

RCEN e-Bulletin – March 3rd, 2010 Edition

Network News

RCEN Corporate Social Responsibility Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue

From March 3-4, the RCEN will be coordinating a multi-stakeholder dialogue on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in Ottawa. In addition to the one-day dialogue, this project will help create a discussion paper on CSR in the extractive sector from a Canadian ENGO perspective. It will also permit members of our International Program Caucus to meet in order to develop a Canadian ENGO approach to promoting CSR to support sustainable livelihoods. [More](#)

Youth Caucus Announces Mission and Mandate

The RCEN Youth Caucus is happy to announce its new [mission and mandate](#), as chosen by members of its steering committee and other youth involved in the caucus' activities. The new mission is *to support Canadian youth by facilitating and promoting opportunities for them to meaningfully engage in environmental and sustainability initiatives.*

The caucus has also released its Youth Mini-Consultation Report, which identifies the strengths and areas for improvement in the national youth environmental movement. [Read the Report](#)

Biodiversity Hotspot: Phytoplankton! The Foundation of the Ocean Food Chain

Marine phytoplankton are tiny unicellular marine creatures, of which there are about 5000 different species. Like plants, they use photosynthesis and minerals dissolved in the water to produce energy. Each individual phytoplankton is too small to be seen with the human eye but together they form blooms visible from space. [More](#)

RCEN 2010 Annual Conference

[“Conserving Biodiversity Pays: The Values of Ecosystem Services”](#)

September 17-19, Montreal, QC

Calls for Delegates

Last Day to Apply: Health Canada's Food Regulatory Advisory Committee

Health Canada has invited the RCEN to select one ENGO delegate to participate in the Food Regulatory Advisory Committee (FRAC). This multi-stakeholder committee will provide Health Canada's Food Directorate (FD) with broad expert strategic policy advice on the safety of food products. The FRAC will also provide advice on matters relating to strategic planning, priority-setting and environmental scanning of issues related to food safety, nutritional quality or other issues related to the FD's mandate. It is anticipated that the committee will meet twice a year and that the first meeting will occur in May 2010. The deadline for applications is March 3, 2010. [More information](#)

Consultation on Pollution Prevention Planning Notice in respect to Toluene Diisocyanates

The RCEN has been invited by Environment Canada to select two ENGO delegates to participate

in a consultation to discuss the development of the proposed Pollution Prevention Planning Notice for the Urethane and Miscellaneous Foam Sector, with focus on Toluene Diisocyanates (TDI). The consultation will take place on March 22nd in Ottawa. This consultation will focus on key elements that will be considered in the development of a proposed Pollution Prevention Planning instrument for the urethane and miscellaneous foam sector (excluding polystyrene), with particular interest on TDI and on technical requirements that persons subject to the Notice will need to consider when developing and implementing their pollution prevention plans. The deadline to apply is March 7, 2010. [More information](#)

Parks Canada's National Assessment of Mountain Biking

Parks Canada has invited the RCEN to select three ENGO delegates to participate in their National Assessment of Mountain Biking, which will take place in Ottawa from March 23-25. The purpose of this assessment is to develop national guidelines regarding various mountain biking practices in national parks, marine conservation areas and national historic sites. Close to 40 participants will attend the workshop, including Parks Canada staff representing different fields of expertise, field specialists, partners, mountain biking groups and associations, equipment suppliers, companies who manage the activity and ENGOs. The deadline for applications is March 8, 2010. [More information](#)

Researcher-Writer and Editor for an ENGO Paper on the CBD Strategic Plan

Environment Canada has invited the RCEN to coordinate the development of a Preliminary analysis of draft Strategic Plan of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) from a Canadian environmental non-governmental perspective. The paper, to be completed in March 2010, will explore the strengths, weaknesses and gaps of the draft Strategic Plan and include a preliminary analysis of the draft Plan from a Canadian ENGO perspective. The ENGO Researcher-Writer will be compensated \$750 and the ENGO Editor will be compensated \$250. The deadline to apply is March 12th, 2010. [More information](#)

ENGO International Year of Biodiversity Champions

The RCEN is seeking one ENGO delegate from each province and territory (except New Brunswick and Nova Scotia), as well as one youth and one aboriginal delegate to be International Year of Biodiversity (IYB) Champions. Throughout 2010, the selected IYB Champions will: participate in two teleconferences; prepare a short report on what work ENGOs in their region or constituencies are doing on biodiversity; and promote IYB, and biodiversity activities in their region or within their constituencies. The ENGO IYB Champions will be compensated \$350 for the work, which must be completed by early 2011. The deadline to apply is March 17, 2010. [More information](#)

Other Calls

Public Consultation Draft – Regulations for Municipal Wastewater Effluent

Environment Canada has prepared a draft of regulations for municipal wastewater effluent (*Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations - WSER*) for public consultation. The public consultation draft of the regulations include national effluent standards and provide regulatory clarity for rules on reporting for owners of municipal, community, federal and Aboriginal wastewater systems across Canada. When finalized, the regulations would be a key component in implementing the *Canada-wide Strategy for the Management of Municipal Wastewater* that

was endorsed by the Canadian Council of Minister of the Environment in 2009. To access the draft, please visit <http://www.ec.gc.ca/>.

