



Nova Scotia
Environmental Network
Connecting for a Sustainable Future

Eco Connections Newsletter July 2016

Welcome!

Below you will find **events** (starting on page 2), **jobs postings** (page 5), **opportunities** (page 6), and **news** (page 11). *Eco Connections* is published on a monthly basis around the middle of each month. To have your submissions included or to receive the *Eco Connections* directly, email: nseenvironmentalnetwork@gmail.com.

Get in touch!

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/NovaScotiaEnvironmentalNetwork

Website: <http://nseenvironmentalnetwork.com/events>

Email: nseenvironmentalnetwork@gmail.com

Membership: Membership Matters!

We look forward to new and renewing members' input on issues of importance to you. We trust that NSEN can be a conduit and resource hub for your concerns and an opportunity to communicate with others in order to create the political will for a healthier environment in Nova Scotia. Please feel free to write to the newsletter in these regards.

NSEN would like to thank **Clean Annapolis River Project** for renewing their membership!

Member feature:

Clean Annapolis River Project vision is "ecologically healthy watersheds", and their mission is to enhance the ecological health of the Annapolis River watershed through science, leadership, and community engagement.

STAND UP AND BE COUNTED

Renew your membership, let your fellow organizations know about us! The bigger our numbers, stronger our voice! There is a lot of enthusiasm for re-energizing the network, membership is key. If your membership has lapsed please renew or if you know of other organizations who are new or newly forming please encourage them to renew. **Do you see your events listed below? Then please support the work!** 😊

We would like to reemphasize that numbers count- the number of organizations and number of members per group. Please let us know of your membership numbers since this is a number we can show put a high priority on the environment. There are many opportunities for open dialogue and working in partnership across the province. Help us build our numbers and expertise. JOIN TODAY! See details of benefits and how to join here: <http://nseenvironmentalnetwork.com/how-to-join>.

Looking for board members: We're looking for you! NSEN is looking to expand the board. Having a board is the cornerstone of a strong network and NSEN is obviously a province-wide organization and we would like this province-wide reach of the network to be reflected in the makeup of our board! It's easy to join in via teleconference. We encourage participation from members from all regions of the province. Be in touch with me and I'll send your email to the board: nseenvironmentalnetwork@gmail.com.

Specifically we're looking for those interested in being:

- Note taker
- Membership Coordinator
- Fundraiser

NSEN CAUCUSES

NEW! Climate Change Caucus:

If you would like to get involved in helping to shape Canada's response to climate change, join NSEN's Climate Caucus. We want to get started on this important work now to be ready for the roll out of initiatives expected this fall. Province-wide representation is needed if we are to be successful in meeting our climate commitments. Teleconference is available to facilitate participation from all regions. Contact Heather Johannesen: heatherj@ns.sympatico.ca to sign up!

On June 28th, M.P. Andy Fillmore hosted a town hall on climate change that was the second-best attended in the country, after the one hosted by the Minister of Environment and Climate Change. Check out NSEN's Climate Caucus webpage for feedback on the town hall: <https://nsenvironmentalnetwork.com/about/caucuses/climate-change>

Water Caucus:

No upcoming meetings. Be in touch for more info: Amy Buckland-Nicks: amy@coastalaction.org and Kelly Schnare kellyb@sierraclub.ca

Environmental and Sustainability Education Caucus: Like the Caucus on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/Environmental-and-Sustainability-Education-Caucus-ESEC-215913805454788 ! Once you click the page, you can hit "like" and then it will allow you to 1) post to the page, if you want to share upcoming events/info/etc., and 2) see everything that's posted to the page in your newsfeed.

The purpose of the Facebook page is to further the ESEC's primary mission of raising the profile of environmental education in NS, increasing communication and connecting environmental educators.

See some of the members of the ESE Caucus here: <https://nsenvironmentalnetwork.com/about/caucuses/esec/>

Other Caucuses: Find out how you can get involved: <http://nsenvironmentalnetwork.com/about/caucuses/>

Upcoming Member Events & Events of Interest

July and onward...

CARP's Annapolis River Festival, July 16

Jubilee Park, Bridgetown, Annapolis County

This daylong event is a celebration of the environmental, historical, cultural, and recreational values of the Annapolis River. Highlights include Dragon Boat races, a variety of canoe races (sprint, paddle-portage, obstacle course), guided historical/natural heritage boat tours, "Ribs on the River" smoked rib competition, "Pork in the Park" food tent with local craft beer and wine, canoe exhibit with live demonstrations, kids' games, and live music.

For more information: www.annapolisriver.ca/riverfest or find us on Facebook "CARP's Annapolis River Festival"

Environmental Movie Series Topic: An awesome environmental movie to engage and inspire you!

Location: Halifax North Memorial Library, 2285 Gottingen Street

Time: 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Date: 3rd Wednesday of every month

Fusion Halifax's Sustainability Action Team is hosting a monthly Environmental Movie Series to get you over the hump of Wednesday, with an engaging group discussion to follow! Find more event details at facebook.com/FUSIONHalifax, or contact sustainability@fusionhalifax.ca with any questions.

