

RCEN e-Bulletin – February 3rd, 2010 Edition

Network News

Mark Your Calendars: the RCEN's 2010 Conference is this September 17-19!

The RCEN is pleased to announce that its 2010 Annual General Assembly and Conference on the Environment will be held in Montreal, from September 17-19.

The theme of this year's event is "Conserving Biodiversity Pays: The Values of Ecosystem Services". The organizing committee is working hard to deliver an even bigger and better event than last year's successful AGA in Edmonton! We'll be in touch with more details soon. In the meantime, visit our 2010 Annual Conference webpage to learn more about this year's theme: <http://www.cen-rce.org/AGA/2010/index.html>.

Attention Biodiversity Fans - Bookmark this Site

We are pleased to announce the launch of the RCEN's [International Year of Biodiversity \(IYB\) website](#). The site features a regularly updated news feed, with the latest information from Environment Canada, the Convention on Biological Diversity and other interesting articles. The new website also includes links to biodiversity and IYB-related information, educational resources and materials produced by the RCEN, such as the Best Practices Handbook. You can also sign up for our Biodiversity Buzz newsletter!

Biodiversity Hotspot # 1: Meat eating plants and over 50 species of butterflies—in Northern Ontario!? [Read more](#)

If you wish to share a story about a biodiversity hotspot in your area, please send a short paragraph to jessie@cen-rce.org.

Last chance to tell us what you think of the RCEN website

The RCEN is currently conducting an evaluation of its website and e-Bulletin. Please take 5-7 minutes to share your feedback and ideas so that we can improve our online presence and serve you better. [Complete the survey...](#)

Calls for Delegates

ENGO Participation in International Biodiversity Day Activities

The RCEN has been invited by Environment Canada to select thirteen lead environmental NGO groups in each province and territory to carry out outreach and education activities for the International Day for Biodiversity (IDB) on May 22, 2010. This year's IDB theme is "Biodiversity, Development and Poverty Alleviation"; however, activities are not limited to this theme. Selected ENGOs will collaborate with the RCEN Biodiversity Caucus and Environment Canada's Ecosystems and Biodiversity Priorities Division to: prepare IDB Outreach plans; carry out outreach and education activities based on outreach plans; write a final report on completed outreach and education activities. The ENGO delegates will be compensated \$1250 for participation in two teleconferences and the development and implementation of the Outreach

Plans, and \$200 to write the final report. The deadline for applications is February 22, 2010. [More information](#)

ENGO and Youth Delegates to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade has invited the RCEN to select one ENGO and one youth delegate to participate in the official Canadian delegation to the eighteenth and nineteenth sessions of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-18/19). The first meeting of this two-year cycle (CSD-18) is scheduled to take place from May 3-14, 2010 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. As a review session, CSD-18 is tasked with identifying barriers and constraints, lessons learned and best practices in implementation in the thematic cluster of transport, chemicals, waste management, mining and the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production. The delegates will also be expected to participate in the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting and CSD-19. The deadline for applications is February 8, 2010. [More information](#)

Call for Participation

CSD Outreach Session on Transport, Chemicals, Waste Management, Mining and SCP

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada is organizing an outreach session with civil society representatives to inform the Canadian participation at the 18th Session of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-18). The outreach will take place by way of teleconference on February 25th. CSD-18 will be held in New York from May 3 - 14, 2010 and will focus on the themes of Transport, Chemicals, Waste Management, Mining and Sustainable Consumption and Production. Your organization's participation in the outreach session will provide the opportunity to discuss Canadian priorities, which at the federal level, are being developed through an interdepartmental committee composed of lead federal departments. The deadline for application is February 15, 2010. [More information](#)

Announcements

Celebrate International Year of Biodiversity with Environment Canada's "Nature Matters! Contest"

Part of Environment Canada's celebration of the 2010 International Year of Biodiversity (IYB) is the national Nature Matters! Contest. Until February 28, Canadians between the ages of 9 and 35 are invited to submit written or video essays that answer the following question: "Why is nature important to you?" Six grand-prize winners will be invited to Ottawa to attend the Grand Reopening Event of the Canadian Museum of Nature, on International Biodiversity Day, May 22. All grand-prize winning essays will be displayed at the Biosphere in Montreal during 2010, while grand-prize winning and runner-up essays will be published on the website of the Canadian Biodiversity Information Network. Also, these essays will be announced through Environment Canada's network of national education and environment organizations, reaching well over one million people. For full contest details, please visit:

www.cbin.ec.gc.ca/nature/concourscontest.cfm?lang=eng

Nature Canada's Reaction to the Mackenzie Gas Report

The future of the mighty Mackenzie River – and the pipeline megaproject that threatens to forever change it – has become clearer, with the release of a long-anticipated environmental assessment report. A Joint Review Panel, tasked by the government to report on the environmental, socio-economic and cultural effects of the Mackenzie Gas Project, released its findings December 30,

2009, over two years after the panel's hearings ended in 2007. The panel concluded that if all of its 176 recommendations were fully implemented, the project would likely be beneficial and have no significant adverse impacts. Visit http://www.naturecanada.ca/enews_jan10_mackenzie.asp to read about Nature Canada's reaction to the Report.

