

**INPUT FROM CANADIAN NGOS TO THE CANADIAN DELEGATION TO CSD 18-19  
FEBRUARY 26, 2010**

**Appendix A: Youth Survey Results**

The following are the results of an online survey undertaken by the RCEN Youth Caucus that canvassed the opinions of over 100 young Canadians, ages 15 – 30, on their opinions about the issues of the Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD) 18-19.

**Mining**

- Page "Governmental Initiatives": Question 1

1. Governmental Initiatives: How would you rank the Government of Canada's actions in addressing the environmental effects of each of the following issues?				
	Excellent	Acceptable	Inadequate	I am not aware of this issue
Alberta Tar Sands	2 (1.4%)	4 (2.8%)	<b>125 (87.4%)</b>	12 (8.4%) /143
Boreal forest conservation	5 (3.5%)	33 (22.9%)	<b>74 (51.4%)</b>	32 (22.2%) /144
Protection of biodiversity	5 (3.5%)	40 (27.8%)	<b>76 (52.8%)</b>	24 (16.7%) /144
Protection of natural waterways	8 (5.6%)	26 (18%)	<b>79 (54.9%)</b>	32 (22.2%) /144
Air Quality	5 (3.5%)	40 (27.8%)	<b>81 (56.3%)</b>	19 (13.1%) /144
National Park conservation	14 (9.7%)	<b>68 (47.2%)</b>	36 (25%)	27 (18.8%) /144

- Page: Thematic Issue: Mining: Question 1

1. Cheviot open-pit coal mine - Jasper, Alberta ISSUE: Industrial development near a large protected area (Jasper National Park) & the destruction of wildlife habitat (Grizzly bears). How important is this kind of issue for you?	
<b>It is important (immediate action is necessary)</b>	<b>89 (68.5%)</b>
It is of medium importance (long term action is necessary)	40 (30.8%)
It has little importance (action is not necessary)	1 (0.8%) /130

- Page: Thematic Issue: Mining: Question 2

2. Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) Prevention – British Columbia ISSUE: In addition to killing aquatic organisms, AMD severely degrades water quality. By advocating for preventative measures, activists in British Columbia have been encouraging responsible mining that takes into account the impact of mining exploitation upon water quality and aquatic life. How important is this topic for you?	
<b>It is important (immediate action is necessary)</b>	<b>120 (92.3%)</b>
It is of medium importance (long term action is necessary)	8 (6.2%)
It has little importance (action is not necessary)	2 (1.5%) /130

- Page: Thematic Issue: Mining: Question 3

3. Spill of Toxic Chemicals – Sixteen Canadian lakes from BC to NL ISSUE: A 2002 amendment of the Metal Mining Effluent Regulation (MMER) reclassified lakes and other freshwater bodies as “tailings impoundment areas”. This has allowed mining companies to use an estimated sixteen Canadian lakes as dump sites for toxic mine waste. In 2008, a coalition of conservation, Aboriginal, and social justice organizations was created to encourage the use of existing technologies as an alternative to the dumping of toxic waste into natural bodies of water. How important is this topic for you?	
<b>It is important (immediate action is necessary)</b>	<b>124 (96.1%)</b>
It is of medium importance (long term action is necessary)	3 (2.3%)
It has little importance (action is not necessary)	2 (1.4%)/129

4. Free Entry Access, Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug (KI) First Nation, Ontario ISSUE: For a period of two years (2007-2009), a mining company known as Platinex attempted to exploit a chromium and platinum mine on KI traditional lands by invoking the "Free Entry Access" legal provision. Free Entry Access grants mining companies exclusive right to exploit Crown-owned mineral substances. In December 2009, the Government of Ontario resolved the three-year stand off and sided with the KI Community, prohibiting the company to exploit KI land. How do you feel about the decision that was taken by the provincial government?	
<b>I am satisfied</b>	<b>85 (66.4%)</b>
I am not satisfied	33 (25.8%)
I am indifferent	10/128 (7.8%)

