



Eco Connections Newsletter September 2016

Welcome!

Below you will find **events** (starting on page 2), **jobs postings** and **opportunities** (page 6), and **lots of news** (page 14). *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: nsenvironmentalnetwork@gmail.com.

Get in touch!

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/NovaScotiaEnvironmentalNetwork

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

Email: nsenvironmentalnetwork@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.

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://nsenvironmentalnetwork.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: nsenvironmentalnetwork@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:

The next NSEN Water Caucus meeting date is currently being decided. Be in touch for more info: Amy Buckland-Nicks: amy@coastalaction.org and Kelly Schnare kellyb@sierraclub.ca.

Environmental and Sustainability Education Caucus:

The next caucus meeting will be on Friday, September 30th from 10 AM - 12 PM hosted by Green Schools Nova Scotia at the Thinkwell Shift office, located at 5777 West St., Halifax in the main boardroom on the ground floor.

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

September

World Premiere of **100 SHORT STORIES** 2016, 68:24 MINUTES showing at the Atlantic Film Festival in Halifax.

September 19th, 9:15pm, Park Lane Theatre 5

100 SHORT STORIES is the latest documentary from acclaimed Nova Scotian filmmaker Neal Livingston, and his first feature-length film.

With his filmmakers typical irreverence, Livingston interweaves tales of predatory capitalism, eco-activism, and contemporary life in Atlantic Canada, engaging in an offbeat and often humorous exploration of energy policy, governance, and regional culture, in a diaristic collage of entrepreneurship and environmentalism. The film presents a first-person account of a years long struggle to develop Black River Wind a renewable energy project, and overcoming an attempted hostile takeover. Meanwhile, the local citizens of Inverness County band together to defeat oil and gas drilling and fracking coming onto Cape Breton Island.

Here is the interview the festival had done of me about my film;

<http://tv1.ca/355x2qr>

Ticket sales for the film:

<https://apps.vendini.com/ticket-software.html?e=9860eb2779cb67b50909b598b1765bef&t=tix&vqitq=15e4c2e8-800d-41a4-95d6-c20839ffd9f5&vqitp=11895309-909d-45c1-899d-36953c96598d&vqitts=1473536378&vqitc=vendini&vqite=itl&vqitrt=Safetynet&vqith=26b9cba75ef2387078f261704935f01f>

and the party after the film is free with your ticket stub for the film

DOC OYSTER BLUES PARTY with GARRETT MASON

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016, 9pm-1am.

Seahorse Tavern, 2037 Gottingen St, Halifax, NS

Oyster Bar, food, and Live Music

DOC MEMBERS AND FESTIVAL DELEGATES ADMITTED FREE WITH ONE GUEST.

ALL FILMGOERS ADMITTED FREE WITH A TICKET STUB.

GENERAL ADMISSION \$10.

Hope to see you there, and please spread the word to your colleagues and friends.

Neal

Neal Livingston

Black River Productions Limited

Box 55, Mabou, Nova Scotia

Canada B0E 1X0

[902-258-3354](tel:902-258-3354)
mobile [902-456-2004](tel:902-456-2004)
neall@ns.sympatico.ca
www.blackriver.ns.ca

The Federal Government will release its carbon pricing plan at a meeting in Vancouver this month. Is Nova Scotia on board and ready to implement this fair, inexpensive and simple strategy to reduce carbon and send a market signal to transition to low or no carbon energy? No, it is not. **Citizens' Climate Lobby will hold an urgent meeting on September 22nd at 8:15 p.m. in Halifax** (Location available upon contacting Joanne Light, Group Leader, Citizens' Climate Lobby Halifax, a non-profit international organization creating the political will for a liveable world with a laser focus on carbon pricing at jonilight3@yahoo.ca or [902-429-1571](tel:902-429-1571)) to address the need for the Nova Scotia provincial government to cooperate with the federal mandate to meet the Paris Accord agreement to limit temperature rise to 2 degrees. All concerned citizens encouraged to attend.

How Much is Our Forest Worth?

A workshop in valuing natural capital led by GPI Atlantic Founder, Ron Colman
Thursday, September 22, 1:30 to 4:30
GPI Atlantic space in St. Margarets Bay (upstairs at Paul's Hall, 12286 Peggy's Cove Rd.)
Limited space, contact Gwen Colman to register:
gwen@gpiatlantic.org or [902 489-7007](tel:902-489-7007)

The workshop will be the beginning of an ongoing working group to respond to Nova Scotia forestry policy changes and to work on meaningful case studies for local change.

Dr. Ron Colman is founder of [GPI Atlantic](http://www.gpiatlantic.org), a non-profit research group in Nova Scotia that, over 15 years, constructed comprehensive measures of wellbeing and full-cost accounts called the Genuine Progress Index and has worked in Bhutan for more than a decade on its holistic measures of progress that integrate social, economic and environmental objectives. We will be using GPI Atlantic's work on valuing natural capital, particularly the NS Forest Accounts and Forestry Headline Indicators (<http://www.gpiatlantic.org/publications/naturalcapital.htm>).

The NFB is presenting the documentary BLUEFIN at the 2016 Atlantic Film Festival, Wednesday September 21 at 12:00pm. This film is an insightful, entertaining, and powerful documentary about the 90% decrease in Bluefin tuna population that I feel would speak to your community.

Bluefin is a tale of epic stakes set in "the tuna capital of the world." In North Lake, Prince Edward Island, filmmaker John Hopkins tries to shed light on a baffling mystery: normally wary bluefin tuna no longer fear humans, and no one is quite sure why. Astonished Island fishermen and scientists offer conflicting explanations for the bluefin's puzzling behaviour. One thing is certain: this great resurgence of gigantic tuna flies in the face of scientific assessments claiming that endangered stocks are down by 90 percent.

Tickets for the film are \$12.50 for adults and \$11.25 for students and seniors. You can purchase tickets and find more information regarding the film here: <http://www.atlanticfilm.com/event/fca1b6616cd060a2d5832e1fa57ab429>

Environmental, Sustainability and Society Lecture Series at Dalhousie University, Halifax

<http://www.dal.ca/faculty/sustainability/news-and-events/ess-lecture-series-schedule.html>

Unless otherwise noted, all lectures begin at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday nights in Ondaatje Hall, 6135 University Avenue, Marion McCain Arts & Social Sciences building.

All welcome. Free of charge. Limited seating -- please arrive early.

