

RCEN e-Bulletin – October 28, 2009 Edition

Network News

A Snapshot of ENGO Biodiversity Activities in Canada

Read about some of the wonderful biodiversity-related activities happening across the country! From Newfoundland to the Yukon, environmental NGOs have sent us examples of their most innovative work related to the conservation, sustainable use, and awareness of biodiversity. These submissions from RCEN members were gathered during our “Pan-Canadian Biodiversity Best Practices/Case Studies Contest”. [Read More ...](#)

The RCEN National Office is Moving!

Please note that our office will be moving on October 30th. We are pleased to be moving in with Oxfam Canada, in their LEED-certified building near the Rideau River, just east of downtown Ottawa. Our new mailing address is:

39 McArthur Avenue, Level 1-1
Ottawa ON K1L 8L7

All other contact information will remain the same. Thank you for updating your lists.

Calls for Delegates

Bisphenol A (CAS 80-05-7) Proposed Regulations Consultation

Environment Canada has asked the RCEN to select five (5) Environmental NGO delegates to take part in a one-day consultation to discuss the proposed regulatory provisions to limit the concentration of BPA released from industrial final effluent. The consultation will take place in Toronto on November 27th. Delegates will participate in an open-forum discussion with industry and government representatives related to BPA use and regulation in Canada. Information from this discussion will be considered in drafting regulations. Travel and accommodation for RCEN delegates to and from this event will be reimbursed as per Treasury Board Guidelines. Additionally, per diem rates and compensation for a report will be covered. The deadline to apply is November 3, 2009. [More information](#)

Announcements

Office of Consumer Affairs - Call for Submissions 2010-2011

The Office of Consumer Affairs is proud to announce that the Contributions Program for Non-Profit Consumer and Voluntary Organizations is now open to receive submissions. This year, the total budget for the OCA Program is \$1,690,000. The maximum contribution per project is \$100,000. The maximum amount that can be awarded to a single organization in any given year is \$500,000 for all projects undertaken. For your information, the potential areas of interest for 2010-2011, which include social responsibility and sustainable consumption, are available [here](#). The *2010-2011 Applicant's Guide* is available on the Office of Consumer Affairs (OCA) website at: http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/oca-bc.nsf/eng/h_ca00175.html. The deadline to submit proposals is November 23, 2009.

Charting Adaptation to Climate Change Using Agrobiodiversity

Leading up to Copenhagen (COP15), the *Platform for Agrobiodiversity Research project on Climate Change* kindly reaches out to you for assistance with collection of information about initiatives on adaptation to climate change based on the use of agrobiodiversity. This tool intends to facilitate learning dialogue between rural communities all over the world and build a knowledge base, which can be used to increase the recognition for the multitude of adaptation practices communities engage in. To participate, please [click here](#) and focus your contributions on functional adaptation practices and on how they address the needs of your community. For more information about the Platform, visit http://www.agrobiodiversityplatform.org/climate_change.

Towards a World Summit on Sustainable Development 2012

In April 2009, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Stakeholder Forum held a conference on the theme "Towards a world summit for sustainable development in 2012". The aim of the conference was to look at the potential and scope for a global review of the sustainable development agenda leading up to a new World Summit in 2012. The conference touched on different subjects, including the issues of "a green economy" and "the role of stakeholders of all kinds working alongside governments". High level representatives from government, the UN, the EU institutions and various representatives from civil society gave their vision for a summit 20 years after Rio. Read their presentations and more at: <http://www.earthsummit2012.org/>.

Action Alerts

ForestEthics - Tell McGuinty: "Save the 'Bou!"

Heads or tails? Never before has a coin toss meant so much. The famous antlers that make the Canadian quarter so unique are disappearing from Canada's forests at an alarming rate. Once strong and abundant across the country, woodland caribou are making their last stand in the forests of Ontario, where they require undisturbed habitat—free from commercial logging—to survive. Ask Premier McGuinty to "grow some antlers" and take action now to protect our national icon before it's too late. Visit <http://www.savethebou.ca/> to take action now.

Sign CPAWS Pledge to "Make Forests Count!"

The Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS) has launched a public campaign inviting citizens in Canada and other countries to let decision makers know that in the next U.N. Convention on Climate Change, it's time to "make forests count." The campaign is timed to coincide with the final two months before the U.N. Climate Change summit in Copenhagen in December. Forest clear cutting and wetlands destruction are responsible for about one-third of all the extra greenhouse gases humans have put into the atmosphere since the start of the Industrial Revolution. When forests are logged or wetlands are drained they release stored carbon into the atmosphere as a greenhouse gas that contributes to global warming. Read more and sign the pledge at: <http://makeforestscount.org/>.

Employment

Pembina Institute - Communications Lead (Calgary)

The Pembina Institute is seeking a motivated, experienced and resourceful individual to lead its social networking efforts and participate in creating and executing communications plans in

renewable energy, climate change and oil sands portfolios. The successful candidate will possess superior popular writing skills, and have knowledge and experience promoting good public policy using social marketing tools. This person enjoys mentoring colleagues and possesses excellent media relations skills. Awareness of the challenges of promoting effective public policy in the fields of renewable energy, energy efficiency and climate change would be an asset. The deadline to apply is November 7, 2009. For more information, please visit www.pembina.org/about/jobs.

CIELAP – Policy Research Assistant / Youth Engagement Coordinator

CIELAP has been approved by the YMCA Youth Eco Internship Program as a host organization and is now seeking applications from eligible youth for the positions of Policy Research Assistant and Youth Engagement Programme Coordinator. Applicants must be approved by the Eco Internship Program to be eligible for either position. The deadline for applications is October 30, 2009. For more information, please visit www.cielap.org/EcoInternshipPositions.php. For more information about the YMCA Youth Eco Internship Program, to determine your eligibility, and to apply to the program, please visit <http://www.yeip.ca/>.