

## RCEN E-Bulletin – March 26, 2008 Edition

### Network News

#### 2008 AGA Planning Begins

Planning for this year's RCEN Annual General Assembly is now underway. Many thanks to all the volunteers who have joined the Planning Committee. Specific dates and the location for this annual event will be announced shortly and posted on our website. If you would like to join the Committee, please contact [Cynthia Thomson](#), Office and Events Administrator.

#### NRTEE Launches Final Advisory Report

This week, the RCEN attended the launch of the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy's (NRTEE) final Advisory Report entitled *Getting to 2050: Canada's Transition to a Low-emission Future*. The Report sets out clear recommendations for action to achieve deep, long-term greenhouse gas emission reductions of between 60-70% by 2050. The next step in the NRTEE's research will be to examine the impacts of these recommendations on different sectors of the economy, to which end regional consultations will need to be held across the country.

### Other Calls

#### Call for Comments: Phosphorous Concentration Regulations

A Notice of Intent to amend the Phosphorus Concentration Regulations was published on February 16, 2008 in Canada Gazette Part 1 (see <http://canadagazette.gc.ca/part1/2008/20080216/html/notice-e.html#d125>). The objective of the proposed Amendments is to contribute to the reduction of phosphorus being released into Canada's aquatic ecosystems. The proposed Amendments to the *Phosphorus Concentration Regulations* would lower the limits of phosphorus concentration in laundry detergent from 2.2% (by weight) to 0.5%, introduce limits to the concentration of phosphorus in dishwasher detergents of 0.5% and introduce limits to the concentration of phosphorus in household general purpose cleaners of 0.5%, where appropriate. It is expected that the proposed Amendments would come into force by 2010. All comments and advice are welcome by the **April 16, 2008** deadline set out in the Notice of Intent.

Participation in the 16<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-16) as a representative of the Canadian Environmental Network (RCEN)

The RCEN has special consultative status with ECOSOC to accredit its members to participate as observers at CSD-16, taking place from May 5-16 2008 in New York. If you are a member of the RCEN, can self-finance your stay in New York, and would like the RCEN to accredit you as an observer to CSD-16, please send an email to [sarah@cen-rce.org](mailto:sarah@cen-rce.org) indicating your organization and including your résumé by **April 4, 2008**. More information on CSD-16 can be found at <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/>.

#### Call for Discussion: Increased Use of Hybrid Vehicles Poses a Danger to Pedestrians

The Alliance for Equality of Blind Canadians (AEBC) is currently calling for discussions to take place concerning the increased use of hybrid vehicles and the dangers that these silent automobiles create for all pedestrians. According to John Rae, President of the AEBC, although "cleaner air and a reduction in greenhouse gases benefits our environment (...) the increasing prevalence of quiet hybrid vehicles on our roads creates new safety hazards for all pedestrians, especially individuals who are blind, partially sighted or who have reduced hearing". The Alliance

proposes three solutions to this problem, which are listed in a brief posted on [blindcanadians.ca](http://blindcanadians.ca). For further information on this initiative, please contact [Mike Yale](#), Coordinator at the Alliance for Equality of Blind Canadians, at (705) 789-1546.

## **Announcements**

In the Morning of a Day – A Calendar of Global Warming Events

*in the morning of a day* is a global, non-profit project that aims to help those who are working on issues regarding climate change and those who organize events about global warming. Its main purpose is to make possible a global collective action by offering resources such as a calendar that categorizes different events about global warming organized around the world and listing them according to their location and date. Everybody can see all the listed events and add an event to the platform and promote it for free, without any subscription or membership. The website also allows visitors to listen to and download a song written to strengthen the idea of collective action and to raise global warming awareness.

Please visit [www.inthemorningofaday.com](http://www.inthemorningofaday.com) to learn more about this original web platform.

## **Events**

Call for Applications: World Heritage Youth Forum

The World Heritage Youth Forum of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Session of the World Heritage Committee is currently calling for young Canadians (18-25) to apply for participation in this event, which will be held in Québec City (Quebec) from July 2 to 10, 2008 ([www.canada2008.ca](http://www.canada2008.ca)). Please [click here](#) to view the application form. If you require additional information, contact Cynthia Lacasse, Programme Officer, Youth, Canadian Commission for UNESCO, at [cynthia.lacasse@unesco.ca](mailto:cynthia.lacasse@unesco.ca). Please note that the deadline to apply is **April 18, 2008**.

## **Employment**

Ecology Action Centre - Energy and Climate Change Coordinator

The Ecology Action Centre (EAC) is seeking a permanent and full-time energy and climate change coordinator for its Halifax, Nova Scotia office. The coordinator will principally focus on energy and climate change policy in the electricity, industrial and building sectors. Responsibilities also include project development, coordination and fundraising in cooperation with Atlantic Canadian partners, the EAC's Energy Issues Committee and energy project staff. The EAC promotes sustainable energy to meet environmental goals, while enhancing the economic development of Nova Scotian communities. The deadline for applications is April 25<sup>th</sup>, and the start date for the position is June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please [click here](#) to read the full job posting.