22 September. *Cycling Cowboys: Calgary's Shift Towards Becoming a More Bike-friendly City*

Ryan Vanderputten has over 15 years of experience as an engineer, community planner and traffic expert. He is currently Calgary's Director of Transportation Planning with a mandate to develop efficient, customer-focused transportation systems that support all modes of travel and promote smart growth priorities.

Halifax Respondents:

Kelsey Lane is the Executive Director of the Halifax Cycling Coalition. She is a graduate of Dalhousie with a BA in Political Science and Sustainability. Prior to joining HCC, she worked with youth in First Nation communities across Canada.

Mark Nener is a graduate of Dalhousie's Masters degree in Planning. Before joining HRM as Active Transportation Coordinator, he worked for the Cities and Environment unit of Dalhousie's Faculty of Architecture and Planning and previously, in the film industry in Toronto.

Co-hosted with Dalhousie's Bike Center in celebration of Dal Bike Week

29 September. *Fracking and Earthquakes: An Unnatural History*

Andrew Nikiforuk is a provocative Canadian journalist whose writing has earned seven National Magazine Awards, top investigative-writing honors from the Association of Canadian Journalists and the Rachel Carson Environment Book Award. His writings on energy and economics have sparked discussion, shifting attitudes and environmental reform throughout Canada. His most recent book is *Slick Water: Fracking and One Insider's Stand Against the World's Most Powerful Industry* (Greystone, 2015).

6 October. *Plastic in our Oceans – Can We Come Together to Solve this Global Problem?*

9th Annual Ransom A. Myers Lecture in Science & Society

Jenna Jambeck is an Associate Professor at the College of Engineering at the University of Georgia, conducting research and teaching environmental engineering with a focus on solid waste management. Jambeck's work has included the development of two mobile applications designed to educate and empower individuals and researchers in identifying and recycling marine debris.

[The annual Ransom A. Myers Lecture on Science & Society is organized by his family, colleagues and former students and is supported by the President's Office at Dalhousie](#)

Co-sponsored with the Dalhousie Department of Biology

13 October. *Take Back the Power of Your Story: Story Activism for the 21st Century*

Mary Alice Arthur is the founder of [Soar](#) and a story activist who uses story in the service of creative positive systemic change. She is an international steward of the [Art of Hosting](#) and uses personal practice, storytelling, dialogue and facilitation to address complex societal challenges.

Co-sponsored with the RBC SLC (Sustainability Leadership Certificate) Program

20 October. *This Crazy Time: Living Our Environmental Challenge*

Annual RBC Sustainability Leadership Lecture

Tzeporah Berman is an Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Environmental Studies at York University and an environmental activist, campaigner and writer, known for her role as a key organizer in the 1993 logging blockades of Clayoquot Sound, the largest act of civil disobedience in Canadian history. Berman has been designing environmental campaigns and working on environmental policy for over twenty years and currently works as a strategic advisor to a number of First Nations, environmental organizations and philanthropic foundations on climate and energy issues, including the oil sands and pipelines. This year she was appointed by the Alberta Government to Co-Chair the Oilsands Advisory Working Group tasked with making recommendations to implement climate change and cumulative impact policies. Her book *This Crazy Time: Living Our Environmental Challenge* was published by Knopf Canada in 2011. Berman was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in 2013 by the University of British Columbia.

Co-sponsored with The RBC Foundation

27 October. *After the Sands: Energy and Ecological Security for Canadians*

Gordon Laxer is the Founding Director of the Parkland Institute and a professor emeritus at the University of Alberta. He has authored six books, including *Open for Business: The Roots of Foreign Ownership in Canada*, which received the John Porter Award in 1991 for the best book written about Canada. His latest book *After the Sands: Energy and Ecological Security for Canadians* (Douglas and McIntyre, 2015), was nominated for the 2016 John W. Dafoe prize for non-fiction literature and won the Errol Sharpe Book Prize in May of this year.

3 November. *Environmental Stewardship: What Does Faith Contribute?*

Paul Khosla is a pastor with the Faith Tabernacle Church (a Pentecostal Assembly of Canada congregation) in Halifax and a volunteer with Dalhousie's [MultiFaith Centre](#).

Joanne Langley is a pediatric physician specializing in infectious diseases in children based at the IWK Health Centre and the [Canadian Centre for Vaccinology](#) at Dalhousie. She is a Professor of Pediatrics and Community Health & Epidemiology and holds the GlaxoSmithKline Chair in Pediatric Vaccinology at Dalhousie. She is a long-term volunteer at Dalhousie's [MultiFaith Centre](#) as a member of the Halifax Baha'i Community.

Julia Sable is meditation instructor and teacher within the Shambhala Buddhist community in Halifax. She is also a Senior Consultant for Healthy Workplace and Engagement with the Public Service Commission of Nova Scotia.

17 November. *Progressive Environmental Constitutionalism and the 2030 UN Agenda for Sustainable Development*

Annual Douglas M. Johnston Lecture

Elizabeth Maruma Mrema has worked for the [United Nations Environmental Programme](#) for over two decades, focusing primarily on the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws. A lawyer and career diplomat by training, Mrema has worked as the principal legal officer and Director in the Division of Environmental law and Conventions and previously as Deputy Director in the Division of Environmental Policy Implementation both in UNEP, Nairobi and before then as Executive Secretary of the UNEP Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals in Bonn, Germany. Before her work with UNEP, Mrema served as Senior Legal Counsel with the Tanzania Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Co-sponsored with MELAW (Marine Environmental Law Institute, Dalhousie)

24 November. *The Fall 2016 CESD Report*

Julie Gelfand was appointed as [Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development](#) in March 2014. Before joining the office of the Auditor General, she held the positions of Chief Advisor at Rio Tinto Canada and Vice President of Environment and Social Responsibility at the Rio Tinto Iron Ore Company of Canada. Gelfand has also served as Vice-President of Sustainable Development at the Mining Association of Canada, Co-chair of the Corporate Social Responsibility Centre of Excellence, President of Nature Canada, and founded and co-chaired the Green Budget Coalition.

1 December. Youth Leading Change: Our Students Walk the Talk

A panel presentation of exciting local social, financial, and environmental sustainability social change projects being accomplished by our [Environment, Society and Sustainability](#) graduates and [Sustainability Leadership Certificate](#) participants.

HIKE NS FALL GUIDED HIKE SERIES 2016

Hike Nova Scotia and 14 host organizations across the province have partnered up to offer the 2016 Fall Guided Hike Series in September, October and November. There are 21 hikes led by local folks and participants qualify to win "trail prizes." Most hikes are free unless otherwise indicated in the schedule. Hike NS thanks its partners for organizing the hikes on the ground, Goose Lane Editions for its prize donations and the NS Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage for its support. Check out the list of events here: www.hikenovascotia.ca.

