

RCEN E-Bulletin – June 11, 2008 Edition

Network News

Green Business and the RCEN

At the beginning of June, Algonquin College in Ottawa organized an event to launch its [Green Business Management Certificate](#), which was developed to provide green business management training to lead businesses and society in sustainable business practices. The event was attended by Canada's Environment Minister, and a staff member from the RCEN was there to learn more.

At last year's AGM, our National Council voted in favour of a resolution to create an ***Environmental Finance and Entrepreneurship Working Group (EFE-WG)***, whose mandate is to "engage RCEN's membership with the emerging for-profit environmental sector". If you are an RCEN member and would like to participate or learn more about the EFE-WG, please contact Olivier Kolmel (kolmel-at-gmail.com), member of the Board of Directors.

An Environmental Victory for Grassy Narrows First Nation!

Last week, the Grassy Narrows First Nation in Ontario [won a decades-long battle](#) to end logging on their traditional lands when forest-products giant AbitibiBowater announced its decision to stop logging in the area. Several environmental groups campaigning in support of Grassy Narrows noted how this victory underlines the importance of protecting the Boreal Forest and the rights of aboriginal communities across Canada. Over the years, several RCEN members have been campaigning in support of this struggle through various organizations such as the [Canadian Boreal Initiative](#) and the [Taiga Rescue Network](#).

Call for Delegates

Industry and NGO meeting with Australia: views on the Categorization process on existing chemicals under Canada's Chemicals Management Plan

RCEN is seeking two (2) ENGO delegates to participate in a consultation with delegates from the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment (NICNAS), Government of Australia. NGO and industry representatives will engage in discussions on the categorization activity on existing chemicals under [Canada's Chemicals Management Plan](#). In addition to NICNAS, Environment Canada and Health Canada will also participate in the meeting. This call for delegates has been re-issued due to a change in date. The meeting will now take place **Friday, June 27 from 9:00-11:30am (ET)**, with participants outside of Ottawa joining by teleconference. **We are still looking for new candidates**, and encourage all members with experience with the Categorization process on Existing Substances to [apply](#) by Thursday, June 12. For more information, please contact [Leela Ramachandran](#), (613) 728-9810 ext.223.

Other Calls

Call for Students to Join Arctic Expedition

Students on Ice is currently accepting applications for the 2008 International Polar Year Arctic Expedition, taking place August 2-17, 2008. The ship-based program joins students ages 14 to 19

from around the world with a team of 30 world-renowned scientists, environmentalists and polar educators. The experience serves as a powerful platform to create change, inspire, educate, give cause for hope, and raise awareness about the impacts of climate change and other environmental issues facing the Arctic region. Applications are being accepted until all spots are filled. [Click here to apply](#) or for more information on this and other upcoming expeditions.

Action Alerts

Ontario Nature – Speak Out on the Proposed Exemptions to the ESA

On May 15, 2008, the Ontario government posted a long list of exemptions to the province's fledgling Endangered Species Act (ESA) on the Environmental Registry website for a 30-day comment period. Many of the proposed exemptions for industry will undermine the true purpose of the act and will be a huge setback for the protection of endangered species. Reject the exemptions that will hamstring the new ESA before it comes into force. You can view this notice at www.ebr.gov.on.ca. Enter the Registry Number 010-3320. Comment on-line or mail in this postcard. Act now! **The comment period closes on June 16, 2008.** To learn more, visit www.ontarionature.org.

Announcements

Delegate Selection - Consultations on Proposed Amendments to the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER - Schedule 2)

The RCEN has selected four (4) delegates to participate in the consultation on the proposed hydrometallurgical facility in Newfoundland and Labrador, in relation to the proposed amendments to the MMER (Schedule 2). The delegates are: Linda Sheppard Whalen, *Centre for Long-Term Environmental Action in NL*; Catherine Coumans, *MiningWatch Canada*; Daniel Green, *Sierra Club of Canada* and John Werring, *David Suzuki Foundation*. This consultation will be taking place on June 10 in Long Harbour, NL and June 12 in Ottawa, ON. For more information, please [click here](#).

Resources

Book: Life, Money & Illusion - Living on Earth as if we want to stay

According to its author Mike Nickerson, *Life, Money & Illusion* is about mutual provision, the patterns of exchange between people, and between people and the natural world, that have brought us to the situation in which we find ourselves today. It looks at problems that have emerged from practices which used to serve us well, and explains why the results from such activities have changed. It also looks at the process of transformation that will move us from our very long period of youthful expansion, to a mature state, where responsibility is taken to maintain human activity within our planet's ability to sustain us. **For more information about this book, please visit flora.org.**

Author Mike Nickerson will be presenting "Living on Earth as if we want to stay" as a topic for discussion at this fall's RCEN Annual General Assembly. The event will be taking place from October 24-26, at Seneca College in Toronto, ON.