## Toxic Chemicals

1. Governmental Initiatives: How would you rank the Government of Canada's actions in addressing the environmental effects of each of the following issues?				
	Excellent	Acceptable	Inadequate	I am not aware of this issue
Protection of natural waterways	8 (5.6%)	26 (18%)	<b>79 (54.9%)</b>	32 (22.2%) /144
Air Quality	5 (3.5%)	40 (27.8%)	<b>81 (56.3%)</b>	19 (13.1%) /144

- Page: Thematic Issue: Toxic Chemicals, Question 1

1. INITIATIVE: During the Montreal Protocol discussions, it was decided to eliminate the production and consumption of methyl bromide (CH <sub>3</sub> Br), a chemical product used for fruit production, as it is an ozone-depleting substance. The deadline for the progressive elimination of CH <sub>3</sub> Br was January 1st, 2010. How do you feel about the decision that was taken by the Government of Canada?	
<b>I am satisfied (ENG)</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>I agree (FR)</b>	<b>20</b>
I am not satisfied (ENG)	16
I disagree (FR)	0
I am indifferent	15

- Page: Thematic Issue: Toxic Chemicals, Question 2

2. INITIATIVE: In October 2008, Canada was the first country in the world to ban the import and the sale of baby bottles that contained Bisphenol A (BPA). The Government also announced that it would invest 1.7 million dollars for research related to that chemical. How you feel about the action that was taken by the Government of Canada?	
<b>I am satisfied (ENG)</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>I agree (FR)</b>	<b>20</b>
I am not satisfied (ENG)	17
I disagree (FR)	0
I am indifferent	14

- Page: Thematic Issue: Toxic Chemicals, Question 3

3. INITIATIVE: The Government of Canada was among the first countries in the world to create a Chemicals Management Plan. Between 1999 and 2006, more than 23,000 chemicals were classified, of which 4,300 were identified as potentially being harmful to health and/or the environment. Those chemicals were ranked in order of priority in three categories: high, medium or low. Currently, the Government of Canada is conducting consultations to decide the best approach to manage the 500 most harmful products (classified as "high priority"). How you feel about the action that was taken by the Government of Canada?	
<b>I am satisfied (ENG)</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>I agree (FR)</b>	<b>23</b>
I am not satisfied (ENG)	38
I disagree (FR)	0
I am indifferent	4

**Waste**

- Page "Governmental Initiatives": Question 1

1. Governmental Initiatives: How would you rank the Government of Canada's actions in addressing the environmental effects of each of the following issues?				
	Excellent	Acceptable	Inadequate	I am not aware of this issue
Protection of natural waterways	8 (5.6%)	26 (18%)	<b>79 (54.9%)</b>	32 (22.2%) /144
Air Quality	5 (3.5%)	40 (27.8%)	<b>81 (56.3%)</b>	19 (13.1%) /144

## Transportation

- Page "Governmental Initiatives": Question 1

1. Governmental Initiatives: How would you rank the Government of Canada's actions in addressing the environmental effects of each of the following issues?				
	Excellent	Acceptable	Inadequate	I am not aware of this issue
Air Quality	5 (3.5%)	40 (27.8%)	<b>81 (56.3%)</b>	19 (13.1%) /144

- Page: Thematic Issue: Transports: Question 1

1. SCENARIO: In April 2006, the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) launched a fleet of hybrid buses as a means of reducing pollution in the City of Toronto. However, this fleet of buses cost 50% more than the typical diesel-run buses. Do you think your municipality should take the same kind of initiative despite the increase in costs?	
<b>It is important (my municipality should act immediately)</b>	<b>73 (59.8%)</b>
It is of medium importance (it can be acted upon at a later time)	24 (19.7%)
It is not important	4 (3.3%)
My municipality has already taken this initiative	15 (12.3%)
This kind of initiative is not applicable to my municipality	6 (4.9%) /122
If it is not applicable, please explain why	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- My municipality doesn't have public transportation, unfortunately (NB)</li> <li>- So few buses that the money would be better spent elsewhere. (BC)</li> <li>- The population is less than 6000 and cannot support a</li> </ul>