NEW SLATE OF COURSES

This fall and winter, Hike NS and the Outdoor Council of Canada will deliver more courses to help you and others get outside. Learn more and register at www.hikenovascotia.ca. Registration will open about two months before each course.

Oct. 15-16: Field Leader-Hiking, Wolfville, \$100/\$90

Oct. 22-23: Field Leader-Overnight, Economy, \$125/\$115

Nov. 5-6: Field Leader-Hiking, Halifax, \$100/\$90

Nov. 26-27: Navigation Maps & Compass, Halifax, \$100/\$90

Date TBA: Navigation Maps & Compass, Sydney, \$100/\$90

Date TBA, Field Leader-Winter, Location TBA, \$50/\$40

October and onward...

Symposium 2016 - Moving Towards Sustainable Energy

October 20-21 | Westin Hotel | Ottawa, ON

Symposium 2016 will bring together distinguished leaders and innovators to address critical sustainable energy issues: the future of the electricity grid, carbon pricing, energy storage, health implications, bioenergy, sustainable transportation, and ways to mobilize Canadians to embrace the greener and cleaner economy of tomorrow.

A sample of confirmed speakers include:

- Hon. Jim Carr, Minister of Natural Resources Canada
- Merran Smith, Director, Clean Energy Canada
- Mark Jaccard, Energy Economist / Professor of Sustainable Energy, Simon Fraser University
- Andrea Reimer, Vancouver City Councillor / Lead Councillor on award-winning "Greenest City Action Plan"
- Linda Coady, Chief Sustainability Officer, Enbridge
- Annette Verschuren, Chair and CEO, NRStor Inc.
- Hon. Sergio Marchi, President and CEO, Canadian Electricity Association
- Celine Bak, Founder and CEO, Analytica Advisors
- Paul Crowley, Director, WWF-Canada's Arctic Program

We are pleased to announce iPolitics as the event's official media partner.

Symposium 2016 will also include a special Hill Times Live Event on energy policy on Day 1 - October 20. For details and registration, visit our [site](#).

ClimaCon 2016: October 24 - 26 / Ottawa, ON

As the Canadian climate movement greets a defining moment in the history of Canada's action on climate change and environmental justice, Climate Action Network - Réseau action climat Canada<<http://climateactionnetwork.ca/>> is thrilled to launch ClimaCon, an annual event for people from every corner of the climate movement to come together, learn, share stories, build relationships, and have fun.

ClimaCon 2016 will take place in Ottawa, Ontario on Monday, October 24th and Tuesday, October 25th, with a lobby day organized for Wednesday, October 26th. CAN-Rac's Annual General Meeting (AGM) will take place on one of these days.

ClimaCon 2016 is FREE to attend. All are welcome. Register here: <https://climacon-2016.ticketbud.com/climacon-2016->

[4548e9145a49](#) or by following the links at www.climacon.info

We are in the process of building our agenda and need your input! Take 8 minutes to fill out this quick survey so we know what topics you're most interested in learning about and which skills you're most interest in building at ClimaCon 2016: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2R5LTKV>. We're so excited to see you there!

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](tel:9024255263)

Details and updates: nsnt.ca/newsevents/dinner

Job Postings:

The current Executive Director of the Inter-American for Global Change Research (IAI) will step down at the end of his term in 2017, and the IAI is searching for a new Director who will bring policy experience, management skills and an understanding of Global Change science to the position.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applications from interested candidates should include a cover letter that addresses the qualifications of the position, a current curriculum vitae or resume, and the names/addresses/phones/faxes of three referees.

Interested applicants must submit these materials to IAI Executive Director Search Committee at EDSearch@dir.iai.int by October 7, 2016 to be considered for the position.

Please direct all questions to the above mentioned Search Committee.

Further information on the IAI and the Executive Director position can be found on their [website](#).

Position: Door-to-Door Canvasser

Organization: [Ecology Action Centre](#)

Location: [Halifax](#), Nova Scotia

The Ecology Action Centre one of the most active and outspoken environmental charities in Atlantic Canada is seeking students or recent graduates to help strengthen our movement by canvassing for new members of our Centre.

This is your chance to dip your toes into the charitable sector, to learn about the ecology of our province, gain meaningful employment to help build your career and a chance to cultivate lifelong valuable skills in communications and fundraising. Membership canvassing is an incredibly important position at the Ecology Action Centre and is valued as such.

We offer:

\$15-\$17.50 per hour, 25-30 hours a week.

A diverse supportive team who genuinely care about developing your skills and career.

Opportunities to advance into a variety of positions at the Ecology Action Centre

Being a part of organization that is local, impacts your life and the environment which sustains us all.

Access to contract and benefits

Join an organization that values diversity and respect for community development and the protection of our natural environment. We hope to hear from you today!

To Apply:

Please send a cover letter, resume and two references to: dana@ecologyaction.ca. We thank all applicants for their time and interest, however only short-listed applicants will be contacted.

Environmental Opportunities:

Call for Nominations of Canadian Experts – Scoping Meeting for IPCC Special Report on Climate Change, Desertification, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Food Security, and Greenhouse Gas Fluxes in Terrestrial Ecosystems

Deadline: Sept. 20, 2016

This is a call for nominations of Canadian experts to be considered for participation in the scoping meeting of the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's](#) (IPCC) Special Report on Climate Change, Desertification, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Food Security, and Greenhouse Gas Fluxes in Terrestrial Ecosystems.

The scoping meeting will be held during the week of February 13th, 2017 (venue to be confirmed). It will result in a draft scoping paper and an annotated outline, which will be considered at the IPCC's 45th Session in April 2017. Following approval of the Special Report outline, a call for authors will be launched.

NOMINATION INSTRUCTIONS: If you wish to be nominated for participation in the Special Report scoping meeting, please complete the attached nomination form (both tabs) and return it along with your short Curriculum Vitae (max. 4 pages, in English) to ec.giec-ipcc.ec@canada.ca by 5:00pm pacific standard time on Sept. 20, 2016. Please use the following format to name files: LastName_FirstInitial.xls.

SELECTION PROCESS: Nominations will be assessed and submitted to the IPCC by the IPCC Focal Point for Canada. Restrictions on the number of Canadian nominees may be imposed based on nominees' qualifications, as well as financial or other considerations. The IPCC Secretariat for Canada will inform successful candidates of their nomination status. Individuals selected to partake in the scoping meeting will be notified directly by the IPCC in Nov./Dec. 2016. The Government of Canada may provide financial assistance for the travel expenses of selected experts.