Schedule:

July 20, 2016: Cool It

August 17, 2016: No Impact Man

September 21, 2016: The Age of Stupid

October 19, 2016: Blue Gold: World Water Wars

November 16, 2016: The End of the Line

December 21, 2016: White Christmas

Field Leader – Overnight Course July 23-24, Economy

A Field Leader – Overnight module will be offered in Economy on July 23 and 24. Participants receive Outdoor Council of Canada (OCC) national certification. A pre-requisite to the course is at least one OCC Field Leader course. All of the instruction is outdoors, including an overnight hiking trip. The cost is \$125 (\$115 for current paid Hike NS members and \$100 for Duke of Ed leaders). The course is offered through Hike Nova Scotia in partnership with the Nova Scotia Chapter of the OCC and supported by the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage. For more information, go to <http://www.hikenovascotia.ca/projects/leadership-hiking-course/>.

Imagine taking a weekend to immerse yourself in painting or writing or culinary arts (or all!), nestled in a pristine woodland setting on the beautiful Atlantic seashore. Excellent instruction, meeting new friends or joining old friends, delicious fresh local food prepared for you, birdsong and frog trills as your alarm clock . . . what are you waiting for?

July 23-24: Baking with whole grains with Doug Brown. Learn the basics of whole wheat/grain bread making from well known Nova Scotia organic (wood-fired oven) baker Doug Brown, a presenter at the first and subsequent Kneading Conferences in Skowhegan. His breads have garnered rave reviews from attendees at ACORN conferences, the PEI Organic Producers annual dinners (some hosted by Chef Michael Smith), as well as other Maritime events. His breads can be found at the Annapolis Royal farmers market, D'Aubin's family meat market, Noggins Farm Markets in Alderney and Greenwich, Vegetorium, and EOS. Saturday evening Introduction to the basics of bread making – ingredients and their roles and importance. Baker's terminology, math, and methods. Preparation for Sunday baking: soaking grains, fruits, mixing pre-ferments for different breads and pizza dough. Sunday: A prompt 9 am start. Following breakfast participants get hands on experience dealing with different bread types and different flours, including spelt and kamut/khorasan. This is strictly a whole wheat/grain affair. No white flour present. Break for lunch to include participants making pizza doughs (with wheat, a spelt, and a kamut flours) and the pizzas themselves with fresh ingredients and top-of the line cheeses. After lunch, a continuation of working with doughs followed by down time as the breads ferment. More discussion, rest, a walk on the beach. Done by supertime and everyone gets to take bread home. Class limited to 12.

Symphony of the Soil movie, free screening. July 28, 6:30pm, Halifax Central Library. All welcome.

Co-presented by Common Roots Urban Farm, the Ecology Action Centre's Food Action Committee, and the Halifax Shambhala Centre's Gardening Goodness Project, this event will feature a panel discussion and Q&A session with biochemist Jason Hofman, organics specialist Av Singh, and permaculture specialist & activist Jenn Stotland, moderated by food garden advocate David Wimberly.

About Symphony of the Soil:

Drawing from ancient knowledge and cutting edge science, Symphony of the Soil is an artistic exploration of the miraculous substance soil. By understanding the elaborate relationships and mutuality between soil, water, the atmosphere, plants and animals, we come to appreciate the complex and dynamic nature of this precious resource. The film also examines our human relationship with soil, the use and misuse of soil in agriculture, deforestation and development, and the latest scientific research on soil's key role in ameliorating the most challenging environmental issues of our time. Filmed on four continents, featuring esteemed scientists and working farmers and ranchers, Symphony of the Soil is an intriguing presentation that highlights possibilities of healthy soil creating healthy plants creating healthy humans living on a healthy planet.

More at: <https://www.facebook.com/GardeningGoodnessProject/?fref=ts> or davidwimberly@gmail.com or [902-826-7846](tel:902-826-7846)

July 29-31: Chainsaw Skills and Safety, Women Only. A hands-on course with instructor Patrick Allan teaching bucking, directional felling, safe use, and maintenance. Participants come away with knowledge and practice to safely and competently use a saw. Learn the saw from the inside out, safe use, sharpening the chain, proper maintenance, how to buck wood, and the dos and don'ts of working both with downed and standing wood. Sunday participants learn to fell trees, working in a woodlot at the Harrison Lewis Centre. Workshop limited to eight participants.

Email HLC@eastlink.ca for more information on workshops or to register.

August and onward...

