

## RCEN E-Bulletin – July 16, 2008 Edition

### Network News

#### **Federal Sustainable Development Act Now Law**

Having received Royal Assent on June 26th, the Federal Sustainable Development Act will provide the legal framework for developing and implementing a Federal Sustainable Development Strategy that will make environmental decision-making more transparent and accountable to Parliament. The Act also creates an Advisory Council that will include representatives from the environmental movement to advise the government on its strategy. [Click here to read the Act...](#)

#### **Coalition Calls on Government to Protect Lakes from Toxic Mining Wastes**

An emerging coalition of conservation, Aboriginal, and social justice organizations is calling on the federal government to stop the practice of allowing mining companies to use Canada's lakes as tailings impoundment areas. Several of these groups' members are currently participating in [federal consultations](#) on the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (Schedule 2) as delegates chosen by the RCEN. Read the press release issued by this coalition and a backgrounder on the issue at [MiningWatch.ca](#).

#### **Ontario Announces Protection of its Northern Boreal Region**

Last Monday, the Government of Ontario announced that the province will [protect at least 225,000 square kilometres of the Far North Boreal region](#) under its Far North Planning initiative. This announcement will result in the protection of at least 50 percent of this region from industrial development. Good news for all Canadians!

### Calls for Delegates

Environmental Assessment Working Group (EAWG) on Substances in Products Regulated under the Foods and Drugs Act: *Natural Health Products Subcommittee*

The EAWG is in the process of establishing a new Subcommittee on Natural Health Products and has invited the RCEN to select three ENGO nominees. It is anticipated that members of the Natural Health Products Sub-Committee will meet quarterly for one to two years. The EAWG is a multi-stakeholder working group that provides advice to Health Canada and Environment Canada regarding the development of appropriate regulations for the assessment of new substances contained in products regulated under the Food & Drugs Act. **The deadline for applications is July 23, 2008. [Read the full Call for Delegates...](#)**

### Other Calls

Call for Proposals - ecoENERGY for Personal Vehicles Program

Have a great idea to improve fuel efficiency? Looking for a contribution to your project? Natural Resources Canada's ecoENERGY for Personal Vehicles program is launching Round 2 of its funding process. The project aims to help Canadian drivers change their behaviours when driving, buying and maintaining their vehicles to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality. Proposals are now being accepted and must be postmarked **no later than October 15, 2008. Details about submissions and evaluation criteria are available at [vehicles.gc.ca](#).**

### Action Alerts

## Sign on to ENGO Response to proposed changes in Navigable Waters Protection Act

In response to proposed changes in the Navigable Waters Protection Act, the Steering Committee of the RCEN Water, Fisheries and Oceans Caucus has drafted an ENGO response for your review and sign-on. If your organization would like to sign on to this statement, please email [leela@cen-rce.org](mailto:leela@cen-rce.org) with your organization's name **by Friday, July 18, 2008**. The letter will be submitted to Transport Canada next week. **Click here to read the ENGO response.**

## Announcements

### UNEP Volvo Adventure Competition 2009

The Volvo Adventure - in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme - is an educational programme that rewards environmental activities and the decision-makers of the future. The programme is currently searching for the 2009 winners. If you have a project involving young people between 13 and 16 years old, working in groups of two to five people and actively involved in devising and managing the project, then you can enter. By registering, you have the opportunity to win an all-expenses-paid trip to the final in Sweden and the chance of a financial reward that could make it possible to run, improve or enhance your project. There is also a Great Big Bob the Bunny Cartoon competition for the under 13 years of age. The deadline for the 2009 award is January 31. **For more details and registration information, please visit [www.volvoadventure.org](http://www.volvoadventure.org).**

## Employment

### Canadian Environmental Network (RCEN) – Office and Events Administrator

The RCEN is currently seeking an Office and Events Administrator to work from our office in Ottawa, ON. Starting in early August, the Administrator will assist in performing multiple duties related to the administration of the RCEN office, will organize the logistics for the Annual General Assembly (AGA) and will assist the Executive Director. Candidates should have excellent verbal and written skills in French and English, a university or college diploma and prior experience in office administration and event coordination. **The deadline for applications is July 21, 2008. For more information, please [visit the RCEN's employment webpage](#).**

### Nature-Action Québec – Biological Inventory Technician

The group Nature-Action Québec is currently seeking candidates to fill the position of Biological Inventory Technician in the Beloeil (QC) region. The Technician in biological inventory's main tasks will include work related to the characterisation of floras, faunas and forests, as well as the preparation of field work projects and the preparation of teaching material. Candidates will have at least one year of experience in a related field and excellent knowledge of inventory techniques. **For more information, please visit [nature-action.qc.ca](http://nature-action.qc.ca)** (French only).