EXPERTISE: Scoping Meeting participants should collectively cover the topics, areas of expertise and climate change perspectives listed below. While the final outline for the Special Report may not include all areas, broad expertise is solicited in order to determine robust areas for consideration.

Topics covered by the Report

- Desertification
- Other aspects of land degradation
- Sustainable land management
- Food security
- Greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems

Areas of expertise as applied to the topics covered by the Report

- Agricultural systems
- Agroclimatology and agrometeorology
- Biomass for energy generation and fuels
- Carbon cycle and other biogeochemical cycles
- Climate observations and projections
- Demand-side management
- Detection and attribution
- Eremology
- Food systems
- Land economy
- Land-atmosphere interactions and biogeophysics
- Monitoring and reporting of information relating to AFOLU inventories
- Nutrition and nutrition-related health, food quality and access
- Plant and animal physiology
- Rangeland management
- Rural development and livelihoods
- Soil science
- Sustainable consumption
- Urban and forestry aspects of sustainable land management
- Water and biodiversity in relation to land-uses within the scope of the report

Climate change perspectives

- Contribution to climate change drivers
- Climate change impacts
- Climate change adaptation options
- Climate change mitigation options
- Adaptation and mitigation interactions

IPCC SELECTION CRITERIA: Scientific, technical and socio-economic expertise, including the range of views; geographical representation; a mixture of experts with and without previous experience in IPCC; gender balance; experts with a background from relevant stakeholder and user groups, including governments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

IPCC Secretariat for Canada
Science & Technology Branch
Environment and Climate Change Canada
Government of Canada

200 Sacré-Coeur Blvd, 11th Floor
Gatineau QC K1A 0H3
ec.giec-ipcc.ec@canada.ca

Watch for Wildlife (W4W) NS is a new wildlife vehicle collision prevention program that encourages and enables Nova Scotians and visitors to the province to drive with an awareness of wildlife on roads, and do what they can to prevent collisions with wildlife. It is also about providing drivers contact numbers and information about how to respond in case a collision does happen.

If you want a magnet or sticker to put on your car so you can be a reminder to others as you drive to Watch for Wildlife, please get in touch.

Please see our website: www.watchforwildlife.ca

And follow or like us if you do at:

Facebook www.facebook.com/watchforwildlifens/

Twitter @watch4wildlife

We're looking for YOUTH! Interested in world issues? Passionate about human rights? Want to learn more about how you can take action for global change? Register today!

What: ACT 4 Global Change Youth Conference

When: October 7-10, 2016

Where: Brigadoon Village, Lake Aylesford, Nova Scotia

Cost: Free!

Who: Atlantic Canadian youth, ages 15-18

Why: Share and learn with a diverse group working to make the world a better place! Explore local and global issues, climate change, gender equity, poverty and food security, and other issues that matter to YOU. Be part of a safe community and develop skills and knowledge to tackle these issues in your own communities.

Apply: <https://form.jotform.com/60665337730962>

Deadline: Friday, September 16th, 2016

Connecting Researchers with Coastal Communities. Since 2008 the Robin Rigby Trust has assisted university students and recent graduates undertaking fieldwork in collaboration with coastal communities interested in resource assessment, sustainable utilization and community based management. Canadians or student studying here are encouraged to work in areas outside Canada while applicants from other countries are encouraged to collaborate on a project in the coastal regions of Canada. The deadline for this year's applications is October 31, 2016. If interested, or if you know anyone who may be interested please review information on <http://robinrigbyfund.info/>

Halifax Youth Council!

This non-partisan youth council will meet with me quarterly in an effort to build a relationship between myself and youth on the council. The council's mission is to advise me on issues that matter most to them and give their insight into certain issues of the day. Young voices must be heard in the decision making process and this is one of the many ways that they can do so.

What we are looking for:

-Youth aged 15-24

-Involved in the community

-A variety of cultures and backgrounds

-People who are able to commit for a one year term

What they can expect:

-4 roundtables a year

-Conference calls with a member of my staff to work on special projects

-A letter of recommendation for jobs/school

-The opportunity to advise the Canadian government and me

-Meet other youth from other political/economic/social backgrounds

With your help to spread the word throughout Halifax, this Youth Council will be meaningful for both myself and the people who will sit on this council. Applicants can go to afillmore.liberal.ca today and apply or by using this link -

<http://goo.gl/uIZ26d>

<<http://metrics.mmailhost.com/?r=MTAwMg0KSjM1MzQzNC1MUEMtMS0zMDEyNi0NCjYxMzY5NjgNCjE5MTAwMDAwMD>

Y3YTAzYw0KaHR0cDovL2dvby5nbC91SVoyNmQNCnRydWUNCmdyZXRjaGVuLmZpdHpnZXJhbGRAZ21haWwuY29t>.

The Deadline is September 30th at midnight and successful applicants will be notified within the week. We thank all those that apply but due to the high number of applications, only those that are selected will be contacted. Thanks for your help!

Sincerely,
Andy Fillmore
Halifax, MP

Sign up to receive newsletters on school environment and health issues from **CASLE**. Send your request to info@casle.ca
In this month's newsletter:

1. Research has now shown there is no doubt that Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) affects learning and well-being.
<http://www.chgeharvard.org/resource/impact-green-buildings-cognitive-function>
2. Nova Scotia remains in the forefront of regions that address indoor environment quality issues actively. CASLE and the government departments have been collaborating for two decades to create and maintain healthy schools.
3. CEHN (Children's Environmental Health Network, <http://www.cehn.org/>) The inaugural Annual Children's Environmental Health Day (CEH Day), is set for **October 13, 2016**. Please show your commitment to protecting and improving children's environmental health by endorsing CEH Day at www.cehn.org/join-us/cehdayendorse.
4. The US Environmental Protection Agency is continuing its series of on-line courses in school environmental health:
https://www.epa.gov/iaq-schools/iaq-knowledge-action-professional-training-webinar-series?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=
5. Canadians for A Safe Learning Environment (CASLE) website www.casle.ca in its new format is accessible to tablets and phones, and contains updated practical information on a wide range of topics relevant to healthy schools and healthy school children. Please circulate the web address widely.

Received UPDATES on the **CAMPAIGN to Protect Offshore Nova Scotia** by contacting:

southshore.cpons@gmail.com

(902) 634-4057

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

Inviting Garden Volunteers to Windhorse!