Truth and Reconciliation Commission Reading Group

The Ecology Action Centre has decided to take on the [TRC Reading Challenge](#): we are challenging ourselves and our membership to read the full summary report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). We are committing to this in order to hear the report directly and sincerely, to educate ourselves and increase our understanding of the impacts and legacy of residential schools in Canada, and to understand what the TRC's 94 Calls to Action mean for us as an organization and in our own lives. We invite you to join us on this journey! We will explore the report together through a monthly reading group, which will meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 5:30pm. We had our first session on July 6th, but interested folk are still welcome to join for by our next session on August 10th. To sign up for the group, click here: <https://www.ecologyaction.ca/civicrm/event/register?reset=1&id=92> If you have any questions, please contact Joanna at communications@ecologyaction.ca or call [902-454-5226](tel:902-454-5226).

Come celebrate **15 years of Helping Nature Heal** this summer. August 13th from 1-5 pm at Freeman's Forest. <http://helpingnatureheal.com/news/>

August 12-14: Plein air watercolour painting with Roger Savage, RCA. The richness and variety of on-site painting motifs (rugged beach, forest, bog, and ponds) will be our inspiration for this unique weekend workshop. The group will be small to allow for one-on-one painting tips as well as daily critiques and demo paintings by the resource artist. Participants should have drawing skills, know the names of their colours, and have had some previous painting experience. Friday evening there'll be a technical review and hands-on watercolour exercises. We'll paint on location the following two days, and wrap-up the program at 4 pm Sunday. Roger is an experienced watercolour artist having led workshops in Cuba, Bermuda, Germany, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island. His work sparkles with light, energy and is painted directly on location, inspired by sites as familiar as Port Mouton, N.S., and remote as Sable and Ellesmere Islands (www.rogersavage.ca). Enrollment limited to 12 participants.

Call for Fall 2016 Guided Hikes by Aug. 15

Once again, Hike NS invites groups across NS to partner with it on delivering fall guided hikes in September and October of 2016. The purpose of the event series is to: 1) get more people in NS hiking; 2) highlight local trails and increase their use; and 3) promote Hike NS and local trail groups. Hike NS will help promote events, provide a how-to guide and provide trail prizes to giveaway.

If you and your local municipality or organization can organize a hike (or already plan to host a hike), please register your event here <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RR2XLQ2> by August 15 for events between Sept. 10 and Oct. 30. Note that one organization may register only up to five hikes.

August 19-21: Chainsaw Skills and Safety, Open Course. A hands-on course with instructor Patrick Allan teaching bucking, directional felling, safe use, and maintenance. Participants come away with knowledge and

practice to safely and competently use a saw. Learn the saw from the inside out, safe use, sharpening the chain, proper maintenance, how to buck wood, and the dos and don'ts of working both with downed and standing wood. Sunday participants learn to fell trees, working in a woodlot at the Harrison Lewis Centre. Workshop limited to eight participants. Email HLC@eastlink.ca for more information on workshops or to register.

Hope for Wildlife Annual Open House

5909 Highway 207, Seaforth, NS B0J 1N0

Sunday, August 28, 2016, 12-4pm

Get a "behind-the-scenes" look at wildlife rescue and rehabilitation with access to bird and mammal nurseries, recovery units, marine unit, and flight cage; there will also be wildlife displays and demonstrations, kids' activities, live music, barbeque, and silent auction, as well as local exhibitors, crafts, and food. All funds raised support Hope for Wildlife's efforts to help injured and orphaned wildlife in Nova Scotia. Rain or shine, FREE ADMISSION. For more information, please visit hopeforwildlife.net

September 9-11: Writing from nature with award-winning poet, naturalist, and environmentalist Harry Thurston, This Friday evening to Sunday afternoon workshop is designed to sharpen observational skills, the foundation not only of nature writing but of all good writing. Focus will be on writing about the natural world. Practical exercises will include the writing of a prose poem – a hybrid and highly flexible form – taking as subject a natural object from the environment surrounding the Harrison Lewis Centre on one of the most protected and beautiful stretches of Nova Scotia's South Shore. Participants are asked to submit a short prose piece or small selection of poems three weeks prior to the workshop date. Workshop gets underway at 7 pm, Friday, September 9 (harrythurston.ca/). Enrollment limited to 12 participants.

Nature Trust 19th Annual Dinner & Auction

A visual exploration of nature raising critical funds to help us protect Conservation Lands Nova Scotia Hear renowned environmental conservationist Peter Forbes speak about the unique relationship between people and land.

Thursday, November 3rd, 2016

Tickets: visit nsnt.ca, or call (902) 425-5263

Details and updates: nsnt.ca/newsevents/dinner

Job Postings:

GIS Conservation Planner—Contract Position

Position: GIS Conservation Planner

Type: 12-month contract (see below)

Organization: Nova Scotia Nature Trust

Location: Halifax, Nova Scotia

Remuneration/Term: Compensation will be commensurate with experience. The contract is to begin as soon as possible and will extend for 12 months (potentially more depending on funding)

Application Process:

Application deadline: Applications will be accepted until such time as the position is filled. Interviews will be ongoing.

