

# Canadian Environmental Network

## CONSULTATION REPORT FORM

*(a cautionary note – the information you provide in this report may be posted on the CEN website and will NOT BE treated as CONFIDENTIAL)*

**Title of Consultation:** Parks Canada Youth Engagement Conference

**Date(s) held:** April 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**Location:** Sheraton Four Points Hotel in Gatineau, Quebec

**Delegate Name and Affiliation:** Graeme Bousada  
Affiliated through Eco-Action, an ENGO in the the New Brunswick Environmental Network

**Number of ENGO Delegates at Consultation:** 1

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### **What was the purpose of the consultation?**

The consultation was enquiring youth how Parks Canada could further engage youth in National Parks, National Historic Sites and UNESCO World Heritage Sites

### **What were the outcomes of the consultation?**

Though the concrete outcomes will only manifest themselves in the future, generally I feel like the consultation was an all around positive experience. I contributed to the meeting mostly in by making reference to environmental education. The general conclusion encompassed a wide range of suggestions from all participants.

### **What are the implications of the outcomes of the consultation?**

Similar to the outcomes, the implications of the consultation will be that more youth will engaged in matters surrounding place-based education. I firmly believe the facilities that Parks Canada is in charge of, with proper facilitation, can be used to compliment the formal education system in Canada. Unfortunately, it is not Parks Canada's responsibility to facilitate this process and it is here where civil society, specifically the ENGO community plays an integral role, collaborating with Parks Canada in programs directed towards youth.

### **What action, in your opinion, should be taken by the ENGO community in the aftermath of this consultation?**

I believe the most important actions that the ENGO community can take is to work with Parks Canada more in order to facilitate educational programs directed towards youth. Furthermore, I believe the value of Parks Canada sites could be fully realized only if citizens used them more. It is people already in the ENGO community, likely already appreciative of the environmental and cultural conversation done by Parks Canada, that need to take the lead to ensure interest in our national treasures do not fall by the wayside.