We are a sustainable farm and hosting facility on the South Shore of Nova Scotia with 3 acres of gardens. We're in need of willing hands to weed, water, mulch, transplant, prune, make compost AND you might want to swim in the lake, take a sauna, canoe, enjoy the view from the upper hay meadow, nap in the sweet cool mosses of the forest, and join community meditation Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Beyond that, we can offer cabin accommodations, laundry, hot shower, small stipend and a "learning by doing" experience in a great community that will live on. Available now until November. Please email margaret@windhorsefarm.org.

Call for Nominations for the Board of Directors, Sierra Club Canada Foundation

Sierra Club Canada Foundation and its Mission

Sierra Club Canada Foundation (SCCF) is a Canada Revenue Agency registered charity whose mission is to advance the preservation and protection of the natural environment in Canada and across the globe. Since 1972, the SCCF has funded tens of millions of dollars' worth of important work, from small local projects to large, multi-year campaigns with tens of volunteers, organizers and scientists.

We are funded by individual donors, local grassroots membership, foundations and others who recognize that we all have a right to a safe and healthy environment: clean air, clean water, open space, wildlands and a healthy and diverse ecosystem. We are unique in the environmental movement because we enable average citizens to organize activities that improve our local, national and global environments. For more information, see www.sierraclub.ca

Board and Committee Positions

The Foundation Board of Directors has 12 elected members: 6 members –at-large, five regional representatives, and a Youth representative. In addition, the elected board may appoint as directors individuals who will hold the office of Treasurer and/or Secretary. Directors are elected for two-year terms. If appointed to the board as Secretary or Treasurer, the term is 1 year. Currently we seek the following:

Three member-at-large positions. All members may vote for these candidates.

Four of the six representative positions – Atlantic, Prairie, BC, and Ontario. Only members within the constituency elect these positions.

Persons seeking appointment as either Secretary or Treasurer.

We are also seeking individuals interested in serving in a volunteer capacity on our board committees including: Membership, Finance, Communications, Conservation Policies and National Development Committee.

Eligibility Requirements for Directorships

Individuals must be of age 18 or older and be members of Sierra Club Canada Foundation at the time of election.

Skills and Time Commitment

We are looking for individuals with the time and commitment to serve as an active board member and willing to serve on one or more committees of the Board. We seek those who work well in a team setting and have excellent communication and listening skills. Previous experience with charities and/or non-profit boards of directors is helpful. Proficiency in English is required, bilingualism is an asset. Diversity of backgrounds, experience and geography is valued.

Directors must have time to meet monthly for two-hour teleconference board meetings and be available to do committee work as needed. Representatives must actively liaise with the member constituencies and where active chapters are present, with the chapters they are members of.

Special skills we are seeking include fundraising, membership development, social media and communications, and environmental policy development. We are also seeking a Chartered Public Accountant willing to serve as Treasurer.

Nomination Process

If you are nominating yourself for a position on the Board of Directors, please provide a biography, cover letter detailing your interest and areas of expertise plus a CV.

If you are nominating someone else, please provide us with the name and contact information of that individual, and a brief biography of the person you are nominating.

Nominations for Directors are also accepted from the floor at the AGM on November 19, 2016, Ottawa, ON.

Similarly, if you are interested in serving on one of our national committees, please submit your cover letter and CV.

Volunteer members of committees may be added at the discretion of the Chair of each committee and as approved by the Board of Directors.

Please send your nominations or address your inquiries to: Peter Smith, Nominations Committee Chair

petersmith777@bell.net

Professors Mahfooz Ansari, Daya Gaur, and I at the University of Lethbridge, Canada need your help. We are conducting a study on workplace behaviors and opinions among Canadian nonprofit organizations. Specifically, the project focuses on supervisor-subordinate relationships and some important work outcomes (e.g., satisfaction, commitment, performance). We would like to administer surveys (takes approx. 20 minutes) in your organization where we will ask supervisors and subordinates to fill a confidential online survey. Our analysis is based on dyads (what supervisor talks about subordinate and vice-versa). The supervisor-subordinate pair can belong to any department and hierarchy. Our study has been approved by the ethics department of our university.

No compensation is offered for participation, but you will receive the survey findings.

The online supervisor questionnaire is split into questions relating to them and to the subordinates. The supervisor will fill the self-questions once and the subordinate questions as many times as he/she has subordinates. The subordinate fills the questionnaire only once.

Once you allow your colleagues to participate in the survey, we would like your HR executive to send us a list of emails of corresponding pairs of supervisors and their subordinates filled in the attached word document. We will then send each potential respondent a survey link from Qualtrics survey website. We need email addresses only to directly contact them and to know the names of dyads. Once the data is collected, we will replace actual individual names with code names and destroy names of respondents.

If you can help or if you have questions, please contact Sameer Deshpande at sameer.deshpande@uleth.ca.

Let me know if you have questions. Thanks for helping us with data collection,

Sameer Deshpande

Associate Professor, Marketing

Faculty of Management, University of Lethbridge

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.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.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!

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

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 fulfills 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)

alpertelectric@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)

Thank you to all who have shared their views with Nanos Research so far. It is not too late to join the **National Energy Leaders Panel**. In order to do so please click this link now:

<http://go.nanosresearch.com/s/rul477fdv/?lang=en&code=wxz2n5nsrk>

As a leader in Canada's energy/environment sector, you have been invited to participate in a new initiative supported by the University of Ottawa's Positive Energy project, seeking to engage and bring together senior leaders in industry, government, academia, NGOs, and Indigenous groups to identify best practices and concrete ways to garner social acceptance and support for energy development in Canada.

The panel will be run independently by Nanos Research who will oversee all aspects of the engagement process, including collection and sharing of opinions with Leaders Panel members. Positive Energy will work with Nanos on the design of topics and communication of aggregate findings to the broader energy community.

If you have any questions or feedback, please don't hesitate to contact me directly at nnanos@nanosresearch.com.

Thank you,

Nik Nanos, FMRIA

President, Nanos Research

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 holey 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 Association September 2016 Newsletter is available [here](#).