See full details here: www.goodwork.ca/job=35510

Position: Student Engagement Officer

Type: student position

Organization: Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group

Location: Halifax, Nova Scotia

Summer & Part Time Job Opportunity at NSPIRG

The Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group (NSPIRG), is now accepting applications for a

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT OFFICER (SEO) Coordinator

DEADLINE: Until Found

WORK TERM: ASAP to October 28th, 2016

WAGE & HOURS

ASAP to August 27th: 30 hrs. per week at 15\$ per hour.

August 28th to 18th November: 10hrs per week at 15\$ per hour.

Hours are flexible and will vary according to the workload of the given week.

See full details here: www.goodwork.ca/job=35180

Environmental Opportunities:

The Growing Green Festival is celebrating its 8th anniversary. We are excited the year to introduce the Earth Savers of Tomorrow program on Friday September 16th. This is an opportunity for students in Grades 3 - 6 from South Shore Regional School board to attend the Growing Green Festival. We will be hosting between 1200 - 1700 students in total. They will be visiting in 2 hour time blocks and we are looking for local community groups, organizations and businesses that are interested in providing 15 minute info/workshop sessions with students in this age group. It is a very exciting opportunity and each vendor will see approximately 400 students during the process.

The Sustainability Fair is open to the public on Saturday September 17th from 1pm to 7 pm. This event is a showcase of all things sustainable and green in our community. We hosted between 700 - 1000 people at last year's event.

I am happy to share more details if this is something you think you would be interested in attending.

Thanks for your consideration.

Bernice

Bernice Theriault

Growing Green Festival Coordinator

Town of Bridgewater

60 Pleasant Street

Bridgewater, NS B4V 3X9

t. [902.543.0434](tel:9025430434)

f. [902.543.6876](tel:9025436876)

website. www.growinggreenfest.com

twitter. [@GrowingGreenNS](https://twitter.com/GrowingGreenNS)

Free online non-profit resources from Dalhousie University - sample policies and governance guides such as chairing board meetings and board self-evaluation. Check it out [HERE](#).

Nonprofit Leadership Program

This is a demanding program prepares you with knowledge and skills in strategic leadership, finances, marketing, human resource management, partnerships and fundraising. Nonprofits play a key role in improving our communities and our quality of life. [Click here for more.](#)

News release from the **Campaign to Protect Offshore Nova Scotia (CPONS)**: CPONS is urging Nova Scotians, and anyone else who supports our concerns, to endorse our campaign by simply sending an affirmative statement to southshore.cpons@gmail.com; printing the petition (found [here](#) under ACTIONS), collecting signatures, and mailing it to us; and/or liking our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ProtectOffshoreNS>. Also welcome is a letter of support which can also be sent to southshore.cpons@gmail.com.

The Outdoor Network Launch

We had a successful launch of the Nova Scotia Outdoor Network on June 14 in Truro with about 50 people in attendance from across the outdoor sector. We're looking forward to connecting with you as we "*facilitate more communication, sharing, collaboration and celebration in the outdoor community.*" View the event [news release](#) and coverage on [Global TV](#). Check our social media feeds below for photos from the event.

Become a Member

Please sign up to [become a member of the Outdoor Network](#). This is how you can stay connected to the network through our monthly e-news and through invitations to special events and other opportunities. While membership in the Network is free, please consider showing your support financially by becoming a paid [member of Recreation Nova Scotia](#).

Add Your Events & Skill Building Opportunities to The Website

We had to work through a few glitches recently, but the <http://nsoutdoornetwork.ca> is ready and waiting for you to login to post your outdoor events or skill building opportunities. Simply [create a login](#), click on the events or skill building (courses) tabs at the top and click on add a new event or course. The website is a work in progress, so if you encounter issues or have suggestions, please let me know. You can also "Get the inside on the outside" by searching for events and opportunities.

Join a Working Group

Consider becoming an active member of one of the Outdoor Network's [working groups](#). The six working groups will take aspects of the strategic plan and create action plans. View the [strategic plan](#) and the [notes from the working group discussions](#) at the launch.

Follow & Engage with us on Social Media

Be sure to follow us on social media:

<https://www.facebook.com/nsoutdoornetwork/>

<https://twitter.com/nsoutdoornet>

<https://www.instagram.com/nsoutdoornet/>

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/recreation-nova-scotia>

Promising Practices

Please add to our database of promising practices for the Shared Strategy for Advancing Recreation in Nova Scotia found here <http://www.recreationns.ns.ca/resources-3/promising-practices/>. Please click on "add to database" at the bottom of the page to start sharing. This is not yet "live" but will be launched at the Recreation Nova Scotia Conference on September 28/29 in New Glasgow. We want this to be an easy process for you, so if you need assistance or if it would be easier for someone to help you, please contact our summer student, Michelle, by reply email (student@recreationns.ns.ca) or call [902-425-1128 ext. 4](tel:902-425-1128). She can also answer questions you may have. Thanks and we hope to have you participate!