Events

“Return to the Tar Sands” with the Sierra Youth Coalition

The Sierra Youth Coalition is organizing another political activism bike trip this summer. Participants will fill a water bottle with polluted water in the Athabasca River and hand-deliver it to the oil executive of their choice in Calgary. The team will meet up in Edmonton on August 11, 2008 for pre-departure training and workshops (mandatory). The team will then start the trip at Fort McMurray five days later and head to Calgary, approximately 1000 kilometres away. Arrival in Calgary is planned for September 3rd. **To participate, please send and email to Marya at tarsands@syc-cjs.org or visit the [Sierra Youth Coalition](#)'s website.**

Employment

Clean Air Strategic Alliance (CASA) - Project Manager

The CASA is seeking an energetic, team-oriented, highly organized person to fill a project management position starting in August or September 2008, in Edmonton, AB. The project manager will provide leadership and direction to multi-stakeholder project teams to develop innovative solutions to air quality issues. In this position, you will manage team dynamics, identify issues that impact team progress and facilitate discussions. Most importantly, you will use your communication skills to help stakeholders convey their needs in a positive, forwardthinking manner, thereby identifying common ground that will lead to consensus recommendations. Successful candidates will have a university degree in a related field and a minimum of two years of related work experience. **The deadline for applications is June 20, 2008.** More information is available at casahome.org.

Students on Ice – Executive Assistant/Office Manager

Reporting to the Executive Director, the Executive Assistant / Office Manager will be responsible for coordinating and organizing the schedule for the Executive Director, and managing the overall administrative support for the office. Experience in accounting (including book-keeping and payroll) is an asset. This is a full-time position. *Students on Ice* is an award-winning organization offering unique learning expeditions to the Antarctic and the Arctic. Their mandate is to provide students from around the world with inspiring educational opportunities at the ends of our earth, and in doing so, help them foster a new understanding and respect for our planet. **Please [visit SOI's employment page](#) for more information.**

Climate Action Network Canada (CANET) – Outreach Coordinator

CANET is currently seeking an Outreach Coordinator to carry out coordination, administration and logistical support activities for a network of Canada's leading organizations. This is an exciting opportunity for someone interested in working at the heart of the growing movement to stop climate change. The Coordinator will be responsible for outreach, government liaison support, Board of Directors support, and Network and Executive Director Support. Candidates should be highly organized, be bilingual and be familiar with current web-based mobilization tools and climate change policy. **The deadline for applications is June 27, 2008.** Please visit climateactionnetwork.ca for more details.

Green Communities Canada - Manager, Green IT Collaborative

Green Communities Canada is seeking a Manager for the Green IT Collaborative, a two-year project to increase the effective, affordable use of information technologies by a collaborative of Ontario environmental organizations. The Manager, Green IT Collaborative will help to identify the most useful IT opportunities, research and advise on technology options and providers, and coach and train collaborative members. The position requires demonstrated skills in project management and ability to facilitate adoption of IT solutions appropriate to small and mid-size non-profit organizations and umbrella groups. To apply for this position, send a resume and cover letter to info@greencommunitiescanada.org. **The deadline for applications is June 23, 2008.** For more information, please visit greencommunitiescanada.org.

Ontario Nature - Field Ecologist Internship

Ontario Nature is seeking a self-motivated, goal-oriented individual for the position of Field Ecologist Internship in Thunder Bay, ON. The intern will assist in a research project being undertaken by Ontario Nature to assess the correlation between silvicultural regeneration approaches and wildlife habitat renewal. The project will help improve understanding of how timber harvesting approaches may be impacting woodland caribou habitat, and to build knowledge of the types of management approaches that help maintain wildlife habitat. Candidates must be working towards, or graduated with, a university degree or college diploma in environmental studies, biology, forestry or a related field. Please submit a resume, cover letter, and three references to: juleeb@ontarionature.org. **The deadline for applications is June 13th, 2008.** For more information, please visit ontarionature.org.

The Natural Step Canada – Technical Volunteer

[The Natural Step](http://thenaturalstep.ca) is currently seeking a Technical Volunteer to perform technical-related tasks such as tagging website content, transferring video footage to digital format, helping to layout documents, etc. The exact duties of this position will change over time based on the needs and the volunteer's specific skills. This position demands a professional individual with specific skills such as: knowledge of how to manipulate video in different formats, knowledge of several software programs and a quick learner in new ones. **To apply for this opportunity, please send your resume to Laura MacPherson at lmacpherson@naturalstep.ca.**