Articles on the Spraying of glyphosate in Nova Scotia:

<https://www.localxpress.ca/local-news/nova-scotia-gives-ok-to-spray-hundreds-of-hectares-of-woodland-with-glyphosate-378654>

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/weed-whacking-herbicide-p/>

<https://www.change.org/p/let-s-tell-our-environment-minister-and-premier-that-it-is-not-ok-to-spray-our-woodlands-with-glyphosate-ever>

[https://secure.avaaz.org/en/petition/Nova Scotia Environment Minister Margaret Miller and the McNeil Government Save NS from the pesticide glyphosate](https://secure.avaaz.org/en/petition/Nova_Scotia_Environment_Minister_Margaret_Miller_and_the_McNeil_Government_Save_NS_from_the_pesticide_glyphosate)

MLA Lenore Zann and community leaders bring glyphosate concerns to Minister of the Environment

HALIFAX – Lenore Zann, MLA for Truro-Bible Hill-Millbrook-Salmon River, met with Minister of Environment Margaret Miller to discuss concerns over plans to spray VisionMax over 1317 hectares of wooded lands in Colchester and Halifax Counties. VisionMax contains the substance glyphosate, a chemical which in 2015 was deemed by the World Health Organization as a “probable human carcinogen.”

Zann was joined by Colchester Mayor Bob Taylor, Truro Mayor Bill Mills, and Stewiacke Mayor Wendy Robinson.

“Many people in our community are concerned about the impacts of spraying our woodlands with glyphosate and I think it is necessary that the Minister be aware of these concerns before any decision is made,” said Zann. “There is a clear need for more public input on this issue.”

“The jury is still out on the use of glyphosate and I think we should apply the precautionary principle in determining how and where it will be applied,” said Zann. “At the very least, there should be public consultations with the Minister in any community impacted by this spraying.”

This spring, the NDP introduced legislation that would establish an Environmental Bill of Rights in Nova Scotia. This legislation would ensure that local communities are consulted in situations such as this. Communities would also have access to all research the government has related to projects with environmental impacts.

“An Environmental Bill of Rights would give us a framework to determine what a community does and does not want in their backyard,” said NDP Leader Gary Burrill. “Proper care of our environment relies on meaningful consultation with the people who live in it.”

HALIFAX RESIDENTS CONCERNED ABOUT ALTON GAS PROJECT TO DEMONSTRATE OUTSIDE

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, [September 15, 2016]

K’JIPUKTUK (Halifax) -- A group of concerned Nova Scotians will be demonstrating outside the provincial legislature on Thursday, September 15th at noon. The gesture is the latest in a string of protests against AltaGas’ Alton Gas project. The project plans to flush out large underground gas storage caverns and dump the resulting 1.3 million cubic metres of mined salt waste into the Shubenacadie river. The company is expected to begin dumping brine as early as this week.

The project poses serious risks to the Shubenacadie River ecosystem, including threats to striped bass and other species at risk. It’s also taking place on unceded Mi’kmaq territory, without indigenous consent.

Alton Gas is widely opposed by local communities, both Mi’kmaq and non-indigenous. Over the past week, Mi’kmaq water protectors and allies have built a teepee and set eel traps at the Alton site, thereby asserting their 1752 treaty rights and marking the area as traditional Mi’kmaq territory. They’ve also built a nearby ‘Treaty Truckhouse’, in accordance with the constitutionally protected right all Canadians have to trade with Mi’kmaq people along the river.

Thursday’s action is a further expression of public resistance to the project -- and frustration with the government that has approved it. “The provincial government’s decision to let this project go ahead is mind boggling,” said Liv Bochenek, a Halifax resident and organizer. “By proceeding without Mi’kmaq consent, they are dismissing the treaty agreements upon which our country is formed. This is not to mention the potential risks to the Shubenacadie River and the climate impacts of the natural gas industry.”

Halifax resident and Community Conservation Research Coordinator Sadie Beaton, added, “The Alton Gas project doesn’t just affect locals. There is widespread opposition to this project across the province and solidarity is building. We all depend on clean, healthy waters and we are all responsible for upholding the Peace and Friendship treaties.”

For interviews contact:

Michelle Paul

Community contact

902.403.4253

Mpaulmikmaq@gmail.com

Sadie Beaton

Ecology Action Centre

902.221.1953

sadie.beaton@gmail.com

Alton Gas detractors take a stand on small Shubenacadie River island.

People from the Mi’kmaq community and other Shubenacadie River stakeholders who oppose the Alton Gas project gathered Sunday to set up a teepee, a flag and eel traps on and near a small island created when the company breached the dike at its work site. See also- Stop Alton Gas ! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/313623962149213/>

Please share with all your networks and come on out to the **Treaty Truck House** to build, fish, and feast whenever you can. Help Save Our River. For more information see <https://www.facebook.com/groups/367128616772242/>

Directions from Halifax:

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/Halifax,+NS/45.17529,-63.387218/@44.9260789,-63.4785934,11z/data=!4m10!4m9!1m5!1m1!1s0x4b5a211407dbfac1:0x666be3a6438b2ddc!2m2!1d-63.5753196!2d44.6488625!1m1!4e1!3e0>

September 8, 2016

For Immediate release:

History was made, yesterday, September 8th, the Federal Ministers official delegation met with a Nova Scotia delegation on the banks of the beautiful Bay of Fundy Shubenacadie river, adjacent to the Alton gas destruction.

Last week Mikmaq communities, residents, fishermen, Stop Alton gas, Friends of the Avon River, Force Tidal resistance coalition and allies called on DFO Minister of Fisheries, Dominic Leblanc, to designate Critical Habitat or enact emergency order under Species at Risk act.

Today was historic, the Federal Ministers official delegation met with a Nova Scotia delegation on the banks of the beautiful Bay of Fundy Shubenacadie River, adjacent to the Alton gas destruction. The message hasn't changed, we will defend the river and species until the federal government steps up and seeks meaningful science, protects species at risk and honors the rights of indigenous peoples and acts honorably to the Mikmaq and our allies.

The Mi'kmaw Conservation Group has agreed to partner with the Sipekne'katik District Conservation Group and assist us with the attaining the scientific and traditional knowledge needed to protect our traditional waterways and the culturally significant species that can be found in and around them.

MCG's mission is to restore the Mi'kmaw concept of Netukulimk in the Bay of Fundy watershed - taking only what we need and leaving enough for future generations. Using the Two Eyed Seeing - together we will be incorporating both the traditional knowledge of local residents and Western Science into our efforts to collect as much data and information needed to protect these waters for all of our children and grandchildren. This data - I.e. fish counts and samples; water quality and temperatures; mapping of traditional knowledge; collection of local stories; etc. - will in turn be used to fill those gaps in what we consider faulty research by Alton.

We look forward to working with all groups as stewards of these waters and happy to announce the recent partnership with the ENRICH network, -the Environmental Noxiousness, Racial Inequities & Community Health Project (ENRICH) which is committed to supporting the community through community capacity building activities, research, and multidisciplinary research partnerships. These partnerships will include university faculty and students in diverse disciplines, health professionals, environmental professionals, and ENRICH volunteers.