Position: Volunteer on a Greenpeace ship this summer

Organization: [Greenpeace Canada](#)

Location: [Halifax](#), Nova Scotia

Dates: late July (see below)

This summer, one of Greenpeace's flagships, the Esperanza, will sail up to Clyde River, Nunavut to amplify the voices of the community, support their struggle against seismic blasting and deliver their first solar energy system. For more information on Clyde River, visit: <https://www.savethearctic.org/en-CA/clyde-river/>

Before sailing up, we will be in Halifax with the ship for several days of public events, including Open Boat tours, campaign presentations and many other fun activities! Would you like to get involved? We need lots of volunteers to make this a successful project!

The Esperanza will be in Halifax at the end of July. The public activities will be happening mostly on Saturday July 29th through Monday, August 1st.

Please fill out this short form if you are interested in getting involved or learning more:

<http://goo.gl/forms/EvsAFhYztsosPTCP2>

AVIVA Community Fund

First launched in October 2009, the Aviva Community Fund asked Canadians to submit their ideas and vote for

causes on the competition's online portal. Canadians overwhelmingly answered the call, proposing over 2,000 ideas, casting more than two million votes in support of causes from every province and territory. It's back! Click [HERE](#).

nim-bē

(Not In My Back Yard)

A documentary. A story about environmental activists who never meant to become activists, and the problems they're fighting in Nova Scotia

Hello Everyone,

Stacey Rudderham and friends (Fall River) are filming a documentary entitled "Not in My Backyard" (NIMBY). The documentary focuses on environmental activists in the province who never meant to become activists. Please see information (below) about the documentary that Stacey sent me and contact her if you are interested in being interviewed for the film.

She is looking for community members of diverse races, ethnicities, and cultures who are/have recently become environmental activists and are willing to share their stories and experiences on film.

Please note that the documentary team will come to you to film the interview.

Stacey Rudderham

slrudderham@bellaliant.net

What is the documentary about?

Communities across Nova Scotia are fighting not only big corporations but also our own government, to protect our land, air and water. It shouldn't be that way. These are the three things we need to live. Some of us are fighting decades' long battles to end the poisoning and sickness, while the rest of us are fighting to prevent the same thing from happening where we live. We have heard from the corporations and the government for many years. They make promises or provide spin. But they never fix anything. They never fix what they broke. They move into our communities with exaggerated promises of jobs, economic spin-off and responsible stewardship. But quickly and indefinitely, we watch it go very bad.

On the other side, we are ignored, coddled, patronized and treated many times like the enemy. The companies supply inaccurate, best case scenarios, they assure everyone it'll be fine, the neighbors are wrong, but provide no proof. The proof follows after the damage is already done and then decades later we still have to fight to get effects stopped and corrected. Government treats us (us! the "good guys"!) as adversaries, extremists, and call us NIMBYs. They say we don't want change, advancement, development. What we actually do say is, we want responsible decision-making and regard for our lives and the environment around us.

How will we gather information?

We are seeking individuals who are willing and able to shed light on their fight.

We are seeking individuals directly affected by environmental racism, environmental injustice, and most especially a lack of political will to do right by the communities facing these disasters that make us the sickest province in Canada. We seek those who are currently or have experienced personal, social and health effects, caused by industrial pollution combined with political pandering.

Our interview process will be in the form of a conversation, much like sitting around your kitchen table, asking questions, but mostly letting you tell your side of the story. We want people to feel free to express themselves, honestly, openly, and without trying to be polite or politically correct. Just plain simple honest truth, with the freedom to convey whatever emotions you wish to express, sadness, anger, frustration. Most of the time, we are incredulous. And we are not wrong.

How will we do interviews?

We will come to you. If you have a site to show us, or we just meet you on your front porch, you decide. The interviews should not take more than 20 minutes, but we will let you talk as long as you wish to. That is how we learn. We hope to have all interviews completed before the end of summer.

How will people see the film?

Plans have not been finalized for release, but we expect the film to be about 90 minutes long. Our goal is to screen to diverse audiences throughout the province to various groups including government, the general public

who are not aware of these issues and most especially the various community members themselves. We hope to compel people to act, to seek answers, and talk about what's really going on in Nova Scotia.

Who are we?

We are neighbors, in Fall River Nova Scotia, who have been fighting for the last 4.5 years to keep a quarry out of our area, our watershed, our game sanctuary, our neighborhood. We are moms and dads; some are retired or working full time. We represent various walks of life. None of us were activists or environmentalists, and yet we are compelled to continue this fight because it's become a matter of social justice. The media only tells a small part of our battle; it is complex and full of so many details that scream "corruption." We cry in the wind to our government, completely unheard. We thought if our fight has been this difficult, what is going on elsewhere in Nova Scotia? We have connected with groups all over the province, and the more we learn about their fights, the more we understand the ugly truth about this "pristine" province we are living in.

