

RCEN e-Bulletin – September 30th, 2009 Edition

Network News

Pre-Copenhagen Climate Actions

With the December United Nations Climate Negotiations fast approaching, groups around the world are working overtime to organize special events that will highlight the need for a bold and fair climate deal in Copenhagen.

350: On October 24th, local actions in more than 128 countries will be held to highlight the number 350 – “as in parts per million, the level scientists have identified as the safe upper limit for CO₂ in our atmosphere.” The 350 campaign is calling on people around the world to organize an action on October 24 incorporating the number 350 at an iconic place in their community. Images from around the world will be collected and delivered to the media and world leaders to show how unified the global climate movement really is. **Learn more at <http://www.350.org/>**

Power Shift: On October 23-26, over 1000 young people will converge on Ottawa to take a message of bold, comprehensive and immediate federal climate action to Parliament Hill. Power Shift will be two days of training, strategy and action and one mass lobby day to hold elected officials accountable for their part to solve the climate crisis, and to build a cohesive and effective youth climate movement. Participants will also take part in **[Climate Day: Fill the Hill](#)** on the 24th. **Learn more at <http://powershiftcanada.org/>**

Several of the largest environmental organizations in Canada and around the world are joining forces with these initiatives. Please visit their websites to learn more and to join them this October.

Call for Delegates

Chemicals Management Plan Stakeholder Advisory Council

The RCEN is seeking one ENGO delegate to serve as the alternate on a Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Council to the Chemicals Management Plan (CMP). The Council will focus on the program implementation of the CMP. Issues may include risk assessment, risk management, risk communications, monitoring, research, indicators of success, and chemical policy. The focus will be on matters subsequent to the process of categorizing the Domestic Substances List, as well as cross-cutting, integrated activities across the CMP. There will be three face-to-face meetings a year, with the possibility of teleconference discussions and email exchanges as needed. The deadline to apply is October 5, 2009. [More information](#)

Call for Participation

It's Time for Your Organization to Join KYOTOplus!

Over 90 organizations have joined to help persuade our elected politicians to support a fair, binding and ambitious UN climate change agreement this December in Copenhagen, Denmark. Join now and help collect citizen signatures on the Climate Action Now! Petition and lobby MPs to endorse the Pledge for Canadian Politicians. Only 13 more MP endorsements to have majority support in Parliament! Read both texts at www.kyotoplus.ca and email Ruth ruth@kyotoplus.ca to find out more!

Come out for the October 24th Global Day of Action and tell the government and the world you want urgent government action on climate change! Over 100 events are being planned all over the country! To register your own event or to join an event already being planned, go to www.350.org.

Announcements

Planet in Focus' Green Pitch Competition

Always wanted to make a film about an environmental issue close to your heart? Struggling to find the finances to pull it together? Co-sponsored by the Canadian Environmental Network, the Planet in Focus Green Pitch Competition is an opportunity to pitch your idea to the people with the power to give your project the green light. With Environmental NGOs, broadcasters, producers and established filmmakers on board to lend their insight, this pitch session will give participants the opportunity to test their green story ideas in front of creative professionals. Finalists will gain valuable first-hand feedback as they present their pitches for the chance to win \$6000 in development funding and services! Previous Green Pitch winners include the directors of *Up the Yangtze* and *Sh*t*. The deadline for submissions is October 2nd, 2009. Visit <http://planetinfocus.org/> for more information.