Together, we our research partners, we will strive to succeed in protecting the species and habitat where others have failed in doing so.

We have asked for a designation of the Bay of Fundy as Critical Habitat for salmon. We have asked for accurate data for a baseline and extended species for Alton project, we have asked for data and studies on impacts of climate change.

"Salinity in the ocean is 28 to 30 ppt, the Alton site, which is fresh at times, recorded up to 26 ppts during our recent summer draught. Therefore, impacts from climate change and brining together could put the species over the devastating threshold of 30 ppt. More work needs to be done." Says Cheryl Maloney, Council member at Sipeknekatik Band.

Serious issues were raised by lack of baseline data of all species, including IBOF salmon, Tommy Cod and American Eels.

Alton gas researchers were unable to find spawning Tommy Cod. Darren Porter, Weir building and local knowledge holder stated "Alton researchers were unable to find any Tommy Cod, as they were looking a month early in the wrong area". Mr. Porter reported the data deficiency to DFO with no response or follow up.

There was also an absence of any data dealing with climate changed impacts and the Alton researchers themselves found a significant increase in salinity levels during the 2016 summer draught. Ocean levels of salinity are 28 ppt and levels of 26 ppt were found near Alton during the summer months.

The variabilities create difficult and complex issues regarding impacts of brine discharge and possible climate impacts. Further study and research needs to be done to ensure safety and wellbeing of the bay, river and species.

We will continue to exercise our rights and we will continue to assert self-governing authority over stewardship.

Please join us the bay counting fish, taking samples and exploring salinity levels in the most unique tidal rivers in the world. Just holding the fort at Fort Ellis for the Minister to do something, for NS government to seriously and meaningfully address the concerns of Nova Scotia's over this project, the science and the poor job of consultation to Mikmaq, residents, fishermen and the NS public.

The final message was that DFO under the current Trudeau cannot rely on the DFO science over the past ten years under the Harper regime. Serious gaps or poor oversight has been evident in this project alone.

For more information:

Please contact Cheryl Maloney, councillor, Sipeknekatik band
(902)7510077
Dr Ingrid Waldon
Director, Environmental Noxiousness, Racial Inequities & Community Health
Phone: 902-494-4267
Darren Porter, weir fishermen, Sipekenekatik District Conservation Group.
(902)798-7693

As we prepare to celebrate [Organic Week](#) in Canada, I invite you to view the [September 2016](#) edition of the **Organic Friends' E-Zine**, brought to you by the Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada (OACC).

The Summer / Fall 2016 Edition of the Journal **MAWQATMUTI'KW** (We All Live Together) is now available. This issue includes the articles "History of Lake Utopia Resource Study", "Aboriginal Peoples Use of Resources" and "**American Lobster Settlement Update**". The journal is published jointly by IKANAWTIKET Environmental Incorporated and the Maritime Aboriginal Aquatic Resources Secretariat - <http://www.ikanawtiket.ca/#MAWQATMUTIKW>

Commentary on NS provincial government and municipal governments' inaction on climate change...

<http://www.thecoast.ca/halifax/faith-in-government-not-enough-to-protect-our-environment/Content?oid=5460641>

It's time for some climate change truths

The value of a livable climate is far greater than the cost of achieving it.

By David Henry

David Henry is an amateur beekeeper and a volunteer with the Citizens Climate Lobby.

Are we going to live up to our Paris commitments and act decisively to stop climate change? If the recent meeting of environment ministers is any indication, it depends on whom you ask.

Federal minister Catherine McKenna clearly understands that urgency and opportunity have converged to create a potent moment for reducing carbon emissions, while her Nova Scotia counterpart Margaret Miller carries a less encouraging message. Actually two: 1. We are doing enough already. 2. We can't afford strong emissions targets. With due respect to Minister Miller, who is new, in 2016 it is messages like these that we can't afford.

It's time we owned the truth about climate change.

Truth number one: Old rules don't apply. We have a tried-and-true method of solving shared problems. We gather around a table, share perspectives and find a compromise. While this works with most issues, climate change is different. It is physics—and physics doesn't compromise. Either we use the science to make the necessary emissions reductions or we dance around it and reap the consequences.

Truth number two: There's a new bottom line. We already have the tools. One of them, carbon pricing, may well be the key to a sustainable future. It works within a market economy, using a rising price on high-carbon energy sources to replace them with low-carbon alternatives. And, contrary to what you've heard, it's not just another tax. Carbon pricing can generate revenues to reduce existing taxes, help local businesses transition, support the less well off and fuel creation of new technologies, industries and jobs.

There will be challenges aplenty—progress comes with costs. But here's the bottom line: The value of a livable climate is far greater than the cost of achieving it. Minister McKenna and our federal government get this and will introduce a Canada-wide carbon price this fall.

Sadly, our provincial government resists joining them. Minister Miller and her colleagues still see environment and economy as adversaries. Their thinking, like the economy they seek to protect, reflects a past that is long gone. In its place a sustainable future, both economically and environmentally, is taking shape. Visionary thinking and smart carbon pricing can help Nova Scotia thrive in it.

Truth number three: It's for our children. There is a deeper reason to act. Whether we're parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles or neighbours, we love our children. We show it in 1,000 ways—providing sunscreen in summer and warm coats in winter, helping with homework and cheering achievements, offering guidance and readying for adulthood. It's what grown-ups do.

Some acts of love require joining together in common cause. Our forebears stood up against aggressors abroad, wove an inclusive social safety net and gave us the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Now it's our turn. We can give our children something even more precious: A stable, nurturing climate.

Truth number four: We can do it. As beneficiaries of modern life we've helped create this massive challenge. Putting things right will require the best in us—the Canada that seeks to model peace and justice in the world and the Nova Scotia that

cherishes its natural heritage. It won't be easy. But if we own the truth, demand more from our leaders and remember whose future we hold in our hands, we can succeed. Let's get going. It's time.

A new report by Larry Hughes for Nova Scotia Power is available at http://lh.ece.dal.ca/enen/2016/NSPI_EV_Report.pdf
Overview/Abstract:

In December 2015, the Canadian government made a commitment to achieving the goals specified in the Paris Agreement at COP-21. The most significant of these commitments being an agreement to reduce Canada's annual greenhouse gas emissions to a level that will hold the global average temperature to well below 2°C and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C. Past greenhouse gas emissions reduction efforts by all levels of government in Canada have focused primarily on power generation (to reduce emissions) and the built environment (to reduce energy demand). Canada's commitment to the Paris Agreement means that these efforts must be redoubled and similar efforts will need to be applied to the transportation sector, given the emissions associated with this sector.