Context

Nova Scotia is known worldwide for the beauty of our coastlines, our quaint fishing villages, and the fall colours on the Cabot Trail. But Nova Scotia has terrible secrets, hidden from view of mainstream media and tourism. Because they are fragmented stories, disparate situations, and people separated by miles, the people of Nova Scotia impacted by environmental harm and contamination feel as if they are small groups with a problem that is distinctly theirs. It's in their backyard only. They feel alone. And developers and corporations use this to their advantage to keep the peoples' voices silenced and small. "You're being selfish," they say, "It has to go somewhere, and we need jobs," cry the politicians, "Don't cause worse harm to the economy," the government heeds. By examining these problems together, we see a pattern of the government choosing wealth over health, a few hundred jobs over massive amounts of forested lands, and either ignoring or prolonging the cleanup of environmental contamination. When looked at under a magnifying glass, these decisions no longer make sense. The decisions our government is making today, in 2016, do not protect the people of Nova Scotia, do not protect the environment from harm, do not plan for the future of the people, financially or otherwise, and ultimately fulfill only corporate greed. There is a real and urgent need to talk about the pain we have seen inflicted on our environment, and on us. When these stories are viewed together, it will become obvious that no one in Nova Scotia is safe from these ill-advised actions by government-funded, government-approved and government-assisted entities.

FARMING OPPORTUNITY

<http://FoodWork.ca/961353>

Position: Farming Opportunity

Location: near Antigonish, Nova Scotia

I need young energy to keep up with the farm. I'd still like to live here (there is an extra house on the property) but I don't have the energy to do it on my own. It's in Antigonish County, some 23 km from town. It's a nice place to live if you like rural and are interested in some form of agriculture.

If interested, call or email:

Marty

[902-863-5496](tel:902-863-5496)

alperlectric@gmail.com

Hello,

I am writing to you today to encourage your organization and its members to **take advantage of wage subsidies** of up to \$15,000 for interns in environmental and clean technology fields. The wage subsidies are available from the [Environmental Youth Corps \(EYC\) Internship Program](#) and the [Clean Tech Internship Program](#) which are supported by Environment and Climate Change Canada's *Science Horizons*. To be eligible, interns must be recent graduates in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM). These programs support the creation of new green jobs for youth, to help young Canadians gain valuable work experience, learn about our natural environment and contribute to economic growth in environmental sectors.

I encourage you to share this information at your convenience. Furthermore, I invite you to visit the embedded links for more information and to apply.

Regards,
Geoff
I.R. Geoffrey Mercer
Regional Director General - Acting
Regional Director General's Office - Atlantic and Quebec Regions
Environment and Climate Change Canada
geoff.mercer@canada.ca / Tel: [902-426-6700](tel:902-426-6700)

McGill University Understanding Game-Based Approaches for Improving Sustainable Water Governance

Dear sir or madam,

Is the protection of Canada's freshwater resources a concern for you? If you were in charge would you do things differently?

McGill University is planning an event in Halifax where interested stakeholders can participate in a simulation gaming event that puts them in charge. Participants will play a game called Aqua Republica developed by the United Nations Environmental Program in partnership with DHI. This event will be part of the UpSWinG (Understanding Game-Based Approaches for Improving Sustainable Water Governance) initiative, a partnership between McGill, the University of Waterloo, Wageningen University (The Netherlands), the DHI group and Signature Games. For more information please refer to this website: www.gamingthewatersystem.org Players act as members of the planning committee for the fictional country of Aqua Republica. They must manage their resources and their development goals while still maintaining the ecosystem. The game is powered by scientific models and is updated after every turn based on your choices.

This event will give you an opportunity to connect with other interested stakeholders in the area and will give you further insight into the difficulties of managing a watershed. It's also a lot of fun!

The event will take roughly 3 hours and we will likely hold two sessions throughout the day in order to accommodate as many people as are interested. We will provide snacks during the event and do everything we can to ensure a pleasant, enjoyable and insightful event.

We are currently looking for interested parties to join in this event. The event will be taking place in downtown Halifax in a location that is still to be determined. A room will be booked once we see that there is enough interest in such an event. We will work with the interested parties to schedule the event on a date where as many people as possible can attend. Currently we are looking at holding the event in either July or early August.

We thank you for your time and if you have any questions about this event, feel free to contact Steven at steven.jean@mail.mcgill.ca. We look forward to hearing from you!

Thanks again,

Steven

[1-514-795-6121](tel:1-514-795-6121)

Wood turtle land stewards- if you own or manage land that provides habitat for wood turtles, a species at risk, we will work with you to develop a stewardship plan in order to mitigate negative impacts to this species and its habitat

Wood turtle nest survey & monitoring volunteers- June is nesting month for wood turtles. CARP wants to identify and protect as many nest sites as possible. All covered nests require monitoring during the potential emergence window. Sites range between Lawrencetown and Aylesford.

