSCC Waterfront Campus - Room 4426, 80 Mawiomi Place, Dartmouth (Please RSVP to SENSE: esd_novascotia@lsf-1st.ca)	
1:30-4:30 pm	Moving Education for Sustainable Development Forward in Nova Scotia: Strategy Session. NSCC Waterfront Campus - Room 4426, 80 Mawiomi Place, Dartmouth (Limited seating. Please RSVP to SENSE: esd_novascotia@lsf-1st.ca)	
5:30 – 6:00 pm	Conference Registration	
6:00-6:15 pm	Welcome	
6:15-7:15 pm	Mindshift– Inspiring, award-winning youth presentation on shifting school culture toward environmental sustainability	
7:15-8:30 pm	Meet & Greet - wine and cheese event highlighting successes and best practices	
Saturday, March 27		
8:30-9:00 am	Conference Registration	
9:00-9:15 am	Welcome & Introductions	
9:15-10:15 am	Mi'kmaq Elder Albert Marshall “Etuaptmunk (Two-Eyed Seeing): A Guiding Principle for Sustainability”	
10:15-10:30 am	Break	
10:30-11:30 am	Sustainability in Practice: Municipal Examples (Richard MacLellan, HRM & Dayle Eschelby, Town of Lockeport)	Citizen-Based Science: Collaborative Stewardship Initiatives (Sarah Weston, Community-Based Environmental Monitoring Network - Saint Mary's University; Brennan Caverhill, Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute; and Patty King, Fishermen & Scientists Research Society)
11:30 am - 12:30 pm	Keynote Lunch with NS Environment Minister Sterling Belliveau	
12:30 -1:15 pm	Believe in Tomorrow: ESD in Formal Education (Marilyn Webster, NS Department of Education)	Making Your Voice Heard: Environmental Assessment 101 (Peter Geddes, NS Environment)
1:15-2:00 pm	Provincial Priorities (Rick Williams, NS Office of Policy and Priorities)	
2:00 – 2:15 pm	Break	
2:15-3:15 pm	Community University Partnerships (Dr. Alan Warner, Acadia University and Professor Steven Mannell, College of Sustainability, Dalhousie University)	Beyond the Bottom Line: Businesses & Sustainability (Lil McPherson, BALLE)
3:15-4:00 pm	Looking Ahead: Moderated Session on Working with Government	
4:00-4:30 pm	Stepping Forward for a Sustainable Future: Closing Remarks (Tamara Lorincz, NSEN; Bill Turpin, NS Environment; and Marilyn Webster, NS Department of Education)	