

RCEN e-Bulletin – May 20th, 2009 Edition

Network News

Participate in International Biodiversity Day Events this Week

RCEN members groups are planning a series of educational activities across Canada this week, culminating on Friday the 22nd for the International Day for Biodiversity (IDB). In all 10 provinces and in the Yukon, these events will raise public awareness and provide information on how to prevent and manage invasive alien species – the theme of this year's IDB. [See what's happening in your area](#)

New Caucus Steering Committees Announced

Last month the RCEN sent out a call for members to join 7 of its national caucus steering committees. Thank you to all nominees for your interest and participation! The 2009-2010 caucus steering committees have now been selected. [Read more](#)

Less than 3 Weeks Left to Register for BiodiverCity AGA

With the RCEN Annual General Assembly fast approaching, there are only a few weeks left to register for the event of the year for environmental NGOs in Canada. The agenda is now full and includes: keynote speeches by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biodiversity and the Mayor of Edmonton, panels on sustainable community management and environmental assessment, a workshop on nuclear energy, an NGO fair and much more! [Register Now](#)

Call for Participation

Invitation for Youth Participation in the 2009 RCEN AGA

The RCEN is looking for 10 youth participants (ages 18 to 30) from across the country to come and represent Canadian youth at its 2009 Annual General Assembly this June 12-14. Join us in Edmonton to add your voice to civil society discussions surrounding environmental issues in Canada. By mobilizing a group of youth, we hope to get you involved in the RCEN and give you an opportunity to meet other youth engaged in environmental issues, as well as some of the most experienced environmentalists in the country. Selected delegates will have their registration fees - \$150 value - and transportation covered by the RCEN. This includes all meals during the conference. The deadline to apply is May 25th, 2009. [Read more...](#)

Announcements

Environmental Commissioner's Report Looks at *Fisheries Act* and *Kyoto Protocol Implementation Act*

Last week, the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development released his 2009 Spring Report, which examines the management of some key elements of the *Fisheries Act* and the *Kyoto Protocol Implementation Act*. In regards to the *Fisheries Act*, the Report found that efforts to protect fish habitat have been inadequate and that there is limited information on the state of fish habitat across Canada. In regards to the *Kyoto Protocol Implementation Act*, the Commissioner found that the government is unable to monitor actual reductions resulting from a

number of the measures in its plans. A key observation is that Environment Canada has overstated the reductions it expects for the 2008–12 Kyoto Protocol period. Visit <http://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca/> to read the full report.

Living Oceans Society's *Finding Coral Expedition*

Living Oceans Society is excited to announce the launch of their Finding Coral Expedition, set to begin on World Oceans Day, June 8th. The expedition will set off to search for deep sea corals in Hecate Strait and the Queen Charlotte Basin in British Columbia. Two *Deep Worker* manned submarines will be piloted by LOS' blue ribbon science team, who will dive to depths of up to 500 meters to gather evidence of corals, associated species, and damage from human impacts. The subs will carry high resolution video cameras so that sights of these never-been-seen-before coral forests can be shared. Once diving begins in June, LOS will update their website daily with undersea youtube videos and photos of their findings, and dispatches from the science team. Visit <http://www.findingcoral.com/> for all this and more information about the expedition.

Events

The Canadian Environment Week website is now live!

Canadian Environment Week (CEW) is about grassroots action to make our environment cleaner and healthier. From May 31 to June 6, activities are being planned across the country to encourage Canadians to take action, and to celebrate local successes. Environment Canada invites you to post your events on their *Community Action Board* for others to see and participate in. All events will be posted! Be part the CEW and help Environment Canada promote and celebrate community action for the environment! Visit the Canadian Environment Week website at www.ec.gc.ca/sce-cew.

Sign up for a free *Power Lunch* live online webinar

Join sustainable energy stakeholders, local leaders and experts from across Canada and the United States on Thursday, June 4th from 12:30 – 2:00 pm EST by live online webinar and learn what bold, effective and innovative strategies, programs and policies are leading the charge in the renewable energy and energy efficiency field in Canada and the United States. The webinar will showcase local leaders in North America, and examine successes and barriers, and what support is needed to spread the trend of linking renewable energy and energy efficiency. Register today at <http://webinars.reeep.org/>. Funding for these webinars is provided by the Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP), Environment Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure.

Employment

Sierra Youth Coalition - Regional Project Coordinator, Sustainable High Schools

The Sierra Youth Coalition is looking to hire a Regional Coordinator in the Ottawa / Champlain region for its Sustainable High Schools program. This individual will play an integral role in maintaining the project's momentum and developing its capacity, including fundraising, and training students, professors and administrators to increase the ecological and social sustainability of their establishment. The ideal candidate is a bilingual, motivated, inspired and knowledgeable who has preferably had some experience with running student initiatives (social justice projects and environmental sustainability assessments); working with adolescents; and

project management. The deadline for applications is June 9th, 2009. For more information please visit view the Sierra Youth Coalition website: www.syc-cjs.org.

Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board – Fisheries Biologist

The Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board (GRRB), a Co-management Board located in Inuvik, Northwest Territories, is currently seeking a motivated full-time Fisheries Biologist. The main function of this position is fisheries management and research. However, the Fisheries Biologist will also be responsible for forest management. Main responsibilities include: providing support and information to the Board on fisheries and forestry research, management, policy and legislation issues; and working with the appropriate government agencies and Renewable Resource Councils on fisheries management plans for the Gwich'in Settlement Area. Candidates should have a minimum of a Bachelor of Science degree in fisheries, biology, or a similar field and past work experience in fisheries research and management. The deadline for applications is May 22, 2009. Visit <http://www.grrb.nt.ca/> for more information.

Safe Drinking Water Foundation – Executive Director

The SDWF is seeking the right person to become its first paid Executive Director. The Executive Director will report directly to the Board and will bring strong communication and organization skills, an educational background and work experience in the management of an NGO, and the passion, creativity and energy to lead and build the SDWF to accomplish its mission. Paramount to all qualifications is the need for exceptional writing abilities, and the willingness to attract funding to secure this position (and other projects) into 2011 and beyond. The successful applicant will have at minimum a bachelor's degree in a relevant field and work experience that includes working for an NGO in a management capacity, and successful fundraising. The deadline for applications is May 30, 2009. Visit <http://www.safewater.org/> for more information.

Safe Drinking Water Foundation – Science Education Program Assistant

The SDWF is seeking candidates to apply for a Science Education Program Assistant position. Note that this is a summer student position that will last for 12 weeks. The Program Assistant will design hands-on activities, projects, and/or experiments for elementary and/or high school students (with a focus on rural and First Nation applications) to mimic the Integrated Biological Reverse Osmosis Membrane (IBROM) water treatment system. Candidates must be in their final year of education with a major in science, or final year of B.Sc., be under 30 years of age and be a full time student until spring 2009. The deadline for applications is May 25, 2009. Visit <http://www.safewater.org/> for more information.