	transit system (ON) - Population is under 1000 (ON) - Small Town, less than 1500 people. However, initiatives being taken to organise a shuttle service between my town and the closest city, using buses. This initiative is not yet in place, so I consider it to be non applicable yet. but will be soon. (NB) - biodiesels and other forms of transportation (ie cycling infrastructure) should also be developed (NS)
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- Page: General: Question 1

**\*\*Important Notice:** Youth rated transport as being the second most important theme to be discussed at the CSD

1. Out of the five themes that will be discussed at the CSD 18/19, <b>which two themes</b> do you consider most important?	
sustainable consumption & production patterns	87
waste management	37
mining	27
chemicals	28
<b>transport</b>	<b>48</b>

## Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns

- Page "Governmental Initiatives": Question 1

1. Governmental Initiatives: How would you rank the Government of Canada's actions in addressing the environmental effects of each of the following issues?				
	Excellent	Acceptable	Inadequate	I am not aware of this issue
Alberta Tar Sands	2 (1.4%)	4 (2.8%)	<b>125 (87.4%)</b>	12 (8.4%) /143
Development of renewable energy	3 (2.1%)	27 (18.8%)	<b>107 (74.3%)</b>	8 (5.6%)/144
Agricultural subsidies	2 (1.4%)	27 (18.8%)	<b>65 (45.1%)</b>	51 (35.4%) /144
Awareness of environmental issues amongst the general public	3 (2.1%)	22 (15.3%)	<b>114 (79.2%)</b>	6 (4.2%)/144

- Page: Private Sector Responsibilities: Question 1

1. SCENARIO: Assume a private-sector business is seeking to implement an initiative to help in the fight against environmental degradation. Given the following list of potential initiatives, which initiative do you believe most effective for this business?	
Organize a youth environmental conference	7 (5.1%)
<b>Implement a carbon-neutral company policy</b>	<b>61 (44.9%)</b>
Provide scholarships for students engaged in environmental issues	9 (6.6%)
Establish a foundation to offer grants to environmental NGOs	37 (27.2%)
Offer funding to researchers in the environmental sector	22 (16.2%) /136

- Page: Thematic Issue: Sustainable Consumption and Production, Question 1

1. To what degree do the different levels of Government promote sustainable consumption and production patterns on the following themes?					
	A lot	Enough	Little	Not at all	I have no opinion on this theme
Development planning (urban sprawl)	5 (4.4%)	20 (17.7%)	<b>56 (49.6%)</b>	23 (20.4%)	9 (8%) /113
Infrastructure	7 (6.2%)	22 (19.5%)	<b>47 (41.6%)</b>	23 (20.4%)	14 (12.4%) /113
Poverty alleviation strategies	4 (3.6%)	14 (12.5%)	<b>51 (45.5%)</b>	28 (25%)	15 (13.4%) /112
Agriculture and livestock	2 (1.8%)	16 (14.2%)	<b>46 (40.7%)</b>	33 (29.2%)	16 (14.2%) /113
Private sector regulations	3 (2.7%)	9 (8%)	<b>63 (55.8%)</b>	24 (21.2%)	14 (12.4%) /113
Life-cycle analysis	2 (1.8%)	11 (9.7%)	33 (29.2%)	<b>47 (41.6%)</b>	20 /113
Energy-efficiency standards	13	25	<b>61</b>	9	5 (4.4%) /113
Promotion of corporate social responsibility	4 (3.5%)	15 (13.3%)	<b>43 (38.1%)</b>	37 (32.8%)	14 (12.4%) /113

