

RCEN E-Bulletin – February 20, 2008 Edition

Calls for Delegates

Transport Canada ENGO-only Technical Consultations on Canada's Development of Motor Vehicle Fuel Consumption Regulations

The RCEN and the Climate Action Network have been invited by Transport Canada to jointly select fifteen (15) ENGO delegates for an ENGO-only meeting related to consultations being undertaken on Canada's development of motor vehicle fuel consumption regulations. The purpose of the consultation, which will take place in Ottawa on March 10th, 2008, is to solicit feedback on the technical aspects of the regulation development process. Travel and living expenses will be reimbursed according to Treasury Board Guidelines, although no per diems will be paid. **The deadline for applications is February 27th, 2008.** Please [click here](#) for more information.

ENGO participation in Convention on Biological Diversity Outreach and Education Strategizing Sessions

The RCEN has been invited by Environment Canada to select seven (7) lead ENGO groups in Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal and Halifax respectively to participate in the development of an outreach and education strategy leading up to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP9) from May 19-30 2008 and the International Biodiversity Day (IBD) on May 22 2008. The ENGO delegates will be compensated \$250 per teleconference (total of \$500 per ENGO delegate for participation in two teleconferences). In addition, \$1000 is available to compensate one ENGO writer of background documentation and \$500 is available to compensate one ENGO reviewer of background documentation. **The deadline to apply is Monday, March 3rd, 2008.** Please [click here](#) for more information.

Sixteenth Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-16)

The RCEN is seeking one (1) ENGO and one (1) youth delegate to attend the Sixteenth Session of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-16). This meeting is scheduled to take place from May 5-16, 2008 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, NY. CSD-16 will be a Review session of the third implementation cycle and will focus on the following thematic issues: Agriculture, Rural development, Land, Drought, Desertification and Africa. The participation of one ENGO and one youth delegate is pending funding from Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada and Environment Canada (TBC). Should funding be confirmed, all expenses related to delegate participation (transportation, meals and accommodation) will be covered. **The deadline to apply is Monday, March 10th, 2008.** Please [click here](#) for more information.

Calls for Participation

Civil Society groups invited to join Health Canada/Environment Canada information session on the CMP Petroleum Sector Stream Approach

Health Canada and Environment Canada invite NGOs and civil society groups to a conference call to provide an overview of the Petroleum Sector Stream Approach under the Chemicals Management Plan (CMP). The call will address the key tasks that need to be performed in order to address these substances, and will solicit interest to participate in future consultations. The call is scheduled for Wednesday March 5, 2008 from 1-3pm EST. [Click here](#) for more information or to **RSVP before February 29th**.

Action Alerts

MUN Project Green: No More Lakes for Mine Waste!

In 2002, a Schedule was added to the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER). Schedule II allows lakes, rivers and water bodies to be defined as "Tailings Impoundment Areas." If a lake, portion of a lake, or river, is listed on Schedule II by the federal Cabinet, they are no longer considered a natural water body but become a "Tailings Impoundment Area". The federal government is now proposing to let two American mining companies dump mine waste in two healthy Canadian lakes. You can help put a stop to this! Please [click here](#) for more information.

Sign-on to Support ENGO Comments on Proposed PCB Regulations

The Canadian Environmental Law Association, Citizens' Network on Waste Management, Great Lakes United, and Société pour vaincre la pollution were chosen through the RCEN's delegate selection process and have submitted [comments](#) on Environment Canada's *Proposed Regulatory Provision for an Extension to the 2009 End-of-Use Deadline for the Proposed PCB Regulations*. These groups are seeking organizational sign-on from other RCEN member groups in support of these comments. Please notify [Daniel Casselman](#), RCEN Caucus Coordinator, of your organization's support for these comments **by Thursday, February 28th, 2008**. [Click here](#) for more information.

Climate for Change: Visit New Website, Sign Petition for Clean Cars in Canada

Transport Canada has asked for public comments on the fuel economy regulations for cars and light trucks. A group of environmental organizations has created a new web site at www.cleancarscanada.ca. Climate for Change encourages all members to visit the site and send a message to the government. It includes a complete explanation of the issue and can automatically forward comments to the Prime Minister and Transport Canada. **The deadline for comments is March 15th** so there is no time to delay.

Community Coalition Against Mining Uranium - The "Citizens' Inquiry on the Impacts of the Uranium Cycle" hearings (CCMU)

Citizen-led hearings will take place during April in Sharbot Lake, Kingston, Peterborough and Ottawa, Ontario. While the Ontario government failed to act, 53 year-old grandmother, Donna Dillman, resumed eating after 68 days without food, when the CCAMU, along with Greenpeace, Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment, David Suzuki Foundation, Canadian Coalition for Nuclear Responsibility, Voice of Women, Mining Watch Canada, Students Against Climate Change and Sierra Club of Canada stepped forward to initiate the Inquiry. To register, please visit www.uraniumcitizensinquiry.com or send electronic submissions to info@uraniumcitizensinquiry.com. Interest is expected to be high, right across the country.

Announcements

Delegate Selection - SMOC Working Group Meeting

The RCEN has selected one (1) ENGO delegate to attend the stakeholder meeting of the Sound Management of Chemicals (SMOC) Working Group on March 5-6 2008, in Tucson, Arizona, USA. The selected delegate is: [Anne Kuersten](#), from Tantrammar Environmental Alliance (NB). For more information about this meeting, please [click here](#).

