

RCEN e-Bulletin – November 25th, 2009 Edition

Network News

RCEN Establishes a Strong Partnership with the UN Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

On November 10th, the RCEN and the United Nations Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity signed a memorandum of understanding which will establish a collaborative framework between the two partners. This new partnership will promote greater awareness of the Convention on Biological Diversity amongst civil-society organizations in Canada and abroad. [Read more](#)

Apply for Two Youth Eco-Internships until Nov. 27th!

The RCEN is pleased to offer two internship opportunities to Canadian youth between the ages of 15 and 30. Through the YMCA/YWCA's Youth Eco-Internship Program, we are seeking one Youth Caucus Intern and one Biodiversity Caucus Intern to support these growing caucuses.

For details related to these positions, go to <http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/jobs.html>. The deadline for applications has been extended to November 27th.

Sierra Club Welcomes New Executive Director

The Sierra Club Canada (SCC) has announced the appointment of John Bennett to the position of Executive Director. From 1998-2006, Mr. Bennett spearheaded SCC's global warming campaign. The RCEN wishes him all the best in this new position. Read John Bennett's [extended profile](#).

Calls for Nominations

Join the RCEN Agriculture Caucus Steering Committee

The RCEN is currently conducting a *Call for Nominations* in search of one or two (1-2) new members to join the Agriculture Caucus Steering Committee. This is an excellent opportunity for you to be part of Caucus decision-making and the planning of activities! This call is open to all RCEN members who belong to, or are willing to join, the Agriculture Caucus. Steering Committee members will serve a two-year term from May 2009 to April 2011. We are aiming to have the new Steering Committee in place before the next Agriculture Steering Committee meeting, which is scheduled for the end of January 2010. The deadline for nominations is Monday December 7, 2009. [More information](#)

Announcements

Navigable Waters Protection Act Regulatory Development

Transport Canada is currently developing *Minor Works and Waters Regulations* under the *Minor Works and Waters Order*, which lies under the authority of the *Navigable Waters Protection Act*. This Order defined classes of works that are considered to be minor in nature and are thus exempt from the approval process required under the Act. It also defined classes of waters that

are considered minor and thus works that interfere with navigation on them are also exempt from the approval process required under the Act. Transport Canada Marine Safety is now seeking comments on the Order to be considered during the development of the proposed regulations. Groups are encouraged to send in their comments before December 31st. [More information](#)

The Steering Committee of the RCEN Water, Fisheries and Oceans caucus will be assessing how the RCEN will engage in these consultations. If you would like to share your thoughts or feedback on how the RCEN can engage its members, please contact Daniel Casselman, National Caucus Coordinator, at 613-728-9810, ext. 236, or by email at daniel@cen-rce.org.

Trees By the Shore - Communities are encouraged to Apply Now to New Planting Program

Tree Canada and the Majesta brand of household paper products are proud to announce the online application for *Trees By the Shore*, a community planting program that begins in the Spring of 2010. In 2009, 25 communities were selected across the country to plant trees by waterways with the help of local community groups, school children, parents and volunteers. An educational component was included to teach school children about the important role trees play in maintaining healthy ecosystem. Interested communities have until December 31, 2009 to apply. Trees and planting expertise are available to qualifying communities at: <http://www.majestapromotions.ca/dedicate/Default.aspx>.

CBC Documentary: Can we get rich.... and save our planet too?

On Thursday, November 26th, CBC Television's Doc Zone will present the world premiere of *Carbon Hunters*. Explore the controversial, little understood, yet booming industry of carbon credit trading as one of the potential solutions to climate change. Follow Shawn Burns, a Vancouver-based carbon hunter, and other global wheeler-dealers who search the planet for carbon credits. This new green rush is already worth \$100 billion and climbing! How does it actually work? What does a carbon credit actually buy? From India, to the Canadian prairies, to Hollywood – Carbon Hunters reveals an insightful insider's look at this mysterious and potentially lucrative new industry. You can view the preview on [CBC Doc Zone's website](#).

Action Alerts

Sierra Club of Canada – Sign-on to Letter Regarding the Darlington New Nuclear Plant's Review Panel

After reviewing the makeup of the Darlington New Nuclear Power Plant Project's Joint Review Panel, the Sierra Club of Canada is very concerned about a clear bias. Below is the draft of a letter that SCC will be sending to Minister Prentice expressing its concerns. SCC would like to make other organizations aware of the letter, and give them an opportunity for sign-on or to make a separate representation. [The letter can be read here](#). Groups who wish to add their support are encouraged to send an email to info@sierraclub.ca before December 3rd. See below for more information about the Panel:

Joint Review Panel Established for Proposed Darlington New Nuclear Power Plant Project:
<http://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/050/document-eng.cfm?document=39279>