Free Home Upgrades for Your Clients and Participants

Help your program participants save money on heating bills this winter, be healthier and feel more comfortable in their homes year-round – find out if they are eligible for HomeWarming. HomeWarming offers a free home energy assessments and energy efficiency upgrades to income-qualified homeowners. For more information and application forms, visit www.HomeWarming.ca. If you would like to have materials to promote <http://homewarming.ca/>, get in touch with Michael at mmackay@clean.ns.ca.

For the first time, **Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) Canada will have lobbyists from Atlantic Canada--Nova Scotia** specifically (Andy Blair and Joanne Light, volunteers with the not for profit CCL Halifax) who will attend the **JUNE 5-8** lobbying days with MPs on Parliament Hill. They will meet with as many Nova Scotian MPs as respond to their request. Over the last six months they have travelled around Nova Scotia meeting with all the MPs except for Rodger Cuzner and Mark Eyking promoting a fair price on carbon and support for the transition to a low carbon economy. They have been doing this work on a volunteer basis using their own funds for four years. If you believe in their work to slow global warming and can donate to help defray costs for this trip please send your cheque or m.o. to Joanne Light 6339 Young Street, Halifax, N.S. B3L 2A2 For the legitimacy of this appeal please email Cathy Orlando c.o cathy@citizensclimate.org or visit the CCL Canada website. To join CCL Halifax or start your own CCL group in your community, please contact Joanne Light Group Leader Citizens' Climate Lobby Halifax *Creating the political will for a more liveable world* [902-429-1571](tel:902-429-1571) 6339 Young Street, Halifax, N.S. B3L2A2

Do you have shredded sneakers, torn trousers or holy socks ready for trashing? **Since 2013, all worn or unusable textiles and fabrics of any material and in any condition (except chemically contaminated) can be reused/ recycled. Collection sites are all over HRM and Nova Scotia.** AFTeR began in 2013 as a group of six organizations that collect used clothing to fund social causes such as helping children at risk, combatting disease, and supporting marginalized citizens and those facing crisis. This is accomplished with the added benefit of keeping the textile materials out of our landfills. AFTeR member charities are experts in the collection and repurposing of used textiles and footwear. <http://afterwear.ca/wp/donate/>

Environmental News:

Halifax North West Trails July Newsletter is found [here](#).

Clean Nova Scotia's podcast on new garbage pick-up regulations in Halifax. [Click here to listen.](#)

GREENs still a go in NS

'Reports of our demise have been greatly exaggerated,' says Ian Charles, the party's official agent <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/green-party-nova-scotis-leader-website-brynn-nheiley-1.3642442>

MAKING FORAGE FISH COUNT

The report from the Ecology Action Centre: "[Making Forage Fish Count: Recommendations to Improve Management in Canada](#)" finds that many small pelagic have experienced significant declines and large fluctuations in their populations due to overfishing and climate variability. In order to ensure that these species continue to support healthy fisheries and a healthy marine ecosystem, Canada must take an ecosystem-based approach to rebuilding their depleted populations. The article "Holy Mackerel, A Species in a Dire State" by Heather Grant outlines the state of mackerel and introduces the forage fish report. The article is part of the Atlantic Canadian Fisheries Blog called "Small Scales" produced by the Ecology Action Centre - <https://smallscales.ca/2016/06/23/holy-mackerel-a-species-in-a-dire-state>.

NOVA SCOTIAN MANAGEMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECOVERY OF SPECIES AT RISK

Nova Scotia Auditor General has released his June 2016 Report to the House of Assembly. Chapter 3 "Management of conservation and recovery of species at risk - Department of Natural Resources" concluded: there has been some success in achieving biodiversity goals however more work needed, species at risk need to be a greater priority for Natural Resources; the department is not fully managing conservation and recovery of species at risk; and, the department is not satisfactorily carrying out planning and completing species recovery activities - http://oag-ns.ca/sites/default/files/publications/Chapter%203_0.pdf.

(Some of) the missing whales have been found. <https://www.halifaxexaminer.ca/featured/some-of-the-missing-whales-have-been-found-morning-file-wednesday-july-13-2016/>

At least some of the missing whales have been found. You'll recall that all 500 of the world's North Atlantic right whales [disappeared earlier this year](#), failing to show up at their regularly scheduled Bay of Fundy feeding grounds. But, "over the past few weeks, scientists have heard evidence that endangered North Atlantic right whales are swimming off the coast of Nova Scotia," [reports Chris Lambie for Local Xpress](#): They've detected the rare creatures in the Roseway Basin, about 40 kilometres south of Cape Sable Island, using underwater listening devices dubbed Slocum Gliders, named after Joshua Slocum, the Nova Scotia sailor who was first to circumnavigate the world solo.

[...]

The right whales were first heard on June 28.

"We've heard them on four different days since then," [Dalhousie oceanographer Kim] Davies said.

[...]

The low number of whales heard so far is not indicative of a good year for the right whales off our coast, Davies said.