Announcements

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 March 14th, 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. For full contest details, please visit: <http://www.cbin.ec.gc.ca/nature/concours-contest.cfm?lang=eng>.

Earth Day Canada – Hometown Heroes Award Program

They overcome environmental obstacles. They engage others in support of a sustainable community. You may know them as a neighbour, friend or local volunteer group, but to Earth Day Canada, they're Hometown Heroes working to support a healthier environment. The Hometown Heroes Award Program, established by Earth Day Canada in 2004, recognizes and celebrates environmental leaders, whether an individual, group or organization, who foster meaningful, long-term community awareness and action. Heroic candidates can win either the Individual Hometown Heroes Award or the Group Hometown Heroes Award. Nominate yourself, an individual or group from your community by April 22nd, 2010. For more information, visit <http://www.earthday.ca/hometown/>.

Delegate Selection – ENGO Contributors to IYB Information Kit

The RCEN has selected two ENGO delegates to contribute to the development of an International Year of Biodiversity Information Kit. The selected delegates are: Mark Purdon, R.E.A.P. Canada and Gabrielle Kretzschmar, New Brunswick Partners in Agriculture. [More information](#)

Delegate Selection – Delegates to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development

The RCEN has selected delegates to participate in the official Canadian delegation to the eighteenth and nineteenth sessions of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development. The selected ENGO delegate is Emmanuel Prinnet, One Earth Initiative (Alternate: Carolyn Webb, CIELAP). The selected Youth delegate is Stephanie Levy, Evergreen/RCEN Youth Caucus (Alternate: Railii Lakanen, Sierra Youth Coalition). [More information](#)

Resources

NRTEE - Progress through Process: Achieving Sustainable Development Together

Two of Canada's leading national public policy organizations - the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy and the Public Policy Forum – have collaborated to examine how we can reinvigorate our governance processes to make real progress on sustainable development. Over the course of two round table discussions and one-on-one interviews with

some 20 of Canada's leading experts and practitioners in the field, they have together produced a report entitled [Progress Through Process: Achieving Sustainable Development Together](#). It sets out the "Elements of Successful Collaborative Governance for Sustainable Development", and presents four live case studies as examples of collaborative governance processes being tried 'on the ground' with lessons to draw upon.

FCM: New Report on Municipal GHG Reduction Successes

In 2009, the Partners for Climate Protection program gathered and analyzed data on initiatives implemented by municipal governments in Canada to reduce GHG emissions at the corporate and community levels and compiled them in a National Measures Database. The initiatives range from education campaigns to complete building retrofits for energy efficiency and vary from million-dollar projects to low or no-cost solutions. The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) collected data from 16 communities, while ICLEI also gathered data from various sources on 26 other municipal governments' activities. A summary report on the analysis — [Demonstrating Results: Municipal Initiatives for Reducing GHGs](#) — has been released and the results indicate that municipalities are significantly reducing GHG emissions in Canada.

Events

2010 Healthy Schools Day in Canada

The Second annual national Healthy Schools Day in Canada will be on April 26, 2010. It is an important day for Canadians to learn about and to improve school Indoor Environment Quality for both existing schools and new school construction. What would make a difference in your school or schools? The Healthy Schools Day website www.nationalhealthyschoolsday.org has ideas for projects and events, big or small. Projects can include changes to less-toxic cleaning materials or using Canada's Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools Action Kit, or education and awareness events. Please register your events or projects on the Healthy Schools Day web page Project Registry. Healthy Schools don't just "happen"...they need me and you!

Employment

Sustainable Waterloo - Events Manager

Sustainable Waterloo is looking for a talented, passionate and dynamic new team member to act as its Events Manager. The full-time position would offer you the opportunity to plan and deliver environmentally-focused workshops and forums for both Sustainable Waterloo members and the broader business community. This position also entails secondary responsibilities in the areas of community & member relations, as well as office management. As the ideal candidate, you have a passion for environmental issues, community-based leadership, improving the environmental sustainability of Waterloo Region, and multi-sectoral collaboration. The deadline for applications is March 31st, 2010. Visit www.sustainablewaterloo.org/EventMgrJD for more information.

Eagle Point-Blue Rapids Parks Council: Environmental Field Technician / Parks Watch Coordinator

The Eagle Point - Blue Rapids Council (EPBR) is currently seeking candidates to fill two positions within the organization. The Environmental Field Technician position is a rewarding opportunity for a self-motivated, team player with an environmental background, a quantitative aptitude and a passion for outdoor field work. The successful applicant would develop, lead and deliver an innovative environmental program focusing on ecological health and adaptive management by

establishing long-term research plots and benchmarking reclamation efforts within the EPBR System. The Parks Council is also seeking a knowledgeable, passionate and proactive individual to develop, lead and deliver an innovative “Parks Watch Program” for the Eagle Point Provincial Park and Blue Rapids Provincial Recreation Area located just outside of Drayton Valley, Alberta. The deadline for applications is March 12, 2010. For more information, visit <http://www.epbrparkscouncil.org/employment>.