

RCEN E-Bulletin – September 24, 2008 Edition

Network News

Election 2008: Environmental Resources and Information

With a fall election upon us, several environmental organizations and other civil society groups are working hard to ensure that the environment remains an important point of discussion until voting day on October 14th. Please [visit our 2008 Federal Election page \(http://www.cen-rce.org/election08.html\)](http://www.cen-rce.org/election08.html) to view a list of organizations that are offering useful resources, information and insightful commentary on their websites for both citizens and groups to access during the election campaign.

AGA Venue Update

Please note that the location for the upcoming RCEN AGA (October 24-26) has changed due to uncontrollable circumstances. The 2008 AGA will be taking place at the *Sheraton Parkway & Best Western Parkway Hotels* in Toronto (Richmond Hill). For more information, please visit <http://www.rcen.ca/AGA/main.html>. Apologies for any inconvenience this change may have caused.

Calls for Delegates

Orphaned and Abandoned Mines: A Workshop to Explore Perspectives on Risk Assessment

The RCEN is seeking ten (10) delegates to participate in a workshop sponsored by the National Orphaned Abandoned Mines Initiative (NOAMI) entitled “Orphaned and Abandoned Mines: A Workshop to Explore Perspectives on Risk Assessment” to be held November 13-14 in Vancouver, BC. This workshop involving case studies and best practices has been designed to explore and understand the different perspectives related to the risk assessment process at orphaned and abandoned mines. The workshop will include speakers from a variety of sectors and perspectives, including: government, industry, Aboriginal, environmental NGOs, and community organizations. Delegate travel and lodging expenses will be reimbursed according to Treasury Board guidelines. **The deadline to apply is Monday, October 6, 2008.** [Read the full Call for Delegates \(http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/consultations/delegate_calls/08_09_noami.html\)](http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/consultations/delegate_calls/08_09_noami.html)

ENGO-DFO National Fish Habitat Coordinating Committee

The RCEN is currently looking for a new ENGO delegate to join the ENGO-DFO National Fish Habitat Coordinating Committee (NFHCC). The purpose of the NFHCC is to plan, organize and coordinate cooperative activities between ENGOs and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) in support of fish habitat management in Canada. The NFHCC meets monthly by teleconference and twice a year in person. ENGO members of the NFHCC are reimbursed for travel and living expenses related to all face-to-face meetings. **The deadline to apply is October 1, 2008.** [Read the full Call for Delegates \(http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/consultations/delegate_calls/08_09_nfhcc.html\)](http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/consultations/delegate_calls/08_09_nfhcc.html)

Action Alerts

KYOTOpus Campaign – “Commit the Candidates” to strong action on climate change!

Over 35 environmental organizations are calling on groups in all regions to get involved in the KYOTOpus federal election campaign. Every candidate in every riding is being asked to sign the “KYOTOpus Pledge for Canadian Politicians.” The pledge commits signatories to work for UN-recommended, science-based targets at the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in December, 2009, and to a credible national policy to achieve them. Please help to collect signatures in your area and to publicize the results in your regional and local media. You can download the pledge at www.kyotoplus.ca or [click here to read the full action alert \(http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/action_alerts/08_09_kyotoplus.html\)](http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/action_alerts/08_09_kyotoplus.html).

Announcements

Université du Québec à Montréal – Graduate Condensed Program in Environmental Education

This occupational training program is offered on the Université du Québec à Montréal’s campus as well as through tele-education. It is aiming at developing environmental education and training skills in formal and non-formal intervention settings - i.e. schools, colleges, community settings, companies, municipalities, museums, interpretation centers, international cooperation projects, etc. This program includes 3 courses (1 year, part-time), and leads to a *Graduate Studies Certificate in Environmental Education*. Program activities will start the week of January 5, 2009. Applications should be sent by December. For further information, please visit <http://www.unites.uqam.ca/ERE-UQAM/Formation.html> (in French only).

Resources

Report on Solid Biofuel Technology - *Developing Energy Crops for Thermal Applications*

A study by Canadian and Dutch scientists just released in a book by Springer Publishers found that commercial second-generation solid biofuel technology has set a new Canadian benchmark in greenhouse gas (GHG) displacement. According to one of the report’s authors REAP-Canada, the solid biofuel technology using biomass from energy crops for heat energy is 570% more efficient than liquid fuels in using farmland to mitigate GHG’s. The study also offers several recommendations on how energy from solid biofuels can be developed efficiently and equitably across Canada. The full article titled *Developing Energy Crops for Thermal Applications in Biofuels, Solar and Wind as Renewable Energy Systems: Benefits and Risks* is available online at amazon.com.

Events

The Sunshine Walk - Canada Walks for Climate Justice - Re-Imagine Our World

This October 4th, a group of like-minded people will begin a walk with friends from Toronto to Ottawa to deliver their message, and yours, on climate change solutions. Please join them - share your vision of the best solutions or what you or people in your community are already doing to make the shift away from dirty energy. Come out at the beginning of the walk, the end, somewhere in between or for the whole thing - share your clean, green solutions with the group in a letter or picture and they will deliver them to the new government in Ottawa on October 20th. For dates, stops along the way and other details, please visit <http://sunshinewalk08.blogspot.com/>.

Employment

RCEN - National Caucus Coordinator

The Canadian Environmental Network (RCEN) is currently seeking a National Caucus Coordinator. Part of a team, the Coordinator is responsible for facilitating specific national caucuses, implementing and coordinating delegate selections, negotiating and implementing contracts, and ensuring an effective role for the RCEN in consultative processes between the federal government and environmental groups. Prior related experience and excellent writing and verbal skills in both English and French are required. Based in Ottawa, this part-time position will begin in October. **The deadline to apply is September 28, 2008. Read the full job posting at <http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/jobs.html>.**

Nova Scotia Nature Trust - Fund Development Coordinator

Looking to redirect your philanthropic talents? Seeking a rewarding career with a dynamic charity that leads an emerging sector of the environmental field? Join a passionate team whose mission is to protect Nova Scotia's special places for future generations. The Nature Trust seeks a highly effective fundraiser to lead its philanthropic programs. The Coordinator will be responsible for special events, annual campaigns, and planned and major gifts programs. Candidates should have a minimum three years experience in fund development and/or communications and a university or college degree in a related field. **The deadline for applications is October 10, 2008.** Please see <http://nsnt.ca/participate/employment/> for a complete job description and details on the application process.

Auditor – « Clé Verte » Environmental Certification Program

Nature-Action Québec Inc. is presently searching for an auditor for the « Clé Verte » Environmental Certification Program. Under supervision of the program coordinator, the auditor will conduct inspections and controls as part of an environmental certification program of the Quebec automotive services in the Great Montreal area. Nature-Action Québec is searching for candidates with at least 3 years of experience in a similar position. Familiarity with automotive mechanics will be a significant asset. Candidates should send their letters of interest and resumes at the latest on September 18, 2008 to gisele.gravel@nature-action.qc.ca.