"We're going to have a number of aerial surveys and vessel surveys going out looking for these animals. So we hope to learn more as the summer goes on."

As I've said before, Lambie is doing some excellent science reporting at Local Xpress.

Another Inconvenient Truth: It's Hard to Agree How to Fight Climate Change

http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/12/science/climate-change-movement.html?emc=edit_th_20160712&nl=todaysheadlines&nid=42795222&r=0

We just broke the record for hottest year, nine straight times

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/climate-consensus-97-per-cent/2016/jul/11/we-just-broke-the-record-for-hottest-year-9-straight-times>

Mi'kmaq chiefs in N.S. sign royalties deal with proposed coal mine <http://atlantic.ctvnews.ca/mi-kmaq-chiefs-in-n-s-sign-royalties-deal-with-proposed-coal-mine-1.2938036>

Nova Scotia and the federal government's plan to combat climate change

Larry Hughes

28 June 2016

This summer the federal government will be holding a series of public consultations across the country on combating climate change. The consultations are, in part, a result of Prime Minister Trudeau committing Canada to meeting Article 2(a) of the COP-21 Paris Agreement which aims to "strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change" by "Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels".

If the Paris Agreement is ratified and comes into force (as the Paris Accord), Canadians will be expected to meet a nationally determined emissions reduction target by 2030 in preparation for additional reductions intended to increase the likelihood of keeping global temperatures below 2°C.

The 2030 target is a "pledge" to reduce Canada's 2005 carbon emissions by 30% by 2030. This commitment was made by the previous Conservative government to the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) in early 2015. Canada's reduction commitment, along with the national commitments of the other signatories of the Paris Agreement, is seen as the first step in limiting global temperature rise this century to less than 2°C relative to pre-industrial levels.

An examination of recently-released national and provincial emissions data from Environment Canada shows that in 2014, Nova Scotia had already reduced its emissions by 30% from 2005 levels, the only province to have done so. Almost 90% of these reductions were the result of legislation requiring Nova Scotia Power to change its energy mix, a decline in industrial electricity demand, a decline in road and maritime transportation energy demand, and the closure of the Dartmouth refinery.

While impressive in terms emissions reduction, these reductions have come at price. For example, between

2005 and 2014, the residential cost of a kilowatt-hour of electricity in Nova Scotia rose by 62%, while between 2011 and 2014, the province's annual GDP growth remained constant at 7.5%, relative to 2005.

The IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), the organization responsible for assessing the scientific, technical, and socio-economic information relating to anthropogenic climate change, has estimated that if there is to be any likelihood of achieving the 2°C limit, emissions will need to decline by between 41% and 72% of 2010 levels by 2050. In other words, further reductions in greenhouse gas emissions will be needed after 2030.

In 2014, slightly over three-quarters of Nova Scotia's emissions came from three sources: electricity generation (43.6%), road transportation (20.5%), and space and water heating for residential, commercial, and institutional buildings (12.4%). According to the 2013 Dalton Report (based on data from the Nova Scotia Departments of Energy and Environment), by 2050, Nova Scotia Power's emissions will have declined sufficiently for the province to meet the IPCC's 41% target.

Meeting the 72% target will require significant reductions in energy consumption and considerable changes to both energy-consuming technology and the energy consumed by the technology in almost all sectors of the economy. For example, in addition to Nova Scotia Power reducing its emissions, by reducing emissions from road transportation and space and water heating to zero, the province's emissions would decline almost 72%. This could be achieved by operating vehicles and heating systems with electricity.

Nova Scotia's experience with emissions reduction, while successful in terms of lowering the province's carbon-intensity, is proving to be an expensive undertaking, in terms of both rising energy costs and its impact on the provincial economy. These costs will continue to mount, as new low-, or no-, emission infrastructure will be needed to replace existing high-emission infrastructure.

Fortunately, since Nova Scotia has already met the 30% target and appears to be on its way to meeting all or a significant portion of the proposed 2050 targets, the provincial government has the time to develop a long-term, low socio-economic impact energy strategy.

A low-cost energy strategy could not come at a more opportune time. Although most of the political focus on the Paris Agreement has been emissions reduction, the agreement also emphasizes the need for adaptation in a world of rising temperatures. Nova Scotia, given its geography, will need to cover the costs of adapting to, amongst other things, sea-level rise and changes to existing weather patterns.

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*Interested in receiving the Eco Connections directly? Email me with your request!
nseenvironmentalnetwork@gmail.com*

We would like to hear your news! Please send updates of environmental concerns/activities in your community and we will post them in the newsletter and on our Facebook page.



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Environmental Network
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Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/NovaScotiaEnvironmentalNetwork

Find past EcoConnections here: <http://nseenvironmentalnetwork.com/resources>

NSEN Events webpage: <http://nseenvironmentalnetwork.com/events>

The Nova Scotia Environmental Network connects environmental organizations across the province – together we are stronger!