- Page: Thematic Issue: Sustainable Consumption and Production, Question 2

2. To what degree does the private sector promote sustainable consumption and production patterns relating to the following themes?					
	A lot	Enough	Little	Not at all	I have no opinion on this theme
community involvement	5 (4.4%)	26 (23%)	<b>57 (50.4%)</b>	17 (15%)	8 (7.1%) /113
office space	1 (0.9%)	17 (15.2%)	<b>54 (48.2%)</b>	25 (22.3%)	15 (13.4%) /112
business travel	2 (0.9%)	8 (7.1%)	<b>51 (45.5%)</b>	37 (33%)	14 (12.5%) /112
(re)use of resources	3 (2.7%)	13 (11.5%)	<b>69 (61.1%)</b>	23 (20.4%)	5 (4.4%) /113
waste management	5 (4.5%)	16 (14.4%)	<b>62 (55.9%)</b>	22 (19.9%)	6 (5.4%) /111

- Page: Thematic Issue: Sustainable Consumption and Production, Question 3

**\*\*Important Notice:** This question would be perfect to highlight youth's best practices to show how involved they are. You can even include the comments they have made (see below)

3. On a personal level, to what degree are you adopting the following consumption and production practices?					
	Always	Often	Rarely	Never	The installations are not available
reuse of consumer products (bottles, bags, clothes)	<b>76 (67.3%)</b>	33 (29.2%)	3 (2.7%)	1 (0.9%) /113	
water conservation	<b>52 (46%)</b>	48 (42.5%)	10 (11.5%)	2 (1.8%)	1 (0.9%) /113 (this section should be N/A for this question)
green form of transport (bus, biking, walking)	<b>60 (53.6%)</b>	44 (39.3%)	8 (7.1%) /112		
energy efficiency	38 (33.9%)	<b>67 (59.8%)</b>	4 (3.6%)	1 (0.9%)	2 (1.8%) /112 (this section should be N/A for this question)
recycling	<b>94 (83%)</b>	14 (12.4%)	4 (3.5%)	0	1 (0.9%) /113
composting	<b>40 (35.4%)</b>	28 (24.8%)	16 (14.2%)	13 (11.5%)	16 (14.2%)/113
grow food at home	12 (0.9%)	27 (23.9%)	<b>31 (27.4%)</b>	26 (23%)	17 (15%)/113

**If you have adopted other sustainable practices, please write them below:**

- Chose bus over air travel
- reduce buying of consumer products

- buy local, fair trade/organic, products with less chemicals
- eating local, organic food
- I try to buy local and organic food

1. Governmental Initiatives: How would you rank the Government of Canada's actions in addressing the environmental effects of each of the following issues?

- While at University, composting and growing my own food isn't available, but my parents have always done these at home.
- buying fewer things, making natural cleaning products
- local eating, veganism, lobbying for systemic sustainability, reduce purchasing
- I've unplugged my refrigerator
- solar hot water
- buying local products when possible/or organic when local is not possible
- Eating a vegetarian and local/organic diet; purchasing second hand items whenever possible; eliminating unnecessary travel
- smart consuming (buying reduced packaging items, local produce)
- purchase organic food, buy organic cotton clothing, purchase offsets for my travel.
- Workshops to bring awareness about the environment (sharing in my community)

- Page: General: Question 1

**\*\*Important Notice:** Youth rated SCPP as being the most important theme to be discussed at the CSD

1. Out of the five themes that will be discussed at the CSD 18/19, **which two themes** do you consider most important?

<b>sustainable consumption &amp; production patterns</b>	<b>87</b>
waste management	37
mining	27
chemicals	28
transport	48

**Other (but interesting)**

- Page "Governmental Initiatives": Question 1

	Excellent	Acceptable	Inadequate	I am not aware of this issue
Climate change (Canada's international position)	3	11	<b>128</b>	3
Environmental degradation in the North & the Arctic	4	8	<b>118</b>	14