

# CEN Forest Caucus Annual Report

## October 2002-October 2003

### Summary

In the past year the Forest Caucus published one newsletter, participated in many international and national forest meetings, worked to provide input into the National Forest Strategy and circulated regional, local and national information on our listserve. Caucus work was done by the forest caucus members and the staff coordinator, Chantal Bois. Caucus meetings took place through teleconferencing, with some planning by email.

For more information visit the Forest Caucus webpage at: <http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/caucuses/forest/index.html> or contact Rachel Plotkin ([rachelp@sierraclub.ca](mailto:rachelp@sierraclub.ca)) or Chantal Bois ([chantal@cen-rce.org](mailto:chantal@cen-rce.org)).

### Forest Caucus Steering Committee, 2002-2003:

Co Chair: Allyson Brady, Saskatchewan Environmental Society

Co-Chair: Rachel Plotkin, Sierra Club of Canada

Ontario: Chris Henschel, Wildlands League

BC and Yukon: Tyhson Banighen, Turtle Island Earth Stewards

Atlantic: Gary Schneider, Environmental Coalition of PEI

Prairies: Cliff Wallis, Friends of the Oldman River

[Note: Allyson Brady was sole Forest Caucus Chair from June—September, 2003, while Rachel Plotkin was on leave].

### 1. Caucus Goals, Vision Statement

The mandate of the CEN Forest Caucus is to share information, network, and use other tools to increase knowledge and promote the conservation of Canadian forests. The Forest Caucus respects and aims to include the great diversity of our membership in all our activities.

### 2. Activities from October 2002-October 2003

#### *January 2002: Publication of forest caucus newsletter*

Forest Caucus Newsletter produced and sent to Forest Caucus members, with a special theme: *Ecosystem-Based Management—What Is It?*

#### *February-April, 2003: Participation in development of National Forest Strategy*

A notice was put out over the forest caucus list serve for members interested in participating in an ENGO coalition to provide input to the development of the new National Forest Strategy (NFS). Forest Caucus co-chair Rachel Plotkin headed the ENGO coalition of caucus members who responded. The coalition did a number of things on the NFS file, including: the development of an ENGO vision, with indicators, that was brought to the NFS meeting in Winnipeg, participation in regional workshops and collaborative input on each of the NFS drafts. The result of the ENGO diligence was a strong National Forest Strategy with progressive objectives and action plan items.

March 10<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> -2003--Selection of ENGO Representatives on the Official Canadian Delegation for SBSTTA: United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD)

The CEN selected two ENGO Delegates to be part of the Official Canadian Delegation for the 8th Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTAA 8) to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD), and the Intersessional Meeting on Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW) of the Conference of the Parties (COP) up to 2010. These Meetings were held back-to-back 10-14 March 2003 (SBSTAA), and 17-20 March 2003 (MYPOW) respectively. The selected ENGO representative for the SBSTTA 8 meeting was Michelle Toering from the Centre for International Sustainable Development Law (CISDL), and the selected ENGO representative for MYPOW was Amelia Clarke from Sierra Club of Canada.

May 21-24--National Forum on Boreal Standard

The CEN Forest Caucus selected Chris Henschel from CPAWS-WILDLANDS LEAGUE as the ENGO representative for the National Forum on Boreal Standard held May 21-24 in Toronto.

May 26-June 6, 2003—participation in the United Nations Forum On Forests (UNFF3)

The CEN selected Boris Romaguer from the organization Ambioterra in Montréal to be the ENGO representative for the official Canadian Delegation for the third session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF3) to be held in Geneva from May 26 to June 6, 2003.

November 2002 to August, 2003: Ensure active participation of Canadian ENGOs at the XII World Forestry Conference (WFC)

Forest Caucus Coordinator Chantal Bois and Forest Caucus Co-chair Rachel Plotkin organized and attended several meetings with the Director of participation for the World Forestry Congress, Bob Irvine, (employed by Canadian Forest Service, NRCan) and his colleagues, requesting funding for forest caucus members to attend the WFC in Quebec. The CEN Forest Caucus was finally successful in securing the participation of [26 ENGO delegates](#) from across Canada at the [XII World Forestry Congress](#) (WFC). These 26 ENGOs had their registration, accommodation and transportation costs covered as well as an honorarium of \$400 for daily expenses during the Congress (\$50 per day).

The fund was secured through the Government of Canada [Climate Change Action Fund](#): [http://www.climatechange.gc.ca/ccaf\\_e](http://www.climatechange.gc.ca/ccaf_e)

Prior to the Congress, in 2001, CEN was asked to select two delegates from our Forest Caucus to be part of the Program Committee (one of the many WFC committees). Henri Jacob from the Réseau québécois des groupes écologistes and Allyson Brady of the Saskatchewan Environmental Society participated on the Program Committee of the WFC for the past two years. Their primary tasks were to plan and implement the activities of the program of the Congress. For example, the Program Committee took part in determining the themes and structure of the program; identified priority issues; determine speakers; and served as facilitators, secretaries and resource people during the Congress.

The WFC is an event planned under the auspices of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and is the largest international meeting of the world's forestry sector.

*September 21-28, 2003: World Forestry Conference, Quebec City*

Forest Caucus Coordinator Chantal Bois coordinated ENGO attendance to the WFC, organizing, in partnership with two other ENGOs, daily meetings for ENGOs to network, and come up with an ENGO statement. See the NGO statement and the final wFC Declaration on the Forest Caucus webpage: <http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/caucuses/forest/index.html>

### **3. Caucus Plans for 2003-2004**

- Publication of a special forest caucus newsletter that gives reports on the WFC from all of the ENGOs that were subsidized by the CEN Forest Caucus. Planned for November 2003
- Oversee the participation of an ENGO representative in the Canadian Official Delegation at the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA-9) to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD) to be held in Montreal, 10-14 November 2003.

The rest of the workplan is yet to be determined.

### **4. Caucus Budget for 2003-2004**

Funds will be requested as opportunities become available and needs are identified.