Delegate Selection - Industrial Emissions Requirements Sectoral Sub-Group Consultations

The RCEN has selected 26 delegates to participate in 11 industry-specific sub-groups aimed at determining the appropriate base load emissions requirements for various industrial sectors as well as two cross-cutting sub-groups that will work on equipment standards that will be relevant across a number of sectors. [View the list of selected delegates](#)

Delegate Selection – RCEN Biodiversity Handbook Editor

The RCEN has selected Maggie Paquet, Citizens' Stewardship Coalition (BC), as the editor for the RCEN Biodiversity Handbook. The Handbook will gather 12 innovative and effective examples of ENGOs' work related to the conservation, sustainable use, and awareness of biodiversity into an attractive booklet format. [More information](#)

Delegate Selection - Mining Sector Performance Review Advisory Committee

The RCEN has selected two delegates to participate on the Mining Sector Performance Review Advisory Committee. The selected delegates are: Ramsey Hart, Mining Watch Canada (ON); and Linda Sheppard-Whalen, Centre for Long-Term Environmental Action in Newfoundland and Labrador (NL). The purpose of the Advisory Committee is to provide a range of informed perspectives that can support the review of performance improvements that have taken place in the mining sector in Canada over the last ten years. [More information](#)

Action Alerts

MiningWatch Canada - Support Legislation to Hold Canadian Mining Companies to Account for Abuses Overseas

According to MiningWatch, the Canadian government has consistently failed to create meaningful measures to regulate the activities of Canadian mining companies operating overseas. A private member's bill, number C-300, represents the best chance for urgently needed regulation. It is

currently being reviewed by the House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development. Your letters in support of Bill C-300 are urgently needed to ensure that Canadian mining companies live up to international human rights and labour standards and environmental best practices when they operate overseas, and that government financial and political support are not provided to companies that abuse human rights and the environment. Visit http://www.miningwatch.ca/index.php?/corporate_social_res/support_c300 for more information.

Unite 1 Million Global Youth in 100 Days

With only 100 days to go before the UN Climate Change Conference will take place in Copenhagen, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon and the Danish Government, recently endorsed PlanetCall.org, a website that aims to encourage 1 million youth to sign a declaration that calls for an ambitious new climate treaty. It also asks young people to share solutions and ideas for a better climate. The Planet Call Declaration, the number of signatures, and a description of next generation's willingness to adopt and improve sustainable solutions will be presented to the hosts of COP15 - the Danish government - and the UN. More information is available at <http://www.planetcall.org/>.

Resources

GoodWork Canada - How to Create your Own Green Job

Are you looking for green work, but haven't yet found what you're seeking? Would you love to green your career, but the opportunities aren't exactly falling in your lap? If so, here's an idea: rather than competing for existing jobs, why not create your own? Whether you want to work with an environmental group, green business or government, why wait for someone else to "give" you a job? If you're not sure how to get started, or how to find funding, go to <http://GoodWorkCanada.ca/CreateYourOwnGreenJob> for some essential ideas, starting points and resources for making it happen!

Events

Symposium on "Environmental Activism in a Time of Climate Change"

In the 40 years since the modern environmental movement emerged, it has been unsuccessful at shrinking the environmental footprint of the industrial societies from which it emerged. In the face of this and other realities, it is imperative we consider the appropriate role of environmental activism today and for the future. What is the role of environmental activism in a time of ecological decline? Is an environmental movement as it is constituted today still relevant? What kind of movement is best suited to address today's imperatives? To address these questions, the Conservation Council of New Brunswick and St. Thomas University's Environment and Society Program are hosting a symposium called "Environmental Activism in a Time of Climate Change". Taking place on October 16th in Fredericton (NB), the symposium is intended to generate debate and discussion within the environmental movement. To register, e-mail info@conservationcouncil.ca or call (506) 458-8747.

Employment

CCME - Reviewer of Current Approaches and Assumptions for Calculating Acid Deposition Critical Loads

The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) is seeking a Contractor to develop an approach to assess uncertainty in terrestrial critical load and exceedance estimates generated for Canadian ecosystems. The Contractor will then test the approach on available critical load exceedance estimates over a small area of Canada. In meeting the above, the Contractor will produce a framework for assessing uncertainty and sensitivity of critical load and exceedance estimates at a national scale that may form the basis for a future phase of this project. The closing date for submissions is October 6, 2009. Visit <http://www.ccme.ca/contracts/index.html#454> for more information.