Road transportation emissions are of particular importance in a province such as Nova Scotia where they are responsible for over 19% of total provincial emissions. A barrier to reducing emissions from conventional road vehicles has been the availability of both alternative fuels and the vehicles to use these fuels. However, over the past decade, considerable progress has been made, especially with electric vehicles, which, if powered by renewable sources of electricity, can result in a reduction in transportation-related emissions.

This report examines some of the risks associated with the adoption of electric vehicles in the province of Nova Scotia through the lens of three energy security indicators: acceptability, availability, and affordability. It shows that as Nova Scotia Power reduces its greenhouse gas emissions, the environmental acceptability of electric vehicles will increase. While the availability of electricity is not an issue, the need for increased charging may be a problem during cold-weather driving and, should electric vehicles become popular, Nova Scotia Power will need to address the issue of uncoordinated electricity charging by upgrading its grid and implementing a smart grid.

The report also considers some of the affordability issues associated with electric vehicles in Nova Scotia. While the per-kilometre cost of driving an electric vehicle is less than that of a conventional vehicle (in part because of the various road and fuel taxes that electric vehicle owners do not pay), both the base-cost and annualized-cost of electric vehicles are greater than those associated with many conventional vehicles sold in the province.

Other topics discussed include public perceptions of electric vehicles, the direct and indirect subsidization of electric vehicles, and possible alternatives to light-duty passenger electric-vehicles.

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<https://nsadvocate.org/2016/08/15/the-battle-that-wont-go-away-appealing-the-digby-neck-quarry-nafta-decision>

Nova Scotia Advocate

The battle that won't go away. Appealing the Digby Neck Quarry NAFTA decision

By Robert Devet - August 15, 2016

KJIPUKTUK (Halifax) - The Whites Point Quarry continues to make waves, almost ten years after the proposal to expand a small existing gravel quarry and construct a marine terminal on the shores of Digby Neck was turned down by a joint federal and provincial tribunal.

People will wonder if opposition is worth the bother if later on a bunch of lawyers are going to sit down and overturn the decision. Gretchen Fitzgerald, Sierra Club Atlantic.

In the latest round the federal government is appealing to the Federal Court an international trade tribunal ruling that deemed the initial decision to withhold environmental approval illegal. Both the East Coast Environmental Law Association (ECE LAW) and the Sierra Club Canada have been granted intervenor status.

The battle that won't go away.

"It's the battle that just won't go away," says Gretchen Fitzgerald, director of the Sierra Club Atlantic chapter. "We were involved in the opposition to the quarry from the beginning. We were worried about the consequences of the shipping traffic on the Right Whale and other mammals."

Risk to the environment posed by the 120 hectare quarry and the shipping traffic it would generate in the ecologically sensitive St Mary's Bay and the Bay of Fundy were among the reasons leading to the initial decision not to approve the

quarry and shipping terminal.

But that wasn't the end of it. In 2013 Bilcon, the American company behind the quarry proposal, appealed that decision to a North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) tribunal, arguing that the decision to withhold approval was based on factors outside Canada's environmental legislation.

The NAFTA tribunal agreed with Bilcon, and earlier this year allowed the company to seek more than \$130 million in damages from Canada.

Appealing the appeal.

Now Canada has applied to the Federal Court of Canada to set aside that ruling, arguing that the NAFTA tribunal exceeded its jurisdiction.

"We argue that it is not the business of NAFTA tribunals to make a determination on what an environmental assessment panel decides. Canada's constitution protects these types of panels from these reviews. That makes it a very important case for a lot of other similar projects," says Fitzgerald.

Fitzgerald is not suggesting that the quarry will go ahead after all, but she is concerned about the chilling effect such decisions could have on future provincial or federal environmental tribunals.

"Public servants will be aware of the risks of rejecting projects, community members will be aware of it. People will wonder if opposition is worth the bother if later on a bunch of lawyers are going to sit down and overturn the decision," Fitzgerald says.

Tell the government not to settle.

Fitzgerald is asking supporters to tell the Canadian Government not to settle.

"We have not heard anything specific about settlement being in the works, but these things usually happen without much fanfare. When you look at Canada's history of settling disputes, and assuming that probably there are pressures like that, we felt that we needed to raise this proactively," Fitzgerald explains.

The extent of the response to Fitzgerald's request to send letters to Canada's Ministers of International Trade, Foreign Affairs, and Environment and Climate Change to encourage Canada not to settle this case.

We know that 1200 letters were sent already in a very short time, says Fitzgerald.

"That's a lot of people, Especially when you consider that it's summertime, and that it's a complex issue. But people get this and they understand what is at stake," she says.

Not the only NAFTA appeal of an environmental decision.

This is not the only appeal by a foreign investor to challenge Canadian environmental laws and decisions under NAFTA.

A 2015 report by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives documents challenges to a ban on fracking by the Quebec provincial government, provisions to promote the rapid adoption of renewable energies and a moratorium on offshore wind projects in Lake Ontario as NAFTA appeals with many similarities with the Bilcon case.

Nature Trust Protects Cherished Parrsboro Gem

The Nova Scotia Nature Trust announced today it has protected, forever, one of Nova Scotia's cherished island gems - Partridge Island. Several generous island owners have stepped up to ensure that this natural, historic and cultural landmark is preserved, though a conservation easement agreement with the Nature Trust.

The Nature Trust is extremely grateful to the island owners, Acadia University, Dalhousie University, Sharon Taylor and an anonymous owner, for so generously agreeing to protect their land, for the benefit of nature, and for generations to come.

"The conservation easement ensures that the island's unique natural values are protected, in perpetuity," noted Acadia's Dr. Herman.

"Partridge Island is one of Mother Nature's real gems, and one enjoyed by so many people including my own 13 grandchildren," said Stephen O'Regan, an enthusiastic project supporter. "To realize it will be protected for future generations is a very comforting thing for me. I'm pleased to be a part of it."

The Nature Trust will host a community celebration and guided hike to Partridge Island on August 21 at 1 pm at Ottawa House in Parrsboro.

Tax-receipted charitable donations to support the long-term stewardship of Partridge Island can be made at www.nsnt.ca.

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Interested in receiving the Eco Connections directly? Email me with your request! nsenvironmentalnetwork@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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Find past EcoConnections here: <http://nsenvironmentalnetwork.com/resources>

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

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