Hometown Heroes Award – Earth Day Canada

Earth Day Canada (EDC), in partnership with Cascades, has launched its search for the 2008 Hometown Heroes Award winner. The Hometown Heroes Award recognizes and encourages personal environmental achievement at the local level. This year's winner will receive a cash-prize of \$10 000 - \$5 000 to keep and \$5 000 to donate to the environmental cause of their choice. This year's winner will also be recognized as part of the 5th Annual Earth Day Canada Gala. The EDC signature event will be held in Toronto, on June 18th, 2008. For more information, or to nominate yourself, an individual or group from your community, please visit www.earthday.ca/hometown. The deadline for applications is **April 22nd, 2008**.

Call for Participation – 2008 Global Youth Fellowship

The Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation would like to announce the 2008 call for applications for the Global Youth Fellowship program. The Fellowships are targeted towards emerging Canadian leaders who demonstrate potential to enhance Canada's role on the world stage. The Fellowships will provide successful candidates with a cash award of \$20,000 as well as other forms of support. To be eligible for consideration, applicants must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents between 24 – 35 years of age with previous international experience – paid or volunteer. They also need to demonstrate a sustained commitment to international issues through studies, career choices and volunteer activities. The deadline for applications is April 10th, 2008. More information can be found [by clicking here](#).

Events

3rd Annual Learning Together Conference

Learning Together 2008 is the 3rd annual such conference organized by Learning Together Incorporated, a not-for-profit economic development organization created as the result of the past two conferences. The purpose of this organization is to address the lack of education within industry regarding First Nations governance, values, traditions, and mentality. As usual the conference will be a grassroots mixture of education, networking, economic development, and fun. Some of the activities that are planned for participants include: plenary sessions, think tank sessions, networking opportunities, Canadian delegate sessions and an exhibitor's tradeshow. The Conference will take place in Winnipeg, MB, from April 9-10, 2008. Please visit www.learning-together.ca for more information.

First Nations, Inuit and Métis Research Meeting in Montreal

As you may already know, the Health Information, Analysis and Research Division of the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) is planning a First Nations, Inuit and Métis Health Research Meeting for April 16-18, 2008 in Montreal. This meeting aims to stimulate innovation and evidence-based decision making for FNIHB's policy and program areas; improve and increase networking and collaboration among FNIHB staff and external researchers; and increase capacity in the area of Aboriginal Health Research. There will also be a Health & Environment component to the conference. The meeting is planned to be interactive and will be an excellent opportunity to share research findings and implications as they relate to Aboriginal Health. For more information, please contact Jocelyn Cook at Health Canada (613) 957-3438.

Ecoprise 2008 Sustainable Business Conference

Dalhousie University's Norman Newman Centre for Entrepreneurship and Eco-Efficiency Centre is holding Ecoprise 2008, a conference for leaders in business, government, public agencies, and environmental advocacy organizations. The conference will span two days and will be hosted at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, March 28th-29th, 2008. Early bird registration closes March 4th. Conference sessions cover a range of topics from remediation, to eco-design, socially responsible investing, clean energy, eco-efficiency, and emerging green technologies. Full conference details are available at <http://ecoprise2008.dal.ca>.

Resources

Survey: Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)

Learning for a Sustainable Future (LSF), on behalf of the National ESD Expert Council invites you to complete their online ESD survey. The National Expert Council includes representatives of the Provincial/Territorial ESD Working Groups, as well as other key national ESD players. The Council addresses cross-cutting issues of ESD and promotes research, communication, and the sharing of best practices. This survey will result in an inventory of ESD activities in Canada and is relevant to all organizations that provide learning opportunities, formally or informally, that foster understanding and action

towards environmental issues and sustainable development. To complete the 30-minute survey, please click [here](#).

Final Report from the Commission on the future of the Quebec agriculture sector is now available online

The *Commission sur l'avenir de l'agriculture et de l'agroalimentaire québécois* has now released its final report, which is available online [here](#). The commission's mandate was to assess the state of Quebec's agricultural and agro-industrial sectors, make light of its problems and challenges, examine the effectiveness of current public interventions and diagnose this sector of the economy and thus make recommendations for improvement.

Employment

Nova Scotia Nature Trust – Book-keeper

The Nova Scotia Nature Trust is currently seeking a part-time book-keeper. Please visit their website at <http://nsnt.ca/participate/employment/> for a complete job description, qualification requirements, and application process details.

CPAWS Quebec – Communications Coordinator & Conservation and Forestry Campaigner

SNAP, the Quebec chapter of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, is currently seeking candidates for two positions: Communications Coordinator and Forestry and Conservation Officer. The Communications Coordinator will be responsible for planning, organizing and coordinating SNAP's consciousness-raising campaigns and its francophone communications tools. The Conservation and Forestry Campaign Coordinator will be responsible for the strategic implementation of projects related to the changing forestry sector in Quebec, environmental certification, the establishment of large protected areas and for maintaining the caribou's natural habitat. To read the job postings (in French only) on the SNAP website, please [click here](#). **The deadline for applications is February 22nd.**