Proposed Darlington New Nuclear Power Plant Project Joint Review Panel – Biographical Notes:
<http://nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/commission/members/jrp/darlington/index.cfm>

12dec09.dk – Support the *Planet First–People First* Demonstration in Copenhagen

In just one month the UNFCCC Climate Talks 2009 will start in Copenhagen. On Saturday December 12th, midway through the Climate Summit, a coalition of climate and green organisations and networks, trade unions, peace, solidarity and human relief organisations and movements, political and other civil society organisations and individuals (many of them from Denmark) invite you and your organisation to join them in bringing to the negotiators in Copenhagen a massive, loud and visible demonstration of the world's will to act. Canadian civil society organizations are urged to lend their support to this demonstration. At the moment, over 351 organizations in 54 countries have given their support. Send email of your support to info@12dec09.dk, or visit <http://12dec09.dk/content/english> for more information.

Les amis de la vallée du Saint-Laurent - Sign the petition to declare the river a national heritage site

The St. Lawrence River is Quebec's greatest natural, historical and cultural resource, as well as its most important resource to ensure its economic and human development. Its recognition as a national heritage site must locate and honour what's essential about it for Quebec and Canada. This announcement would create a foundation to support the inclusion of specific clauses in legislation that may affect the St. Lawrence and its banks and encourage the emergence of innovative and ambitious initiatives. Unite your voice to the Amis de la vallée du Saint-Laurent by signing the petition available at www.avsl.qc.ca (in French).

Resources

Study Investigates Cancer-Environmental Connection in NB Communities

The Conservation Council of New Brunswick has released the second of their two-part study investigating the cancer-environmental connection in New Brunswick communities. The report provides never-before-published cancer incidence rates for males and females for 14 urban and rural areas in New Brunswick and examines potential environmental risk factors associated with those cancer types. The study relied on cancer counts provided by the New Brunswick Cancer Registry Database to calculate incidence rates of 14 primary cancer types between 1989-2005. The report, "Cancer in New Brunswick Communities: Investigating the Environmental Connection. Part 2: Fourteen urban and rural areas", can be downloaded from the Conservation Council's website at www.conservationcouncil.ca.

IISD - A Sustainable Development Roadmap for the WTO

A Sustainable Development Roadmap for the WTO, issued recently by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), calls for the World Trade Organization to rethink its direction and goals, and then redesign a trade policy that meets the imperatives of environmental protection and the needs of impoverished and vulnerable sectors of society. This short book argues that the WTO has committed to sustainable development as one of its basic objectives, and asks what the organization would look like if that objective were rigorously pursued. The answers identify what needs to be done and what role the WTO should play. Download the book at http://www.iisd.org/publications/pub_fr.aspx?pno=1196.

Employment

The Pembina Institute - Environmental Policy Analyst

The Pembina Institute is seeking a bright and resourceful individual to contribute to a sustainable future for Canada's North by working to limit impacts from oil and gas development and accelerate the transition towards clean, renewable energy. The successful candidate will work closely with staff of the Arctic Energy Solutions Program to advance the Program's objectives and contribute to the team's research and capacity building work on a wide range of energy-related issues. This position will be funded by the YWCA Youth Eco Internship Program (YEIP) and the successful candidate will be employed by the YWCA. Reporting to the Director of the Arctic Energy Solutions Program this full-time position will be based in the Pembina Institute's Yellowknife office. The deadline for applications is December 7, 2009. For more detailed information regarding the qualifications, experience and education we are looking for please visit www.pembina.org/about/jobs.

Castle-Crown Wilderness Coalition - Executive Director

The Castle-Crown Wilderness Coalition (CCWC), based in southwestern Alberta, is currently seeking an Executive Director with a passion for wild lands and wildlife that wants to make a positive contribution to their protection. Candidates should be well organized, self-starters, quick studies, good communicators, have good computer skills, and be able to deal with the uncertainties that come with working with a non-profit organization. On occasion, a thick skin will come in handy. Knowledge of the Castle and its history, knowledge of conservation biology, an understanding of Alberta and Canadian environmental law and practice, and experience supervising field staff would all be assets. For more information, please visit <http://www.cwc.ab.ca/whatnew.php>.

For Climate's Sake – Capacity Building Development Coordinator

For Climate's Sake (formerly known as Association for Canadian Educational Resources) is seeking a Capacity Building Development Coordinator to implement its Organizational Vision and Strategy. The goal is to expand existing community-based forest biodiversity monitoring activities and educational programs, strengthen and build partnerships within Ontario. Significant focus will be on resource development: fundraising, sponsorships and partnerships. This position requires at least 5 years of fundraising experience (preferably in environmental field), and strong writing, organizational and public speaking skills. Candidates must be flexible, handle a variety of responsibilities and be able to work with minimal supervision. The deadline for applications is December 20, 2009. Visit www.acer-acre.org for more information.