Call for Articles: Innovation in Environmental Education

Alternatives Journal is looking for articles for the next annual Education issue, and you are invited to submit story ideas that explore every angle of environmental education. How has environmental education changed in today's increasingly accessible world? What should be a part of every person's educational background, but currently isn't? How do applied skills such as farming, gardening, and building complement more theoretical environmental learning methods? Story ideas for this issue could answer these questions, or they could involve a critique of the current education system in Canada, and propose ways to improve it. The deadline for submissions is February 15, 2010. Visit <http://www.alternativesjournal.ca/call-for-queries-innovation-in-education> for more information.

Environmental Photographer of the Year 2010 Competition

The Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management's Environmental Photographer of the Year competition is one of the fastest growing photographic competitions in the world. This is a serious competition that seeks to celebrate photographers who use their ability to raise awareness of environmental and social issues. It is open to all professional and amateur international photographers of any ages and encourages entries that are contemporary, creative, experimental, resonant, original and beautiful. Winners receive cash prizes, and all winning and highly commended entries are displayed in the international Environmental Photographer of the Year exhibitions. The deadline for submissions is July 31, 2010. For more information, visit <http://www.ciwem.org/arts/photographer>.

Delegate Selection - Workshop on Canada's Engagement in the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership

The RCEN has selected ENGO delegates for a workshop organized by Environment Canada on Canada's engagement in the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Global Mercury Partnership. The workshop will be held in Gatineau, QC on February 8th. The four in-person delegates are: Fe de Leon, Canadian Environmental Law Association; Anna Tilman, IICPH and STORM; Kapil Khatter, Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment; and Julie Sommerfreund, Pollution Probe. The five teleconference delegates are: Sandra Madray, Chemical Sensitivities Manitoba; Sandra Boswell, Allergy & Environmental Illness Group; John Werring, David Suzuki Foundation; Daniel Green, Sierra Club – Quebec Chapter; and David Boehm, Friends of Cathedral Grove. [More information](#)

Resources

CPAWS - Call for Nominations for J.B. Harkin Conservation Award

Do you know someone who has contributed significantly to conservation in his or her life? A person whose achievements deserve recognition? The Society for parks and nature of Canada (SNAP) wants to know! The J.B. Harkin Medal is Canada's most prestigious conservation award. It is presented by CPAWS to individuals who have made a significant life-long contribution to the conservation of Canada's parks and wilderness. The award is named for James Bernard Harkin,

Canada's 1st Commissioner of National Parks. Nominations will be accepted until March 1, 2010. Learn more about the award at cpaws.org.

Harmony Foundation's New Educational Presentation, *Troubled Waters*

Harmony Foundation of Canada recently released a new educational presentation, entitled *Troubled Waters*. This 27 minute, narrated multimedia presentation examines freshwater issues of global importance and inspires local action through examples of grassroots leaders working to protect and conserve fresh water in communities around the world. *Troubled Waters* is a valuable and easy to use educational tool, informing community leaders and concerned citizens about the importance of responsible water stewardship and inspiring cooperative local action. The presentation as well as an accompanying presenter's guide is available as a free download at: www.harmonyfdn.ca/troubledwaters.

ENGO Report: Bisphenol A Proposed Regulations Consultation

The environmental NGO consolidated report from the Bisphenol A Proposed Regulations Consultation is now online. The consultation, organized by Environment Canada to discuss the proposed regulatory provisions to limit the concentration of Bisphenol A released from industrial final effluent, took place on November 27, 2009 in Toronto. [Read the ENGO report](#)

Employment

Living Oceans Society - Energy & Climate Change Campaign Manager

Living Oceans Society is looking for a committed Campaign Manager to play a catalytic role in ensuring that the BC marine environment is protected from the harmful impacts of tankers, oil and gas development and climate change. The Energy & Climate Change Campaign Manager is responsible for initiating, developing and implementing annual campaign strategies and work plans. Candidates should have well-developed strategic and analytic abilities; post secondary education in marine biology or related fields; and at least two years of successful campaign or project management experience. This position is based in Vancouver or Sointula, B.C. The deadline for applications is February 8, 2010. Visit <http://www.livingoceans.org/about/employment.aspx> for more information.

Cape Jourimain Nature Centre - Executive Director

Cape Jourimain Nature Centre, located in southeast New Brunswick, is seeking an Executive Director to manage the operation of this major environmental organization. Responsibilities include: the development and implementation of strategic and operational plans and programs; supervision of a seasonal staff of 20-25; raising funds; marketing and program promotion; and maintaining financial responsibility. The ideal candidate will be bilingual (English and French) and should have: five years of senior management experience, including two years in a non-profit organization; superior interpersonal, organizational, analytical, and problem-solving skills; demonstrated ability to lead and motivate teams; and demonstrated fundraising success. The deadline for applications is February 13, 2010. For more information, visit <http://www.capejourimain.ca/english/about/>.